

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	2113
Land:	Syrien
Kilde:	Syrian Network for Human Rights
Titel:	At least 2,623 Arbitrary Detentions Documented in 2024, Including 349 in December
Udgivet:	4. januar 2025
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	20. juni 2025

SNHR's Annual Report

on Arrests/Detentions in Syria

At least

2,623

Arbitrary Detentions Documented
in 2024, Including 349 in December

With Assad Regime Detention
Centers Opened and All Detainees
Released, SNHR Renews Its Calls to
All Parties Still Detaining Prisoners of
Conscience or Detainees Arrested in
Connection with the Conflict to
Immediately Release Them

Saturday 04 January 2025

The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, independent group that is considered a primary source for the OHCHR on all death toll-related analyzes in Syria.

Contents

I. Overview of Arbitrary Arrest and Enforced Disappearance in Syria	1
II. Report Methodology.....	3
III. Arbitrary Arrests, Enforced Disappearances, and Releases in Syria in 2024 and December 2024.....	5
IV. Most Notable Patterns of Arbitrary Arrests and Releases by the Parties to the Conflict and Controlling Forces in Syria in 2024 and December 2024.....	10
V. SNHR's Vision of and Approach to the Issue of Arbitrarily Arrested Detainees and Forcibly Disappeared Persons at the Domestic and International Levels	19
VI. Conclusions and Recommendations	21
Acknowledgment and Solidarity	25



I. Overview of Arbitrary Arrest and Enforced Disappearance in Syria

Since the very start of the popular uprising for democracy in March 2011, arbitrary detention was one of the main violations committed by the Assad regime against civilians. Accordingly, as the demonstrations calling for political change expanded and spread across Syria, so too did the numbers of arbitrary detentions, whose rates increased steadily as the Syrian conflict went on. In most cases, these arrests were carried out in a manner that more closely resembled an abduction than an arrest, with no judicial warrant being presented, while the targets of these arrests were selected according to security memorandums issued by the now-deposed Assad regime's various security authorities rather than to any genuine cause for arrest.

As the database compiled by the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) shows, about 73 percent of all arbitrary detentions carried out in Syria subsequently turned into enforced disappearances. The Assad regime was responsible for about 88 percent of all the arbitrary arrests documented on our regularly updated database. Naturally, given these staggering rates of arbitrary arrest, the number of Syrian citizens classified as missing skyrocketed, so much so that this can be called a phenomenon in itself. Indeed, Syria is one of the worst countries worldwide in terms of the numbers of 'disappeared' citizens.

Along with arbitrary arrests came a myriad of other violations – the most notable of which were enforced disappearance, torture of many types, forms, and methods, and exceptional trials which involved summary and secret procedures.

The Assad regime surpassed many of the world's other authoritarian regimes by virtue of having absolute hegemony over the legislative and judicial branches of government. The Assad regime wielded this hegemony to pass a multitude of laws and decrees that violated international human rights law, as well as the principles of law and the parameters of arrests and interrogation established under domestic legislation and in Syria's 2012 Constitution. The most notable of these violations were contained in Act No. 19 of 2012, known as the Counterterrorism Act, which was used as grounds for trying most detainees (in addition to the Syrian Penal Code which was used as grounds to try detainees accused of crimes against state security and national security as specified in said code), and its subsequent amendment, the Military Penal Code, and the Counter-Cybercrime Act.

The Assad regime weaponized its arsenal of laws through the use of exceptional courts, such as the Counterterrorism Court, which was the subject of a previous human rights report as an example of legal brutality used by authorities to eliminate political opponents and prosecute civilians. Meanwhile, the now-dissolved Military Field Court was one of the worst and most infamous exceptional criminal courts established in Syrian history. The rulings passed by these courts were used by the Assad regime as instruments to disappear and kill activists and dissidents. Even though the court itself was disbanded over a year before the regime's downfall in accordance with Legislative Decree No. 32 of 2023, its rulings remain in effect as of this writing. With the disbandment of the Military Field Court, all the cases previously handled by it were referred to the Assad regime's Military Judiciary, which was no less awful. The Military Judiciary prosecuted and handled those cases in accordance with the Military Penal Code of 1950 and its subsequent amendments.

Moreover, the Assad regime legitimized the crime of torture, disregarding the existence of several texts in Syrian law that explicitly outlaw arbitrary arrest and torture, including Article 53 of the current Syrian constitution, and Article 391 of the Public Penal Code, which provides that anyone who uses coercion during interrogation shall receive a timed prison sentence ranging from three months to three years. Despite these proscriptions, however, the regime introduced other quasi-legal texts, including Act No. 16 of 2022 on Criminalizing Torture, all of which explicitly contradict the aforementioned legal articles. SNHR previously released a report exposing the dysfunctional nature of its implementation, where it promotes impunity, and reflects how ineffective the legislative process was in addressing torture.

Other parties to the conflict:

As SNHR's data shows, all parties to the conflict have been involved in the practice of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance as ways of terrorizing Syrian society and consolidating control. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and all armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA), have carried out practices similar to those of the Assad regime, albeit in a far less frequent and systematic manner than the Assad regime did. These practices all constitute violations of international human rights law, and, in the context of the armed conflict, violations of international humanitarian law.

In light of all these facts, SNHR ensures that we regularly update and catalogue any new developments on our database, using the data stored there in compiling our periodic and annual reports on enforced disappearance and torture. In this, we aim to highlight the widespread and negative impact of these practices that shaped unprecedented levels of human suffering in Syria. Another goal in compiling data on these issues is to close the wide gap between the victims and the violations they suffered, on one hand, and the lack of serious accountability on the other.

The end of 2024 saw major developments, culminating with the fall of the Assad regime on December 8, 2024, following Operation Deter Aggression, which was launched only 11 days earlier by the Military Operations Command on November 27, 2024, during which the opposition forces managed to liberate a string of cities from Assad regime control in rapid succession, beginning with Aleppo on November 29, followed by Hama, on December 5, then Homs on December 7, and finally Damascus on December 8, eventually driving Bashar Assad, the head of the deposed regime, to flee to Russia.

As such, this report contains the last monthly update by SNHR monitoring the detentions and arrests carried out in the previous month by the now-deposed Assad regime before its collapse at the end of 2024.

II. Report Methodology

For many years, SNHR has released monthly reports, analyzing and providing figures on the state of arbitrary arrest/detention in Syria. Accordingly, this report summarizes the arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, and releases documented by SNHR in the month of December 2024, as well as during the whole of 2024, drawing upon the data and information collected and documented by SNHR's team on the ground. This data is obtained from various sources, including eyewitnesses, local activists, victims, and their families, in accordance with strict documentation procedures. We also strive to update data whenever required to ensure its accuracy and reliability. The last stage of the documentation process is cataloguing the data on violations on our database and in our archives in various forms, including written accounts, audio interviews, video interviews, and reports.

In classifying an incident as an arbitrary arrest/detention and/or enforced disappearance, we adhere to precise standards based on the relevant rules of international law and the body of principles on arbitrary arrest and enforced disappearance. More particularly, we use the five criteria adopted by the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. Meanwhile, in cases of enforced disappearance, we use the definition established by the Declaration on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which was adopted in accordance the UN General Assembly resolution 47/133 on December 18, 1992, as "a body of principles for all states".

Exceptions

- The incidents and cases of arrest that have been documented by SNHR and included in this report do not include abductions carried out by parties which we have not yet been able to identify. However, it should be noted that we do document such incidents on our database, continue to follow up on such cases, and refer to these cases in special reports.
- This report does not include arrests involving individuals detained for committing criminal offenses, such as murder, theft, narcotics-related crimes, and other crimes that have no political nature or are unrelated to the armed conflict or dissident activism.

