Most Prominent Victims of Torture in May

Documented by SNHR

The first documented case of its kind in the Syrian revolution; a little girl was tortured to death inside a Syrian regime's detention centers.

Executive Summary:

The number of victims who died under torture inside the detention centers of the Syrian regime in May was relatively high as 344 victims have died under torture at least.

This report highlights the most prominent victims who died under torture in May:

One media activist - Four university students - Two Pharmacists - One nurse - Two engineers One veterinarian - Four children - Three elders

Ten cases that involved victims from the same family (22 victims in total)

Also, SNHR documented the operation where the state security branch in Aleppo delivered a number of corpses of dead prisoners to Aleppo University Hospital on 24 May, 2014

The Methodology:

Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) is an independent non-governmental human rights organization that was established to document human rights violations, victims, and prisoners in Syria. For more information on the methodology of SNHR, please visit the following URL.

Details:

Media Activists:

Ayman Zahar Tabash, a media activist from Ad-Dmier city in Damascus countryside. Ayman was arrested on 15 January, 2014 at a military checkpoint in Al-Qtiefa city, he was transferred to the military security branch 227 and then to Tishreem military hospital in Damascus where he died under torture. His family was informed about his death on 4 May, 2014.

University Students:

Mohammad Abdulkarim Shaikh, a 23-year-old university student, from Taybat Al-Imam in Hama. Mohammad was arrested from his university campus in Latakia. His family learned about his death on 5 May, 2014.

Abdullah Mahmoud Al-Abdullah, a university student from Taybat Al-Imam city in Hama. His family learned about his death on 10 May, 2014.

Huthaifa Ahmad Traf, a medical student at Damascus University. Huthaifa was born In Has town – Idlib. He was arrested a year and half ago from his university campus only a few months before graduating. His family learned about his death on 11 May, 2014

<u>Tareq Jazzar</u> was studying artificial intelligence at the informatics engineering department in Damascus University. Tareq is from Az-Zabadani in Damascus countryside, he was 26-year-old.



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His family learned about his death on 28 May, 2014. Tareq was arrested a month and a half ago on his way back from his university, he was transferred to the branch 215 in Damascus and then to Adra prison. Tareq had health problems so he was transferred to a hospital and died there.

Pharmacists:

Mahmoud Iskam, a 24-year-old pharmacist from Al-Jalaa neighborhood in Hama. He was arrested from the campus of Homs University when he was there to receive his graduation certificate on 29 November, 2013. The news of his death inside Palestine branch surfaced on 7 May, 2014. Mohammad Al-Hassan Alaa As-Sayed Eissa, a 33-year-old pharmacist from Idlib city.

Mohammad was married and had one son who is now two-year-old. He was arrested at Tayyar military checkpoint in Aleppo – Al-Jadeda neighborhood on 2 September, 2013, he was transferred to the military security branch in Aleppo where he stayed for a month and a half before getting transferred again to Palestine branch in Damascus. Mohammad died under torture on 15 April, 2014 along with other 42 prisoners in a mass poisoning that affected the cell no. 100 according to what two former prisoners, who were released recently in very poor health conditions, told his family on 19 May, 2014.

Nurses:

Radwan Mohamed Chupke.

Bahaa Mustafa Al-Ibrahim, a 26-year-old nurse from Kafrzyta in Hama, he was residing in Damascus. He was arrested a year ago on account of that fact that he was working as a nurse in a field-hospital. His family learned about his death inside Palestine branch in Damascus on 31 May, 2014.

Veterinarians:

Mahed Walid Habbaou, a 39-year-old veterinarian from Al-Arba'ien neighborhood in Hama. He was married and had two kids. He was arrested by the political security branch on 19 May, 2012, his family were informed about him dying under torture on 8 May, 2014.



Engineers:

Samer Abdurrahman An-Nafouri, a 40-year-old civil engineer from An-Nabak city in Damascus countryside, he was married and had three kids. He was an employee at Al-Qalamoun hospital, a partner in a contracting company, and a mosque imam. Samer was secretly a political activist as no one knew he was helping the rebels. However, he was at some meetings between rebels and some supporters of the Syrian regime as an impartial third party. He refused to leave the city when it was being raided by the Syrian regime. He had a settlement with the security branches, nevertheless, he was arrested in last January. His family learned about his death on 10 May, 2014 inside the local security branch but his they didn't receive his body.

Mohammad Reda Al-Qa'ed, an engineer from Ghbagheb in Daraa. His family learned about him dying under torture inside the military security branch in As-Sweyda after he had been prisoned for two monhs on 21 May, 2014.

Children:

Child Ne'ma Hamid Al-Qadri, 17-year-old, from Nahta town in Daraa. She was arrested at a military checkpoint near Inkhil city seven months ago. On 13 May, 2014, it was documented that her family has received her body about a month ago after she died under torture inside the branch 215. Child <u>Uqba Ahmad Al-Jomaa</u>, 15-year-old, from Taybat Al-Imam city in Hama. His family learned about his death on 13 May, 2014 after he was arrested two years ago.

Child Mohammad Feras Durra, a 16-year-old, from Jyroud city in Damascus countryside. He was injured on 20 April, 2014 under the Syrian regime's shelling on Jyroud city and was taken to Al-Qtiefa city where he had his leg amputated, then he was arrested by the Syrian regime. His family learned about his death on 19 May, 2014.

