



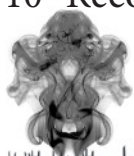
The Odor of Death



Abdulees' Mothers Association
February 2021

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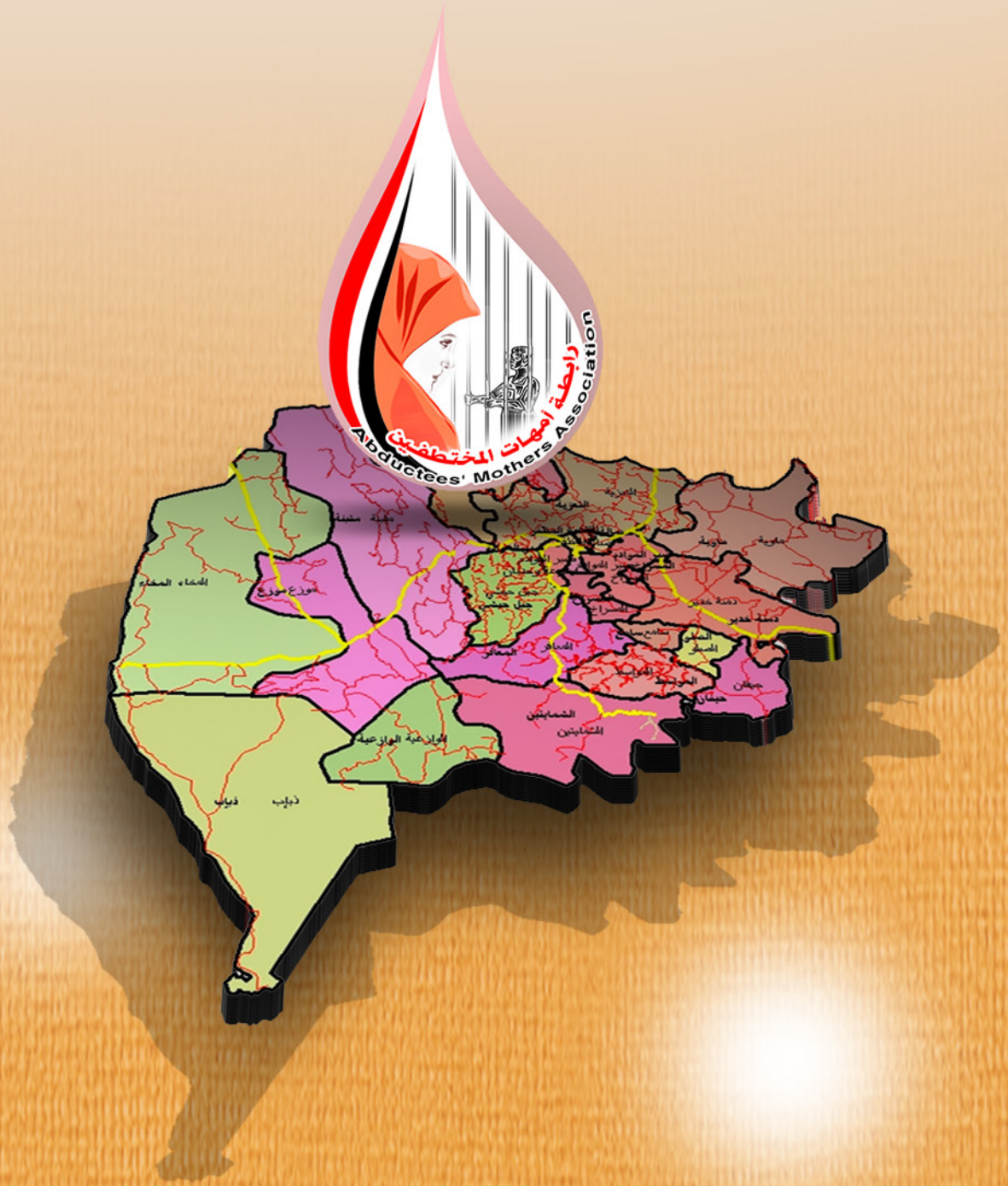
Introduction:

The city of (As-Saleh) was built in 2009 during the ruling era of the Yemeni former President Ali Abdullah Salih, and was named after him. Many young people and employees were contesting to book apartments in it, as it was a low-income housing project for which the price would be paid in comfortable installments over several years. When the Houthi movement took control of Taiz in March 2015, it turned the residential city into their largest detention center. Since then, Al-Salih City has become a dark place that inspires horror; simply because of the torture practiced by the Houthi groups against its detainees.

The Abductees' Mothers Association, however, carried out several protests and sent a number of letters to the international and local personalities and organizations in order to demand the release of the abductees in As-Saleh Prison and to denounce the violations taking place in it.

In our report entitled (**The Odor of Death**), we tried to spot light on the violations that the kidnapped and detainees are subjected to in As-Saleh prison, hoping that the Houthi groups will be pressurized to close this prison, to release of all the kidnapped civilians detained in it, and the assert the accountability of those who committed kidnapping, disappearance and torture against them should be implemented.





The Abductees' Mothers Association: Prominent Efforts

The Association of the Abductees' Mothers began its work in Taiz city, in the mid-2017 and opened its office at the start of 2018, with a feminist team. Most of association members are young women. These young women lead a team, most of whom are masculine volunteers. The purpose of the team is to advocate for the issue of the abductees and forcibly disappeared persons in a gender-sensitive system and believes in the integration of both sexes in the most difficult human rights work in light of the conflict.

The team of the Abductees' Mothers Association worked to advocate for the detained victims inside As-Saleh city prison, extensively monitoring and documenting data and analyzing them to give an accurate depiction of the violations that the kidnapped detainees are subjected to inside As-Saleh city prison. Starting with the enforced disappearance practiced by the Houthi group and its supervisors in As-Saleh city prison, and preventing visits from families that learned about the detention of their sons inside this prison, up to the brutal methods of torture practiced by prison supervisors against the kidnapped civilians, which was absent from the media, and the pressure that the humanitarian organizations and the networking of human rights efforts can play in this regard.

* The Abductees' Mothers Association in Taiz governorate carried out twenty two protest vigils in order to demand the release of the abductees in all prisons and places of detention, including six vigils dedicated to demanding the release of the abductees in As-Saleh city prison and denouncing the violations they are subjected to. The vigils were among the most important Advocacy activities that helped shed light on the abductees in As-Saleh City Prison and the pressure to save their lives.



* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz Governorate held three hearings for those released from As-Saleh city prison attended by media and human rights activists.

* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz governorate sent an official letter on 1/2/2018 to the President of the Red Cross regarding the status of As-Saleh City Prison and a number of places of detention in Taiz, calling on him to work diligently to ensure the safety of all the kidnapped and forcibly disappeared persons and spare these prisons and places of detention from shelling and exchanging fire. In response, he affirmed the Red Cross's interest and continuous work to reach all the places of detention.

* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz governorate sent an official letter on 10/3/2019 to the President of the Red Cross about the association's concerns that the kidnapped detainees in As-Saleh City Prison had contracted pulmonary tuberculosis, after which a meeting was held with officials of the Protection Department of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Yemen about the indications developed by the Abductees' Mothers Association, Taiz, with regard to pulmonary tuberculosis in prison.

* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz Governorate arranged an online communication on 4/9/2018 between the Group of Experts on Yemen established pursuant to Security Council Resolution 2140 (2014) and the kidnapped "Mohammed Saeed Thabet" while he was in the hospital after his release in a poor health condition. He died as a result of that on 3/10/2018.

* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz Governorate held two closed hearings for four victims were kidnapped and detained by the Houthi group in As-Saleh City Prison with the Group of Experts on Yemen established pursuant to Security Council Resolution 2140 (2014), during the team's visit to Aden on 6/12/2019 And 9/13/2018). in this hearings, the detainees presented their testimonies about the violations they were subjected to in As-Saleh City Prison.



* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz Governorate held a closed-door hearing session on the Internet for victims who were kidnapped by the Houthis group and detained in As-Saleh City Prison with a team of eminent regional and international experts of the Human Rights Council. In this hearing session, the victims presented their testimonies about the violations they suffered from in this prison. The first of these sessions was in the mid- August of the year 2018.

* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz Governorate provided the Group of Eminent Regional and International Experts of the Human Rights Council with a list of those released abducted from As-Saleh City Prison for the team to communicate with a number of them and document the violations they were subjected to in As-Saleh City Prison.

* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz Governorate provided the National Committee for Investigation of Human Rights Violations with a list of those released from As-Saleh City Prison, so that the Committee can communicate with them directly and document the violations they were subjected to in this prison, in order to preserve their rights and to ensure that the perpetrators of these violations will not go unpunished.

* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz Governorate held a closed hearing session for the families of victims who were kidnapped and detained in the city of As-Saleh prison with the delegate of the Red Cross in Taiz in August 2018 to put them in the picture of the pain experienced by the families of the victims besides the complete ban on visits along with the difficulties of accessing the prison with the outbreak of clashes every now and then.

* The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz Governorate held three closed hearings for those released detainees from As-Saleh City Prison with the representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Taiz. In these hearings, they presented their testimonies about the violations they had suffered in the abduction centre.

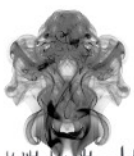


The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz Governorate provided the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a list of the abductees detained in the city of As-Saleh and other prisons, so that the UNHCR delegate could communicate directly with their families, document the victims' data, and make the expected efforts to release and enable them to achieve their rights.

* The Association of Abductees' Mothers devoted a significant part in its 2018 and 2019 annual reports and its report on torture entitled (When Death Becomes a Wish) for the testimonies of victims who were subjected to abuse in As-Saleh city prison.

* The Abductees' Mothers Association in Taiz Governorate provided a list of civilian abductees from Taiz Governorate inside As-Saleh prison. It has also documented this to the local mediations and the internationally recognized government delegation, reminding all concerned parties to respect the law that guarantees freedom for these civilians without any restrictions and conditions.

With the monitoring and recording of the Abductees' Mothers Association team for kidnapping and enforced disappearance in Taiz governorate, which depends on receiving testimonies of victims and their families on a daily basis, and with concerted media and human rights efforts to advocate for mothers' just demands, the conditions of detention improved in As-Saleh city prison in Taiz in the year 2019, as the prison administration, to little extent, reduced its use of torture methods, and allowed some families to visit their relatives of kidnapped detainees held inside the jail.



On Thursday, December 19- 2019, a major exchange of abductees and detainees was carried out via a local mediation, in which dozens of kidnapped civilians were released, among them forty four civilians were being held in As-Saleh City Prison. The Association of the Abductees' Mothers has provided a list of the residents of Taiz governorate who are detained in As-Saleh city prison, other prisons and places of detention to the mediation committees, while they are working to complete this abductees' exchange process. The Abductees' Mothers Association team then participated in a welcome party in the city of Taiz, in which mothers met their children; and the families were reunited with those who were released. The event lasted for more than fifty hours. This release was documented to preserve the released detainees rights and contribute to empowering those who remained in prisons and places of detention with their human and legal rights.

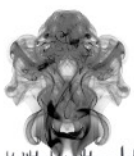
These efforts made by the team of the Abductees' Mothers Association in Taiz Governorate were not an easy task or a success on a golden platter. Rather, the members of the Association overcame greater dangers and challenges, including the threat and the prevention of visiting the relatives of the detained in As-Saleh City Prison. With the difficulties of moving between the districts of Taiz governorate due to the ongoing clashes and road blockages, the Abductees' Mothers Association team was forced to travel vast distances for long hours extending up to six hours for documentation, which exposes the Abductees' Mothers Association team in Taiz governorate to genuine and constant dangers.



The team of the Abductees' Mothers Association in Taiz governorate worked in an atmosphere of a weak community awareness of the rights of the kidnapped civilians who were kidnapped from public places, which in turn led to a lack of interest in the file of the kidnapped civilians, and the loss of many of their rights. The local radio and TV channels in the city of Taiz have played significant role in launching legal and human rights awareness of the community members. Along with the undeniable efforts of the Abductees' Mothers Association team, media made a large part in creating the atmosphere and awareness, and mobilized local community efforts to support the team's efforts.

Today, the team of the Abductees' Mothers Association in Taiz Governorate is completing this report entitled (THE ODOR OF DEATH) to be a documentation of human rights that contributes in improving the human rights situation in Taiz Governorate in particular, and in Yemen in general.

All hearts are fully armed with faith and courage to go ahead in a long pathway until the release of all those kidnapped, detained and forcibly disappeared individuals.





Report Methodology

The Abductees' Mothers Association has monitored and recorded hundreds of cases of kidnapping and enforced disappearance inside As-Saleh prison. It has also documented and monitored the violations against the kidnapped abductees and their families.

The Association Team has worked on issuing this report to provide a legal reference on these violations to human rights organizations and international forums so that these violations are not excluded or absented and the rights of kidnapping and abduction victims of this prison are not lost.

The monitoring team of the Abductees' Mothers Association relied in preparing this report on direct listening to a number of one hundred and eighty abductees released from As-Saleh prison, documenting their testimonies and statements audio-visually, as well as their testimonies of cases of torture against their colleagues in the prison and detention places, in order to convey the suffering of those who are still behind bars.

The monitoring team in the Association relies on receiving all the reports submitted by the families of the kidnapped, collecting information and data from them and then verifying their validity.

The Association's monitoring team in Taiz governorate made a field visit to the families of the victims and listened to the violations they were subjected to.

This report monitors the violations against the kidnapped abductees and forcibly disappeared persons in As-Saleh prison during the periods (March 2018 - December 2020).



It is worth noting that the Association always relies on the methodology used by international organizations in monitoring, documenting and verifying the veracity of the violations mentioned in the report.

The Association has substituted the real names of the victims whose stories are mentioned in this report with the pseudonyms as a precaution measurement from the team, and based upon the victims' wish, safety and the safety and their families.





The Legal Framework

All conflict parties involved in the ongoing war in the Yemeni territories are subject to the rules of International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law. All International treaties and agreements ratified by the Yemeni government are mandatory on all parties. The Republic of Yemen is also a party to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Treatment, as well as the International Convention for the Protection of Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and thus all those on the Yemeni territories are bound by what is stated therein, and it shall be the international criminal responsibility.

The General Constitution of the Republic of Yemen has affirmed in its Article No (6) the implementation of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the generally recognized rules of international law. Confiscating the freedom of every person whose freedom has been restricted with any restrictions, and that his dignity is confiscated. The same article has absolutely prohibited physical, psychological and moral torture for coercion into confessing while in detention for any detainee, and the obligatory need to inform the detained or abductees, whose freedom were restricted, the reasons for their arrest; and the necessity to inform their relatives and whomsoever concerned in that detention. In fact, the above constitutional article considered in its section (E) that violating the provisions of that article is a crime that the responsible of it is subject to punishment of limitations, considering physical or psychological torture a punishable crime by anyone who practices it, orders it, or participates in it.



As for Yemeni law, it strictly prohibits torture in all its forms and manifestations and makes it a punishable offense, committed to international covenants in which Yemen is a party. Some of those articles are as follows:

- Article (48 / b) of the Yemeni constitution stipulates: “Every person whose freedom is restricted in any way must be preserved. His dignity must be preserved. Physical, psychological or moral torture is prohibited. Coercion to confess during investigations is prohibited. A person whose freedom is restricted has the right to refrain from making any statements except in the presence of his lawyer.” It is prohibited to imprison or detain any person in places other than subject to the Law on Prisons Organization. Torture and inhuman treatment are also prohibited; upon arrest or during the period of detention or imprisonment.
- As stated in section (E) of the same Article (48), the law determines the punishment of anyone who violates the provisions of any of the sections of this article. It also determines the appropriate compensation for the damages that may be caused to the person as a result of the violation practiced, commanded to or participated against. “
- Article (5 / a-c) states “Citizens are equal before the law, and it is not permissible to pursue a person or harm him because of nationality, race, origin, language, belief, profession, degree of education, or social status.”
- Article (6 / A-C): “It is forbidden to torture the accused, treat him in an inhuman manner, or harm him physically or morally because he is forced to confess. Any statement proves that it was issued by one of the accused or witnesses under torture or coercion is of no value and unreliable”
- Article (7 / A-C): “The arrested person shall be kept in a separate place from the place designated for the convicted, and he shall be treated as an innocent till proved guilty. He shall not be physically or mentally harmed or extorted in order to obtain a confession from him against him or for any other purpose.”