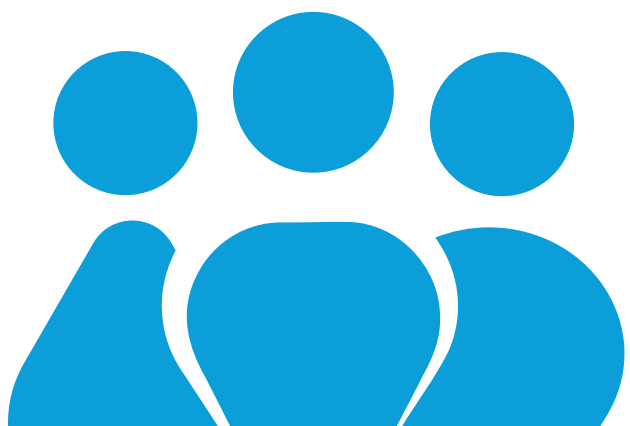
In this report, we categorize the data documented on SNHR's database according to the four parties to the conflict which have been responsible for violations related to arbitrary arrest and enforced disappearance, namely Assad regime forces, SDF, all armed opposition factions/SNA, and HTS. We also categorize arrests based on the location where each one took place, rather than by the detainee's governorate of origin, and distinguish between adult, child, female and male victims. This report also includes a cumulative chart showing arrest rates throughout the year, which we have updated every month, enabling us to make accurate comparisons of how the arrest rates have developed over the year. Moreover, we provide details of the releases from the various detention centers, and catalogue each of these according to their contexts and causes.

While we have always attempted to highlight notable cases that we encounter in our work in order to put a human face to these abstract figures and to prevent victims from being turned into faceless statistics, some of the individuals involved in these cases have faced threats, harassment, and persecution for speaking about what they've seen or experienced, more especially while the Assad regime was in power. Therefore, we took the decision to omit possible identifying details in most cases to protect victims' privacy and security.

This report also provides a summary and analysis of the patterns seen in arbitrary arrests/detentions and enforced disappearance carried out by the parties to the conflict. In accurately identifying these patterns, we draw upon both the information available and the expertise gained by SNHR's team in monitoring the nature of these practices for over 13 years. The report also touches upon the laws and decrees promulgated by the parties to the conflict in relation to issues of arrest and enforced disappearance in the period covered by the report.

It should be also noted that the monitoring process has involved additional challenges following the fall of the Bashar Assad's regime on December 8, 2024, in light of the major changes on the ground. This required more intensified efforts to ensure a proper and objective analysis and collection of data. These changes and shifts, and their implications will be detailed in upcoming reports.

In light of the exceptional difficulties and the extensive scale of violations, this report only reflects the bare minimum of the violations that occurred which we were able to document. We must stress that the actual numbers of victims may turn out to be far higher than the figures we're currently able to provide.

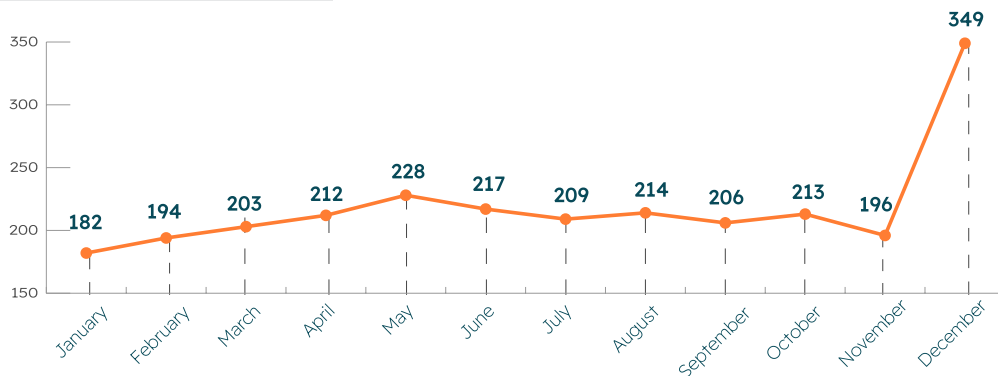


III. Arbitrary Arrests, Enforced Disappearances, and Releases in Syria in 2024 and December 2024

A. Arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances in 2024

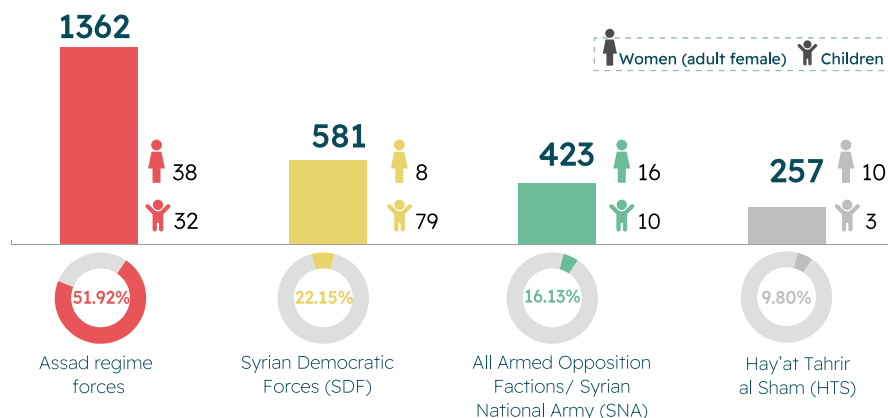
SNHR documented no fewer than 2,623 cases of arbitrary arrest/detention in 2024, with those arrested/detained including 124 children and 72 women (adult female). Of these 2,623 cases, 1,084 were subsequently classified as enforced disappearances.

Arbitrary arrests/detentions carried out by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria in 2024 are distributed as follows:



As the graph shows, December saw a significant uptick in the numbers of arbitrary arrests due to the Assad regime carrying out widespread raid and arrest campaigns targeting young men for conscription following the launch of Operation Deter Aggression by the Military Operations Command on November 27, 2024. Aside from December, May and then June saw the highest monthly number of arbitrary arrests, due to Assad regime forces carrying out arrests/detentions, which also involved the forced repatriation of refugees from Lebanon by the Lebanese army, whose forces carried out raid and arrest campaigns targeting Syrian refugees and deported them to the Syrian-Lebanese border. Meanwhile, SDF personnel continue to carry out arrests for the purpose of military conscription in areas under the group's control.

