

*By Jeje Muhamudu;*

Young Ethiopian Mulu Kifle Hailemichael won the second stage of the Tour du Rwanda today in Huye.

At 21 years, he won his first victory in the professional level that he joined this year the Continental Pro Nippo-Delko Provence team.

He ran his first international race outside the borders of Ethiopia in 2018 precisely on the Tour of Rwanda where he finished on the 3rd step of the final podium.

Today the start of the stage was very fast. The second day was not expected to be the most difficult but from the first kilometers we had seen the very offensive Rwandan riders.

They were four among the first breakaway of five riders, Patrick Byukusenge, Eric Manizabayo, and Didier Munyaneza all from the Benediction team, Moïse Mugisha (Skol) accompanied by Dawit Yemane (Eritrea).

Their attempt failed a little later, but five other riders took a chance. This time there were Jean-Bosco Nsengimana (Rwanda), Dawit Yemane (Eritrea), Eric Manizabayo (Benediction), Moïse Mugisha (Skol), and Negasi Abreha (Ethiopia).

This new group was the right one. The five escapees reached an advance of almost 4 minutes on the peloton which waited for the last 20 kilometers to react.

But this group lacked cohesion and behind, in the peloton, the teams of Total-Direct Energy, Androni Giocattoli and Nippo-Delko already prepared the final sprint.

The young Ethiopian Mulu Kifle Hailemicheal who had taken a short lead in the final meters resisted the return of the peloton to win in the streets of Huye.