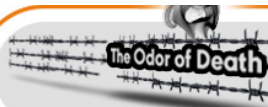
- Article (16 / A-C): “The criminal case for crimes affecting the freedom or dignity of citizens or involving an assault on the freedom of private life shall not expire”. From the above said establishments and articles, it is evident that human dignity must be preserved and treated with dignity. It is not permissible to use physical or psychological torture and every torture of the accused, whether physical or psychological, is considered a punishable crime by law.

Article 2 of the International Convention for the Protection of Persons from Enforced Disappearance also states: “For the purposes of this convention, “enforced disappearance” means an arrest, detention, abduction, or any form of deprivation of liberty that takes place at the hands of state officials, persons or groups of individuals. They act with permission or support from the state or with its consent, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of the person of his freedom or concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which deprives him of the protection of the law. “

The agreement holds the ratifying parties fully responsible for negligence in taking the necessary measures to curb the phenomenon of enforced disappearance, as stated in Article Three: “Each state party shall take appropriate measures to investigate the actions specified in Article (2) by persons or groups of individuals who act without permission, support or approval from the state, and to bring those responsible to trial.

Article (1) of the Accord Against Torture states: (For the purposes of this convention, “torture” means any act that results in severe physical or mental pain or suffering intentionally inflicted on a person with the intention of obtaining from this person or a third person information or a confession or punishing him For an act committed or suspected to have been committed by him or a third person, or to intimidate or compel him or any third person, or when he inflicts such pain or suffering for any reason whatsoever, based on discrimination of any kind, or incites, agrees or silences about it by an official Or any other person acting in his official capacity and this does not include pain or suffering arising only from legal sanctions or inherent in these penalties, or which is the result of his exposure to them.





The Executive Summary of the Report

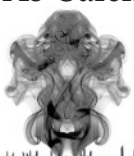
The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz monitored the violations against the abductees and forcibly disappeared persons in As-Saleh prison from March - 2018 until December -2020. The following violations were highlighted in the report:

The Association monitored in its office in Taiz governorate with regard to violations of the right to life in As-Saleh Prison, the death of “7” kidnapped. The causes of death varied. Some of them died in detention inside As-Saleh prison due to torture and medical negligence, and some died within days of their release, because they were in deteriorating health conditions which led to death. They did not respond to medical treatment or treatment intervention because of their torture they were subjected to in the detain centre.

With regard to the assault on the right to freedom, the Association of Abductees' Mothers monitored (956) abductees who were detained in As-Saleh prison, out of whom (60) were children, while 850 of them were subjected to enforced disappearance inside As-Saleh prison. The Association also documented (714) kidnapped were subjected to physical torture and (860) kidnappers were mercilessly beaten up and ill-treated.

The Abductees' Mothers Association audio-visually documented cases of those who were released and were subjected to physical torture in As-Saleh prison in order to extract their confessions and force them to sign statements they did not say. The Association of Abductees' Mothers in Taiz also heard to (194) released abductees from those abducted and imprisoned in As-Saleh Prison.

The Abductees' Mothers Association in Taiz Governorate carried out (6) protests in order to demand the release of the abductees in As-Saleh prison and condemn the violations occurring there. It also sent (6) letters to international and local organizations. The Association further held (3) hearings for those released from As-Saleh prison.





A Brief Summary about Taiz City

The governorate of Taiz is located in the southwest of the Republic of Yemen and south of the Yemeni capital, Sana'a. It has a great importance as it oversees the most important international waterways "Bab al-Mandab" and is distinguished by its high population compared to the rest of the other governorates.

Taiz governorate consists of twenty-three districts. Yet, all vital government facilities are cantered in three districts namely Salah, Cairo, and Al-Muzaffar. The main lines linking Taiz, Lahj, Aden, Ibb and Hodeidah pass through these districts.

The Militants affiliated with the Houthi group took control of parts of Taiz Governorate in early 2015. This led to armed confrontations between Houthi groups and the national resistance components, whose members became part of the internationally recognized legitimate government army. With the continuation of the armed confrontations in most of Taiz districts, the Houthi group imposed a suffocating siege on the districts of the governorate centre, namely Salah, Al-Muzaffar, Al-Qahirah, Sabr Al-Mawadim, Mashri'a and Hadnan for more than a year until one of the western outlets was opened towards Aden Governorate. That western outlet alleviated the suffering of hundreds of thousands of civilians.

During the period from March 2015 until December 2020, thousands of civilian victims, including women and children, were killed and injured, and public and private properties were damaged in most of the governorate districts as a result of the clashes; while the Houthi groups kidnapped hundreds of civilians from the city of Taiz through checkpoints scattered in the city's outlets previously, and the only outlet is currently through al-Aqroudh area, south of the governorate, as well as the spread checkpoints in the districts which lie under their control.





A Description of As-Salih Prison

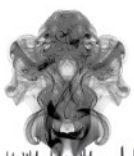
Location of the Prison:

The city of As-Saleh is located in Al-Ta'aziah district in Al-Hawban area, at the eastern entrance to Taiz city, a geographical area that is still under the control of the Houthi group till date; Where the Houthi group has transformed it from a residential city for people with limited income to one of the largest private detention centres inside which hundreds of kidnapped and forcibly disappeared persons are located.

Prison Description:

As-Saleh City Prison is a residential complex, containing fifty buildings. The entire residential city consists of (860) apartments. The Houthi group transformed ten buildings into places of detention, and gave them names, among them: the Criminal Building, the Intelligence Building, the Preventive Building, the National Security Building (Kamil Building), the Dawash Building, the Abu Hurriya Building, the Abu Yahya Building (relative to the Houthi supervisors). Each building contains twenty apartments, and one apartment contains three rooms. The rooms are 3 x 3 square meters, 4 x 3 square meters, 5 x 5 square meters, a hall and a bathroom.

The Abductees' Mothers Association spoke to some of the released how the Houthis closed the windows of their jail room with stones, and left only 5 cm in each window, which is not enough for the air to enter well even in very hot summer times.



Detention Circumstances in the Prison

The Abductees' Mothers Association monitored the living conditions of the abductees inside As-Saleh prison, based on the testimony of the released.

A- Prison overcrowding

The places of detention (apartments) are crowded with kidnapped. The kidnapped cannot move due to the small size of the apartments and the large number of abductees inside each apartment, where at least 25 kidnapped were kept in one room, and a number of them complained that they could not find places to sleep except by alternating between them.

Salim – (real name changed), one of the released from As-Saleh prison, says “We were sharing a single room for twenty-five people, and the space of this room is 3 x 3 meters. There is no ventilation. Salim further recollects that they were harassed in their eating, drinking and sleeping, each of the abductees used to put his head on his colleague's head, and some people might have fainted due to respiratory problems resulting from shortage of breath and lack of ventilation. He also asserted that the detainees even thought of committing suicide because of the ill-treatment that they were subjected to by the elements of the Houthi group in As-Saleh prison.

B - Poor Living Services

The kidnappers inside As-Saleh prison suffer from the lack of healthy food provided to Houthi group, as each kidnapped person was offered in the breakfast and dinner meals one roti-like bread called kedmah (a poor brown bread in the size of a fist made out of sorghum or wheat) and a small amount of poorly cooked legumes or a box of yogurt for every six people, and a small amount for lunch of rice and a stew boiled vegetable.



One of those released says: “The food was not good and it was not enough for us, we were feeling very hungry to the point that we used to tightly tie empty bottles of water on our stomachs so that we could sleep. Besides, the food was so full of oils that a person vomits the consumed food after eating it.”

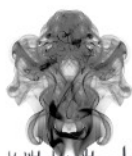
C- Water and sanitation

Each detainee was given a litter of water per day to be used in the bathroom, and the kidnapped detainees did not find water for washing themselves or washing their clothes. This caused the appearance of skin diseases and the accumulation of dirt in the only bathroom of each apartment as the bathrooms contain no water, and contain a single toilet and sometimes this bathroom is without door.

D- Ventilation and Cleanliness

The temperature was very high in the apartments as a result of the windows in them being blocked with stones and the overcrowding of the kidnapped in these rooms. Due to the extreme heat and humidity in the jail rooms, the colour paint of the rooms was peeling off and there was no enough airing except for a single window in the kitchen. The rooms were dark due to the lack of access to natural light except a small opening by 5 cm width.

Some detainees were infected with scabies and skin infections due to their lack of exposure to the sun and the lack of cleanliness around them due to the scarcity of water. There was also the so-called solitary confinement, a room in one of the apartments. The kidnapped are held alone in that dark room, while the ground of the room is full of dirt and the smell is unbearable.



The released (Hamed – real named change) was held inside what the Houthis call (the ISIS building), where the kidnapped are being held because of their political opinions. There are forty kidnapped in it: “The ward in which I was detained in was made up of three rooms and we were distributed over the rooms. The hall in front of the bathroom, we can move from the intensity of the crowds. We used to stand in a queue to answer the call of nature for hours, in bathroom without a door and without water in it. The Houthi jailers used to distribute water to us every two days by giving one litre of water for every abducted to be used for ablution, bathing and washing clothes. Feeding was like two kedam (bread of one size like a fist) for every abducted at the meal and some beans for the whole group. It was never enough for us.





**The violations that the
kidnapped are subjected to**



First: Assault on the Right to Life:

Article (3) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights specifies that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of his person. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights also states in Article (6) that: The right to life is an inherent right of every human being and the law must protect this right and No one may be deprived of his life.

The Abductees' Mothers Association has documented (6) cases of death for detainees in As-Saleh prison, whether the kidnapped persons died inside the prison or within days after their release from the jail in a deteriorating health condition due to physical and psychological torture.

Name	District	Age	Profession	Cause of Death	D. of Death
Anwar Mohammed Saeed Al-Rukn	Al-Tai'zia	45	Journalist	Torture	08/06/2018
Tawfiq Ahmad Mohammed Al-Lahji	Al-Mokha	22	Student	medical Negligence	25/ 12/2018
Nashwan Moqbel Saeed Saif	Al-Qahira	33	Labourer	Torture	01/29/2019
Izz Al-Din Amin Al- Muhayya	al-mawadim	23	Student	psychological torture + medical negligence	08/13/2019
Ibrahim Mahyoub Moqbel As-Salahi	As-Salam	45	Labourer	medical negligence	08/05/2018
Mohammed Sa'id Thabet As-Silwi	As-Silu	30	Labourer	Medical negligence	10/03/2018
Abdo Saleh Ahmad Saleh Sweileh	Ma'awiya	48	Labourer	Medical negligence	06/02/2020



Incidents

Name: Anwar Mohammed Ahmed Saeed Arrokn- Journalist

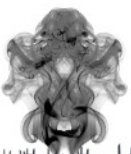
Date of Kidnapping: Dec, 2017.

The victim's brother says (My brother's news suddenly cut off for ten months and we knew nothing about him. When my youngest brother went to Al-Salih prison to inquire about one of our relatives, he saw Anwar and could hardly recognize him because of his ill-condition. His body became



mere bone and skin and his health deteriorates very badly). When we went to seek his release, they [Houthis] released him because of his poor health. So my brother went out and was “on the verge of death”.

We took him to a hospital, and doctors tried to support him with blood, nutrients, medicines and fluids because he was in a state of severe emaciation, but there was no response or acceptance from his body. When we asked him about the tortures he was subjected to in the jail, he told us that he was deprived of sleep and eating, and they were injecting him with needles that he did not know what type of injections they were because the severity of his temperature was very highly burning his body as if it was an acid (hydrofluoric acid). My brother's doctor told us that his body is not responding to either of the medicines or nutritive saline. Sorrowfully, my brother passed away on 08-06-2018, two days after his release from the detention centre.



Documentation with the victim's brother audio-visually in the association office on 26-06--2018

Tawfiq Ahmad Muhammad al-Lahji (23 years) : Holder of Diploma in English language.

Born in Taiz, Mokha district, Samasim area, Tawfiq was kidnapped from Taiz Governorate, Al-Mokha District, from the street on 25-02- 2016. He was hidden for six months, and his family did not know anything about him, then he was allowed to contact his family.

When the League's team listened to the released prisoner, Abdul Hamid Jaafar, from As-Saleh prison, he talked to us about the physical torture he was subjected to during investigation using all types of torture tools including electric shock to forcefully extort information from him. He was beaten with sticks all over his body, and after a period of his health deteriorated, which caused his kidney failure. He suffered from severe diarrheal to the point that he fainted and could not eat for two days.

In December 2019, his health deteriorated greatly, forcing the Houthis to transfer him to a hospital in Ibb governorate, then to Sana'a, and he died there. One of the Houthi supervisors called his mother and told her to come to visit her son, and the next day they called her and told her that her son had passed away.

The mother of the victim says: When I went to collect the corpse of my son, they first took me to court and gave me papers to sign without knowing what these papers contained because I could not read. Then I went to take the corpse of my son, and I found around his eyes a change of colour and traces of blood on his mouth.

On January 2, 2020, the testimony of the released (Abdul Hamid Jaafar) was taken during the Association team's visit to his home in an audio-lingual clip about the deceased Tawfiq al-Lahji



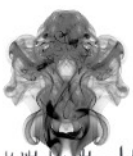
Nashwan Moqbel Saeed Saif (33 years) – Labourer



The kidnapped, Nashwan Moqbel Saeed Saif told his story in a video talk with the Abductees' Mothers Association team during their visit to him in

the hospital in Taiz governorate on 01/28/2019 while receiving treatment for the effects of torture that he was subjected to in As-Saleh prison. Nashwan says: "I stayed abducted by the Houthi group for one year and eight months when I was in my way to my work in Al-Hawban area - Taiz province. Upon my arrival at a checkpoint belonging to the Houthi group, they stopped the car, got me down from it, and held me at the point from noon to 8:00 pm. After that, they transferred me to As-Saleh prison and put me in solitary confinement." Nashwan adds: "The next day they started insulting me and said that I was a son of ISIS terrorists of Taiz, and they took me at eight o'clock to the investigation room.

They started investigating with me and charged me with reporting the news to the "resistance". I told them: "I am a poor person who is searching for his butter and bread by having been working as a wiper. My property is a piece of towel to wipe cars with. During the investigations, my eyes were tied, my hands tied to the back, I was tortured with electricity, my toenails



were stripped off with sharp tool, and I was beaten all over my body, even in sensitive areas, to the point that from the severity of my beating on the sensitive area, my “testicles” swelled, causing my entire body to swell blue. I was also beaten on the head, stomach, and kidneys, with scolding and insults.” Sometimes they used to give me an aesthetic in the water. I became in an abnormal state and I don’t know anything until the next day I see the scars on my body. I was interrogated in As-Saleh every three days, accompanied by the harshest methods of torture.

After three months of torture in As-Saleh, they sent me to Ibb prison. All parts of my body were “wounds” due to torture and beatings. I was in a bad condition. They took me to the hospital. The doctors in the hospital were saying about me: “His condition is very serious because of the swelling of the “testicles”. He must undergo an operation, which was actually done after a philanthropist sponsored the costs of the operation.” Doctors comment. So I had an operation and they opened my testicles, removed the tumour, and cleaned the pus. After the Houthis found that my case was hopeless, according to the doctors’ words, I was released with a ransom paid by the philanthropist who had previously paid the costs of the operation to me.” Nashwan concludes.