Arbitrary arrests/detentions documented in 2024 are distributed according to the parties to the conflict and controlling forces as follows:



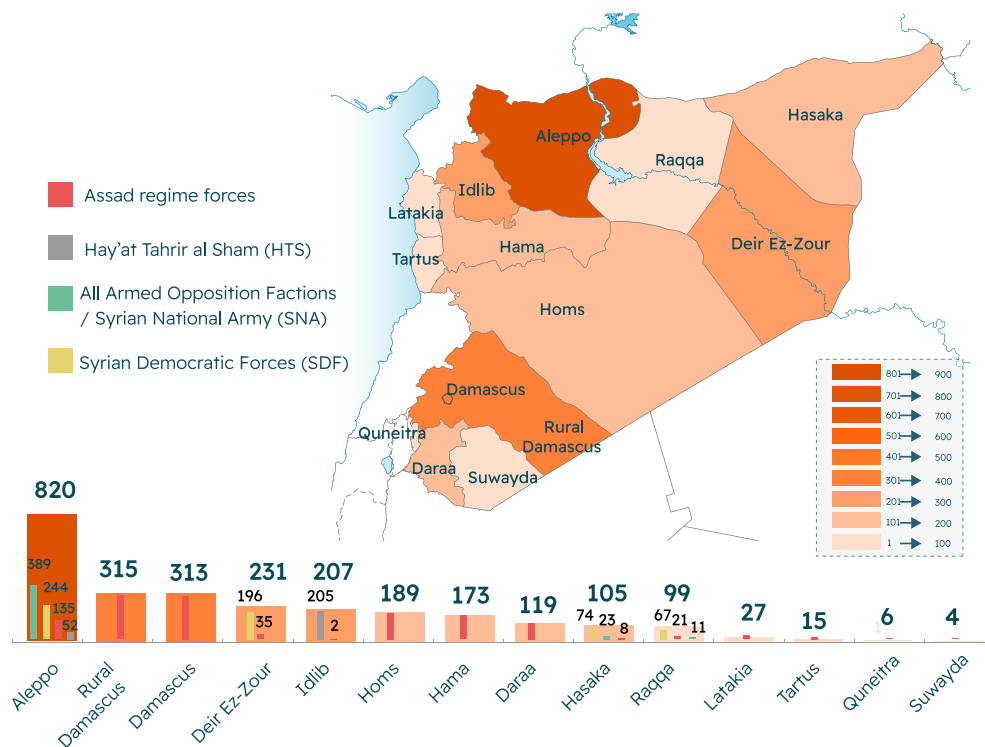
A. Assad regime forces: 1,362 arrests, including of 32 children and 38 women. Of the 1,362 people arrested, 1,239 were released, while the remaining 123 have subsequently been categorized as forcibly disappeared persons.

B. Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS): 257 arrests, including of three children and 10 women. Of the 257 people arrested, 65 have been released, while the remaining 192 have subsequently been categorized as forcibly disappeared persons.

C. All Armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA): 423 arrests, including of 10 children and 16 women. Of the 423 people arrested, 122 have been released, while the remaining 301 have subsequently been categorized as forcibly disappeared persons.

D. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF): 581 arrests, including of 79 children and eight women. Of the 581 people arrested, 113 have been released, while the remaining 468 have subsequently been categorized as forcibly disappeared persons.

Arbitrary arrests/detentions documented as having been carried out in 2024 by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:



As the chart above shows, Aleppo governorate saw the highest number of arbitrary arrests/detentions in 2024, followed by Rural Damascus, then Damascus, Deir Ez-Zour, Idlib, then Homs, and then Hama.

B. Releases from detention centers in 2024

In 2024, SNHR documented the release of no fewer than 25,910 people, including 119 children and 1,752 women, from the various parties' detention centers in Syria.

The releases by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria documented in 2024 are distributed as follows:

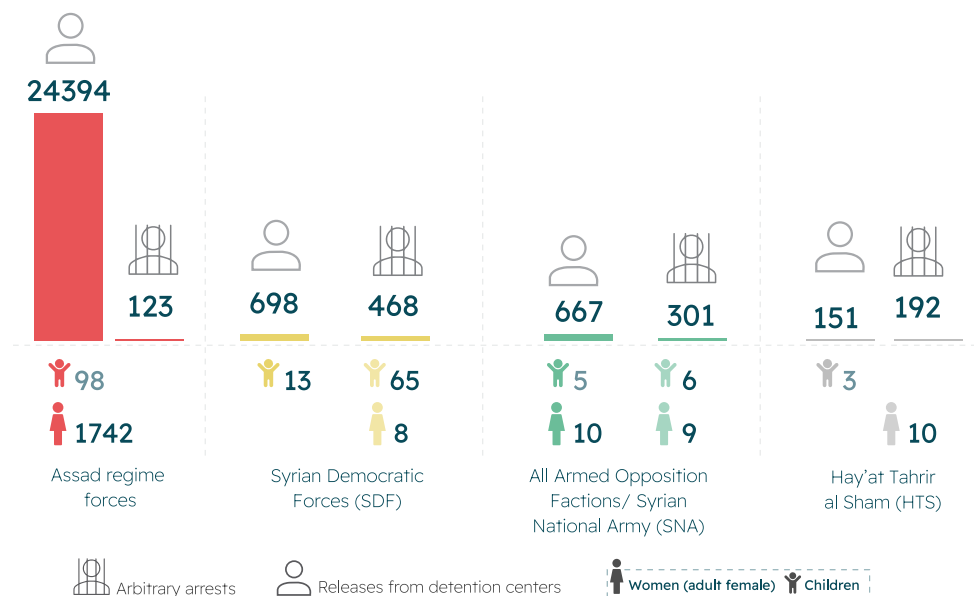
A. Assad regime forces: 24,394 prisoners in Assad's prisons were released, including 98 children and 1,742 women. This includes the prisoners released by opposition forces from regime prisons following liberation, in addition to those released by the regime in previous months.

B. Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS): 151 releases, including of three children.

C. All Armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA): 667 releases, including of five children and 10 women.

D. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF): 698 releases, including of 13 children.

Comparison between arbitrary arrests and releases from detention centers documented in 2024 for each of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria:

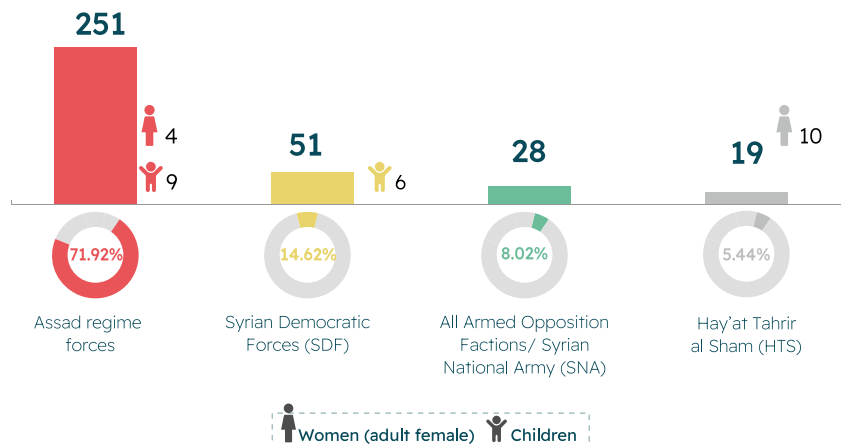


As the chart shows, the number of releases from detention centers is far higher than the number of arbitrary arrests/detentions documented in 2024. This is a result of the releases that followed the launch of Operation Deter Aggression on November 27, which resulted in the liberation of several cities formerly under the control of the deposed Assad regime. As soon as these cities had been liberated, the prisons and detention centers were opened, and all detainees were released. Meanwhile, some detainees were also released from the detention centers operated by SDF and all armed opposition factions/SNA.

C. Arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances in December 2024

In December 2024, SNHR documented no fewer than 349 cases of arbitrary arrest/detention, with those detained including 15 children and 14 women. Of these, 197 were subsequently classified as enforced disappearances.

