



## The citizen Belal Al Shaikh Darweesh Enforced to Disappear since 2012

SNHR briefed the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary disappearances, of the case of the citizen Belal Al Shaikh Darweesh from Haraṣṭa city in Damascus suburbs governorate, age 26 at the time of arrest, and asked to request of the Syrian authorities to release him, as he was arrested arbitrarily on 13 November 2012, as he was passing the checkpoint of government in Haraṣṭa highway region in Damascus suburbs governorate. The members belong to military security forces of government forces.



They were in military and civilian outfits. His family are unable to have any information to determine his fate or his detention center after that date, since then his fate remain unknown for his family and the Syrian Network for Human Rights as well.

Syrian authorities deny enforcing the citizen Belal Al Shaikh Darweesh to disappear, SNHR were unable to determine his fate until now, as is his family, and they are afraid of detention and torture in the event of repeating questions about him, as happened with many similar cases.

SNHR demanded the United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearance to intervene with the Syrian authorities for his immediate release, and the release of thousands of cases of enforced disappearances and the need to determine their fate.

And despite the fact that the Syrian government is not a party of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, but in contrast Party on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant, and the Arab Charter on Human Rights, which enforced disappearances violates both provisions.

SNHR also confirmed fears of torture and possibly death under torture against enforced disappeared since 2011, and the numbers of enforced disappearances still mounting.

