

679 Have Been Tortured to Death since the Supposed Presidential Amnesty Decree

Winning the presidential elections, The Syrian president Bashar Al-Assad issued an amnesty decree on 9 June, 2014. Nevertheless, the Syrian regime security forces and its militias kept carrying out arresting campaigns. SNHR detainees working team documented 1217 arrests, including 52 women, since 9 June, 2014 the day of the presidential decree.

According to the decree, the Syrian regime was supposed to release prisoners. The Syrian regime did release prisoners but only after they had been tortured to death. SNHR documented the names, dates, and location of 679 victims who died under torture

The distribution of victims who died under torture by governorate is as follows:

Homs: 129	Damascus countryside: 96	
Daraa: 94	Damascus: 78	
Idlib: 76	Hama: 64	
Der Ezzor: 53	Aleppo: 29	
Latakia: 21	Qunietra: 16	
Ar-Raqqa: 10	Al-Hassaka: seven	Tartus: four

SNHR publishes a monthly report documenting victims of torture for every month in addition to highlighting the most prominent cases. The reports can be accessed via the following URLs:

[Most Prominent Victims of Torture in June 2014](#)

[Most Prominent Victims of Torture in August 2014](#)

[Most Prominent Victims of Torture in September 2014](#)

SNHR emphasizes the necessity to hold all the individuals involved in the systemic torture practices accountable. The size and magnitude of these crimes indicate that it is a state's policy for which all the branches of the Syrian regime are accountable according to the international law. This state-level terrorism must be ended as soon as possible or it will only cause more terrorism and extremism.

