



Detainees and forcibly disappeared journalists... Syria is the most dangerous place in the world

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First: the murder.

Second: arrest and disappearance.

First: Murder

A: Syrian government:

Syrian government has killed no less than 261 including journalists, media activists, and cameramen, from the beginning of popular uprising until October 2013.

[Link of names](#), pictures and details:

22 media personnel were killed in the last month, they were distributed as follows: 21 were killed by regime forces including one child in addition to two journalist died due torture.

While ISIS was suspected to be the assassinator of the martyr (the correspondent of Al Arabiya Mohammad Sa'eid Al Khateeb)

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B: anti- government armed groups:

Anti- government armed groups with all its forms as the forces of Free Army and other entities such as ISIS and Al Nusra Front killed no less than 14 media personal including correspondents and activists:

The death of Al Ikhbariyeh Al Soriyeh channel correspondent, [Yara Abbas](#) on 27/5/2012 due to Free Army targeting the military car which carried her in the vicinity of [Al Qsair city](#) in Homs.





The death of media activist [Abdullah Yasein](#) on Saturday, 2 March 2013, due to bullets of a Free Syrian Army brigades in the suburbs of Aleppo. Due to declaration of his brother Ghassan Yasein that: “Sawt Al Haq” brigade is the responsible for his brother’s death, and the reasons behind his death still unidentified at time of this writing.

The death of the official television program personality [Mohammad Al Sa’eed](#) at the hand of Al Nusra front after they kidnapped him on Jdaidet Artoz in Damascus suburbs on 19/7/2012. They declared the statement of his death on their website on 4/8/2012

The death of media personnel [Fakhr Al Din Hasan](#) due to explosive bomb that targeted military queue which was with him on the Al Mastoma- Idlib road on 15/9/2013.

[Omar Diyab Hajoleh](#), from Aleppo, Iziz, the media personnel and the correspondent of Shahba press who is known as [Hazem Azizi](#) of the Free Army, killed by an ISIS sniper’s bullets on 18/9/2012.

[Mohammad Sa’eed Al Khateeb](#), from Aleppo, [Masqalan](#), media personal and correspondent of [Al Arabiya channel](#), died in a [salon](#) in [Hritan town](#) in [Aleppo suburbs](#). ISIS [was suspected](#) to be the assassinator as they threatened him before the assassination on 19/10/2013.

Ali Abbas, Head of News Department of Arab Syrian News Agency SANA, was killed by armed terrorist groups in his resident in Jdaydet Artoz in Damascus suburbs on 11/8/2012.

Muna Bakour , a journalist at “Al Thawra” newspaper and the manager of “Soria Al Qal’a” website, was killed on the explosion that targeted Officers Club and Sa’d Allah Al Jabiri yard in Aleppo as she was at “ Al Siyahi” Hotel that is near to the yard on 3/10/2012.

Basel Tawfeeq Yousef, a journalist at official television, was killed by bullets of armed opposition in Al Tadamon neighborhood on 22/11/2012.





Sohail Mahmoud AL Ali, a journalist at “Al Doniya” Syrian channel, was killed by bullets as he was in the military area affiliated to regime in Aleppo city on 4/1/2013 while he was covering the armed clashes in Aleppo city.

[Haydar Al Samodi](#), a cameraman for the Syrian official television, killed in front of his house in Kafroseh in Damascus on 21/12/2012

Anmar Yasein Mohammad, a journalist at Syrian General Authority for Radio and Television, died due to explosion that targeted a bus in Al Mazej neighborhood in Damascus on 12/12/2012.

Naji As’ad, a journalist at Tishrein newspaper, was assassinated by a terrorist group in front of his house in Al Tadamon neighborhood on 4/12/2012.

Hasan Mohana, a correspondent at Al Ikhbariya Al Soriya, was killed in a suicide bombing that targeted a restaurant in Al Mokambo neighborhood in Aleppo on 22/8/2013.

Second: arrest and disappearance:

A: Syrian government:

The violation against journalist wasn’t limited in targeting them directly by killing them but government forces carried out several operations to blackout media and ban all media agencies and channels, it also exiled hundreds of journalists out which forced them to enter the country from areas out of regime control. As a result, they were exposed to the danger of armed groups who carried out many abduction operations to get ransom money.

