



When death is a wish

Rights report documenting cases of torture in Yemen

Abductees' Mothers Association

October 2018





Abductees' Mothers Association

The Abductees' Mothers Association was established in mid-April 2016 at doors of prisons where mothers and abductees' female relatives used to meet demanding release of their relatives from the Houthis-run detention centers. The Houthis is an armed group that has been controlling Sana'a and other Yemen northern provinces since late September 2014. They are holding over 3,000 abductees in many different areas of their control. And victims have been not been legally charged yet. Their detention was not done in line with laws, but they were taken from their homes, mosques, schools, and their workplaces by the Houthis gunmen under the eye of their families and friends.



Up to today, hundreds of people are still arbitrarily disappeared, and their mothers do not know their detention places and receive no information about safety and lives of those in unknown detention places. Moreover, the abductees' mothers are vulnerable to physical and verbal assault as well as psychological and financial extortion. These conditions led to the creation of the Association to be a new force against such abuses. The association expanded its work to Hodeida, Taiz, Hajja, Dhamar and Ibb following the death of 49 abductees in their detention places in the abovementioned governorates. The abductees' suffering and violations against their families are taking place amidst silence by organizations concerned with human rights protection. So far, we had staged 129-day peaceful sit-ins. The association has also received several reports and calls from Aden where abductees' mothers suffer greatly with no help for their hard-searching journey looking for their sons held by Saudi-led coalition supported-military units.

A team of the founding female members went to Aden in solidarity with mothers in Aden and their efforts led to the formation of the Abductees' Mothers Association in Aden. The female members from the association in Sana'a took part in 20-day sit-ins organized by the Abductees Mothers Association in Aden with no desperation or submissiveness. This led to the release of 83 enforcedly disappeared people who were set free by the Public Prosecution.

We will be available wherever abductees' mothers call for assistance, where mothers challenge pain and suffering by their wishes that are supported by Allah's Almighty power. We promise mothers that we will not leave them



Terms

Abductee: a person who was deprived of his liberty with no legal reason through holding him/her captive by an armed group out of the state authority.

Secret detention centers: places of detention used by human rights abusers to disappear and torture their opponents.

According to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the term “torture” means: any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as:

- Obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession
- Punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed
- Intimidating or coercing him or a third person
- For any reason based on discrimination of any kind



Legal framework

Torture crimes are one of the most serious and heinous infringements committed by human against his fellow as the victim loses his humanity, dignity and his right to life. Therefore, all divine religions, international laws, conventions and codes have agreed on the prohibition of such crimes, to combat and prevent torture and to hold involved parties accountable as well as officers order torture, practice it or cause the act of torture. All codes label such acts as war crimes against humanity. The article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that: “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of a person.” And the article 5 of the declaration says, “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”. And in cases of non-international armed conflicts, the article 3 which is shared to the four Geneva conventions, prohibits cruel treatment and torture.

In Yemen, the effective constitution affirms combating of torture and prohibits all forms of torture. The article 48/b states: “Physical and psychological torture is prohibited. Forcing confessions during investigations is forbidden.”. Moreover, it prohibits torture and inhuman treatment during arrest, detention or imprisonment.

Report Methodology

The report depended on documented cases of torture that reporting teams were able to reach and document through interviews with victims to hear directly from them about torture inflicted on them during their abduction and disappearance periods. Victims were interviewed after their release.

Secretly leaked letters from abductees were also used for the report. Those handwritten letters were written by victims themselves and they described forms of torture they were subjected to. We included photos of some letters that we received from abductees' families. Testimonies by some abductees about torture done against their fellows or testimonies narrated by families they heard from their relatives who were enforced disappeared or were held in detention for long period. The association organized hearing sessions for several released abductees who spoke to the media about what they were subjected to. This activity is part of what the association is doing to expose abduction, disappearance and torture.

It is worth mentioning that the association always follows the same method that international organizations use for reporting, documenting and verifying violations accounts when reporting such documents. The association preserves materials of all interviews with names of the interviewed persons, but their identity data were not published here for safety of victims and their families.

Limitation: This report is limited to violations that were documented in 2018, but reported cases were subjected to such infringements in earlier periods. It is also confined to Sana'a, Aden, Hodeida, Hajja, Hadhramaut, Amran, Ibb, Taiz, Dhamar and Saáda.



Abstract

This report documents torture forms that were inflicted on abductees that the reporting team of the was able to access. 950 torture cases were documented where the capital Sana'a scored the first among other governorates with 144 cases of torture. Hodeida recorded the second with 121 cases, Ibb is the third with 88 cases, Dhamar is the fourth with 87 cases, then Taiz with 80 cases and Aden with 35 cases and other cases took place in remaining governorates.

The report sheds light on cases of torture to death and murder cases in detention places. Torturing to death cases reached 71 cases and murder cases in detention centers reached 48 cases until the date of this report written. In this respect, Aden came on top of the list of torturing to death or murder during detention with 16 cases. Ibb had the same number, followed by Saáda with 15 cases, Hodeida reported the third with 14 cases and Taiz recorded the fourth with 13 cases and Sana'a is the fifth with 12 cases and remaining cases took place in other governorates.





First Chapter: torture in prisons and detention places



Abductees were vulnerable to physical and psychological torture during imprisonment and detention especially at periods of enforced disappearance and investigation. Abusers sought from doing such crimes to force the victim to confess what investigators wanted. The number of torture cases reached 950 cases that took place in 2016 and 2017. We documented cases through interviews with released individuals or testimony letters written by abductees who sent them secretly to us through their relatives. We documented such testimony letters after most of the held individuals were released from prisons and detention. We showcase here part of such testimonies and documented facts.

(A.B,) 39 years old- sana'a governorate

I was abducted on 30 March 2016 by a group of gunmen affiliated to the Houthis. Then, they handed me over to another group who blindfolded me, handcuffed me and took me on board of a military vehicle (a single cap military pick-up). They covered my body with a big-size blanket and some of them were standing on ends of the blanket till I felt suffocated. When I asked them to remove the blanket away, they responded by hitting me with butts of guns, and death threats. This lasted for over two hours and half until they reached the detention center that I knew later it was the Tailoring Center in Matna area of Bani Matr district, Sana'a governorate. They pulled me from my head till I fell.

Then, they made me sit down on a chair, tied me on it and began charging me with saying this is the traitor mercenary that we have been looking for. This verbal assault was happening with physical attacks using electric batons and boxing in every place of my body till I started feeling unconscious. They were intentionally beating me on my back and knees. This period was only for investigation and recording belongings of mine.



They tied my hand with a rope as well as my feet. The interrogator said to them: Hang him and put a stick of iron between the hands and feet. (I mean, a comment similar to the shah's suspension at the barbecue

The abductor (A.B) 39 years old Sana'a Governorate

Then, they pulled me to a small cell that was very cold, and they call it “pressure-cooker”. They refused allowing me to use the toilet and threw at me two pieces of Kudum (traditional Sana’ni bread) that was apparently 3 days old and tastes bad. The weather was very cold and there was no a blanket or a cover to get some heat. At 8:30 pm, they took me blindfolded to the investigation room. During investigation, they used finger-break by pulling fingers back and hitting them with electric batons, iron bars, gun butts and boxing on the face till I felt that my gums fell apart. They were also strangulating me till I feel dead. Then, they tied my hands and feet firmly and the investigator told his assistants: hang him up. They brought a hook made of iron that extends from hands to the feet and tied my body to the hook like a chicken broiler. I was sweating while the investigator was questioning and his assistants hitting me with sticks and threatening to pull my nails and place needles in my joints. This lasted for more than four hours. I was screaming from severe pain. I asked for water, they brought water and they were pouring it on my chest, neck, then they untied me from the hook. I was extremely exhausted. I could not stand up and was shivering from severe cold and fear.

On the second day, they came to me and my wounds have not been healed yet. They began threatening me. One of them was saying: Today we will use more severer technique than yesterday. We have not yet used the taser, the electric chair, never yet pulled one nail or place one needle in his body.

The investigation and beating began and continued for several hours. But this time, I was feeling that my limbs were shredding. I could not resist and had unconsciousness. I did not open my eyes, but in the cell. This torture continued for one week in the same brutality. This caused swollen arms, hands and backache and knees pains.

Then, they transferred me to a group cell where I experienced doubled psychological pains while hearing voices and screams of innocents being tortured. We named that detention place “the slaughterhouse” where death has become a wish. I remember one day, they brought in one abductee after investigation session. He was screaming from severe pains because they implanted needles in his knees and they were removing skin of another one using sharp tool.

I stayed there for six months even though they said that they needed me for just five minutes when abducted me. Then, I was transferred to the Central Prison in Sana’a and I remained there for six months. Then, I was transferred to a secret prison that I knew later it is located south the capital Sana’a and it is run by the Political Security Apparatus. There, they exercised the same brutal methods inflicted on me at the first detention (the tailoring center) for 20 days. Then, they took me back to the Central Prison in Sana’a. Eventually, I was in very bad condition and was set free four months later in an exchange of war prisoner.

Despite all pains I had during my detention, I could not smile when I was released because my father passed away one day earlier of my release. I could not even have had the goodbye sight on my father.



Hamdi Abu Al-Ghaith, 38 years old- Hodeida governorate

I was abducted on 1 December 2015. They detained me at the Security Headquarter in a dark room and blindfolded me. They also implanted two needles in the two nostrils of my nose till the needles penetrated the two sides of the nose. That continued for several hours, then they hit me with a wood on my face, my belly and my feet till blood came out of my face and throughout my body. They refused to take me to the hospital. They also injected unknown substance into my vein.

Then, they transferred me to another detention (Al-Gaith Charity Foundation Building). Two men were hitting me there using electric cable from 12:00 am till 5:00 am till I fainted. They wanted me to confess things that I neither committed nor knew anything about it.

Then, they transferred me to one farm and the Saudi-led coalition bombed the farm. Four of us were killed and I was among the injured persons who survived. They carried us in a fish icebox and closed the door till we were about to pass away due to lack of oxygen and pains of wounds. We stayed only one day in the hospital, then they brought us back to detention in a different place that was also subjected to bombing even though we were still bleeding. Indeed, the place was bombed, and we survived for the second time.

We remained shackled, banned from communication and contacting our families and banned from exposing to sunlight. They were closing doors and windows despite pounding heat. The food provided to us was rotten and in little amounts. We were not allowed to use the toilet that we had to do it in the same room.

(M.S)- Aden Governorate

I was abducted by gunmen affiliated to the Security Belt and they took me blindfolded to an unknown place. They blindfolded me in order not to recognize identity of those torturing me. They took off my clothes completely and they made me sit naked on chairs for investigation. Officers were sexually abusing me in provocative way. They used to electrocute my male organs. Investigation officers used to bring up his male organ out and put it on the detainee's face and threaten to rape him. They also used to open the detainee's anus hardly till bleeding proclaiming that detainees hide cellphones inside. Some detainees used to be tied up to the roof during Ramadan [holy month in the Muslim world], were forced to break their fasting and banned from performing prayers. The officers used to insult God and belie religion in front of us when we mentioned Allah. One of the most painful moments I recall was that they brought a woman and raped her in front of the detainees.

(H.S.J), 20 years old, Raima Governorate

He was abducted at Houthis-manned checkpoint and he was held captive at the Al-Thawra Temporarily Custody. He was suffering from psychological disorder and was screaming in the custody urging inspectors to allow him to bring in his medicine. He was explaining to them that he was on his way to Al-Amal Hospital for Psychological and Nerve Diseases and he has a medical record at the mentioned hospital and that they can check that with the hospital management, but in vain. His condition worsened



more day after another and no one responded to his screams. Instead of receiving medical care, he was responded with slaps and torture sessions that his weak body could not bear. His ears were bleeding due to physical assault on his face and his head. The blood later turned into pus coming out of his ears and he was screaming from pain. They used to beat and torture him more whenever he screamed.

(M.A) who was in detention with him says: We were in room no. 5 and they took (H.S.J) to an isolated room. At night we heard him screaming in very alarming degree. We inquired about him and we did a big noise inside the prison till they brought him back to our room. He was sobbing out and when we asked what happened he told us that Abu Khalil, the Houthis officer at the prison tied his right arm to his left feet and his right feet to his left arm and then brought in a criminal who beat him up and raped him in such position. We felt sad for him and we spoke to Abu Khalil about the reason for doing so bad criminal act. Abu Khalil claimed that he rescued him prior the assault, but we know that they are liars and criminals. The condition of H.S.J worsened more following the sexual assault till he lost his sense and was named later the insane.

(M.A), 30 years old, Sana'a Governorate

I was abducted from one street of the capital Sana'a and they took me blindfolded to one of the detention centers. They used to practice very cruel methods with me during investigation such as tying my body up to the roof with constant physical assault on all parts of the body for long periods. I used to feel that my limbs were shredding.

Other forms of torture included “exercise 9” where the victim’s hands are tied back, and a cement-brick is placed on his back. Psychological and physical forms of torture in Houthi-run prisons included also tying up the victim on his belly and threatening sexual assault against him and intimidating him that his fellows had been already exposed to similar sexual abuses. Moreover, one of the physical forms of torture is placing glass cans into the victim’s anus, tying his male organ and forcing him to drink a lot of water and tying a bottle of water on his testicles or a cement-brick. Another form of psychological torture is that investigation officers take the victim to an open sewage and threaten to throw him in if he did not confess what they want.

(M.A.M), 40 years old, works in a public school in the capital Sana’a

His wife says: The Houthis abducted my husband at 11:00 pm on 10 December 2016. At that night, I was undergoing a surgical operation. They raided our house with three military vehicles full of gunmen. They searched our house and played with contents of the house. They took my husband to an unknown place and they disappeared him for seven months. It was known later that he was confined in Zain Al-Abidin Mosque that the Houthis have turned it into a prison for their opponents’ imprisonment. I asked officials of the prison to allow me to visit him, but they agreed only following several attempts. When I visited him, I found him pale, skinny and his psychological condition was poor. He described to me how they tortured him. He told me that they beat him violently and tied him up to his left arm for one month that suspended motion of his arm.



Later, they transferred him to Al-Hadi School that they have also turned into a prison. He was subjected there to the most severe forms of torture. They tied him to his neck, drew him along behind on streets in Hiziaz area, south the capital Sana'a. It was H.S, from the Houthis group who was drawing him along behind. He was subjected to severe beating day and night to obtain a confession from him that he belongs to the Islah party and as well as provides them with information on other members of the party.

They used to take him to a distant place, dig a hole into the sand, bury him to his neck and shoot nearby him to allude they were going to execute him. He used to remain in such situation from 9:00 pm till early morning in Ramadan without offering him any food for three days. Later, they allowed me to bring food for him when he was about to collapse.

Other forms of torture he was subjected to was that they were stepping down on his neck until it became inclined to the right side. When I visited him, he requested me to bring him a neck support collar as he was complaining from severe neck pains, but I had no money to buy the neck support.

On the Eid, they took him handcuffed to the trash land and brought a dog to beat him. But, the dog had more mercy on him than them. Then, they beat him day and night till he expected his death soon due to torture.

Then, they brought him back to Zain Al-Abidin Mosque and tortured him using cold waterboarding against his naked body for five to six hours in severe cold days. Then, they transferred him to Hizyaz Police Station and practiced on him psychological torture. They used to play with their guns nearby him and whisper for his murder

and that they would claim that he was killed by mistake. Then, they transferred him to Sana'a Prison which was formerly a press and was turned into a prison.

My first visit to him was following his detention in isolated room. He told me that he was deprived of food and provided him only one meal per three days and visitation to him was allowed only once a month.

