

At least 7,706 Cases of Arbitrary Arrests Documented in Syria in 2018

Including 580 in December



SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

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The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, independent group that is considered a primary source for the OHCHR on all death toll-related analyses in Syria.



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I. Introduction

Arbitrary arrests have been made in Syria on a daily basis since the start of the popular uprising for democracy in March 2011, with many people arrested simply for exercising one of their basic rights cited in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights such as the right to freedom of opinion and expression, or being denied a fair trial after being detained without any ruling by an independent judicial entity ordering their detention, or being arrested without being charged with any offence or provided with an attorney, or being detained after their punishment had ended. In most cases, arbitrarily detained individuals are subjected to solitary confinement for several months or sometimes for years, if not indefinitely, at official and unofficial detention centers. In itself, detention is not considered a violation of human rights until it becomes arbitrary, as stated by international instruments, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – Article 9 states: "**No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.**" while Article 9 (1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states: "**Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedure as are established by law.**"

New incidents of arbitrary arrest are documented almost every day. The Syrian regime was the first party to practice this violation in a systematic manner against the various segments of the Syrian people, with the Syrian regime using mafia-like methods, making most arrests without a legal warrant while the victim is passing through a checkpoint or during raids. Torture starts the moment the detainee is arrested, and he is deprived of any mean to contact his family or attorney. Also, authorities deny even having made these arbitrary arrests, and most detainees become forcibly disappeared persons.



The Syrian regime is responsible for no fewer than 87 percent of all the arbitrary arrests that we have documented. In most cases, victims' families are unable to accurately identify the entity that made the arrest, taking into account the vast array of forces affiliated with the Syrian regime (Iranian militias, the Lebanese group Hezbollah, and others), in addition to the four main security agencies and their many branches, all of which are authorized to arrest, torture, and commit the crimes of enforced disappearance.

Despite all the negotiations, agreements, and Cessation of Hostilities statements issued over the course of the Syrian conflict, it is clear that the issue of detainees is almost the only issue that has yet to see any progress. In this regard, we recommend the following:

- 1- Arbitrary arrests must be ceased immediately as this is still an ongoing concern according to SNHR's monthly report. All detainees' fates must be revealed and their families' right to visit them must also be ensured immediately.
- 2- All detainees imprisoned for merely exercising their political and civil rights must be released unconditionally. The use of women and children as prisoners of war must be stopped and they all must be released.
- 3- The independent international monitors of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, which was established by the UN, and the International Committee of the Red Cross must be granted access to all official and non-official detention centers without establishing any prior arrangements or any restrictions or conditions.
- 4- A UN committee should be formed to attend to the release of the detainees periodically and according to a timetable that must be presented by all the detaining parties, primarily the Syrian regime forces that are responsible for 87 percent of all the detainees.
- 5- Suspend and repeal all rulings issued by the field military courts and terrorism courts, which are non-compliant with domestic and international legislation, as well as guarantees of a fair trial.

Methodology

This report documents the record of arbitrary arrests by the parties to the conflict in December. Additionally, this report monitors the most notable raid and checkpoints that resulted in detentions, in addition to shedding light on the most notable individual cases and incidents of arbitrary arrest that took place in December.



The SNHR team abides by strict standards in order to evaluate and determine any incident of arbitrary arrests and to avoid any faults in recording any incidents of detention, imprisonment, or deprivation of freedom in accordance with the international laws and the aforementioned set of principles on arbitrary arrest. The Detainee and Forcibly-Disappeared Department at SNHR records cases of arrest that they collect from various sources, such as: victims' families, SNHR members in Syrian governorates, cooperating local activists, and former detainees, before diligently working to contact the families of the detainees and forcibly disappeared persons, as well as people close to them and people who survived detention, for the purpose of collecting as much information and data as possible, in light of extraordinarily and extremely complex challenges. We also record eyewitnesses' accounts and track cases of arrest to update these records regularly in order to discover the fate of a detainee, their place of detention, and the circumstances of their arrest.

The ongoing daily process of documenting detainees comes with additional challenges for SNHR, which has been documenting detainees since 2011. One of these most notable challenges is the reluctance of victims' families to cooperate and reveal and document any information on their family members' arrest even secretly, especially if the arrested individual was a female due to a well-founded fear still prevalent in Syrian society that being discovered doing so would result in more torture and further danger for their loved ones and themselves. Instead, families try to negotiate with security forces which usually blackmail these families and demand cash payments, effectively ransoms, that can amount to thousands of dollars in some cases. Despite the fact that SNHR possesses lists of more than 140,850 detainees, including children and women, we can safely say that our estimate of the actual number of detainees exceeds 215,000.

The failure of the international community and of all the organs of the United Nations to apply pressure on the Syrian authorities to release even one individual (including those whose sentences are completed), even prisoners of conscience, has affirmed the conviction of many within Syrian society that it is useless to cooperate in the documentation process. Most of the releases achieved were part of exchange deals with the armed opposition.



The detainee figures included in this report don't include prisoners with a criminal background and include cases of arrest that are based on the internal armed conflict, mainly due to opposition activity against the ruling authorities. The increasing number of arrests is attributable to a number of reasons:

- Many arrested individuals weren't arrested in connection with any crime, but because of their relatives' involvement with armed opposition factions or because they provided humanitarian aid.
- Most of the arrests are conducted randomly and involve people who weren't involved in the popular protests, in the provision of relief, or even in military activity.
- Thousands of detainees are still being detained by the Syrian regime despite judicial orders for their release having been issued due to the bureaucracy, corruption, slowness, and ineffectiveness which the Syrian judiciary suffers from.
- Syrian regime forces control densely populated cities such as the main central cities and continue to practice systematic policies of arbitrary arrests against the civilians of these areas.
- Many entities affiliated with Syrian regime forces are authorized to make arrests, with many of these entities making arrests without first checking with Syrian regime forces or the judicial authorities to which these entities are affiliated. Also, these entities have their own list of detention centers that are not subject to any judicial supervision. The detainees inside these detention centers are not being treated in accordance with the stated Syrian laws.
- A great number of cases are driven by blackmail or sectarian grudges, especially in unstable areas that are not controlled by a specific faction or which are subject to a power struggle. As a result, many of the armed militias that have emerged can't be monitored as they don't answer to any particular group.

