

# Awaiting Justice

## Most Notable Armed Opposition Detention Centers



## Content

First: Methodology.....	2
Second: Judiciary in Areas that aren't longer under the Syrian regime's control.....	3
Third: Detention Centers.....	5
Aleppo governorate .....	5
Damascus suburbs governorate .....	9
Daraa governorate .....	12
Fourth: Arrest and Torture.....	12
Fifth: Most Notable cases .....	13
Seventh: Conclusions and Recommendations .....	14
Acknowledgment .....	14

# First: Methodology

---

This report relies on the information that we gathered from released prisoners who were imprisoned by the armed opposition. We met several former prisoners mostly via Skype. Also, we conducted interviews with local resident and prisoners' families and we cross-checked the information we obtained from these interviews to reach the highest possible level of credibility and accuracy. Since all the people we interviewed were Syrians, we didn't need any translators and we informed all the interviewees of the purpose of these interviews and they gave us permission to use this information. None of the interviewees were remunerated for the interviews and some of them even risked their lives and lost money to conduct these interviews. We changed their names for safety concerns and didn't reveal the time and place of these interviews for the same reason.

Most of the interviews contained similar information. We included six interviews in this report and verified many of the pictures and video footages we received via e-mail, Skype, or on our Facebook page. Some of these pictures and information are published publicly on the web.

In this report we outlined 12 of the most notable detention centers used by armed opposition as follows: four in Aleppo, seven in Damascus, and one in Daraa.

The preparation of this report took three months. However, it does only document the minimum number of cases considering the obstacles we come across in documenting violations especially the lack of security.

Numbers of detainees and torture victims are based on SNHR archive. SNHR has been updating its archives daily since 2011 through daily monitoring and recording. All the names are documented by name, date, picture, and other evidences. Also, we send updates to rapporteurs concerned with torture cases, enforced disappearance, and arbitrary arrest on a weekly basis.

## Second: Judiciary in Areas that aren't longer under the Syrian regime's control

---

Since the beginning of 2012, armed opposition's has been expanding in Syria and started torture and arrest victims. From January 2012 until the end of April 2015, SNHR documented no less than 2043 arrests, including 136 children and 875 women, made by armed opposition factions at least and seven victims who were tortured to death while six others died due to poor detention condition in the wake of the arrest of tens of families after the raiding of Adra Al-Ummaliya city in Damascus suburbs.

Most of the detainees that were arrested by armed opposition were from Damascus suburbs – Latakia – Idlib – Aleppo.

There are various judicial courts affiliated to the armed opposition. These courts differ in its allegiance and laws. As shown in this study, most of the military factions have their own court. These courts have detention centers (some of them have secret detention centers). These prisoners are administrated by religious or military individuals from the same faction.

Although there are some successful models for judicial courts especially those which were formed by judges who defected from the Syrian regime's judicial authority, the lack of an executive apparatus made it significantly difficult to deal with the community. Furthermore, most of the detainees are trialed by the armed faction to which the detention centers are affiliated rather than through these courts.

The first attempts to form judicial courts, which were later called Sharia Courts, were in 2012 by Islamic figures. As a result of their inability to carry out sentences, in addition to adopting different set of laws and issuing conflicting sentences, the community didn't respond to its authority and therefore it lost its credibility and was dissolved ultimately.

Afterwards, Sharia Courts were supported by a military authority which came to be known as "Security Brigades" in order to insure the execution of its resolutions. These brigades consist of armed individuals who work for the armed opposition factions that operate in the areas in which these Courts were formed.

In addition to Sharia Courts, a new authority called Sharia Committees were formed to address the affairs of the community in accordance with the Islamic laws especially with regard to social and personal issue such as marriage, divorce, and thefts.

For example, when these Committees handle a theft case, the case is investigated by the investigation office which is affiliated to the Committee. The office consists of one or two investigators and a notary. The office has the authority to detain a suspect for no more than three days. Consequently, the case is transferred to the central judicial office at the Sharia Court which looks into the case before referring the case to the judge who issues a resolution.