Child Mohammad Nayef Farhoud, a 16-year-old, from Al-Yarmouk camp in Damascus. His family learned about his death on 31 May, 2014 after he was arrested two years ago.

Elders:

Mohammad Mistou, 65-year-old, from Qadsiya city in Damascus countryside. The news of his death surfaced on 2 May, 2014 inside the military security branch in Damascus after being arrested on 19 March, 2014. Saad Yousuf Abu-Zrieq, a 65-year-old, from Nasib city in Daraa. The news of his death under torture surfaced on 4 May, 2014 after being arrested in 20 November, 2011.



<u>Abdussalam Hamed Al-Khatib</u>, a 75-year-old, from Mu'damyat Ash-Sham in Damascus countryside. He was taken back to his family on 5 May, 2014 as he was in very poor health conditions because of the brutal torture, he was transferred to Al-Mwasa hospital where he died after 24 hours. He was arrested on 9 March, 2014.

Cases that involved victims from the same family

Foad and Mohammad Hejazi, from Jyroud town in Damascus countryside. Their family learned about their death on 2 May, 2014 after spending several months inside the prison.

Jehad and Nabil Jomaa Mu'ti, two brothers from Qara city in Damascus countryside. Jehad is a 29-year-old married man who had one son while Nabil was 27-year-old and single. They were arrested on 21 February, 2014, on 4 May, 2014 the Syrian authorities gave their I.Ds to their families and told them that they died under torture inside the local security branch in Damascus. Three brothers and their cousin (the source abstained from revealing their names for security reasons) from Rukn Ad-Din neighborhood in Damascus. They died under torture inside Al-Khatib branch in Damascus, and their family learned about their death on 9 May, 2014.

Raed and Rani Ahmad Rateb Al-Jahmani, two brothers from Nawa city in Daraa. Their family learned about their death on 12 May, 2014.

Abdullatif Mustafa Zain Ad-Din and his son Ahmad, from Mu'damyat Ash-Sham in Damascus countryside, Abdullatif is 54-year-old while his son Ahmad is 20-year-old. Abdullatif,

who had a permanent disability, was arrested along with his son while they were on their way home 19 months ago. On 14 May, 2014 their family learned about their death and received their respective documents.

Mohammad Khair Al-Jallab and his cousin Benjamin who is a child, they are from An-Nabak city in Damascus countryside. Mohammad is 41-year-old while Benjamin is 17-year-old.

Hassan Hassan Nassar and his brother Emad, from Ad-Dmier city in Damascus countryside. Hassan was arrested two years ago and his family learned about his death on 15 May, 2014 while Emad had been prisoned for more than seven months and his family learned about his death on 12 May, 2014

Mohammad Ismail Az-Zybaq and his brother Suhail from An-Nabak city in Damascus countryside. Their family learned about their death on 31 May, 2014.

PYD's Al-Ashayes forces

Hanan Khalil Hamdoush, 35-year-old, from Ifreen city in Aleppo. Died under torture inside one of Al-Ashayes forces' detention centers on 4 May, 2014 after one day of her arrest. Hanan was arrested after badmouthing PYD in a fight with someone.

Also, SNHR documented the operation in which the state security branch delivered the corpses of the following dead prisoners to Aleppo University Hospital on 24 May, 2014

Ahmad Alolou, Ma'moun Jarkas, Samir Na'na'ie, Yassin Kubba, Jalal Al-Ahmad, Mohammad Haj Hamdou, Mahmoud Nour, Mustafa Haout, Bassel Nayef, Feras Al-Mohammad, and Nedal Habbou.

Conclusions:

According to Article VII of part II, provision (1-F): The act of torture is considered a crime against humanity when committed as a part of widespread or systematic attack directed any civilian population, this is manifesting in the practices of the Security forces at the detention centers which suggests that it is a state policy, thus the Syrian government have, through torture, committed crimes against humanity.

Also the international law for Human Rights prohibits explicitly torture and other brutal, inhumane, and insulting acts according to Article VII of the aforementioned international convention. Additionally, torturing during armed conflicts is a violation of the International Humanitarian Law as well as the International Criminal Law and considered a war crime.

Furthermore, the locations where the prisons are being detained and the arresting and torturing methods are certainly inhumane.

Reccomendations:

The Security Council:

- 1- To adopt a resolution to transfer the Syrian file to the International Criminal Court and not to affirm the idea of impunity.
- 2- To warn the Syrian government from the fallouts of using brutal torture on the stability of civil peace and coexisting within a united society.

The Human right Council:

- 1- Give more serious consideration to torture-killing case which is considered one of the ugliest sorts of crimes.
- 2- Demand the Security Council and the international organizations to should its responsibilities in addressing this very serious matter.
- 3- Apply pressure on the Syrian government to stop torturing prisoners and to open the doors of its prisons and detention center to examine the conditions of thousands of prisoners and the circumstances of their arrest.
- 4- Shoulder the allies and supporters of the Syrian government Russia, Iran, and China the moral and material responsibility of the Syrian regime's crimes in this course.

The Arab League:

- 1- Ask the Security Council to give this serious case its due consideration.
- 2- Apply diplomatic and political pressure on the Syrian government's allies Russia, Iran, and China- in order to prevent them from providing political and international cover for all the crimes committed against the Syrian people, and should them the moral and material responsibility of all the Syrian regime's crimes.

