



# Brutal Killing



A human rights report developed by SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties, includes figures and stories on killing cases on civilians during January – December 2016, in addition to other cases, which falls within the same context, for year 2015. This report does not document all violations, yet it documents the most savage and bloodiest ones.



# Contents

<b>Contents .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Executive Summary .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Methodology .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Legal Framework.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Analysis .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Brutal Killing.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Painful Figures .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Forms of Violations .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Categories of Killed People .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Conclusion .....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Recommendation.....</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Gratitude and Appreciation .....</b>	<b>50</b>





# Executive Summary

SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties has documented 150 violations related to extralegal killings in Yemen during the reporting period; 2016, in addition to some selective cases from the same context in 2015, included many governorates. These violations which is documented in the report are distributed to three categories;

## **First; Field Execution:**

SAM has documented 74 field execution cases; 17 cases in Ibb governorate, followed by Al-Baidha with 9 cases.

## **Second; Death Under Torture:**

SAM organization has documented 58 cases of death under torture, including 10 cases in Hodiedah governorate.

## **Third; Human Shields:**

SAM organization has documented 18 cases of death cases resulted from using victims as human shields, including 11 cases in Dhamar governorate.

SAM organization has documented various means and types of torture perpetrated on victims, including sever beating, denial of food, using police dogs, and torture by electric shock, and the victims included; political, social activists, journalists, physicians, and academia.

Violators include Houthis-militia, at 93% rate, anonymous groups at 4%, legitimate government 2% and terrorist groups 1%.

Most of the cases of extralegal killings occurred in territories that fall under Houthis-Saleh control, and where there are no armed confrontations; such as Dhamar, Hodiedah and Ibb governorates, therefore refute any allegations that the victims were anti-Houthis armed resistance, or that were caught in crossfire or due to security instability.

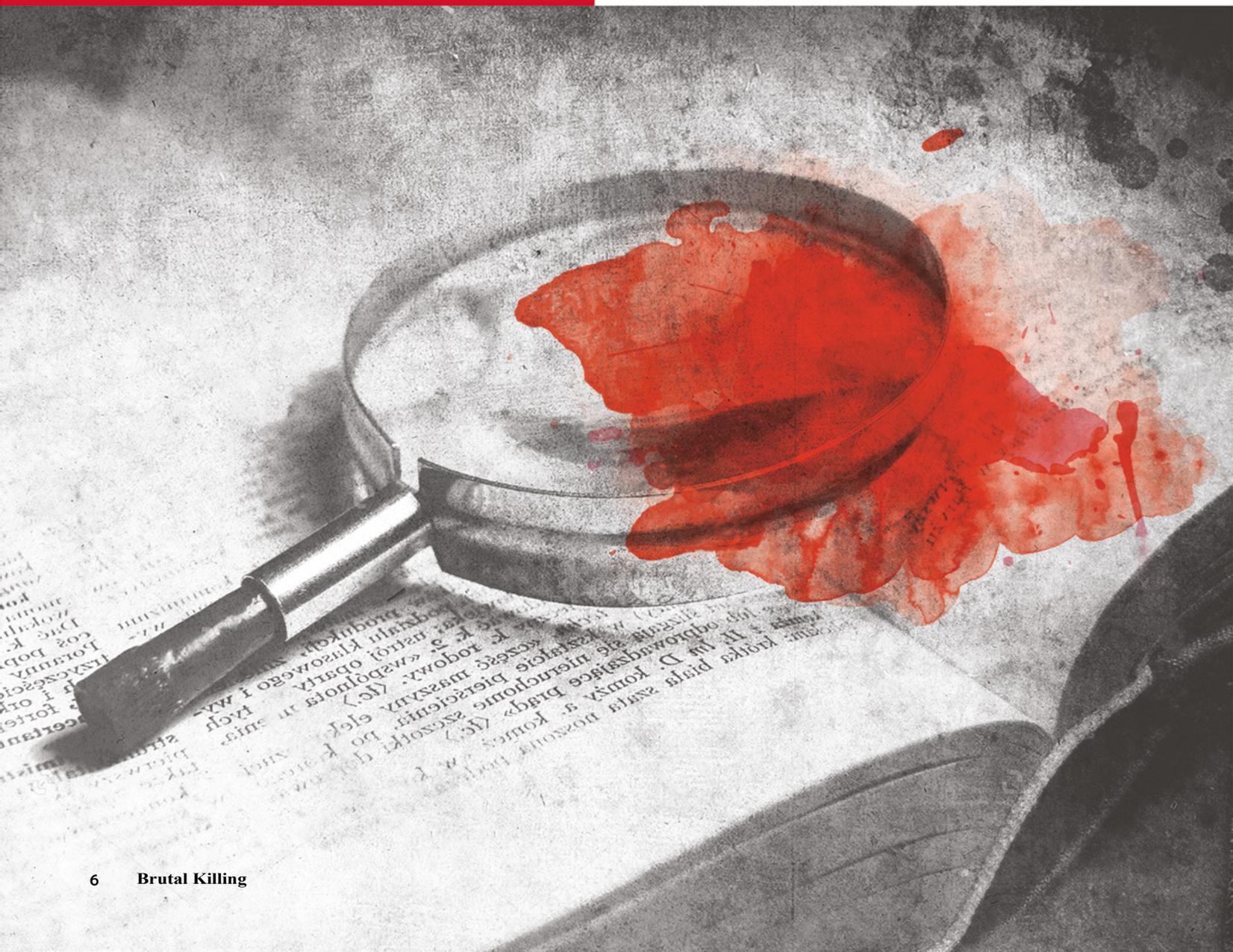


**The report concluded that** the violations included herein, reveals a systematic policy among the violators to torture civilian victims, particularly by Houthis-Saleh group, in addition to Hadhrami Elite forces in Hadhramout, and Security Belt forces in Aden which are loyal to the United Arab Emirates.

The report concluded to several recommendations; mainly to the UN and the international community to exert pressure on all parties to stop these violations on the detainees.



# Methodology



**Information and data contained in this report** have been monitored, collected, and documented by SAM organization field monitors, which is a professional team that have been trained on monitoring human rights violations during armed conflicts, according to the international mechanisms and standards.

SAM monitors are present at many governorates, and they monitor human rights violations in a complicated, very challenging, and difficult conditions, particularly at conflict hot zones, making it difficult to reach into many cases as their safety and security will be jeopardized.

Each case in the report has been verified and relevant data were collected, compared, and cross-checked to prove its credibility. Monitors' team also took photos as part of monitoring and documenting process, beside testimonies of victims' relatives.

SAM organization, was keen to obtain medical reports, autopsy reports of the victims to understand reasons of death, whenever possible, also SAM has contacted relatives of the victims by phone and their friends to listen first hand about the reasons of their death and related conditions, in addition to documenting certain cases by video.

However, information contained in this report, doesn't tell the whole story, not even small percentage of it, but we can confirm that all information and data included in this report are true representation to the status quo, and represent all cases we managed to reach and verify, yet they are not the whole story, unfortunately.



# Legal Framework

Extralegal killing is violation to international human rights laws and conventions that ensure right to life as one of the basic human rights, where article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stresses that “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person”, also article 6/1 of ICCPR stated that “every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life”, and in order not to deprive an individual from his/her life arbitrarily, article 6/2 banned death sentence on civilians for any crime, even “for the most serious crimes, which are crimes related to national security and committed during wars, unless this penalty was carried out pursuant to a final judgement rendered by a competent court.”

Hence, international law has prohibited all forms of extralegal killings or without giving the suspect the right of adequate defense or without knowing the charges raised against him/her. Also article 1 of the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions, recommended by Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/65, of 24 May 1989, has confirmed that perpetrators of extralegal killings and arbitrary execution without trial shall be prosecuted according to the national laws; as it states that “governments shall prohibit by law extra-legal, arbitrary and summary executions and shall ensure that any such executions are recognized as offences under their criminal laws, and are punishable by appropriate penalties which take into account the seriousness of such



offences. Exceptional circumstances including a state of war or threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency may not be invoked as a justification of such executions”, the article continued “such executions shall not be carried out under any circumstances including, but not limited to, situations of internal armed conflict, excessive or illegal use of force by a public official or other person acting in an official capacity...”.

Furthermore, international law prohibits torture and cruel treatment, and torture here means according to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment definition as “any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed...”, also Rome Statutes has defined torture as “the intentional infliction of severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, upon a person in the custody or under the control of the accused...”.

Also, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment does not allow to use “exceptional circumstances” whatsoever, whether a state of war or a threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency” as “a justification of torture”. On the other hand, “killing in all its forms, maiming, cruel treatment and torture”, is incriminated according to article 3 on “attack on civil life and safety” of Genève Convention (IV) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 1949. Also, Convention (IV) and the additional protocol has considered violation to the Convention as grave breaching that calls for prosecution if sufficient accusation evidences are provided as stated in article 147.

On the other hand, Rome Statutes of the ICC, 17 July 1998, has considered gross violations such as killing and torture as war crimes that the court shall have authority to address, according to article 8 of the Statutes.



## Analysis



**SAM Organization has documented various ways of killing that Houthis and forces loyal to Saleh has carried out on its rivals. Where according to field missions, analysis to statements made by eyewitnesses and monitoring questionnaires, we've concluded into the following findings:**

- Means of Killing:  
Execution by direct fire shots, torture by sharp tools leading to death, attack on sensitive parts of the body;
- Categories Targeted;  
Violations documented in this report have impacted various categories, including political activists, social dignitaries, media, academia, and different professionals.
- Geographic Domain of the Violations;  
Human rights violations occurred in all territories under Houthis-Saleh control, followed by territories under legitimate government's control, by military groups in Aden and Mukalla.
- Removing Evidences of Crime;  
Violators intimidated people and forced them to write commitments that they will not organize mourning ceremonies for their deceased relatives, requested money in exchange of handing over the dead bodies of the victims, threaten them not to report to media, and prevented autopsy of deceased or issuing of death certificates. Also, medical facilities were prevented from issuing such certificates, prevented issuance of burying permissions for certain victims. Some bodies were just thrown in the streets, and others were buried without relatives' approval.



- Impunity;

Despite many media reports on the violations, yet the de facto power did not conduct any serious investigation to detect perpetrators, despite requests and reports submitted to the prosecutor-general, which is allegedly affiliated to the militia and execute its policies.

SAM organization noticed a deliberate systematic practice by Houthis commanders to ensure impunity of perpetrators, where they conceal the names of the supervisors, security commanders, and field commanders, and replace them with nicknames and codenames, fearing being identified. Same practices are applied at the prisons and detention centers in Aden and Mukalla, which are under the supervision of Emirati officers, who use nicknames as well.

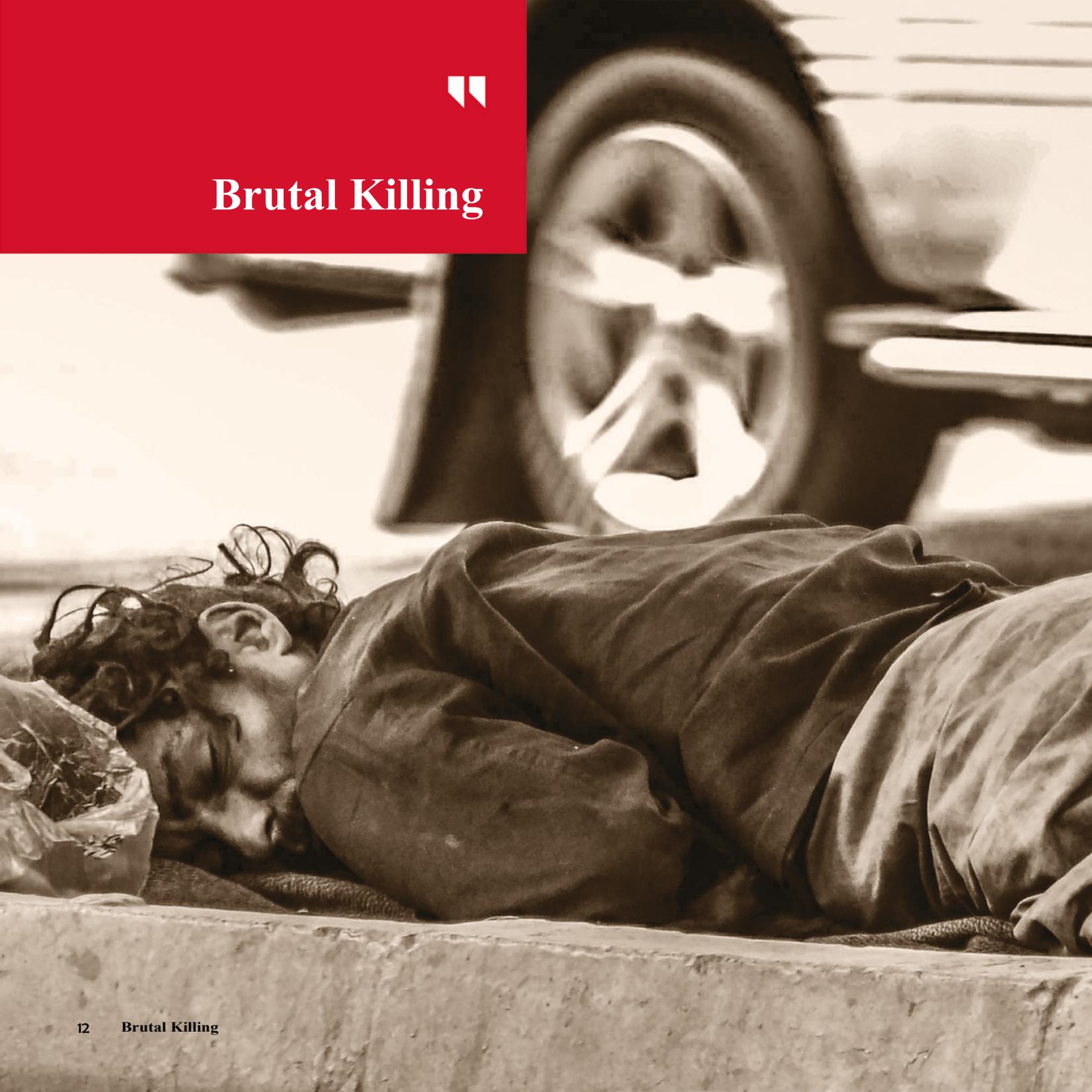


Data and figures available to SAM organization reveal that;

1. Most of extralegal killings occurred at areas under Houthis and Saleh group control, where there are not military operations; such as Dhamar, Hodiedah and Inn governorates, thereby invalidate allegations that the victims are members of the armed resistance, or that they fall victims of crossfire incidents, or due to insecurity.
2. Most of the victims of extralegal killings, were tortured to death, or have being used as human shields at military sites, although they are civilians and political activists.
3. Other victims were killed or detained at public civil locations that should have been protected, such as houses and public markets.



# Brutal Killing





As for the way of killing, SAM organization has concluded into the following findings:

- Execution were carried out by gun shots without any fair trial where right of defense is granted, and were executed at the instructions of Houthis filed commanders, and commanders of military battalions loyal to Saleh;
- Torture to death crimes has escalated seriously since Houthis-Saleh group overran Sana'a, confirming a deliberate intention and systematic practices to abuse opponents, and torture normally ends with firing shots at fatal parts of victim's body.
- Victims and detainees were used as human shields, at arms warehouses, military sites, or armed Houthis gatherings that Arab Coalition airstrikes' target. Houthis group and Saleh troops invented this violation to intimidate their opponents, and their relatives. SAM organization has documented four incidents resulted in killings of detainees who were used as human shield, namely Harran park crime, Police officers' club crime, and Al-Garahi farm crime in Hodiedah.



## Painful Figures

SAM monitors have documented during the reporting period 150 extralegal killings cases (field executions), included killing under torture, and killing due to the use of victims as human shields, distributed as follows:



**74** killings  
Extralegal (field execution) ;



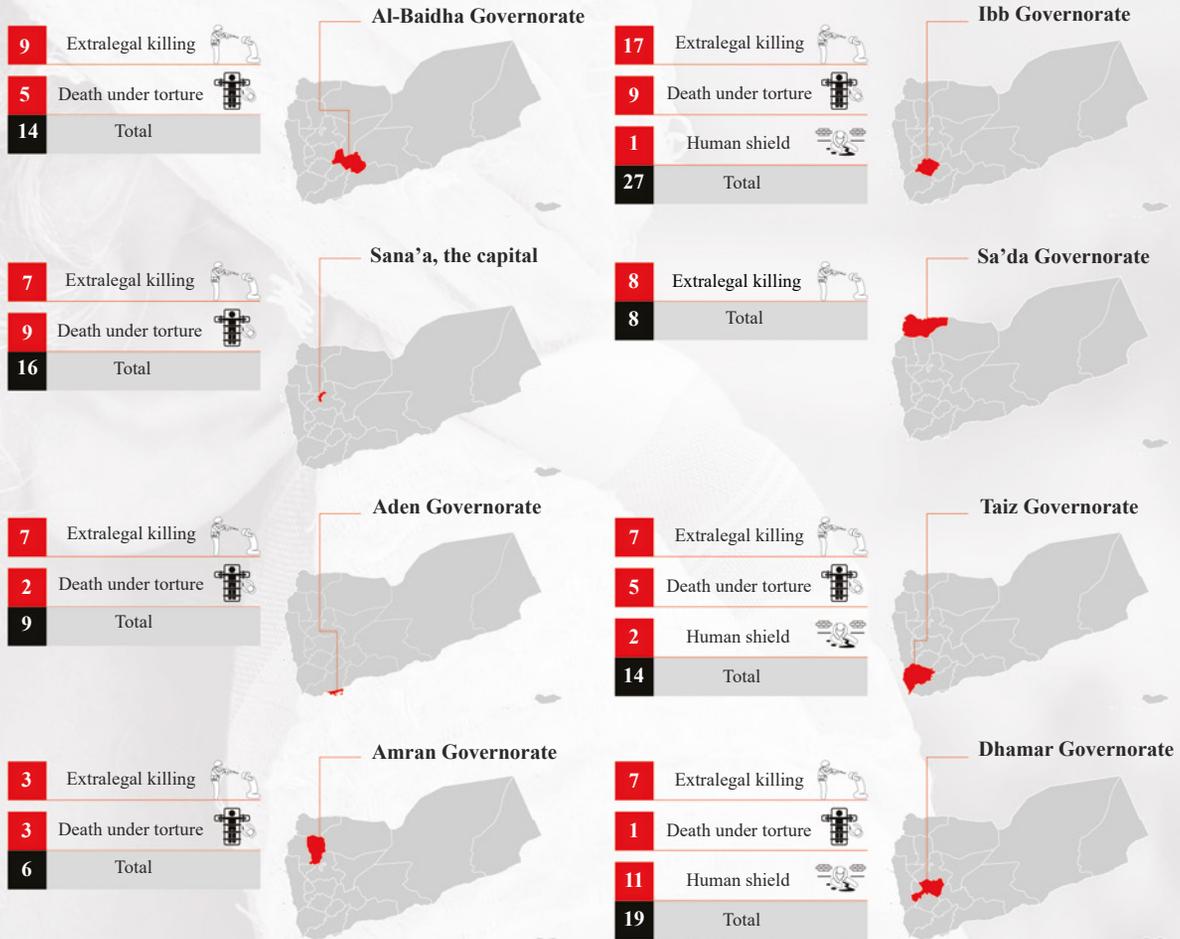
**58** killings  
under torture or resulted from torture;

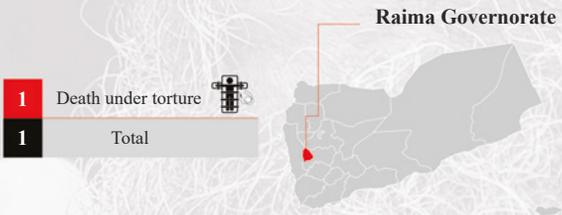
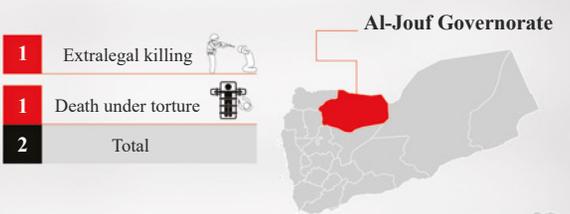
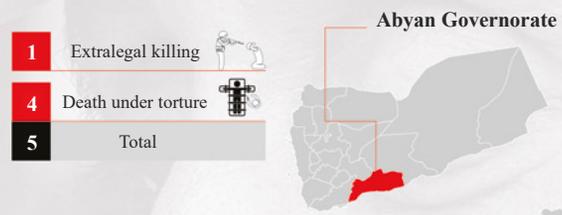
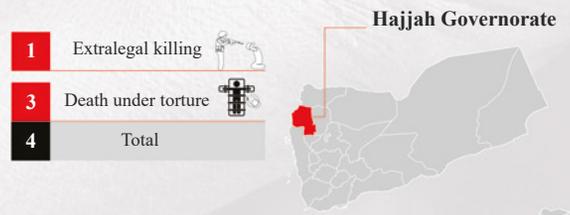
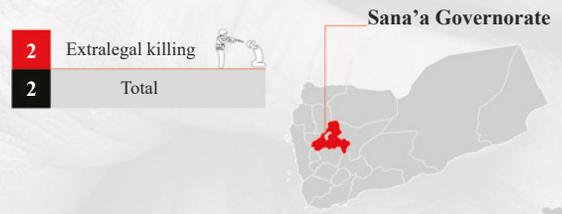
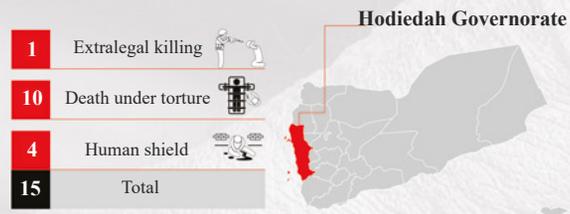


**18** killings  
due to the use of victims as human shield;

## Geographic distribution of killings:

Killing cases in this report are distributed among most of the governorates as follows:









# Forms of Violations



### First; Extralegal Killings;

SAM organization has documented 74 extralegal killings during the reporting period, with Ibb governorate topped the list with 17 cases, followed by Al-Baidha 9 cases, Sa'da 8 and other governorates as follows:



## **Abdulsalam Mohammed Al-Shameri case;**

**Business Man (69 years) ;**

On Tuesday, 17 November 2015, an armed man attacked his house in Bajil city, