



## 68 Victims Were Tortured To Death During January 2015

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### First: Methodology

Since 2011, the Syrian regime has refused to recognize any arrests it had made as it accused Al-Qaeda and the terrorist groups of committing these crimes. Also, the Syrian regime doesn't recognize any torture cases or torturing to death. SNHR acquire its information from former prisoners and prisoners' families where most of the families get information about their beloved ones who are in prison by bribing the officials in charge.

At SNHR, we rely on the families' testimonies we get. However, it should be noted that there are many cases where the Syrian authorities don't give the families the dead bodies. Also, many families abstain from going to the military hospitals to bring the dead bodies of their beloved ones or even their belongings out of fear that they might themselves get arrested.

Therefore, SNHR faces serious difficulties in the documentation process because it is banned and its members are pursued. In light of such circumstances, it is difficult to completely verify the number of victims as the process remains mainly based on ongoing documentation and investigation even with taking into consideration the families and its testimonies.

Please visit the following [URL](#) for more information on our methodology in documenting victims

### Second: Executive Summary

SNHR documented in the month of January 2015 no less





than 68 victims who were tortured to death inside the official and unofficial detention centers as follows:

Government forces: 64

Kurdish Forces: one

Extremist Groups:

Daesh: three

The ceaseless cases of victims who are being torturing to death reflect the systematic excessive force that is being used against detainees.

Daraa had the highest number of victims who were tortured to death in January with 17 victims whilst the other victims were divided as follows:

Hama: 11

Damascus suburbs: nine

Homs: nine

Aleppo: seven

Latakia: five

Der Ezzor: three

Al-Hassaka: two

Qunietra: two

Damascus suburbs: one

Idlib: one

As-Suwyida: one

The most prominent cases were as follows:

One doctor

One student

One educational guide

Two engineers

One child

One case that involved victims from the same family (two victims)

### Third: Most Prominent Cases

#### Doctors:

Anas Mohammad Al-Qtiefani, orthopedic surgeon, from Damascus suburbs – Douma city, 42-year-old, he was arrested by government forces on Thursday 23 August, 2012 at the Lebanese-Syrian borders while he was coming back to Syria from a business trip in Beirut. His family told us that they were informed that he was tortured to death inside Sydnaya military prison on 27 January, 2015.



Anas Mohammad Al-Qtiefani,





### **Students:**

**Mohannad Mahmoud Mahjoub**, he was a student at the industrial institute, from Aleppo city – Al-Hamdaniya neighborhood, 22-year-old, he was arrested by government forces from his home on 12 October, 2013, his family was informed on 6 January, 2015 that he was tortured to death inside Sydnaya military prison.

### **Educational staff members:**

Mohammad Abdulhamid Al-Jubn, educational guide, from Der Ezzor – Khsham town, 38-year-old, he was married and had six kids, he was arrested by government forces at a checkpoint about five months ago, his family told us on 26 January, 2015 that they were informed by one of the security checkpoints that he was tortured to death inside a detention center.‘

### **Engineers:**

1- Ahmad Jamal Fanniesh, engineer, from Daraa – Ash-Shaikh Miskean city, he was arrested by government forces about a year ago, his family told us on Saturday 24 January, 2015 that they were informed that he was tortured to death inside a detention center.

2- Ahmad Al-Masri, engineer, from Daraa – Atman town, he was arrested by government forces about three years ago. On Thursday 29 January, 2015, his family told us that they informed that he was tortured to death inside a detention center.

### **Children:**

Mohammad Omar Hussein Al-Hesan, child, from Daraa camp, Palestinian, 17-year-old, he was arrested by government forces on 11 September, 2014. On Sunday 25 January, 2015, his family told us that they were informed that he was tortured to death inside Sydnaya military prison.



Mohammad Omar Hussein Al-Hesan

### **Sibling cases**

Maher Qasem Al-Jarllah and his brother Bashir, from Homs – Tadmour city, their family was informed on Tuesday 27 January, 2015 that they were tortured to death.





### Third: Recommendations and conclusions

SNHR affirms that this huge number of torture victims who are falling on a monthly basis, with taking into consideration that this number is the minimum we were able to get information about, indicates clearly that this is a systemized policy adopted by the head of the ruling regime and all its parts and branches. This policy was carried out in a widespread manner which is a crime against humanity and also a war crime.

#### To the International Community

It seems that that the UN Security Council is completely unable to take any action or stop the ruling regime in Syria, even after four years of the continuous widespread killing, despite the sound and firm evidences found by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic. Using the facts that we have proven over the course of our work in documenting hundreds of massacres and ongoing violations, we urge anyone to help us to file a lawsuit to the I.C.C. prosecutor directly.

### Fourth: Acknowledgments

Our thanks go to everyone who helped and contributed to deliver information to SNHR, especially the cooperating activists. We extend our most profound condolences to the family and relatives of the victims and also our huge appreciation of their cooperation despite their great sufferings.