Arbitrary arrests/detentions documented in December 2024 are distributed according to the parties to the conflict and controlling forces as follows:



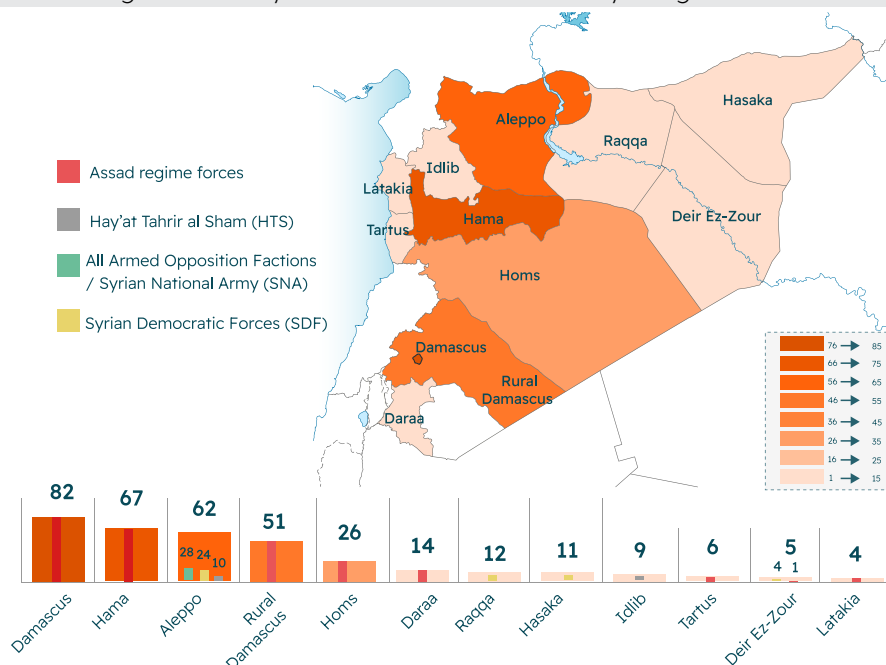
A. Assad regime forces: 251 arrests, including of nine children and four women. Of the 251 people arrested, 128 have been released, while the remaining 123 have been categorized as forcibly disappeared persons.

B. Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS): 19 arrests, including of 10 women. Of the 19 people arrested, four have been released, while the remaining 15 have subsequently been categorized as forcibly disappeared persons.

C. All Armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA): 28 arrests. Of the 28 people arrested, 11 have been released, while the remaining 17 have subsequently been categorized as forcibly disappeared persons.

D. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF): 51 arrests, including of six children. Of the 51 people arrested, nine have been released, while the remaining 42 have subsequently been categorized as forcibly disappeared persons.

Arbitrary arrests/detentions documented as having been carried out in December 2024 by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:



As the chart above shows, Damascus governorate saw the highest monthly number of arbitrary arrests/detentions, followed by Rural Damascus, then the governorates of Hama, Aleppo, Homs, and Daraa in succession.

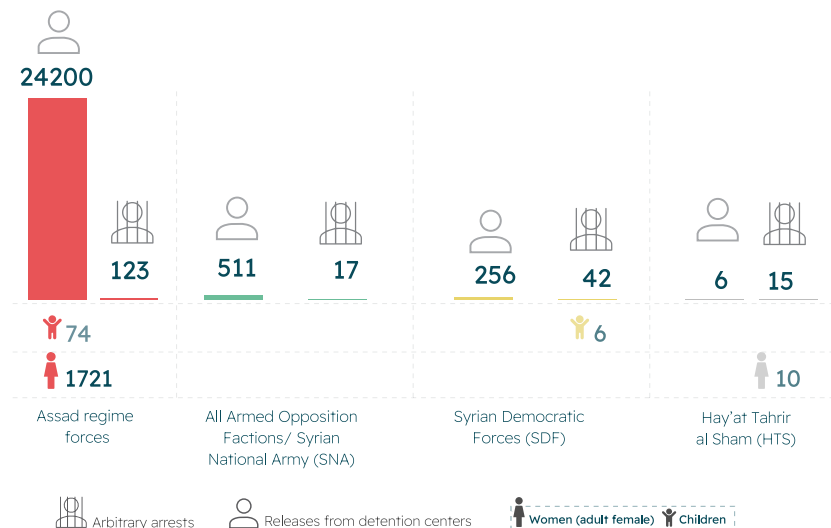
D. Releases from detention centers in December 2024

In December 2024, SNHR documented the release of no fewer than 24,973 people, including 74 children and 1,721, from the various parties' detention centers in Syria.

The releases by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria documented in December 2024 are distributed as follows:

- A. Assad regime forces:** 24,200 releases, including of 74 children and 1,721 women. Most of these detainees were released following liberation.
- B. Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS):** Six releases.
- C. All Armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA):** 511 releases.
- D. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF):** 256 releases.

Comparison between arbitrary arrests and releases from detention centers documented in December 2024 for each of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria:



As noted above, the number of releases from detention centers was far higher than the number of arbitrary arrests/detention in December 2024 (and 2024 in whole). This was the result of Operation Deter Aggression, which began on November 27, 2024, and which resulted in the liberation of several cities formerly under the control of the Assad regime. As soon as these cities had been liberated, the prisons and detention centers were opened, and all detainees were released. Meanwhile, some detainees were released from the detention centers operated by the SDF and all armed opposition factions/SNA.

IV. Most Notable Patterns of Arbitrary Arrests and Releases by the Parties to the Conflict and Controlling Forces in Syria in 2024 and December 2024

Throughout 2024, the parties to the conflict continued their policies of persecuting civilians in areas under their control, carrying out more arbitrary detentions citing various pretexts and causes. This once again confirms a crucial and inescapable truth that was as unavoidably true in 2024 as in the preceding years, and which we have reiterated many times since SNHR was first established: throughout the Assads' rule, no Syrian citizen could feel safe from arrest since these were carried out without any legal grounds or any oversight by any independent judiciary. Below are some noteworthy observations concerning the detentions carried out by the parties to the conflict in 2024:

A. 2024

A. Assad regime forces¹

1. Arbitrary arrests

- We documented numerous arrests/detentions of refugees who had been forcibly repatriated from Lebanon. Those arrests took place after the Lebanese army and Lebanon's General Security Directorate had carried out raid and arrest campaigns targeting Syrian refugees in Lebanon who were then deported to the border. Upon entering Syria, those refugees are usually targeted by checkpoints affiliated with the Assad regime's Military Security Intelligence Directorate, or the military groups and militias who were affiliated with the Assad regime's Fourth Division. Most of those arrested at the border by Syrian regime forces were taken to regime security and military detention centers in the governorates of Homs and Damascus. We also documented arrests/detentions targeting returning "refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs)" who were attempting to return to their original areas previously under the control of Assad regime forces. Those arrests targeted refugees returning from Lebanon, and from Jordan via the Nasib Border Crossing in southern Daraa, as well as via the Damascus International Airport in Damascus city. We also documented arrests/detentions of Syrian refugees returning from Lebanon, fleeing the escalating Israeli offensive launched against Lebanon on September 23, 2024. These arrests took place at the formal and informal border crossings separating Lebanon and Syria. Most of those arrested were taken to the security and military detention centers in the governorates of Aleppo, Homs and Damascus, while most of them were originally from Idlib governorate. These arrests were carried out under the pretext of the detainees' having failed to join the army or reserve forces as required by the regime's conscription policies, or regarding their entry into the country via irregular means. On October 29, 2024, [SNHR released a detailed report on these arrests.](#)

1. We have used the term 'the Assad regime' rather than 'the Syrian government', because the nature of the ruling power in Syria was that of a totalitarian dictatorship where power was concentrated in the hands of a small circle of individuals, namely the President of the Republic and the heads of the Assad regime's security apparatus. As a result, the ministers, including the Prime Minister and the Minister of Interior, played a restricted, largely symbolic role, which was limited to implementing precisely what the ruling regime ordered, with no real decision-making power or active role of their own. Throughout the Assads' rule, Syria was under an autocratic, dynastic dictatorship, with no independent decision-making structure. Rather, the government was an empty façade that existed merely for show. The Minister of Interior received orders from the security branches over which he supposedly presided. The Minister of Justice could not even summon a low-ranking security office, let alone a security branch head. Syria was ruled by the tyrannical president assisted by the heads of the security branches who he appointed. While we are aware that the United Nations and its agencies preferred to use the term 'the Syrian government', we believe that this was and remains a wholly inaccurate and misleading term in reference to the former Syrian regime.

- In 2024, SNHR documented that at least 208 of the refugees who returned from Lebanon, either voluntarily or forcibly repatriated, to areas under the control of the Assad regime at the time of their return were subsequently arrested by Assad regime forces, including two children and six women. They are distributed between:
 - **162 Syrian refugees** who were forcibly repatriated from Lebanon, including two children and five women.
 - **20 returning refugees** who returned to areas then under the control of the Assad regime via crossings with Lebanon or Jordan (Nasib Crossing) in southern Daraa governorate, as well as via Damascus International Airport.
 - **26 refugees**, including one woman, who fled the escalation of hostilities between Israel and Lebanon between September 23, 2024, and the end of the year.
- We documented widespread arrests/detentions of civilians by Assad regime personnel in the governorates of Rural Damascus, Damascus, Hama, Aleppo, and Daraa on the pretext of the victims having failed to join the regime's military or reserve forces as part of the regime's mandatory military service policy. These arrests were carried out during raids or mass arrests at checkpoints, and even targeted individuals who had previously agreed to settle their security status with the regime in areas that saw settlement agreements. Most of these arrests, it later emerged, had been carried out by the security branches for the purpose of extorting ransom money from the family. These arrests took place regularly in 2024, and were documented in most of the monthly reports on arrests/detentions released by SNHR throughout the year. According to our documentation, at least 456 of the cases of arbitrary arrest/detention documented in 2024 involved individuals who had previously agreed to settle their security status with the Assad regime.
- We documented arrests/detentions of civilians who voiced their demands and criticized the worsening living situation in Assad regime-controlled areas, or expressed support for the popular movement in Suwayda governorate, on social media. Those detainees, who included university students, [doctors](#), and media figures who had supported the Assad regime, faced charges related to the Counter-Cybercrime Act, with these arrests concentrated in the governorates of Latakia and Tartus. In 2024, SNHR documented the arrest of 34 individuals, including three women, in connection with the Counter-Cybercrime Act.
- We documented arrests/detentions carried out for the purpose of extorting money, targeting civilians who had received external money transfers on the pretext of their supposedly dealing in a foreign currency. These arrests took place in various governorates, including Rural Damascus, Damascus, Aleppo, and Hama. Many families told us that these arrests were carried out for extortion and extracting ransom money from families in exchange for the release of their loved ones. Similarly, we documented arrests/detentions targeting [a number of women and children](#) in order to apply pressure on their relatives to surrender themselves. These arrests were concentrated in Damascus city.
- We documented arrests/detentions targeting civilians, including women and children, as they were trying to return from areas under the control of armed opposition factions and HTS to their original residences in areas then controlled by the Assad regime. These arrests were concentrated at checkpoints erected at the entrances to Damascus city. Most of those arrested were released a few days later from security branches in Damascus city. We also documented arrests/detentions involving a number of people who were travelling to the Syrian-Lebanese borders to try to cross into Lebanon irregularly. These arrests were concentrated in the governorates of Homs and Damascus.

- Lastly, we documented separate arrests that took place in various different contexts, such as communicating or moving between areas then controlled by the Assad regime and other areas under the control of other parties, or individuals being arrested on account of their being related to activists and dissidents. There were also arrests of people visiting the Assad regime's Immigration and Passports Departments, then controlled by the Assad regime in governorates under the regime's control to obtain travel documents, as well as arrests for conscription. Other incidents included the arrest of citizens who were trying to enter al-Hajar al-Asswad district in Damascus city to check on their houses that they had previously fled.
- Through these arbitrary detentions and enforced disappearances carried out in 2024, [the Assad regime repeatedly violated the order of the Hague-based International Court of Justice \(ICJ\)](#) issued on November 16, 2023, on requesting provisional measures in the case brought by Canada and the Netherlands against the regime on the application of the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. According to the ICJ's court order, the Syrian Arab Republic, as part of its obligations under the Convention against Torture, is compelled to "take all measures within its power to prevent acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and ensure that its officials, as well as any organizations or persons which may be subject to its control, direction or influence, do not commit any acts of torture or other acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment." In addition, the document continued, the Syrian Arab Republic "shall take effective measures to prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of any evidence related to allegations of acts within the scope of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment." The entire process of unlawful detention/arbitrary arrest by the Assad regime was an interconnected series of actions which constituted multiple forms of torture. In these arrests, which were more akin to abductions than to legitimate arrest procedures, the Assad regime did not comply with the arrest conditions specified in the Syrian Constitutions and Syrian law.² These arrests also involved the use of excessive violence and beatings of various forms and levels of severity, which usually began from the very first moments of the arrests, and continued throughout the duration of the detention, during which detainees were subjected to inhumane and cruel conditions, as well as being referred to [exceptional security courts](#) whose proceedings resembled interrogation in security branches rather than any legitimate trial process.

ii. Releases from detention centers

We continued to monitor releases from the various detention centers operated by Assad regime forces throughout 2024 as we'd done in previous years, up until the fall of the regime in December. We documented the release of 24,394 individuals. These releases are divided according to their context as follows:

2. For details of the parameters of arrest in Syrian law, please see our periodic reports on arrests and detention in Syria: <https://snhr.org/blog/category/report/monthly-reports/detainees-and-enforced-disappearances-monthly-reports/>

- We documented the release of 13 detainees in connection with the amnesty decree promulgated by the Assad regime on April 30, 2022 (Decree No. 7 of 2022). The detainees in question were released from the government complex in Daraa city. It is noteworthy that the application of Amnesty Decree 7/2022 was, as of the time those detainees were released, evidently conditional on the end of the prison sentences of those detainees who were partially included in this amnesty.
- In Damascus governorate, we documented the Assad regime's release of 36 detainees from Assad regime detention centers. The detainees in question were released after serving the full term of their arbitrary sentences. As such, these releases were not related to any of the amnesty decrees that have been promulgated to date, with the detainees having been imprisoned for about three years in Assad regime detention centers.
- We also documented the separate releases of 145 individuals, including 15 children and 21 women, all of whom had been held for a few days without trial. Most of these detainees came from the governorates of Damascus, Aleppo, and Daraa, with the majority having spent the duration of their detention in Assad regime security branches.
- We documented the release of about 24,200 individuals in the wake of Operation Deter Aggression that was launched on November 27, 2024, by the Military Operations Command, who liberated a number of cities that had been under the control of the Assad regime. As soon as these cities had been liberated, the prisons and security branches were opened as well, and all detainees were released. [We released a statement](#) noting that a harrowing humanitarian catastrophe was laid bare following the opening of these detention centers, with over 112,414 individuals still forcibly disappeared by the Assad regime even after all these prisons had been opened.
- Based on an analysis of the data, the overwhelming majority of releases of detainees imprisoned by the Assad regime did not occur as a result of a legal obligation, but due to changes on the ground. SNHR is working to shed more light on these releases and to document their details to ensure accountability and justice for the victims.

2. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)

1. Arbitrary arrests

- The SDF also continued enforcing the group's policies of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance in 2024, in an increasingly extensive manner. In pursuit of these policies, SDF personnel continued carrying out campaigns of mass raids and detentions that involve indiscriminately opening fire and assaulting civilians, as well as breaking into, looting, and seizing control of houses.
- Such crackdowns targeted civilians, political activists, and workers at SDF detention centers on the pretext of fighting ISIS, with some of these arrest campaigns backed by US-led Coalition forces. We also documented detentions of civilians, including women and children, that took place as part of raids and mass arrests, and at checkpoints, over the detainees voicing criticism of the living and service situation in SDF-held areas. These arrests, which were concentrated in the governorates of Hasaka, Deir Ez-Zour, and Raqqa, involved seizing money and mobile phones belonging to the detainees. We also documented arrests/detentions of civilians over accusations of working with the SNA, with some of these arrests involving severe beatings of the civilians after they had been detained.

- Moreover, a number of members of other Kurdish parties were arrested over voicing criticism of corruption and the poor living conditions in SDF-held areas. These arrests were concentrated in Hasaka governorate.
- In addition, some civilians were arrested/detained over their participation in anti-SDF popular demonstrations held to protest against the educational curriculum imposed by the SDF at schools in their areas. These arrests were concentrated in Manbij city in rural Aleppo governorate. Some women were also arrested as a means of applying pressure on their husbands to surrender themselves, with these arrests also concentrated in Manbij city in rural Aleppo governorate.
- The SDF also arrested individuals over their alleged involvement in the clashes between SDF and Arab tribal forces in Deir Ez-Zour governorate, while others were arrested for conscription, and taken to SDF training camps, mostly in Manbij city and surrounding villages in Aleppo governorate. Meanwhile, the SDF also continued abducting children with the objective of conscripting them, with these children being sent to military training camps. The parents and families of these conscripted children are not allowed to contact them, with the SDF also refusing to disclose their fate.

ii. Releases from detention centers

In 2024, we documented the release of about 698 individuals, including 13 children, from SDF detention centers. These releases were divided into:

- **172 individuals**, including 13 children, were released from SDF detention centers after being held for periods ranging from a few days to six years. Most of those released were originally from the governorates of Deir Ez-Zour, Aleppo, and Raqqa.
- On December 9, in the wake of the fall of the Assad regime, the SDF released all the detainees who had been held in al-Kasra Prison in western Deir Ez-Zour, numbering approximately **247 prisoners** in all.
- **279 individuals** were released in connection with Amnesty Act No. 10 of 2024, which was promulgated by the SDF on July 17, 2024. The act grants amnesty for crimes committed by Syrian nationals before July 17, 2024. Those released had been held for periods ranging from three months to seven years, with most of them coming originally from the governorates of Deir Ez-Zour, Hasaka, and Aleppo.

3. Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS)

i. Arbitrary detentions

- HTS also detained more civilians in 2024. These arrests primarily targeted humanitarian workers, local dignitaries, and lawyers. Most of these arrests were related to accusations involving voicing criticism of the group in areas under its control. HTS personnel also levied other charges, such as treason or affiliation with other parties to the conflict.

- Some of these arrests took the form of raids on houses, which involved breaking into the homes, ransacking their contents, and seizing electronic devices. Other arrests took place at checkpoints or through abductions of victims from the street.
- We also documented arrests, which were carried out on a mass scale or at HTS checkpoints mostly in Idlib governorate, involving individuals who participated in anti-HTS demonstrations that intensified early this year. HTS also targeted members of the extremist Islamist Tahrir Party.
- Furthermore, IDPs living in houses or facilities in rural Idlib were detained for refusing to move to camps designated for them. We also documented summons issued by the Judiciary of the HTS' Salvation Government for the arrest of media and humanitarian workers, who were questioned and warned against violating HTS' policies.

ii. Releases from detention centers

In 2024, we documented HTS' release of 151 individuals, including three children, from its detention centers in Idlib governorate, with the released detainees having been detained for periods ranging from a few days to four years, without any clear charges being brought against them.

4. All armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA)³

i. Arbitrary detentions

- All armed opposition factions/SNA carried out widespread and arbitrary detentions in 2024, including of women and children. Most of these arrests took place on a mass scale, and mainly targeted those crossing from areas then under the control of the Assad regime to areas under the control of all armed opposition factions/SNA in order to visit their relatives or to irregularly cross into Türkiye. These arrests were carried out on the pretext of checking the individuals' backgrounds, with those arrested in this context being held for periods ranging from a few weeks to a few months under cruel detention conditions without any formal charges or standing trial.
- Moreover, there were detentions targeting civilians that exhibited an ethnic character which were concentrated in areas under their control in Aleppo governorate. Most of these arrests occurred without judicial authorization and without the participation of the police force, which is the sole legitimate administrative authority responsible for arrests and detentions through the judiciary, as well as being carried out without any clear charges being presented against those being detained, and were carried out by various factions to intimidate or apply pressure on civilians, or strip them of their properties. We also documented widespread raids and detentions by SNA members that targeted civilians on the pretext of working with the SDF.

3. All armed opposition factions founded since 2011 across Syria. Many of those formations are no longer active, and many were not structured around a central command. Towards the end of 2017, the Syrian National Army (SNA) was founded as an umbrella formation incorporating all active armed opposition factions established to date.

- SNHR also documented arrests/detentions of civilians in retaliation for the detainees holding Nowruz celebrations. These arrests were concentrated in Atman village, administratively a part of Afrin city. SNA personnel also arrested citizens for demanding the return of their homes, which had been seized by al-Sultan Squad at an earlier date. Those arrested were released after pledging to abandon their claims. These arrests were concentrated in some of the villages that are administratively a part of Afrin city in rural Aleppo governorate.
- Lastly, we recorded raids and detentions that targeted a number of civilians returning to their houses after they had fled their areas when the SNA captured Afrin in 2018. These arrests were concentrated in a number of villages that are also administratively a part of Afrin city.

ii. Releases from detention centers

- In 2024, all armed opposition factions/SNA released 667 individuals, including five children and 10 women, from the detention centers where they had been held, after detaining them for periods ranging from a few days to a year-and-a-half, without bringing any clear charges against them or putting them on trial. Most were released only after their families had been extorted into paying sums of money to secure their release.

B. December 2024

1. Assad regime forces

i. Arbitrary detentions

- We documented widespread raids and arrests by Assad regime forces in the wake of the launch of Operation Deter Aggression by the Military Operations Command on November 27, 2024. These arrests targeted civilians in most Syrian governorates which were at the time under the control of the Assad regime, for the purpose of drafting them into the Assad regime's military forces. These arrests included university students and boys under the age of 18, as the Military Operations Command was rapidly advancing in the governorates of Aleppo and Idlib. Most of these arrests took the form of mass raids on houses and neighborhoods, and later at checkpoints. While most of those arrested in this context were released on December 8, 2024, dozens of them remain missing after they were deployed in combat.

ii. Releases from detention centers

- In the wake of the launch of Operation Deter Aggression by the Military Operations Command on November 27, 2024, which managed to liberate the cities that had been under the control of the Assad regime, prisons and security branches were opened, with all detainees released. SNHR estimates that about 24,200 individuals were released from all the regime's prisons and detention centers.

2. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)

i. Arbitrary detentions

The SDF continued their arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance policies. In pursuit of these policies, the group carried out raids and mass detentions targeting civilians on the pretext of fighting ISIS cells. We also recorded arrests/detentions involving civilians on the pretext of working with the SNA and their alleged involvement in Operation Deter Aggression that was launched on November 27, 2024. In addition, SDF personnel arrested/detained members of other Kurdish parties, with these arrests being concentrated in Hasaka governorate. Furthermore, a number of civilians were arrested/detained for the purpose of conscription, and then taken to SDF training camps. These arrests were concentrated in SDF-held areas in Aleppo governorate.

Meanwhile, the SDF also continued abducting children with the objective of conscripting them, with these children being sent to military training camps. The parents and families of these conscripted children are not allowed to contact them, with the SDF also refusing to disclose their fate.

ii. Releases from detention centers

In December 2024, we documented the release of about 256 individuals from SDF detention centers. These releases were divided into:

- We documented the SDF's release of nine individuals who were held for period ranging from a few days to three months. Most of those released were originally from the governorates of Deir Ez-Zour, Aleppo, and Raqqqa.
- On December 9, 2024, we documented the SDF's release of all the detainees in al-Kasra Prison in western Deir Ez-Zour which held approximately 247 prisoners, all of whom were released.
- 279 individuals were released in connection with Amnesty Act No. 10 of 2024, which was promulgated by SDF on July 17, 2024. The act grants amnesty for crimes committed by Syrian nationals before July 17, 2024. Those released had been held for periods ranging from three months to seven years, with most of them coming originally from the governorates of Deir Ez-Zour, Hasaka, and Aleppo.

3. Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS)

i. Arbitrary detentions

- In December 2024, HTS carried out arrests and detentions of civilians, particularly concentrated in the governorates of Idlib and Aleppo. These arrests involved media workers detained in connection with their coverage of Operation Deter Aggression without having first obtained prior authorization from the Salvation Government. We also documented the arrest of a number of women who held a demonstration in Saed Allah al-Jabri Square in the middle of Aleppo city to demand the release of their detained husbands, who had been arrested earlier over their alleged affiliation with the extremist Islamist Tahrir Party.

ii. Releases from detention centers

- In December 2024, we recorded HTS' release of six individuals from the group's detention centers in Idlib governorate. These individuals had been held for periods ranging from a few days to a month, without any clear charges being presented against them.

4. All armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA)

i. Arbitrary detentions

All armed opposition factions/SNA carried out arbitrary arrests/detentions and abductions, most of them on a mass scale, that targeted individuals coming from SDF-held areas. We also documented arrests/detentions that exhibited an ethnic character, with those arrests being concentrated in areas under their control in Aleppo governorate. Most of these arrests occurred without judicial authorization and without the participation of the police force, which is the sole legitimate administrative authority responsible for arrests and detentions through the judiciary, as well as being carried out without any clear charges being presented against those being detained. Furthermore, we recorded arrests/detentions by SNA members of civilians on the pretext of accusations of their working with the SDF, with these arrests being concentrated in a number of villages that are administratively a part of Afrin city in Aleppo governorate. There were also arrests/detentions by SNA members that targeted a number of individuals returning to their houses in SNA-held areas. These arrests were concentrated in a number of villages that are also administratively a part of Afrin city.

ii. Releases from detention centers

In December 2024, we documented the release of about 511 individuals from the detention centers operated by all armed opposition factions/SNA. These releases took place in various contexts and for various reasons. They were divided into:

- We recorded the release of 11 individuals from the detention centers operated by all armed opposition factions/SNA, who had been held for a few days. Most of them were originally from Aleppo governorate.
- On Sunday, December 8, 2024, the SNA released all the detainees held in al-Ra'ie Military Prison in al-Ra'ie city in western Aleppo governorate, which held an estimated 500 prisoners. Most of those prisoners had been imprisoned over criminal charges and were accused of being affiliated with ISIS.

V. SNHR's Vision of and Approach to the Issue of Arbitrarily Arrested Detainees and Forcibly Disappeared Persons at the Domestic and International Levels

Since the beginning of the Syrian popular uprising for democracy in March 2011, SNHR has placed great emphasis on the issue of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons in Syria, bearing in mind the humanitarian and human rights-related factors surrounding this issue. To ensure that this sensitive issue is given the appropriate high priority, SNHR has assembled a working team consisting of highly trained and qualified members with legal and technical expertise. This team has been working tirelessly to document and record violations, beginning with establishing a database for detainees and forcibly disappeared persons. These documentation efforts are then used as foundation for periodically released detailed reports, which aim to protect the rights of victims and their families and to expose the perpetrators of violations.

Since the issue of missing and forcibly disappeared persons is one of the most persistent, complex and dangerous issues that continues to plague Syrian society, SNHR has strived to work in coordination with the various international and UN entities to document and combat this harrowing phenomenon. These partners include the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (COI), the International, Impartial, and Independent Mechanism (IIIM), the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), and the UN Independent Institution on Missing Persons in Syria. SNHR's work in this field involves collecting and analyzing evidence and information on enforced disappearance cases and related violations, and providing the international community with accurate reports and information based on these investigations. As such, SNHR's reports have become a vital instrumental and reputable source of information on these issues internationally.

Successes and accomplishments

As mentioned above, thanks to our invaluable expertise and strict compliance with international standards, SNHR's data has come to be regarded as a reputable principal source of information for many UN bodies, being used and cited in numerous UN statements and resolutions, including a draft resolution on the situation of human rights in Syria ([A/C.3/78/L.43](#)), passed by a majority vote on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, condemning the Assad regime's continued serious violations of international law. This resolution also acknowledged that the documented number of detainees in Syria exceeds **135,000**. Relatedly, the resolution holds the Assad regime responsible for the systematic use of enforced disappearance, which, it notes, constitutes a crime against humanity.

Meanwhile, [the case brought against the Assad regime at the Hague-based International Court of Justice \(ICJ\)](#) on the Application of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Canada and the Netherlands v. Syrian Arab Republic) draws upon the data and evidence supplied by SNHR. Elsewhere, SNHR, through its many partnerships, has contributed to numerous legal cases brought against individuals responsible for human rights violations in Assad regime detention centers under the principle of universal jurisdiction in Europe and to the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act in the US, as well as other cases, all of them steps on the path to justice and accountability.

Documenting victims

In the years since its foundation, SNHR has established multiple accurate procedures to document and provide details on victims in detention centers, building on our ever-expanding wealth of experience gained through close monitoring of enforced disappearance cases. SNHR also maintained a longstanding and close working relationship with the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, which has required maintaining constant communication with the families of 'missing' and 'disappeared' persons to build comprehensive files for every case. This data was then sent to the UN special rapporteur who could then contact the Assad regime to enquire about some of the cases submitted. Furthermore, SNHR corresponds with the two UN special rapporteurs on torture, counterterrorism, and mental health to follow up on such cases.

Facilitating communication with victims

In addition to the above, we created [a special online form](#) on our website for detainees' families to report their loved ones' cases; once the family members complete this form, it's then sent automatically to our team working on the issue of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons. SNHR has also always tries to ensure that we're easily accessible for the families, through facilitating various means of communication, including phone numbers, our official channels online, or through our team members who are scattered across Syria, who work on collecting information and providing support for the families.

VI. Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions

- The issue of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons is one of the most crucial human rights issues in Syria which there was no progress toward resolving while the former regime remained in power, despite its inclusion in several UN Security Council resolutions, as well as in UN General Assembly resolutions, in Kofi Annan's plan, in the statement of cessation of hostilities issued in February 2016, which stated that "all parties undertake to work for an early release of any arbitrarily detained persons, particularly women and children", and in UN Security Council resolution 2254 of December 2015, article 12, which stated that all detainees, especially women and children, must be released immediately. Despite all these resolutions and other official statements, no progress was ever made by the regime on the issue of securing the release of detainees in any of the rounds of negotiations sponsored by international parties regarding the conflict in Syria. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) was never able to conduct periodic visits to any of the regime's detention centers, which constituted a violation of international humanitarian law.
- In the wake of the recent major developments, with the fall of the Assad regime, it is imperative for the current transitional authorities to address this issue in a decisive, swift, and effective manner to ensure justice and accountability.
- Based on the data documented by SNHR on arbitrary arrest, torture and enforced disappearance, the Assad regime never stopped torture practices and failed to take any steps to comply with ICJ Order for provisional measures since its issuance on November 16, 2023.
- SNHR believes that the Assad regime never fulfilled any of its obligations under any of the international treaties and conventions which it ratified, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). The Assad regime also violated several articles of the Syrian Constitution itself, with hundreds of thousands of detainees detained without any arrest warrant, held for many years, without charge, and prevented from appointing a lawyer and from receiving family visits. Meanwhile, 89.6 percent of all detentions documented were subsequently categorized as cases of enforced disappearance, with detainees' families being denied any information on their loved ones' whereabouts, while anyone making inquiries about the detainees faced the risk of being arrested themselves for doing so. The Assad regime also violated the right to liberty enshrined in Article 9 of the ICCPR through the widespread practice of arbitrary and unlawful detentions.
- HTS still controls wide areas and the residents therein. The group, which has a political entity and has developed a highly hierarchical structure, is therefore obliged to implement the provisions of international human rights law. Nonetheless, HTS has committed widespread violations, including arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances.
- All armed opposition factions/SNA have carried out arrests and torture practices against some residents in areas under their control.

- The SDF has violated many basic human rights and perpetrated numerous violations such as torture and enforced disappearance. Since they also have a political entity with a largely hierarchical structure, they are, therefore, also obliged to apply the provisions of international human rights law.

Recommendations

UN Security Council and international community

1. Refer crimes to the International Criminal Court (ICC)

- The Syrian dossier must be referred to the ICC, or a special tribunal must be established to try those involved in war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- Apply pressure on international entities, including the Russian government, to extradite those responsible for crimes, including Bashar Assad and his family to international courts.

2. Freeze and seize the funds of the former regime

- Freeze the financial assets of the former regime and its clients, and make those funds available to support humanitarian aid and help fund the endeavors to achieve transitional justice.

3. Support the issue of missing persons and national reconciliation

- Secure the necessary resources to support the efforts of the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP), including training local personnel and use advanced technologies to identify missing persons.
- Support initiatives that aim to achieve national reconciliation and provide psychological and social support for the families of the missing.

4. Lift sanctions and minimize any adverse humanitarian effects

- Review the economic sanctions imposed on Syria to ensure they have no adverse effects on humanitarian operations, while maintaining the sanctions imposed on groups that are designated on terror lists.

UN Human Rights Council

- Follow up on the issue of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons in Syria and highlight this issue in all annual meetings.
- Promote cooperation and coordination with active local human rights groups in Syria.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (COI)

- Launch comprehensive investigations into the cases included in this report and previous reports, while shedding light on the cases of forcibly disappeared persons that took place during the rule of the now-deposed Assad regime, and continue to follow up on enforced disappearance cases following the collapse of the former regime. SNHR is willing to cooperate and provide more evidence and data.

- Work on identifying individual responsibility for war crimes, publicly publish the names of such implicated individuals to expose them on the international stage, and end any form of political and economic relationship with them

International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)

- Investigate the incidents included in this report and previous reports. SNHR is prepared to provide any further evidence and information required.
- Collect more evidence on the crimes documented in this report, and provide channels to share expertise with Syrian organizations working in the field of documenting, collecting, and analyzing data.

UN and international community

- Immediately begin applying pressure on all parties to ensure that they immediately reveal their detention records according to a fixed timetable. In the meantime, all remaining detention places should be revealed immediately, and humanitarian organizations and the ICRC must be allowed to visit them directly.
- Support organizations working to document cases of arbitrary arrest, enforced disappearance, and torture, support accountability mechanisms and their mechanisms, and support victim rehabilitation programs.

UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

- Increase the capacity of the team working on the issue of forcibly disappeared persons in Syria at the special rapporteur's office, especially in light of the high numbers and extensive scope of enforced disappearance cases in the country.

UN Independent Institution on Missing Persons in Syria

- Identify those responsible for enforced disappearances in Syria, and provide all forms of support and protection for the victims and their families.
- Look into all the cases included in SNHR reports. We are more than willing to provide more details and data.
- Ask the current transitional authorities to start operating in Syria and to cooperate with the Institution to ensure transparency and accountability in enforced disappearance cases.

Russian regime

- Extradite Bashar Assad and all criminals involved in war crimes and violations against humanity who fled to Russia to the custody of the current transitional authorities in Syria in order to ensure accountability in accordance with international and local laws and to ensure justice for the victims.

All parties to the conflict and the controlling forces

- Arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances must be ended immediately; the fate of all detainees and forcibly disappeared persons must be revealed; the families of those still alive should be allowed to visit them immediately, and the bodies of detainees who have died as a result of torture should be returned to their families.
- Unconditionally release all detainees who have been imprisoned merely for exercising their political and civil rights, release women and children, people with special needs, the sick, and the elderly, and stop using any detainees as prisoners of war.
- Allow independent international monitors, such as those with the COI and the ICRC, to access all detention centers and improve the conditions of places of detention to meet the international legal standards.
- A UN committee must be formed to monitor and periodically assess the release of detainees according to a timetable that must be presented by all the parties responsible for detentions in Syria.
- Publish a comprehensive register containing all the detainees' data together with details of the reasons for their detention, their current locations, and the sentences issued against them.
- End the policy of carrying out arrests without presenting legal warrants, release all detainees imprisoned without judicial charges, and ensure that detainees appear before courts within short, reasonable periods of time.

New Syrian government

1. Cooperate with international mechanisms

- Issue official invitations to independent UN and international agencies, including:
- International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)
- Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
- International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP).
- International Red Cross
- Enable these organizations to have unrestricted access to detention centers and crime scenes.

2. Protect evidence and crime locations

- Take urgent measures to safeguard evidence, including documenting mass graves and detention facilities and preventing any tampering or trespassing.
- Register and clearly mark important sites to ensure they can serve as legal evidence in the future.

3. Address the issue of missing persons and arbitrary arrests

- Cooperate with international institutions to determine the fate of missing persons and facilitate access to detention centers.
- Release all remaining detainees still being held unlawfully, provide them with medical and psychological care, and ensure they are reunited with their families.
- Establish a national system to monitor the conditions of former detainees and support their rehabilitation.

4. Promote justice and accountability

- Collect evidence related to violations, including official record documents and crime scenes.
- Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and grant the court retroactive jurisdiction.
- Adopt comprehensive transitional justice policies, including holding perpetrators accountable, compensating victims, and ensuring transparency and credibility.

5. Governance reform

- Build an inclusive governance structure representing all components of Syrian society, including women and minorities, as well as civil society organizations.

6. Prevent further violations

- Ensure respect for fundamental rights and freedoms for all without discrimination.
- Reform the judiciary and security apparatus in accordance with international human rights standards.

7. Support affected populations and rehabilitation

- Provide psychological and social support to families of missing persons and conflict victims.
- Develop comprehensive programs for the rehabilitation of survivors and released detainees.

Acknowledgment and Solidarity

We wish to extend our most sincere thanks to survivors and to victims' family members and friends, as well as to eyewitnesses and local activists, for their significant and invaluable contribution to this report. We stand in full solidarity with all detainees and forcibly disappeared persons and their families.



SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



info@snhr.org
www.snhr.org

No justice without accountability

© Syrian Network For Human Rights (SNHR).
January 2025