The Sharia Committee's judicial office is composed of six military courts and four civil courts which handles civil cases such as transactions, contracts, and personal status cases. In addition, there is the court of cassation which consists of five judges and works on reviewing the issued resolutions. Also, there are 14 investigation offices.

Most of the investigators have a law degree and many of them defected from the Syrian regime judicial authority while the judges have a degree in Islamic studies instead of law which represents a problem.

The judicial office has a financial apparatus, a criminal trust department, and a department for resolution execution, issuing sentences, and following up with in-absentia trials.

The Committee distributes the names of the defendants that were sentenced among its checkpoints. The Committee has a police apparatus that intervenes when needed pursuant to an order authorized by the main office of the investigation office.

Also, The Committee has a central prison that includes medical points, guidance center where religious figures are invited to preach the detainees. Also, there are a number of rooms for detentions inside the Committee offices.

**The Unified Judiciary:** The Unified Judiciary was formed in September 2012 after the Syrian regime lost large parts of the Syrian region. The civil opposition started working on establishing a judicial system in these areas in coordination with a number of military factions of the armed opposition. According to the founding document, the Unified Judiciary is composed of twenty members; 10 members specialized in law (seven lawyers and three judges) and 10 members specialized in Sharia (those 10 members are appointed by the Sharia Committee in Aleppo).

There was a dispute in the Unified Judiciary system on the legal references. Also, the system suffered from other problems such as the inability to execute sentences and the military and Sharia forces interfering in its work and trying to control it which undermined its independence. Nonetheless, the Unified Judiciary had a well-educated members and a relatively good judicial structure.

The Unified Judiciary lasted for a year. On 18 November, 2013, “Fastaqem Kama Umret” brigades raided its headquarters and evacuated it.

The Unified Judiciary published a statement in which he accused “Fastaqem Kama Umret” brigades of theft, freeing detainees, and assaulting the judge Amrou Shmies. The Brigades responded by another statement where it accused the Unified Judiciary of corruption and abstaining from executing Shabiha (government forces militias) in addition to other accusations.

Practically, the Unified Judiciary was dissolved and the Sharia Committee took its place in Aleppo. Many of the judges who worked at the Unified Judiciary decided to continue working with the Sharia Committee while others refused under the pretext that many of those who are in charge of the Committee were not specialized.

Anwar Al-Majni, one of the judges who founded the Unified Judiciary in Aleppo, talked to SNHR:

“The lack of a real executive authority made it difficult to execute resolutions. Also, the military forces didn’t cooperate as we hoped. Nonetheless, this experience was better than others but it wasn’t exactly a model for an impartial professional judicial system. We suffered from inference of political and military forces which led to the end of the Unified Judiciary. Also, the Unified Judiciary tried to eliminate anyone who wanted to adopt the Syrian law and accused him of treachery under the pretext that it is Al-Assad’s law and it is symbol of corruption. This was an attempt to exploit the emotions of the people who wanted the Sharia Law to be adopted.”

# Third: Detention Centers

---

## Aleppo governorate

### A. Sharia Committee prisons

The Sharia Committee was founded in May 2012 when a number of factions (At-Tawhid Brigade, Ahrar Ash-Sham Movement, An-Nusra Front, and other factions in western Aleppo suburbs) agreed to form a committee in order to manage services and security in its areas.

Sharia Committee reopened the eye hospital, which is located in Qadi Asskar neighborhood in the middle of Aleppo city, as a prison where three branches were created: Men, Women, and Children. The prison was supervised by Nour Ad-Dain Zinki Movement.

During 2013 and 2014, Sharia Committee detained thousands of civilians. Most of the detainees were involved in criminal cases, financial and family disputes, and social cases. Also, hundreds of armed opposition fighters were detained on account of crimes including theft and kidnapping in addition to those who were suspected to be working as informants or fighters with government forces.

According to many testimonies, not all prisoners were treated equally where the prisoners who support the government were subjected to more systematic torture and ill-treatment than the prisoners who don't support the government especially during interrogation.

To this moment, there are no less than 130 prisoners according to SNHR prisoner archive.

Ahmad M was detained for two months (July and August 2014) by the Sharia Committee in Aleppo city – Qadi Asskar neighborhood as he was a suspect in a criminal case. He was released due to lack of evidences. Ahmad told SNHR about his time in prison:

“The service was acceptable. The prison administration provides prisoners with three meals per day. There are cleaning and medical services. We were allowed to have visitors, pray, and read”

“In western Aleppo suburbs, there were three main prisons: The Sharia Committee prison in Darat Izza city, the Sharia Committee prison in Al-Mansoura town, and Al-Qasimiya prison in Al-Atarib area. These three prisons are dedicated for criminal cases and financial and family disputes. Methods of torture are similar to the methods used in the prison in Aleppo city”

“Since 2013, the Sharia Committee has prohibited prisoners to hire lawyers as a result of Aleppo Free Lawyers Movements' withdrawal from the Committee which was because of the Committee issuing a resolution that made the Committee in charge of managing the appointment of legal representatives instead of Aleppo Free Lawyers Movement. Additionally, the resolution established a very low ceiling for lawyers' fees.”

Before releasing prisoners, The Sharia Committee gathers the prisoners who are to be released and preaches them.

Picture of detainees who are being preached before their release



Picture of a room for women prisoners



Picture of the main ward in the men prison



## **B. At-Tawhid Security Institution prison**

At-Tawhid Security Institution prison is located in Aleppo city – Qadi Asskar neighborhood. The prison is administrated by At-Tawhid Security Institution which is affiliated to At-Tawhid Brigade. The prison can house 60 detainees and according to SNHR archives there are 10-20 detainees currently. All of them are accused of working with government forces as informants or fighters. Those prisoners are prohibited from having visitors. However, they have access to medical services and allowed to practice religion.

The prisoners of this prison appear before a court formed by the same institution and are not referred to the other courts in Aleppo and they don't have the right to hire a lawyer.

SNHR spoke to one of the prison administrators who told us:

“In order to obtain confessions or information from those who are accused of working with government forces, we have to beat them and threaten to kill them. Nonetheless, we don't resort to the same level of brutality the Syrian regime uses to treat its prisoners”.

## **C. Amn Ath-Thawra institution prison (The Security of the Revolution)**

In October 2012, a number of armed opposition factions, mainly At-Tawhid Brigade, founded Amn Ath-Thawra prison in northern Aleppo suburbs – Ar-Ra'ie border town. The prison was used previously as a school before he was reestablished as a big prison that would replace the small prisons that were in several towns in northern and western Aleppo suburbs.

At the end of 2014, there were about 3500 prisoners in that prison according to one of the prison directors. Armed opposition factions used this prison to detain those who were arrested during clashes with government forces as well as those who are accused of working with government forces as informants.

Moufaq A, was arrested from February 2013 to May 2013 on account of theft charges, told SNHR about the humane conditions of those who were arrested over minor criminal charges:

“We had access to all of our basic needs including food, medicine, and personal hygiene. We were allowed to have visitors every Friday. However, those who were arrested while they were fighting with government forces or over security charges were prohibited from having visitors. They were also brutally tortured by a number of jailers led by a man called “Jumbo” who was a young man in his thirties from northern Aleppo suburbs – Marea' city. The jailors used to beat those who worked with government forces brutally and hang them from the roof for hours. (Ash-Shabah method of torture)”

Moufaq A told SNHR that the jailer “Jumbo”, along with other jailors, used to hit the detainees during interrogation in a brutal manner especially on their legs. They also used Ad-Dulab method of torture (the prison is jammed inside a car wheel and then he would get beaten on different parts of his body)

The prison was shut down in February 2014 when Daesh attacked Ar-Ra'ie city where



The Islamic Front withdrew from the city and released most of the prisoners except a few who were charged with security charges where they were transferred to a temporary prison in northern Aleppo suburbs – Marea' city. Government forces negotiated the Islamic Front over those prisoners at later time. However, some of them remain imprisoned at secret prisons for the Islamic Front in northern Aleppo suburbs.