After three month of meeting Nashwan by the association team, the Association of Abductees’ Mothers’ received the news of his demise due to the deterioration of his health on April 29, 2019. It was unfortunate that he died on the same day his sister’s wedding was. The family joy turned into sorrow and pain. The Association issued a statement on May 1, 2019 condemning the torture and medical negligence that Nashwan was subjected to in the prison which led to his tragic demise.

Audio-visual documentation of the demised during the team visit to the hospital in which he demised on 28-01-2019.



Ezzedine Amin Al-Muhayya (23 years) - student

The released (Suleiman – real name changed) says: When Izzeddine was brought into the abduction apartment where I was being held, he told us about his kidnapping story. The kidnapping supervisors of As-Saleh prison called his father and asked him to come. So, Ezzeddine's father along with his three sons came to the prison. When they reached the prison, they were all detained. The prison supervisors investigated with them on the first day of their



arrival. Ten days later, his two brothers were released while Ezzeddine and his father were kept in two separate detention apartments. They [jail supervisors] interrogated the victim (Ezzeddine) again and tortured him by beating him with sticks and electric cables. The scars of their torture remained for a year on his body. Four months later, he was interrogated again and he was severely tortured with electricity on his hand. His condition was very pathetic. He collapsed due to the merciless beating, scolding, verbal abusing and insulting of him. He couldn't eat or speak for two days continuously.

Ezzeddine was very horribly terrified when he was subjected to torture, especially psychological torture. He was threatened with death and liquidation on various occasions. They were pointing at him a weapon and telling him we will execute you, and one time he was summoned and was told that the plane had struck their house and that his family had become parts. Then his body turned yellow. We used to tell the prisoners to help him, but they refused and said let him die. They refused to give him any treatment or even a sedative. We, who were with him in the same apartment, went on a hunger strike to put pressure on them to help him, which happened the next day, but they did not give him any treatment.



His condition worsened and yellowing of his body increased. So we went on strike again, but they left us without food for two days. They took him to the hospital again and said that he was suffering from hepatitis virus after which they released him. Ezzeddine lived for four days later and he died on 13/8/2019.

Ibrahim Mahyoub Moqbel Al-Salahi

We listened to a number of released persons who were with the victim in the same prison. They talked to us that he died as a result of medical negligence inside As-Saleh prison.

The released (Zakaria Saad - real name changed) told us that I was detained in the Abu Houriah building in Apartment No. (10). One day the jailers brought the kidnapped (Ibrahim al-Salahi) to our apartment being shifted from another apartment. Two months after Ibrahim was detained with us, he told us that he could not urinate He used to ask the guards to help him, but they did not respond to him. When his condition worsened, he suffered urine retention. His urine colour changed and turned yellow. He was brought down to the pharmacy at the bottom of the building. They gave him a nourishing injection and brought him back to the apartment. The next day Ibrahim was in severe pain and was shouting. We were knocking the door at the jailers in order to save him. We told the prisoners that if he would not be treated, he would die. But the jailer said let him die. Half an hour later, Ibrahim died in my hands at twelve noon on Sunday 5/8/2018 after eleven months of imprisonment in As-Saleh prison.



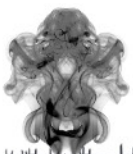
Mohammed Saeed Thabet. Labourer

Mohammed Saeed was kidnapped from his home in Taiz, Al-Silul District in the middle of the night on 4/4/2017. He was detained in As-Saleh City Prison.



A colleague of the deceased in prison says:

“When they put me in jail in the apartment of Aden, Muhammad Saeed had been in prison for eight months. The deceased had a very severe cough so that he could not eat and drink. They did not provide him with any medical assistance or treatment. Later on, he was transferred to Apartment No. (2). He was still very sick and was suffering from a severe cough. On one occasion, we were subjected to collective punishment by standing up and sitting for two hours because we asked the jailers to increase the amount of food because it was not enough for us. Mohammed Saeed was with us. He could not stand because of his illness, and when we asked the jailer to allow him to sit they refused. Muhammad Saeed did not bear standing up and sitting down. As a result, he fell on the ground. Then he vomited blood due to fatigue and stress. They [prisoners] did not treat or even aid him.



Mohammed Saeed then became severely emaciated. When we asked to treat him, they gave him penicillin injections - according to one of the abductees, who studied pharmacy, without medical advice. Mohammed Saeed was given around (200) penicillin needles. Subsequently, his condition worsened so much that he became mere bone and skin. They transferred him to Ibb city. Later on, an investigator came to us and told us that Mohammed Saeed had pulmonary tuberculosis. He ordered us to remove all Saeed's tools that he used to use and gave us water to wash Mohammed Saeed's place. Less than three months after his transfer from As-Saleh prison, we got the news of his [Mohammed Saeed] death.

The Abductees' Mothers Association in Taiz governorate visited the released Mohammed Saeed on 7/14/2018. He was unconscious and in a critical state of health. He was admitted to the hospital and provided with assistance and all the necessary tests were made for him. Test reports showed a damage to his left lung. According to his doctors, they said that his body was not responding to medication. Muhammad Saeed died in the hospital on 3/10/2018, and the Association issued a statement on 4/10/2018 condemning the medical negligence that the victim suffered, demanding that the perpetrators of his death be brought to justice.

Documentation with the deceased Mohammed Saeed Thabet took place during the Association's team visit to the hospital on 7/14/2018





Second: Assaulting the Right to Freedom:

A- Kidnapping

The Yemeni constitution in its article No (48) crystal clearly states that “the state guarantees for citizens their personal freedom and preserves their dignity and security. The law determines the cases in which the citizen’s freedom is restricted. And it is not permissible for anyone’s freedom to be restricted except with a judgment from a competent court on a judicial order or an order from the Public Prosecution.”

Besides, the Criminal Procedures Law article No (11) highlights: “Personal freedom is guaranteed and a citizen may not be accused of committing a crime. Their freedom is not restricted except by order of the competent authorities. In the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article (9/1) “everyone has the right to freedom and security of his person. No one may be detained or arrested, and no one may be deprived of his freedom for the procedure decided upon, except for genuine reasons determined by the law, and in accordance with the procedure established therein.

Hence, during the periods from 2018 to December 2020, the Association of the Abductees’ Mothers monitored (956) kidnapped and abductees, who were detained in As-Saleh prison. Some of them were still kidnapped and some of them were released.

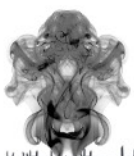


Table Highlights the Distribution of the Abductees on the Districts of Taiz Governorate

District	Number
Al-Qaherah	64
Al-Muzaffar	54
Salah	63
Al-Taizia	112
Assalam	65
Ar-Rawnah	38
Ashamayateen	24
Al-Makha	14
Almesrakh	48
Al-Ma'afer	26
Al-Mawaset	22
Al-Mawadem	48
Al-Wazayyah	22
Jabal Habashi	37
Haifan	38
Khadeer	45
Sami'a	8
Mawia	50
Maqbanah	70
Mawzi'a	36



The Distribution of the Abductees on the Districts of Taiz Governorate

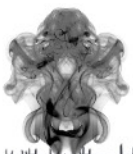
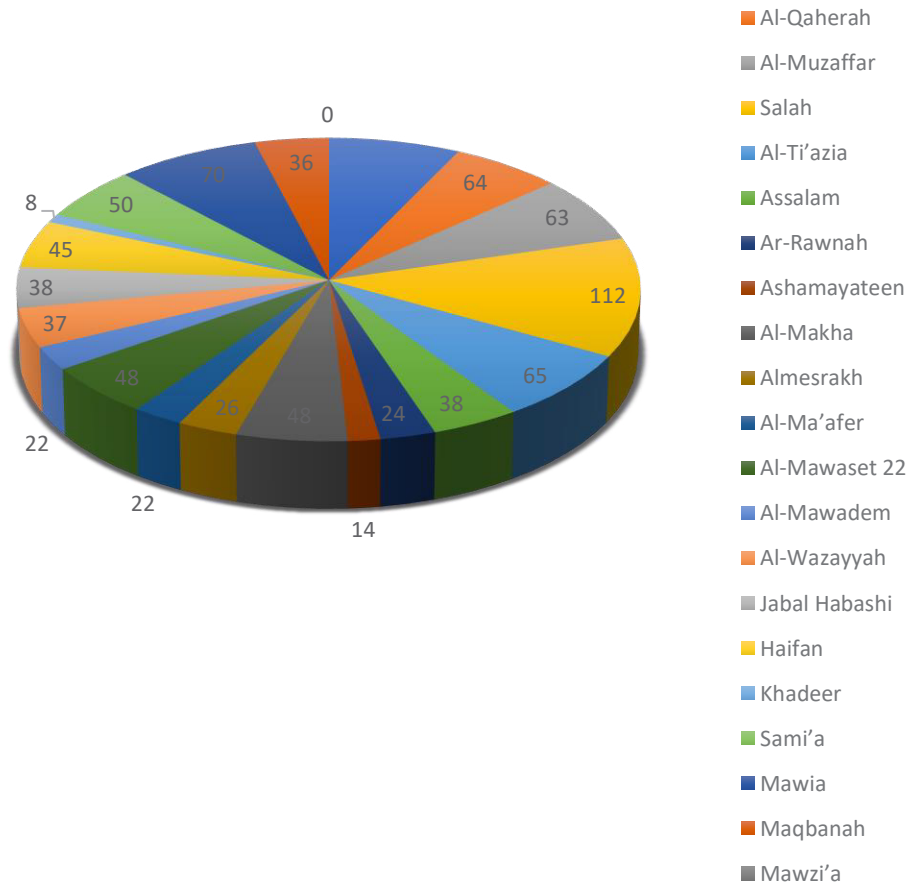
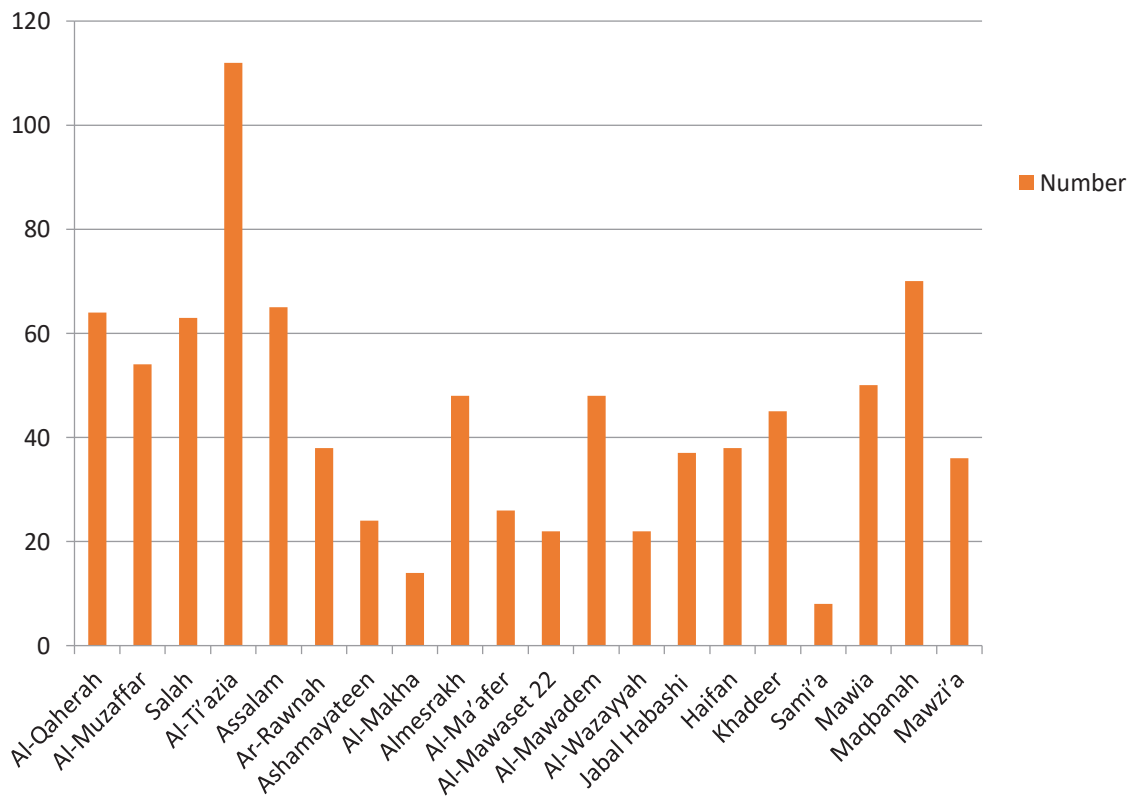


Figure indicating the Detainees distribution of the Districts of Taiz Governorate



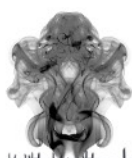
A-The Incidents

(Omar, a real name changed) 36 years old - pharmacist

Omar says that on 10/23/2016 in the evening when I left the house in the governorate of Taiz, the Al-Hawban area, two people in military clothing came to me and arrested me, and while I resisted them, they shot fire directly, but I was not injured. I surrendered to them. They took me on a military vehicle to Damnah crossroad. Then I was transferred to another “Santa Fe” car. They took me to the Al-Rahida police station. Thereafter, they took me to a “Prado” car. With covered my eyes and tied hands, and took me to As-Saleh Prison and brought me to an apartment called Aden due to the extreme heat in it.

The next day they took me to the interrogation room and tortured me using beatings, electricity, and insults while I was blindfolded. They wanted me to confess to accusations that I had nothing to do with, including inciting against them and reporting on the Houthis who work with them. They asked me if I had a Facebook page. I replied that I did not have any social media pages, nor did I know about Facebook. They kept torturing me, bound my hands and feet, and beat me until I fainted.

On the next day, they brought me back to investigation with the same questions. While I denied all the charges against me, so they applied electric shocks to my hands, feet, and my tongue. Then I fell ill for four weeks, unable to speak or move; and my friends were carrying me to the bathroom to relieve myself or answer the call of nature.



Omar's case (name changed) was audio-visually documented in the association office on 23-12-2019

I was kept hidden from my family for a year. After a year, they allowed me to call my family. I told my family about my whereabouts in As-Saleh prison. The Houthis asked my family to pay some ransom-like money in exchange of my release. My family paid them three hundred thousand riyals, but I was not released. After the two years passed, my family was allowed to visit me for only a quarter of an hour. This was my first meeting with my family since I was kidnapped. I was later released on an exchange deal.

Amin Rashid – (real name changed)

The victim's brother recounts:

On the way my brother returned to Taiz governorate, he was stopped on Al-Hawban round and was taken to As-Saleh prison on 2/8/2018. We could not communicate with him or visit him. We received news about him from one of the released abductees who told us that my brother suffers from of breathing disorder due to the lack of ventilation in the prison he is detained in. Due to the deterioration of my brother's health condition, he was taken to Al-Rifa'i Hospital with his hands clasped. One of the prison supervisors called us and told us that my brother's condition is very bad and he may lose his life at any moment. Yet, we will not release him out unless an alternative "prisoner" replaces him because his name was found in the list negotiated about in Sweden, between the Houthis and the internationally recognized legitimate government.



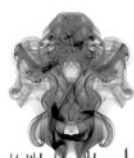
Mohammed Ali (Real name changed) -24 years - student

Muhammad says I was kidnapped in the month of July, 2016 from the sixtieth street, Al-Hawban checkpoint in Taiz. Coincidentally, at that time of my kidnapping, my uncle, who was returning from the city of Taiz to the countryside with his wife, saw me with the abducted people. When he inquired about the motives of my detention, they detained him with me and left my aunt (uncle's wife) return to the countryside alone.

The kidnapers took all the sums my uncle had and he was held for forty-five days, after which he was released. My old-aged uncle was subjected to torture while he was in detention.

As for me, I was detained in the National Security Building in the city of As-Saleh in Al-Hawban, and I was beaten with sticks, electric wires, cursing, slapping and spraying with cold water, and the accusation levelled against me was that I participated with the resistance.