Government forces arrested no less than 174 journalists, although it released number of them, but no less 43 journalists are still arrested. SNHR was unable to determine their fates so they are considered as forcibly disappeared.

Last month, security forces arrested French journalist in Damascus.





B: armed groups:

Although the violations of government forces against Syrian journalists through murder, arrest and disappearance were more systematic, widespread and cruel, some violations were committed by armed groups. On one hand, some of these groups are affiliated to the Chief of Staff then they work for Syrian opposition. On the other hand, others work for ISIS who committed most of violations.

SNHR estimates that the arrested and forcibly disappeared journalists exceeded 32 one and more than 21 of them are still arrested or forcibly disappeared.

Last month, ISIS kidnaped three journalists as their fates are still unknown.

Fadel Abdul Ghany, chairman of SNHR states that:

” government forces committed systematic crimes against journalists to ban them from revealing the truth. The brutality and the volume of violations committed against Syrian residents which can't be imagined by a sane person but for attached pictures and journalist reports. The armed groups also committed several war crimes against journalists through murder, abduction and torture and they continuously increase. All of this must be stopped”.

There is no media freedom in Syria since the Ba'ath party – seized power in a coup in 1963 and until 2006. In Syria, there are only three newspapers and they are affiliated to the regime and they represent it: “ Al Ba'ath, Al Thawra and Teshreen”. In 2006 a new newspaper emerged affiliated to the Assad cousin called “ Al Watan”, but after the Syrian popular uprising, the Committee to Protect Journalists classified Syria as the most dangerous state over the world with hundreds of violations against journalists and media personnel.

Many journalists told us that they were very scared and cannot do their job due to their fear for their lives.

List of the most prominent detainees and forcibly disappeared journalists by Syrian government:

The arrest of [Mazen Darwish](#), a [journalist and a member](#) of International Union of Journalists and the founder of the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression on 16/2/2012 after Air intelligence stormed the center in Damascus.





[Husain Gharir](#), a blogger, was arrested on 16/2/2012, after Air intelligence stormed his work place “the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression” in Damascus.

[Hani Al Zaytani](#), a blogger, was arrested on 16/2/2012, after Air intelligence stormed his work place “the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression” in Damascus.

[Akram Arslan](#), 39-year-old, from Soran, Hama, cartoonist, was arrested by Syrian regime military intelligence in Hama on 2/10/2012, he is in solitary confinement in Damascus.

The journalist [Kamal Sheikho](#), 35-year-old, from Hasakeh, Al Derbasiyeh, a journalist and a blogger was arrested in Damascus by Criminal Security branch in the capital on 7/7/2013

[The journalist Mahmoud Nowara](#), 29- year-old, Syrian- Palestinian, journalist at Al Horiya magazine affiliated to democratic party, was arrested at the hand of security elements at Bab Sharqi neighborhood in Damascus on 29/7/2013.

[Belal Ahmad Belal](#), A journalist and director of Falastein Al Yaom” channel was arrested by Air intelligence branch in Damascus on 13/9/2012. Then, the field military court sentenced him to 15-year-old. Now, he is at Sednaya prison.

The writer Samer Rodwan was arrested as he returned back from Lebanon to Syria on 18/6/2013. He was released after three days.

The journalist [Jihad As’ad Mohammad](#) was arrested on 10/8/2013 at Al Thowra Street in Damascus on 10/8/2013.

The journalist [Shatha Al Madad](#) was arrested on 2/11/2012 by the internal branch of State Security in Damascus. She was released on 11/7/2013.

The German journalist [Armen Firtez](#) was arrested in Aleppo on 5/5/2013, then he was released on 26/9/2013.





The blogger and journalist [Mohammad Ghazi Kannas](#) was arrested on 3/1/2013 by security forces in Kafroseh in Damascus. Then, he was released on 16/1/2013

The journalist Alaa Al Khadar, the correspondent of Syrian Arab News Agency SANA, was arrested on 18/11/2011 by security forces in Deir Ez-Zour .

The journalist Ayat Basma, a journalist at Reuters, was arrested on 26/3/2011 by security forces. Then, she was released on 29/3/2011

Nader Isma'eil, a photographer, was arrested on 3/1/2011 by security forces.

Waleid Al Sharbaji, a journalist and a blogger, was arrested on 26/2/2012 at a military checkpoint in Drayya in Damascus suburbs.