II. December Outline

The Syrian Regime forces in December continued with their campaigns of prosecution and arrest focusing primarily on civilians and former armed opposition fighters in the areas that had signed settlement agreements with Syrian Regime forces. Our monitoring also confirmed that Syrian Regime forces arrested some of the previously forcibly displaced civilians who returned from north Syria to their hometowns as part of these settlement agreements. In addition, Syrian regime forces launched a sweeping arrest campaign in December against individuals who had returned from neighboring countries who should supposedly have been protected by the amnesty laws and reconciliation offers established by the regime, particularly in Damascus Suburbs and Daraa governorates.



In December, we recorded an increase in the rates of kidnappings for ransom by Syrian Regime forces' security apparatuses, particularly by personnel of the Air Force Intelligence and Military Intelligence forces. These abductions were concentrated in the cities of Hama, Latakia, and Homs, and particularly targeted women and children.

Syrian Regime forces, throughout the month of December, continued with their policies of pursuing civilians from families of activists involved in the popular uprising for democracy and of fighters of factions of the Armed Opposition in areas under their control, as well as targeting individuals affiliated with factions of the Armed Opposition, with SNHR documenting the Syrian Regime forces carrying out campaigns of raids and arrests that targeted entire families related to members of factions of the Armed Opposition. These arrests, which included women and children, were concentrated in the cities of Hama, Latakia, and Homs. Meanwhile, Self-Management forces continued enforcing their policies of arbitrary arrest and enforced disappearance throughout the month of December, targeting political activists and members of civil society groups who oppose their ideological views. These arrests were concentrated in Hasaka and Raqqa governorates. Additionally, Self-Management forces continued their policy of arbitrary arrest for the purpose of conscription.

In addition to these incidents, December also saw the arrests of members of civil society groups by Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, whose members also continue to pursue and arrest armed opposition fighters belonging to factions affiliated with the Euphrates Shield and Olive Branch operation rooms, with these arrests being concentrated in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and the northern suburbs of Hama governorate.

Factions of the Armed Opposition, meanwhile, continued making arrests in the territories under their control, which were concentrated in Aleppo governorate, and particularly Afrin city, throughout the month of November.

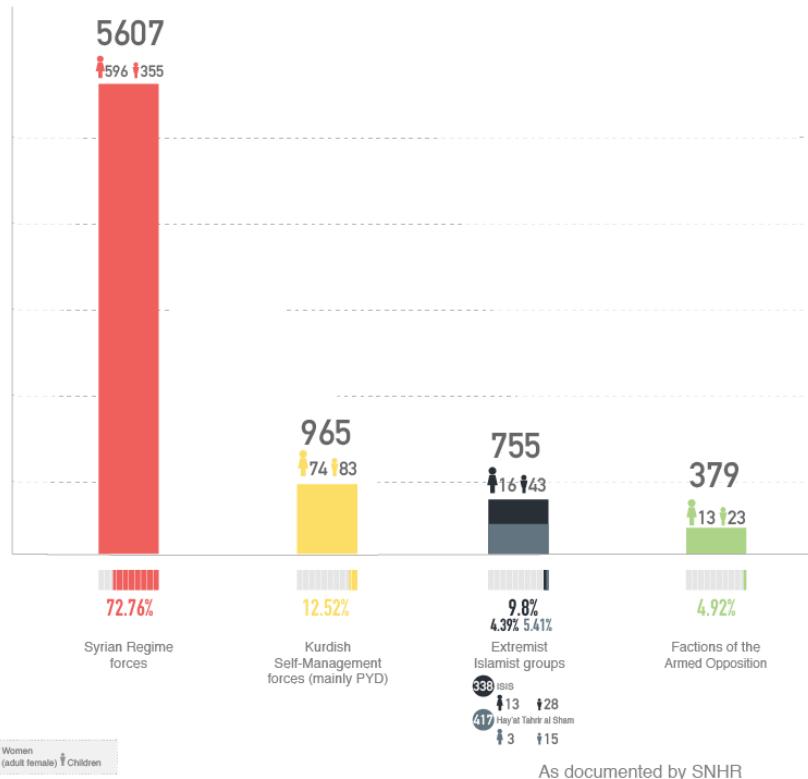
III. Toll of Arbitrary Arrests Made by the Parties to the Conflict

A. Record of cases of Arbitrary arrests in 2018

SNHR documented at least 7,706 cases of arbitrary arrest, including 504 children, 699 women (adult females), at the hands of the parties to the conflict in Syria in 2018. These arrests were distributed as follows:



Distributed as follows:



As documented by SNHR

At least

7706

incidents
of arbitrary arrest
at the hands of
the main parties to
the conflict in Syria in

2018

A. Syrian regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias):

5,607 individuals, including 355 children, and 596 women.

B. Extremist Islamist groups: 755 individuals, including 43 children and 16 women, divided between:

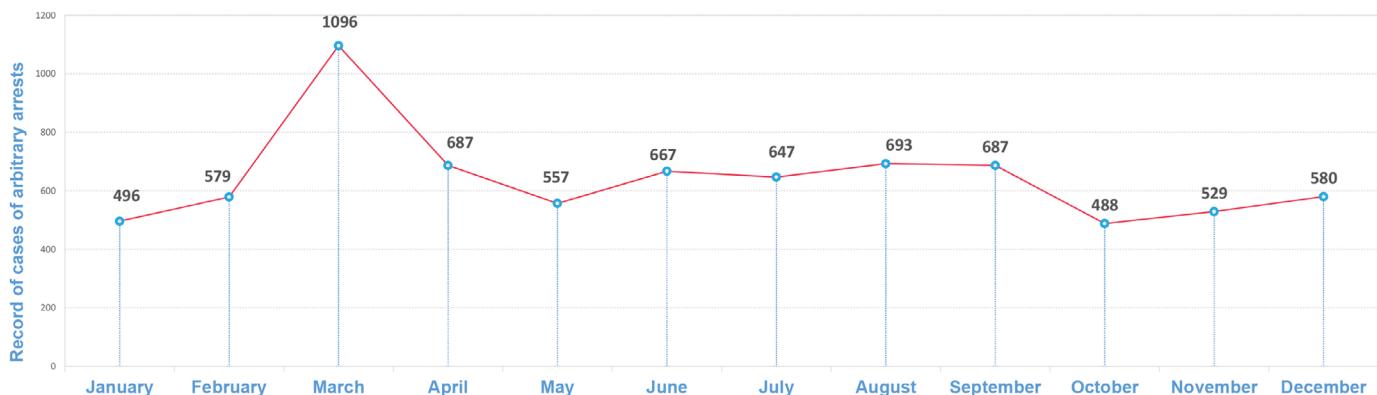
- ISIS (the self-proclaimed ‘Islamic State’): 338 individuals, including 28 children and 13 women.
- Hay’at Tahrir al Sham (an alliance composed of Fateh al Sham Front and a number of factions of the armed opposition): 417 individuals, including 15 children and three women.