Now, he has been in an enforced disappearance for eight months and it is the third time of him being enforced disappeared. We do not know where he is and he himself has no idea where he is as he told me over the phone when they allowed him to call us and they did not mention reasons for his disappearance.

We had been subjected to financial extortion by the Houthis officers; we paid around YR one million that his brother and my brother borrowed seeking his release and an end to his torture, but no use.

(G.H), 26 years old, Saáda Governorate

I was abducted on 21 June 2016 by five gunmen affiliated to the Houthis group. They checked me and took all my belongings, blindfolded me, put handcuffs on me and they were saying bad words at me. They took me to a dark room that I could not see anything, but I was surprised to find a group of abductees in the same room that was full of bad smell as inmates were passing their waste in plastic bags and put it in small box in the same room. They told me that they were not allowed to use the toilet except once per 24 hours. Two weeks later, an Iraqi man called me, blindfolded me, handcuffed me to the back and took me to the investigation room. The investigation officer was saying bad words at me, made me stand up and sit down while beating me with electric cable and named it the "exercise 9". I remained like this for three hours until



my head and back bled. Then, they took me back to the room. I could not sleep due to severe pains and fear.

On the second night, they called me for investigation while I was in tiresome condition due to the torture I had experienced on the previous day. The investigation officer brought a bullet, put it between my fingers and he was stepping down on my fingers till I felt that my fingers were fractured. Then, they forced me to stand up and sit down under beating with batons. They were asking me to confess things that I know nothing about it.

The room where I was detained had no ventilation. The roof of the room was raining due to strong sweating. And the food was only one plastic bag for each six persons. The plastic bag contains potato soup and uneatable rotten kudum (traditional bread). Worms were coming out of the bread. They used to provide us with only 1.5 liter of water for drinking and toilet use. It was impossible to have bath or to wash our clothes that were very dirty. This led to the outbreak of skin diseases among us such as scabies and crab louses. We also had kidney pains and crystals and could not obtain medicine. Money that our families were sending to us were being confiscated right away. We did not know about that till we were allowed for visitation one year later of our detention and after being transferred to the Central Prison in Sana'a.

(A.A.S), Taiz Governorate

I was abducted on 18 December 2017 from a van on Al-Arbaeen Street. They took me to the combating lines, handcuffed me and placed me at one of the barricades. Shells and ammunitions were falling on that position. I was feeling extremely feared and the Houthis were saying to me: You are Daeshi [ISIS affiliate] and you must die”.

One of the types of torture that occurred during the interrogation is called `shulah`. It is a small potz, which ignites the fire, leaves it for a long time, then turns it off, and it comes blindfolded and tied to my hands and .forcing me to sit on it after it is extinguished

I can not describe the pain I felt at that moment, especially in the sensitive .areas of my body

Of the certificate (A .A. S) Taiz Governorate



Later, they took me to the Al-Saleh Prison in Taiz city and left me there for 24 days. Then, they began investigating me at 10:00 pm. They tied my hands and feet to the back and blindfolded me and started accusing me of being “Daeshi” and belongs to the “resistance”. I denied that because I’m student; studying accountancy and belong to no military faction. However, they began torturing me. They first tied me with chains, tied me on a pole and electrocuted me while iron chains were on me which strengthened the access of power to my body. They also stabbed me with cold steel (janbya), a traditional dagger worn by men, on all parts of my body. They hit me on head with butts of guns till I was bleeding from my nose, mouth till I fainted. Then, they showered me with water and gave me some medicine I do not know what it was. They continued investigating me till 4:00 am and brought me back to an isolated small room. And they were isolating me from abductees every time they investigate me. They kept investigating me for 20 days where they questioned me for 13 sessions and I was subjected to torture eight times out of the 13 sessions. One of the torture forms that I was subjected to is something called “the gas cooker”. It is a small gas cooker, they ignite it and leave it on for long period, then they switch it off. Then, they bring me blindfolded, handcuffed and force me to sit on it. Severity of the pain that I had from this method particularly at sensitive parts of my body was unspeakable. They fractured one detainee’s left hand who was with me when attempted to defend himself.

I used to sleep on the ground throughout my detention with no cover. Windows were closed with stones and cement and water given to us was salty and undrinkable. The food that they used to provide for each four persons



was not sufficient even for one person. We used to obtain only one meal per 24 hours. Among the accusations pointed at me that I support the resistance on the social media. I did not expect that merely opinion would be a crime and be subjected to torture because of it.

Six months later, a fact-finding committee visited the prison, saw my file and said that I have no charge and must be released. However, the prison officers declined to release me. They said: You are Daehsi from Taiz and people of Taiz must not live out of prisons. We knew that the committee was just an eyewash.

One year and three months later, my health condition deteriorated due to beating on my head. So they released me, but pursued me again at the hospital where I went for treatment. They wanted to kill me. This forced me to move to the city center of Taiz that is controlled by legitimate government forces to avoid being detained again by the Houthis.

(S.Q), 26 years old, Sana'a Governorate

I was abducted in July 2016 and they first detained me at one of the government offices in Al-Jawf that were used by the Houthis as a place of detention. They used to take me out during cold nights in open area while handcuffed for one month. Later, warplanes bombed the courtyard of the building and I was moved to the Criminal Investigation in Sana'a. Then, they transferred me to Habra Temporary Prison in Sana'a for 15 days in an isolated cell that has no light, no water and allowed me to use the toilet only once per 24 hours and for just five minutes. They used to investigate me while I was blindfolded and handcuffed. They electrocuted my body as well as beating me with electric cables. Then, they moved me to another place and I remained in solitary cell



for one month and four days in a basement. Then, they brought me back to Habra Prison for eight days in the same cell where I was held earlier and was subjected again to the same torture techniques again. Then, was transferred to group cells and spent six months there. Then, was transferred to the Al-Thawra Temporary Prison in Sana'a and reinvestigated me with brutal torture. They used to blindfold me, tie my hands to the back, hit me with cables by several individuals, electrocute me, kick me with feet and slap me with hands. They kicked me with their feet when I fell from the chair. The torture used to continue from 8:00 pm till early morning. In one of the investigative sessions, they tortured me from the morning till sunset. They were beating me alternately, then they left me for just two hours and brought me back to torture until dawn.

I was also subjected to hang-up method for three days from morning until sunset and was not allowed to use the toilet, eat or drink water except for ten minutes at noon. The ever-hardest thing I was exposed to was the use of cement-brick. They put the cement-brick under my feet, tied my hands with chains to the roof, then they removed the brick and tied my feet to the window for two hours. I fainted and fell on the ground and fainted again. When I recovered consciousness, I found my fellows who were subjected to the same torture with me and injections were on our arms.

(A.A), Hadramout Governorate

We were in one of the prisons of Mukalla and our hands were tied firmly until our hands changed into blue color as if the blood was suspended flowing to them. Officers were also burning our hands and backs with electric iron bars. They used to torture the detainee until he says: I will confess what you want. Then, they videotape us while

speaking what they dictate to us and publish it on the media. Some detainees were murdered while in detention with no prosecution or court order. Investigators were speaking to us in English. I think they were Americans with other Emirates and Yemenis.

Abu Malik, 31 years old, Hajja Governorate

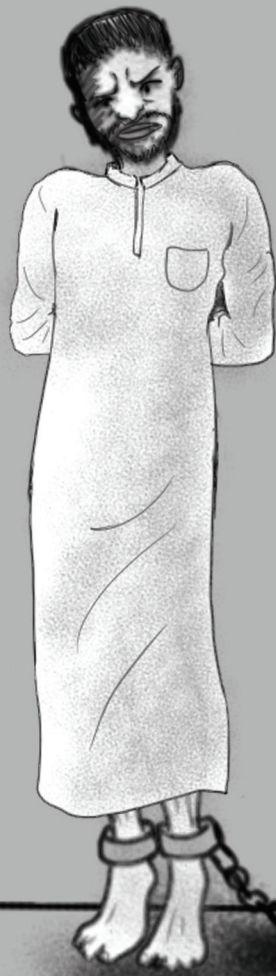
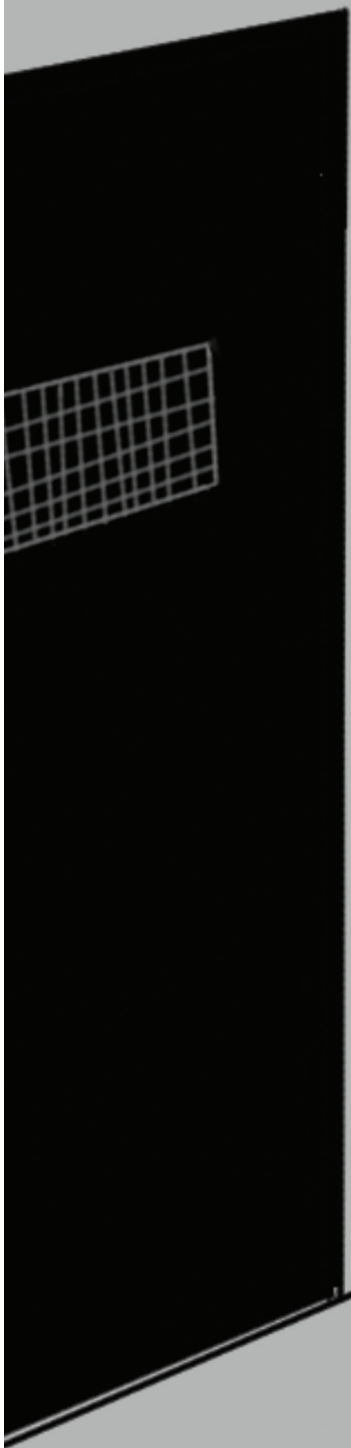
I was abducted on 24 January 2018 by Houthis affiliated gunmen. I was detained at the Education Office in Hajja governorate. There, I was tortured. They confined me in a dark cell, full of louses, rats and snakes. It is unspeakable period when I was there. Additionally, they drilled into my knees and caused me serious injuries. They also used to shower me with cold water and leave me out in severe cold. Not to mention insulting us with bad words and telling us wrong information about our families and our brothers.

Abdulahadi Al-Shami, 38 years old, Sana'a Governorate

I was abducted on 16 May 2016 after the Houthis besieged our houses in Arhab district, looted them, deported us from homes and even made women to leave homes. I was detained at the house of the advisor Mohamed Mosa Al-Amri which was taken by the Houthis and was turned into a detention camp. The torture forms that I was subjected to included:

- Five-month solitary imprisonment
- Confinement in a cell with a snake
- Beating with gas cylinder pipe
- Physical assault on the chest, on the heart area that made me suffer for several months





- Ban from toilet use that caused me kidney pains and urinary tract infections
- Psychological torture and death threats
- Starvation

Plus, all that, I was deported from my home and my town under the name of prisoner exchange even though I was detained from my home in Arhab district.

(S.A), 24 years old, Aden Governorate

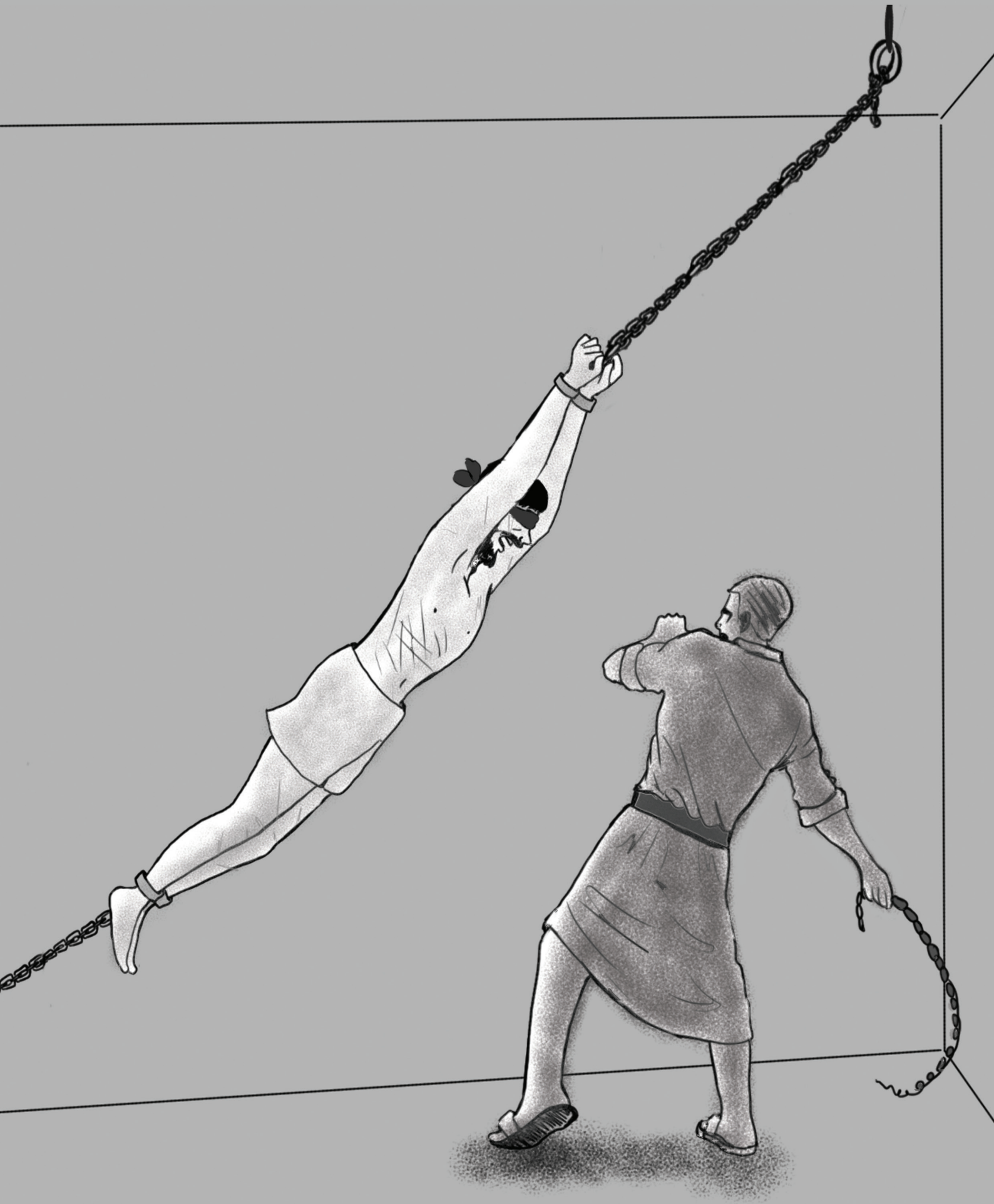
I was abducted on 5 August 2017 by gunmen affiliated to Yosran Al-Maqtari. They detained me at Wadah Hall. I suffered greatly there from torture. The most severe thing was physical assault using electric iron bars, body hang-up, depriving me of sleep for several days till I was about to lose my brain. Another form of torture I was subjected to be the finger-fracture that I still suffer from until today.

(A.B), 24 years old, student, Saáda Governorate

Date of abduction: 31 August 2015

They raided my house in Sana'a in very brutal way. They broke doors, took me from bed while sleeping, threw me on the ground, tied my hands to the back, blindfolded me, took me to their vehicle and I was in complete shock. They were also beating me amidst threats. They took me to the Political Security Prison in Sana'a, took off my clothes, placed me in 1.5x2 meter-cell that has no light and no ventilation.





They used to investigate me while handcuffed and blindfolded. They also were tying my hands firmly to the roof when taking me to the investigation room. They sometimes put a chair between my legs to maximize pain and torture.

