



## Syrian Network for Human Rights: call to neutralize civilians, in particular children and women, and cease to involve them in the conflict

Even though they are not directly involved in the fight, most of the war victims were women and children as they were experienced death, injury, abduction, and sexual violence in addition to disintegrating family, displacement, and lose of property.

The Syrian security forces has arrested hundreds of women over suspicion that they are related government opponents. They targeted them because they are women and kept them away from the world for long time without charges or trial. However, our country is still suffering from backwardness in all of its forms and laws that governs community and the political authority and parties regarding the real and implicit view toward women. Thus, the government followed the policy of arresting women to defeat their opponents, retaliate them, and break their will.

On 9/2/2013, a group of soldiers stopped the car of Mrs. Um Thafer at Ya'foor checkpoint and arrested her along with her three children- Thafer, Ahmad and Karam Al No'mani and took them to the fourth brigade headquarter.

Mrs. Wafa'a, a primary grade teacher.

35-year- old.

Her children are: Thafer, the elder one younger than 14-year-old. The youngest one celebrated his first birthday in prison. The driver: Mohammad Zain Al Arab. The forces, also, took over the car.

Picture of [Thafer Mohammad Al No'mani](#), 14-year-old, and his brother Karam Mohammad Al No'mani, one-year-old

Picture of [Ahmad Mohammad Al No'mani](#), 10-year-old.

Picture of [Karam Mohammad Al No'mani](#), one-year-old

Her husband Mohammad Al No'mani, was arrested by Syrian security in April 2012, although he is not involved in any active at that time. He remained under arrest for 40 days. Then he was released on 21/5/2012.





Then, he left his house. There wasn't any information about him for several months until his wife was arrested. Two weeks later, it was revealed that the Syrian government want to release some prisoners that were arrested by "Ahrar Al Sham Islamic movement" brigade and they took Mrs. Al Nomani and her children as hostages to exchange them.

The agreement was done through a mediator to achieve the prisoner exchange, but the operation failed as the government want to overhand specific elements but the brigade want to overhand two elements without any restrictions.

The suffering of the teacher and good mother Mrs. Um Thafer with her children is continuing in the detention center who are the weakest party and suffered from insulting and deprivation. They also will suffer from deep psychological scars due to horrible views. According to last call that have been made, she was deprived from food, heat, and towels for her infant.

SNHR was informed through local source that the driver who was arrested with her, has been subjected to brutal torture, so we warn that there is a real and serious danger on her life and her children life, in particular her infant.

The International Declaration of Human Rights establishes the principle of non-discrimination, and it declare that all people were born free and equal in dignity and rights including the discrimination of sex. The arrest of Mrs. Wafa'a without any charge but to press on the opponent party which deems as a discrimination against woman and a violation of the equality in rights and the respect of human dignity.

SNHR condemns pushing civilians, in general, and women and children, in particular, to conflicts and hold Syrian government responsible for their psychological and health safety. We emphasize the necessity of releasing of Um Thafer and her children. SNHR demands that the international political community, UNICEF, and Human Rights Council uphold their obligations regarding the protecting of children and to take actions regarding it. In addition to stop considering the attacks against children a merely regrettable act.

SNHR asks the leaders of Free Army and Islamic brigades, in general, and Ahrar Al Sham, in particular, to remember that the target of carrying weapons was to defend civilians and protect Syrian women. One woman's honor being dishonored is a dishonor to all Syrians.