C. Factions of the armed opposition: 379 individuals, including 23 children and 13 women.

D. Self-Management forces (consisting primarily of the Democratic Union Party – a branch of the Kurdistan Workers’ Party): 965 individuals, including 83 children and 74 women.

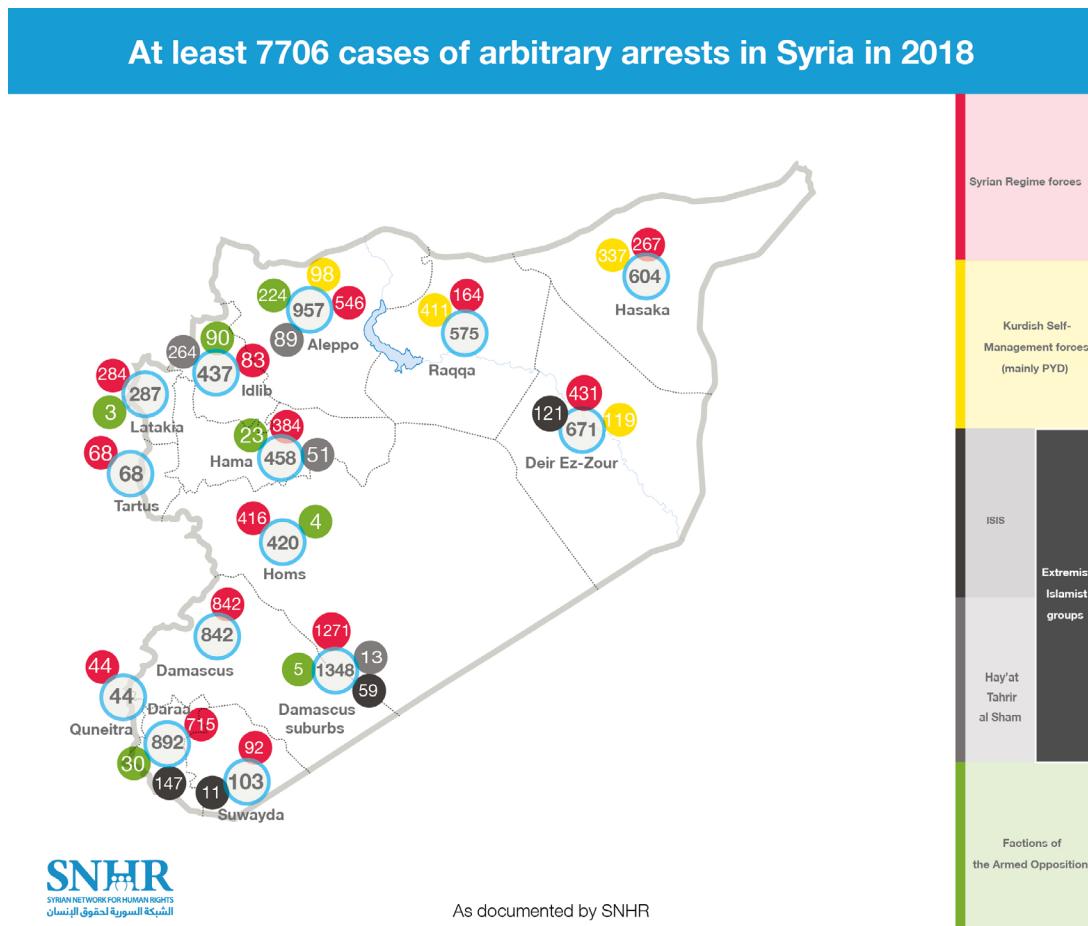


Record of cases of arbitrary arrest were distributed by month as follows:



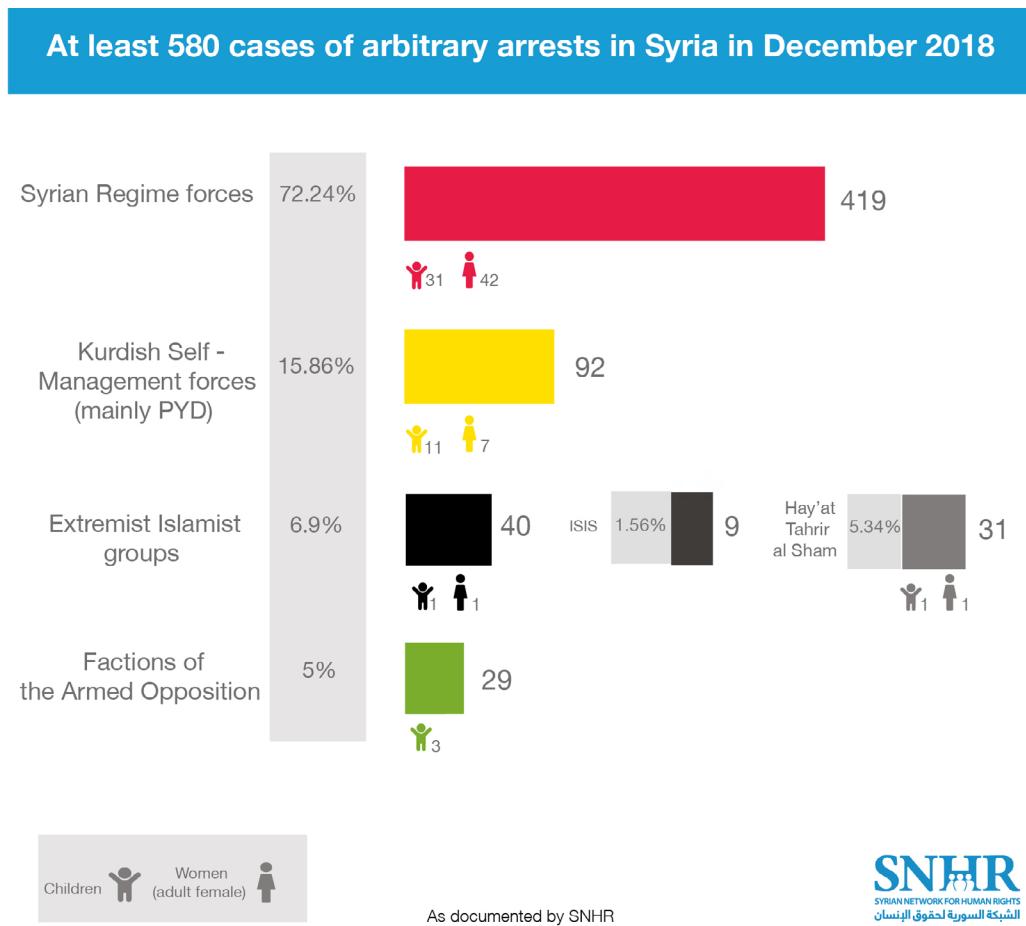
As documented by SNHR

Record of cases of arbitrary arrests in 2018 was distributed across the Syrian governorates by the parties to the conflict as follows:



B. Record of cases of Arbitrary arrests in December:

SNHR has documented at least 580 cases of arbitrary arrests in Syria in December, which were distributed by the parties to the conflict as follows:



A. Syrian regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias):

419 individuals, including 31 children, and 42 women.

B. Extremist Islamist groups: 40 individuals, including one child and one woman, divided between:

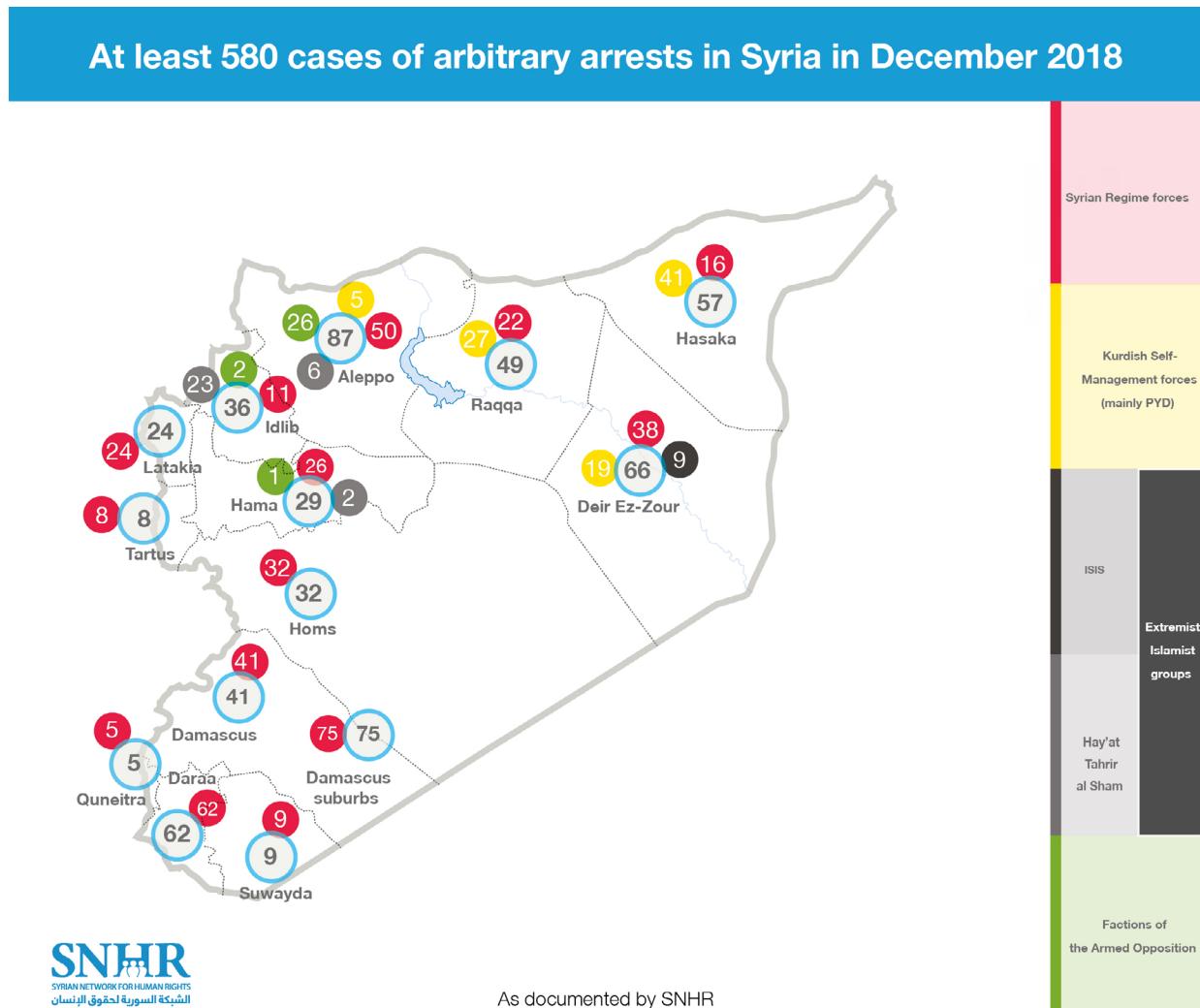
- **ISIS (the self-proclaimed ‘Islamic State’): nine individuals.**
- **Hay'at Tahrir al Sham (an alliance composed of Fateh al Sham Front and a number of factions of the armed opposition): 31 individuals, including one child and one woman.**