I was held in al-Dhagagadah for five days, because I went up to sniff the air from the hole above the door. I was hid for a year and a half and was prevented from communicating with my family. After a year and a half I was allowed to communicate with them. In the first contact my mother did not believe that I was the caller crying and saying, "Swear that you are Mohammed." I was severely ill in the prison. My whole body was full of rash resulting from the dirt of the place. When I asked for a doctor, they refused to allow me see a doctor. After several attempts I went on a hunger strike because they did not respond to my request for treatment, after which I was allowed to communicate with my family and I asked them for treatment. I was released on an exchange deal later on.



Mohammed's case (name changed) was audio-visually recorded in the headquarter of the association on 25-12-2019

B-The Enforced Disappearance

The International Convention stressed in its article no (17) on the Protection of all individuals from Enforced Disappearance; that no one may be imprisoned in an unknown location.

The United Nations Declaration assured on the Protection of all individuals from enforced disappearance excluding a number of provisions that aim at preventing disappearances. Article (10) of the declaration states that: Detainees must be detained in officially known places of detention and their families must be notified about their detention immediately. They must be allowed to meet with lawyers. Each detention centre should include a recent record of all persons deprived of their freedom. Enforced disappearance is a double human rights violation, as it often involves psychological and physical torture of the victim as well as has negative effects on the families of the disappeared, especially when the time of disappearance is prolonged and they do not find any assurances about the abductees' life. Anyway, according to the monitoring of the Abductees' Mothers Association, 865 abductees in As-Saleh prison were subjected to enforced disappearance.



The Incidents

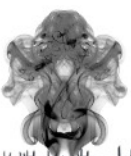
Ahmed Hedash Ahmad Rajeh (45 years) - Legal Secretary

(I was hidden for three years. My family thought that I had passed away so they held a funeral ceremony for me).

I was kidnapped from my house in the Al-Mokha district in the Hawban region on 4/2/2017 by Houthi gunmen. I, then, was taken to the military area “Khaled bin Al-Walid camp” which is located in the same district. I was detained with tightly closing my eyes and was sent on a military vehicle to As-Saleh prison which under the control of Al Houthi.

My arrival to As-Saleh prison was at 5 pm and I was directly beaten up with sticks until my shoulders were swollen. There were signs of blood clots on my body. I was asked to raise my hands as they started kicking, hitting, punching me on the face. They continued beating me for half an hour. Then I was asked to stand on one leg while I was very tired. I was threatened with torture if not doing so. This situation lasted for five months.

This was in the Kamile building, the apartment of Aden. The space of the place was two meters by two meters dimension. We were allowed to go to bathroom only at sunset daily. The food that was distributed to us was very little; not enough even for a child. In the same place, praying, eating, defecating, and sleeping were performed.



Before my kidnapping, I was suffering from losing one of my eyes. When I was detained, they took my glasses off from me. So, I almost lost my other eye because of the extreme darkness in my detention in Aden apartment.

My family thought that I had passed away and even held a funeral ceremony for me because I was hidden for three years during my kidnapping. I was allowed to communicate with my family only one day before my release. I was released on an exchange deal on December 19, 2019.

Anwar Qasem, (real name changed) 25 years old, student

(He was in the same clothes he had travelled with before his disappearance one year ago).

The victim's mother says: My son went out early to visit his grandmother in Haifan district. I called him at ten in the morning, but his phone was switched off. I lost contact with him. I looked for my son in hospitals and everywhere. I went to As-Saleh prison, too, but they denied knowing anything about my son and claimed that he is not there.

A year after my son disappeared, my phone rang, and he called and said, 'I'm fine, mom.' At that moment my tears flowed and I was asking him where are you, my boy? But he hung up his call. I didn't know where he was. After that, one of those who left As-Saleh prison told us that my son is being held there in As-Saleh prison and that his psychological state is very poor. So I went again to As-Saleh prison, but they denied his existence again, begged them and cried, and then showed me my son, and he was in a deplorable state, he could not speak or even look at us until he was in his clothes that he travelled in a year ago since his disappearance.

Documentation with Anwar's mother (name change) audio-visually in a field visit of the team in the of the association to the victim's home on 19-03-2020



Suleiman Ahmed – real name changed (38 years), teacher

The victim spoke to us, saying:

I was hidden in As-Saleh prison for three years, during which I was subjected to various methods of torture; such as being slapped and mercilessly beaten up with iron chains on my stomach and head; and electrocuted with electric wires until I fainted. When I denied all the accusations levelled against me, they threatened to kill me. The shot fire by my ears while my eyes are tightly tied to frighten me. This continued with me daily.

As a result of the torture and the detention circumstances that I was subjected to, I became infected with lung infections. The place I was held in was so dirty, and lacks of sunlight. Various types of insects and cockroaches were filling the place. I also suffered a blockage in the heart and my health condition doubly worsened. I became ill with diabetes and hypertension, although I was not suffering from any diseases before detention. I used to scream from the awful pain and torture. The kidnapped who were detained with me made a noise to draw the attention of the security forces so that they could provide for me with first aids. But, one of the prison officials entered and kicked me in the foot and told me “we want you to die.”

But under the pressure of the detainees who supported me, they transferred me to the hospital. They asked me to agree to be operated, although the doctor in charge of my treatment had warned me not to perform the operation except after conducting more tests. They refused and insisted on me to undergo the operation. When I refused the operation, they took me back to As-Saleh prison and scolded me for not giving my consent for the operation.



I was hidden from my family for three years, they did not know anything about me, and they thought that I had died. After three and a half years had passed, I was allowed to call my family and tell them about my whereabouts. They were also allowed to visit me after many obstacles. They were scolded and insulted by members of the Houthi group. During my family visit to me, I stayed with my family for only five minutes. I begged those in charge of the prison to give me a few more minutes to sit with my family, but they refused and told me that if I did not go out, they would drag me in front of my family. They sent me back to prison again and expelled my family while they were crying.

Their bad treatment of me and the rest of the kidnapped people continued until the year “2019”. Their treatment of us improved a little since then. I was released on “6/1/2020” due to the deterioration of my health.

On 12/31/2019, documentation with the released detainee, Sulieman (real name changed) was done in the association's office in Taiz Governorate. A written statement was taken in his handwriting and a photocopied testimony about the deceased Ezz El-Din Amin Al-Muhayya.

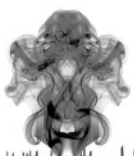




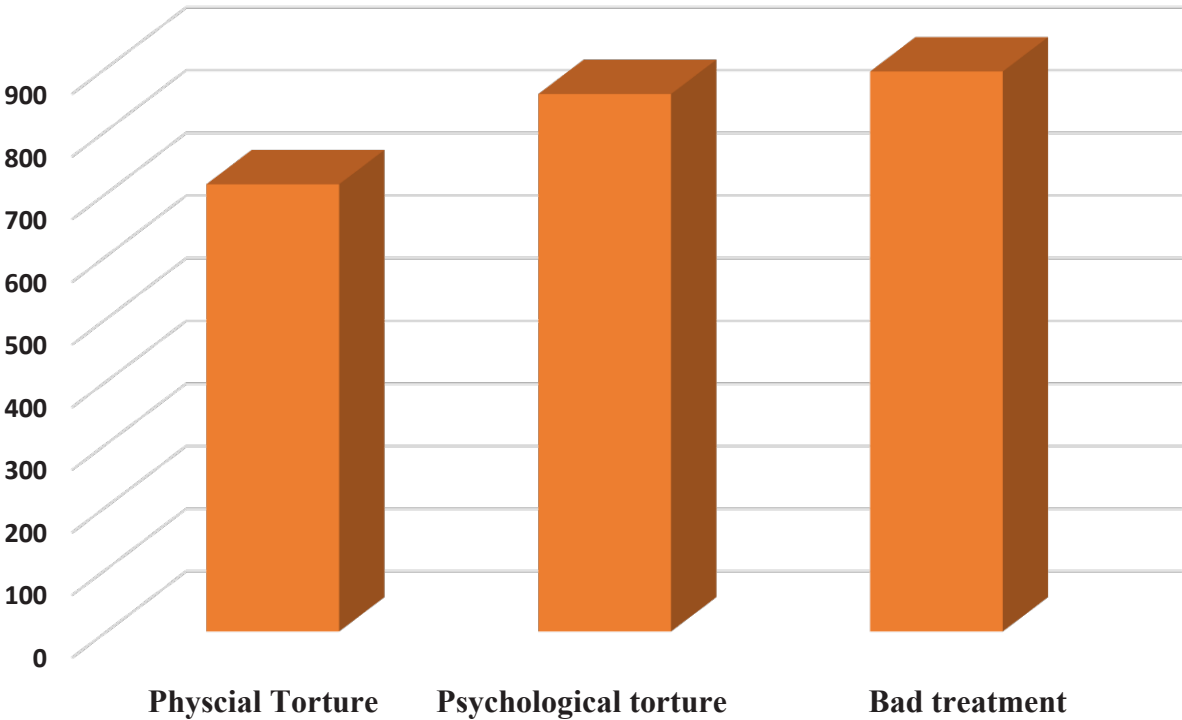
Third: Torture

Article 48 of the constitution states: “Every person whose freedom is restricted in any way must be preserved, his dignity must be preserved and torture is prohibited physically, psychologically, or morally. Coercion is prohibited to confess during investigations. A person whose freedom is restricted has the right to refrain from making any statements except in the presence of his lawyer. Imprisonment or Detention of any person in places other than subject to the prisons regulated by the law are prohibited. Torture and inhuman treatment are prohibited either upon arrest or during the period of detention or imprisonment.

The Criminal Procedures Law No. 13 of 1994 stresses in article (6) on prohibiting torture or inhuman treatment of the accused, his physical or moral harm due to his coercion to confess. Every statement under the pressure of torture of the accused or witnesses is unreliable and uncountable.

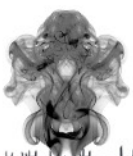


Types of Tortue in the Detaining Centers



A-Physical Torture

Many of the released abductees have spoken about the different types of torture they were subjected to during their detention in As-Saleh prison. Among these ways is what is known as the “grilling” way of torture, which is to tie the hands and feet of the abductees tightly and insert a stick that extends between the hands and feet. The body hangs down like a barbecue. The kidnapped were also subjected to torture by what is known as the “cooker”, where abductees are kept in a meter to meter space detention room, with no ventilation. The detainees can stretch out their feet. The Houthis beat the kidnapped person on the head and all parts of the body with electric wires and heavy sticks. They use electric shocks on the extremities of the body. The methods of torture of the Houthi group increased brutally. They used what is called the “Chinese method” which is the distillation of cold water on the head of the detainee. Another way of torture is burning by bringing the “straw”, a stove that is used at homes to cook food, set fire to it, and let it burn for a long time, then the jailer extinguishes it. Jailers bring the detainees blindfolded; hands tied, and were forced to sit on it. This causes the detainees’ genitals burning.



Faris (real name changed) says:

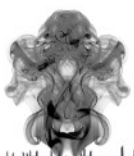
I was kidnapped on 12/18/2017 from a bus on Al-Arbaeen Street in Al-Mudhaffar District. They took me to one of the areas of the clashes, handcuffed me, and put me in one of the barricades. Shells and bullets were hitting that place, and I was very afraid. “Oh, ISIS, you must die” Houthis used to tell me. After that, they took me to As-Saleh prison in Taiz city and left me for 24 days. Then they started the interrogation with me at ten in the evening. They tied my hands to the back and my feet while I was blindfolded and began to fabricate the accusations that I am ISIS and belong to the resistance. I denied this because I am an accounting student and do not belong to any faction. From the charges against me that I support the resistance on social media, I did not expect that mere opinion would become a crime. They started torturing me, tied me with chains and tied me to a pole. I was given electric shocks and iron chains, which increased the power of electricity to my body. They also stabbed me with a white weapon (jambiya) all over my body and hit me on my head with the butts of the rifles to the point that blood was flowing from my nose, my mouth and my head till I fainted. Then they sprayed me with water and gave me a dose of medicine that I do not know.



The interrogation continued until four in the morning, so they sent me back to a solitary confinement of a very small area. After every time they interrogated me, I was held in solitary confinement for twenty days. I was interrogated for thirteen times, out of which I was tortured eight times.

One of the methods of torture that I have been subjected to is the so-called (Shulla), which is a small cooker that lights it on fire and leaves it for a long time, then extinguishes it and comes to me while I am blindfolded and handcuffed and forcing me to sit on it after extinguishing it. I cannot describe the pain I was feeling at that moment, especially in the regions. The sensitive part of my body, one of my fellow kidnappers who tried to defend himself while being tortured broke his left hand.

Throughout my detention, I slept on the tiles without any cover. The windows were closed with stones and cement. The water we were given was salty and unfit to drink, and the food that was served to four people was not enough for one person. After six months, an investigation committee came to the prison and looked at my file. The committee said that I have no charge and I should be released, but the prison administrators refused and racially replied: “You are ISIS from Taiz, and the people of Taiz do not have to live outside prisons.” After one year and three months my health deteriorated due to torture I was beaten on the head. So I was released. When I was admitted in the hospital after my release, they followed me and planned to kill me and get rid of me in the hospital I was admitted to. I was forced to move to the centre of Taiz, which is under the control of the legitimate government so that I would not be abducted by the Houthis.

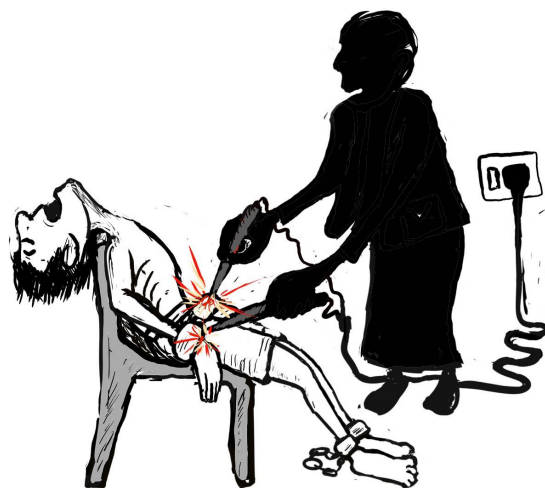


Malik, real name changed, (30 years old)

I was kidnapped on Tuesday 8/8/2017 from Haifan district, Taiz city. My house was broken into. They took three hundred dollars and 50 grams of my wife's gold, my documents and my family's personal documents. While they broke into my house, my three-year-old son was present at that time. He was afraid of them and hid himself under the bed. They raised the bed to the top, and my son became very afraid and made aloud cry. This caused my son to suffer a psychological condition and is still suffering from it until date.

I was taken to As-Saleh Prison at one o'clock in the afternoon. I arrived at "Al-Daghaha", "a narrow place with one meter by one meter size only". They put the chains on my hands and feet and prohibited me to eat and drink until six o'clock in the evening. Then they began interrogating me in a room. Their accusation was that I was submitting report and locations to the coalition.

They were asking me "where is the weapon"? I told them that I do not possess a weapon and I have nothing to do with what they accused me of. They started slapping, hitting and punching me on the face. They used to take my head and bang it strongly against the wall. I was electrocuted by the jailer putting electricity cables over the cuffs until I lost consciousness. When I fainted, they sprayed water on me until I woke up. They started beating me with an iron object on my head, until my head was injured and blood spilled from him. They continued torturing me in this way until dawn time and took me to apartment no. 2. In the evening, they again interrogated me and continued to take me to interrogation, torture and electric shocks for four days at the same pace.



Documentation of (Mu'ath, real name changed) was done in the office of the Association on 29-10-2020

After these four days, I became paralyzed and could not move the left part of my body. I asked a doctor to treat me, but they refused and left me without any treatment for my paralysis; or dressing my head wound. Two months after my kidnapping, I was forced to speak in front of a camera in which I recorded my confession of things that I had no relationship with.

