

THE TRUTH AMIDST FIRE A DANGEROUS CAREER

A Human Rights Report Monitoring Violations of Human Rights Defenders and Media Workers in Yemen

2014 - 2020



September 2020





www.samri.org

DEDICATION;

To the pure souls.. Abdullah Qabil, Youssef Al-Aizari, Reham Al-Badr, Moamen Saeed, Suleiman Al-Bura'i.

For all human rights defenders, and whose relatives died while in detention, tortured, and the militia refused to allow the bodies to be seen, and others who came out either with disabilities or on the threshold of insanity, simply because they ran a newsgroup on WhatsApp.

For human rights defenders and monitors who have been abused and displaced ...

For victims of their human standpoint and freedom ... for all those tortured whose stories beamed known, and all those who are incommunicado and whose stories are untold.

With all gratitude, and with due apology, we dedicate this report to you.



A CRIME SCENE WITHOUT WITNESSES

The paradox looks weird but real. Human rights defenders and monitors in Yemen are exposed to violations! This report documents how the activist turn from being a human rights defender or monitor into a victim of the most heinous abuse.

Through some of the witnesses and victims reached by SAM, it appears that the perpetrators want the crime scene to be free of witnesses, so they can claim that they are innocent before the people, and more importantly, the international community. In recent years, the level of targeting human rights defenders, activists, human rights activists, and monitors and journalists has increased alarmingly

BACKGROUND ON THE LIBERTIES IN YEMEN:

Media freedoms and civil and human rights activities expanded in Yemen after the unity between the two parts of North and South Yemen into one entity called the Republic of Yemen on May 22, 1990, and the Republic of Yemen witnessed a noticeable improvement in the field of rights and freedoms, with setbacks at certain instances, especially during armed conflicts, as the authority of the Yemeni former President, "Ali Abdullah Saleh"(1), used to harass, imprison, abduct and torture opinion-makers, media activists and activists, and liquidate major media figures, whom the regime of President Saleh considered a disturbing voice and a serious threat to his authority.(2)

The laws issued, on regulating media work, civil and human rights activities, and media, legal and rights unions, were a gain for a country described that time as an emerging democracy, while its rulers are not believers in freedoms and the role of the media and

unions in the renaissance of societies, such as, for example, Law No. 25 of 1990 on the Press and Publications, Law No. (31) of 1999 on regulating the Legal Profession, and a law on organizing demonstrations and marches issued in the year 2003, all of which established the basis for rights, media, and civil work in Yemen.

If we track back the history of civil liberties since the founding of the Republic of Yemen, we can divide it into different temporal phases, the first: from 1990 to 2001, the second from 2001 to 2010, the third from 2011 to 2014, and the fourth from late 2014 to date.

In the period between 1990 and 2001 media freedoms and freedom of opinion and expression moved a little forward, by enacting laws and form unions, and providing an acceptable space for criticism and opinion expression despite the accompanying violations, and some contents of rights and freedoms were strengthened in Yemeni legislation.

In the period that followed 2001, and with the outbreak of war between the Yemeni authority and the Houthis militia - which rebelled against the regime in Sa'da governorate in northern Yemen - the space

(1) Assumed power in 1988, and was ousted by public uprising in 2012

(2) Abdulaziz Al-Sakkaf, editor-in-chief of Yemen Times newspaper, killed in a hit-and-run car accident, on 3 June 1999, Al-Hayat newspaper <https://rb.gy/0w7fw4>



of media freedoms narrowed, so did the freedom granted to human and trade union organizations and violated by the policies of President Saleh authorities, and such policies represented a violation to the principles of international human rights law and relevant domestic legislation, which clearly emerged during the period of those wars, such as the decision to close the Al-Shoura newspaper issued by the Yemeni Ministry of Information in September July 1999, and imprison its editor-in-chief(3). This period was marked by the deterioration of the human rights situation, violation of freedom of the press, and violation to human and civil work in Yemen(4).

Over the course of those years, the authorities of Saleh fought with the Houthis, what became known as the “six Sa’da wars”, then comes after it, the third period of freedoms and rights, during the

uprising of some Arab peoples, or what is known as the Arab Spring, as the Yemenis made it to the streets, and ousted the regime of Ali Saleh and in 2011, thus the print, audio and electronic media witness a qualitative leap in Yemen, where the civil society organizations related to rights and freedoms, and activists, had a remarkable role during this period in forming pressing opinions on issues related to rights, freedom of opinion and expression, along with social media, which contributed to create awareness with the importance of press freedoms among law enforcement institutions.

In 2014, a coalition of ex-combatants, former president Ali Saleh, came to the forefront with the influence he had with the Houthis militia, and at the end of this year the era of a major setback for rights and freedoms began. Where we may consider

(3) The decision to close Al-Shoura newspaper from a statement issued by Human Rights Watch, <https://www.hrw.org/ar/news/2001224049/19/06/>

(4) Yemen report: Journalists and Human Rights Defenders at Risk in Wartime, Gulf Center for Human Rights, <http://www.gc4hr.org/report/view/35>

the phase between seizure of Sana'a by Houthis militia and military units affiliated with Sal eh on 21st September 2014, as the worst phases in violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law related to media freedoms and human rights, in Yemen.

During this period and afterward, human rights defenders and violations monitors suffered horrific physical and psychological assaults, and widespread detention and torture campaigns, and journalists were used as human shields and activists were targeted by snipers, in addition to looting and blocking media institutions and websites and restricting human and civil activities in general.

The leader of the Houthi militia had described the journalists in a televised speech as "traitors" and said "there must be action against them"(5).

In a press conference, Ahmed Al-Asiri, the spokesman for the Arab Coalition that was established to support legitimacy in Yemen, threatened media outlets affiliated with President Saleh and the Houthis that they would be the target of air strikes in

reference to the channels of "Yemen Today", "Azal" and "Al-Masirah"(6). As a member of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, Nabil Al-Aosaidi, summarized this period by saying, "During the past two years, Yemen witnessed a real massacre of the press, and a sharp collapse in freedom of opinion, its grotesque memory will be repeated for decades to come."(7)

Through this report, SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties, aims to provide an overview of what freedoms and freedoms in Yemen have been subjected to, and to shed light on the extent of harassment suffered by humanitarian organizations and initiatives, in addition to media institutions, being channels, websites, or offices, by documenting the statements made by people active in this field, to inform the public opinion of the extent of the damage that has affected the rights, and media field since September 2014.

(5) From the IFJ letter to the leader of Ansar Allah in Yemen on September 25, 2015.

<http://www.ifj-arabic.org/page-ifj-535.htm>

(6) A report on Monitoring the Status of Press Freedoms; during the first half of the year 2015 issued by the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate. <http://www.yemenjs.net/upload/libraries/pdf/10/pdf.pdf>

(7) Quoted from a speech given by a member of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate before the Human Rights Council – Geneva, Sada Aden News website. <http://www.sadaaden.uk/read-news/335292>

PERPETRATORS;

The Houthis, “the militia that took over the state in late 2014,” appear at the forefront of the perpetrators of these heinous abuses, that included; threat and abduction, and the use of journalists, as human shields as in the cases of TV reporter Abdullah Qabil and his colleague Yousef al-Aizari, in targeted locations, and torture until death and disposal of the body, as in the case of activist Suleiman Al-Bura’i.

Violations have increased significantly since the outbreak of the war in Yemen, between the Houthis militia on one side, and the internationally recognized legitimate government backed by the Arab coalition countries headed by Saudi Arabia, on the other.

Although, Houthis militia topped the list of perpetrators of violations against activists and media professionals, this does not absolve the other parties of violations they have carried out under the pretext of their rarity!

REPORT METHODOLOGY

SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties monitored and documented violations of media professionals and human rights activists early, through an integrated team of researchers specializing in documenting violations, and according to international relevant standards. These researchers are located in most of the Yemeni governorates, and a number of them are distributed in separate areas within the same governorate, especially those that witnessed and witnessing violent and protracted conflict.

The SAM team interviewed many victims, listened to witnesses, and examined some of the damage caused to media and human rights institutions, using a number of means and tools to reach the victims, including: field research, communications, the Internet, and addressing administrative teams in media and trade union and organizations and communicating with journalists, activists, and opinion-makers, as well as documenting - verified statements - published by activists, human rights defenders, and journalists on social media who had been subjected to violations, in addition to what was

reported by some media on its websites.

SAM has endeavored to obtain medical reports on the facts that necessitated this, death certificates, pictures that document the victims of physical assault and torture, and show the effects of assaults and attacks on the media and human rights organizations; in order for the information to be reliable and enjoy the highest degree of credibility, therefore it was necessary to point out that there is information and facts that were difficult to access, and warn that the information obtained by the team does not reflect all the truth and reality, but it reveals the scale of the tragedy and the multiple violations committed.

SAM team works in highly complex field conditions; given the armed conflict that has engulfed large areas of the Republic of Yemen, especially in hotspots, where the organization and its field researchers have been subjected to defamation and targeting campaigns by various parties to the armed conflict in Yemen; because of the activity of the organization in defending human rights.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

International human rights law and international humanitarian law have guaranteed journalists and media organizations with special protection during peace and wartime, and the violation of this protection or the degradation of it, is considered a crime, among which are the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, where Article (19) of it provides that: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers”.

International humanitarian law “the law of war” considered journalists who perform their duties in areas of armed conflict as civilians who must be respected and protected from every form of deliberate attack, as “international humanitarian law provides for civilian journalists the same protection afforded to civilians as long as they do not take a direct part in hostilities.”

Article 79 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 states:

Journalists engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered as civilians within the meaning of Article 50, paragraph 1.

They shall be protected as such under the Conventions and this Protocol, provided that they take no action adversely affecting their status as civilians (...).

The ICRC also notes in the Customary Rules of International Humanitarian Law (2005) in its 34th Rule Chapter ten, that “ Rule 34. Civilian journalists engaged in professional missions in areas of armed conflict must be respected and protected as long as they are not taking a direct part in hostilities (...). And this is a customary rule applied in both international and non-international armed conflicts.

International humanitarian law in all armed conflicts expressly prohibits the following acts against persons who have not actually engaged in hostilities or are unable to engage in it: (i.e. violence against life and people, especially killing in all its forms, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture, hostage taking, assault on personal dignity, especially humiliating and degrading treatment, issuing penalties and carrying out executions without a previous ruling issued by a legally formed court that guarantees all judicial guarantees recognized as necessary by civilized peoples)(1).

(1) Interview with Ms. Antonella Notari, in charge of the ICRC project on the issue of the safety of journalists

In its resolution S/RES/1783 (2006), the UN Security Council condemned intentional attacks against journalists, the media, and individuals associated with them during armed conflict, and considered the safety and security of journalists, media, and crews in areas of armed conflict equal to the protection of civilians there, and the Council considered independent journalists and reporters to be civilians, and should be respected and treated in such capacity. Also, considered media facilities and equipment as civilian objects should not be the target of any attacks or reprisals.(2)

In a related context, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which the government of Yemen has ratified, guaranteed freedom of association, freedom of opinion and expression, and the need to respect the independence of human rights defenders and civil society activists and respect their rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights also included states' pledges to work and cooperate in promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and to ensure the establishment and accession of unions, and the obligations that the Republic of Yemen accepted in the Declaration on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution No. (A / RES / 53/144)(3), illustrated number of means and methods that human rights defenders and activists can take to operate in an atmosphere of freedom free from harassment or threats, and the Republic of

Yemen was one of the countries committed to what was stated in the Declaration.

However, it is clear that these obligations and pledges were subject to wide breaches and flagrant violation by all parties to the armed conflict, as the Houthis militia and military forces loyal to Saleh, and the Yemeni government and its security and military apparatus are responsible for these violations, as well as the armed factions loyal to the government are also not committed to protecting human rights defenders activists and have practiced a number of violations against them, but to a lesser extent than the Houthis military militia. What is also striking is the violent behavior that the Arab coalition countries have performed against defenders, activists and the media, either through air strikes or through security units in the governorates of Aden, Hadramout, Taiz and Shabwa, supervised by the United Arab Emirates the Arab coalition member.

Some of these violations amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity. In this regard, the crimes that target journalists, news agency correspondents, and newspapers in particular does not have the status of limitation, as do crimes against civilians, according to the 1968 Convention on the Non-Limitation of War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity.

and international humanitarian law in media during wars. ICRC website <https://www.icrc.org/ara/resources/documents/interview/30-international-conference-interview-notari-221107.htm>

(2) United Nations Security Council Resolution - United Nations Document Center. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N0658/681//PDF/N0668158.pdf?OpenElement>

(3) Declaration on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at the session (53), March 8, 1999. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N9987/770//PDF/N9977087.pdf?OpenElement>



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The violations reached its peak when the Houthis took control of the Yemeni capital, Sana'a, on September 21, 2014. The Houthis who allied with Saleh are the party who committed the largest and most abhorrent assaults and violations, and these assaults gradually and disturbingly moved to the governorates of Aden, Hadhramaut and Taiz, which are under the authority of the Yemeni government represented by the Yemeni President, Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi. Human rights defenders, journalists and the media operate in these areas in a dangerous environment, in addition they are exposed to reprisals from security forces and armed groups spread in some southern governorates and under the umbrella of the Arab Coalition."

SAM documented more than (1,586) violations against human rights defenders, civil society organizations, media institutions, newspaper reporters, social media activists and agencies during the period covered by the report, distributed as follows:

1096

Violations against journalists, opinion-makers, and media organizations

490

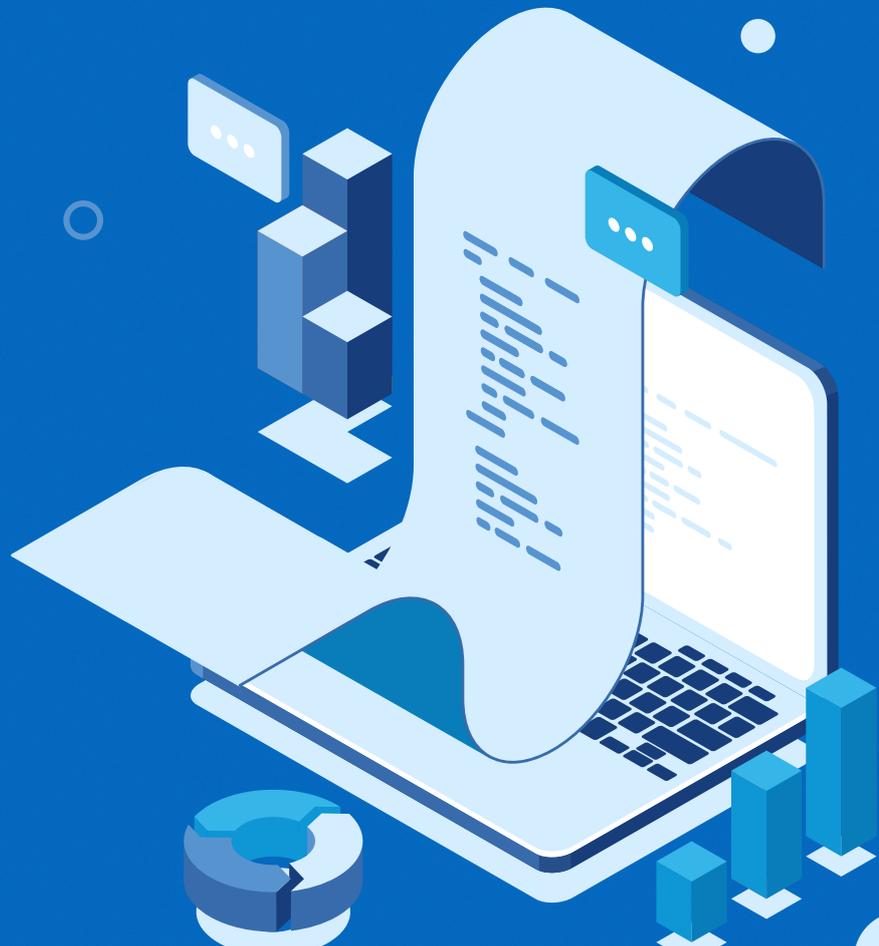
Violation of against human rights defenders, activists, and human rights institutions interested in defending human rights.

These violations have ranged from killing and physical assault, torture to death, detention and enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention, trials due to opinion, damage of media institutions, tampering with their contents, looting, and often closing them, along with violations related to threats, muffling, confiscation, suspension and dismissal.

Those violations included most of the Yemeni governorates, and the areas under Houthis' militia authority, topped the list of these violations, followed by the areas controlled by the authorities of the legitimate government, especially those military units that receive their orders from the Emirati military leaders affiliated to the Arab Coalition in Aden, Mukalla and Taiz. Arab coalition countries have emerged as one of the violators of media correspondents' human rights, also, extremist organizations such as Al Qaeda, along with some unknown groups.

THE REPORT CONSISTS OF TWO CHAPTERS AND EACH CHAPTER IS DIVIDED INTO PARTS.

In the first chapter, which consists of two parts, the violations against human rights organizations and initiatives were reviewed in the first part, and in the second part of this chapter, examples and testimonies of violations against human rights defenders, including lawyers, activists, or volunteers, were reviewed. In the second chapter of the report, there are two parts: in the first part are samples and testimonies of violations suffered by journalists, and in the second part, samples and testimonies of violations against media outlets were arranged as follows: Yemeni TV channels, FM broadcasts and institutions (radio), press institutions, regional and international institutions, and finally examples of violations suffered by activists on social media “alternative media”.



CHAPTER ONE

KEEPING SILENT FOR SAKE OF SAFETY

With the Houthis militia storming the Yemeni capital, Sana'a, the risks to human rights defenders and organizations of Yemeni society multiplied, as apprehension reached its climax towards everything that is civil, and the charges were ready, so is the punishment, towards all those whom they dislike, or considered it an opponent.

Remaining silent was the safest option to preserve life, and under such pressure some organizations and activists left Sana'a, and the militia-controlled areas.

However, many human rights defenders and organizations, have challenged the new reality, to work in documenting and monitoring violations from the heart of the conflict there and many of them have been exposed to violations from various parties to the armed conflict.

SAM has documented these crimes and violations, and in this chapter of the report it monitors violations that have been divided into two parts. The first: monitors violations that the emerging components, community initiatives or human rights organization have been exposed to, and in the second part: monitors violations suffered by persons defending rights Human; human right defenders.

PART: ONE

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS:

The war led to the closure of human rights organizations offices, especially in the capital, Sana'a, and the withdrawal of licenses of some organizations and instructing banks to freeze their accounts, and in return violations and secret detention centers increased, and the violators diversified.

In response to these procedures, “restricting and combating organizations, and multiplying violations,” alternative components have emerged to operate in a dangerous environment that practices repression, and with modest capabilities these components work to defend violated rights and incur the suffering in doing that.

These components were not only limited to the capital, Sana'a, where the Houthis control, as human rights entities have emerged in the areas that are under the jurisdiction of the legitimate government.

SAM monitored, during the reporting period, 16 attacks and assaults against human rights components, organizations and institutions, including looting, intrusion, closure or confiscation.

These attacks and assaults were distributed between the Houthis and Saleh militia in Sana'a, or security institutions that loyal to legitimate government in Aden, or from al-Qaeda in Hadramout governorate, or security forces supervised by Arab Coalition countries.

The report presents examples of these attacks and assaults, as follows:

COMMISSION FOR DEFENDING THE DETAINEES - SANA'A

DETAINEES' MOTHERS ASSOCIATION - SANA'A

The commission for Defending the Detainees was established after the Houthis and Saleh forces invaded the capital, Sana'a, by lawyers and human rights activists to voluntarily defend the detainees and document the violations they are subjected to. The commission visited a number of prisons and detention centers in which the opponents of the Houthis and Saleh authority were held, and the organization organized for the families of the detainees a number of protests, and met with concerned people, including the United Nations Secretary-General's envoy to Yemen Ismail Ould Sheikh, the Commission presented information on the detainees and issued two annual reports on their conditions.

Lawyer Abdul Basit Ghazi, head of the Commission, was arrested, also, other members of the Commission by Houthis militia, for different terms, including: lawyer Mohamed Al-Hanahi, lawyer Mohammed Abkar, lawyer Abdul Majeed Sabra, lawyer Nasr Abu Hadi, and the Commission faces several challenges, including: the failure to comply with judicial orders to release the detainees, and the abusive measures of the Houthis militia towards its members.

Detainees' Mothers Association, is a community Association consisting of mothers, wives, daughters and relatives of detainees. The Association was established in Sana'a to publicize the issue of detainees and forcibly disappeared persons, and to monitor the conditions of their families. The Association also communicates with the media and conducts media campaigns to publicize its cause.

The Association had held meetings in Sana'a to inform the local community and the offices of international and UN organizations, such as the Red Cross and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, on the issue of the detainees, and had organized nearly 32 protests.

In ten solidarity sit-ins, the Association, was subjected to various assaults by the Houthis and Saleh militia, their mobile devices were confiscated, and the headscarves of some of them were removed. Simply; these mothers look for their detained relatives, and are subjected to violations that not only violate humanitarian law, but also custom.



SAM

Rights & Liberties

SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties has been subjected to a media campaign organized by several parties because of its reports that documented many serious violations to human rights committed by these parties against civilians.

In May 2017, the organization issued a statement that revealed 18 secret prisons in the governorates of Aden and Hadramout under the direct supervision of the United Arab Emirates, member of the Arab Coalition as a result of which the media affiliated to the coalition launched a provocative media attack against SAM organization and its monitors, reached to threat and questioned its credibility, and its existence, in one of the Abu Dhabi Channel programs, they publicly accused SAM organization of providing bribes to other international organizations to market their reports that they considered offensive to the UAE. Such as the report of secret prisons issued on May 24, 2017 on the prisons of Aden and Hadramout, and a number of channels on YouTube, such as the Emirati Al Ain channel, have been issuing videos insulting to the former head of the organization, Nabil Al-Baidani, and the monitoring and documenting officer, Tawfiq Al-Humeidi.

Alghad Almushreq Channel, Albyan the Emirati newspaper, the Saudi Okaz, and other channels and newspapers participated in the campaign, and after the SAM organization issued a statement condemning the death sentence of the Baha'i activist Kamal Haidah, the Public Prosecution affiliated to the Houthi group in Sana'a accused SAM organization with a number of international organizations such as the Amnesty, the European Union as supporters of Baha'is abroad and after publishing Al-Saleh Detention Center report of the in Taiz, which was supervised by the Houthis Group on February 10, 2020, the Deputy Minister of Information of the Houthis Group wrote articles in Al-Thawra newspaper entitled "SAM the ISIS," and on July 28, 2020, the site of the organization was hacked by an unknown party because of the organization's activity in disclosing many human rights files, the most important of which is the recruitment of Yemeni civilians to the borders of Saudi Arabia, the arrest of Yemenis in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia border, and the arrest and torture of women in Houthis prisons

COMMISSION FOR DEFENDING THE DETAINEES - ADEN

The Commission for Defending the Detainees, is another body established in Aden governorate with the aim of granting the detainees with their constitutional rights including, expedite and follow the due process, and investigation with detainees in prisons, and to release those who are not proven guilty.

The Commission launched a set of activities to achieve its goals, including monitoring and documenting cases of detention and enforced disappearance through the establishment of a monitoring and documentation unit.

The Commission organized protests with the Detainees' Mothers Association, visited prisons and detention centers to find out the whereabouts of the detainees, and explore with the prison administration, solutions to existing problems, also, met with security professionals including the Director of Aden Police, the commander of the Security Belt Forces, supported by the Emirates and leaders of the Southern Resistance.

Members of the Commission were subjected to harassment by security authorities and armed brigades in the governorate of Aden, due to their work, and yet they continue to operate despite the complex security conditions and their poor technical and material capabilities.

COMMISSION FOR DEFENDING THE DETAINEES - HADHRAMOUT

The Commission, was subjected to a wide campaign of arrests that included a large number of scholars, dignitaries, and activists, following establishment of in June 2016.

There was no any charge filed against the hundreds of detainees, or due process followed, nor did they enjoy their basic human rights, they were kept incommunicado, and their whereabouts is unknown. Some of them were tortured to death, as happened with Muhammad Awadh. Ba Rahma, "and the comedian Mahfouz Jamaan Mahrous (Awmi). The extensive arrest took place, under the pretext of combating "Al Qaeda".

THE WATER MARCH FROM IBB TO TAIZ

It is a civil initiative, launched by activists, journalists, and members of the Houthi Revolutionary Committee in the governorate of Ibb, adjacent to Taiz, and the initiative came after the city of Taiz was intensified, by the Houthis militia, and the difficulty of obtaining water due to Houthis banning of water tankers entry into the city. The march organizers were intending to run water tankers to the besieged city of Taiz.

In October 2015, the march coordinators held a meeting to coordinate the efforts and launch the march, and during their meeting in the hotel and agreeing on the launch date, gunmen of Houthis militia, led by, Abu Imad Al-Hassani," stormed the hotel room, and arrested the (25)march organizers, and searched and confiscated all their belongings including their mobile phones, then took them to the Political Security building.

Some were tortured; beaten with batons and electrocuted in the cells of the Political Security. Journalist Mahmoud Yassin recounted his severe torture for an hour and a half⁽¹⁾, also, the activist Amin Al-Shafaq, who was beaten and detained for months in Ibb governorate, then transferred to the National Security Prison in Sana'a to remain two years in detention.

On his November 2015, he published his detention memories and what he (1) and his co-detainees were exposed to, in his Facebook page

PART: TWO

Human Rights Defenders

When documenting assaults against human rights defenders, including lawyers and journalists, SAM organization has noted a general trend in the Houthis militia and the forces of former President Ali Saleh to silence muffle all voices and efforts to defend the victims, especially in the Yemeni capital, Sana'a.

In 2018 only, the organization documented (471) cases of violations committed by the Houthis against human rights defenders, including lawyers, rights activists, and politicians, and the violations varied between abduction, prolonged detention, beating, insulting, and attempted murder.

The organization also documented cases of abduction and assaults on activists by military and security forces affiliated with the legitimate government in Aden and Hadramout. Here are some cases documented by the organization:

Lawyer and human rights activist
ABDUL RAHMAN BARMAN



On the night of September 21, 2014, after Houthis entered Sanaa, two Landcruiser cars loaded with militants cordoned the tower in which the Barman Law Firm and Legal Consultants office is located. The employees and lawyers were allowed to continue their work, but nothing is allowed to be removed from inside the office, but I lost my laptop from inside the office, which indicates that the Houthis have opened the office.

In December, a representative of the Houthis came and told the office secretary to inform me to meet the supervisor and change the rent contract in the name of the supervisor and pay office rents to them and not to the owner because the tower had been confiscated for the benefit of the Houthis I was outside Yemen and I refused that and requested a ruling or judicial decision obligating me to do so.

In mid-2016, after the Ramadan and Eid holidays, and resuming work, they found that the office's padlock had been changed, and the tower guards prevented them from entering and informed them that the office had been confiscated by the Houthis group, and despite the interference of the Bar Association and the formation of a committee to follow the Houthis to return the office or allow my colleagues to take the furniture and the legal library, and Houthis promised more than once to hand us over to the office, but they refused and said that there is a judicial order to seize the firm.

I filed a complaint to the Public Prosecution, and 4 years ago, the Public Prosecution Office directed the police department to investigate the burglary incident. Upon arrival by the department, the Houthis supervisor told the investigating officer that the office was seized because the owner, Abdul Rahman Barman works with the Saudi aggression and he mentioned his nickname only.





Prosecution office continued to procrastinate addressing the case on the pretext of not knowing the full name of the supervisor who carried out the robbery of the firm, and the case was referred to more than one prosecutor and they all said that we cannot move the case against any Houthis supervisor.

On 17/3/2015 I was subjected to an assassination attempt by the specialized criminal court guard when trying to leave the court when they asked me to bring an order from the chief prosecutor that allowed me to leave and the request was unusual and I saw them preparing to surround me from all directions, so two of them held me and the third pulled a dagger "Djanbya" which was hidden in a chair on which he was sitting, and tried 3 times to stab me but I avoided the dagger by going back and got rid of one of them and the court director helped me to hold one of them in the third attempted stabbing. I had a cut in my shirt and I came back and took cover inside the court and informed the chief prosecutor and the prosecutor, but they did not move and after mediation of some of those in the court I was allowed to leave the court and I left Sanaa hours after the incident and did not return to it.

One day before this incident, a person I knew, who work for the National Security warned me and told me that "If you do not leave Sana'a as soon as you can, you will be killed".

On January 21 2016, armed groups affiliated with the Houthi group backed by Republican Guards stormed the Ghor Lahab, Damt district, and when they took control of my village Al-Jahda'a, they looted my house and took all the furniture, personal weapons, Djanbya "dagger", documents, certificates, clothes, and our property documents, and then they blew up the two story building and annexes. The house of my cousin, who was leading the popular resistance against the Houthis in the area, was also bombed.

My children had been displaced from Sana'a to Damt and then returned to Sanaa after our house was bombed so that they were able to reach Aden and then to Riyadh and from there we left for America, my two bank accounts were frozen.

I left Yemen, with my wife and children only with the clothes we are wearing after Houthis looted and confiscated everything.

LAWYER HUDA AL-SARARI, MARTIN ENNALS AWARD, 2020 LAUREATE



Huda Mohsen Seif Abdullah Al-Sarari, 40 years, is a lawyer and monitor of human rights violations, president of Defense Foundation for Rights and Freedoms.

Ms. Huda, talks about what she was subjected to as a result of her work in defense of human rights “The threats started due to my human rights activities in monitoring and documenting the detention and enforced disappearance by the security services, anti-terrorist forces and the Security Belt forces loyal to the coalition without any legal justification, and these security services carry out raids at dawn hours, for the detainees’ homes and they are arrested without any orders from the Public Prosecution which is authorized to issue the arrest warrant, and the time when the houses are raided is illegal, not to mention the detention of the detainees and the lack of disclosure of their whereabouts and who is the party that arrested them due to the multiplicity of the security services and their refusal to respond to families and relatives of the detainees and disappeared.

With the spread and escalation of the detention and enforced disappearances in the governorate of Aden after its liberation, and many people were subjected to illegal and inhuman arrests, complaints of citizens escalated, especially with the disruption of the judicial system in Aden and their

failure to conduct investigation and in light of the security services’ refusal to refer the detainees to the prosecution and the judiciary to ensure that they are tried in a timely manner, and justly according to the Yemeni Crimes and Penalties Law, which states that “there no crime and no punishment except with a text of law,” not to mention that all measures from the beginning of the raids to detention and disappearance are illegal and violate the Yemeni criminal procedures law, and these practices also violate international humanitarian law and human rights law. Hence, we sensed the need to monitor and document these violations and listen to the families of the victims and learn about the violations that families are subjected to during the raids. We have also created a database with the names and addresses of the victims and the facts of arbitrary arrest and enforced disappearance. I was member to human rights team who interviewed the relatives of the victims and follow up with the security services to know the fate of the detainees, and we were receiving complaints and reports about the accumulation of prisoners in the central prison, as they numbered more than (500 prisoners) without a preliminary investigation or files from the prosecution office, and among the prisoners were also mentally ill persons.



I have provided human rights organizations concerned with monitoring and reporting on the violation, documenting the statements of the victims' relatives, and assisting them in searching for their disappeared relatives in secret prisons which we were not aware of their whereabouts. We gradually managed to release detainees, and received information of torture and extralegal killings in these prisons and many violations accompany the detention.

I began to record and track all the strings linking the details of the violations by transcribing testimonies of detainees who were still inside Bir Ahmed and the Central Prison and others who were secretly communicating with their mothers, and secret handwritten lists were issued with the names of detainees who remained for two years and more in disappearance and how they were tortured by investigators in the agencies that arrested and detained and they were witnesses of the torture and killing of their friends during the arrest.

I also established the Association of Detainees' Mothers in Aden and coordinated with them the sit-ins and media coverage to talk about the arrest and disappearance of their relatives, sons and husbands, and I have been interviewed by several media outlets, and the threat started when I made an interview on Al-Jazeera channel, who reported on the Associated Press investigative report on secret prisons, in Aden and Hadramout, and I spoke about the arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance, and presented some cases that appeared in the report talking about being tortured and the parties responsible for the violation.

I was subjected to a campaign of insults, slander, and threats by people in their social media sites and media professionals known by name belonging to political entities loyal to the security services that conducted arrests and made to disappear of the victims, and my mobile phones have been stolen, and I was attacked and my family was subjected to defamation and slander. I was not able to go out to work or go to the monitor for fear of the threats, and death threats campaigns continued intermittently and for periods of time, and I was held responsible for the human rights reports issued by international organizations on the incidents of arrest and enforced disappearances, especially after my participation in the human rights sessions in Geneva more than once. Among the rumors against me, is that I was arrested in a terrorist cell in Jordan and that the Jordanian authorities arrested me and published lists of names, sums of money and devices that were confiscated from me and that I belong to the Muslim Brotherhood and that Qatar is financing my activities. All these rumors exposed my life and life my family to risks. I had to stop the activity of my institution (Defense for Rights and Freedoms), which I was famous for in May 2018, and announced the establishment of the Association for Supporting Victims of Assassinations. I have documented and maintained all the threats and rumors that you I was exposed to from more than one account on social media sites and from people working in the security services.



Abdelbaset Ghazi - lawyer

Head of the Commission for Defending the Detainees, in Sana'a, who was detained four times. Abdul Basit Ghazi, says that the first time was in the old Sana'a Security Directorate for 9 hours, due to his follow-up on the cases of detaining Ibrahim Mohieddin, Ibrahim Al-Huzaimi and businessman Abdullah Al-Senaidar, who were detained there.

The second, according to lawyer Ghazi's statement, was in the Criminal Investigation Prison, where he remained in detention for one month from May 21 to June 20, 2016, and this time he was detained for following up on the case of his detained colleague, lawyer Ahmed Al-Nimr, who was arrested while in a sit-in organized by the families of the detainees before the criminal investigation! .

Ghazi confirmed that he had not been interrogated, and charges were brought against him such as "provoking unrest in the sit-in of the families of the detainees, and that he was communicating with foreign countries because they found in a flash memory a letter addressed to Ismail Ould Cheikh asking him to work for the release of the detainees."

According to Ghazi, he was denied visitation for a week, and others who were following his release, including two lawyers, Muhammad al-Hanahi and Muhammad al-Nimr, were also detained.

Ghazi's was released after one month after pressures by the Yemeni Bar Association, the Arab Lawyers Union and media pressures and the sit-in of his relatives, in addition to Ghazi's pledge not to organize any protest sit-ins for lawyers or communicate with the UN envoy to Yemen.

As for the third arrest, it was in front of the Capital municipality. Ghazi said: "I was handcuffed", and they took me to the security administration." After transferring him to the Criminal Investigation prison, one of the officers mediated to release him.

On the fourth time, Ghazi, along with his fellow lawyer, Muhammad al-Hanahi, went to Al-Wihda District Prison in Asir to follow up the release of Abdel Rashid al-Faqeeh, executive director of Muatana Organization, and the journalist Mahmoud Yassin, and others who were arrested after participating in a protest to demand the release of the Yemeni politician and leader of the Yemeni Islah Party Muhammad Qahtan.

Ghazi said that upon his arrival he was arrested, he said that he had hidden in the prison bathroom and took advantage of the electricity blackout and managed to escape. Upon discovering his escape, they arrested the lawyer, Mohamed Al-Hanahi, until after midnight, and released him after a telephone call from the Houthi's Operation room.

is crowded, where there are 38 prisoners. Shaiban stressed the bad situation in this prison, pointing to the poor food that they receive, and the poor toilet facilities, in addition to that they use toilet water to drink, which was not always available.

“Every night, some prisoners are summoned for interrogation for long hours, then they are sent back in poor psychological condition, and some of them show the signs of the handcuffs on their hands,” he added.

Shaiban stated that after 12 days of his detention he was summoned blindfolded and handcuffed, then they entered him into a room where 5 people were present, where they interrogated him while he was in this position, and he was also subjected to repeated threats to place him in the site that is being bombed by Coalition aircraft, which means using it as a human shield.

Shaiban said: “One of them tied me to the back of the chair to cause maximum pain, and I was



We used to drink water from the toilet in the detention facility and they threatened to place us in the sites bombed by the Coalition aircraft

Mahdi Shaiban - Lawyer

Mahdi Shaiban, a lawyer active in defending human rights in the capital, Sana'a, Shaiban, said in his testimony to SAM: “Gunmen affiliated to Houthis and Saleh militia raided the neighborhood in which I live, on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, and fired their guns during the raid, and when they arrived my house, my son, who was next to me, was terrified, and hold me, so they left me and arrested some of the youth for the neighborhood, then they searched my car and took it, and my family and I remained in constant anxiety, until I was arrested on the afternoon of Monday, December 7, 2015, and I was taken to the Al-Wihda Security Directorate, and there they confiscated everything I had in my possession; documents and keys of the car and the house.”

Shaiban was moved between several prisons, and was interrogation several times, according to his statement, including Habra Provisional Prison. Shaiban clarified that the prison ward (Habra)

tortured with an electric shock twice at the top of my feet. The investigation continued for 4 hours, then I fingerprinted on papers that I do not know what was written on, then they returned me back to the “basement” in Habra Prison, where the sun doesn't come in, and he continued, “My family were unaware of my whereabouts for 16 days, until the prison administration allowed me to meet my wife and children.”

After the Bar Association mediation and some personalities interfered, Shaiban was released on the last day of December 2015, after signing a number of pledges not to practice any human rights related activities, and he left his home for fear of being detained again.



Abdul Majeed Sabra - Lawyer

Abdel Majid Sabra is one of the most prominent human rights defenders in Sana'a. beside following many cases, he was assigned to defend the Yemeni president, Abdo Rabbo Mansour Hadi, and what is known as the list of the 23 referred to trial before the Penal Court in Sana'a, which was set up by the Houthis.

Lawyer Abdul Majeed recounts his arrest saying: "On the afternoon of Monday, July 13, 2015, I arrived with my colleague, lawyer Muhammed Abkar, at the Al Nasr Police Station in Hadda, for following up the case of an Iraqi lady who filed a complaint against her husband, a member of the Houthis militia, who was beating her in public.

Sabra says: "While we were sitting in one of the police station rooms, we saw three pictures posted on its wall of Muhammad al-Yadumi," the assistant secretary-general of the Yemeni Islah Party, Muhammad Qahtan, the politician and leader in the party as well, and Tawakkol Karman, the Nobel Peace Prize laureate, with writing says "Traitors and agent", Sabra continued: "My colleague drew my attention to the writing and asked me astonishingly; Are these traitors?!" I told him: "These are heroes. "

He adds, "One of the Houthis gunmen heard us, so he insulted us in inappropriate words, and detained me and my colleague in an adjacent room. Then they released my colleague Abkar, and I remained alone in prison, from Friday evening until dawn on Saturday, then the director of the station came to me and advised me to keep my opinion to myself, and said that he cannot help me. They took my mobile phone, and then they released me on the basis of a pledge including that that I'm against the Islah party's pro-aggression statement (the Arab Coalition), as they note it down.

Gunmen, loyal to the Houthis militia, arrested the lawyer Samira Saeed with four of her female colleagues on Friday, May 13, 2016, and they were taken to an unknown location, while she was in Al-Hussainiya area, Beit Al-Faqih district, Hodiedah governorate, while documenting a case of human rights violations, and then they were released 3 days after their detention.

**SAMIRA
SAEED -
LAWYER**

**YOUSEF
MAHYOUB
HAMID –
LAWYER,
TAIZ**

Yousef Mahyoub was detained and horrifically abused by Houthis and Saleh militia, in the first time of his detention, and he was again detained inside Al-Nahdha Prison in Taiz, managed by people loyal to Islah Party.

Yousef said, “Armed men from the Houthi militia detained me while I was in a friend’s car on 30th Street on Wednesday September 10, 2015, and they took me to Al-Manar School Prison, where I stayed for two weeks.”

Yousef stated that one of the investigators – called, Abu Muhannad, fired his gun next to him while he was sitting on a couch in prison. He explained that he was moved between 3 prisons, namely, Al-Rashad School Prison, Al-Hayat School Prison, Al-Saleh City Detention Center, where he stayed for about a month in a solitary confinement, and was not allowed to use the bathroom for four days.

Yousef explained that the prison administration dealt with him badly, and give him one meal per day, before releasing him after a month and a half of detention.

After the release of lawyer Yousef, and while he was going to the Bar association to file a complaint about his detention, two persons took him and made him to disappear on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 in the Al-Nahdha School prison, managed by elements affiliated with the Islah Party(1), and he was exposed to provocative and degrading practices, as he says, beside subjecting him to prolonged interrogation sessions, also, placing him in solitary confinement not more than one meter in size.

Yousef told the SAM organization that; “One of the investigators threatened me with slaughter in Assaila area, “the rainwater stream” or handing me over to Al Qaeda, explaining that his family was unaware of his whereabouts and he was not allowed to communicate with them, as he remained forcibly disappeared in prison for 6 months, he was released following mediation of some of Islah party leaders.

See SAM’s statement on Prisons in Yemen; <https://www.samrl.org/ar/close-all-illegal-detention-centers-in-yemen/> SAM confirmed that Al-Nahda detention facility was closed in July 2017. (1)

**NIZAR
SRAROU—
RIGHTS
ACTIVIST,
ADEN**

Nizar Srarou, a human rights activist interested in defending human rights, especially the cases of detainees in Aden governorate. Srarou was arrested by Arab Coalition Forces while taking part in sit-in, in solidarity with the forcibly disappeared in the Coalition prisons in the interim capital, Aden.

Nizar Srarou, who is the head of the lawyers' team for the voluntary defending the detainees and forcibly disappeared in Aden governorate. Speaking to SAM, he said: "We organized a protest before the gate of the Presidential "Ma'ashiq" Palace in Crater area, to identify the whereabouts of the forcibly disappeared, and demanding the release of the detainees, which started at 9 a.m. on Sunday, January 22, 2017 where women gathered, and at 11:00 a.m. the guards of the palace pushed and dispersed the women and shot fire at air next to them."

In his testimony, Srarou explained that the guards arrested him when they saw him documenting the sit-in with his mobile phone camera, and that the security personnel clashed with the women who objected to his arrest, but some of them managed to take the phone and flee the location.

He added: "Some of the guards beat me with sticks, pushed me against a wall and pointed machine guns at me in preparation for shooting me. They asked me to bring my phone, and because I don't know who took it, I couldn't bring it. Then I was pushed into a military vehicle, parked next to the gate and took me and beat me all the way to a cell inside the Ma'ashiq Palace." He continued: "I was detained until four o'clock in the afternoon without food or drink, until the commander of the palace guard came and released me after my lawyer colleagues contacted him demanding my release."

HE DIED UNDER TORTURE AND WAS BURIED WITHOUT HIS FAMILY'S KNOWLEDGE

Suleiman Al-Borai', an activist in the 2011 uprising and a member of the Yemeni Teachers Syndicate in Hodiedah governorate, western Yemen, one of his relatives narrated to SAM his arrest and death under torture, saying: "Gunmen who followed Houthis and Saleh forces stormed the victim's house in the Bajil district on February 3, 2016, and took Suleiman (45 years) to a prison in Al-Marawa'a area, and then transferred him to the headquarters of the tenth brigade of the Republican Guards in the city of Bagel. A month to his arrest, his was declared dead in the detention, and on March 2, 2016, prison militants transported Suleiman's body, which had shown signs of torture, to the al-Olafi Hospital mortuary in Hodiedah."

He added: " Suleiman relatives continued to follow-up to receive the body, but the Houthis militia refused to hand it over. On June 8, 2016, Houthis militia buried the body without the knowledge of Suleiman's family, trying to coverup the signs of the torture."

**SULEIMAN ALI
HAMOUD AL-
BORAI'** - ACTIVIST
IN THE YOUTH
REVOLUTION 2011



DETENTION WITHOUT CHARGE AND DENIAL OF SEEING HIS DECEASED CHILD

Mansour Abdo Farie Al-Jaradi “Al-Zayla’i” - lawyer and human rights activist

Mansour Abdo Farie Al-Jaradi “Al-Zayla’i” - President of the Yemen Center for Rights and Freedoms - was arrested near his house in Al-Rahida area, east of Taiz governorate.

Al-Zayla’i’s arrest was on Tuesday 18 August 2015, and detained by Houthis in Al-Saleh city detention, and made to disappear for months without his family’s knowledge before being transferred to the Al-Thawra Provisional prison in Sana’a, where he stayed until April 2016. Then transferred to what is known as Al-Wajbat prison in Dhamar governorate, central Yemen.

SAM reviewed instruction to release “Al-Zayla’i”, by the Minister of Interior of the Sana’a government affiliated to the Houthis and Saleh alliance; Jalal al-Ruwaishan, and the Public Prosecution Office, east of the capital, holding the party that delay or not releasing him, responsible, whoever these orders were not executed.

A relative of Al-Zayla’i told SAM team that, he was suffering from psychological disorders that caused him visual impairment, noting that he had been in detention for more than two years without charge. One of the al-Zayla’i’s sons died in late July of 2017 without him being able to pay tribute to him, or visit him while hospitalized for chronic disease. Al-Zayla’i’s family brought his son dead body to him at the detention to pay his final tribute. SAM verified that Al-Zayla’i was released on Sunday, October 29, 2017.

YASSER AL-MULAIKI
LAWYER AND HUMAN RIGHTS
ACTIVIST - TAIZ



Yasser Al-Mulaiki is a lawyer and human rights activist from Taiz governorate. He is active in monitoring and documenting human rights violations. Al-Mulaiki says that he left for Aden governorate after he obtained the required pass from the commander of the 17th Infantry Brigade, Abdul-Rahman Al-Shamsani. The purpose of the visit was to apply for passports.

On June 19, 2016, Al-Mulaiki was accompanied by his colleague, lawyer Hail Al-Hilali, and when they reached the Iron Factory security checkpoint at the entrance to Aden governorate, the guards stopped them and ordered the passengers to leave the bus.

Al-Maleky says: We presented our personal and professional IDs, and the pass to enter Aden; but the guards refused to allow us to pass, they response with abusive words, and regional behavior, they said that we are from Taiz and we could not “liberate” our city according to their expression.

Al-Maliki adds, “it was hot and we are fasting, it’s Ramadhan. We stayed till 9 p.m. near the checkpoint trying to entre, but in vain”.

According to the lawyer al-Mulaiki, “the patrol vehicles of the checkpoint had the slogan “Striking Force” affiliated with the Security Belt supported by the United Arab Emirates and supervised by the former Minister of State Hani bin Breek, finally we were allowed to enter Aden following efforts and mediations from the Security Belt elements whom we know”.

Al-Mulaiki and al-Hilali were stopped again at another checkpoint belongs to the Security Bel, at Arrabat checkpoint, “we presented our IDs, but also refused to let us in, however we hired a Qat smuggler, who took us through a long sandy road east of Aden until we reached at twelve o’clock at night, the Sheikh Othman area, and we were exhausted and hungry.





ABDUL RASHID AL-FAQEEH AND RADHYA AL-MUTAWAKKIL

Both Abdul-Rashid al-Faqeeh and Radhya Al-Mutawakkil are prominent Yemeni rights activists, and they run Muatana Organization for Human Rights, based in the Sana'a. Al-Faqeeh was subjected to arbitrary detention in September 2015 by the Houthis militia. He was also arrested again by the legitimate government and the Arab Coalition on 14 and 18 June, 2018 in the governorates of Marib and Hadramawt, respectively.

Muatana Organization had said in a statement that the Houthis militia should immediately return the passport of its executive director, Abdul Rashid al-Faqeeh, who was intercepted by its elements controlling Sana'a International Airport and confiscated his passport on Friday 4 March 2016.

In its statement, the organization condemned

the arbitrary detention and interrogation of al-Faqeeh at the airport upon his return from the Amman, Jordan, from an international conference in solidarity with Yemeni journalists, organized by the International Federation of Journalists and the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate and with the participation of a number of international organizations.

Muatana explained that harassment of its executive director, is part of a series of measures aimed at undermining the space of freedoms in general, which is part of systematic harassment targeting the organization in particular and is intensified daily.(1)

Al-Faqeeh had previously been subjected to harassment as a result of his human rights activities. On August 9, 2015, Houthi Militia arrested and detained him in Al-Judiri Police Station, where he was interrogated for 5 hours, and was beaten by five militia members before he was subsequently released.

On September 19, 2015, al-Faqeeh was arrested and detained for 10 hours with his wife, Radhya Al-Mutawakkil and other colleagues, after he was beaten by Houthis women in the wake of a peaceful demonstration calling for the release of political detainees and justice for victims of enforced disappearance(2).

Quoted from a statement posted on the Muatana website: <http://www.mwatana.org/ar/732016450> (1)

quoted from Front Line Defenders' annual report on human rights defenders who were at risk in 2016 <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/ar/case/case-history-abdulrasheed-al-faqih> (2)

**TWO INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL
DISPLACEMENT BECAUSE OF
REFUSAL OF THE FORCED
DISPLACEMENT OF THE HOUTHIS
AGAINST THE JEWS**

MUHAMMAD AL-AHMADI
HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST



Muhammad al-Ahmadi forced to leave Sana'a with his family, fearing Houthis' oppression, as he narrated, to Ibb, and when the Houthis arrived in Ibb, he received information that the Houthis were searching for him, again he had to leave the country, this time.

In his testimony to SAM, Al-Ahmadi narrated: "The organization I was running closed after the capital was completely closed to any civil rights activity." Al-Ahmadi confirmed that the Houthi and Saleh militia "launched raids on the homes of the activists and took them at gunpoint to the detention facilities, and it seemed clear that any human rights or media activity constitutes suicide."

The Houthis had lists of hundreds of activists and media workers who were called "enemies of the Qur'anic march," as Al-Ahmadi recounts. He added: "Old friends who joined the Houthis advised me to leave the capital and the hide away due to the human rights activities that I undertook to reject the forced displacement operations carried out by the Houthi militia against the Jewish community in Sa'da, and subsequently against the Salafists studying in Dammaj."

Al-Ahmadi said: "The Houthi invasion of the Ibb governorate made me under the close supervision of their members, and I received direct threatening letters, and asked me to be silent about Houthis practices, or leave the country. After Houthis arrest and interrogation of one of my friends, and questioning him about my movements and my whereabouts, I was convinced to leave the city of Ibb for the sake of my safety, and I went to Geneva to attend some human rights activities, and from there to Turkey."

Then, as Ahmadi says: "I was deprived of seeing my family and children for several months, and my father passed away while I was away. I also lost my work in press and in the human rights organization, and had to sell all my property and home furniture in order to secure tickets value for my family members and bring them to a place."



EVENT ON COEXISTENCE AND CONSTRUCTION EXPOSED THREE WOMEN ACTIVISTS TO ONE MONTH AND A HALF DETENTION

Rouhia Thabet, Mawahib Youssef and Nafha Sanaie, rights activists within the Baha'i community - Sana'a

Rauhia Thabet, Mawahib Yusuf, Nafha Sanaie, activists within the Baha'i community, which is a religious minority that is being harassed and its leaders are being tried by the Houthis.

On Wednesday August 10, 2016, Rouhia, Mawahib and Nafha were arrested and detained at the National Security Prison in Sana'a, without charges or warrant, and unlawfully in a way that defies human morals and customs.

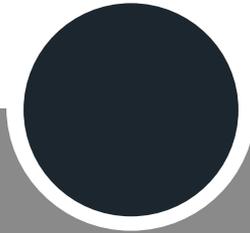
beside the three activists, 12 other women and 45 men and children were detained.(1)

(1) Summary from a statement issued by the Baha'i University in Yemen; <http://www.abnnews.net/archives/5025>

A member of the Baha'i community who witnessed the arrest told SAM organization: "Security gunmen affiliated with the National Security Agency raided a cultural event held by the "Nida for Coexistence and Construction" foundation in cooperation with the Joud Foundation in the Foundation's Hall in the capital Sana'a, where they took them to the National Security Prison, and their families were not allowed to visit them or communicate with them or with lawyers in their custody, and they were released after a month and a half."

THEY WERE TAKING ME INTO MOCK EXECUTION...

ABDUL RAQEEB GHALEB
LAWYER - TAIZ



Lawyer Abdul-Raqeeb Ghaleb was detained and tortured by the Houthis and Saleh militants in February 2016, and in the detention, he was subjected to various forms of torture and mock execution. Abdel-Raqeeb says: “A military vehicle belonging to Houthis and Saleh militants took me from my house in the Al-Hasab area, west of Taiz. Then they brought me to the Al-Saleh city prison on Thursday evening, February 18, 2016, and they entered me into a solitary confinement cell, I was subjected to psychological and physical torture from the first night.”

In his testimony to Sam Organization, Abdul Raqeeb said: “They were taking me to the execution area, throwing me on my stomach and then marking the heart area from the back. One of them fired several blanks bullets, and I was subject to interrogation more than once per day, blindfolded and handcuffed, during which I was beaten.”

Abdul Raqeeb continued in such situation for 3 weeks, according to his statement, after which he was transferred with a number of detainees to the Dhamar governorate, with their hands tied to the back, adding, “They put us inside a large, closed hall, where we did not see the sun, even if one of us washed his clothes, has to wait 3 days for them to dry”.

Abdul Raqeeb added: “Among the torture methods practiced against me and against other detainees is the use of “water for injection”, which depicts to us that it is filled with a toxic substance that will be injected on us, and drops of it are placed on a wound that is cut into a vein, and we are also placed on flat tables, tightened, tied up and blindfolded to extract the confessions they want us to say under psychological pressure and double pain afflicting our bodies.” He pointed out that they were released as part of a prisoner exchange deal between the Houthis militia and the Popular Resistance in Taiz on Saturday 18 June 2016, after 4 months of detention.





POPULAR RESISTANCE IN TAIZ ON SATURDAY 18 JUNE 2016, AFTER 4 MONTHS OF DETENTION.

Sadiq al-Abraqi, human rights activist, Amran

Sadiq Ali Salih Qasim, 40, a human rights activist, trainer and media worker working on documenting human rights violations in Amran governorate adjacent to the capital, Sana'a, was arrested by Houthi and Saleh militia during his return from Saudi Arabia, after his participation in a human rights conference, and as he passed through Idris checkpoint, in the Rada'a area in Al-Baidha governorate, on Monday February 8, 2016, he was arrested by the guards in the checkpoint of the Houthis and Saleh forces, and he was made to disappear for two weeks on charges of being "an informant with Saudi Arabia." It was later known that he was detained in the ancient Rada'a Castle, which was turned into a prison by Houthis and Saleh militia for its opponents.

Al-Abraqi says, "My detention lasted for two weeks, and I was released after paying one million riyals."

by
khalid Alsaeed
500px

SNIPING THOSE WHO CARE FOR HUNGRY, AND MONITOR THE VIOLATIONS SUFFERED BY CIVILIANS

REHAM AL-BADR... A SOCIAL ACTIVIST

Reham Al-Badr was running a food convoy, commemorating the martyr Osama Salam, she did not know that while she was trying to feed the stomachs of the needy, she would be penetrated by the bullet of a sniper in her stomach and become a martyr herself.

Reham Al-Badr, a civil and human rights activist from Taiz governorate, was killed by a Houthi sniper on February 8, 2018, Reham was performing her civilian role in providing relief to the poor in the Al-Kreifat area east of Taiz city, where she and a number of young men ran a food convoy , commemorating the late martyr Osama Salam.

Those who took part in the convoy did not know that a number of them would become martyrs in this same convoy. Her companion in the convoy and eyewitness Abdelfattah al-Samet, told SAM a lot of details, he said that a week after the death of Osama Salam “we

decided to make a visit to the Al-Kreifat area east of Taiz “to see the conditions of people , and monitor violations, accompanied by a food convoy ..

The convoy moved at 9:30 on 8 February 2018 from Jamal Street in Taiz, toward the Al-Kreifat area. When we arrived at the Sala Palace area, the team split into two halves. Al-Samet said: “I and the Reham Al-Badr and Moamen (a young man in the convoy, dial-ed next to Reham), headed to the Al-Kreifat area, and when we reached Al-Najd Ahmer area, heavy gunfire began, and we went to one of the torrents paths and hid for about half an hour, then we went out and continued our journey to the besieged areas. And arrived Al-Sarmeen and Al-Kriefat are and started distributing the food aid to the besieged families there.”



Alp-Samit says that they have documented some violations, including the Houthi militia storming of the house of teacher Taha Farie and killing his wife and son, and then according to his testimony: “We decided to return to the city and upon our return we decided to get out of the car in Al-Najd region - the place where the bombing and sniping on us was made when we were going. The gunfire was renewed, then stopped and the convoy continued to the city, but “when we arrived in front of a container of the military police, we heard gunfire, the shots penetrated the head of Momen, and when he raised his hands to hold his head, a direct shot came to penetrate his hand.

Al-Samit says: After that, Riham pushed me to the ground, and immediately after that the third shot hit Riham in her right hand and penetrated her stomach. The fourth shot, hit the wall behind us, and I was hit by shrapnel,” he added.

Reham was bleeding and demanding ambulance, but the sniper was firing his bullet whenever he sees a movement. He continued: “We did not have any first aid to stop the bleeding, and we were besieged and ambulance was prevented for an hour and a half, and unfortunately Reham died.”

NADIA ABDULLAH

DEPUTY MINISTRY FOR THE WOMEN'S SECTOR,
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS, A MEMBER OF THE
COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL DIALOGUE



Deputy ministry for the Women's Sector, Ministry of Youth and Sports, a member of the Comprehensive National Dialogue, the Southern Issue Committee, and the 8 + 8 Committee, and I was a political and media activist of the popular youth revolution that emerged in 2011

Academically, I am working on my PhD and my thesis on empowering Yemeni women economically between custom, religion and law

Two days after the Decisive Storm started, which started on March 27, 2015, and on March 30, 2015, police patrol along with female police officer arrived at my home in Sana'a, around 11 pm

Fortunately, I was not at home, and my father was present at the time and went out to talk to them, as they insisted on arresting me, on the pretext that I am with the military operation and support the Arab Coalition and legitimate government, and the aggression as they call it.

My father had to talk to them and negotiate with them, and he agreed with them to write a pledge that I would not work with legitimacy and the Coalition, and to stop any political and media activity against them, and keep silent and at home

I remember well at that time when my mother called me to ask me not to come back home until the next day. Also, to hide my car for fear that they will have its plate number, then I would be exposed to danger, and actually I had to leave my car for more than a month and at the end I took off the plate number so that I could use it, and then I had to abandon political and media work and headed for charitable work for 8 months, through distributing food baskets to the poor and needy families In Sana'a and Amran, the funding was from the father's foundation, as he is a businessman. However, they informed my father that I am distributing aids to ISIS families as Houthis call them, so I had to leave Sana'a after these harassments and attempted arrest.



FEMALE ACTIVISTS AT THE FOREFRONT

(M.A.), whose husband has been abducted and detained for 7 months, says: “When I went to the Appeals Court on August 18, 2015 to file a case on the abduction of my husband and a group of his companions, one of the Houthi gunmen attacked one of the abductees’ child carrying his father’s picture, so some women pulled the child to them, but the gunmen surrounded them, assaulted and beat them with rifle butts, and put them on the ground and tightened their scarves.”

She added: “We plucked up our strength, and fled to one of our cars and closed the car doors and windows, but we were surprised that they surrounded us with an armored vehicle and directed the gun at the car, we stayed for an hour and a half under siege and they are trying to open the car doors to take the child, and after some contacts the Criminal Investigation deputy came and the head of the neighborhood came and took the boy from the car and lifted the siege. So, we returned back and felt disappointed because of the abduction of the son of the detainee.”

It is noteworthy that (M.A.), was assaulted by the butts of the rifles and pulling her veil and drag her into the middle of the men during the accident.”

Meanwhile, (S.H) mentioned the risks that the female activists face in during the protests, from an explicit threat by the Houthi and Saleh militia, pursuit and direct assault, including explicit threat by the Houthis and Saleh militia, persecution and assaults, taking the banners and pictures, and the abduction of the drivers who deliver them to the places of protests, stressing that the assaults are repeated several times: “Once, while we were standing before the United Nations headquarters, as we were assaulted verbally and stripping of the veils and attempted beating with batons.”

ASSAULT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE UN ENVOY

Om Muhammad says: “On Monday, October 24, 2016, we were protesting in front of the residence of the UN envoy, Ismail Ould Al-Sheikh, in Sana’a, to plea to him to press the Houthis militia to release the abductees. At that time, we were surprised by the assault on us by gunmen. One of them raised his rifle and hit me on the shoulder and pushed me harshly without regard for my age and my weakness, I suffered a lot and thought if this is what they do to us in front of the UN envoy’s residence, how would our children be in prisons and cells?”

On the same incident, Om Ali says: “We were assaulted by gunmen in military and civilian uniforms, who began to remove the banners, then physical and verbal assaults, entering between the gatherings of women, remove their veils and burqas, and taking their phones.”



WITNESSES TO VIOLATIONS

The witness (Amal A.) says: “the abusive words that I used to hear, deeply touches our status, and the status of our families, frustrated me, also felt bad by the Yemeni men who failed to defend us, also, the physical assaults hurt me badly, especially for elderly mothers.” Amal added: “also, some of us were chased by cars, which caused anxiety and psychological trauma to me. I kept trying for many times to communicate with them to know their situation. Yemeni men failed us, and what they did is much less than what we expected, and what the Houthi and Saleh militia did to us exceeded all values.”

TWO YEARS IN DETENTION, AND TORTURE AND THE REASON IS WATER

AMIN AL-SHAFAQ, HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST - IBB

Ameen Al Shafaq, is a director in the Education Office in Ibb governorate, and he is one of the activists



participated in the water march to break the siege of Taiz city. Al Shafaq, told SAM his arrest and torture story: "On Thursday, October 22, gunmen attacked the Ibb Garden Hotel, in Ibb city, they arrested me and 24 activists and journalists. We were meeting in the hotel to plan how to get to the governorate of Taiz in the "March of Water" to break the siege. They took us all to the Political Security building. They put me and my colleague Muammar al-Najjar in one the cell, and beat me with a heavy stick on parts of my body, and my right hand still suffers from disability due to that, then they interrogated me and the interrogator taught me the answer and I echoed after him under the pressure of beating, then they forced me to sign in the investigation papers, and one of the gunmen loaded and pointed the gun towards me while I was blindfolded, to my neck, I thought he would kill me, the person interrogated and beat me is Abu Yasser from Osaimat, Hashid".

Al-Shafaq, added: "I stayed in the Political Security prison for 27 days, and then transferred me and my colleague Antar al-Mubarazi to the capital, Sana'a, with our hands were handcuffed, with a metal handcuff to the back and blindfolded, and the handcuffs caused me atrophy in the nerves of the right palm. Then they brought me to an administrative building that belongs to the National Security in Saraf area of the capital, Sana'a. I stayed in this prison for 9 months, in which I was subjected to terrible psychological torture, ill-treatment, and poor food, drinking, and clothing, and I was interrogated for one day only, all questions related to my partisan activity and the goals of the water march, they denied me visitation and calls, only once allowed me to contact with my family, and I was also threatened with the abduction of my children, storming of my house and dismissal from my job."

Al-Shafaq indicated that he heard screams and torture in prison, adding: "I was completely cut off from my surroundings, and the prison has no ventilation other than one hole approximately 5 centimeters in diameter. They do not allow us to go out to the sun only once every 3 weeks with our hands tied and blindfolded. I was transferred to the central prison on September 12, 2016, for a prisoner exchange with the Houthi and Saleh fighters, and I was released on February 10, 2017, but I cannot return to my family in the Ibb governorate for fear of being arrested again."



NINE JOURNALISTS AND ACTIVISTS ARE SUMMONED BY THE PROSECUTION AND EXPOSED TO LIFE-THREATENING CAMPAIGNS FOLLOWING THE KILLING OF A MILITARY COMMANDER

Nine journalists and activists feel seriously threatened in their lives, as they say, after they were exposed to an incitement campaign by political and military components loyal to the United Arab Emirates, following the killing of a military leader by his brother in Taiz city.

In February 2020, the Legal Affairs Department of Taiz Military Axis summoned nine journalists and activists to the Specialized Penal Prosecution Office in Aden.

The nine journalists and activists are: Yasser Al-Mulaiki, lawyer and human rights defender, Abdulaziz Al-Majeedi, journalist and writer, Mazen Aqlan, journalists and writer, Weam Al-Soufi, reporter, Omar Al-Samadi, youth activist, Ahmed Al-Zobhani, photojournalist, Walid Tawfiq, Journalist, Musab Al-Qadasi, Journalist, Mukhtar Al-Wajih, youth activist.

According to a statement published by the nine journalists and activists to human rights organizations, press unions, human rights defenders, and freedom of opinion and expression defenders, the subpoena was handed over by a military

commander named Adel Al Hammadi who works in the 35th Armored Brigade, who stated that the backgrounds of these subpoena is that journalists wrote provocative articles about the commander Major General Adnan Al Hammadi, who was killed on Monday, December 2, 2019, in his house in the countryside of Taiz Governorate by his brother Jalal.

The statement issued by the nine journalists and defenders, considered that the subpoena to the prosecution and incitement on them comes in the context of investing the murder of Al Hammadi in order to target those who are anti-UAE.

Journalists, activists, and their families are concerned, and under fear and anxiety, according to what they mentioned, and they affirmed: “We have become seriously threatened for our lives.” That incitement campaigns came from parties, according to the statement, that “possesses tools of violence and means of repression, and it has wide influence in the governorate of Taiz and its influence in Aden city as well, and it is also connected to the United Arab Emirates and its intelligence services, and uses the specialized penal prosecution office in Aden that is under the authority of the Southern Transitional Council forces and under their influence. “

MAJOR PARTIES IDENTIFIED BY JOURNALISTS AND ACTIVISTS ARE:

Military and media leaders affiliated with the 35th armored brigade, and another of Abu Al-Abbas military brigades - designated by the US Treasury as a terrorist, and news and media sites, newspapers belonging to the Republic Guards, loyal to Tariq Muhammad Abdullah Saleh, partisan leaders, activists, and media of the Nasserite Organization in Taiz, media, and activists and military personnel of the Transitional Council in the city of Aden.

The statement said, “These parties that invest in the killing of Brigadier Al-Hammadi think that we are activists as opponents, because we criticized them and revealed their crimes.” The journalists and activists confirmed that they had uncovered many crimes committed by the 35th armored brigade’s forces, the Abu Al-Abbas Brigades, and the national resistance forces, Security Belts and Elite forces, all of which are loyal to the United Arab Emirates and receive support from it, he stressed: “ We have uncovered these crimes on the media and our personal websites on social media, and have provided a number of information related to

these crimes and violations to the human rights organizations and expert teams on Yemen, as we exercised our right to criticize against the figures who command these forces, considering that the right to criticize is guaranteed to all, especially since Adnan Al-Hammadi is also a government official, and the criticisms directed against him are among the legitimate rights available to the population within the state.”

The statement issued by the activists and the nine journalists stated that those loyal to the UAE “consider exposing the crimes they committed defames them, so they are trying to harm the journalists and activists by claiming that” what we have done is incitement to the killing of Brigadier Al-Hammadi. “And they confirmed that “there is no relationship between our declared and express opinions and the motives of the perpetrators in the killing of Brigadier Al-Hammadi. Now it has affected the judiciary in the city of Aden, which is subject to the influence of military forces that follow it, and it has obtained orders from them to summon us without any legitimacy for that procedure.

CHAPTER TWO

WITNESSES

As the report noted earlier, the post-2014 period is one of the worst periods for the media and media professionals in Yemen. After the Houthi militia took control of the capital, Sana'a, and some Yemeni governorates, violations against civilians increased, as the militia carried out raids of public and private institutions, and in face of these risks, pain, and fear of the Yemeni people, Houthis feared the publicizing of these horrific facts whose spread was linked to their expansion, so they took flagrant and illegal measures to prevent the publicizing of the truth, and began to surround the media with firewall.

Resistance was formed against the Houthis, and internationally recognized legitimate government managed to push Houthi militia from different regions, like Aden, after which parties and components began to emerge from within the legitimate government itself with the support of the United Arab Emirates, to expand the circle of violations on the media more and more.

UNPRECEDENTED HIDEOUSNESS

The Houthis are the major party in committing human rights violations related to media, and they are using the most heinous violation methods against journalists. Throughout the history of journalism and media in Yemeni, no party, gang, or component has ever arrested a journalist and used them as a human shield in a place where you know that it is a target to bomb by the other side.

Houthis did this on May 20, 2015, when they arrested journalists Abdullah Qabil and Yousef Al-Eizari in Dhamar Governorate, south of Sana'a, and detained them in the seismic observation building, the militia refused to release Qabil and Al-Eizari, and after the building was bombed by Arab coalition aircraft, local residents found their bodies.



OTHER FORMS OF OPPRESSION

In this report, SAM examines various methods of abuse; torture to death, sniping of photographers, abduction, detention, mock executions, raiding of institutions, displacement, etc.

FIGURES

The years 2015 through 2019 were a bad extension of the reality of freedom of expression and opinion in Yemen, as Yemen ranked one of the worst countries in the world for press freedom, and it is considered a dangerous work environment for journalists.

In the Freedom of the Press Index, issued annually by Reporters Without Borders, ranked Yemen (167) out of (180) countries.

SAM noted that media and its employees were exposed to a systematic destruction since the fall of the capital, Sana'a, where the numbers documented by the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate are disturbing, as the total violations that affected media and press freedoms amounted to nearly 1,300 violations, including intrusion, looting and confiscation of more than (50) media outlet, 36 journalists were killed, and (234) cases of detention of journalists and media workers (16) of whom are still in detention in the prisons of the Houthis militia.

A court, managed by Houthis, issued death sentence against a sixty-year-old abducted journalist which was revoked later. The homes of media workers were raided, their children abducted, their salaries suspended, and they were fired, and while some spent their third year in prison, others were forced to move to other governorates with their families, and others migrated abroad.

The Syndicate also documented killing of journalists while performing their press duty, three of them were killed

while they are covering news from the confrontation areas, whether by sniping or indiscriminate shells, and some in Aden were subjected to arbitrary detention and torture in Camp Twenty, one of the Security Belt camps, which is supervised and funded by the United Arab Emirates. Others were harassed and threatened, in Aden, Taiz and Marib.

In Sana'a, SAM Organization documented referral of the Houthi militia to the cases of (16) journalists for the Penal Prosecution, while it continued their detention and deprive them of their freedom for more than two years in extremely poor conditions, and they were passing in harsh conditions where Houthis denied them

family visitation, and they were subjected to torture and cruel treatment, in addition to denying them medication, where torture and harsh conditions of detention cause some of them to suffer chronic diseases and need medical care or surgical intervention that the Houthis refuse to allow, until the death sentence of four of them was issued on April 1, 2020.

In terms of numbers, SAM refer here to the monitoring and documentation carried out by the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate during the five-year period of the conflict, as it is a concerned party, and it enjoys the trust of many journalists and media personnel, where the total violations until the end of 2020 reached 1106 violations.





murder (10)



abduction, detention and prosecution (84)



threatening, harassment and defamation amounted to 38



Assault and attempted murder 85



Blocking news websites 50



suspending media and confiscating cameras 36



suspension from work and cutting salaries and denying coverage of news 14

Abduction and detention constituted the highest number of violations during the year, amounting to 86 cases out of a total of 319 cases and 27% of the total violations.

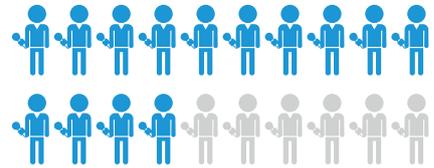
Houthis group committed 71 of these violations, at 83%, while the security services committed 10 cases at 12%, Al-Qaeda 3 cases at 3% and two cases by unknown parties at 2%.

2015 YEAR

THE YEMENI JOURNALISTS SYNDICATE DOCUMENTED

VIOLATION CASES

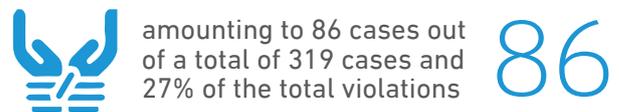
319



11 PARTIES WERE INVOLVED IN VARYING PROPORTIONS

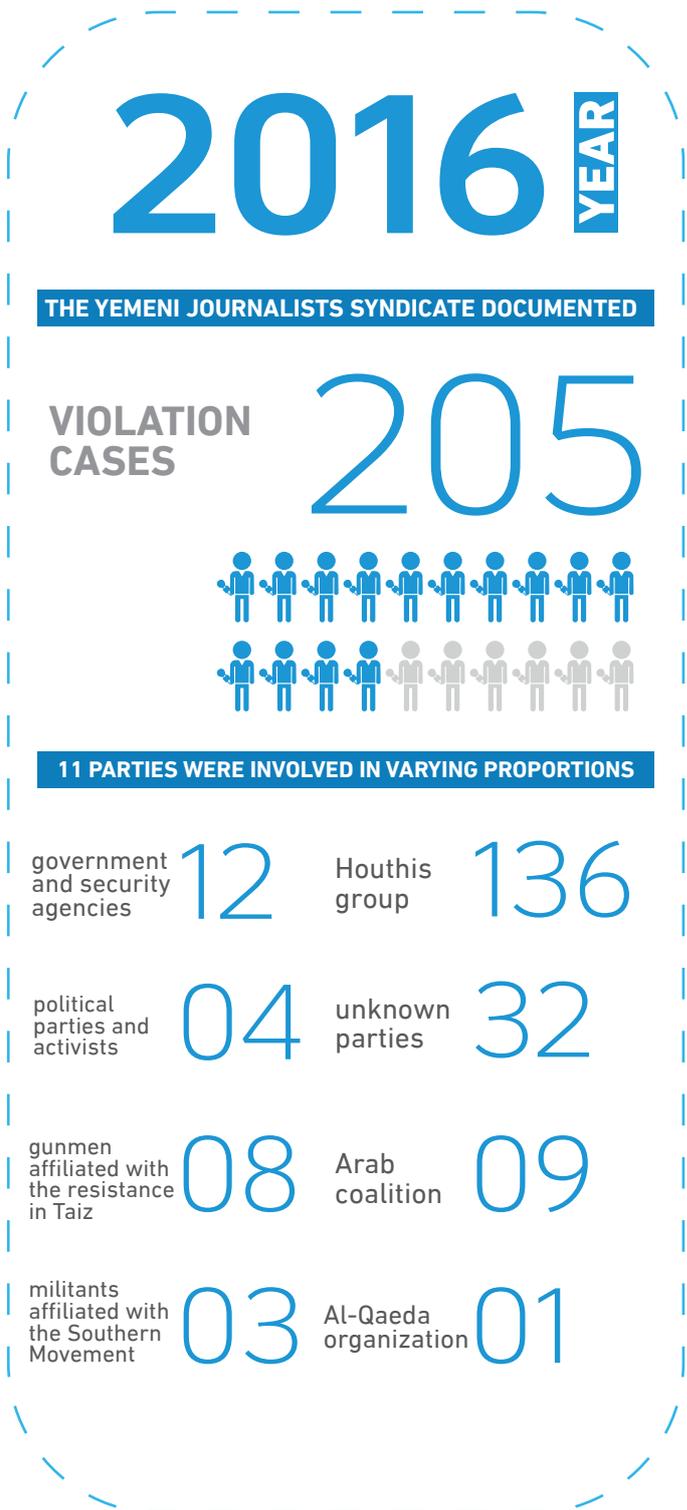
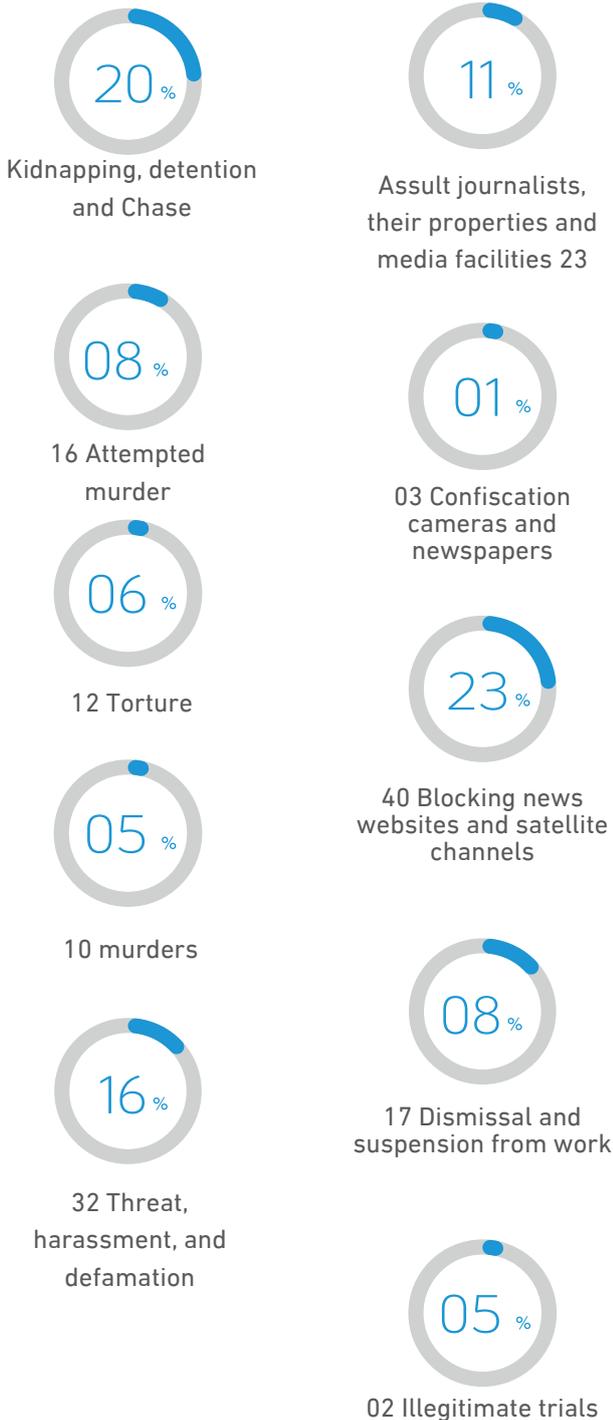
government and security agencies	17	Houthis group	250
Al-Qaeda organization	10	unknown parties	23
		Arab coalition	09

Abduction and detention constituted the highest number



Al-Qaeda organization	03	Houthis group	71
unknown parties	02	government and security agencies	10

The Journalists Syndicate has documented 205 violations since the beginning of 2016 of journalists, photographers, dozens of newspapers and websites, media headquarters and journalists' property.

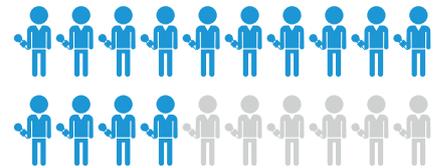




2017 YEAR

THE YEMENI JOURNALISTS SYNDICATE DOCUMENTED

VIOLATION CASES 300



11 PARTIES WERE INVOLVED IN VARYING PROPORTIONS

government and security agencies	54	Houthis group	204
political parties and activists	01	unknown parties	28
gunmen affiliated with the resistance in Taiz	08	Arab coalition	08
militants affiliated with the Southern Movement	03	Al-Qaeda organization	02

VIOLATION
11

violations of freedoms

VIOLATION
13

the right to life

VIOLATION
53

arbitrary detention

VIOLATION
02

physical assaults

VIOLATION
13

unlawful trials

VIOLATION
11

torture

VIOLATION
14

violation of the right to physical integrity

including injuries due to different causes; mines and explosives, bullets, indiscriminate bombing, sniper

VIOLATION
06

violation of the freedom of movement

distributed between detention at military checkpoints or airports

VIOLATION
02

violation related to private objects

VIOLATION
10

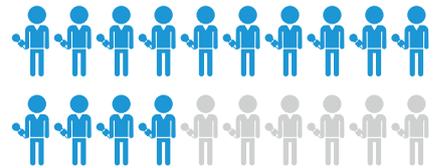
violations related to media organizations

2018 YEAR

THE YEMENI JOURNALISTS SYNDICATE DOCUMENTED

VIOLATION CASES

138



11 PARTIES WERE INVOLVED IN VARYING PROPORTIONS

Arab coalition

30

Houthi group

98

government forces

01

unknown parties

10

In 2019, the organization documented 134 violations, according to the data of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, against media and press freedoms, committed by several parties of the conflict that reflected a policy of abuse and intimidation against its opponents for publishing information or opinion that the parties wish to conceal.



Assaults 24 violations



Abductions 31 violations



Torture 15 cases



Trials and investigations, 23 violations



Threats and inciting against journalists 11 cases



Banning press coverage 13 violations



Blocking websites 10 cases



Confiscating newspapers and property of journalists cases



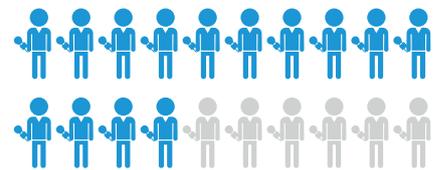
2 cases of killing

2019 YEAR

THE YEMENI JOURNALISTS SYNDICATE DOCUMENTED

VIOLATION CASES

134



11 PARTIES WERE INVOLVED IN VARYING PROPORTIONS

legitimate government	44	Houthis group	62
tribal parties	03	unidentified parties	13
Arab coalition	02	loyalists of the Southern Transitional Council	10

Meanwhile, violations during the first quarter of 2020 against freedom of the press and journalists amounted to 10 violations.



VIOLATION PARTIES

All parties conflict contributed to the violations included in this report during the specified during the period (2015-2020), with clear disparity proportions between the parties, as the Houthi group came in first place of violations against journalists and human rights activists by 60%, followed by the Arab coalition and the legitimate government at a percentage of 25%, and 10% are the Southern Transitional Council supported by UAE government, and 5% are other groups.

60%

The Houthi group tops the list of violators of press freedoms by a percentage

25%

Arab coalition and legitimate government

10%

loyalists of the Southern Transitional Council

05%

Other Groups

PART ONE

TRUTH HEROES

A SNIPER BULLET PENETRATES THE JOURNALIST'S BODY DURING THE TRUCE

Abdullah Mabkhoot Omar Azizan

On Sunday May 29, 2016, Abdullah Mabkhout, the correspondent of Marib Press website in Shabwa governorate, went to the Al-Sufaira area to document the breaches to the truce, but a Houthi sniper bullet penetrated his body, thus the killing of the journalist defies the claimed truce.

His colleague, journalist (B. M.) said: "Abdullah was killed by a Houthi sniper when he was on a press mission in the Al-Sufaira area, Osielan district, Shabwa, while he was monitoring violations of both sides of the conflict to the declared truce at that time."

A CANNON SHELL ON A CAR CARRYING JOURNALISTS

Mubarak Hamad Al-Abadi, Suhail TV correspondent

Mubarak Al-Abadi 38, was in Al-Jouf governorate, the correspondent of Suhail TV. On Friday 5 August 2016 Mubarak went on a press mission to Al-Ghayl area in the with a group of journalists, while they were on the way, the car carrying them was targeted with a mortar shell.

His son, Saber, said: "My father went to the al-Ghayl area with a group of journalists to cover the ongoing fighting in that district, and while they were traveling to the area on a private car, the car was targeted by a mortar shell from one of the sites occupied by Houthis militia," Saber continues: "My father was killed and other journalists were wounded."

AN AIR STRIKE KILLS A TV DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, AND THEIR CHILDREN

MUNIR AL-HAKIMI AND HIS WIFE SU'AD HUJAIRA

Munir al-Hakimi and his wife Su'ad Hujaira

SAM organization documented the killing of TV director, Munir Moqbil Haider Al-Hakimi, the Yemen TV director, and his wife, the programs producer on the same channel, Su'ad Hujaira, and their three children.

The director, his wife, the program producer, and their three children, were killed by an air strike by the Arab Coalition on Al-Hakimi house, in Beit Miy'ad neighborhood south of the capital, Sana'a, following an airstrike on the oil warehouse of Bazara'a company, near Al-Hakimi house, at 9:00 pm on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 .

THE GREAT CRIME ... THE HEARTBREAKING HEINOUS CRIME, IN WHICH THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT ARE INVOLVED.

Abdullah Qabil and Youssef Al-Eizari

The story of Abdullah Qabil and Youssef Al-Eizari summarizes the tragic situation of freedoms in Yemen, and summarizes the painful human condition that people live in. The way to killing them is enough to trace the ugliness, brutality and oppression that militias pursue with its opponents, although they are just holders of pens and cameras.

In the story, all parties to the conflict, mainly the Houthis, are accomplice in the crime, in addition to the legitimate government, and the Arab Coalition.

On May 20, 2015, the Houthis militia in the Dhamar governorate, south of Sana'a, arrested two journalists, Abdullah Qabil, Bilqis channel correspondent, and Youssef al-Eizari, a reporter in Suhail TV channel.

Qabil and al-Eizari, who were returning from a festival coverage of anti-Houthi tribesmen in al-Hadah tribe. Houthis detained Qabil and al-Eizari, in the Seismic Observation building, which was bombed by the Arab Coalition aircraft, and locals found the bodies of Qabil and al-Eizari, and they were taken to the mortuary in Dhamar General Hospital.

Bilqis channel mourned the death of its reporter Abdullah Qabil, and said in a statement that the Houthis detained him and a number of hostages as human shields in locations targeted by the Coalition aircraft. The channel blamed the Houthis, saying that "the crime is one of a series of violations and war crimes committed by the militia against civilians."

This is the bloodiest crime of its kind, committed by Houthi against the Yemeni media, after a long series of similar practices, such as abductions, beatings, the closure of newspapers and channels, and blocking of websites, among others.

On social media, Yemenis expressed their rage at the crime committed by Houthis militia, and published photos of Qabil and Al-Eizari. They expressed their fear that the same fate would happen with hundreds of abductees by Houthis.



الشهيد

الصحفي يوسف العيزري

الشهيد

الصحفي عبدالله قabil

FRIENDS OF THE CAMERA - TAIZ

Awab al-Zubeiri, Walid al-Qadasi, Salah al-Wahbani, Muhammad Tahir, Haykal al-Ariqi, Abu Bakr al-Yusufi, Qais al-Adaini, Bassam al-Siyani, Akram al-Rassini, Abdul Aziz al-Thabhani, Muhammad al-Huthaifi, Dawood al-Wahbani, Taha Saleh, Basem al-Qurashi, they were attached to their cameras for three years to cover fighting in Taiz. Each of them has his story with the assault and the injuries they've sustained while performing their work on reporting events.





THE EYES CAPTURE THE SCENE OF THE LAST ATTACK THAT CLAIMED THE LIFE OF THE LENS OWNER

AWAB TARIQ AL-ZUBEIRI, PHOTOJOURNALIST - TAIZ

Awab al-Zubeiri, photographer with Taiz News Network, went out on Friday 16 November 2016 to the Al-Jahmalia Al-Askary neighborhood, east of Taiz, to document the destruction and violations caused by the war. His eyes saw a group of destroyed buildings, but he did not expect that the building will explode and he will die under its rubbles.

His colleague, photojournalist Dawoud al-Wahbani, said: “me, Awab and the photographer Hossam al-Qulayaa entered a narrow path next to one of the buildings. This path is used as a safe corridor to escape gunfire and Awab was in the front trying to move to the other side, me and Hossam were in the middle of the corridor before we get to where our colleague Awab has arrived.”

“Then there was a big explosion,” al-Wahabani said. He added, “I was not aware that the building that we were going to photograph next to had exploded and fell to the ground due to an explosive device that had been planted by the Houthi and Saleh gunmen.”

They repeatedly called on Awab, and when the dust cleared, we saw the building collapsed, then, as Al-Wahbani says: “We started digging the rubble, but a Houthi sniper continued to shoot us, when we removed Awab from under the rubble he had died.”

A SHELL HUNTED LENSES ... AND THEIR OWNERS AS WELL

Three journalists were killed and others wounded - Taiz

On May 26, 2017, a shell fired by the Houthis killed three young photographers working in Taiz governorate, and others were wounded, one of whom had his foot amputated.

Journalist photographer Aseed Al-Odaini told SAM that “during the attack, we were gathering near Muhammad Ali Othman school, in the city of Taiz, at 7:00 am on Friday, May 26, 2017, and a shell hit from the Houthi and Saleh gunmen positions. In the eastern direction of our gathering, its fragments were scattered and killed my friends: Taqi al-Din al-Hudhaifi, Wael al-Absi,” and Sami al-Nazari, and wounded Walid al-Qadasi - his foot amputated - and Salah al-Wahbani.”

Photographer Akram Al-Rasini - Taiz

The journalist Akram Al-Raisni explained to the SAM that, since the Houthis entered Taiz city at the beginning of the year 2015, he moved to several places with his media colleagues and photographers despite the risks, to perform their tasks, in an effort to document events and violations against civilians, especially after the Houthis leader described them in a TV interview, that they are more dangerous to him than the fighters he is fighting in the field in a clear incitement against journalists and an attempt to prevent them from carrying out their duties.”

Al-Rasini said: “We were besieged many times, due to the Houthis snipers and the violent and indiscriminate shelling of mortars and tanks, and after a year, in March 2016, while I was documenting the events with colleagues in the Al-Dawa neighborhood east of Taiz, I was injured in my head and foot by shrapnel of a shell that fell next to us and broke through the wall next door. “

Taha Saleh, TV cameraman - Taiz

Taha Saleh works as a cameraman for Sky News Arabia, who was shot by a sniper while covering the fighting in Taiz governorate on July 19, 2015, in an area under the control of the legal forces.

The bullet came from the Houthi-controlled side. Saleh said to SAM: “the bullet entered under my ear and came out of my mouth, causing multiple injuries, led to cut my tongue and broke some of my teeth. I am still suffering from my injury, and my nerves still hurt and did not I receive appropriate treatment. “ Saleh added, “After I partially recovered, I went back to work on photography and was abducted by gunmen who followed Abu Al-Abbas battalion in the city of Taiz. I was released after hours of detention.”

HIT THE HEADS WITH RIFLE BUTTS AND HANG ON THE CELL CEILINGS AND DEPRIVED FROM FOOD AND MEDICINE

INTIMIDATION OF TRIALS

The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate has documented referral of more than 10 cases of journalists and the media by Houthis to court under their control, and major violations related to the trials according to the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, as follows;

1. Al-Saeeda Channel: On February 1, 2017, the Press and Publications Court started the trial of the channel and a number of its employees based on a lawsuit filed by the Houthi-controlled Ministry of Interior, against broadcasting "Hammi Hammak" comedy series that the ministry said was offending its soldiers.
2. Kamel al-Khoudani, journalist in Al-Mithaq newspaper of the People's General Congress, summoned before the Press and Publications Prosecution in the lawsuit filed against him by the president of the so-called revolutionary committee, Muhammad Ali Al-Houthi, on the background of an article he wrote against the head of the Revolutionary Committee, accusing him of corruption and looting of public money.
3. On February 10, 2017, the following Al-Mithaq newspaper editorial board were summoned: Mohamed Anam, the editor-in-chief, Yahya Ali Nuri, deputy editor-in-chief, Abdul-Wali al-Muthabi, managing editor, Tawfiq al-Sharabi, managing-editor, Najeeb Shujauddin, editor-secretary, and Abdel-Majid al-Yaheri, technical editor-secretary, by the Press and Publications Prosecution. In a complaint filed by the Houthis-appointed Minister of Youth and Sports, on the backdrop of a publishing case
4. On March 12, 2017, journalist Jamil al-Samet, Al-Wahdawi newspaper correspondent in Taiz, was interrogated by Ansar al-Sharia, Taiz on the background of publishing a report regarding corruption in the Republican Hospital.



5. On March 19, 2017, journalist Khaled Saleh Qassem Al-Juma'i, Saba News Agency correspondent in Rima, summoned by the court in Rima to a complaint from the director of the central prison because of his press article on the suffering and lack of nutrition experienced by the prisoners.
6. On April 12, 2017, journalist Yahya Abdel-Raqib Al-Jubeihi, received arbitrary death sentence by the State Security Court issued in his second trial session. The court denied Al-Jubeihi and his lawyer the right of defense.
7. On April 20, 2017, the Public Funds Prosecution summoned 14 journalists and employees from Al-Thawra Corporation for Press, Printing and Publication, on the background of their demands for their salaries and payments from the Houthis-appointed management.
8. In December 2017, the Houthi-controlled Press court sentenced journalist Mohamed Anam, the editor-in-chief of Al-Mithaq newspaper of the People's General Congress, to 9 months in prison and a two million riyals fine, for the newspaper's publication of a corruption case.
9. In January 2018, the Houthis-run Press and Publications court in Sana'a, ruled against journalist Kamel Musleh Al-Khoudani, the editor-in-chief of Al-Mithaq mobile, convicting him on charges of insulting and defaming, in the lawsuit filed by the Houthi leader Muhammad Ali Al-Houthi and fined him ten thousand riyals.
10. In 11 January 2018, journalist Yazid Al-Faqeeh, appeared before the Press and Publications Prosecution in Sana'a in the case against him, and Shoot newspaper by the Minister of Youth and Sports in the Houthis government on the background of opinion cases.
11. Journalist, Adnan Mustafa appeared before the Press and Publications Prosecution in Sana'a in the case against him, and Shoot newspaper by the Minister of Youth and Sports in the Houthis government on the background of opinion cases.
12. On March 13, 2018, journalist Awad Kashmim, head of the November 30 corporation and the Liberties Officer of the Journalists Syndicate in Hadramout, appeared before the Criminal Court of First Instance in a lawsuit submitted by the Specialized Criminal Prosecution on the background of opinion cases
13. On July 16, 2018, journalist Fouad Al-Sumaei appeared before the Public Prosecution in Ibb, for a complaint by the Houthis-appointed deputy governor Abu Al-Hassan Al-Nowa, on the background of publishing cases.
14. On July 16, 2018, journalist Majed Yassin, appeared before the Public Prosecution in Ibb, for a complaint by the Houthis-appointed deputy governor Abu Al-Hassan Al-Nowa, on the background of publishing cases
15. On February 2, 2019, Muhammad Al-Imad, Director of the Al-Hawyya Satellite Channel, appeared before the Press and Publications Court, on the backdrop of publishing cases, in a lawsuit filed by Kamran Tobacco and Matches Company.
16. On September 11, 2019, the Press and Publications Court in Sana'a ruled against the journalist Ahmed Al-Asadi, the director and owner of the Sahafatak search engine, with one year imprisonment with a half million riyals fine, and blocking the search engine for publishing an article conforming with the nature of the search engine, without being responsible for its contents



هشام اليوسفي

توفيق المنصوري

عبد الخالق عمران

صلاح القاعدي

وحيد الصوفي



حسن عناب

أكرم الوليدي

عصام بالغيث

هشام طرموم

حارث حميد

هيثم الشهاب

THE TRIAL OF THE 10 ABDUCTED JOURNALISTS

Salah Al-Qa'idi, Abd Al-Khaleq Amran, Akram Al-Waleedi, Hareth Salih Hameed, Tawfiq Al-Mansouri, Issam Balghith, Hisham Al-Yousifi, Haitham Al-Shehab, Hassan Annab, Hisham Tarmoum, known as the ten abducted journalists by the Houthis militia when seized Sana'a.

The ten journalists, spent the longest period of detention in the Houthis prisons, and are still in detention, subjected to torture from time to time.

SAM team met the wife of the journalist, Salah Al-Qa'idi, who was arrested and detained in 2015 by the Houthi militia.

Al-Qai'di's wife said: "I was only allowed to visit my husband once, in the Political Security detention center in the capital, Sana'a. My husband told me that he was being beaten with rifle butts and hit his head on the walls of the detention facility to pressure him to end his hunger strike," adding: "I noticed that he was subjected to psychological torture And I noticed this from the way he is talking to me that is

different from what it would be in normal situations."

Al-Qai'di's wife, indicated that her husband told her that he was tortured in al-Judairi Police Station, and she witnessed the signs of torture on his face, shoulder and legs, and added: "Salah told me that he was severely tortured in the months of April, May and July of 2016 in Habra provisional prison, by beating with the butts of the rifles, and hung by chains on the ceiling of the cell upside down, beside psychological torture, by depriving him of sleep at night and disturbing him during the day if he tried to sleep. Al-Qai'di's wife complains of not being allowed to visit her husband or provide him with food before and after that only visit.

The journalist, Abdel-Khaleq Amran, was also arrested with his colleague Salah Al-Qai'di. One of his relatives said: "When we visited Abdel-Khaliq in the Political Security prison, I witnessed signs of torture. He told us that from the moment he was transferred to the prison he was being tortured, in addition to being isolated in a solitary confinement cell, He was hanged on its roof for 45 days, hit with sticks, chained, and tortured psychologically. "

He reported that he was tortured in Habra provisional prison, in April and July 2016, by being beaten with sticks and rifle butts, revealing that he had suffered a spine injury; because of the torture he was subjected to in the Al-Thawra provisional prison.

SAM monitors interviewed the relatives of other detained journalists in the prisons of the Houthi and Saleh militia; relatives of Akram al-Walidi, and Harith Saleh Hamid, Tawfiq Al-Mansouri, Issam Belghaith, Hisham Al-Yousifi, Haitham Al-Shehab, Hassan Annab and Hisham Tarmoum. Through these interviews, they affirmed that the eight journalists were subjected to torture, in addition to the inhumane treatment and practices. Disgraceful practices against them, also, they complained about denying of visitations, in addition to preventing entry of food and medicine, especially as their humanitarian situation is tragic

On December 9, 2019, the Houthi-run Court held the first session in which the journalists were confronted with the indictments without the presence of the lawyer where the journalists denied the whole indictments, and on January 16, 2020, the second session was held without due process, and the judge expelled lawyers from the courtroom and issuing a decision to prevent lawyers from pleading in front of him because they submitted a recusal request against the judge.

And on the 9th of March 2020, the third session was held without the knowledge or the presence of the lawyer as they've been prevented from pleading before the judge.

On April 11, 2020, the fourth session was held, during which the Houthi-run court ruled to execute four journalists, condemn the rest and limit the period of their imprisonment to the period spent already in prison, and to be under surveillance for three years.



YOUSSEF AJLAN

Yusef Hammoud Ajlan, a former journalist at Al-Masdar Online website, said: “I was arrested in front of my house on Al-Hurriya Street in the capital, Sana’a, on October 13, 2016, and was transferred to Al-Himiyari police station for several hours and then transferred to the Criminal Investigation, where I stayed for 25 days, exposed to physical and psychological torture, I was hanged on the “griller”, beating with sticks and hands, and threatening to kill me and my family, and then I was transferred to Al-Thawra provisional prison, where I remained for 50 days, and my family was allowed to visit me only after 25 days in Al-Thawra provisional prison. Houthis threatened to disappear me if I talk, during the visit, about what happened to me during the arrest. I was transferred to Political Security and made to disappear for 22 days until my family knew about my whereabouts, and I stayed for about 5 months, I was allowed a once in a week visitation, and behind a window and two meters separate us. I suffered most from the psychological torture at political prison, then I was transferred to the central prison and stayed for 16 days without my family knowing where I was, until they were allowed to visit me, and after less than 5 months, the Houthis attacked us with live bullets and tear gas after we refused to be transferred again to another prison, and we were transferred by force to the Military Police prison in Sana’a where I remained for one month without my family knowing where I was, until I was released in a prisoner exchange on November 23, 2017, and about 10 days after I was released, the Coalition bombed the prison I left, and a number of my colleagues were killed and wounded. Thanks God I survived.

AN UNKNOWN FATE IN THE HEART OF THE CAPITAL



JOURNALIST WAHEED AL-SOUFI - SANA'A

The daughters of journalist, Wahid Al-Soufi, suffers from bad psychological and health conditions. Their father has been abducted, and his whereabouts is unknown until the moment, as confirmed by a relative.

Waheed al-Sufi is the editor-in-chief of the Al-Arabiya online website, Fahmy Muhammad al-Sufi, his nephew, said that at 7pm on Monday, April 6, 2015: "My uncle was single in Tahrir Post office, the central area of the capital Sana'a, to withdraw money before being abducted by two armed men in civilian uniform, and took him on a white Land Cruiser.

"My uncle Waheed," Fahmi added, "was preparing to produce a documentary film about the war, storming the camp of Al-Subaha and the fall of the capital, Sana'a. he was also photographing the incidents in Sana'a, during the launching of the Decisive Storm. Hours prior his abduction, he was photographing, Attan and Al-Subaha areas, following its airstrike by the Arab Coalition.

Fahmi said that his uncle, Waheed, called him at 5pm, to meet in a street in the capital, and when they met, Waheed entered the post office to withdraw money and pay some bills, while Fahmi went to photograph his uncle's identity card, Fahmi said, "Once I returned, I saw two gunmen pulling him to a white car."

He added: "I asked those in the post office about what happened. Some mentioned that the gunmen entered the post office and asked Waheed about his relationship with Al-Arabiya channel, and the motives for photographing Attan area, then took him outside the post office." Fahmy stated that they do not know his whereabouts until this moment, and that he has a wife and two daughters who suffer from poor psychological and health conditions, especially that Waheed's fate is still unknown."

A DEATH SENTENCE FOR THE FATHER AND TAKING THE SON AS HOSTAGE

YAHYA ABDUL RAQEEB AL-JUBAIHI, JOURNALIST - SANA'A

Yahya Abdul-Raqeeb Al-Jubaihi 61; Houthis militia stormed his house and tampered with its contents in Sana'a. The raid was terrifying, as his daughter Sahar asserts, and they arrested him on September 9, 2016.

Storming and detention of Al-Jubaihi, and confiscating personal items and documents, came within one week of the abduction of his son, Hamza, from the main road, according to the testimony of Sahar Al-Jubaihi.

Sahar told SAM: "After several appeals and attempts to release them, we were surprised that a death sentence was issued against my father, without any proper legal procedures preceding this ruling, and the lawyer was not allowed to discuss the case or plead before the court, the judgment was prepared in advance and was announced to our shock."

Sahar confirmed that her father is suffering from a critical health condition due to his old age, as well as his suffering from asthma, and expressed the family's fear that his

health will deteriorate in the prison, due to the poor health conditions, demanding the release of him and her brother Hamza without restriction or condition.

Saba news agency under control of Houthis and Saleh authorities in Sana'a, published the news of the death sentence against Al-Jubaihi on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 by the Specialized Penal court; on collaboration with a foreign country charges, and considering the documents he was sending to the Saudi ambassador and the first secretary in the embassy a threat to Yemeni national security, according to the agency.(1)

Al-Jubeihi remained in prison for one year until he was released on Sunday September 24, 2017, after the amnesty was issued by Saleh al-Sammad, the head of the so-called Political Council formed by the Houthis militia and pro-Saleh members of the People's General Congress party, on Thursday September 21, 2017, however his son Hamza is still held as a hostage to this day.

(1) Saba News Agency website; <http://www.saba.ye/ar/news461880.htm>

HE WENT OUT TO THE PROSTHESES CENTER, AND WAS DETAINED AND TORTURED UNTIL HE LOST HIS LIMBS

AKRAM TAWFIQ SAAD AL-QUDAMI - TV DIRECTOR - SANA'A

Akram al-Qudami was kidnapped while going to the Prostheses center of the Ministry of Health, for some physio-therapy session. He did not know that the abductors were surveilling his movements, and they would torture him until his limbs are paralyzed. Al-Qudami told SAM that his abduction and that he still suffers the injury; "When I left my home in the Al-Jeraf neighborhood, Sana'a, at 9:00 am on Sunday, June 26, 2016, to go to the Prostheses center of the ministry of Health for physio-therapy session, I was surprised by gunmen who pointed their rifles at me, confiscated my bag, which was contained the key to my car, my mobile phones, and my medical documents. The gunmen took me to a car and to a police station I don't know, and detained me in a cell until night, where they then moved me to an unknown location, and I was blindfolded and handcuffed, unable to move, and I was in poor health."



"One of the Houthi gunmen interrogated me during the detention, in which he asked me to tell them the whereabouts of the journalists and who are their supporters, and he accused me of participation in the fighting fronts and military action, and I'm a leader in the Islah Party, media collaboration with the Arab coalition, running opposition channels from Sana'a, and media coverage to the Youth Revolution.

Al-Qudami remained in enforced disappearance for two months, and his family knows nothing about his whereabouts. "I was subjected to psychological and physical torture, and my wounds of a previous knee operation has grown infected and with sepsis. With lack of medical care, I developed spinal cord inflammation, slipped lumbar vertebrae, and slipped cervical vertebrae. The Houthis injected me in the prison with Voltarene throughout the period of detention until I became paralyzed and unable to move, urinate blood and drained from pain."

Akram continues, "After the great pressure and successive mediations, I was released for treatment against many tribal, and financial guarantees," adding, "I'm subject to treatment till now in Cairo." I had surgery, and I had to go through physical therapy, but I still had muscle weakness caused mainly by sedatives."

Muhammad Al-Washie, journalist-Dhamar

Muhammad Al-Washay is a reporter for Akhbar Al-Youm newspaper and Ma'rib Press website, in Dhamar. He was abducted by the Houthi militia and tortured until his foot was broken.

Al-Washie, told SAM about his abduction: "On the evening of Saturday, October 3, 2015, while I was riding a motorbike to return to the house near the governorate building, a masked person came up on the motorbike and pointed his gun to my side, and asked the bike driver to go to Al-Warqi Police Station, and there I was handed over to a group of Houthi militants."

Al-Washie says that they put him in a solitary confinement until 9pm, then summoned him to investigate, and after midnight they took him out in a police vehicle to an unknown location "They beat me and kicked me until I lost my consciousness" as he recounts Al-Washaie, when I was awake they took me back to the same cell".

The next day, the supervisors of the police station denied the presence of Al-Washie when his family came looking for him, and at night Al-Washie said: "The driver of the police vehicle came, who is my acquaintance, he told me that he would take me to my house, and I went with him and at Al-Warai gas station he turned left opposite the road leading to the house, I alerted him but he was indifferent, he asked me to go down at the gate of the governorate office, the street was dark, I wanted to thank him, but told me: Just go down, and as soon as I got off a the Hilux car, another speeding car headed towards me, I tried to escape, but masked men on board pointed their guns at me, two of them forced me into it, put me under their feet in the car, they started to address me and identifying themselves as al-Qaeda militants: "What did you say to the Shiites?" "What information did I give to the Twelvers "a Shi'ite set?", "You are a Shi'ite heretic."

Al-Washie added that they went to a vacant area place west of Dhamar city, and then they beat and tortured him until they broke his right foot, and he entered a coma and awoke after an hour, to crawl to a place where he spotted the light of moving cars, approached a petrol station, he said: "I asked for water to drink and to call my brother, so they helped me and called him. My brother came in the car of his friend and took me to the city of Dhamar. I was transferred to a private hospital."

Al-Washie left Dhamar and headed towards his village in Al-Hada tribe, from there he left for Marib governorate, and after two years his family managed to go to him, to live under a bad economic conditions, made him to live in a tent as he could not afford to pay for the rent.



Shawqi Hussein and Kamal al-Kibsi - Al-Masirah Channel

After covering a protest for Houthis militia supporters in Behan district, Shabwa, Shawqi Hussein, Al-Masirah channel correspondent - affiliated with the Houthis militia, in Shabwa and Kamal al-Kibsi, the cameraman of the channel, were wounded after an air strike by Arab coalition aircraft on their residence. The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate issued a statement on July 30, 2017, to condemn the airstrike, and reiterated its demand not to target journalists and media workers for practicing their profession, and not to deal with them with hostility and violence, and the Syndicate appealed to all media outlets affiliated to all parties to the conflict not to involve journalists and media workers in the frontlines, and on the need to train reporters on occupational safety.(1)

Sharaf Al-Shammari, correspondent of Yemen Today channel

Snipers belonging to the Saudi Border Guard forces shot Sharaf Al-Shammari and wounded him with 4 bullets in his hand, on Saturday February 6, 2016, the journalist Al-Shammari was moving from Haradh to Midi in Hajjah governorate, to prepare a TV report for the Yemen Today channel. Al-Shammari believes that the accident was premeditated against the work of the channel, which covers the current events in Yemen.

Suhail Tariq Saad Al-Humaidi - Sana'a

Suhail Al-Humaidi 17, son of journalist Tariq Al-Humaidi, was the abducted and tortured because of his father's journalistic activities. His father recounted the abduction and torture of his son to SAM team by saying: "On the afternoon of Wednesday, December 23, 2015, Suhail was abducted from the vicinity of our building by gunmen traveling in a Hilux car bearing the slogan of the Houthis militia.

According to the details narrated by Tariq, after his son was handcuffed and blindfolded, they aimed their guns at his head and threatened him with death if he made any sound, then they took him to an unknown location, Tariq added: "We later learned that he was in a building belonging to Political Security in front of the Ali Mohsen Market."

According to his father, Suhail was placed in a dark room in the basement of the Political Security building and tied up in a chair, and he was asked about his father's association with the resistance, and how much money he and his father received from Saudi Arabia, America, and Israel, explaining that his son was responding to them that he is a student and has nothing to do with what they say, and they can ask these questions to his father.

(1) Yemeni Media Center website, citing the Syndicate of Journalists http://yemen-media.info/news_details.php?sid=30485

Al-Humaidi added to SAM: “They tortured Suhail and burned him with cigarette butts on his chest and hands, and they called him names, of regional background, being from Taiz, and accused him of being from ISIS.(2)

Suhail torture continued for two days, and his case turned into a public opinion case, the Houthis militia then, dumped him on the 30th Street and shot him and wounded him in the foot, and he remained lying on the ground in a deplorable state, until he managed to crawl to a main road and stopped a taxi to take him to the hospital, according to his father.

Al-Humaidi noted that the kidnapping of his son was in response to his media activity, as he works for the press secretariat of President Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi.

Ahlam Al-Askari, correspondent of Sana’a Channel in Taiz city

Ahlam Al-Askari, a reporter for the Sana’a channel in the city of Taiz, was subjected to more than a death threat by gunmen in the city of Taiz, which is controlled by military forces and resistance factions loyal to the government of President Hadi.

Al-Askari said to SAM: “I went to al-Mehwar village in al-Jahuri mountain to photograph a humanitarian case, then I came back to the city center to complete the filming of the TV episode, and during the shooting, armed men on a motorcycle intercepted us and prevented us from filming, so I had to stop shooting to avoid problems.”

Al-Askari added: “On the following day, Sunday, April 2, 2017, the cameraman resumed the work, and we were also threatened and prevented from shooting, in a barbaric way they started insulting and abusing the crew, and threatened to kill me. Al-Askari said that she contacted the commander, and sent an email to the director of security, but she received no response.

Al-Askari confirms that she was subjected to another threat while covering the fighting in the Tha’abat area east of Taiz, saying: “One of the gunmen came to us and prevented us from shooting on the pretext that I’m a girl and shouldn’t cover events from the frontlines. He raised his gun and threatened to kill me if I did not leave the location, I was at the time, accompanied by photographers Hossam Qulayaa and Muhammad Al-Tuwaiji, we had to stop shooting.”

(2) Humiliating and degradation words for being from Taiz. Daeshi in reference to ISIS

Weam al-Soufi

Weam al-Soufi, a reporter for 26th September newspaper, September Net, Al-Mawi' Post website. Weam was threatened with death and abduction by known people three times in 2016, she says, and the following year she received a message from an unknown person threatening to abduct her and her family, then her husband received text and voice messages recorded on his phone from a known person includes threats, insults and slander.

Al-Masirah, the Houthi-run channel also broadcast a provocative report against Weam, accusing her of providing coordinates and leading an intelligence cell to deal with the Arab coalition countries. Weam said in her statement to SAM Organization: "On November 15, 2017, at 8:30pm, the channel broadcast a news report included incitement to target my life, and they accused me of leading a criminal cell, and I am providing the coordinates of the Houthis and Saleh militia military sites, to the Arab coalition countries, and provide intelligence to them, and an unknown appeared in the report and claimed to be a member of the cell that I manage, and claimed that I requested him to monitor the movements of the Houthis and Saleh's forces, and to provide the coordinates of their locations."

Weam al-Soufi said that her life and the life of her family, "her husband and son", are at risk because of her work in press.

Norwegian journalist Raymond Lidal

The journalist Lidal, who works for the Norwegian NRK channel, disappeared in the capital, Sana'a, on the night of Saturday 28 March 2015, according to the State of Press Freedoms report during the first half of 2015, issued by the Freedom Committee of the Journalists Syndicate⁽³⁾, the Norwegian channel revealed to the Syndicate that Lidal was held in a prison in the capital, Sana'a, by the police while filming a movie on the night of March 28, when Saudi Arabia carried out its air strikes on the capital, Sana'a. According to the Norwegian channel, Lidal was accused of illegal work as a journalist, as he entered the country with a tourist visa, indicating that he filmed several reports of the channel from inside Yemen.



(3) Yemeni Journalists Syndicate website; <http://www.yemenjs.net/upload/libraries/pdf/10/pdf.pdf>

THE FOUR JOURNALISTS WHO WERE HELD IN CAMP 20

On May 16, 2017, gunmen in military uniforms arrested 4 journalists: Hossam Radman, Majid Al-Shuaibi, Hani Al-Junaid and Al-Kuraihi Kanan. The four journalists were returning from the condolence gathering for the activist Amjad Abdul Rahman, who was assassinated at his workplace in the interim capital Aden.

Al-Shuaibi was released after hours of detention, while Radman, Al-Junaid and Al-Kuraihi continued to be held in the 20th June camp in Crater, Aden governorate, and media sources reported that the journalists were tortured.

Yasser Al-Dhabr, correspondent for the Sana'a TV in Marib

Yasser Al-Dhabr, is correspondent for the Sana'a channel in Marib, said in his interview to SAM that: "At 6:30pm, on Saturday March 25, 2017, I was at an Internet shop opposite the central bank in the city of Marib, I prepared the report on the second anniversary of the "Decisive Storm", military operation, I was surprised by two armed men in civilian clothes, one of them sat next to me while the other sat in the opposite chair. I tried to talk with them, but one of them went and called two soldiers from the Central Bank guard, and they took me to the bank's vicinity, and they told me that I was wanted for a complaint by the 26th Brigade of Tihama.

"although I absolutely denied any relationship with the Brigade and showed them my ID and work card, they confiscated all my phones, computers and cameras, and they took me to the Al-Madina police station, and put me in a dirty cell full of insects. I couldn't sleep or eat because of the bad smells," al-Dhabr said. I stayed until Sunday evening, when they let me out of the cell to meet the officer who instructed one of the soldiers to provide me with a phone so that I could contact one of my acquaintances to take me from the station where no charge was proven on me. He continued, "I called Jalal al-Dhabyani, who came and took me out on his personal guarantee."



3 JOURNALISTS ABDUCTED IN HADRAMOUT

Al-Qaeda abducted 3 journalists, on the afternoon of Monday 12 October 2015, who were covering a march in the city of Mukalla in Hadhramaut governorate, organized in protest of the deteriorating humanitarian and living conditions in the governorate.

The Journalist Syndicates in the governorates of Hadhramout, Shabwa, and Al-Mahra strongly condemned the abduction carried out by Al-Qaeda militants who controlled Mukalla at the time.

The syndicate reported that it has received information that al-Qaeda militants arrested Muhammad al-Muqri, correspondent of Yemen Today channel in Mukalla, the editor of Hadramout Online, and correspondent of Azal satellite channel, Amir Baawidan, and the president of the "Mustaqil Human Rights Development Foundation, Amin Al-Hamid.

The syndicate statement revealed that the family of journalist, Mohammed Al-Muqri", confirmed that Al-Qaeda militants had searched their home, confiscating personal phones and some identification documents.

FIVE SATELLITE TV REPORTERS ARRESTED - HADRAMOUT

On Thursday November 10, 2016, five satellite TV reporters were arrested in Hadramout governorate, and the five reporters are: Khalil al-Taweel, Walid al-Ja`uri, Dhiab al-Shater, Omar al-Sururi, Zain al-Aqab.

Khalil Al-Taweel talked about this detention: "I was with my four colleagues on a visit to Hadramout governorate, on Thursday 10 November 2016, on the second day we went out to shop with Dhiab, my colleague Dhiab al-Shater came back to the car carrying what he bought." Al-Taweel continues: "After I took my stuffs I went to the car, upon my arrival I saw civilian gunmen taking Dhiab to a Hilux car, and when I opened our car, I was surprised by two people wearing military uniform sitting inside it, someone asked me what you want? I replied: This is our car, as soon I talk, he put a bond covering my eyes and handcuffed me, he took me to the car they had previously taken Dhiab to, we told them that we were visiting Mukalla and why they were doing this to us. One of them answered briefly: You will know the answers when we get you to the place where you should be."



Al-Taweel said that they had been divining the car for about half an hour without he and his colleague knowing where they were going, and they believed that the gunmen were affiliated with Al-Qaeda as they were firm and hard-liners in their dealings. “When we arrived, they sent us down and searched us, then they asked us how many we are, how long we’ve been in Hadramout. We told them that there are colleagues in the hotels, so they forced us to contact them to find their location and reassure them without hinting that we are being held”, “After telling them everything, they put us in a large room with four people. We prayed and had lunch while we were blindfolded. We entered the bathroom and we were blindfolded and someone took us to show us the place”, Al-Taweel added.

Al-Taweel said that their colleagues arrived and told the abductors that they are journalists, after which they were transferred to another location and the covers removed from the eyes to discover that they were in the Republican Palace.

In his interview, Al-Taweel asserted that the individuals in the palace allowed them to eat and drink, watch TV and talk with the soldiers in the office, and after 7pm, as a result of media pressure, and official authorities contacts, including the governor of Marib and the office of the vice president, they told us that our release order is subject to the Coalition. An officer came to us, said to be Emirate, who apologized for what happened, saying that they were suspicion about the names and they released us.

Khalil al-Taweel, correspondent of the Bilqis channel -Ma'rib

On Friday 17 March 2017, the Bilqis channel correspondent, Khalil Al-Taweel, was threatened and beaten while covering news in Marib governorate. Al-Taweel said to SAM: "I received news from Marib General Hospital that victims among the Yemeni army arrived after the Houthis launched a missile that hit them, while they were performing Eid prayers in Sarwah city. As soon as the news was received, I went to the hospital, and I obtained permission to photograph from the security officer in-charge there, when I started shooting, the director of security objected to me, treated me firmly, pulled my phone, and then I showed my card, and informed him of my prior permission to shoot, he immediately apologized and returned my phone and allowed me to continue my work."

Al-Taweel added: "few minutes later, a person named Saad Al-Jaradi approached me and prevented me from shooting. I thought at the beginning that he was working in the hospital. I told him that I am a journalist and showed him my card, so he told me: You are in Belqis channel serving the coup. I told him that it is necessary to document the incident and shooting of the victims in the hospital, and I also informed him that I had permission to work. He threw the card and took one of my phones and broke it, which prompted the hospital's security to intervene and enable me to continue my work. And amid the continued arrival of the victims to the hospital, Al-Jaradi began inciting the crowd and urged them to attack me. The crowd started responding to him, and one of them hit me with a stick on my back, and some of them pointed weapons at me. Then they took my card and my phone and threw them on the ground. That moment a clash erupted between the security forces - provoked by the behavior of Al-Jaradi for interfering in their powers - and between Al-Jaradi and those with him with hands and a white weapon. I had to leave the place according to the security instructions, but Al-Jaradi send harassing texts via facebook saying that I'm not a journalist, and that I am serving enemies.



JOURNALIST SAMIA AL-HAJRY

I'm 27 years old. I'm a media worker and program presenter for a number of Yemeni radio stations and channels, including Yemen Music Radio and Yemen Today Channel, and my current program YNet.

Samia told SAM that in October 2017 in Sanaa, she was violently attacked, for her media work, by the Houthi leader Abdul Malik Al-Hajri, head of the so-called "Political Parties Bloc Opposing the Aggression," where I was covering an event in the Culture House in Sanaa, I was surprised by the Houthi leader directing verbal abusive and outrageous words that I feel ashamed of just remembering them, and this was not the first time and not the last time. In August of 2018, I was threatened by gunmen on two cars (RAF4 – Azera) that do not carry plate number in Haddah Street in Sanaa, I was very terrified, I realized at the time the importance of the media profession and how it terrorized the corrupt, and I felt that Sanaa was no longer safe for journalists, especially with the large number of random arrests.

After the killing of former President Saleh and the Houthis militia's absolute control of the capital, the last margin of freedom within which we operate was tightened, and many men and a women were arrested, including politician and a journalist, I had to leave Sana'a on my own and leave for the Saudi capital, Riyadh, leaving my mother and family and with ache in my heart and tears in my eyes, and the journey of diaspora mixed with pain began, I felt in exile lie orphan, being far away from Sanaa and from family and neighbors, and then I left from Riyadh to Cairo where I worked and I still work in the Yemen Today TV channel, and still in my heart an unforgettable pain and undying hope to return.

Tayseer al-Same'i



Tayseer Al-Same'i, a journalist, was abducted near his house in Taiz governorate on (.....), and the Houthi militia transferred him to various detention centers in three governorates; in Al-Salih City Prison, east of Taiz, and then to the Community College Prison in Dhamar Governorate, then transferred to the capital, Sana'a.

Al-Same'i narrated to SAM, what he faced briefly: "I was abducted while I was leaving my house, I was accompanying my child on the way to school, and they did not allow me to drive him to school, and they took me to Al-Salih city prison, where I stayed for one month and ten days. Later, I was transferred to the secret Community College prison in Dhamar governorate, where I remained for four months. I was denied visitation and communication, and in the last period they allowed me to communicate with my family, I was beaten only once during the investigation, the charge against me was to participate in Channels of aggression, I used to spend my day with the colleagues of the detainee, it was forbidden for us to read books, but the speech was allowed, so we kept talking amongst ourselves and discussing, and following the news on the radio, then I was transferred to the capital Sana'a, and I continued in detention for 25 days, then I was released on the basis of pledge I will not talk to the media about what happened."

Wajdi Al-Salmi, journalist - Taiz

Al-Arabi Al-Jadeed, website correspondent in Taiz governorate, journalist Wajdi Al-Salmi told SAM organization about his attack while he was returning to his home in Al-Duhi neighborhood, west of Taiz city, saying: "At 2:00 pm on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 when I was near my house, I stopped next to one of the Qat sellers, and an armed man in a military uniform intercepted me, and another in civilian clothes, who was on a motorbike."

Al-Salmi confirms that one of them assaulted him, then moved away from him a few distance, and fired two shots at him, so Al-Salmi fled to one of the neighboring alleys. Al-Salmi added that the youth of the neighborhood gathered after hearing the shooting, and succeeded in identifying the armed person named, Ali Al-Sabri, member of the 17th Infantry Brigade, loyal to President Hadi's forces.

Kamel Al-Khoudani, journalist - Sana'a



Kamel al-Khoudani, the editing secretary of the Al-Mithaq newspaper affiliated to the People's General Congress, said that he was subjected to constant threat and physical liquidation attempts several times by the Houthis militia, the last of which was in front of the Press Court gate where he is still being tried.

Al-Khoudani pointed out that this was caused by his writings in which he addresses corruption, violations of human freedoms and values, killings, abduction and bombings by the Houthi militia.

Al-Khoudani told SAM that he was being pursued by Houthis militia: "I was attacked by an armed group in a market by gunmen affiliated with the militia. some friends prevented me being shot who were quick to protect me until we got out of the market, followed by an attempted assassination, before the Press Court gate by gunmen who were on board two cars parked in front of the gate, they started shooting during our exit and I escaped through back gates of the court, adding: "I can no longer leave my house and if there is something that requires me to leave I must accompany some friends and family members with their weapons to protect me from any targeting, since the threats continued."

It is noteworthy that after his statements, Al-Khoudani, was arrested by Houthis militia in Sana'a on Tuesday September 19, 2017, and he remained in detention for 4 days, and was released on Saturday September 23, 2017.

Journalist Anis Mansour Al-Subaihi - Aden



Anis Mansour Al-Subaihi narrated the attack on his house in the governorate of Aden, which is under the control of the legitimate government, on Saturday, June 25, 2016: "My house in the governorate of Aden was stormed by an armed group with masked faces that came on police patrol vehicle led by Abdel Fattah Al-Omari, without judicial warrant and without consideration for the sanctity of the home. My mother, my wife, and my aunt were in the house. After some of the neighborhood's residents gathered, Al-Omari said to them: "Anis is violating security measures in the media and we must cut his tongue."

Mansour indicated that this attack coincided with a campaign targeting him, incitement and marketing of lies and rumors and attempts to hack his accounts in the social media, email and his website Huna Aden, in addition to the threats that were received via his cell phone.

It is worth noting that Anis was working for the Yemeni news agency Saba, and the Houthi and Saleh militia suspended his salary with 36 media workers, when they used to pay salaries.

SIX JOURNALISTS WERE ARRESTED - ADEN GOVERNORATE

The UAE-backed Security Belt forces, arrested 6 journalists who were planning to enter the city of Aden. The six journalists are: Khalil Al-Omari, Abdul Basit Al-Shaj'i, Abdullah Al-Mansoori, Mujahid Al-Salali, Mohammed Abdullah Al-Jumai'i, and Mansour Al-Faqih, were arrested on June 1, 2016 while they were at an Iron factory checkpoint, in the entrance Aden.

Journalists noted that their arrest was on the pretext of being descendant from the northern governorates of Yemen, according to their writings on their pages on social media. The journalists explained that they were detained for one day, and that they were released after pressures and the intervention of other dignitaries.

Journalist Awad Kashmim - Hadhramaut

Awad Kashmim, a journalist from the governorates of Hadramout, was arrested by the Intelligence Agency on February 22, 2018, at the instruction of the governor, in Mukalla city, Hadramout governorate, for a post he wrote on his page on the social media "Facebook", criticizing the security situation in the province.

According to a close associates' statement to SAM, he was subsequently referred to the Public Prosecution, which in turn transferred him to the city's central prison, and was released on March 11, 2018.

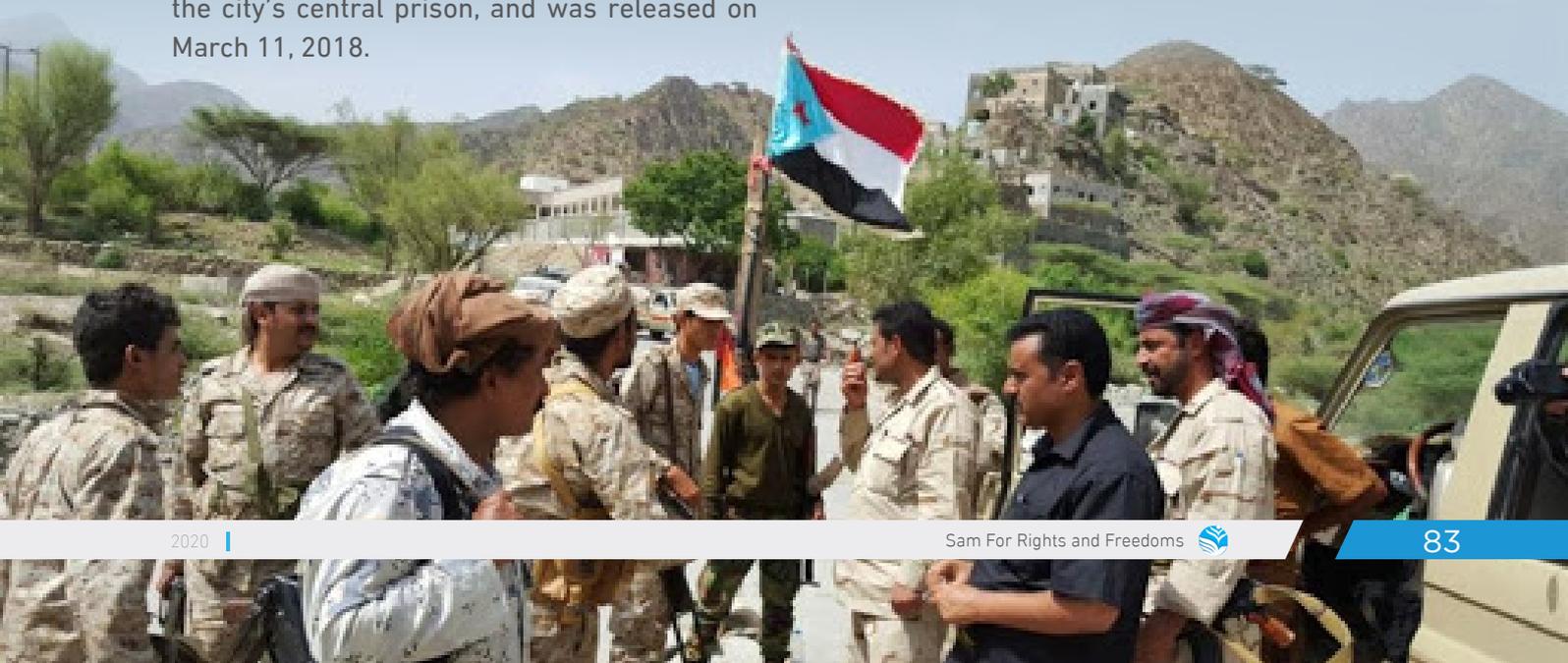
Collective arrest in Sana'a and Hodiedah

On the morning of October 25, 2017, the Houthi militia arrested 18 journalists who participated in a civilian event in the capital, Sana'a. SAM documented from multiple sources that, the journalists were detained in the National Security Agency in Sana'a, and that the investigations with the arrested journalists centered around not obtaining a permit for the event, and trying to prove that the 'mercenaries' are behind them, charges that Houthis raise against every opposing opinion.

Security interrogations also included the opinions of journalists that they express on social media, according to source assertions.

The Houthis released the journalists shortly after, except journalists Adel Abdul-Mughni, Ashraf Al-Rifi and Eyad Al-Mawsmi, who were released after about 12 hours later.

In Hodiedah city, west of Yemen, on October 23, Houthis militia arrested Muhammad al-Masiri (an artist), Bilal al-Arifi (a student of journalism) and Muhammad al-Salahi (a photographer) after they tracked them on Airport Street and took them to an unknown destination.



DISPLACEMENT

The war displaced nearly 400 Yemeni journalists inside or outside Yemen, and the report "Yemeni Journalists... 3 years of displacement" issued by the Center for Studies and Economic Media (CSEM), explained that the situation of displacement and forced displacement to which Yemeni journalists were exposed to, is the largest in the history of Yemen .

The CSEM report revealed that the Yemeni capital, Sana'a, witnessed the largest number of expelled journalists, considering the number of violations suffered by journalists, with 86% of the total number of displaced journalists inside and outside Yemen, followed by Taiz governorate with 5%, Aden governorate 3%, and Hodiedah with 2% , and Hadramout governorate at 1% of the total number of displaced journalists.

The report indicated that 30% of the journalists who were forced to leave their homes, moved to areas inside Yemen, while 70% of the journalists whose information was obtained within the target group, left the country.

The percentage of journalists who were left to Egypt reached 30% of the total displaced journalists, followed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with 28%, then Turkey at 10%, and 28% distributed among the Emirates, Algeria, Sudan, Germany, Kuwait, Sweden, America, Switzerland, Oman, France, Qatar, Lebanon, Britain, and Malaysia.

The report confirmed that the city of Aden attracted majority of displaced journalists, from different regions in Yemen, with 30% of the total number of journalists who were internally displaced, followed by Taiz governorate with 28%, then Marib Governorate with 16%, and the rest were distributed Between Hodiedah, Sana'a, Ibb, Shabwa and Dhamar.





THE INTERVIEW OF JOURNALIST GHAMDAN AL-YOUSIFI

I worked as an independent journalist in the capital, Sana'a, for 17 years, in a number of local and foreign media outlets, and when the Houthis were approaching Sana'a, I was reporting to a number of Arab and international channels, about the risks of turning the country into a militia state, and this was the official and popular position.

I left for Cairo after controlling the capital by Houthis militants after I received a number of threatening messages in the social media, and the trip was at first a medical trip to Egypt, at that time the head of the President's office was abducted by Houthis, and I decided to wait in Egypt, and when he went out he told me that they asked him about the reasons for communicating with me, and I was working with him at the National Dialogue Conference as the editor of the Conference website.

He warned me not to return, and I decided to stay temporarily in Egypt, but the situation changed and Saudi Arabia decided to intervene. After months, the Houthis decided in an absence trial for a number of politicians and journalists, and they filed a case for treason and my name was No. 2 in this case, a case in which the defendants are sentenced to death. After that, Houthis Deputy Minister of Information Hashem Sharaf Al-Din submitted a report in which he said that I am a member of a media cell in Cairo and that we receive foreign funds to confront them in the media, threats and defamation continued, and other lists were published containing my name and picture and were distributed in the streets of the capital Sana'a, and these lists were repeatedly published.

I stayed in Egypt until 2017 and could no longer survive because of the living situation, as the Gulf channels in which I was often hosted, stopped hosting me, and that was my main source of income, and those channels could not tolerate my views on the Coalition changed agenda in supporting the legitimate government, so they stopped hosting me, and then another list was published accusing me of working with Qatar against the Coalition

I decided to take refuge in the Netherlands with my family, and I got residence permission, and felt freer after years of anxiety that I lived with my family.



SALEH AL-SURAIMI, JOURNALIST - EGYPT

SAM organization received a report from the editor-in-chief of Al-Sahafa newspaper; Saleh Alawi Muhammad Al-Sarimi, in which he narrated the facts of his assault and threat of liquidation. "I was displaced from the capital, Sana'a, and lost my job because of the threats of Houthis militia that seized the capital. The threats were as follows: The Houthi militia summoned me for the interrogation at January 3, 2014. I was threatened with liquidation by the end of 2014, and the competent authorities were notified of the name and address of the aggressor, but he still lives in Sana'a freely and no action has been taken against him. On January 2, 2015, I was assaulted by a member of Houthis militia named, Muhammad Muhammad Ali Al-Matari, for

my work in press, as he intercepted my way in a street near my home in Sana'a, denouncing the interviews I made with media outlets, he had beaten me and tore off my clothes and threatening me with death if I appear in media outlets again. Following the incident, I submitted a report to the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, which in turn issued a statement condemning the incident.

"As a result of these assaults and threats, I left Yemen through Sana'a airport, and I currently reside in the Sudanese capital Khartoum, and I live in a charitable housing that belongs to Al-Majd Foundation for the care of Yemeni students. I have no work and my family suffers from displacement and hardships, and I fear a lot of going back to Yemen because there are no guarantees to live safely and to work in press freely."



BUSHRA AL-AAMERI, A DISPLACED JOURNALIST - SAUDI ARABIA

The Al-Ayyam newspaper correspondent in Sana'a, Bushra Al-Aameri, told SAM that the year 2015 was the worst for journalists working in private newspapers, as many of them were closed, and some of them had their income declined, which led them to lay off a large number of employees.

Al-Aameri indicated that when Houthis stormed Sana'a, "I completely lost all the work opportunities, and suddenly found myself under surveillance by colleagues affiliated with Houthis militia through almost daily contact and writing reports on me and my work."

Al-Aameri continued: "Because of writing on my personal account on the social media; Facebook, commenting on the course of public events, I was surprised by the messages accusing me being impartial. As soon as I addressed the violations committed by the Houthis in Amran governorate, and those that accompanied their control of the capital, Sana'a, the matter developed into

direct death threats that I received over the phone, and Facebook messages, mostly from leading female figures in the Houthi militia.

"Al-Aameri" said; "my movements were tightened further when I go to the sites targeted by the Coalition aircraft for photographing and documenting eyewitness statements, where some civilians accused me of working with Al-Jazeera or newspapers belonging to the "aggression". I narrowly escaped while producing a report on the black market of fuels, and another report on the smuggling of gas cylinders to the black market. "

Al-Aameri confirmed that "the threats increased from unknown phone numbers and pseudonyms in Facebook, to abduct me, kill me and defaming my reputation," adding, "After that I had to leave my home to my village of Ashmah, but the harassment did not stop, so I had to leave the country towards Saudi Arabia." .

Al-Aameri added: "After my participation in a session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva in September 2016, and my talk about the violations committed by the Houthis militia in Sana'a against Yemeni women, I received threats via Facebook and WhatsApp from the same female figures that they will not miss revenge on me, no matter how long my escape and my disappearance would be."

Al-Aameri concluded her interview with SAM that: "The Houthis-appointed government suspended my salary nearly four months after I left Yemen on the pretext of my work as a mercenary with the aggression." I suffer outside my country from the constant fear of an unknown future, as I and my colleagues were unable to obtain the most basic rights, in securing residence or accessing health care."

INTERVIEW WITH JOURNALIST SADDAM ABU ASIM - SWITZERLAND

The war left inside each Yemeni a sad story. Journalists are no exception to this tragedy. Whoever is not killed or injured by the war machine, or arrested by its players, finds himself either starving to death or struggling in diaspora and living hardships in refugee homes.

My tragedy appears to some, less severe than that of colleagues who have died or still behind bars. But without exaggeration, we displaced people are part of this pain, if not all pain. Imagine the looks of sympathy in the eyes of those who we resorted to them to escape the fires of war, or the looks of humiliation that some face in other places scattered in this diaspora.



ASIM

I WILL SUMMARIZE MY ESCAPE FROM YEMEN IN THESE LINES:

I was the first to be devoured by the war. Of course, in terms of material and moral. In mid-March 2015, the Houthis suspended my salary in the media department of the Presidential Office. In May, and weeks after the start of the Arab coalition operations of the same year, Houthi activists circulated on social media what they called a blacklist of journalists supporting the aggression. Of course, this was because the majority of people criticized Saleh and Houthi coalition and criticized their war against the Yemenis. The matter was getting more complicated, especially in Sana'a, and the campaign of arrests began to affect our colleagues, and our media activities stopped, especially as I was preparing reports in favor of foreign media sometimes. So, I decided to go out in disguise from Sana'a.

Early July of the same year, I was able to enter Saudi Arabia and from there to Switzerland, where I currently reside in refugee status. This new situation might appear to some people better one, but the psychological suffering away from the family does not end.

Some may imagine that he was planning to marry a few weeks before the outbreak of war, and whoever postpones and leaves his future wife has not met her up to this point due to the complex asylum procedures in family reunification.

In short: self-war and you are alone in diaspora away from your mother and father and your loved ones matched the war of arms. This psychological warfare increases as you watch your family's situation deteriorate inside the country and you cannot offer them anything.

Of course, any refugee condition is often does not allow to work in some countries of asylum, before that you must prepare yourself and learn a language and integrate into society, which is what needs a long time.

However, we have great hope that we will survive. And that the fires of war will one day extinguish in our country, and we will return to building it together after the consciences of the belligerents, politicians, countries of the region and the world have refined and cleaned their hearts of hatred.

SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVISTS TORTURE UNTIL LOSING A MIND

NADER ALI MUHAMMAD AL-SALAHY – SANAA



Nader Ali Al-Salahy, who was running a news network on the WhatsApp, he was summoned by two Houthis leaders to a police station in Sana'a, and was severely beaten, and the tortured until he lost his mind.

SAM application notes from his father to the Criminal Investigation Department in the capital, Sana'a, the deputy of the CID and Security, and the head of the Grievances Committee in Sana'a government. Also, SAM also obtained a memo to the director of Al-Thawra Prison issued by the deputy prosecutor of Eastern Sana'a, number (995) on December 6, 2016, instructing the release of Nader Al-Salahy, as, according to the memo, he had been subjected to torture that led to the loss of his mind, and the prosecutor held the prison administration responsible for failure to releasing him.

The complaints filed by Nader's father summarized the details of what he was exposed to, and according to the information mentioned in those complaints, "On Saturday 4 June 2016, Nader was arrested from Al-Shaibani restaurant in Sana'a after being lured from the University of Sana'a by a person named Ibrahim Al-Qatawi with the knowledge of two Houthi leaders, Ahmed Abdullah Ali Ahmad and his nickname, "Abu Gabriel", and Alawi Hassan

Sanabani, and his nickname, "Abu Ishaq".

Complaints say, Nader was taken to Al-Nasr police station, where he was tortured, beaten, and threatening to liquidate him with gun point, and forced him to sign investigation records.

On June 13, Al-Salahy was transferred to the Al-Wihda Police Station detention, and remained there for about a month, and then transferred to the Criminal Investigation Prison, where he was subjected to physical and psychological torture, and according to the information contained in the complaints, they would put "bricks" on his body during the investigation, and if he refused to confess with what they want, they added more bricks over his body.

The complaints contained nicknames of those who tortured Al-Salahy, in the CID, namely: Abu Raed and Abu Ammar Al-Washali.

The memos added: "Nader was transferred to the Al-Thawra provisional prison, and in which he was subjected to electric shock, until he lost his mind. On December 1, 2016, some members of his family visited him to the prison, but he was unable to identify them and did not realize anything about himself, and he tells about himself that he is the awaited Mahdi, and he is still in this condition.

ABDUL HAMID JAAFAR - TAIZ

Abdel Hamid Jaafar is advisor to the Education Office at the Mawaist district of Taiz governorate. Jaafar's name has emerged among a group of activists covering the armed conflict in the province.

Jaafar was arrested and wounded by a gunshot during his arrest by gunmen from the Houthis and Saleh militia. His daughter Ruba stated that one of the people who involved in his arrest came to her father on the pretext of renting his farm, where they sat together on Wednesday morning, August 24, 2016 until it was dark. Armed men came on board a military bus and vehicle and surrounded the place. They reached her father and beat him with rifle butts. He tried to get rid of them, so they shot him and hit him in the foot.

"The Houthi gunmen surrounded my father's house and indiscriminately fired at the house, stormed it and looted all its contents," she added.

Houthi and Saleh militia are still holding Abdel-Hamid in the residential city of Al-Saleh, which is the largest detention center in Taiz Governorate. His daughter indicated that they've been denied visitation to their father, and that he was prevented from communicating with them, and some of those released from Al-Saleh City prison told her that her father's conditions were poor and that he was being held in a dark basement that was used to torture being the most dark and the most secret.



ABDUL RAHMAN AL-SHAWAFI

Abd al-Rahman al-Shawafi, an activist and journalist from Taiz, was arrested on April 12, 2015, on his way to the University of Taiz by individuals affiliated with 22nd Brigade, Republican Guard, one of the brigades loyal to former President Ali Saleh.

Al-Shawafi explained to SAM that, while on a mission to photograph a gathering of the marginalized in the village of Al-Dhahra, east of Taiz, after being subjected to one of the coalition's strikes, two soldiers of the 22nd brigade stopped him, and they confiscated his phone on the pretext that he sends the coordinates to the Arab coalition's flights.

Al-Shawafi told SAM: "As soon as I arrived at the 22nd Brigade camp, where I was detained for 4 hours, one of the officers directed his gun on my head, accusing me of being from ISIS, then one of them hit me with his rifle, then they transferred me to a prison in the Imam Palace, in Sala area, I was beaten by some of the soldiers. He explained that the prison conditions were harsh, as there was no water, no electricity, no food, in addition to the unpleasant smell of the place.

Al-Shawafi said that he underwent prolonged interrogation sessions for 4 days, and his feet were handcuffed, before transferring him to the Political Security prison, but they returned him because the prison was full of detainees.

ABU BAKR AL-QUMAIRI, PHOTOGRAPHER - TAIZ

On his way from Taiz to the Saudi Arabia for performing the Hajj pilgrimage, a security checkpoint affiliated with the Security Belt forces - backed by the UAE and supervised by Hani bin Brik, arrested Abu Bakr Al-Qumairi in Arrabat area in Lahaj governorate.

Al-Qumairia was detained Saturday September 3, 2016, and he was tortured after being locked in a container, according to his affirmation: "6 gunmen carrying electrical wires beat me with wires on different parts of my body, then they entered 4 more detainees from Taiz, they had just arrested them and gave them those electrical wires and forced them to beat me violently."

Abu Bakr added: "I was interrogated extensively, and they charged me with belonging to Al-Qaeda. On the second day, they transferred me to another prison near the Arrabat checkpoint, where they kept me for six days, during which they prevented me from communicating with my family and robbed my mobile phones and money, and when one of the detainees, of my neighbors, was released, I gave him my brother's phone number, so he contacted him and informed him of my whereabouts of detention."

Al-Qumairi was released after 7 days, with a personal guarantee from the Minister of Youth and Sports in the Hadi government, Naif Al-Bakri. After his release, the traces of torture were still on his body, and he was still in pain.



MILITARY ORDERS FOR FORCIBLE SUBPOENA TO BRING AND STORM THE HOUSE

Hafez Mutair - Marib

Hafez Mohsen Mutair, a human rights and media activist, is also a former officer in the Moral Guidance department of the Yemeni army in Marib governorate, which is under the control of the legitimate government.

Mutair was arrested on Tuesday 20 August 2019, after three military patrol vehicles belonging to the Special Security Forces surrounded his home while he was accompanying some of his friends, according to his father and one of his colleague's statements.

Mohsen Mutair, Hafez's father, told SAM that the gunmen raided the house, and searched even women's clothes, and "the soldiers who raided the house had intimidated the children of Hafez and his wife." We took her twice to the hospital, as she is pregnant, he said.

Mutair's relatives and colleagues did not know where Hafez was being held, and a week later, Mohsen was able to visit his son Hafez, who informed him that he had been threatened and signed on papers without his consent.

Mustafa Mahmoud al-Shamiri, a colleague of Hafez and one of those present during his arrest, gave details of the incident and its aftermath, and said that "at five o'clock in the afternoon, we were seven colleagues at the house, a person entered searching for Hafez Mutair, then he pulled him out, after which "seven soldiers wearing Special Security forces uniform entered the house."

Al-Shamiri added: "The gunmen searched for Hafez's phone and one of the officers punched him in the stomach and told him to give him the phone. Hafez told them that the phone was inside the house, so the gunmen entered the apartment, broke the doors, searched the house and tampered with the closets."

Al-Shamiri described the intrusion and detention as unusually frightening and brutal. He added: "The children of Hafez were crying and clinging to their father, but the gunmen threw the children away from their father and pulled Hafez over the vehicle."

A week later, Hafiz contacted his relatives and colleagues and said that he was in the CID prison.

Al-Shamiri affirmed that Hafez Mutair was humiliated, as he was accused of insulting “Ali bin Abi Talib,” and pointed to an incitement from activist Rashida Al-Qaili on Facebook, because “someone hacked Hafiz account and posted a post in his name attacking Ali bin Abi Talib.”

A colleague of Hafez, and one of those who followed his case, indicated that they knew that a lawyer working in the armed forces had filed a complaint against Hafez to the Public Prosecution, and that the person who pushed him to submit the complaint was “Abdullah al-Hadhri,” the chief military prosecutor.

Al-Shumairy hinted that Hafiz could be stalked by some people who filed a complaint against him in the second day of the post, and confirmed that “Hafiz was suspicious of people behind his arrest, including Marib’s security director, and Abdullah Al-Hadhri.”

SAM obtained a photo of a compulsory subpoena warrant against Manie Muhammad Yahya Suleiman and Hafiz Ali Mutair, issued on August 17, 2019 from the prosecutor of the third Military Region, i.e. three days before the arrest, and al-Shamiri expressed his surprise because Hafiz “had resigned from the military and no longer receives salaries.”

SAM obtained other documents, including the complaint against Hafez Mutair, which is submitted to the Public Prosecution in the governorates of Marib and Al-Jouf in a “public crime and a mockery of Islamic sentiments.” , as described by the memo presented by the

two complainants, lawyer Waddah Abdullah Muhammad and Wajdi Salem Doman against Hafez Mutair and Manie Suleiman, and the complaint note included instructions of the Chief Prosecutor of Marib to the Public Prosecutor and another instructions from the Public Prosecutor to the Director of Criminal Investigation to investigate, collect evidence, arrest the accused and refer them to the Public Prosecution.

After investigation with Hafez Mutair, the prosecution ordered his release, and in the release, note obtained by SAM, the prosecutor, Nabil Al-Adimi, instructed the director of the Provisional Prison to “order the release of Hafez Mohsen Ali Mutair in case No. 513 of 2019 G.J. In the case of mocking religious sentiments, according to the guarantee obtained by the prosecutor office, unless he is imprisoned in connection with another case, issued on August 28, 2019.”

However, the criminal investigation rejected the instruction for release, and after the pressures on the CID, says Al-Shamiri “They tried to transfer Hafez to the military police, but the military police refused to receive him, and they said that this is not a military and we only receive the military”, then they tried to transfer him to the military intelligence, who also refused to receive him They said that this is a journalist and not a military man, then the director of CID contacted the director of security and informed him that he would have to release Hafez if he did not manage frame him (Mutair) up, so Al-Madani the director of security said: “Send him to me.”

EXAMPLES OF VIOLATIONS IN ADEN AND SOME GOVERNORATES:

- In Sana'a, the capital, the Yemeni journalist, Saba Muhammad Abdul Jalil Sharaf, was assaulted on January 3, 2016, when she was abducted by armed men affiliated with the Houthi group who raided her house. According to her family, they received information regarding the arrest of colleague Muhammad in the city of Al-Saleh, Taiz, which is a place exposed to bombing and he is feared that he would be at risk and was later released.
- On 26 March 2016, Muhammad Al-Qadi, Sky News reporter, was detained by gunmen who identified themselves as belonging to the Salafi group in Taiz while covering the incidents in the city, where the militants pulled a gun on him and threatened to kill him.
- On April 19, 2016, Abdul Hafeez Al Hutami, member of the Journalists Syndicate, deputy head of the Syndicate branch in Hodiedah, was pursued and under surveillance by the Houthis and Saleh group inside Hodiedah governorate, where heavily armed members of the group visited his apartment in a daily basis and terrified his family, forcing him and his family to leave the house, and ultimately the province, moving between several governorates harassment continued in Ibb governorate, and he has to leave for another place.
- On May 12, 2016, journalist Radwan Ahmed Abdullah Farea was detained for several hours in the building of the Criminal Investigation Department in Aden after he was arrested at one of the security checkpoints without any legal justification, during a campaign of arresting people without IDs, by the security authorities at the time despite showing his personal and press cards issued by the Journalists Syndicate and all the documents that confirm that he is a resident of the city.
- On November 17, 2016, journalist Nizar Al-Khaled, was subjected to harassment and his attempted arrest, abuse, and defamation by an armed group in Baghdad Street in the capital, Sana'a, after conducting an interview with Al-Hurra and Beladi Iraqi channels, in which he expressed his personal opinions.

2016



- On January 12, 2017, the journalist, Aad Numan, was detained in Aden city for hours by the security forces, while he was covering a protest in front of the Ma'sheq Palace Gate.
- On February 20, 2017, the journalist and photographer at Saba news agency, Farouq Moqbal Al-Kamali, was detained for hours in Al-Sunainah police station in Sanaa after he was arrested by Houthi gunmen, after he photographed an explosion after air strikes. His cameras and phone were searched.
- On February 24, 2017 journalist Sabri Salmin bin Makhashin, detained in prison after receiving the threat of liquidation and intimidation of his family by a number of gunmen who have a relationship with officials in the governorate who tried to raid his house in Mukalla in Hadramout and imprisoned him without interrogating him, for his press activity.
- On March 12, 2017, the journalist, Ali Al-Saqqaf, reporter of Al-Ghad Al-Mushriq channel, was abducted by the Houthis group in Hodiedah city. Where the group stormed the campus of Hodiedah University and abducted him from the Faculty of Arts, Department of Journalism and imprisoned him for a week, on the background of his media activities.
- On April 26, 2017, journalist Jamil al-Qashm, deputy director of local news at Saba news agency, was abducted by a gang of 3 people aboard a white bus, on the attempt to kidnap his son Jamal while he was leaving at school in the fortieth Street in Sana'a and took him by force to the bus and threatened him with the dagger With silence and as a result of his screaming, they took him out of the bus and put him in front of the US embassy after he was attacked.
- On May 11, 2017, journalists Abd al-Salam al-Shuraihi, Bushra al-Ansi, television presenter Sarah al-Badani, journalists Abd al-Khaleq al-Houd, Yassin al-Zakari, in Saba News Agency, journalist Ali Salem bin Yahya, all of whom were arrested at the Aden airport and interrogated by security while returning from in a training course in Lebanon.
- On May 19, 2017, journalist Nabil Al-Sa'fani was detained by the Al Falaj checkpoint in Marib and interrogated without legal ground while he was returning from Malaysia via Seyun Airport, where he was intercepted and taken off from the bus en route to Sana'a, after taking his passport because he is a journalist.
- On July 31, 2017, Tariq Abdo Salam Al-Sharjabi, a member of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, editor of Al-Gomhoria newspaper in Taiz city, was arrested by a Houthi patrol in Al-Houban area of Taiz next to his house, his phone was searched, and detained inside the patrol vehicles and interrogated until 1 am.
- On November 19, 2017, the journalist of the Yemen Shabab Channel, Adham Fahd, and the photographer for Al-Mawqi Post, Lotfi Bakhwar, were threatened with by members of the Security Belt, while they were covering a protest in front of the central prison in Mansoura in Aden.

2017

2018

- On March 1, 2018, journalist Ammar Al-Dhaifi 30, was arrested by Houthi militia while fleeing Sana'a towards Marib, due to his work in Yemen TV.
- On February 27, 2018, journalist Fathi Bin Lazrak was summoned by the CID office in Aden without due process, due to his writings on social media.
- On November 24, the journalist, Hanan Ahmad Al-Haidari 33, was arrested, in Sanaa, by the Houthis militia, along with Median her one-year-old child and sister Fatin, and they were taken to the Political Security prison, due to her media activities, where she is the Secretary-General of the Female Journalists Without Chains Organization.
- On January 23, 2018, the journalist Dhiab Jabir Ali Al Shater, 33, who works for Marib Radio, was arrested by military troops affiliated to the legitimate government in Marib, for posting a document on his Facebook lined to Chief of the General Staff, Lieutenant General Muhammad Ali Al-Maqdashi contains his instructions for both (107 brigade) and (14 brigade) asking them to provide guards for the electrical generators coming from Mukalla to Marib, while he was in the Radio Marib building, he was surprised by the arrival of a car carrying on board Fares Al-Dhibani (in-charge of control in the General Staff) and gunmen and another car carrying on board a Mujahid Shaalan (commander of the Military Intelligence Division), and they asked him to go with them to interrogate him about the source of the document he posted on his Facebook page and he was detained in the Military Intelligence prison
- On July 22, 2019, the house of journalist Abdul Hamid Saeed Abdo Qasim Al Sharabi, Director General of the Saba News Agency office in Mareb, was stormed and searched by armed men affiliated with security in Marib governorate
- On January 28, 2019, journalist Faisal Al-Thobhani, 36, works for the Abu Dhabi TV, hit by IED planted by the Houthi group, which injured him while covering the fighting in the western coast of Al-Makha.

VIOLATIONS ESCALATED IN ADEN

SAM NOTED THE ESCALATION OF VIOLATIONS AGAINST MEDIA PROFESSIONALS, AND IN A SERIOUS MANNER, IN ADEN GOVERNORATE, THE INTERIM CAPITAL OF LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT.

These violations increased with the encroaching of the Southern Transitional Council, supported by the Emirates, into state institutions. Where, the more the STC militia extended its control, the more violations occurred, causing hostilities to rise upward yearly.

Among the major violations documented by SAM, in 2019 are:

- Threatening of journalist and media activist Akram al-Bujairi with physical liquidation by a member of the Aden Security Department, on 15 May.
- On August 20, the Journalists Syndicate received a report that armed elements affiliated with the Transitional Council pursued the journalist Ahmed Maher due to his writings and opinions. On the same day, the Journalists Syndicate received a memo that the house of journalist Ali Saleh Al-Eisi, in the October 14th newspaper, was stormed by gunmen and tampering with its contents, and the documents and private property.
- Among the reports received by the Journalists Syndicate in August, a report from journalists, the report stated that a number of journalists were prevented from working in the 14th October newspaper, which was controlled by the Transitional Council, and specific people were allowed.
- In a similar context, a number of media workers, radio and television employees in Aden were prevented from entering the institutions they work in, also, work in the branch of the Yemeni News Agency is still suspended by groups loyal to the Transitional Council, according to a communication received by the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate.
- On September 11th, the Ministry of Information condemned the storming of its office in Aden by an armed gang led by the leader of the Transitional Council, Ayman Muhammad al-Nawasiri, and blamed him for tampering or looting the contents of the office and all of the damages.
- On November 5, the head of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate branch in the interim capital, Aden, Mahmoud Thabet, said that the syndicate's office in Attawahi district had been robbed by unknown persons.
- On November 21, the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate condemned the incitement against the Syndicate branch manager in Aden, Mahmoud Thabet, by the leader of the Transitional Council, Ayman Muhammad Al-Nawasiri, and held Al-Nawasri accountable for the life of Thabet and his family.



- Unidentified persons set fire to the Journalists Syndicate building in Attawahi district, causing material damage to the Syndicate building, and destroyed the contents of the offices, on 19 December.
- On December 31, the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate condemned the incitement of the so-called Southern Transitional Council deputy head, Hani Bin Brik, to journalists in Aden, and demanded that the syndicate protect the press and journalists and provide a safe environment for practicing the profession freely and responsibly.
- Murder of journalist Zaki Al-Saqldi by gunmen in al-Dali' governorate, near Aden, on October 5, 2018.
- In Aden, violations abounded, including shooting by gunmen, at the headquarters of the Eighth Day newspaper and the Aden Research Center in Khor Maxar, on February 17. The same incident was repeated three days later, as gunmen opened fire on the headquarters of the Eighth Day newspaper and the Aden Center for researches on 20 February.
- On February 27, an unauthorized body summoned journalist Fathi bin Lazrak, publisher and editor-in-chief of Aden El-Ghad, for interrogation, on the basis of opinions published on his Facebook page.
- On February 28, the broadcasting network of Bandar Aden was targeted with an RPG.
- Storming and burning of the office and press of the Al-Shumou Foundation for Press and Akhbar Al-Youm newspaper by gunmen on 1 March.
- On March 24, a number of local satellite channels reporters and photographers were detained by the security of Aden airport.
- On July 2, the editor-in-chief of Aden El-Ghad, Fathi bin Lazraq, was abducted by forces affiliated with Aden security and detained him for hours.
- The Transitional Council militia arrested the TV director, in Aden TV, Sabri Abdel-Bari on July 9, and the Minister of Information demanded his release
- On July 23, Mazen Al-Shaabi, Sharjah TV correspondent escaped an assassination attempt by gunmen in Mansoura district.
- By end of 2018, journalist Adham Fahd and his colleague, photographer Lotfi Bakhwar, were assaulted by Security Belt militia while covering a protest on 27 November.
- SAM monitored other violations related to media offices belonging to civil society organizations, in 2017, such as in May, when gunmen affiliated to the Transitional Council, stormed the office of the media center of the Yemeni Islah Party in Crater, and was set ablaze, on May 6, and one again October 13th October.



PART TWO

MEDIA OUTLETS; TV, PRESS, RADIO, AND WEBSITES

Media, press, radio, and electronic institutions and their employees were subjected to various violations and assaults during the reporting period: such as direct targeting and burning of media offices, preventing journalists from accessing their workplaces, directly targeting them, assaulting them and confiscating their press and personal equipment. Some media outlets were also subjected to intrusions and imposing an editorial policy in line with the militia's policy.

In this report, Sam documented some of those violations that affected the media institutions, TV channels, radio stations and offices of foreign agency channels. They were subjected to closure, looting and confiscation during the previous period.

Anwar al-Mulaiki, 24, said in his interview with SAM: “For three days, the building of the Yemen, Saba and Al-Iman Channels were subjected to fierce shelling from the Houthis and Saleh militia with various light, medium and heavy weapons, as smoke plumes rose as a result of the Houthis bombing of the building, while the employees were inside it.”

On the first day of targeting, according to al-Mulaiki’s testimony, the shelling lasted for more than 6 consecutive hours, the employees were surrounded, and the old building of the Yemen Channel was partially burned, and the Saba TV building was burned. On the following day, the bombing was renewed heavily at noon, and the Al-Iman channel building was subjected to medium damage. Also, the Yemen channel’s transmission department site was subjected to a massive fire, and the building where the transmitters were located was destroyed.

On the third day, which is on Friday, September 20, 2014, the TV building was subjected to severe shelling from various directions, as Al-Mulaiki affirmed, “the shelling continued for nearly 6 hours, and the TV building was stormed by the Houthi militia forces. As a result of this shelling, a member of the TV channel was injured, and number of soldiers belonging to the brigade in charge of guarding the channels, were killed and wounded”

Al-Mulaiki explained that after Houthi and Saleh forces stormed the building, they captured a number of workers and took them to the sit-in square of the Houthi militia, “They were mobilizing their supporters on the Sanaa airport road in the Al-Thawra neighborhood under the pretext of protesting against lifting the subsidies, where the government decided to increase fuel prices” .

The Houthis released some workers on official television after 4 hours, while a number of employees remained in detention for the second day.

TV CHANNELS

Yemeni TV, the official channel

State-run TV, in the capital, Sana’a, was directly targeted by tank shells and rockets by the Houthi militia during confrontations with government forces, and the television and its staff were exposed to danger, and some were wounded.

Aden satellite channel

Fares Abdulaziz Salah, director of the Aden Channel, told SAM that the Houthi and Saleh militia took over the studios of the Aden Channel, after the group invaded Aden in April 2015.

Salah confirmed that Houthis and Saleh militants plundered all studio equipment and destroyed the building in the Ma'ashiq area. After their control of the Attawahi district, they took control of the main building of the Aden satellite channel, and plundered all of the channel's contents including cameras, transmitters, monitors, and computers, and tampered with all technical supplies and office content and the TV, and the library, which is the oldest television library in the Middle East, and contains documentaries and films that document all stages of Yemen's modern history.

Suhail satellite channel

SAM obtained a list of the violations that Suhail TV and its journalists suffered, and the material losses it suffered and financial losses, and within what Suhail TV mentioned in its report to the organization, that the channel was subjected to a number of attacks mainly, bombing its headquarters and its seizure by the Houthis and Saleh militia after it was exposed to a massive smear campaign by their media outlets, displacing their workers from their homes and trying to disrupt the transmission of the channel.

In the report, Suhail said that 39 of its journalists, correspondents, and workers were assaulted, including the killing of Youssef Al-Eizari, the channel reporter in Dhamar, and that there were numerous other violations including injury, threat of death, abduction, beating, confiscation of their belongings, shooting at their cars, and residence, and other assaults. The channel added in a report submitted by Sama International Media Company, which runs the Suhail channel, that the total losses of the channel due to Houthis militia storming of the channel building and the looting of its equipment, devices and furniture amounted to \$ 8,069,545.

Bilqis channel

Bilqis channel office in the capital, Sana'a, was raided by the Houthis militia, and the Houthi leader, Yahya al-Habari, was responsible for storming and looting the office. The channel was also subjected to an incitement campaign by leaders and media outlets affiliated with leaders sympathize with a faction from the Southern Movement in Aden.

On Sunday, June 11, 2017, a number of young men raising the Southern movement protest slogans attempted to attack the channel's reporter while covering a march that was heading to al-Ma'sheq Palace in Aden and confiscating some of the devices in his possession. In a press release issued by Bilqis channel, holding certain persons in Aden responsible for inciting and assaulting the crew, and called for stopping the hate speech, and indicated that channel has been reporting news of Aden for the past two and a half years with all responsibility and professionalism.

Al-Saeeda Channel

On Sunday September 4, 2016, a military force affiliated with the Houthis militia attacked the office of Al-Saeeda channel in the Soufan neighborhood, north of Sanaa, which broadcasts from the Egyptian capital Cairo, and forcibly arrested Mukhtar Al-Qudsi, the program director and Hussein al-Sharafi, the production manager. And detained them at Al-Ahmer Police Prison in Al-Hasabah. It is noteworthy that the channel did not report about the incident in its web page, and its management did not respond to the organization's requests to explain the reasons for storming the building of the channel, however, the press freedoms report in Yemen for the year 2016 issued by the Freedoms Committee of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate indicated that the storming came due to the channel's activity according to the channel's communication to the Syndicate.⁽¹⁾

(1) Yemen Press Freedom Report - Yemeni Journalists Syndicate <http://www.yemenjs.net/upload/libraries/pdf/11/pdf.pdf>

INFLUENCING THE CURRICULUM OF THE TV EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND HARASSING THE STAFF

The educational channel - Sanaa

The educational channel is affiliated with the Ministry of Education, and it produces programs to explain and clarify the school curriculum for students. The Houthis militia took control of the channel and the presenters were subjected to harassment and abuse, despite the channel's work is restricted to explaining the school textbook.

In her interview with SAM Organization, Ebtihal Muhammad al-Mikhlaifi, the deputy programs director of the channel, said: "Immediately after the coup, the Houthis formed the so-called Revolutionary Committees and the first thing they did was to remove the official guard of the channel located in the Al-Jeraf neighborhood of Sana'a and replace them with young boys carrying weapons and used to search our personal belongings by force, and forced us to deal with the members of this committee and who interfere directly in our work.

Al-Mikhlaifi confirmed that they asked her to review the episodes they produced from the school curriculum, especially religious subjects. She added: "When I told them that we are committed to the textbook and will not make any changes, the chairperson told me that everything will change."

The Houthis posted their slogan on the wall of the building and al-Mikhlaifi objected to the presence of this in a government building. She continued, "A colleague tore it up and was surprised that they gave orders to the guard to close the door and that everyone who objected to the chant will be arrested, but I left and the acting director pledged that this will not happen again." On that day, according to al-Mikhlaifi, "The guards called me Da'eshia "affiliated with ISIS!" Al-Mikhlaifi said that the Houthis interfered in every part of the work, then the employees stopped work, and they were prevented from entering the channel permanently. "We discovered that they transported the staff of the Al-Masirah channel (the Houthi channel) to the building of the educational channel for fear of bombing their office and we remained in our homes".

The Houthis began to gradually take over the employees' salaries until they stopped them, some of the channel's employees looked for work in Sanaa, al-Mikhlaifi worked in the Al-Saeeda channel, but because of the security situation as she say, "I left work and I expected that they will attack Al-Saeeda, which really happened .. I left after four-month of the war to Saudi Arabia."

In December 2017, Yemen Today channel affiliated to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and the media workers working in it, were attacked. The headquarters of the Yemen Channel today were stormed and struck by a Bazookas and detained 41 journalists and technicians since last Saturday until today, storming and stopping Yemen FM radio, and blocking Al-Motamer net, Al-Mithaq Net, Al-Mithaq Mobile, Khabar Agency, and Sada electronic newspaper, and imposed a guard on Al-Mithaq newspaper, and prosecuted journalists and media workers in the People's General Congress media and circulate their names on the security checkpoints by the Houthis group in Sanaa.

The militia Houthi also detained the channel's director and 30 employees after storming the channel, with various types of weapons.

YEMEN TODAY CHANNEL



Muhammad Hossain al-Qamarani, Director General of News at Radio Sanaa, said in his testimony to SAM: "The Houthis militants took control of Radio Sanaa on Sunday, September 21, 2014, seized all the equipment of the station, and ordered all those in it to leave at gunpoint."

Al-Qamarani added: "The Houthis militants dismantled the CCTV cameras and took the receivers, broke down the locks and looted the computers. Then they looted all the military equipment of the Protection Battalion, including heavy and light weapons, food supplies, cars and patrol vehicles, and transported them to their own stores, they also, took the remaining radio equipment, including stations, broadcasters, transmitters and surveyors."

Al-Qamarani, explained to SAM team that the radio broadcast was resumed, but under the authority of the so-called revolutionary committees affiliated with the Houthis, where on January 19, 2015 the official Houthi delegate came to the radio station and stopped the broadcasting of any political programs, and that the news be broadcast only after it was approved by them, and it is banned from broadcasting any news about President Hadi and his government.

Al-Qamarani said that on the second day they dismissed him from his job as the news director, and imposed an unprofessional news policy, and that the Houthi militia after the Decisive Storm operation, had dismissed the 250 radio staff and left only its supporters and followers, canceled health insurance for employees and confiscated the available funds and budget, in addition, suspended the salary of Al-Qamarani himself since November 2015.

FM RADIO STATIONS

SANAA RADIO



Following Al-Qaeda control over Mukalla city in Hadramawt in early 2015, Mukalla Radio was raided and looted, and the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate said in a report on the State of Press Freedoms during the first half of 2015 that armed elements stormed Mukalla Radio on Thursday 2 April 2015, and looted radio equipment, and audio and music archives were looted and burned its technical and administrative library and studios.

MUKALLA RADIO STATION

Abdel Rahman Haider Hamid Al-Nahari, owner and director of the Atheer Media Foundation for Media Services and Radio Wedyan FM in Hodiedah governorate, explained to SAM, that the Houthis militia stormed the radio twice; first time was on Wednesday March 11, 2015 and the second on Sunday March 26, 2017, and arrested its CEO. Bashir Al-Bakali, then they released him after a week, then arrested him again for 10 days and they dismissed him from his job at Hodiedah University, then they released him because of a nervous shock he sustained in the detention center.

WEDYAN FM RADIO - HODIEDAH

Al-Nahari added: "The Houthis confiscated the property of the Radio and the Atheer Media Foundation, including the radio transmitter, radio antennas, radio mixers, computers, cameras, laptops, montages device, technical tools, and various devices valued at \$ 76,720, and destroyed all the archives of the Radio and the Media Foundation for the past six years, the work of the radio and the corporation was suspended and we incurred rents, losses, and defamation of the corporation and Radio.(1)

On the Radio site at Facebook, photos of the of looting and tampering, and press (1) releases on the intrusion and looting <https://www.facebook.com/%D8%A5%D8%B0%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%A9-%D9%88%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A5%D9%81-%D8%A5%D9%85>
Ref = brss ?/ 830161537041901-D8% A5% D9% 85

SAM team obtained a copy of a complaint submitted by Watani FM to the Yemeni President, the Yemeni government, and the leadership of the Arab Coalition, in which the radio administration complained about targeting its transmission tower in the Al-Arous area, Jabal Sabr, with an air raid by the Arab Coalition, at 9:40 am On Tuesday, November 14, 2017, that raid caused damage to the tower, and injured the guard.

WATANI FM RADIO



Al-Gomhoriad Corporation for Press, Printing and Publishing, a government institution based in Taiz, work in the corporation was suspended in March 2015.

One of the journalists working there, Mohamed Amin al-Sharabi, told SAM team that the work was stopped due to the war, in addition to the suspension of the budget for the newspaper, and he clarified that after two months the Houthi militia took control of the Corporation and the building turned into military site for Houthis militia as well as the surrounding buildings.

Al-Sharabi added: “The newspaper was looted,” explaining - according to eyewitnesses - that the newspaper was looted by the Houthis militia, as well as by extremist groups(1) in the city of Taiz after the Houthis left, claiming that the newspaper was of a secular nature.

Director of the Information Office in Taiz governorate, Nageeb Qahtan, said: “The war was a disaster for press work, as all private newspapers that were issued from Taiz, including the Hadith Al-Madina newspaper, Naba Al-Hakika and other newspapers, were closed, and newspapers from outside Taiz were banned. Taiz was in a complete blackout, and the only alternative was the social media network.”^{14th October Newspaper and Corporation - Aden}

The 14th October Newspaper and Corporation, is a government institution, upon the invasion of Aden by the Houthis and Saleh militia in March 2015, they controlled the newspaper’s building, located in Al-Mualla, and turn it into military center and headquarters for its militants, and used the trucks and buses in the courtyard of the building in its military operations, and after the liberation of Aden from the militia, we discovered the damage on the building and equipment, as four trucks valued at 12 million Yemeni riyals were damaged, office furniture and the doors were destroyed, and the worth of YR.2 millions of the printing press goods were destroyed, and the looted of fuel and oil stocks from the office valued at YR.1.5, according to Sam, the deputy chairman of the Corporation, and deputy editor in chief of the newspaper, Abdul Raqeeb Al-Hidiani.

(1) SAM obtained credible information on the looting of the Al-Jumhouryah Corporation in Taiz by an extremist organization led by Al-Harith Al-Ezzi.

PRESS INSTITUTIONS

AL-GUMHOURYAH CORPORATION



14TH OCTOBER NEWSPAPER



On February 5, 2015, a group of Houthis and Saleh gunmen stormed the office of the private Al-Shomou' Press and Media Corporation, and Akhbar Al-Youm newspaper and detained the entire staff of the newspaper, including the editor-in-chief, editors and accountants, and forced a number of employees at gunpoint to leave their offices and were detained for more than 6 hours, they tampered with all the contents of the corporation, stormed the house of the President of the corporation on the third floor of the same building and intimidated his family, and the militants took over Al-Shomou' Press Corporation, and its printing presses and the adjacent building of the corporation, according to Ibrahim Shouei Mujahid, President of Corporation and the editor of Akhbar Al-Youm newspaper.

Mujahid said: "The Houthi militia plundered all the Corporation's property and stock of paper, ink, basic materials and raw materials. It was transported on several trucks to several homes, including the house of the brother of the group's leader, Yahya al-Houthi, and they sold a quantity of the inventory to several parties and newspapers. Including the official newspaper, Al-Thawra, which is under their control."

Mujahid added: "The Houthis militia intimidated the Corporation's employees who fled from Sana'a to escape the oppression after receiving threats of prosecution, abduction, and liquidation."

In Aden, which is under the control of the government forces, the Corporation and the newspaper were subjected to a series of violations after the transfer of their work from Sana'a to Aden, where an armed group in Radfan district of Lahaj governorate assaulted and looted the Corporation's vehicle used for distribution, and confiscated the amount of the newspaper dispatched to Lahaj and Addali'e governorates, also, an armed group of the Southern resistance stormed Akhbar Al-Youm newspaper building and the house of the general manager of Al-Shomou' corporation, and searched it, at gunpoint.

Al-Shomou' Corporation was raided twice by the Security Belt forces in Aden during 2016, by the Fourth Military Region commander and the Aden Security Department, and distribution cars were intercepted, and quantities of the newspaper were seized from bookshops and kiosks, in addition to threatening the vendors and preventing them from selling the newspaper by unknown gunmen.

AL-SHOMOU' PRESS CORPORATION, AKHBAR AL-YOUM NEWSPAPER - SANA'A - ADEN



Al-Sahwa Corporation was exposed to multiple violations, including stopping the publishing of the newspaper, and forcing the telecommunication companies to cancel the license of Al-Sahwa Mobile, news service and blocking of the website and hacking it many times, and broadcasting news and data that contradicts with the website policy in addition to assaults against the newspaper's staff and reporters.

SAM communicated with the editor of Al-Sahwa newspaper, Muhammad Abdullah Al-Yousifi, who explained that the violations against Al-Sahwa started with taking over the newspaper head-office in Sanaa, by gunmen affiliated with the Houthis militia, and prevented employees from entering its office and confiscating the corporation equipment, offices and furniture, in addition to hunting down its employees, and suspend the salaries of who work in state agencies as government employees.

Al-Yousifi added: "The Houthis and Saleh militia targeted the newspaper's reporters and collaborators, as it did with its reporter in Dhamar, Abdullah Qabil, whom they used as a human shield for Arab coalition flights in the Harran park of Dhamar governorate, and was killed after an airstrike by the coalition aircraft, and the collaborator Tayseer Al Samie, in the newspaper and its website was abducted in Taiz governorate, and the photographer Taha Saleh, in Taiz, was also injured, in addition to the editor Abdullah Al-Manefi, who was abducted in Dhamar.

According to Al-Yousifi, the Houthis violations did not stop there. Rather, they hacked the newspaper website and published content that do not conform to the corporation's policy, forcing the corporation to stop the website for 5 months and stopped publishing the newspaper.

The corporation paid a heavy price due to these violations, and continues to pay the price until date, and the newspaper is still suspended, and seven of the employees have lost their jobs, and its staff are still displaced in the countryside and cities, as a result of the pressure of the Houthis and the current security conditions of the cities in which they live.

AL-SAHWA NEWSPAPER AND CORPORATION – SANA'A



Al-Masdar newspaper is one of the most important and influential Yemeni newspapers, and it has, as well as a great readership among Yemenis, foreign embassies, international organizations, researchers and those concerned with Yemeni affairs.

Al-Masdar newspaper was subjected to a number of violations, harassment and prosecutions, and the editor, Samir Jubran, was banned from working in the press in the first founding years prior to the 2011 revolution, and after the Houthi militia's takeover of Sana'a on September 21, 2014, the newspaper, its website, and its personnel were exposed to a number of violations and assaults.

Journalist Ali al-Faqih, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, told SAM that a group of Houthis (Ansar Allah) militant, stormed Al-Masdar Media Corporation, and detained a number of its editorial staff at the office on March 26, 2015, hours after the start of the military operations by the "Arab Coalition".

Al-Faqih said that the Houthis confiscated all of the editorial staff's belongings; "laptop and telephones, and detained them for hours before being released, and confiscated all the equipment inside the office, which includes a fully equipped editorial room, administrative offices, technical facilities, library, documents and cameras of an estimated value of \$.100,000, they refused to leave the office or hand it over."

He continued, "The Houthis and Saleh authorities suspended the newspaper and blocked the Al-Masdar online website in Yemen, and launched an incitement campaign against the editorial staff and the newspaper's staff calling them "agents and mercenaries", which caused them psychological damage, and they were forced to leave Sana'a, fearing for their lives, to other places inside and outside the country."

The Houthis and Saleh militia had abducted journalist, Tawfiq Al-Mansouri, the technical director of the newspaper and is still being held to this day in extremely poor conditions, also abducted Youssef Ajlan, the editor at the Al-Masdar Online news website in early October of last year 2016, and was released on, and in late 2016, the Houthis abducted the newspaper's, proof-reader, Muhammad Abdul-Malik Al-Qasimi (Al-Salwi) while he was heading to Aden, and abducted, Tayseer Al-Samie, the reporter collaborating with the newspaper's website in Taiz.

Al-Faqih added: "The newspaper and all its equipment are still confiscated by the Houthis and its website is blocked in Yemen, and 40 employees and journalists in the newspaper lost their source of income out of 48 journalists and employees of the corporation."

AL-MASDAR NEWSPAPER - SANAA





ELECTRONIC WEBSITES

SAHAFANET WEBSITE

Yousri Khalil Al-Athouri, owner and editor-in-chief of SahafaNet website, a news search engine, told SAM that: “After midnight on Friday March 25, 2016, about 20 Houthis militants with small arms and RPGs tried to storm the SahafaNet office located in Al-Nuzeli Building on Hadda Street in Sana’a, but they found the office closed. They threatened the security guard with arresting him, and he told them that the office is closed and that he had nothing to do with the office, and did not know what was going on inside the office. They tried to break the door thinking that there is someone inside, then they told the guard would come back later.”

On Saturday afternoon, March 26, 2015, SahafaNet website was completely blocked and still blocked till now, Al-Athouri had to leave Sana’a and Yemen, after receiving information that the Houthis will arrest him.

Al-Jazeera channel have been subjected to a number of violations by various parties, its office director in Yemen, Saeed Thabet Saeed, talked to SAM about a number of incidents that the channel and its office and its employees had faced from late 2014 until the end of 2017, including death threat to Thabet on Monday, January 12, 2016, from an unidentified person who was allegedly from the Houthis militia, after that, Thabet left Sana'a. On Monday, March 23, 2015, the Houthis militia closed Al-Jazeera office in Sana'a and remained under their control until December 2016, and before leaving the office all its contents of equipment, devices and desks were looted, and the office vehicle "Hilux Model 2010" was confiscated.

In mid-October 2016, after retaking Aden by government forces, security sources informed the director of Al-Jazeera office to evacuated the channel office located in Inma city in Aden governorate, after receiving information that the office will be targeted with car bombs by unknown party.

In the city of Taiz, which is under government forces control and groups loyal to President Hadi, Al-Jazeera network correspondent Hamdi Al-Bukari has been abducted by unknown armed men. Al-Jazeera announced on Thursday, January 21, that its reporter in Taiz is incommunicado since the evening of Monday, January 18, 2016, and the channel said in its website, quoting eyewitnesses that, the last time that Hamdi al-Bukari was seen was around 10:00 pm on Monday in the city of Taiz, he was accompanied by two other people, Abdul Aziz Al-Sabri, and Munir Al-Sabaie, and he was released on Thursday 28 January 2016 with his two companions.

In early June 2017, unidentified gunmen detained Al-Jazeera Mubasher crew in Taiz, including reporter Hisham Al-Jaradi, and cameraman, Naif Al-Wafi, along with their equipment. And were interrogated about their work with Al-Jazeera, and the laptop is still held with the gunmen.

Al-Wafi, the cameraman, posted on his Facebook that a large group of armed men and military pulled their gums on them, threatened them with death, and confiscated the camera of the channel in Zaid Al-Moushki area on Tuesday, August 15, 2017, while covering a press conference for Taiz axis commander on the siege of the city.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA INSTITUTIONS

AL JAZEERA SATELLITE CHANNEL



ALJAZEERA

Al-Arabiya and Al-Arabiya Al-Hadath channels closed their offices in Sana'a, in 2010, due to threats received by its office by Al Qaeda, but its staff remained operating undercover from different locations.

(M.N.), one of Al-Arabiya staff in Sana'a, whom SAM interviewed in mid-2017, explained that the crew was threatened after the Houthis invaded Sana'a in September 2014, and that these threats escalated against in early December 2014, and continued until January 2015, when the Houthi militia stormed the presidential house and the home of President Hadi, which resulted in the discontinuation of the work of the Al-Arabiya and Al-Hadath channels from Sana'a.

With President Hadi leaving Sana'a to Aden in late February 2015, Al-Arabiya resumed working from Aden, from March 5, 2015, until 25 of the same month, where the staff had to leave Aden, to escape the violations of the Houthis who invaded the city and a number of Yemeni governorates, and the work of the office stopped and the staff worked undercover to continue the coverage.

After the legitimate government forces took control of the interim capital, Aden, Al-Arabiya resumed its work in the areas under the legitimate forces' control, while relying on proxy sources in the areas controlled by Houthi and Saleh authorities.



CONCLUSION:

Since the seizure of the Yemeni capital, Sana'a, on September 21, 2014, by Houthis militia, SAM team in Yemen has received reports of violations of international humanitarian and international human rights law by the militia (Ansar Allah) and military forces loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh. These violations included detention and enforced disappearance of activists, media workers and human rights defenders, atrocities amounting to torture and killing, and the use of violent means to repress, confiscate, blocking, looting and closure of a number of media institutions and outlets, human rights and civil society organizations.

The seizure of the capital by Houthis militia and its ally, Saleh, the point after which a massive crackdown on freedom of opinion and expression and the harassment of activists and public opinion institutions in Yemen began, as the capital, Sana'a, witnessed the largest muzzling of mouths and closing of platforms, satellite channels, media institutions, newspapers, and websites. Arrests and detention of the media activists, and political opponents, and the Yemeni capital has been governed by unilateral voice of those who control it.

On the other hand, military and security forces in governorates under the control of the government of Yemeni President Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi committed violations and crimes against activists, journalists, and opponents in those governorates, and resistance groups - paramilitary units declaring loyalty to President Hadi's authority - violated the rights of activists and media personnel, including arrest, detention, torture, assault, confiscation, and banning of movement and transportation.

The Arab Coalition aircraft committed violations and hostile operations against media professionals and media institutions, including killings, targeting media infrastructure and the closure of media outlets through pressure by the security tools supervised by the Arab Coalition in Aden and Hadramout.

Within 3 years and 3 months - the period started from the seizure of the capital, Sana'a, to this moment, is considered the darkest in the field of freedom of opinion and expression, and the most violent in decades against human liberties and rights in Yemen, and the absence of judicial and law enforcement institutions and prolonged conflict has urged the parties to the conflict to oppress the remaining margin for the activities of media professionals, human rights defenders and activists.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To the international community:

- To pressure the parties to the armed conflict in Yemen, to stop immediately all violations against human rights defenders and the media, and to respect treaties and protocols related to freedom of opinion and human rights work.
- Forming of an international committee to investigate all violations suffered by human rights defenders, activists, and media workers, and to bring those involved in the violations to urgent accountability, whether the violations committed by the Houthis militia in Sana'a or those committed by components affiliated with the legitimate government in Aden.
- Searching for urgent solutions to end violations and pressuring all parties to accept the solutions and ensure a safe environment for workers in the humanitarian and media fields in an urgent manner.

To parties of the armed conflict:

- Immediate release of the abducted media workers and activists, who were detained or imprisoned and tortured by the Houthis militia in Sana'a, or by entities affiliated with the legitimate government in Aden.
- Accessibility of work freely to workers in the human and media field, who exercise their right guaranteed by domestic and international laws, and provide them with the necessary protection.
- Cooperate with international committees and human rights organizations in any investigation, which brings to justice those involved in violations and assaults and those who stormed institutions and confiscated property or practiced harassment against media organizations and institutions.
- Compensating and reparation to all those who were subjected to material, psychological or physical violations.
- Restore the looted materials of the human rights and media institutions, compensate their losses, and allow them to resume their work without pressure, restriction or condition.





THE TRUTH AMIDST FIRE A DANGEROUS CAREER

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September 2014 - December 2019