The forms of torture they used with me included: physical assault with cables, ice, batons, kicking, boxing on the testicles, boxing on the chest and boxing on the spinal column. They used to practice such forms on me for one day to three days. They also used to apply the exercise 9 which is stand up and sit down with counting to 500 plus constant beating.

They placed me in solitary cell for four months and did not allow my family to visit me. My family used to come to the gate of the prison, but they were banning them from visiting me or even contacting me via phone calls. I was released in an exchange of war prisoner.

(Hamoud Al-Haqi), 40 years old, Sana'a Governorate

I was subjected to several forms of physical and psychological torture. They used to hang my body up to the roof for several hours by tying my hands to the roof of the room. I was hanging and standing on the ends of my toes while blindfolded. And they were beating me with batons on my belly until positions of beating were blackened and my hands suspended in motion. I even became disable to hold and release my fingers for several months. The rope on my left arm penetrated to the bone.

I was not allowed to contact my family only ten months of my abduction. Every time, they were lying to us that



they will release us but find out that they were transferring us to another prison.

I was put on the list of prisoner exchange even though I was abducted from home. To this end, they transferred me to the Military Police Prison in preparation for the exchange process as they claimed. The Military Police Prison was a military target and it was targeted more than one time by the Saudi-led coalition. It was bombed by seven airstrikes while we were staying there. Dozens of us were killed and I was among the injured persons who survived. We were admitted to the hospital, I lost my eye and had several injuries. It was a horrible night that will not be washed away from my memory.

(M.Q), 28 years old, Aden Governorate

I was abducted on 21 December 2016 and was confined at Wadah Hall. They did not allow me to contact my family. They tortured me and beat me with iron bars and copper cables. They took me to a small narrowed cell and they call it “pressure cooker”. I remained standing in the cell, cannot move or sit down while handcuffed. They deprived me of food and water for three days. I felt I was going to die due to severity of torture. I feel now that my right hand has been atrophied and I feel non-stop pains.

(Q.S.R), 39 years old, Hodeida Governorate

I was abducted on 19 March 2016 by Houthis-affiliated gunmen. They detained me at the Castel Prison in Hodeida. I was subjected to torture and enforced disappearance at the Castel Prison, banned from

communication with my family and had solitary imprisonment.

When they were investigating me, they pulled my nails by a pair of pincers. They were also tying me to the roof and stand on the ends of my toes for twelve hours. I was not allowed to use the toilet only once per three days. Additionally, they practiced against us different forms of degrading torture such as slapping, kicking and different methods of threats and intimidation. We were also shackled on dual mode (put the shackle on the right feet of one person to the left feet of another one) even getting in toilet while shackles were on.

I was also handcuffed for eight months. One of the brutal forms of torture we were subjected to was burning soles of the feet, then beating the position and forcing us to stand up for long period on small metal cans. They also were confiscating every penny I receive from my family

(Sadeq Al-Obal), 29 years old, Sana'a Governorate

I was abducted from my home in Sana'a at 8:00 am on 11 December 2015. Gunmen on four military vehicles raided my house, took me while I was among my children and wife and took me blindfolded to Al-Judairy Police Station. At the police station, they detained me in solitary cell and remained there for three days and banned me from toilet use.

On the third day, they took me blindfolded and handcuffed to the investigation room. They tied me on the chair and started beating me on the face until blood come out of my nose. I felt that the skin of my face will peel off due to severe physical attack. Two men were hitting me from behind on the back. For psychological torture, I was hearing screams and crying as if others were tortured nearby me, but I guessed it was a sound player. Four





I stayed for a month and was confined and allowed to enter the toilet only once a day and was sometimes overwhelmed by the severity of hunger

The kidnapper is Sadiq al-Abal from Sana'a governorate ,29 ,

hours later, they brought me back to the cell without questioning me about anything. One week later, they brought me to the investigation room, handcuffed, shackled, blindfolded and made me sit on a chair.

The investigator asked me: for whom do you work? And he and others immediately started beating me once I replied: I work for my family. They were beating me with sticks, belts and kicking me on my abdomen till I fainted and recovered only in the cell.

Five days later, they called me again. They took me handcuffed and blindfolded and deceived me that I step up to a high place by using the stairs. Then, they made me sit on a chair that was placed on a table. Then, some of them threatened to push me down if I did not confess. They accused me of bombing and terror attacks that I never know. When I told them that I do know anything about it, one of them pushed the chair firmly to the back till the chair fell and I fell on my head and fainted. Then, they showered me with water on my face. I recovered but could not raise my head due to severe pain in the neck. They carried me on a blanket and brought me back to the cell. I remained handcuffed and shackled for one month with no leave to use the toilet only once per day. I used to faint due to starvation. I had also eye cataract and became blind-like. I see nothing, but clouds. They did not allow me to do a medical checkup or treatment even though I stayed seven months at Al-Judairy Police Station.

One year later and following my transfer to the Al-Thawra Temporary Prison, I managed to speak to the Prison doctor who refused many times to respond to me. Then, when saw my eyes, he asked for YR45,000 to do a cataract surgery for me. I told him: this is because of your torture. Then, he incited the prison officers against me



and they hanged my body up to the window for half day and transferred me to the Central Prison.

(S.A.S)

was abducted by Houthis-affiliated gunmen from a hospital in Al-Jawf. S.A.S was receiving treatment from a bullet he sustained during a tribal conflict. The bullet was in on his waist. He was investigated in brutal way despite his bad health condition. Nails of his fingers and toes were pulled out by a pair of pincers. He was also subjected to beating, slapping and kicking while was being blindfolded. H.S.M, who witnessed his case, said that signs of torture were remain visible on the victim although one year has been already passed since his torture.

(M.R), 35 years old, Sana'a Governorate

Date of abduction: June 2015. His friend, H.T., spoke about his story:

They first brought him in a dark room of bad smell with mentally sick man for three days. He was unable to sleep or eat, then was transferred to group cell. He was being investigated five times per day for eight hours. His body used to be hanged up to the roof during investigation. His body used to be 0.5 meter above the ground level during hanging up and was severely beaten until losing consciousness. Then, took him back to the cell and were warning other abductees and threatening them of the same torture if they assisted him.

On the fifth time, his body was hanged up to the roof for 22 hours continuously, then they untied him and beat him with gun butts until they fractured one of his hands. He became unable to move. His fellow inmates were forced to take care of him and take him to the toilet for one month and half. His hand recovered only six months later with his thumb remained completely paralyzed.

M.J, one of his fellow inmates in detention says: M.R was beaten on his back until bleeding and the pus were accumulating on his back. It was impossible to take off his t-shirt from his back following his torture and had to leave it for three days until the blood and the pus dry.

(A.A), 23 years old, Aden

I was arrested by forces led by Shalal Shayaá, security chief of Aden. I was detained in his house. I was subjected to severe beating. They were cutting flesh from my back. They used to put stones on my chest and break the stone while it was on my chest. They also tortured me with waterboarding and electrocuted me. Then, they placed me in a small cell that I cannot sit.

(A.H.K), 42 years old, Hodeida Governorate

I was abducted by Houthis gunmen on 5 November 2016 and they took me to the building of Al-Taqwa Charity Foundation. They were beating me on soles of my feet until I lose ability to walk. I used to crawl on my knees to the toilet. They also were beating me with hard stick and sometimes with electric cable on the legs. I was blindfolded, my hands were tied to the back and one of them was hitting me and boxing me on my abdomen until I felt that my stomach will come out of my mouth.

They used to hang my body up to the roof and beat me on the back, on the abdomen and on my nails until blood come out. They were intentionally beat me on sensitive parts of the body until I was passing blood and sometimes was unable to urinate due to severity of the pain.

They also practiced psychological torture against me. They took me blindfolded to the torture room while they were torturing teacher, A.S. I was listening to his voice





”

They beat me in the soles of my feet so that I could not walk, but they were lying on my knees to the bathroom. They also hit my legs with a hard stick and sometimes with an electric cable. I .was blindfolded and handcuffed to the back

”

The abductor (A. h. k), 42, Hodeidah Governorate

screaming and felt very frightened. They allowed us to use the toilet only twice per 24 hours. Their leftovers were our food.

(M.T.B), 28 years old, Saáda Governorate

I was abducted in July 2016 by Houthis-affiliated gunmen and they detained me in a state building because they know that the Saudi-led coalition strike such sites as they changed state offices as headquarters for their militants. They took me to a room and saw something that I never expected. I saw seven persons, they were very slim, wearing very dirty torn clothes and handcuffed with locks. They stood up to me asking: who are you? Where are you from? How is life outside? Are there any vegetables and wheat? Are there any shops?

I was surprised by their questions and told them that life outside is normal. I asked them about how long they have been here in this place. Some of them said that they have been there for one year and others have been for more than one year. Very bad smell was inside the room because they were passing their waste in the room in a box located in the corner of the room as they were not allowed to use the toilet except in times announced by the prison officers. I asked what happens if one fell sick. They said that the prison officers decline to admit anyone and are even indifferent if anyone die. They told me that two persons died in this room; one was tortured to death and the other fell sick, his health deteriorated, and officers refused to admit him. He suffered to death.

Later, one masked gunman came in, blindfolded me, handcuffed me to the back and took me to the



investigation room. The investigator asked me about my religious doctrine and Why am I Sunni? Do you support the aggression (Saudi-led coalition)? All these questions were directed at me while being beaten with electric cable for three hours till I was about to fall on the ground due to severe physical assault that blackened my body. 20 days later, they took me again to the investigation with aggravated battery and death threats. They were also confiscating anything my family sends to me.

(M.S), 25 years old, Hajja Governorate

I was with a friend in hotel in Radaá city of Al-Baida. Suddenly we heard strong knocking on the door at 11:00 pm. When we opened the door, there were four gunmen standing. They asked us to come for five-minute investigation saying that they just suspected us.

They took us in a vehicle to the Castle Prison in Radaá. They checked us there, took our ID cards, our cellphones and confined us in a very cold room that was like a fridge with no covers or blankets. Our feet were trembling from harsh cold. We remained there for three days. Then, they transferred us to the Special Security Camp. We stayed there for three days, then were transferred to the Central Prison in Radaá which was like a grave. They confined us in large number in dark narrowed rooms. They were providing us with hardly edible food and we were not allowed to communicate with our families. While investigating us, they beat us with batons, cables and hanged us up on chains.

Then, we were transferred to the Central Prison in Sana'a. They placed us in the isolated department (complete dark rooms) and it was worse than all places we were detained in. At the central Prison in Sana'a, we were assaulted by cold steel and some of us were injured. We were also

beaten by iron bars on our limbs, joints and knees. We spent four months in the isolated department where we experienced different forms of psychological and physical torture.

Later, we were made ready for release and they indeed promised our release. But, we were surprised by our transfer to another detention called rehabilitation center where we encountered much worse unspeakable psychological torture. Officers of the rehabilitation center were a group of convicted criminals who were sentenced to death. They were insulting us with bad words and taking cannabis and drugs in front of us. We remained in prison transfer from one detention to another until our release for ransom on 9 April 2017.

(A.A.M), 45 years old, Taiz governorate

Recalls his arrest by the Houthis nearby the sport stadium in Dhamar, he said that he was subjected to a taser beating and body hanging to the fan for five to eight hours during investigation. This caused him spinal injury. He was confined in the “pressure cooker room” which is a very small room; 70 cmx1m for 31 days in darkness without allowing him to use the toilet.

N.A, a teacher and former abductee from Amran governorate, tells his testimony:

S.Q is from Habor Dhalima district of Amran. He is 50 years old and he is one of the people that I saw signs of torture visible on him. They took him from the investigation room to a solitary cell. I met him during his transfer to the cell, I saw signs of torture inflicted on him including bruises on the face, bruises around the eye. I also saw his ears were cut from top and down. One week later of his solitary confinement, he detailed to me how





different forms of torture inflicted on him including physical assault, insult and cutting parts of his ears.

I also listened to T.S and torture practiced against him. T.S is 30 years old and he was running an electronics shop in Amran. He was accused of providing GPC locations to the Saudi-led coalition. He told us that they were blindfolding him and put a pen on in his navel and pressing on the pen until it penetrates his belly during investigation. They were also beating him on the face and kicking him with their feet.

I heard also from G.A, a juvenile from Amran. He is 15 years old. He told us that the Houthis blindfolded him, beat him, handcuffed him and took off his pair of trousers and threatened to rape him.

Yousuf Edrees, 30 years old, Mahwit Governorate

A group of gunmen intercepted me while I was on my way to hold my wedding party in Sana'a. They abducted me on 30 March 2016, confined me in Al-Matama Prison in Al-Jawf, then transferred me to the Temporary Prison in Amran. They investigated me in Amran with torture. They hang up my body to the roof and beat me with electric cables. They also electrocuted me, handcuffed me and shackled me for several hours. Other forms of torture I was subjected to was deprivation of sleep and cold waterboarding. This led me to have a stroke inside the prison.

(H.R), 29, old Hodeida Governorate

I was abducted while returning from work on 3 September 2017. They took me to the Commercial Neighborhood Police Station. My family never knew about my abduction or my detention place, but the social leader informed them later. I was banned from visitation



and they asked my family not to speak about my place or repeat questions about me. I was disappeared for 40 days. They investigated me for ten sessions and each session lasted between six to seven hours.

They accused me of communicating with the aggression [Saudi-led coalition], placing GPS chips and recruitment for the Saudi-led coalition. I was subjected to several abuses during my detention including physical assault on the face, on the abdomen, on the chest and on the neck. They tied my hands to the back during investigation and was subjected to strangulation attempt till I felt breath suspension. I felt that my neck was fractured. I was threatened with leg fracture to live with permanent disability. I was also banned from toilet use. The place where they confined me was not good for living. The prison area is 3m by 4 m. Ventilation was bad and dirty. About 20 detainees were confined in the same place.

They were bringing very poor food. I had to pay for my food from the grocery even though they were taking food and money my family sends to me. I fell sick due to lack of health care, overcrowding and many skin diseases spread due to lack of hygiene. They were telling us that our release is impossible at whatever reason despite no charge was proved against us. They forced me to sign on papers while blindfolded and have no idea of their content. They also confiscated my belongings: two cellphones, one laptop and one camera. Then, they detained my father and my little brother, but released them some days later. They raided our house, confiscated one laptop and forced my father to sign on papers that the confiscated PC was being used for sending GPS locations to the Saudi-led coalition.

(A.D. Al-Baidani), 60 years old, Aden governorate

I'm A.D from Aden city, Crater. I'm 60 years old. I was detained by the Houthis in Al-Dimna, Taiz on 15 July 2016 while traveling for visiting my daughter in Taiz. They took me to an unknown place. They tortured me there with no care of my old age. They beat me and electrocuted me until blood came out of my ears. I used to always faint due to severity of torture. They forced me to sign on unknown memos. They accused me falsely of being missile expert and placing GPS chips. Then, they transferred me to a basement in Al-Saleh city until November 2016. Later, they transferred me to Sana'a for prisoner exchange held by the legitimate government.

(M.S.S), 20 years old, Taiz Governorate, driver works

He was abducted in Hajda, Al-Barh by Houthis-affiliated gunmen on 12 February 2017. They were taking him for investigation and asked him to confess that he belongs to the resistance and beat him with heated iron bars if denied. Signs of torture are still visible on his shoulders although one year has been passed since his torture.



Women abuse

Human rights abusers never stopped at this point of human rights crimes. Moreover, they extended their violations to much worse abuses against women. They abducted women and mistreated them during detention. We demonstrate here some examples of what was documented of such abuses against women in Yemen.