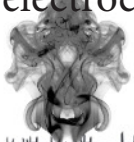
(The investigator, named Abu Yahya twisted my hands and kicked my arm until my shoulder joint came out of its place).

Munir, real name changed (20 years), student

I was kidnapped from Diminat Khadir district, Taiz Governorate, on February 18, 2017, from my work place in the Security Department of the of As-Silou district, Taiz Governorate. The reason for my kidnapping was that my uncle is working for the legitimate government in Ma'rib. They told me: "Submit your uncle if you want to get out of here!"

I told them that I have nothing to do with my uncle or his work. How could I hand him over to you while he is in Marib?

They tortured me during their interrogation with me. They beat me on the back in the spine as well as on my head. The so-called supervisor, Abu Yahya, twisted my hand and kicked my arm forcefully until my shoulder joint came out of its place. Then I left this for half an hour in pain. I was screaming from the severity of the pain. He then twisted my hand again and hit me severely in the shoulder until the joint was put back in its place. They also broke my leg with an iron tool used to dig the ground, gave me electric shocks, and they made me drink water after I was electrocuted so that pain was increased. Then they forced me to speak in front of a video camera and confess all the charges levelled against me. There was a written paper placed next to the camera containing all the charges against me and I had to read that paper. They also attached electrical wires to my toes at the time of filming my confession record to scare me if I didn't speak what they wanted they would electrocute me.



Munir (name changed) was interviewed in the Association office, Taiz on 09-09-2020

Aref- real name changed (48 years old) Labourer

I was travelling to my village in July 2017 in the Taiz governorate, Maqbona district. I was stopped at al-Ayyar checkpoint and was taken to As-Saleh prison. At 10 o'clock in the evening I was taken to the interrogation room. They began to interrogating with me and asked me where the ISIS headquarter is? I told them: I have no knowledge of anything. They blindfolded my eyes and tied my hands. They brought a bowl of water and dipped my head into it four times, and I felt during that time that my soul was almost cut off. I was interrogated for twenty-five days, on all the days of the interrogation. I was beaten on the head and all over my body and was hanged for five hours from twelve o'clock at night to five o'clock in the morning.

A week after the first investigation, they summoned me again to be investigated. They asked me the same question that was asked to me the last time, which is: What do you know about ISIS? They accused me of being an observer. When I denied these charges, they beat me on the fingers and toes of my hands and continued to beat me in this same way for three days during each investigation. In the fourth day of the investigation, blood was coming out of my nails. They brought an iron tool (pliers) and they removed my nails and feet so horribly. On one of their interrogations, they poured a burning substance on my head (a flash - a chemical burning solution used to clean the toilets). I felt its flame and pain in my head and I still feel this flame and burning until now.

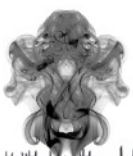


Rami – real name changed (36 years) - Lawyer

I was kidnapped on Monday 4/9/2017 at twelve noon when I was with my family on my way to Sana'a on the fourth day of Eid ul-Adha. A group of gunmen led by "Amin Al-Junaid," who was working as a secretary at al-Mesrakh Court, and "Abdullah Muhammad Al-Hajj" who was working as a teacher in the al-Mesrakh District came to me in the Mawiyah crossroad. I was forcibly taken from the street from amongst my family. They torn off my clothes and took me on a military vehicle to the city of As-Saleh. Upon my arrival, they beat me with rifle butts until I fainted.

Then they put me in what is called cooker. During my interrogation, I was tortured with the so-called "grill", which is to tie hands and feet tightly, insert a stick that extends between the hands and feet, and the body is hung down and raised up like a barbecue. I was suspended for several hours until they brought me down at four in the morning. They used to insert the electric handle on my finger and I was electrocuted until I lost consciousness. In addition to the baton which is a group of sticks, with barbed wire or iron placed between them, I was beaten on all parts of my body until blood came out of my body. My left foot was broken. During the first four months I was interrogated nine times, while I was tied and hung on the wall for hours.

I was also tortured in the Chinese way. They put a bowl over my head and poured cold water inside it and left it dripping on my head from nine o'clock at night until five o'clock in the morning. It damaged my nerves movement and I could not return to my normal state until after my kidnapped friends massaged me for 3 days. Two years after I was kidnapped, I was released in an exchange deal.



Documentation of the released abducted, Rami- name changed, audio-visually in the association office, Taiz, on 05-01-2020

Jaber, real name changed (34 years), Worker

I was kidnapped on 11/1/2017 from the street in the Al-Hawban area when I was returning from work at ten in the morning by gunmen belonging to the Houthi group and they took me directly to As-Saleh Prison and put me in a solitary room, while I was blindfolded.

They started interrogating me on my first day in prison, from eight in the evening until five in the morning. As I was being interrogated while I was blindfolded and handcuffed in the back, they charged me with the known accusation that I am ISIS and I refused this accusation. They wanted to force me to confess, so they threatened me. If I do not confess to the charges against me, I will be transferred to a prison in Sana'a and would be completely hidden. One of them was stepping on my hand from the cuffs, and climbing over my back, to the point that the restraints' blades entered my hand and my hand got twisted for about two months. I could not move it.

The next day, at the same time as the first investigation, they summoned me and began to press charges again, and when I denied the accusation, they brought a plastic bag and inserted my head in it and tied it tightly until I lost my breath, and they hit me on the head, all this while I was blindfolded and handcuffed. On the third day, they interrogated me again from 6:00 pm in the evening until 03:00 am in the morning, during which I was tortured with a light electric shock. When I refused to confess, they brought the generator, put the electric cable into it and electrocuted me.



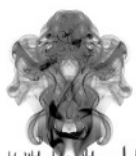
Muhannad Salem – real name changed

The victim was travelling from Al-Baydha governorate to Taiz city to attend his brother's wedding. He was kidnapped at Mawiyah crossroads at 11:00 pm at night on 1/15/2018. He was taken to As-Saleh prison, and upon interrogation with him, the investigator was unable to open one of the files in his mobile phone. So, they blindfolded him and placed the cuff on his hands and tied it. On the outside door of the apartment from 11:00 pm until the afternoon of the next day without eating, drinking, or even entering the bathroom, which led to his mouth cracking and swelling of his feet and hand,

After that, every night, he was interrogated and beaten with electricity, as well as submerging his head in a bowl full of water for long periods of time, beating the feet and placing the block (bricks used in construction) over his fingers, and he was climbed onto the roof of the building and threatened to throw him down.

Loua'i, real name changed (30 years), an accountant

The Houthis kidnapped him from his workplace at al-Hawban Painting Factory on 5/3/2018 and was hidden for a month. He was interrogated five times, for up to four hours. The victim says: "They tied my hands, hung me on the wall for three days, and hit the back of my head with a bottle of ice water until it bled blood from my nose. They drip cold water on my head for two hours, and put me in 'a cooker' very narrow room having meter by meter space. They gave me electric shocks. I was tortured without mercy to force me to say I am ISIS and to give them the names of my friends. Loua'i was released on the exchange after he became paraplegic as a result of the torture he had endured in his detention. (After I got out of As-Saleh prison, I wanted to go to the civil status to obtain a new birth certificate, because at this moment I was re-born again)



The documentation was carried out with the released, Loua'i (name changed), at the Association's office, Taiz, on December 25, 2019

Wael - name changed (40 years) - a teacher

The victim says: “On Saturday at 11 Am, on 7/16/2017, while I was walking in the street in al-Hawban area in the Taiz governorate, four armed men from the Houthi group were masked. They took me in a Santa Fe car to As-Saleh prison while I was blindfolded. They put me in a single room and began to interrogate with me, insult and scold me. They accused me of being a monitor for the coalition and working for the interests of the legitimate government. They also accused me that I formed a monitoring cell inside al-Hawban to work for the coalition.

I was interrogated while I was blindfolded, and when I denied the fabricated charges, they tortured me with batons and slapped me on the face successively. They used electric shocks on my tongue, neck and feet until I fainted. While I was still blindfolded, they continued to beat me until blood drips from my toes. The investigation continued with me in this way for two days. After that they brought me to cooker room for a whole week. They wanted me to confess names being involved to a certain group and I knew nothing about at all. They took me out of cooker room for two hours to interrogate with me. After the investigation was completed, they poured cold water on me in very cold days and put me back into the pressure again with my wet clothes without matters or blanket.

A week after I was put in cooker room, they put me in an apartment called Aden, due to its high temperature. The room was dark and there was no air. So, all of us got dermatological problems because of the badness of the apartment we were in and the lack of exposure to the sun. I and some of the detainees in the room got sick with scabies. We held two days food strike to protest against the bad conditions of the detention room in order to change it. They did not respond to our hunger strike, but rather punished us with severe beatings, scolds and insults.

Documentation of Wael's case was carried out in the Association office, Taiz, on 23-12-2019.



I was kept detained in this apartment until December, 19, 2019, the date of my release. After I left As-Saleh prison, I wanted to go to the Civil Affairs Authority to obtain a new birth certificate, because at this point I was re-born again.

Esam Badr - name changed (34 years) - a pharmacist.

The victim recounts: “While I was on my way to the al-Wazi’yah area in Taiz governorate, gunmen from the Houthi group stopped me at a checkpoint on June 23, 2016. They took my car, and I was held at the point for three days, after which I was transferred to As-Saleh prison and was placed in a solitary prison, which is a narrow room. The door and the windows of the detention room were closed. So I was summoned to interrogate on the accusation that I was an agent working with the national resistance, I had killed a number of their members and other fabricated charges I had nothing to do with it.



They used all methods of violence with me, including beating, insulting, cursing, and hitting me with electric cables. Among the torture I was subjected to was that they used to tie my hands with a chain and hang me from the ceiling of the room for more than two hours until I felt parenthesis in my hands, which is a symptom of a stroke. They also used to undress and prick my body with needles. On some torture occasions they used the generator and connect it to my neck and teeth until some of my teeth were removed. After two years of my abduction in As-Saleh prison, I was transferred to al-Shamalia Prison in Dhamar governorate.

Documentation of the released Esam, name changed, took place audio-visually in the Association office-Taiz, on 03-07-2020



Saber – name changed.

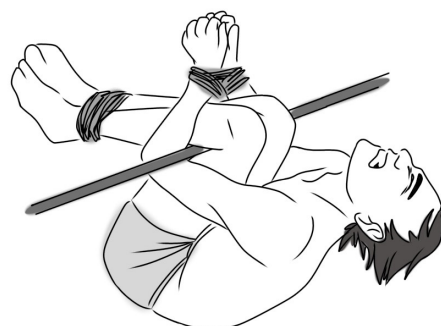
After he was released, Saber says: “After 27 days of being put in solitary confinement, they brought with me a young boy named Taher Abdul Rahman Al-Tayyeb, 14 years old, who was clamped with iron hooks and was very scared and cried severely. He told me that they accused him of driving with his motorcycle one of their kidnapped accused of being an ISIS. They hit him on the face until his cheeks swollen and blood flowed from his mouth. Whenever the child heard the sound of feet heading towards the room in which we were detained, he feels so scared that his hands became cold. He cried hard and said “I want my mother and father” and hides himself behind me and says, “They will kill me uncle, they beat us.”

Because of the chains he was clenched with, his hands were swollen, wounded, and blood was coming out of them. He remained kidnapped for four months, then they took him to Sana’a for ten days. When I asked them about Taher, the jailers told me that they sent him to take a cultural course. They released him from prison thereafter.

Ali - name changed (43 years) - a teacher

The victim says: “I was kidnapped by a security campaign consisting of ten military vehicles. They took me in front of my family on the street.

The first thing they brought me to the prison they put me in a solitary prison, which is a dark room and the floor is full of dirt and the smell is unbearable,



Audio recorded testimony of he released detainee, Saber, on 4-07-2020

Audio-visual documentation of Ali (name change) was conducted in the Association office on 21-09-2019



and at twelve o'clock at night someone came and took me for interrogation and there they left me for half an hour without speaking or saying anything while I was standing and blindfolded, and after half an hour he came One of them hit me on the back and told me we want you to say everything if you don't want to be insulted.

I was asked many questions like "Where are the weapons stores? What are your plans, ISIS, and where are your trenches? I told them I have nothing to do with what you mentioned. To my surprise, they tied my hands to my legs and inserted a "water pipe" under my knees. My hands were tied to the bottom of my feet. Two persons raised me. I don't know what was hanging me in this way. Then, they closed my mouth to prevent me from screaming. Whenever I screamed from the pain, they beat me up. My torture continued until dawn time. Then, they brought me back to the dark room that was originally a "bathroom" without water. The next day and at ten o'clock at night while I was blindfolded, they immediately started beating, insulting and cursing me. After that they brought a short "water pipe", raised my hands up, and inserted the pipe from behind my neck, tied my hands to the pipe and made my body hanging. Then they started beating me harshly. They were three persons and they used to beat me on the stomach, leg, head and hand until I fell on the ground. They continued torturing and interrogating me until dawn prayer. On the third day, they interrogated again, and they asked me the same questions expecting me to confess. I denied knowing anything of their accusations. So they took a nail, hammered it in my feet and were threatening me that they would cut my feet with a saw if I don't confess their charges levelled against me. They brought the saw to my leg to frighten me. I was afraid in addition to the pain I was suffering from.



After three hours of interrogation, this time they brought me to an apartment with prisoners. My back was paining severely out of their torture. They left me for a week in that prison. After a week, they came and took me for interrogation again.

My cousin came to look for me. So, they detained him and were asking me: “What is your cousin’s role in your plans?” I told them: “There is no plan and no work links me to my cousin.” They threatened that they would hit me. They falsely said that my cousin has already admitted everything and that they wanted me to confess. But I found nothing to say except what I told them previously.

After that, they changed my detention location in the apartment to another apartment. My cousin remained detained for forty days and took him out after paying five hundred thousand riyals. They also caught another person from my village and beat him and tortured him until he confessed to baseless matters concerning me.

Visits were forbidden for me. The kidnapping of my cousin caused fear to my family, so they could not even ask about me. My family gave some Houthis an amount of five hundred thousand so that I would not be transferred to an unknown prison. Later, I was discharged in an exchange deal six months after my abduction.



Samir - name changed (35 years) - Labourer

I was kidnapped on January 27, 2017 at 2 am from a hotel in the Al-Barah area on a false accusation of debt. I was kidnapped by the supervisor, nicknamed Abu Ali Al-Shamiri. Two armed men took me to Maqbana court. I was hidden in the court for three days, after which their supervisor, known as Abu Kamil, came and took me to As-Saleh prison. When they brought me I was put in a meter by meter room called cooker for three days. There, they were interrogating me three times a day. The supervisor would come to take me to the interrogation room at twelve o'clock midnight in the third floor and the interrogation continues until four am in the morning. Upon interrogation they ask me about things of which I have no idea at all. I have been charged with accusations that are not related to me

They used to ask me: How many did you monitor? And for whom? Who are the individuals in your area who work against us? And when I refused the charges against me. They tortured me by beating, slapping, and electrocuting me. They, then, return me to cooker room without food or drink, and no ventilation or lighting.

The torture lasted for three days, and then I was taken to a room in which there were twenty-five detainees. This room was too narrow and could not accommodate everyone. Its space area was 3×3 . This lasted for seven months between interrogation, torture, and sometimes torture without investigation. On one of the interrogations, when I refused to confess to their false accusations, they tortured me and lifted me with a winch, which is a machine wrapped around a raised rope and tied to the fan ring in the roof, and then tied and lifted up like the hanged. I was left hanged that way for four hours, from one o'clock am until four in the morning.

Audio-visual documentation of the released abductee, Samir (name changed) in the office of the Association, Taiz.



