



# **SAM during** 2021

**We were there with all  
its Details and Pains**



## SAM in Numbers 2021

The year 2021 witnessed many unfortunate violations at the level of the humanitarian and economic crisis, human rights and freedoms in Yemen. Where the absence of the principle of accountability contributed to the involvement of many parties in committing grave and serious violations of human dignity. Entities working for the main warring parties have also contributed to deepening the wounds of Yemenis as the humanitarian file has become at the forefront of the files that cast a shadow over every Yemeni home, followed by the file of arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance and torture, in addition to the individual mines which have killed thousands of children and women without distinction, as well as the file of child recruitment that continues to drain Yemen's future in an endless incineration. This year, some violations declined but did not stop, such as the airstrikes, which unfortunately returned at the end of the year after the coalition announced on 14/12/2021 a return to carrying out military operations in accordance with the framework of international law. The file of accountability is still stagnant at the national and international levels, with the exception of the efforts of some human rights defenders who have been calling for a reduction in violations and redress for victims.

During 2021, the team of SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties, along with some partners and volunteers, was present with all its details and pains. We monitored, documented and published all violations, and worked through advocacy campaigns, networking and messages to the concerned authorities to take serious steps in order to pressure to stop the violations, achieve justice and hold those responsible for human rights violations accountable.

The organization was able to execute (214) human rights activities distributed over “7” qualitative reports, “114” human rights statements, “4” zoom seminars, “3” training courses, “3” speeches in the Human Rights Council” and more than “35” interviews with human rights and political figures and organizations.

In order to convey a picture of what is happening in Yemen, the organization was keen to produce videos in both Arabic and English as the organization produced more

than 20 (Arabic - English) videos during the year, which included summaries of reports issued by the organization and stories about some important violations and public record matters.

The organization sought to be the voice of the victims, and a post to convey their voices and their suffering. During 2021, it worked to communicate with more than 15 political, parliamentary and journalistic bodies through periodic correspondence. It also sent periodic letters to about 769 media outlets and media professionals, and about 208 periodic letters to civil society organizations, activists, and human rights defenders.

At the level of media presence in news channels and websites, SAM achieved a distinguished presence, covering more than 200 news coverage and media presence.

Despite all the challenges, poor resources, and dangerous environment in which monitors and researchers work, we were keen to be present on the side of the victims, and to identify many details which were not published before, wishing that all of this contribute in the short and long term to improving the cessation of human rights violations, doing justice to the victims, and bringing joy to every home.

Thanks are due here to the unknown soldiers who work in dangerous, difficult and exceptional circumstances to produce this great work, which we are proud of, without any distinction between us, whether field teams, researchers or administrators though the field teams are the heroes who have not been spotlighted, or prized, and no one knows their identity. In the spirit of one team, we were able to achieve this work, the most important of which can be summarized in the following:

**January, the organization carried out 10 human rights activities, including 4 statements in February of 2021**

- January 7, 2021 SAM issues a report on the violations of the Houthi group in the village of Humaydah Shutair in Al-Bayda Governorate.
- SAM calls on the Security Council to exercise its role in protecting civilians after the Houthi decision to bury dozens of bodies collectively.
- On the International Day of Education.. A Continuous Deterioration and Mounting Challenges facing the Educational Process in Yemen



- SAM monitors brutal practices and torture against women that amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity in Houthi prisons

### **February 2021, SAM carried out 15 activities, including 7 statements**

- February 12, 2021, SAM issued a joint report with the Euro-Mediterranean Monitor entitled (Militarizing Childhood). The 35-page report talks about the recruitment of children by the Houthi militia in Yemen and the practices and methods it uses in recruiting and pushing them to fight in the armed conflict in the country.
- On February 22, 2021, the organization sent a joint appeal regarding the situation in Marib to the European Union.
- February 24, 2021, in partnership with other organizations, SAM held a meeting with members of the Security Council, the American envoy and the ambassadors of America, France, the Netherlands, Germany and Finland regarding the situation in Yemen.
- SAM Organization issued a statement on the arrests of activists and journalists in Mukalla by forces supervised by the UAE
- Seminar on "February Revolution... The Path of Justice and Equity"

### **March, SAM carried out 18 activities during 2021, including 7 statements**

- On March 8, 2021, the organization released a report entitled "Women in Yemen: Prolonged Suffering and Horrific Violations". The report, which was issued in conjunction with International Women's Day, documents the human rights violations that Yemeni women have been subjected to, including arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances in a frightening and disturbing way.
- More than twenty meetings were held with European and American human rights and political figures regarding the human rights situation in Yemen.
- A seminar via the Zoom entitled "Women in Yemen.. Prolonged Suffering and Horrific Violations"

### **April: the organization carried out more than 25 activities, including 12 human rights statements during the year 2021**



- On April 8, 2021, the organization released a 64-page human rights report entitled “Yemenis in Saudi Prisons,” which talks about the violations that Yemeni detainees have been subjected to, whether in detention inside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or in detention centers inside Yemen and supervised by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- SAM and Abductees’ Mothers Association make an urgent appeal to save the lives of detainees inside the military prison under the control of the Houthi militia.
- SAM condemns the smear and attack campaigns against it by military brigades in the southern border of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- SAM issues a statement condemning the arrest of the young woman, Intisar Al-Hammadi, by the Houthi militia.
- 5 meetings with European and American human rights and political figures regarding the human rights situation in Yemen.
- Training to enhance the capacities of monitors in coordination with the Syrian Network.

**May: the organization carried out 20 activities, including 13 human rights statements during 2021**

- SAM issues a joint statement with some organizations defending journalists in Yemen on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day as Yemeni journalists are still the target of violations and abuse.
- SAM issues a statement calling for the protection of women in Houthi-held areas and the opening of an independent international investigation into the crime of forcing women by the Houthi militia to immoral coercive practices under national slogans.
- SAM condemns the ban on the activities of the Socotra sit-in committee and the security prosecution of activist Osama Al-Saqqaf.
- SAM issued a joint statement calling on the forces affiliated with the Transitional Council to reveal the fate of the Hungarian citizen George Kultay, nicknamed "Kimo".





- SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties and the American Center for Justice (ACJ) hold a symposium entitled: (Requirements of Peacemaking in Yemen)
- Sam holds a seminar involving four international experts, highlighting the issues of accountability, justice and inclusion in the Yemeni peace process led by the United Nations.
- The organization held more than 3 meetings with organizations and those interested in the Yemeni issue.

## **June: the organization carried out 18 activities, including 11 human rights statements during 2021**

- "SAM" issues a statement in conjunction with the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression, highlighting the most prominent violations that Yemeni children have been subjected to for years.
- SAM issues a legal paper on the occasion of Refugee Day, in which it sheds light on the ongoing violations against the displaced inside the country and the suffering of refugees outside it.
- SAM "condemns the Houthi militia's decision to confiscate the balances and deposits of Tadhamon Islamic Bank, and considers it illegal behavior.
- SAM issues a statement expressing its condemnation of the targeting of the fuel station in Marib and the harming of objects and the civilian population by the Houthi militia.
- SAM sends a letter to the Attorney General of the Republic of Yemen that legal procedures has to be applied against detainees held by the Political Security Organization in Marib.
- SAM holds three interviews with British journalist another French on the human rights situation in Yemen.

## **July: the organization carried out more than 22 activities, including 12 human rights statements during the year 2021, the most important of which are**

- SAM issues a statement condemning the Houthi militia's decision to refer more than 160,000 employees to compulsory retirement.



- SAM issues a statement condemning the cancellation of contracts for Yemeni expats in the southern Saudi regions.
- SAM issues a statement on the UAE's decision to deport a number of former Guantanamo detainees to the Yemeni government.
- SAM issues a report on the most prominent violations that occurred in the city of Aden in June 2021.
- Sam condemns the killing of 3 and wounding 11 in a mine explosion in Hodeidah which were planted by the Houthi militia.
- SAM holds four meetings with experts and journalists from Britain and Hungary.

**August: the organization carried out more than 20 activities, including 12 human rights statements during 2021**

- In August 2021, the organization issued a report on the crime of enforced disappearance in Yemen entitled “The Long Absence.” It consists of 132 pages and 8 chapters, talking about the practices of the parties to the conflict in Yemen regarding the crime of enforced disappearance on a large scale during the period from 2014 to 2021, in addition to the policy of arbitrary detention and the absence of legal accountability that led to the prevalence of this crime.
- SAM issues a statement on the arbitrary arrest of human rights and humanitarian activist Jalal Al-Din Al-Khoulani in the city of Taiz.
- SAM issues a statement condemning what Al-Hareq family was subjected to in Taiz and calls for holding the perpetrators of the crime accountable, as well as holding the civil and military authority accountable for the lawlessness.
- Sam issues a statement condemning the burning of houses in the city of Aden, which constitutes a serious violation of the rules of international law and requires accountability.
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- SAM issued a statement condemning the kidnapping of Al-Riyashi from Aden airport, demanding the disclosure of his fate and contributing to pressure for his release.
- SAM issues a statement condemning the continuation of death sentences by the Houthi courts against opposition politicians, including women.
- SAM condemns the continued indiscriminate missile attacks of the Houthi militia against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and considers it a serious violation of the rules of legal protection.
- Holding meetings with journalists from France, Britain and Norway.

**September: the organization carried out more than 19 activities, including 13 human rights statements during 2021**

- On September 22, 2021, SAM issued a report entitled “The Big Collapse,” where the report, consisting of forty pages and fourteen chapters, talks about the big collapse during the past seven years of the capital, Sana’a, after it fell to the Houthi militia since September 12, 2014, in addition to monitoring many events, situations and figures that caused by the Houthi coup.
- "SAM" issued a statement calling on Saudi Arabia to reverse the decision to deport Yemeni expats and to respond to the appeals of those affected by this decision.
- SAM issued a statement calling for an urgent investigation into the death of Abdulmalik al-Sanabani at the hands of forces affiliated with the Transitional Council.
- SAM issues a statement in conjunction with the International Day of Democracy, stressing that the path to achieving democracy and justice begins by comprehensive peaceful dialogue and stopping violations.
- SAM and Yemeni human rights organizations call for urgent intervention to stop the possible executions of eight individuals, after the approval of the Supreme Court belonging the Houthi militia.





- SAM and Yemeni human rights organizations launch an urgent appeal to the United Nations special procedures regarding Yemeni workers in Saudi Arabia.
- Delivering three speeches on the sidelines of the 48th session of the Human Rights Council in September 2021
- Implementation of a solidarity campaign with the forcibly disappeared
- Holding a meeting with the office of the UN envoy for Yemen.
- At the invitation of the SAM and Women for Peace organization, a meeting was held with fifteen Yemeni organizations to consult on participation in peacebuilding.
- Training course in advocacy and campaign building.

**October: the organization implemented more than 14 activities, including 8 human rights statements during 2021**

- SAM issues a statement calling for an impartial investigation into the death of Sheikh Abdul-Qader Al Shaibani after his health deteriorated as a result of his arbitrary arrest and enforced disappearance by Transitional Council forces.
- on the occasion of the International Day Against the Death Penalty, SAM calls on the international community to take more serious steps towards death sentences against civilians, activists and journalists in Yemen.
- SAM warns against the consequences of the siege imposed by the Houthi militia on the Abdiya district and calls on the international community to intervene immediately to save the population.
- SAM condemns the storming of academics' homes and confiscation of their furniture, and calls on the President of Sana'a University to respect the decisions of the judiciary.
- SAM calls for the protection of the children of Taiz in light of the Houthi militia's continuous shelling of Taiz.
- SAM calls on the Transitional Council to reveal the fate of the Al-Hayy family, who are detained by the forces affiliated with the Council.



# SAM

Rights & Liberties

## **November, the organization carried out more than 13 activities, including 8 human rights statements during 2021**

- On November 30, 2021, SAM released a qualitative report on the crime of sniping in Yemen, entitled "Sniper Horror", which documents the incidents of sniping crimes in Yemen during the period (March 2015 - December 2020). The report monitored during this period the killing of (725) civilians and wounding of (512) civilians by sniper attacks. The report held the Houthi and Saleh militia during the period of their alliance, and the Houthi militia alone, the greatest responsibility for the use of this weapon.
- SAM calls on the international community to take more serious steps to protect civilians from the attacks of the Houthis group.
- SAM expresses its condemnation of the targeting of journalist Muhammad Al-Ottami and his wife, journalist Rasha Abdullah, and calls on the authorities in Aden to open an investigation into the circumstances of the incident.
- SAM calls on the authorities of the Transitional Council to protect the population in Aden and stop the practices of arbitrary arrests and attacks on civilians.
- SAM calls for the opening of an international investigation into the death of Abdul-Majeed Alloush and the Houthi practices towards its detainees in prisons, such as torture and medical negligence and calls for those involved to be brought to criminal justice.
- In conjunction with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, SAM calls for international protection for women in Yemen from violations committed by the warring parties and to work to empower them with their basic rights.

## **December: the organization carried out more than 12 activities, including 7 statements in 2021**

- SAM issues a statement on the occasion of International Human Rights Day and calls for protecting the rights of civilians in Yemen, working to stop violations and activating international accountability.



- SAM expresses its concern over the decision of the Hadhramaut authorities to try two journalists in absentia, stressing that these practices violate international standards for the protection of journalists.
- SAM calls on the Yemeni government to open a serious investigation into the targeting of civilian homes in Marib.
- SAM expresses its concern over the targeting of civilians and infrastructure and calls on the parties to the conflict to abide by the rules of protection guaranteed by international law.
- It documented many death cases in the prisons of many parties.. SAM calls for exposing of the file of enforced disappearance and holding those responsible for the detention and disappearance of civilians accountable.

