

Testimony Of A Woman Who Was Arrested (Three Times) And Tortured Inside The Syrian Government Detention Centers

This testimony includes important details about the torture, sexual abuse, and humiliations the female prisoners are subjected to in light of a blatant neglect of the simplest humanitarian standards. In addition, it reveals many names of violating criminals...

Introduction

This testimony includes important details about the torture, sexual abuse, and humiliations the female prisoners are subjected to in light of a blatant neglect of the simplest humanitarian standards. In addition, it reveals many names of violating criminals.

(SNHR has got names and details of 56 females that were arrested along with her inside the detention center. SNHR abstains from publishing their names for social and security purposes).

The prisoner lady is Hosna Mokh Al-Ksoor Al-Hareery (Om Jasem). She was born in Busra Al-Hareer in Daraa governorate in 1960, a wife of a martyr and a mother of two martyrs and an arrested son. She was interviewed by SNHR member Ma'rouf Tou'ma in Amman.

Details

Mrs. Hosna says:

“I've been arrested by the Syrian regime three times during the revolution:

- In June/2011 for 18 days
- On 24 August, 2011 for three months
- On 2 October, 2012 for a year and 20 days

The first arrestment:

It was in June 2011 when I went to the post office in Al-Hejaz area in Damascus to collect some money that was sent to me by a relative outside Syria. After taking my ID, some of Syrian security members came and arrested me immediately without any charge. I learned later that this was only because I am from Daraa.

They've took me to the branch no. 111 in Barzeh and interrogated me about the demonstrations in Daraa governorate. They told me it is all a conspiracy against the state and people. I was released 18 days later and went back to my town.

The second arrestment:

On 24/8/2011 I've been arrested at Al-Ma'asra (the Pounder) military checkpoint in Busra Al-Hareer town because I've encouraged my son Abdullah Al-Hareery to desert the Syrian Army. Abdullah is a private defected military personnel, he was serving in Mar'arba – Damascus countryside in Brigade 133 under the command of the brigadier general Ibrahim Khaleel Ibrahim.

I've was to the 5th division command center where stayed for 5 days.

The names of the officers who were interrogating me:

- Brigadier general Mohsen Makhloof
- Colonel Manhal
- First warrant officer Abu Ja'afar

The worst psychological kinds of torture were used against me: they've threatened to kill my husband, my daughters, and me if Abdullah didn't give himself up.

Then I was transferred to the military security branch in E'zra'. Once I've entered E'zra', Captain Hesham Somayya beat me hardly, then the 25 security center members gathered around me and threatened and insulted me.

I've stayed there for seven days

Some of E'zra' security center officers:

- Captain Mohammad Al-Shamali / Masyaf
- First warrant officer Ghassan Rajab / Tartus
- First warrant officer Abu Haydar

Then, I was transferred to their branch in Daraa, which is the main branch of the Military Security Intelligence, where I was brutally tortured with electrocution, sticks, and an electric cable. They also accused me of transporting weapons to the armed groups and threatened to kill all my family and wipe Busra Al-Harir off the face of the earth. I was interrogated for non-consecutive three days and I stayed in solitary confinement for 20 days, then I was transferred to a cell with three other girls:

- A 19-year-old, she was accused of prostitution with the armed groups.

- A 31- year-old, she was cooking for the armed groups.
- A 56-year-old, she was arrested at a military checkpoint because her 9-year-old child found an empty machinegun bullet and played with it, when they saw him holding it, they arrested him along with his mother.

Names of the officer who were in charge of torturing inside the branch:

- The security center chief, Brigadier general Wafeeq Hasan / Jabla
- Major Loay Al-Ali / Lattakia
- Captain Zuhair / Jabla
- Interrogator, First warrant officer, Abdullah Al-Amoory / Homs – Bab Al-Sbaa'a
- Interrogator, First warrant officer, Ayman Qadoor / Idlib

I was then transferred to the branch No. 215 where I've stayed for a month and 13 days. The prison administrator of the security square was the first one to see us there (Ahmad Al-Ali from Jabla - Rokn Al-Deen). He used to uncloth the women when they enter the branch. A girl entered before me and she started screaming after a few minutes so I've barged in to find the chief forcing the girl to take her clothes off, I attacked him and beat him. Tens of security members came and started hitting me randomly until I lost my consciousness. The signs of the beatings lasted for a long time. I've been taken to a room which had 15 female. I've been interrogated for eight intermittent days with severe torturing using methods such as electrocution and random beating. I had a clot in my head so they brought a doctor, after getting treatment, they found out that I have brain damage so they released me.