Hamdi, real name changed. Worker in mobile accessories shop

I was kidnapped from Al-Khatib's shops on a Softail round in Al-Houban, Taiz city. They took me to the city of As-Saleh and detained me in the National Security Building known as Al-Kamil Building. I was held for about a month. Then they referred me for investigation by Al-Kamil, who accused me of spying for some resistance figures, followers of the legitimate government? I was repeatedly asked about my relationship with Yahya Al-Raimi, an officer in the national army of the legitimate government. I explained to him that I did not even know him. He made me stand on one leg from eight in the morning until three in the afternoon. Another person called Abu Laith was interrogating me. They forced me to speak in front of a camera to record a video of my alleged confessions. He removed the "cover" from my eyes and asked me "what do you see?" I said: "a camera". He said, "Now you will be photographed and acknowledge everything that was written in the paper if you want to come out". I asked him: "What should I confess?" He pointed to the paper with everything written on it. I was shocked by all the charges that were on written against me on the paper. Under threat I obeyed their orders and began mentioning my name. He said to me: "Say you belong to al-Islah party (the Reform Party is a major Yemeni political party). I told him that I am not a member of al-Islah party. He said, whatever your affiliation, you must admit that you are a member of al-Islah party. Among the other charges written in the paper against me are that I was a monitor with the Popular Committees against Houthis and that I was working for the enemy mercenaries.

On 26-12—2019, audio-visual recording was documented with the released detainee, Hamdi, (name changed) in the office of the Association.

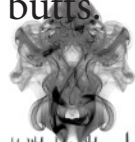


Othman Nasser – real name changed

I was kidnapped from Taiz governorate at the checkpoint of Haifan district by Houthi supervisors nicknamed Abu Faris and Al-Sharmani on the 14th of April 2016, when I was heading to my family. They took me on a military vehicle. Four of their members were armed with weapons and the vehicle was driven at a crazy speed. I asked them where were they taking me? But I did not find an answer except insults. When we arrived at As-Saleh prison late at night, it was completely dark and I did not know that this is As-Saleh prison. They took me out of the vehicle and around the guard, and their leader Abu Wasim was next to them threatening me with weapons and telling me: I will empty it (the gun shots) in your stomach and break your legs.

Then I was taken to a room. They took all my possessions, including my personal and family IDs, the sums of money that were in my pocket, and left me in this room for an hour. Until it was two o'clock in the morning, a detective named Abu Nasr came with a stick and an electric stun gun. He started pushing me to the ground and put my forehead on the ground, handcuffed my hands and lifted them to my back. He also put a concrete stone on my back to break it or break the spine while I was blindfolded. I remained in this situation for an hour. Then he told me: “because you are from Taiz, you will be subjected to all kinds of torture.

Then he returned to the investigation and told me “what is your name? What do you do? What are the activities that you do?” I told him: “I am a normal citizen who was kidnapped by you from the street.” So the interrogator got angry and started hitting me with a stick in the head and back, crushing me on the ground and putting concrete blocks on my back. And if I moved, he would break my spine, while I was in this condition on the ground, he would investigate me, and when I did not confess what he wanted, he would beat me with all his might and the children around him would hit me with rifle butts.



Audio-visual documentation of the released, Othman, name changed, was conducted in the association office, on 13-01-2020

On the second day, I was summoned to the interrogation room. The investigator, Abu Hamza, and next to him there were three heavily armed children. He gave me a paper and a pen and said to me: Write your confessions. I told him: “What do you want me to confess to you?” He said: Write that you are seized suspected of earning from the aggression (he means the Saudi coalition) and that you are fighting with them. I asked him “where I am and why did you kidnap me? He said to me: You are in al-Salih and insulted me in hurtful speech, took a heavy stick and hit me while the children around him were beating me. One of them hit me with a stick, the second opened a weapon to frighten me, and the third hit me with the butts of the weapon on my body. Thereafter I said to him: “What do you want me to say, and I will confess to everything you want in order to stop torturing me. Or else, investigate with me morally, in a high legal manner according to law, custom, religion and morals?

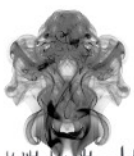
Then the interrogator took the electric stun gun and started tormenting me and put the electric stun gun all over my body with the head, the back and the rest of my body. After that he put my forehead on the ground with my hands tied to the back for a period of more than an hour. If I fell, he brought me back to the same movement and place. After this torture, my whole body was in pain. He said to me: “Lift your legs up and your head down” and I stayed like this for an hour. I felt heaviness in my eyes and ears, as if all of my body blood had spilled out.



Then one of their supervisors called Abu Muhammad, entered at the time of beating me. He opened the weapon, directed to me and said “I will kill you”. Then they brought me back to the ISIS apartment as they call it. All my body was dripping of blood and fractures on my arm. My molar was broken as a result of a beating me with the back of the weapon on my cheek. I could not sleep because of the pain, so I asked the gatekeeper to ask me for a doctor or even an aspirin Or soothing, so they refused and bandaged my wounds, my kidnapped friends, then called me two days later and interrogated with me, then they brought me back to al-Thaqta, which is a narrow room of a meter by meter and no ventilation or lighting. I left it for two hours, and then I was taken out of it.

Radwan Al-Mujahid (25 years old) undergraduate student

I was kidnapped from Taiz governorate, behind Al-Hamad Hospital, on 3/6/2016, while I was leaving Taiz city, heading to Sana’a, the capital to complete my final term exam of my last year of my studies in the College of Administrative Sciences, Department of Marketing, because Taiz University was closed at that time.



I was held in one of the houses there from the morning until 12:00 midnight. There were other detainees in that house. At night, there was a military clash in the area. So we were transferred to al-Qasr crossroad. They kept us there until someone came to receive us and take us to the automated bakery that transferred into a detain centre by the Houthis group which maintained the place to detain its opponents. We stayed there till the morning. Another person came around 9 a.m. and took us to the al-Thelaya police station. There we stayed until the night, after which armed people came and took us to the city of As-Saleh. I stayed there for about 3 months, during which I was subjected to psychological and physical torture, beatings with hands, electric wires and electric shocks. The place was lacking hygiene, the shortage of water, the medicine was not offered, food was not enough for us to be satiated. It only keeps us survive.

was held in an apartment where there were mentally disturbed people. It caused psychological torture for us. After 17 days I was transferred to another apartment they called ISIS apartment. I stayed there for more than two months. My family searched for me everywhere and paid money to find me out, but in vain.

Days passed, and in a night, news came that we would go out in an exchange deal. They took us at midnight. We were about 78 people. They handcuffed our hands, and the buses windows were covered with curtains. We did not see anything, but we were shocked when we arrived that we were transferred to a new prison in Dhamar. We knew later that it is the Community College in Dhamar.

Redhwan (name changed) was interviewed audio-visually in the Association office, Taiz, in April-2018



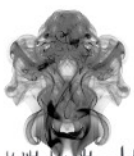
B- Ill-treatment:

The administrations of prison and detention centres practice beating and ill-treatment as a means of violating and humiliating the dignity of the kidnapped. They further verbally insult and abuse the abductees, which greatly affects their psyche during and after the kidnapping period. The jailers use different means of beating in order to silence the detained, kidnapped and abductees from demanding their natural rights of improving meals, providing safe drinking water and demanding medical treatment; or as a punishment for their rebellion, and protest against the illegal and inhuman measures in the prison.

From the first moment they arrive at As-Saleh City Prison, the detainees are subjected to harsh treatment by beating them severely on all parts of their bodies and are extorted and confiscated all the money they carry with them. Detainees are starved and neglected. Their circumstances in the detention centres are hard to believe. They are deprived of exposure to sunlight, good ventilation, cooling in summer times, and heating in winter during their detention.

Yusuf – real name changed (18 years) - Student

I was kidnapped on July 14, 2017 from the city of Taiz, Al-Hawban area. I was 14 years old at the time. I was working in a mobile shop. Two masked people in civilian clothes came and took all the money and my cell phone that I had and took me to As-Saleh prison. There, I was placed in solitary confinement for a week. They interrogated with me, torturing me using of beatings and torture with electric cables in order to extort information. I was accused of being affiliated to ISIS and that I was monitoring and identifying sites in favour of the resistance.



After one week passed, they brought me into an apartment called the ISIS apartment. Their torture and ill-treatment continued. We were deprived of food except for something very small that was given to us in order to keep us alive. We used to tie empty bottles of water on our stomachs so as to bear the intensity of hunger and could sleep. We also decided to fast for four months so that the food that was provided to us would suffice us until sunset time. When they came to know of our fasting, they reduced the amount of food that was given to us. They used to come to us after midnight while we were asleep. They used to beat us severely and pour cold water on us. I remained hidden from my family. I did not communicate with my family for two years until one day I could contact them and tell them where I was being held, after which my father would come to As-Saleh prison asking them to see me while they refused it. They assaulted my father insulting and insulting him and threatening him that if he came back to them, they would cut me into pieces and send me to him, and my father had a stroke due to what he suffered from the prison officials' dealings with him. My family was finally allowed to visit me after many obstacles they faced. Houthis took the things that my family brought for me, including clothes and food. They only left a small thing to me. My family visit for me lasted only for two minutes while Houthis were next to us. Houthis asked my family for two million riyals in exchange for my release, but I was not released. I continued in detention for four years, subjected to various types of torture and other violations till my release on 3/26/2020.

Documentation with the released abductee, Yusuf's (name changed) audio-visually in the Association office, Taiz on 09-09-2020



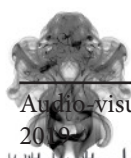
Walid Hassan - Name changed

Walid recollects: “We always suffered from ill-treatment. The jailers used to come to us late at night and wake us from sleep. One of the elderly kidnapped was with us. He was sixty years old. The jailers used to enter into the room. If jailer found this elderly person sleeping, he used to kick him, drag him into the apartment hall, beat him and tortured him with electricity. On one occasion, Houthi supervisor came and found this elderly kidnapped reading the Qur’an. He took the Qur’an from his hand and then hit him with a stick, kicked him and electrocuted him. This elderly person was suffering from kidney and heart pain due to torture.

Likewise, among the painful incidents I witnessed in the jail is that one of our kidnapped friends was cruelly hit in front of our eyes though was suffering from heart disease. They hit him with a stick on the back of the head and he fainted. We were helpless and could not prevent the torture he was subjected to in front of us.

Shehab - name changed

The food that was served to us most of the time was not well cooked. We were suffering from hunger because they used to reduce our daily meals to the point that one yoghurt box was given to eight people, the soap was shared by 6 people, and the shaving machine is also shared by us.



Audio-visual documentation of the release waleed (Name changed) in the association office on 24-12-2019

Amjad - name changed

One night, Abu Laith, [jail supervisor] kicked the door of our apartment at us at night. Every one of us was on his bed. He shouted: “Who was looking out of the window?” We told him “there is no one. We are all in our places.” so he said: “I will go out and after half an hour I will return to recognize who was looking out of the window”. Indeed he returned after half an hour and repeated his question and our answer was the same. He shouted for us all to go outside the apartment and then asked us to collect our mattresses to one place. He ordered us to do standing and sitting exercise from ten in the evening until three in the morning. Everyone suffered from a nervous tension that we lasted for a week. They were not satisfied with that. They further prevented us from three meals. Due to the severity of pain of the exercise, we forgot our hunger.

We were subjected to another collective torture. It was because of the same supervisor who entered on us in the apartment and found a “shawl” that its owner had hung up to dry after washing it. The Houhi supervisor, nicknamed Abu Laith, shouted: “Whose shawl is this? One of the kidnapped raised his hand to answer him and tell him who the shawl owner was. The hand of the so-called Abu Laith rigidly pulled the detainee outside and started to slapping, hitting and kicking him. He was hardly able to speak or articulate the name of the owner of the shawl. This supervisor came back again to us and shouted: “Where’s so-and-so?” He took him in the same way and brutally hit and kicked him in front of all of us.



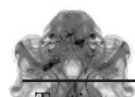
Sami – real name changed

On one occasion, I knocked on the door and called the supervisor to help the kidnapped Ibrahim al-Salahi - who died as a result of their medical negligence and refusal, to help him. They handcuffed my hands and threw me from the top of the building stairs until I reached the bottom and suffered severe injuries and bruise in my right and left ribs. As a result of this, I was bleeding in the kidneys to a degree that I was blood urinating was for two weeks. I, then, was put into a closed room, and was not being treated or given any medical care.

We suffered from ill-treatment, psychological and physical torture, fear, starvation, disease and lack of hygiene. I was subjected to enforced disappearance for a period of one year and seven months. I used to ask prison supervisors to communicate with my family to assure them about me but they refused till a committee came by the Houthis and allowed us to communicate with our families. We agreed in front of the committee to have ten minutes period for each detainee to speak to our families. But the supervisor gave me the phone and said: "Speak with your family for only three minutes" after which they took the phone from me.

Salem – Real name changed

On one occasion, while my fellow kidnapped and I were gathered, we were playing to entertain ourselves. One of the prison supervisors entered the prison, so the Houthi gunmen lined us up in a school column and made our faces facing the wall and hit us with wooden sticks on our backs. One of our colleagues fell on his head and had his head broken and blood spilled. They had to treat him and sew him with seven stitches. We were also forced to hear lectures about the Shiite sect and doctrine.



Testimony of the released Sami (a name changed) was recorded on 1/5/2020, in Taiz Association office
The testimony of the released Salem (real name changed) was taken at the Association's office -Taiz on

Elyas - Real name changed

Among the collective torture and ill-treatment that we were subjected to in As-Saleh prison is that the guards would force us to lie on our stomachs and then beat us with iron chains until blood drips from us. After that, they put salt on our wounds, adding pain to our injuries. They also used to enter into our rooms at midnights while we were asleep, beat us for no reason and put their feet on our necks. This torture lasted for forty-five continuous days. At other times, they used to take us to the roof of the building, put off our clothes except underwear, and pouring cold water on us until we were almost frozen from the cold.

The testimony of the released Elyas (name changed) on December 26, 2019



C- Sexual violence:

Some of the abductees in As-Saleh prison were subjected to sexual torture during interrogation in order to pressure them to extract their confessions. As a result of this torture, some of them were affected after their release to the point of losing the ability to have children, in addition to suffering severe mental disorders. The Association documented several cases of sexual torture, including those who were severely beaten on sensitive areas. There were those who had bottles of water hung on his testicles, and others were forced to sit on what is called (ash-shoula - cooker) while it is very hot until their genitals were burned.

Ashraf, name changed (34 years), worker

On the sixth day of my kidnapping, they took me for interrogation. After they entered the interrogation room, everyone kept silent as if there had been no one in the room for an hour. I was standing blindfolded. After that I heard a whisper among them. Three of them got up and threw me on my back on the ground. While I was handcuffed, they asked me “how many children do I have?” “Three”, I said. They said: “Are you not aspired to have more, because if you get out of here you will get half a man out unless you give us the required speech! At that time, someone put his foot on my genitals and pressed hard. I felt extreme intense pain and was screaming loudly from the intensity of the pain. One of them was holding my hand and the other was overexcited so that I could not resist. At that moment, I told them: “Write all you want, and I will sign and fingerprint. They forced me sign on a blank piece of paper so they write what they wanted on it. They repeated that twice after that. They threaten and convinced me that I am a criminal and that my confession is documented. I was detained and force disappeared for twenty five days. When my father came to inquire about me, they denied any such name in my detention place.

Documentation of the released abductee, Ashraf (name changed) audio-visually in the Association office/Taiz, on 17-06-2019

D- Psychological Torture:

Among the methods of psychological torture used by the Houthis on the kidnapped civilians in As-Saleh city prison are as follows:

- Threatening to kill and deceiving the execution of the kidnapped person, by placing a gun on the chest or head of the kidnapped person, while another person shoots in the air so that it appears at first glance as if he had shot this kidnapped person.
- Detention of the kidnapped civilians with the insane and mentally-ill detainees in the same cell.
- Putting the abductees in a room with a corpse of dead body.

One of the released said: A person died inside As-Saleh prison. After his death, the Houthis put his body in a room. Every detainee does not respond to what they want, they keep him next to this corpse as punishment. This causes psychological pressure on the kidnapped, in addition to the smell of the corpse that fills the place. After the corpse gets completely dissolved, they take it and bury it in the prison yards.

Maher - real name changed (34 years) - worker

When I refused to confess to the accusations they levelled against me, they took me to the roof of the building on the fifth floor while I was handcuffed and legged, and blindfolded. One of the kidnapers used to say to the other, “Throw him from the edge of the roof to the bottom, and we will say that he tried to escape and committed suicide.” At that moment I began to feel afraid on my life. They began to lower me a little from the edge of the roof while holding my hands. They, then, removed the cover from my eyes. I was gazing down and see death in front of me at that moment. One of them said: Come up, and we will see whether he will confess or not. Else we will transfer him to the military prison in Sana’a.



After that they raised me. I said to them “What do you want me to admit? I’m just a worker, I don’t have anything to do with anyone.” They said “Give us the names of people who work with the aggression. I told them: “Do I confess to a lie?” They said “Yes, confess even a lie.” The most important thing is that you admit and sign. We will video record you while you confess no matter whether it’s authentic or not.

Yunus - name changed (60 years) - a school principal

I received a call from the school master of the Martyr Mohammed Senan on 2/8/2017 while I was working at the school. I was asked to come to the Al-Barah area, Maqbana district, Taiz city, claiming to sign some statements. I sent my cousin on my behalf because of my illness. But they refused and insisted that I should come myself to them. So I went. Upon my arrival to the Martyr Mohammed Sinan School, I realized that I had been deceived, as the school director, along with armed men, kidnapped me and drove me to the security zone in Al-Barah, Maqabneh District and took all my papers, seals related to the school and all that was with me. They, then, took me to As-Saleh prison. Upon my arrival, I asked them to call my family but they refused. They insulted and accused me that I am an ISIS member. Four days after my detention, they asked me to be interrogated while blindfolded. The accusations against me during the investigation were that I was an ISIS, I was inciting people against them in the mosque as I have been the Imam of the mosque in my area, and that I was monitoring them.

During the investigation they threatened me with death. They said they would crucify me, took me to the roof of the building and threatened me that they would throw me from the top of the building. I was very afraid because I am a man in my sixties and I was suffering from heart disease. They were pouring cold water on my head. Five days after my detention, they allowed me to call my family, but I was not allowed to tell them where I was being held. After this contact, I remained hidden and forbidden from communicating with my family for a year and three months.

Documentation of the released abductee, Yunus, (name changed) recorded in the Association office,
Taiz, on 25-12-2019

They brought me back to the investigation after nine months of my detention. They accused me with the same previous charges. I signed papers that include my confession to what they accuse me of, even though I have nothing to do with those charges, but to avoid torture because I cannot endure it due to my old age, my heart disease and pressure. I have been detained for more than Two years. I was released on December 19, 2019.

Khaled - a pseudonym (38 years) - journalist

A group of Houthis, led by Kamil, occupied my house in Taiz, Al-Hawban area, on 2/4/2016. They searched the house, took my laptop and cell phone, took me to As-Saleh prison, and placed me in solitary confinement for 17 days. After four days of my detention, I contacted my family in a hidden way and told them where I was being held. On the fifth day of my detention, I was interrogated and was asked about some of my posts on Facebook and why I write posts against them? During the interrogation, I was threatened with burning if I don't admit that I was monitoring, coordinating with the national resistance and things that I had nothing to do with.

Four months and twenty days after my detention, I was summoned for interrogation. This time, I was interrogated, and was being beaten with all force at the same time by "Mohammed an-Naqib" who was described as an investigation officer. He blindfolded me when investigating with me. He brutally beat me until my scream was heard by the prisoners in their wards. He closed my mouth with his hands to prevent me from screaming. After that, he brought me down to the basement and completed the rest of the investigation and torture. They, then, summoned me and asked me to speak on camera and confess things that I did not do. If I missed any word, they would stop recording and hit me to say all the words written on paper. I was kidnapped for three years. I went out in an exchange deal thereafter.

Attestation of the released detainee, Khlaed (name changed) was documented in the Association office, Taiz, on 25-12-2019



Ammar - name changed

I was taken to the roof of the building on the fifth floor, blindfolded. They threaten that they would throw me down and leave me in the middle of the roof to delude me that I am on the edge of the roof. Then they push me hard until it seems to me that I would fall down. This situation still affects me so much that it accompanies me in my dreams.

Ma'moun – name changed (32 years) - teacher

I was in As-Saleh Detention Centre, apartment no. 14. One night ten detained people were brought from the apartment next to us, no. 13. Among them was Fahmi al-Shara'bi, one of the kidnapped, who seemed to be a semi-mentally ill. According to the statements of his colleagues, he entered prison while he was safe and sound. When he was kidnapped from Ar-Raheda district, Taiz governorate, he was carrying a laptop computer. During his interrogation, he was accused of being an aviation observer who was following Sheikh Hamoud al-Mikhlaifi (the leader of the national resistance in Taiz).

He was interrogated more than once and was threatened with death and the kidnapping of his wife and family. He often used to tell us “our women are in the apartment below”. It seems that the Houthis, during their interrogation with him threatened him that his wife and his family were being held in prison. His condition developed drastically. He launched food strike. We tried repeatedly to prevent him from the strike and persuade him to eat and drink, but he refused. He remained in this condition for a whole week, without eating or drinking. This caused to cracks on his mouth, ulcers, yellowing in his face, weakness in his body, and the deterioration of his health condition. Fahmi was taken out of the detention apartment in which we were kept in a completely mentally status. He was carried in a stretcher; unable to move.

Documentation of the released Ammar, (name changed), was recorded audio-visually in the Associations' office in Taiz on 05-01-2020

Ammoun testimony was collected from the released Ma'moun (name changed) in the Association office, Taiz, on 06-7-2020

Shawqi Al-Khulaidi (32 years), undergraduate student

On Monday the date 2016-8-22 I was travelling to Sana'a city to do my university exams on August 22, 2016. However, armed men in al-Ayyar point (Al-Barh region - Maqbana district, Taiz governorate), kidnapped me on the accusation that I was an ISIS follower. They took me to Maqbana court prison in the Al-Kamb area. On the next day, I was transferred to As-Saleh City Prison. During my transfer they handcuffed and blindfolded my eyes. My body, including my face, was completely covered with a socket (a thick plastic cover) so I could not breathe.

When I arrived at As-Saleh prison, I was greeted with punches, slaps, insults and abuses. I was very shocked why do they treat me like this? I entered As-Saleh prison at 4 p.m. Two hours after entering the prison, they called my name and asked me to answer one of the security officers from the window. I went and asked them if I was released? One of them pulled my hair and banged my head with the iron grills until blood flowed from my face. They took more than one picture for me and then sent me back to my place. I was crying from the intensity of pain while blood was on my face.

They called my name again at one o'clock midnight for investigation. I was left for half an hour without an investigation. Silence prevailed the situation. After that the psychological and physical torture began. The interrogator used to tell me "Confess, you ISIS." He raised the weapon on me and there were remaining of blood on the wall. The interrogator told me: "See these are traces of blood for someone we had interrogated before you. He refused to confess, so we killed him." I told him "I am an engineering student, I am a civil person, I have nothing to do with politics, and I have been in Sana'a for 4 years." Then he put my head on the ground and raised my legs up. This continued until blood flowed from my nose. Then I signed papers, not knowing what they were, as I was blindfolded. I was kept in the general prison for a month, after which I was transferred to the ISIS apartment. I was transferred to the Community College Prison in Dhamar Governorate later on. I was lastly released in an exchanged deal for a prisoner of war.

Attestation of the released detainee Shawqi, name changed, was recorded in the Association office, Taiz, in April, 2018



Salah – name changed (19 years) - student

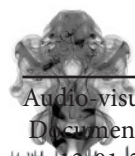
I was kidnapped and taken to the Houthi headquarters, which is located behind the Al-Jaashani refrigerator, in Al-Hawban area, Salh district in Taiz governorate. They interrogated me for a month and forced me to confess to things that I had not committed. They threatened to transfer me to As-Saleh prison if I did not confess. Indeed, I was transferred to As-Saleh prison at night and interrogated with me there. When I refused to confess what they wanted, they put me in a dark apartment with mentally ill persons. The smell was very stinky, and the most terrible thing I saw was a swollen corpse that began to decompose. I was horribly terrified. The next day I was taken out of that place and transferred to another cell. After three months, I was transferred to the Community College Prison in Dhamar Governorate.

The Association listened to a number of released persons who spoke about their torture in detention along with the fear and horror they suffered, to the extent that, they are still suffering psychologically to this day. The association also tried to find out the identity of the corpse and know the cause of its death but in vain.

Saddam – real name changed (45 years) - worker

(Diwan ash- Sheikh) Master room of Boss

When I refused to confess to the accusations levelled against me during the investigation, the interrogator told them “Take this preacher to the master room of “sheikhs”. They took me to this apartment which full of dirt and human waste because there are about sixty madmen. All of them were



Audio-visual testimony of the release, Salah, was conducted in the association office, Taiz, on 25-12-2019
Documentation of the released saddam (name changed) took place in the association office, Taiz, on

naked and without clothes. Some of them bowed his head were having their heads bowed, and some of them were having their hands broken. When I entered this apartment, ten of those naked detainee madmen met me and beat me. I could not resist them. The intent of the jailers to put me among the insane detainees in this apartment was to get insane out of it like them, mentally ill, or at least mentally handicapped. These madmen were playing with their waste and splashing with bottles full of their urine. They came to my side and were wiping the wall with their dirt and debris. I stayed in this apartment from two o'clock after midnight till twelve o'clock at noon without food or drink, and there was no airing or lighting.

Then I called the prison official to open for me. The gatekeeper heard me and said "what do you want?" I said to him "Why am I here?" He told me "Am I not crazy?" I said to him "I am not crazy, I am in all my mental strength." He said to me "who brought you to this apartment?" I told him "your supervisor Abu Nasr". Then he went to them, told them about my case, and came back to me at exactly one o'clock in the afternoon. He opened the door for me and I was transferred to another detention place.

Rayyan- real name changed

On one of my interrogations, they accused me of being and affiliated to ISIS and that I was monitoring them for the coalition. When I denied the charges against me, they threatened to kill me. They fired bullets near my ears to scare me while I was blindfolded. I thought that the bullet was aimed at me. I was terribly terrified.



E- Medical Negligence

The Abductees' Mothers Association has put together a list of kidnapped and detainee patients who are detained in As-Saleh City Prison and a number of other prisons in the hands of local and international organizations, and urged them to speedily release these abductees patients before it becomes too late. The Association held the Houthi group the full responsibility for the safety and lives of the detained patients.

According to the testimonies of those released from As-Saleh prison, if they became ill, the guards would give them yellow pills that they did not know what it was, except that it was given to all diseases equally without conducting any medical tests. One of the abductees mentioned "We were not spared from beatings and torture if we said that we needed medicine, water, or ventilation." Many infectious diseases have spread without taking any measures to save the sick kidnapped from the prison administration.

One of those released from As-Saleh prison states that a small room for the diagnosis of the patients was launched in the last months of 2019. "When they put me in prison, I was healthy, not complaining any disease. When I came out, I was infected with the liver cirrhosis virus." The released added.

Sanad - Real name changed (32 years) – an employee

I was invited to lunch at the house of one of the Houthis, with whom I maintain a strong bond of friendship. Among the invited people was one of the fanatics of the Houthi group. He knew that I oppose the Houthi group's way of managing the country. He kidnapped me at gunpoint and took me to

Testimony of the released Sanad (name changed) was recorded audio-visually in the association of
fida' on 21-10-2019

the As-Saleh city prison. During my imprisonment, I was interrogated 12 times and I was charged with charges that I have nothing to do with, such as my coordination with the coalition, monitoring and recording for the national resistance and so on. My hands were tied, my eyes were covered, I was put into an empty water barrel, and was almost suffocating from being locked inside. I was held in solitary confinement for 17 days. They used to give me only one meal during the whole day.

During the investigation, I was injected with a needle I don't know what it was. I went into an unconsciousness state due to needles. They brought me to Ar-Rif'ai Hospital. Due to the deterioration of my health, the hospital refused receiving me. I was transferred to Al-Thawra Hospital in Ibb governorate. After the tests were carried out, they told me that I had liver cirrhosis, though I was healthy and well and did not suffer from any disease before I entered prison. My father was trying to get me out by paying sums of money, but they refused. Because of his grief for me, he suffered a heart attack. As a result, he passed away while I was in prison. I did not know about my father's death except after my release from the jail with ransom of one million Yemeni rials.

Saber - name changed (43 years) - A teacher

While I was doing my job in the school where I work as a teacher in Al-Hawban area, on 5/6/2017, two Houthi gunmen came to me with a third person named Kamil, who is said to be the director of national security in As-Saleh prison. They took me to a Prado car possessed by Kamil. They tied my hands to the back while I was blindfolded, and took all my money,



mobiles and personal documents. When I reached to prison, they started interrogating with me. They called me in bad words, insulted and obscured me. They also beat me, accused me of recruiting young men and also cooperating with the “coalition”. They asked me to confess to these charges in a video, but I refused. At eleven o'clock at night, I was placed in a solitary confinement with closed windows and there was no airing. They continued to interrogate with me and use all means of torture, including beatings and electricity.

After that, they asked me to call my wife in order to give them phones belonging to me, even though I do not have phones other than the one that were seized from me with them during my kidnapping. So they went to my house, broke into it, terrified my family, and took the phones of my wife, daughter, my sister and her husband (my brother in law).

While they continued to beat and torture me, made me stand on one foot and beat it, although it was previously broken. They broke it again because their beatings were concentrated on it. I was screaming from pain and I asked them for a any pain killer to relieve some pain, but they refused to give me first aid or give me any medicine. I was suffering from the leukaemia, too. The condition of my feet increased worse day by day.



Documentation of the released Saber, name changed, was carried out audio-visually on 25-02-2020, in the association office, Taiz

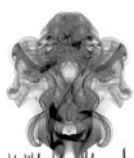
Then one called Abu Laith came to me and was slapping me on the face continuously until my face was swollen. He then moved to electric shock on my hands and feet. Shocking continued until I fainted. After that they transferred me to the cooker “a very narrow meter 1 square meter space without ventilation) for five hours. I was prevented from getting the medicine for four months respectively. My condition got worse, even though my brother used to send me medicines every month and pays 150,000 in return for delivering the medicines, medicine did not reach me. After that, they put me in solitary confinement, which is a very dark and closed room. As they continued to torture me, they forbade me to eat and drink for two days continuously. They, then, used to give me one meal a day only for 27 days. They brought me back again to al-Thaqghata (cooker) while I was handcuffed. I stayed for three days without food. My fatigue reached its end. So I accepted to be photographed and to say whatever they wanted, including admitting to things I hadn't done.

They gave me medicines and some food after video recording my sayings and brought me back to the solitary confinement. Because of the delay in the medicines, my health was seriously poor. I lost my movement permanently. So they brought me to Al-Rifai Hospital in Habban. They gave me a sedative injection only after which they brought me back to prison again, but to an apartment called Aden, which is a closed room having no windows, it was very hot, no light, no ventilation. In that small place, they held thirty kidnapped. Most of them suffer from asthma and respiratory problems due to the lack of airing and ventilation. Besides, this apartment was full of insects that cause rashes. I stayed in this apartment until I was released in the exchange deal with prisoners even though I am a civilian teacher.