C. Factions of the armed opposition: 29 individuals, including three children.

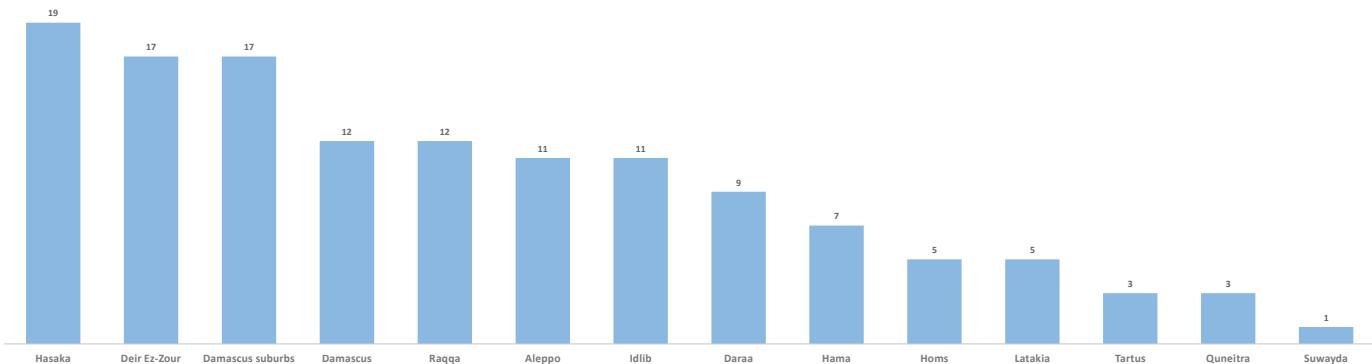
D. Self-Management forces (consisting primarily of the Democratic Union Party – a branch of the Kurdistan Workers’ Party): 92 individuals, including 11 children and seven women.



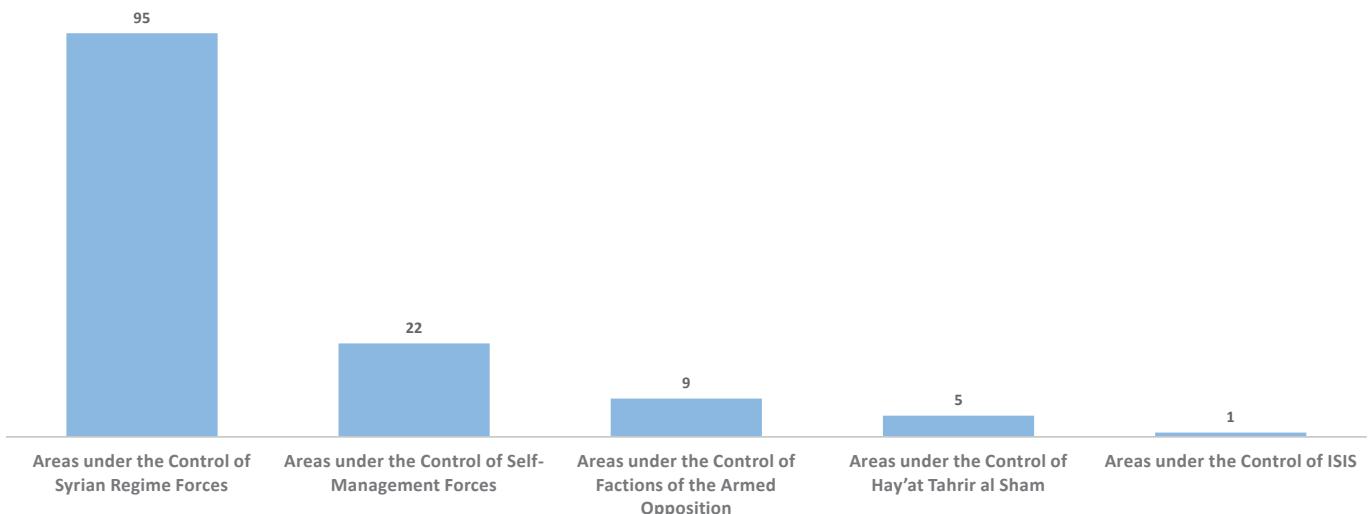
The following map shows the distribution of cases of arbitrary arrests in December across the Syrian governorates by the parties to the conflict:



We've also documented at least 132 checkpoints that resulted in detention in December. Those were distributed across governorates as follows



Checkpoints were distributed by the responsible party as follows



IV. Most Notable Cases and Incidents of Arbitrary Arrest in December:

A. Syrian regime forces

Most notable incidents:

On Wednesday, December 5, 2018, Syrian Regime forces carried out a campaign of raids and arrests in Hatla village in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate. We documented the arrest of three civilians, including one woman, who were taken to an undisclosed location.

On Friday, December 21, 2018, Syrian Regime forces carried out a campaign of raids and arrests in Yalda town in Damascus Suburbs governorate. We documented the arrest of three civilians, who had previously agreed to the settlement agreement, who were taken to an undisclosed location.

On Wednesday, December 12, 2018, Syrian Regime forces arrested five civilians at one of their checkpoints at the eastern entrance to Hama city, while they were travelling from Tal al Amara town in eastern suburbs of Idlib governorate to Lebanon. They were taken to an undisclosed location.

On Monday, December 17, 2018, Syrian Regime forces carried out a campaign of raids and arrests in Buqrus Tahtani village in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate. We documented the arrest of five civilians, who were taken to an undisclosed location.



Most notable cases:

Suhail Matrook Zebian, a sculptor, from Salkhad city in southern Suwyada governorate, was born in 1965. On Saturday, December 8, 2018, he was arrested by Syrian Regime forces at one of their checkpoints in Jaramana city in southeast of Damascus Suburbs governorate. He was released on December 22, 2018.



Suhail Matrook Zebian

Siblings Yahya and Khaled al Juda, from al Yarmouk Camp in south of Damascus city, who had previously agreed to the settlement agreement, were arrested by Syrian Regime forces on Friday, December 21, 2018, in an area west of Yalda town in the suburbs of Damascus Suburbs governorate, near al Yarmouk Camp. Their fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to their family.

Mohammad al Buqa'i, known as Abu Ruslan, a former worker at the local council of Yalda town in Damascus Suburbs governorate, was arrested on Friday, December 21, 2018, by Syrian Regime forces in Yalda town. Mohammad had previously agreed to the settlement agreement, and his fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to his family.

B. Extremist Islamic groups

- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham:

Most notable cases

Mr. Ali Haj Deebo, from Tal Hadya village in southern suburbs of Aleppo, is the head of its local council. On Sunday, December 2, 2018, he was arrested by gunmen affiliated with Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at a checkpoint of theirs in the village. He was released on Sunday, December 9, 2018.