The third arrestment:

On 2 October, 2012 I was working in the humanitarian and medical field. The regime knew that and set an ambush for me between Busra Al-Hareer and E'zra' and on the afternoon of 2 Oct 2012 I was arrested while my daughter Bushra, the wife of the martyr Mustafa Mustafa Al-Hareery, was with me as she used working with me in the humanitarian field.. There were more than four cars and 50 soldiers and officers. We were taken to the fifth squad where we stayed for seven days. Major Mohsen Makhloof, Brigade 12 chief, was the one interrogated me and the responsible of E'zra' and Busra Al-Hareer massacres in Hooran.

Then, we were taken to the Military Security branch. there were instructions to not hit me. We've stayed there for five days before we were taken to the military security branch in Daraa where all the security members were waiting for us starting from the chief to the most minor soldiers. Once we've entered, they've started to hit us and the physical and psychic torturing began: electricity, quaternary cable, and threats. This was the worst treating I had in my whole life. I haven't been treated like that in the former arrests.

We've stayed for a month in Daraa branch, I wasn't able to eat in the first ten days.

Then we were taken to branch 291 in Damascus.

My daughter was with me in addition to a 19-year-old girl called Rema Al-Barmay from Daraa Al-Balad, she was accused of carrying an explosive belt. It's very common that security forces accuse the arrested of whatever it wants. The three of us were then taken to Damascus. When I've entered the branch, I was surprised by the commonness of raping and sexual harassment crimes where it was committed by the branch chief, Brigadier general Jameel Hasan, who was supervising the raping of the girls, especially the prettiest girls.

Some of the officers who were raping and sexual harassing:

- Brigadier general Qahtan Qahtan
- Brigadier general Ghassan Esmael

Some names of first warrant officers and interrogators who handled the torturing:

- First warrant officer Abu Zayd / Assweida
- First warrant officer Abu Abdo / Lattakia
- First warrant officer Abu Rawan / Lattakia
- First warrant officer Abu Ahmad / Tartus – Fajleet
- First warrant officer Abu Waseem / Joolan
- Hassan Al-Dalaty – Abu Ali / Zabadani
- Akram Abu Hadeer / Assweida – Al-Qrya
- Mazen Al-Mhethawy / Assweida
- Hasan / Assweida
- Hatem Abu Haydar / Tartus

I've stayed in solitary confinement at the branch no. 291 for three months. Most of the times, first warrant officer Abu Rawan was the one who interrogated me. Then, we were transferred again to the Air Force Security branch where we stayed for 18 days where I was tortured for three non-consecutive days.

I was in a room that had 8 females and in a few days they became 25 girl.

Then, we were taken again to Adra prison where the treatment was very bad and the torturing was no less than the security branches.

Some names of officers and first warrant officers in the prison which is affiliated to the Political Security Intelligence:

- Brigadier general, center chief, Faysal Al-Aql / Deir Azzor
- Lieutenant colonel Mohammad Baker / Jayrood
- First-Lieutenant Mohammad Haqqi / Damascus
- First-Lieutenant Samer Al-Rafaai / Homs countryside

- First warrant officer Abu Shama
- Amer Barakat / Lattakia
- Ali Sqoor / Lattakia – Al-Qerdaha
- Asad Shayer / Kurd
- Abdalbaset / Idlib
- Yaser / Idlib
- Ahmad Al-Brayek / Lattakia
- Mohammad Al-Hasan / Lattakia
- Othman Al-Hasheesh / Tal Mnayn
- Basel / Zabadani

The number of officers and soldiers at the prison is about 20, all of them were torturing the woman prisoners severely. The treatment in Adra prison was no less brutal than the other security branches but it was slightly better psychologically.

When they were swamped, they used to ask for the military checkpoint, which was near the branch entrance, help. It had more than 50 soldiers of what is called “National Defense”, led by Rafat Al-Amoody (Abu Ali).

A guy called Ali Sqoor hit the prisoner Eman Al-Jerk, from Hama, on her hand causing a disability. The girls I’ve met in the branch no. 291 were transferred along with me to Adra prison and most of them have been released.

I was released on 22 October, 2013 along with some of the other woman prisoners I’ve gave you their names as a part of an exchange deal between FSA and the Syrian regime militias.