A.M.R, 30 years old

I was taking part in a sit-in staged by the in front of the Hodeida governor office. I took then photos of the sit-in with my cellphone. When the sit-in was over, five gunmen came to me and my female friend and asked us to come to the governor's office. However, we felt worried and refused to come in. We instead handed them the statement of the sit-in to convey it to the deputy governor and continued walking down the street to home. But, three gunmen who were between 13 to 15 years old followed us and asked us to come back to the governor's office, but we declined for the second time and rented a van to take us home. We asked the driver to drive down the market in order no one follows us. But we were surprised by a white car pursuing us and one fat man was in the car holding his cellphone. I felt worried and they indeed intercepted the van and the abovementioned man got on the van and requested that we hand over our cellphones. I told him we have no cellphones, but one gunman pointed his gun at me and threatened to shoot me on the head. Then, they forced the driver to drive towards the Criminal Investigation. They took our bags, checked them and took everything we had in bags.

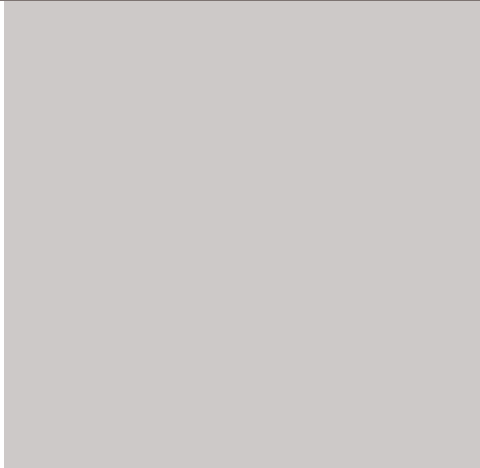
The white car was driving a head of us and one military vehicle loaded with around 12 gunmen was driving behind us and two militants were in the van. I thought while on the middle of the road to open the door and jump from the van. But one of the gunmen hit me when I stretched my hand towards the door. When we reached the criminal investigation, two policewomen appeared and took us to one of the checking rooms. They checked us in extremely degrading method for half an hour. They even forced us to take off our underwear and then took us to Abu Raád for investigation. Abu Raád was hitting with hands on the table to scare us. He asked us why we go out



and whether we were politicians. Then, he threatened to shoot us on our heads if we went out again and he said he scared from no one for his act. We remained in confinement for three hours until some men of our relatives came and signed pledge letters that we never go out again.

(A.A.N), 27 years old, Sana'a

The Houthis raided my home and looted everything they found. They damaged the furniture and even one of them destroyed my husband's office and threw it at me that injured my hand. Then, they took me and my little children-the oldest was four years old- to an unknown place. I was blindfolded, and two policewomen were accompanying me and dozens of gunmen. And while they were pushing me up the stairs, my gum was fractured, and my children were in great fear and constant cry due to intense presence of the gunmen in my house who were pointing guns at me and threaten to kill me. When I arrived at the detention place, they wanted to separate me from the children, but they were crying hard that forced them to leave my children with me. They remained investigating me until late night and never allowed me to call any one of my family. When asked for what they looted from my house, one of them replied: you will sign a letter that you have received everything of yours or you will not see the sunlight again. He alluded that they might hurt me. I felt very scared due to such threat especially at late night and no one of my family knows what I'm subjected to. Therefore, I signed that I have received everything and left the place with the two policewomen. Since then, my children have been living in nightmare, bedwetting and panic attacks when they see gunmen on streets or roads. And I had to depart my home country due to increasing harassment.



second Chapter

Murder under torture

**Photo of the abductor Abdul Ghani Jahlan
(killed under torture)**



Human rights abuses in Yemen were not confined only to systematic torture in prison and detention centers. Abusing parties of human rights have also practiced torture to death and murder of abductees during detention. The association has documented 128 cases of torture to death and murder during detention until writing date of this report. 71 cases were torture to death and 48 cases were murder during detention. Aden and Ibb scored the first in torture to death and murder during detention with 16 cases respectively. Saáda came the second with 15 cases, Hodeida scored the third with 14 cases, Taiz scored the fourth with 13 cases, Sana'a was the fifth with 12 cases and remaining cases took place in the remaining governorates.

Here are some facts we documented, and we will begin with Saáda governorate where the Houthis shot dead nine abductees in prison and the tenth died from torture. We present here the testimony that we received:

(A.S), Saáda Governorate

I was abducted on 20 January 2016 by Houthis-affiliated gunmen who took me to the Al-Sallam Park Prison. Then, they transferred me to Al-Talh Prison where I spent 20 days, then was taken to a prison in Majez District and remained three months there. I was there with a group of people from Saáda. We were subjected to brutal forms of torture in such prisons including electrocution, beating with batons and electric cables, kicking on sensitive body parts and forcing us to do 100 stand up and sit down within five-minute period accompanied by beating. That is in addition to starvation and ban our access to water till we were infected with skin diseases due to lack of hygiene. Then, they transferred us to a prison in Dhahyan district. We were about 40 abductees. One month later in Dhahyan Prison, they took out ten abductees

of us. They were:

- 1- Saleh Tharya, 70 years old, from Al-Talh district
- 2- Hamza Qasim Jalhum, 30 years old, from Azaz district
- 3- Radi Ahmed Hardan, 27 years old, from Al-Abdain district
- 4- Abdulazeez Farhan, 25 years old, from Azaz district
- 5- Mohammed Khadr Al-Azazi, 30 years old, from Azaz district
- 6- Jamal Maeedh Al-Azazi, 28 years old, from Azaz district
- 7- Mahdi Hussein, 20 years old, from Azaz district
- 8- Yahya Monser Yahya, 25 years old, from Azaz district
- 9- Awadh Ja'mel, 25 years old, from Nashoor district
- 10- Ali Hamoud Al-Hamesh, 32 years old, from Azaz district

They were transferred to an unknown place and one month later, we received the news that the Houthis



detained the ten abovementioned abductees in a house in Al-Talh area and blew it up on nine of them. The tenth, Ali Hamoud Al-Hamesh died from torture and his body was taken to the bombed site.

We were enforced disappeared for one year and nine months until our transfer to the Central Prison in Sana'a. And some of us are still in disappearance until this moment.

We also present here other documented cases of torture to death:

1- Abdulghani Aydh Jahlan

Was born in 1978 in Amran governorate, he was a father of ten children. He had a bachelor's degree in education and was a teacher. In July 2017, he was abducted at Jabl Yazeed Security Administration. One week later of his detention, he was transferred to an unknown destination by the Houthis officer in the district. Jahlan's father died in grief few months later of his son's abduction. No one of his family, relatives and friends was able to know his detention location. On 4th October 2017, Jahlan died in one of the Houthis-run secret detention centers due to severe torture he was subjected to. Signs of torture on his body included fracture of his skull, burns on his back, holes in his chest and abdomen and most of his body parts were coaled due to harsh torture. The Houthis informed his family about his death on 16 December 2017 and they requested them to attend for receiving the body. On 21 December 2017, his relatives received the body and buried him.

2- Sulieman Ali Hamoud Al-Buraee, 44 years old

Al-Buraee is from Hodeida. The Houthis-Saleh group abducted him from his house in Bajil city of Hodeida on 3 February 2016. They took him to Al-Murawa' Prison, then transferred him to the Tenth Brigade Camp of the Republican Guard in Bajil where he was subjected to brutal torture. He died instantly due to the torture on 8 March 2016. When the Houthis-Saleh militants called Al-Buraee's family for body release, his family declined to take the body after they saw visible signs of severe torture on the body and requested that the body to be seen by a forensic doctor to identify causes of death. The Houthis-Saleh group denied the request, took the body out of the hospital morgue and buried it on 30 July 2016 with no permission or knowledge from the victim's family.