#### **D. Shuhada' Badr Brigade prisons**

Shuhada' Badr Brigade was founded by a number of military men in August 2012 in Hayyan town (Aleppo suburbs) who turned the "Special Tasks Squad" that they were working for into Shuhada' Badr Brigade. The Brigade managed to take over several neighborhoods in northern Aleppo and a number of towns in northern Aleppo suburbs. The Brigade established no less than 20 small prisons in Mazarea' Ma'rasta Khan in northern Aleppo suburbs and near Mazare' Hayyan. Every prison consists of approximately four rooms while there might be other secret prisons.

Initially, the Brigade focused on arresting informants and fighters who were working for government forces. The detainees were subjected to brutal torture. The Brigade agreed to release a few of his prisoners for a ransom. However, if a prisoner was involved in major crimes such as murder or rape, he would be executed.

Subsequently, the Brigade started arresting residents mostly on a well-known security checkpoint that was established by the Brigade in Al-Kastilou area at the northern entry point of Aleppo city. SNHR recorded tens of arrest cases at that checkpoint. The main goal of those arrests was to demand ransoms from the prisoners' families.

Taha Ash-Shaikh Ahmad was a former prisoner at Shuhada' Badr Brigade detention centers. The Brigade arrested him near Al-Jadwal circle in northern Aleppo. According to him, the reason behind his arrest was that he passed a car of the brigade with his car. He was transferred to a prison in a farm located near Hayyan town. He was in a room that has an area of 40 m<sup>2</sup> along with 60 other prisoners. According to Taha, most of the prisoners were kidnapped in order to blackmail and terrorize the civilians or because they are from wealthy families where the Brigade would negotiate their families to get a ransom.

Taha told us that he would hear the voices of other detainees under torture but he, himself, wasn't subjected to torture. Taha assured that the Brigade tortures those who are accused of working with government forces. The used methods of torture, according to Taha, include electrocution and hanging them, by their hands or legs, for hours.

As for the civilian prisoners, they were beaten in case they misconducted or protested the poor imprisonment conditions where the prisoner would get only one meal a day and is allowed to use the bathroom twice a day.

There were no trials for those who were imprisoned by the Brigade as the leaders of the Brigade are the ones who sentence the prisoners.

## Damascus suburbs governorate

There are many detention centers in Eastern Ghouta (Damascus suburbs). Out of those detention centers, there are only seven known detention centers in addition to the secret detention centers.

Armed opposition factions in the area agreed on assigning the management of detention centers to the Unified Judiciary. Nevertheless, every military faction has its own detention centers where those factions sentence prisoners instead of the Unified Judiciary. There are no public trials and human rights activists aren't allowed to visit these centers or know how it is being administrated.

### A. Unified Judiciary prisons

The Unified Judiciary was founded in July 2014. It consists of a number of lawyers and Sharia clerks. All the known prison in the area are under its authority. The Judiciary formed a department to oversee the prisons directly. The Unified Judiciary issue its sentences based on a number of legal references but mainly based on Sharia Law which is followed by the executive regulations that are established by the Judiciary and the Syrian law and the Unified Arabic Law to a lesser extent.

The prisons are divided by the type of charges. At first, the prisoner is put in a special prison where the interrogation process is concluded. Once the interrogation ends, the prisoner is transferred to the central prison in Ghouta.

The central prison is divided into a number of sub-prisons based on the filed charges and sentences:

- 1- A prison for criminal charges (theft, murder, drugs)
- 2- A prison for military personnel (armed opposition fighters or government forces fighters).
- 3- A prison for women.
- 4- A prison for children

According to SNHR archives, there are about 250 detainees, including 65 children and 40 women. The defendants would remain under detention for months, in some cases, before a sentence is issued by the Unified Judiciary. Charges are either pertaining to criminal offences such as murder, theft, drugs, or disputes or involving working with government forces. There are special cases that armed opposition doesn't allow the Unified Judiciary to address such as the ones involving working for Daesh or internal disputes.