The journalist [Thabit Al Mohaysen](#), an editor in Syria news site, was arrested on 1/8/2012 at a checkpoint of Al Asad village in Qodsiya suburbs in Damascus suburbs. A released person mentioned that he is at Sednaya prison.

The most prominent detainees and forcibly disappeared journalists by armed groups:

Tatal Janbakly, a cameraman at Syrian TV, was kidnaped by unknown members in Damascus on 4/8/2012.

Mohammad Ali Husain, work at Syrian educational channel, was kidnaped by unknown members while he was heading for his workplace in Qodsiya area in Damascus on 4/8/2012.

Ukrainian journalist Anhar Kotesnifa, 41-year-old, was kidnaped by armed opposition elements as she headed from Tartus to Homs on 9/10/2013.

Lebanon journalist [Fida' Aytani](#), a journalist at Lebanon broadcast institution, was kidnaped by armed groups and was placed under house arrest in Izaz on 27/10/2012.

The journalist Abod Al Haddad, 21-year-old, a press photographer, defected from regime army, was arrested on 26/6/2013, by armed groups in Atama in Idlib suburbs while he was traveling to Turkey.





Ahmad Fayad, a correspondent at Al Ikhbariyeh Al Soriyeh-a public channel-, was kidnapped by unknown elements after armed opposition factions controlled Raqqa city on 11/8/2013.

[Samar Saleh](#), a journalist, was kidnapped from Al Atareb in Aleppo suburbs on 20/8/2013, by armed groups because of dealing with Orient channel.

Mohaymen Al Halabi, a journalist, work at the Syrian Center for Media and Expression Freedom, was kidnapped in Deir Hafer by armed groups in Raqqa governorate on 4/8/2013.

The journalist Sami Jamal, an independent correspondent and cooperated with Rozana broadcast, was kidnaped by armed groups in Al Atareb in the eastern Aleppo on 14/8/2013.

The journalist [Ali Abu AlMajd](#) , correspondent at Al An news, was kidnaped by armed groups in Raqqa on 26/7/2013.

The journalist [Obaida Batal](#), correspondent at Orient news TV, was kidnaped by armed groups in Tal Ref'at in Aleppo suburbs on 25/7/2013.

The polish war photographer, [Marsein Sedyer](#), work at Korbis French agency, was kidnaped on 24/7/2013 by armed groups in Saraqib in Idlib suburbs.

The journalist [Mohammad Nour Matar](#), disappeared in Raqqa on 16/8/2013 after the explosion in a train station in Raqqa.

Omar Khani, a journalist and a media personal, was arrested in Aleppo city by armed groups on 5/8/2013.

The journalist Zakaryia Haj Jamo, a correspondent at Yakty media website, was kidnaped by armed groups in Tal Abyad in Raqqa on 21/8/2013.





Spanish media personnel Marghinidas, a correspondent at El Periodico Spanish newspaper, was kidnaped by armed groups in an area near Hama city on 23/9/2013.

The Italian journalist Domenco Kowiriko and the Belgian writer Beyar Bitishini were released on 8/9/2013 as they were kidnaped by an opposition brigade in Al Qosair in Homs suburbs five months ago.

[Hazem Al Husian](#), a journalist and a cameraman, was kidnaped in Raqqa by unidentified groups on 9/10/2013.

The French journalist [Necola Hinan](#) was kidnaped on 22/7/2013 by armed groups in Raqqa.

The French cameraman [Beyar Torus](#) was kidnaped on 22/7/2013 by armed groups in Raqqa.

The Mauritanian journalist [Ishaq Mokhtar](#), a correspondent at sky news, was kidnaped by unidentified groups while he was covering the field incidents in northern Aleppo on 15/10/2013.

The Lebanese journalist [Sameir Kasab](#), work at Sky news, was kidnaped by unidentified groups while he was covering the field incidents in northern Aleppo on 15/10/2013.

The Russian cameraman [Qostantin Jorrafelif](#), 32-year-old, was kidnaped on 12/10/2013 by armed groups while he tried to enter Syrian lands from Turkey.

The International Human law relates the journalist with more care and interest in addition to attendants of military campaign, unless he carries weapon. The High commissioner for Human Rights has to issue periodic statement to condemn all violations against journalists and strive to cease the impunity.