Ali Haj Deebo



Mwafaq al Najjar al Na'al "known as Abu Emad al Munshed", an activist in the popular uprising, from Douma city in Eastern Ghouta in the east of Damascus Suburbs governorate, was born in 1962. On Thursday, December 6, 2018, he was arrested by gunmen affiliated with Hay'at Tahrir al Sham in a neighborhood in Idlib city before he was released on Wednesday, December 12, 2018.



Mwafaq al Najjar al Na'al

Muram al Sheikh, a vascular surgeon, director of the 'Free' Hama Health Directorate, from Qal'at al Madiq town in Hama governorate's northwestern suburbs, was arrested by gunmen affiliated with Hay'at Tahrir al Sham, on Monday, December 10, 2018, in a raid on the 'Free' Hama Health Directorate headquarters building in Kafranbel city in Idlib governorate's southern suburbs, and taken to an undisclosed location. He was released on Tuesday, December 11, 2018.



Muram al Sheikh

C. Self-Management forces:

Most notable incidents:

On Monday, December 10, 2018, Self-Management forces arrested three civilians, including one woman, following a raid on their house in al Mukhtalita neighborhood in Raqqa city. They were taken to an undisclosed location.

On Saturday, December 22, 2018, Self-Management forces arrested three civilians in Saif al Dawla street in the center of Raqqa city. They were taken to an undisclosed location.

Most notable cases

Siblings Najeh and Atallah al Hawas, from al Hanwa al Kabira village in the southern suburbs of Hasaka governorate, were arrested by Self-Management forces on Saturday, December 8, 2018, in al Hanwa al Kabira village. Their fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to their family.



V. Most Notable Cases of Arbitrary Arrest in 2018

A. Syrian regime forces

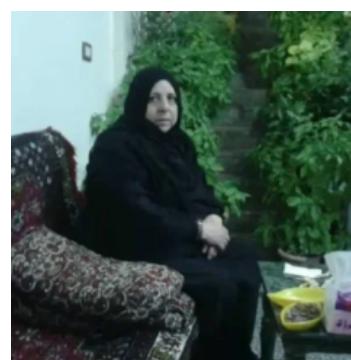
Wisal Mhawesh Affash, from al Sawara town in the northern suburbs of Daraa governorate, was arrested on Thursday, November 8, 2018, by Syrian Regime forces from the civil registry department in Izra city in the northern suburbs of Daraa. She was taken to an undisclosed location, and her fate remains unknown to SNHR as well as to her family.

Mufid Abu Nabbout, from Daraa city, was born in 1975, and holds a degree in Philosophy. On Sunday, November 18, 2018, he was arrested by Syrian Regime forces at the Criminal Security building in al Kashif neighborhood east Daraa city. He had previously agreed to the settlement agreement. He was taken to an undisclosed location, and his fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.



Mufid Abu Nabbout

Sabah Mohammad al Sheikh al Kilani, aged 60, from al Dmair city in the east of Damascus Suburbs governorate, was arrested by Syrian Regime forces on Monday, October 8, 2018, in al Dmair city. Her fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to her family.



Sabah Mohammad
al Sheikh al Kilani

Ali al Jad'i, a former volunteer at the Syrian Civil Defense organization, from al Dmaina village in the southern suburbs of Hama governorate, was arrested by Syrian Regime forces on Thursday, October 5, 2018, following a raid on his place of residence in al Tloul al Humr in the southern suburbs of Hama governorate. His fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.

Shareef Naser al Masri, a nurse, from Ataman city in the suburbs of Daraa governorate, was arrested by Syrian Regime forces on Thursday, September 6, 2018. His fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.



Mr. Mohammad Abdul Hameed, from al Qosour neighborhood in the east of Hama city, who was born in 1984, is an Arabic language teacher. On Saturday, August 4, 2018, he was arrested by Syrian Regime forces at a regime checkpoint on Hama-Homs street. He was taken to the Security Military branch in Hama city. His fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.

Mr. Samer Mohammad al Ahmad, from Mhajja town in the north of Daraa governorate, who was born in 1982, is an Arabic language teacher. On Tuesday, June 5, 2018, he was arrested by Syrian Regime forces at a regime checkpoint in Menkat al Hatab village in the north of Daraa governorate. He was taken to an undisclosed location, and his fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.

Mohammad Abdul Mawla al Khaled, an engineer from al Karak al Sharqi village in the east of Daraa governorate, was arrested by Syrian Regime forces on Friday, June 1, 2018, at a regime checkpoint in Kherbt Ghazala town in the north of Daraa governorate, and taken to an undisclosed location. His fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.

Ms. Fatema al Hasan, from Janoub al Mal'ab neighborhood in the south of Hama governorate, was born in 1988. On Thursday, June 21, 2018, she was arrested by the Syrian Regime's Airforce Security forces following a raid on her place of residence in the neighborhood, and taken to an undisclosed location. Her fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to her family.

Ahmad al Sa'eed, an engineer from al Salamiya city in the east of Hama governorate, was arrested by Syrian Regime forces on Sunday, May 28, 2018, at a checkpoint of theirs in the city of Hama. He was taken to the Security Military branch in the city. His fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.

Ms. Heyam al Ghadeeb, from al Ashara city in the east of Deir Ez-Zour governorate, was arrested by Syrian Regime forces on Tuesday, May 29, 2018, at a regime checkpoint in al Ashara city. Her fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to her family.



B. Extremist Islamist groups

- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham

Yaser Abdul Raheem al Saleem, a lawyer, from al Dimas town in the west of Damascus Suburbs governorate, was born in 1970. On Friday, September 21, 2018, he was arrested by gunmen affiliated with Hay'at Tahrir al Sham following a raid on his place of residence in Kafranble city in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. His fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.



Yaser Abdul Raheem al Saleem

Anas Hasoud, a secretary at Idlib University and one of the university's founders, has a Bachelor's degree in Sharia law. Mr. Hasoud, from Ma'aret Harma village in Idlib governorate southern suburbs, was arrested by gunmen affiliated with Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at the university headquarters building on Tuesday, September 25, 2018. His fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.