Eyad D was a prisoner at the Unified Judiciary prison in Eastern Ghouta. He told SNHR that he was arrested after he was accused of stealing wood from abandoned houses in Ghouta. He remained under detention for five months before a sentence was issued. Eyad told us about the imprisonment conditions in the prison:

“There are tens of prisoners who have been under detention for months without a trial. There are others who are being detained without any evidences and based on false complaints. There are many prisoners whose cases haven't been addressed due to the large number of prisoners and cases.”

Eyad assured us that he didn't see anyone being tortured except for a few incidents where some of the detainees were assaulted brutally after they refused to cooperate with the interrogators because they believed that they are ineligible. Eyad was released pursuant to an order by a judge after six months of detention.

## **B. At-Tawba prison**

Al-Islam Army was founded in September 2013. He controls most of Eastern Ghouta. Al-Islam Brigade (before he became Al-Islam Army) established At-Tawba prison at the beginning of 2013 in Douma city. The prison was one of the first prisons that were founded in Eastern Ghouta. According to former prisoners, there are about 650 detainees, including 70 women, in the prison. Additionally, there are tens of detainees who were arrested from Adra Al-Ummaliyr area, which supports government forces. Al-Islam Army is trying to use those prisoners as a part of an exchange deal with government forces or in order to end the siege of Eastern Ghouta. But the Syrian authorities have refused all these demands.

Al-Islam Army doesn't allow human rights activists to enter the prison. Moreover, prisoners don't have attorneys to represent them.

Belal G was a prisoner at At-Tawba prison. SNHR met him in Jordan – Amman. He was arrested after he got into a fight with one of Al-Islam Army fighters in January 2014. Belal told us that he was arrested from his shop in a similar manner to the one used by government forces. They blindfolded him, put him in a car, and took him to At-Tawba prison. Belal wasn't able to know where the prison were because Al-Islam Army makes sure that no one of the prisoners know where it is.

“When we arrived, one of the fighters hit me with his AK on my back and feet and insulted me. They took me a room that contained about 35 detainees who were charged with various charges such as theft, working with government forces, drugs, and insulting God. Three hours later, they took me for interrogation where a religious figure interrogated me about the fight that I get into with that soldier. Our dispute was over some money. The clerk that interrogated said that he can't release me unless the other guy forgives me. I stayed in the prison for 11 days. Ultimately, I was released and they took me home in a car. I was blindfolded along the way so I can't know the location of the prison.”

Belal told us that Al-Islam Army treats its prisoners with various degrees of brutality based on their charges. One of the most commonly used manners is brutal beating while they use other methods of torture on prisoners who were working with government forces or Daesh such as whipping, Ash-Shabah (The Ghost), and the Doulab.” Belal told us that he heard shots being fired on multiple occasions. He said it was likely prisoners being executed over accusations of working with government forces or Daesh.

Furthermore, Belal said that there is a doctor who oversees the prisoners, and the prison administration sends ill people to hospitals if needed.

## **C. Al-Umma Army prisons**

Al-Umma Army was founded in September 2014 in Douma. He managed to take over parts of Douma and established a prison that was called “the central prison”. When the Unified Judiciary was founded in Eastern Ghouta, it took over the prison. Additionally, Al-Umma Army opened “the military police” prison at the beginning of 2013 which was for military personnel from the armed opposition or prisoners from government

forces. Its administration was also given to the Unified Judiciary. However, Al-Umma Army has established two secret prisons in Douma and Housh Nasri.

According to many former prisoners, Al-Umma Army had tens of prisoners executed. Al-Islam Army managed to eliminate Al-Umma Army on 4 January, 2015 in a campaign called “Purifying the Country of the Corruption” (Tathir Al-Belad Men Rejs Al-Fasad) and took over the parts that were previously controlled by Al-Umma Army. SNHR hasn’t been able to learn the fate of the detainees that were arrested by Al-Umma Army.

