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Arrests and Releases in January 2021

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The Syrian Human Rights Committee (SHRC) documented in its report on the arrest in January 2021 that the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) arrested 115 people, the opposition National Army arrested 19 people, the regime forces arrested 14 people, and the HTS arrested one person.

SHRC also documented this month that the families of two detainees in the regime's prisons learnt of their death under torture.

This month, SHRC documented the release of 11 detainees from the prisons of the regime, and one female detainee from the prisons of the Liberation of Al-Sham (HTS).

First: arrest

1. The Syrian regime

On January 8, 2021, members of the Syrian regime's Air Force Intelligence arrested Hamza Hamed Al-Hariri, who was from the town of Dael in the countryside of Daraa province, and one of who had previously normalised their security situation with the regime.

On January 9, 2021, the regime forces in Aleppo arrested journalist Waddah Mohi al-Din, a journalist who works as the director of the "Spot of Light" magazine in the city of Aleppo, because of his criticism of the robbery practices in the markets of the city of Aleppo on his personal Facebook page, and took him to the Criminal Security Branch In the city of Damascus.

On January 10, 2021, members of the Syrian regime forces in the town of Al-Harra in the Daraa province suburbs, arrested:

Jamal Al-Qawarit

Mamoun Qadalia

Abu Walid Al Khawalda

On January 14, 2021, the Cybercrime Department of the Criminal Security Branch in Tartous summoned Feryal Jahjah, an inspector in the Supervision and Inspection Authority, who has been detained since then. The summons came because of posts Jahjah wrote on her Facebook page.

On January 21, 2021, the regime forces arrested Hadi Muhammad al-Abadi, a resident of Deir ez-Zor, as he passed one of its checkpoints near the southern entrance to Deir ez-Zor, and took him to an unidentified destination.

On January 24, 2021, members of the Criminal Security Branch arrested Hala Al-Jorf, a presenter on Syrian TV and the daughter of a retired pilot's staff brigadier, while she was returning from her town of Al-Salamiya in Hama countryside. The arrest came because of criticism she wrote on her Facebook page about the living situation in Syria.

On January 26, 2021, members of the security forces arrested the media activist Yunus Suleiman, who is the director of the "Citizens with Suspended Execution" Facebook page, for publishing a translated article accusing the President's advisor Buthaina Shaaban of corruption.

On January 31, 2021, the Ministry of Interior announced in a statement the arrest of eight people on charges of "following up and combating the publication and transmission of false news and malicious rumors circulated on some social media pages and YouTube channels for suspicious purposes." The statement is believed to include the arrest of Hala Al-Jorf, Yunus Suleiman, Faryal Jahjah, and others.

2. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)

On January 1, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces carried out a raid and arrest campaign in the village of Abu Al-Naitel in the town of Sour in the northern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor province, and 9 civilians, including a child, were arrested and taken to an unidentified destination.

On January 4, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces arrested the two brothers Khader and Ahmed Al-Hardu, who are from the village of Jazarat Milaj in the town of Al-Kasra in the western countryside of Deir ez-Zor province, after they raided their home in the village, and took them to an unidentified destination.

On January 7, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces carried out a campaign of arrests at one of its checkpoints near the Al-Maamel Roundabout, north of Deir ez-Zor, and during the campaign, 10 civilians were arrested and taken to one of its detention centers in Deir Ez-Zor.

On January 7, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces carried out a raid and arrest campaign in the city of Al-Basira in the eastern countryside of Deir ez-Zor province, and 3 civilians were arrested and took them to an unidentified destination.

On January 9, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces arrested Ayham Abdul Aziz Al-Khalaf, a resident of the city of Al-Busirah in the eastern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor province, after raiding his home in the city and taking him to an unidentified destination.

On January 11, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces, supported by a helicopter of the International Coalition Forces, carried out a raid and arrest campaign in the village of Al-Sager in the city of Al-Busirah in the eastern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor province. 15 civilians, including three children, were arrested and taken to one of its detention centers in the city of Al-Busairah.

On January 12, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces carried out a raid and arrest campaign in the Al-Alawi neighborhood in the town of Al-Baghouz in the eastern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor province, and 11 civilians were arrested and taken to an unidentified destination.

On January 15, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces arrested Saad Abdullah Al-Karoot, a resident of Al-Baghouz town in the eastern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor province, after they raided his home in the town and took him to an unidentified destination.

On January 17, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces arrested Ammar Aref Al-Tarif, a resident of Hajin city in the eastern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor province, born in 1995, when he was passing by one of its checkpoints in the city of Al-Sha`fa in the eastern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor province, and took him to Unidentified destination.

On January 19, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces carried out a raids and arrest campaign in the city of Darbasiyah in the northern countryside of Al-Hasakah province, and seven teachers were arrested for teaching an educational curriculum that contradicts the curriculum imposed by the Syrian Democratic Forces in their areas of control, and took them to an unidentified destination.

On January 19, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces carried out a raid and arrest campaign in the villages of Tayeb Al-Fal, Al-Jardhi, Abu Al-Nitel, Jadid Akidat, Al-Tabiya, and the town of Granij in the northern and eastern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor province. The campaign lasted for two days, and 31 civilians were arrested. They were taken to unidentified destination.

On January 21, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces arrested Fawzi Dahl al-Shalal and his son Ayman, from the town of Khasham in the eastern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor province, who resided in the village of Ruweished in the town of Sour in the northern suburbs of Deir ez-Zor Province, after they raided their home in the village, and took them to an unidentified destination .