3- Ali Mohammed Aydh Al-Towaiti, 35 years old

Al-Twaiti is from Ibb, married and has four children; one son and three daughters. The oldest one of his children is 12 years old and the youngest is three years old. He was abducted at a checkpoint in Al-Dhale' on 19 November 2017. His family kept looking for him in several governorates since his arrest till they were surprised to find his body in one of the hospitals of Yareem city of Ibb governorate.

Body check and date of death revealed that he remained under torture for four days where he was subjected to burning by hot waterboarding. His ears were cut off, his eyes were pulled out and his teeth were removed. Several nails were planted in soles of his feet. He was also tortured by electrocution and pressing on his kidneys. The Houthis leaders offered money compensation to his family in return that they go silent and to not expose his torture. His family denied the offer, took photos of the body and buried him in his hometown in Bani Muslim village of Yareem on Friday 5 January 2018 amidst extremely grief and denial of such inhuman criminal acts and brutal torture.

4- Saleh Awadh Al-Bashiri, 35 years old

Al-Bashiri is from Al-Haima district, Sana'a governorate. On 11 February 2015, he took down to Al-Zubairi Street to celebrate the anniversary of 11 February revaluation. The Houthis-Saleh militants arrested him with other three of his friends in a private detention located on the Southern Sixty Meters Road, nearby Al-Misbahi Roundabout. He was severely tortured and died shortly following his arrest. This case was the first of torturing to death in the capital Sana'a, according to the association's reports.

5- Ahmed Saleh Al-Wahashi, 35 years old

Al-Wahashi was a father of four children. His fourth child was born following his death in prison. The Houthis arrested him on 15 October 2017 from his house in Muthuqain village of Al-Baida governorate. He was enforced disappeared in an unknown place and was transferred to Habra Temporary Prison in Sana'a. The Houthis tortured him harshly in Habra Prison. They fractured his neck and his spinal column till he passed away on 28 October 2017.

And to cover up the crime, the Houthis officers came to the prison, tied him to the window to look like as if he had committed a suicide. They took photos of him in such fabricated suicide and contacted his family 20 days later of his death after taking his body to the hospital morgue. However, his family noticed marks of torture were still seen on his back which indicates that they tortured him with sharp tools. And eventually the Houthis had not choice, but to confess his death and sent mediators to his family to waive his case for YR10 million.



6- Waleed Ali Qasim Al-Ibi, 26 years old

He was working in one of the schools in the capital Sana'a. And on Thursday evening 10 November 2016, while he was returning home with his wife in Al-Jiraf Neighborhood of the capital Sana'a, he was surprised with a group of gunmen nearby his house on two military vehicles. They surrounded him and attempted to take him by force. And the screaming of his family made the people of the neighborhood including his brothers to gather. But they insisted to take him for interrogation and to bring him back as they promised everyone was present. But, they break their word and took him to the Criminal Investigation Prison. They put him in solitary cell and practiced different forms of torture against him. And they eventually shot him dead in his head three days later of the investigation. Then, they transferred his body to the Al-Kuwait Hospital morgue. When his family attended to the hospital, they found marks of torture on all parts of his body. This was also confirmed by the forensic reports that were issued by the Forensic Department of the Attorney General.

7- Hussein Abdullah Akhdr, 50 years old

Akhdr is from Hodeida. He was arrested in Sana'a on 11 October 2017 and died in the Political Security Prison due to severe torture in prison. Officers who were torturing him, were beating him intensively on the abdomen. He was also subjected to severe dehydration, insufficient hardly edible food, and beating by cables that swelled his abdomen. They also burned him with fire on different parts of his body. After contacting his family, he was admitted to the hospital on Tuesday 28 November 2017 for treatment in different clinics, but in vain. He died 12 days later of his admittance.

8- Adel Abdo Ahmed Al-Zawa'ri, 27 years old

Al-Zawa'ri was lured to a restaurant on the Western Sixty Meter- Road, in front of the University of Science and Technology Hospital in the capital Sana'a.

Gunmen in military uniform and others in plain clothes came on a military vehicle and they took him by force to the 14 October Police Station, nearby the Western Sixty Meter- Road. He was disappeared from that station for one month and half.

On Monday 22 August 2016, his family was notified by one community leader that his body is in the Police Hospital morgue. When his family moved to the hospital, they found torture marks on different parts of his body and an injury on his neck apparently by a sharp tool. His family demanded concerned authorities to investigate the case of his murder under torture and to reveal perpetrators and bring them to justice. However, that was not done.



9- Mohammed Abdullah Abu Zaid

Abu Zaid was a teacher in Al-Hashaber area of Al-Zaidya district, Hodeida governorate. He was arrested from his school on 2 January 2016.

He was arbitrarily disappeared and tortured, according to testimonies by his fellow inmates who were released later. They said that he was subjected to severe beating on kidneys till he was unable to pass. He was screaming from pain severity, but the prison officers refused to admit him. So, detainees agreed to go on hunger strike until admitting Abu Zaid. Under this pressure, officers brought a male nurse to treat Abu Zaid.

The nurse opened his abdomen saying he would do a catheter, but the man died right away. The Houthis kept deceiving his family that he was in treatment and asked for money for that. Nine months later, his family was shocked when the Houthis demanded a ransom of YR800,000 for releasing his body and claimed that the money was for his medication. When his family took his body, they found torture marks on different parts of his body which confirms his death under torture.

10- Yasser Ahmed Issa Al-Nashri

Al-Nashri was born in 1993. He was a third-year student of Petroleum Engineering of Hadramout University. He was arrested on 17 October 2015 by the Houthis at Hataresh Checkpoint, the eastern entrance of Sana'awhile coming from Hadramout. They accused him of being a member of the resistance.

He was arbitrarily disappeared for four months until his brother and his uncle found him confined at Habra Temporary Prison. He was in a good health and never complained from any disease before. Five months later and after allowing visitation to him, his family was shocked to find him unable walk or stand. Then, the Houthis informed them that they transferred him to Al-Quds Hospital because he was suffering from brain tumor according to the examination by the hospital he was admitted to where he remained there for three months with no progress. The Houthis had to call his family and asked to release him on bail. His family admitted him to another hospital. The MRI scan at the other hospital revealed that Al-Nashri had no cancer tumor and the tumor that was reported by the former hospital was pus in the brain because of severe beating and electrocution of the head. He remained under treatment for two months, but in vain. He died on 17 August 2016.



At the end of this report about torture in Yemen, we present this set of recommendations to the President of Yemen, his deputy, the cabinet, the UN Envoy to Yemen, the UN Human Rights Council, international fact-finding committees, the National Committee for Probing Human Rights Abuses, local and international human rights organizations and tribal figures.

Recommendations:

- 1- Stop all forms of torture in Yemen
- 2- Enable all victims their full normal rights
- 3- Prosecute all abusers who practiced abduction, disappearance, torture and torture to death.
- 4- Compensate torture victims and their families
- 5- Protect abductees' families, detainees' families and families of enforced disappeared people against abuses and extortion.
- 6- Provide protection to reporting informants and human rights defenders.
- 7- Support reporting and documentation of torture cases, torture to death cases. This must include medical and legal support from neutral specialized medical and legal stakeholders.
- 8- Rehabilitate releasees and integrate them into the society through economic empowerment
- 9- Protect families of victims who were tortured to death against assaults and extortion
- 10- Set dissuasive penalties in the Yemeni law against anyone inflicts torture on any person



موقع الدرس : التاريخ : ٢٠ / / ١٤
 اليوم : الموافق : ١٤ / / ١٤

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 فيه، حصلنا معه مكالمة وبيدوا أنه الانتظار كان قريب جداً
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الواجب :

Handwritten testimonials for their release





Abductees' Mothers Association



A protest of the Association of mothers of abductees in front of the Office of the Attorney General in Sanaa condemns the killing of those abducted under torture 9 January 2017



رابطة أمهات المختطفين
Abductees' Mothers Association

abductees2015@gmail.com [f](#) [t](#) [y](#) [@](#) [@abducteesmothers](#)