#### **D. Al-Hadaya prison**

Was founded by The Islamic Union of Ash-Sham Soldiers, which emerged in November 2013 in Eastern Ghouta before it merged later with the unified military command in Eastern Ghouta in August 2014. The prison was transferred to the unified command. The prison has two branches; one in Douma while the other branch is in Irbeen,

#### **E. Faylaq Ar-Rahman prisons**

Faylaq Ar-Rahman was founded in November 2013 and can be found mainly in Joubar. It opened two prisons in Hamouria and Saqba cities.

#### **F. Al-Manteqa prison**

The prison is administrated by Douma directorate, which was established in 2013 in accordance with an authorization by most of the armed opposition factions in Eastern Ghouta provided that it would be an independent authority that is not affiliated to any military faction and would serve as the police department in Douma, after the unified military command was formed, Douma directorate merged with it. The directorate is assigned with a number of tasks including following-up with crimes and carrying out arrest warrants. Presently, its director is called Abu-Hassan Haroun.

The prison was established shortly after the directorate was formed. The directorate oversees the prison directly which is used to detain criminals and thieves during investigations.

#### **G. Women prison**

This prison was opened pursuant to a resolution by the judicial commission in Eastern Ghouta. It is located in Douma and is administrated by a woman called “Um-Suliman”. The prison is used to detain women and for humane purposes.

SNHR estimates the number of women prisoners in that prison at 60 prisoners who are charged with different charges such as drugs trading, honor-related charges, and working with government forces.

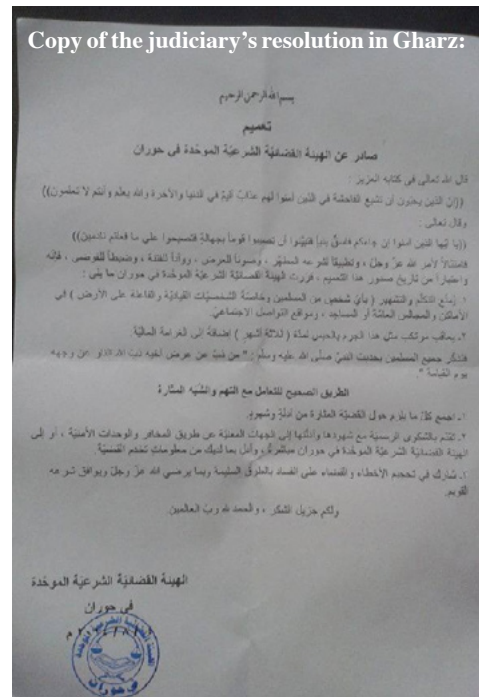
The prison has four divisions:

(A division for mental and psychological illnesses, a division for women who lost their husbands and their houses were destroyed, a division for sexual-abuse victims, and a division for detention)

## Daraa governorate

A group of armed opposition factions formed a unified judiciary in Daraa in 2012. This judiciary (Gharz court) is composed of three courts criminal court, transaction court, and social status courts. About 22 judges work at this judiciary which also has offices such as: guidance office, which provides detainees with counseling and guidance, administrative office, and the executive office.

The judiciary has a prison in Gharz town which was used previously by government forces until the town was taken over by armed opposition in April 2014. As of January 2015, the judiciary in Daraa has addressed more than 2100 cases including about 22 cases that involved the death sentence.



On 5 July, 2014 the judiciary issued a resolution that prohibit media activists from criticizing leading figures and armed opposition factions. Anyone who violates that resolution shall be punished by spending three months in prison and paying a fine.

## Fourth: Arrest and Torture

The used methods of torture in armed opposition detention centers vary depending on the prisoners' allegiance to government forces (Army, security, local militias, foreign militias).

If the prisoner is affiliated to government forces, he will be tortured brutally by using cables, sticks, and methods such as Ash-Shabah and Ad-Doulab. The brutal torture resulted in the death of some prisoners especially if video footages of killings, naked women, or rapes were found on the prisoner's cell phone.

We weren't able to estimate the number of prisoners who were killed due to torture or even identify them for many reasons: the families of those victims don't reveal that their beloved one is missing and the Syrian government or its media doesn't care about them and reveal that they were arrested by armed opposition. Therefore, it is significantly difficult to identify them.

If the prisoner is not working for the government forces, he won't be tortured systematically and for long hours. Even if he was tortured, the torture would be through extremely less brutal methods depending on the committed crime. Usually, when the crime is murder or adultery, the prisoner will be tortured. No less than seven victims

have been tortured to death.

While six others died due to poor imprisonment conditions of tens of families who were detained after an armed opposition faction raided Udra Al-Ummalia city.

## Fifth: Most Notable cases

---

**Nathir Adas:** from Damascus suburbs – Douma city, was working as a notary for the judiciary. On 9 January, 2015, Al-Islam Army arrested him from his home in Douma city and released him after a short notice.

[Husam Ad-Din Saleh Aboud](#), from Latakia – Al-Heffa rea, 46-year-old, an engineer, on Saturday 26 July, 2012 armed opposition factions arrested him from his home in Al-Heffa village. SNHR hasn't been able to learn his fate or where he is being kept.

**Salem Abunnaser:** from Tartus city, 49-year-old, a dentist and an activist in the medical field in Aleppo city. On Thursday 15 January, 2015 an armed opposition faction called “Intelligence Division” arrested him from his home in Aleppo city – Ash-Sha’ar neighborhood.



[Sami Ebou:](#) from Aleppo suburbs – Susombat, 19-year-old, an activist in the Revolutionary Syrian-Kurdish Council and At-Ta’akhi Al-Kurdiya coordinate. On Sunday 23 November, 2014, an armed opposition faction arrested Sami from his home in Aleppo city – As-Sak-hour neighborhood. Sami’s fate has not been revealed yet and he is considered a forcibly-disappeared person.

**Child Hatim Taysir Shebli:** from Latakia suburbs – Ballouta village, nine-year-old, on Sunday 8 August, 2013, Hatim, along with his parents, was arrested by an armed opposition faction during the raiding of Latakia villages.



[Razan Samir Salim:](#) from Latakia suburbs – Ballouta village, 22-year-old, On Sunday 4 August, 2013, Razan was arrested by an armed opposition faction from her home in Ballouta village after the village was raided.



[Hielana Nasr](#): from As-Suwyida city, 39-year-old, on Friday 13 December, 2013, an armed opposition faction arrested Hielana Nasr from her home in Udra Al-Ummaliya city in Damascus after the city was raided and taken over by the armed opposition.

## Seventh: Conclusions and Recommendations

---

There must not be an exception that justifies torture. Torturing prisoners is not acceptable no matter the conditions or the reasons. The Armed opposition can't justify torturing prisoners by saying that government forces are doing the same. A party perpetrating a crime doesn't justify for other parties to perpetrate the same crime. Torture and enforced-disappearance during armed conflicts are classified as violations of the international humanitarian law as well as the international criminal law and can be considered a war crime.

A number of armed opposition facted have perpetrated the crime of torture. However, these crimes weren't perpetrated in a systamtic and widespread manner. Therefore, these crimes are not classified as crimes against humanity but are still considered war crimes.

### **Conclusions**

#### **The Syrian opposition**

- To condemn torture and enforced-disappearance and work on holding the responsible parties accountable,
- To insure the victims' right to a proper remedy.
- To hold workshops to legally train the officers who administrate detention centers and oversee interrogation in order to educate them on the prisoners' right.
- The armed opposition factions should stop immediately the crime of torture and enforced-disappearance. The prisoner has a right to hire a lawyer who should be allowed to attend all the interrogation sessions.
- To stop using secret detention centers and allow the Syrian human rights organization to view the imprisonment conditions and allows the prisoners' families and lawyers to visit them regularly.

#### **The Security Council**

- To refer the Syrian case to the International Criminal Court and hold all the involved parties accountable.
- To work on establishing security and safety in Syria and implementing the Principle of the Responsibility to Protect "R2P"

## Acknowledgment

Our thanks and apperception go to the victims' families and friends and to the local and media activists who contributed majorly to this report.