On January 21, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces arrested Nizam al-Din Aliko, Jihad Aliko, and Roy Aliko in the city of Darbasiyah in the northern suburbs of Al-Hasakah province, after a demonstration they held in front of the Asayish Center to condemn the arrest of SDF group of teachers on January 19, They were taken to an unidentified destination.

On January 23, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces arrested the media activist, Fanar Mahmoud, who is a member of the “Kurdish Yekiti Party in Syria”, from the city of Qamishli in the northeastern countryside of Al-Hasakah province, because of his criticism of the practices of SDF on his personal Facebook page, and took him to Unidentified destination.

On January 24, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces carried out a raid and arrest campaign in the city of Al-Shuhail in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zor province, and 11 civilians were arrested and took them to an unidentified destination.

On January 24, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces arrested Hamid Jaifis al-Muhammad and Ali Ramadan al-Jaafar, from the village of Kadiran in the western suburbs of Raqqqa province, after they raided their homes in the village, and took them to an unidentified destination.

On January 25, 2021, the Syrian Democratic Forces carried out a raid and arrest campaign in the village of Al-Tarwazi, in the town of Suluk in the northern suburbs of Raqqqa province, and 5 civilians were arrested and taken to an unidentified destination.

3. The National Army

On January 7, 2021, National Army forces carried out a raid and arrest in the village of Hammam al-Turkman in the Tal Abyad region in the northern suburbs of Raqqqa province, and arrested seven civilians, including three women, and taken to an unidentified destination.

On January 21, 2021, National Army forces arrested the media activist Hayan Hababa, who works in the health center of the Violet (Banasaaj) Organisation in the city of Azaz in the northern countryside of Aleppo Province, from the village of Naqir in the southern countryside of Idlib province, and resides in the city of Azaz, and took him to an unidentified destination .

On January 22, 2021, National Army forces raided the Al Malab camp neighborhood in Jarablus city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo province, and 11 civilians were arrested, all of them from Al-Houla region in the northern Homs province, and took them to an unidentified destination.

4. The Liberation of Al-Sham (HTS)

On January 15, 2021, the HTS arrested Yasser Istanbouli, a nurse in the surgery department in the province hospital in Idlib city, from the city of Aleppo, and resides in the city of Binnish in the northern suburbs of Idlib province. He was arrested by HTS members in the city of Binnish and took him to Unidentified destination.

5. Unidentified Parties

On January 4, 2021, an unidentified armed elements arrested Muhammad Ghafer Barakat, who was from the town of Al-Marj in Eastern Ghouta, Rif Dimashq Province, born in 1997, and took him to an unidentified destination. The area is under the control of the National Army forces.

On January 24, 2021, an unidentified armed elements kidnapped Saada al-Darmas, head of the town council of Tal Shire in the countryside of Al-Hasakah Province, and the head of the Economy Office, Hind Al-Khader. Their bodies were later found several kilometers away. The area is under the control of the SDF.

Second: Death Under Torture

1. The Syrian regime

On January 6, 2021, the family of the detainee, Ismail Al-Haj Daoud, learned of his death under torture. He is from the village of Rehiyat Al-Souda in the Tal Hamis district in the eastern suburbs of Al-Hasakah province, He was arrested by the Syrian regime forces 2013.

On January 10, 2021, the family of the detainee, Nihad Atef Al-Mafalani, learned of his death under torture, and he was from the town of Al-Naima in the Daraa province countryside, He was arrested by the Syrian regime forces 2013.

On January 12, 2021, the family of the detainee, Farid Tohme Abu al-Sil, learned of his death under torture. He is from the town of Nawa in the Daraa province countryside, after a two and a half year detention.

Third: The Releases

1. The Syrian regime

On January 1, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee, Ahmed Mustafa al-Khalil, who is from the town of Tal Aas in the Idlib province, after an arrest that lasted about a year and a half.

On January 4, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee, Tayseer Majed Al-Hamad, who is from the town of Al-Muzayrib in the Daraa province, after being arrested for about two years in Sednaya Military Prison.

On January 4, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee, Dr. Muhammad Abdul Rahim Al-Qwaider, who is from the town of Jasim in the Daraa province, after two years of arrest.

On January 6, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released their detainee, Adnan Muhammad Khairallah, who is from the city of Damascus, after a year and two months of detention.

On January 7, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee Ali Al-Shteivi, who is from the town of Al-Harra in the Daraa province, after an arrest that lasted about two years.

On January 9, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee Muhannad Khaled Al-Halqi, who is from the town of Jasim in the Daraa province, after an arrest that lasted about two years.

On January 19, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee Hamza Al-Zayed, who is from the town of Al-Harak in the Daraa province countryside, after a month and a half of detention.

On January 19, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee, Hani Al-Masry, who is from the town of Khirbet Ghazala in the Daraa province, after an arrest that lasted about a year.

On January 19, 2019, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee Mazhar Ahmad Khalaf al-Haj Ali, who is from Khirbet Ghazaleh town in the Daraa province, after being arrested for about a year.

On January 22, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee Haitham Al-Bayad Abu Mahmoud, who is from the city of Daraya in Rif Dimashq, He was arrested on September 6, 2011, and was detained in Adra Central Prison.

On January 24, 2021, the Syrian regime forces released the detainee Mahmoud Abdel-Rahman Maksour, who is from the city of Al-Atareb in the western countryside of Aleppo province, after an arrest that lasted about 10 years.