One of those released detainees says:

I was suffering from arthritis and tonsillitis, and I was fainting from the severity of the pain and was given a medicine that I was told is a pain reliever, but the pain increased after I took that medicine. Majd (name changed) says “If we asked for treatment or ambulance, the jailer would tell us: Die, you the dwellers of Taiz. You are worth death than life”





Fourth: Financial Blackmailing

The Yemeni Law of Crimes and Punishments defines the crime of extortion in Article 313 as “Everything that intentionally causes person fear and harm in the same or any other person concerned with his affairs and makes him so with bad intent that he or any other person hand over any money or legal document or anything that he signs by signature or stamp that can be converted into a legal document against him. This means that the crime of extortion occurs by spreading fear in the soul of a person to harm him or harm another person whom he cares about and leads him to implement what the perpetrator requests. Therefore, extortion is a punishable crime by law. It is classified as a serious crime as it affects the stability and general tranquillity of society. Extortion and blackmailing are penalized for a time period that could extend into twelve years imprisonment.

The families of the kidnapped and detainees in As-Saleh prison are subjected to financial extortion in exchange of promises to release their relatives, find out their whereabouts, visit them and/or to allow their families to contact with them. Families are forced to sell their properties in order to save money for either prison supervisors or people affiliated with the Houthi movement.

The released Yaser (name changed) says

“my family did not know anything about me for five months of my disappearance. When I was allowed to contact with them, I was forced to pay a sum of money in order to



inform them of my detention in As-Saleh prison. My family was unable to visit me for two years of my detention in As-Saleh prison. The Houthis asked my family to pay a sum of one million Yemeni riyals in exchange for my release. Although my family paid the required amount, I was not released until two years and eight months later.

A father of the kidnapped person (Ahmed)

says that he travelled to Sana'a to follow up the release of his detained son, Ahmed with the officials from As-Saleh prison. Those officials asked him to pay a sum of one million Yemeni rials and his son would be released immediately so that the father would return to his home city, Taiz and his son would be home. He paid the amount and went back to find that his son is still detained whereas he was extorted the amount without any solution.

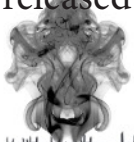
And one of those released said: (My father used to bring me some cake. I receive that cake in the form of crumbs and flakes. As for the money, they hand over half of the amount to me and they theft half of it. One time they took my father's personal weapon and told him to consider it as a gift for them. "Your son will be released this week", they further persuaded my father. A week passed, a month passed and two months passed but I was not released!" Later on, I was released after paying a ransom amount of seven hundred thousand Yemeni riyals.

A released named Raid (name changed) recollects:

"Two months after my kidnapping, my father paid an amount of one hundred and fifty thousand Yemenis to one of the prison officials on the promise that "post Ramadan (a month of fasting) your son will be with you". But my release has not been done. When my father came to demand the ransom money he paid to them, they detained him for two weeks.

Another released, Shehab, (name changed) says

"Houthis asked my father six million Yemeni riyals ransom to set me free off. My father paid the amount. But they did not keep their promises, and I was not released out.





Fifth: Prevention of Visits and Contacts with the Outer World

Article 30 of the Criminal Procedures Law states that “In addition to the rights granted to them in this law, prisoners are granted the following facilities:

- Meeting their families, relatives and friends.
- Receiving and responding to correspondences.
- Receiving and re-transferring the physical transfers.

The International Convention for the Protection from Enforced Disappearance of All People also affirmed: “Every person deprived of his liberty should obtain permission to contact with their family, their lawyer, or any other person of their choice and receive their visit.

Rule (58) of the Mandela Rules states: Prisoners are permitted, with the necessary supervision, to regularly communicate with their families and friends from time to time on intervals as follows:

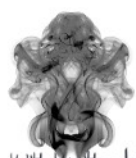
- A- Writing correspondence and all possible means of communication; using, electronic or digital means of communication... etc.
- B- Reception of the visits.

The monitoring team of the Abductees’ Mothers Association further listened to a few number of families of the kidnapped who were able to visit their sons in As-Saleh prison. Whereas most of the kidnapped and detainees held in As-Saleh prison were not allowed to receive their families for a visit to the prison at all, even though many of them detained for years in the prison without any visit.



The team also heard to a number of the released persons or their families who were subjected to abuse during the very short visits allowed for them by the prison administration. The families of the kidnapped and detained individuals bear the burdens and hardships of the distance and the difficult road due to the siege imposed on the Taiz governorate. They face many difficulties and obstacles from the checkpoints spread along the road on their way to visit their relatives in prison. These families may be subjected to financial extortion in order to be allowed to visit and see their detainees. The families of the kidnapped would be subjected to insults, abuse and scold by prison supervisors. After suffering and great difficulties, the visits were carried out in the yards of the prison building or rooms in one of the apartments. The meetings, if allowed, take place behind a metal mesh in one of the windows of the interrogation rooms. In addition to that, the visits take place without respect to the privacy and norms of visits. The meeting of the kidnapped with their families take place in the presence of the prison supervisors while the time of the visit does not exceed ten minutes in most cases.

However, because of the pressure exerted by the League in its stands and messages to the Red Cross and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, in addition to the efforts of a number of human rights organizations which supported the issue of the kidnapped circumstances; The situation of the visit has improved in recent years, particularly at the end of 2019 and 2020. Before that the visits of the kidnapped and detainees were not allowed for years in as –Saleh prison.



Mansour's mother says:

A year and a half after my son was kidnapped; I decided to bear the burdens of travel imposed on us by the siege in Taiz governorate. I travelled for five hours on a bumpy and terrifying road in order to visit my son. When I reached to as-Saleh prison, I told them: "I am Mansour's mother; I came to visit my son." They said that this woman is launching out protests against us and is talking about us in the media. We will torture her son and can never allow her to visit her son. I was crying so hard until I fell on the ground. I used to remember that my son was held in the prison in front of me, and I could not see him and my crying increased. I used to beg them while I cried appealing to them to let me look at my son even one look from afar. But they refused and I returned broken-heartedly. On the second attempt, I reached the gate of the jail. The soldier in front of the door called the prison superintendent and told him: "Mansour's mother came to visit her son" "Mansour's mother is not allowed to visit her son. She cannot visit her son. He is an ISIS", the supervisor of the prison replied. I told him "I no longer did go out in any demonstration nor did I speak to the media. They told the supervisor what I said, but he responded to them "Leave her in front of the door". They left me under the burning sun from nine in the morning until four in the evening. I was in front of the door refusing to go back without visiting my son. I had bought my son some of his needs of clothes and canned food for 120,000 Yemeni riyals. They took it from me and said that they would hand it over to my son.

And when they realized that I refused to go home before visiting my son, I was permitted to meet my son after 4 pm. The prison supervisor came to me and told me: "If you want us to release your son out, you have to

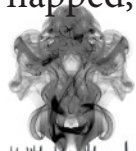


speak in front of the camera and we will publish your talk in the media that supports us. Just say that your son was working against us and monitoring and sending navigations for the enemies' flight. I refused and told him: "I am a mother, how do you want me to testify against my son and lie about my son. My son is a student who only knows the way to school, goes every day to school and returns home. You caught him from the street unjustly." To pressurize me more; they took my son out in front of me, hold him tightly by his clothes. When I saw my son on such condition, I told the supervisor to leave my son and I will speak all they want, but I will not really tell a lie to my son about anything."

They forced me to say that my son was not subjected to torture and we are allowed to visit him always. They threatened me if I did not speak to the camera, they would torture my son with the utmost suffering in front of my eyes. Then they forced my son in front of me to speak to the camera and say that he is being well-treated and he is not subjected to any torture. They, then, took me out and did not allow me hug my son. I went out with tearing eyes and broken heartedly on my son and what would happen to him.

Marwan – real name changed:

After a period of seven months of my kidnapping, I was allowed to call my family. They asked me to tell them to exchange me for a war "prisoner". I told them: "I am not a soldier, to exchange me a prisoner of war. I am just a civilian journalist." After three and half years had passed, they allowed me to see my family. This was my first family visit. I did not recognize my younger son until my family told me that it was my son. It was the first time I saw the sun since the day I was kidnapped, three and half years back.



Mousa – Name changed

My family was allowed to visit me after two years and three months of enforced disappearance to which I was subjected. I was allowed to meet my mother and my wife for fifteen minutes only while the supervisor of the prison was next to us. I could not speak freely. In this visit, I could not recognize my mother, as her features had changed a lot. She fell ill and her health deteriorated while she was looking for me. How much it hurt me when I learned that my mother had a stroke in the left side of her body because of her grief over me and because I was her only provider, as well as my wife and my seven children. They have had no one to support them after me. The time passed for us, and I was taken forcefully without farewell. My mother painfully cried and said, “Release my son, he is innocent. One day after my family visit, I was called to the investigation room and was brutally tortured with beating and electrocution.

(Asa’ad – name changed)

My family was finally allowed to visit me after many obstacles. They were insulted, obscured, and abused by the Houthi group members in prison. I stayed with my family for five minutes only in their visit. I begged them to add a few minutes and allow me sit with my family, but they refused. They told me that if I did not go out they would drag me in front of my family. They sent me back to the prison again and expelled my family who left me crying on the ill-treatment they were dealing with me.





Attachments

الرقم

التاريخ



الجمهورية اليمنية
وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية والعمل
رابطة أمهات المختطفين
Abductees Mothers Association

A Statement of Abductees' Mothers Association on the serious situation of the abductees in Taiz Governorate

The security situation has worsened in Taiz governorate during the past few days. The armed clashes have approached the areas where prisons and unofficial detention places are located in east , north and west of Taiz governorate , in which Houthi armed group is holding 427 of our abducted and forcibly disappeared sons. There are "40" unofficial places of detention which consist of residential buildings in As-Saleh city in Hauban, . northeast of Taiz governorate

The international community, the United Nations, international and humanitarian organizations, ICRC in the top with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights should unify their humanitarian efforts towards the cause of our sons who have been deprived of their right to freedom and a decent life for more than two years. We also want from them to put pressure to release our abducted and forcibly disappeared sons immediately without restrictions and conditions and to respect international law in conflict areas. Our sons face an unknown fate as a result of their detention in areas .close to armed clashes

We, in Abductees' Mothers Association, demand to make our abducted and forcibly disappeared sons far from armed conflicts and political bargains, as their cause is a .humanitarian issue. We call on their immediate and unconditional release

Issued by Abductees' Mothers Association

Sana'a .. 31 / January / 2018

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Abductees Mothers Association

Abductees Mothers Association rally statement in Taiz

There are dozens of official and secret unofficial prisons where Houthi armed group unlawfully holds hundreds of civilians at Houthi-controlled areas. Abducted civilians have been subjected, at these prisons, to inhuman torture for years. Alsaleh Prison at Al-Habwan area in Taiz is one of those prisons which has been turned by Houthis from commercial and residential building to prisons for hundreds of men and many women. The association has documented 156 abduction cases where victims have been held there until this day.

Many former abductees have been interviewed by the association and talked about the different types of torture they were subjected to at Alsaleh Prison. Alshawaya, the barbecue, is a type of torture where an abductee's hands and legs are tightly tied up and hang by long bar for hours in a pose similar to a barbecued animal. Many abductees have been tortured by fire where a blindfolded and shackled abductee is forced to sit on a heated up cooker.

We, abductees' mothers in Taiz, demand in our rally the United Nations to urgently find a fair resolution for our abducted and forcibly disappeared sons' cause, to keep their case away from political bargains and deals, and to immediately and unconditionally take actions to release them.

We call upon Yemeni legitimate government and human rights organizations to carry out their humanitarian duties regarding the cause of the abductees, and make the necessary efforts to highlight it as mothers and wives have been feeling let down for years.

Issued by Abductees' Mothers Association, Taiz February 6th, 2020

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Abductees Mothers Association

A rally statement of Abductees' Mothers Association in Taiz condemning the torture of an abductee that led to his death

With great sadness and sorrow, we, Abductees Mothers Association, received the news of the death of the released abductee "Nashwan Moqbel Saif" due to the torture he was subjected to inside the prisons of the Houthi armed group. He is from the marginalized group who had been abducted from a checkpoint in April 2017. He was taken to Al-Saleh prison for three months. Then he was transferred to Ibb governorate and released in December 2018. However, he continued to suffer from the effects of torture that he was subjected to in Houthi prisons during his abduction. He died last Monday, April 29, 2019. During his detention, he was subjected to severe torture as "electric shocks, beating the kidneys with iron tools, castration, and spraying him with burning materials, which caused severe wounds and sores. This led to the deterioration of his health condition, liver cirrhosis and kidney failure, as a result of infection, chronic dehydration and neglecting treatment of recurrent infections.

The Association monitored 12 cases of abduction, two cases died as a result of torture and four cases are still forcibly disappeared, whose fate is unknown till today .

We, Abductees Mothers Association, hold the Houthi armed group full responsibility for the death of the abductee "Nashwan Moqbel Saif". We also hold them the responsibility of the safety of our abducted and forcibly disappeared sons in their prisons.

We call on the United Nations and the Security Council to take the necessary measures to protect our abducted and forcibly disappeared sons, enable them to enjoy their natural and just human rights, release them without conditions and punish the perpetrators of the abduction, disappearance and torture.

Issued by Abductees' Mothers Association in Taiz Governorate, 1 May 2019

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تغز - جولة القصر الجمهوري

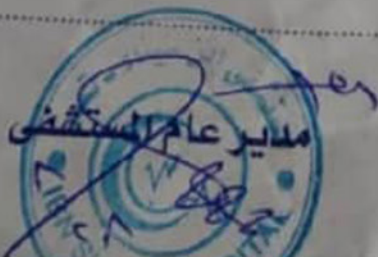
تلفون : ٢٠٦٢٧٣/٤ - ٢٠٧٠٩٣/٤

فاكس : ٢٠٦٢٧٥

شهادة وفاة

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القسم: العناية المركزة -
اسم المتوفى رباعيا: عز الدين أحمد المحيا
الجنس: ذكر #
اسم المحافظة: تغز #
العنوان:
رقم الغرفة: ٣٥٤٥ #
العمر: ٣٥ سنة #
الجنسية: مغربية #
تاريخ الدخول: ٢٥-٠٨-٢٠١٩ #
تاريخ الوفاة: ٢٨-٠٨-٢٠١٩ #
التشخيص عند الدخول: التهاب الكبد (F. Hepatitis) (الصاع)
التشخيص عند الوفاة: التهاب قلب (F. Hepatitis - التهاب)
سبب الوفاة: (١) ارتفاع شديد في وظائف الكبد (Bilirubin) (٢) شرف الكبد # (٣) فشل كبدى - دماغى #
مستلم الجثة: عم المسونى مختار الهبي التوقيع: ٢٨-٠٨-٢٠١٩
صلة القرابة: عم المسونى



الطبيب المستلم

شهادة وفاة المختطف / عزالدين أمين المحيا



Recommendations

*** To the Houthi armed group:**

- 1- The release of the kidnapped persons in Al-Saleh city prison without any conditions.
- 2- The closure of As-Saleh City Prison immediately.
- 3- Compensation and restoration of the honour of the kidnapped victims and their families for the damages they suffered as a result of kidnapping, disappearance and torture in Al-Saleh city prison.

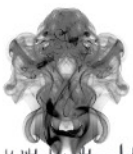
***To the United Nations and the Security Council:**

- 1- Pressurizing the Houthi group to release all the kidnapped and detainees held in As Salih Prison because they have been abducted for a long time with no sin.
- 2- To oblige the Houthi group to close As-Saleh city prison and ensure that the city's residential buildings are not used for detention.
- 3- Hold accountable the officials and supervisors of As-Saleh City Prison who carried out the kidnapping, disappearance, and torture or issued orders to do so. And to ensure that they will not have to escape their deserved punishment.
- 4- Activating the role of United Nations agencies and organizations in providing medical and psychological support to the tortured victims released from As-Saleh city prison.



* To the Red Cross

- 1- Visiting As-Saleh City Prison and examining the conditions of the detainees there.
- 2- Pressurizing to directly meet the detained victims inside As-Saleh city prison, and enable them to fulfil their human and natural rights.
- 3- Restoring family links and communication right between the kidnapped inside As-Saleh city prison and their families.



رائحة الموت



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Abductees' Mothers Association

رائحة الموت - فبراير 2021



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The Odor of Death



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