Anas Hasoud

Haitham Mohammad Jad'an, an employee at the customs administration service at the Nasib crossing on the Syrian-Jordanian border in Daraa governorate, from Jozef village in Idlib governorate southern suburbs, was arrested by gunmen affiliated with Hay'at Tahrir al Sham in Jozef village. on September 22, 2018. His fate remains unknown to SNHR, as well as to his family.

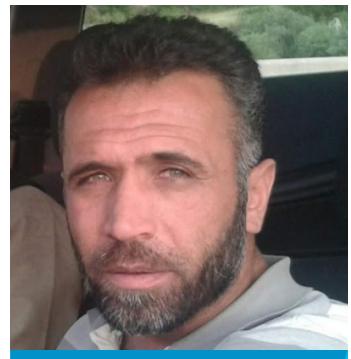


Haitham Mohammad Jad'an

Ibrahim Khatib, a defected air jump Captain from government forces, from Mar'yan village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, was arrested in Mar'yan village on Friday, August 3, 2018 by gunmen affiliated with Hay'at Tahrir al Sham. His fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to his family.



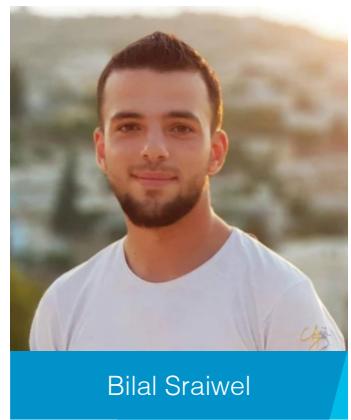
Ahmad Khaled al Qnatri, a defected lieutenant-colonel from government forces, from Hazarin village, in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, was arrested on Thursday, August 2, 2018 by gunmen affiliated with Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at a checkpoint on the road between Kafranbel and Hazarin village, in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. His fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to his family.



Ahmad Khaled al Qnatri

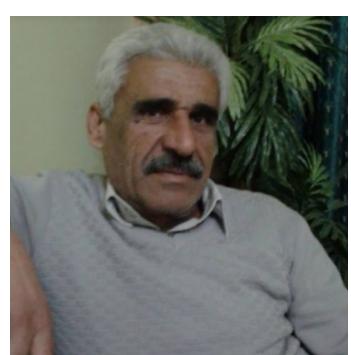
C. Factions of the Armed Opposition

Bilal Sraiwel, from Douma city in the Eastern Ghouta in eastern Damascus Suburbs governorate, was born in 1993. He is a media worker for Swa'adna Alsouria Organization, a member of the Media Workers Association East Ghouta, and a designer for the Syrian Independent Kurd League. On Thursday, November 8, 2018, gunmen affiliated to al Sultan Murad brigade, one of the factions of the armed opposition, arrested him on Vilas street in the center of Afrin city on charges of filming without prior authorization. He was taken to an undisclosed location, before he was released on Sunday, November 11, 2018, after being subjected to severe torture.



Bilal Sraiwel

Abdul Rahman Ebo, an engineer from Karzila village of Afrin city in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, an Aleppo University architecture graduate, was born in 1961. On Saturday, October 20, 2018, he was arrested by gunmen affiliated with factions from the Armed Opposition, belonging to the Olive Branch operation room, following a raid on his place of residence in Villa Street neighborhood in the center of Afrin city. He was taken to an undisclosed location, and his fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to his family.



Abdul Rahman Ebo



Laila Ismail Qablan, from Holilo village of Afrin city in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, was born in 1982. On Saturday, October 13, 2018, she was arrested by gunmen affiliated with factions of the Armed Opposition, belonging to the Olive Branch operation room, following a raid on her house in Holilo village. Her fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to her family.

Nazliah Na'san, from Afrin city in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, aged 36, was arrested by gunmen affiliated with factions of the Armed Opposition on Friday, August 12, 2018, in al Zebdiyah neighborhood in Afrin city. Her fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to her family.

Faryal Na'san, from Afrin city in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, aged 34, was arrested by gunmen affiliated with factions of the Armed Opposition on Friday, August 12, 2018, in al Zebdiyah neighborhood in Afrin city. Her fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to her family.

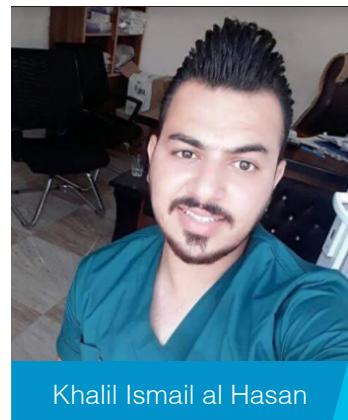
Kawa Omar, from Darkir village of Afrin city in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, aged 32, was arrested by gunmen affiliated with al Hamza brigade- a factions of the Armed Opposition on Wednesday, August 5, 2018, in Drakir village. His fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to his family.



Kawa Omar

D. Self-Management forces

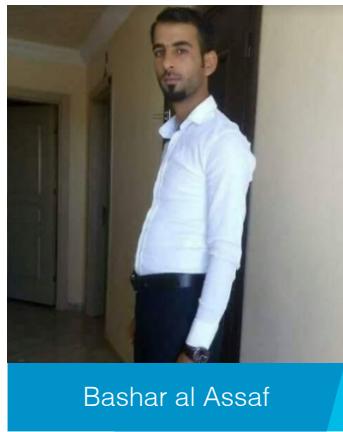
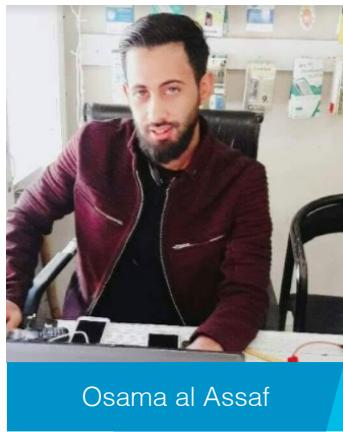
Khalil Ismail al Hasan, an Anesthetic nurse, from Raqqa city, aged 25, was arrested by Self-Management forces on Friday, August 17, 2018, at a checkpoint in the Raqqa city. His fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to his family.



Khalil Ismail al Hasan



Siblings Bashar and Osama al Assaf, from Tal Abyad city in the western suburbs of Raqqa governorate, were arrested by Self-Management forces on Sunday, August, 2018, in Tal Abyad city. Their fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to their family.



A male child, Odai Ahmad al Alloush, from al Twihina village in the western suburbs of Raqqa governorate, was arrested by Self-Management forces on Monday, June 25, 2018, in his village, and was taken to an undisclosed location. His fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to his family.

A female child Nariman Yusef Kalsh, from al Qameshli city in the northern suburbs of Hasaka governorate, was aged 17 when she was arrested by Self-Management forces on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, in Qamishli city. Her fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to her family.

Sabah Mahmoud al Hamad, from Jahfet Odwan village in the northern suburbs of Hasaka governorate, aged 26, was arrested by Self-Management forces on Saturday, May 19, 2018, in Jajfet Odwan village. Her fate remains unknown to the SNHR, as well as to her family.

VI. Recommendations

Security Council

Monitor the implementation of Resolution 2042, adopted on April 14, 2012, Resolution 2043, adopted on April 21, 2012, and Resolution 2139, adopted on 22 February, 2014, all of which demand the immediate cessation of the crime of enforced disappearance.



Human Rights Council

- Follow up on the issue of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons in Syria and shed light on this issue in all annual meetings.
- Cooperate and coordinate with all active local human rights groups in Syria.

Commission of Inquiry (COI)

Launch investigations into the cases included in this report and previous reports. SNHR is willing to cooperate and provide more evidence and data.

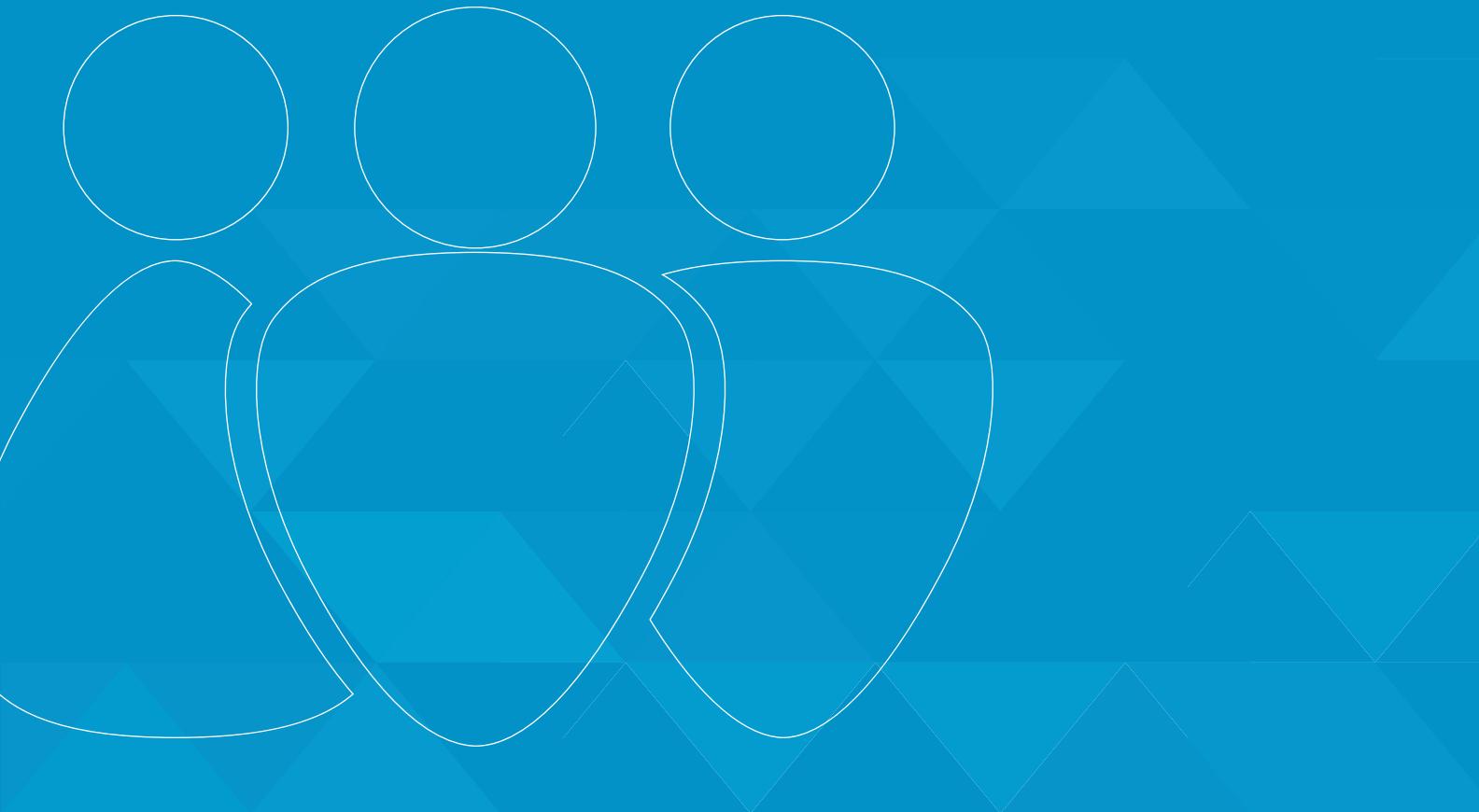
International, Impartial, and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)

Address the cases mentioned in this report and past reports. SNHR is willing to cooperate and provide more evidence and data.

United Nations and the guarantors in Astana talks

- An impartial special committee should be formed to monitor cases of enforced disappearance, and make progress in revealing the fate of the nearly 95,000 documented missing persons in Syria, approximately 86% of whom are detained by the Syrian regime.
- Immediately start applying pressure on all parties to ensure that they immediately reveal their detention records according to a timetable. In the meantime, detention places should be revealed immediately, and humanitarian organizations and the International Committee of the Red Cross should be allowed to visit them directly.
- Release children and women, and stop holding families and friends as war hostages.
- We call on the official who was newly appointed to take charge of the detainee file at the UN special envoy office to include the issue of the detainees issue in the upcoming round of Geneva talks, as this issue is of far greater importance to the Syrian people than other longer-term issues that can be jointly addressed later by the parties after a political settlement is reached, such as the constitution.





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