

Statement on filing a complaint on an enforced disappearance case for the United Nations' Special Rapporteur

SNHR

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

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The Syrian Network for Human Rights, founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, non-profit independent organization that is a primary source for the United Nations on all death toll-related statistics in Syria

The citizen Mahmoud Ra'fat Al Baghdadi

Enforced to Disappear since 2012

SNHR briefed the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary disappearances, of the case of the citizen Mahmoud Ra'fat Al Baghdadi from Al Qaboun neighborhood in Damascus city, age 62 at the time of his arrest, and asked to request of the Syrian authorities to release him as he was arrested arbitrarily on 17 July 2012, as he was in Tishrein military hospital in Al Mazej neighborhood in Damascus city by armed members of military security forces of government forces. Then they took him an unknown place. His family had no information to determine his fate or whereabouts after that date, since then his fate remains unknown for his family and the Syrian Network for Human Rights as well.



Syrian authorities deny enforcing the citizen Mahmoud Ra'fat Al Baghdadi 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.





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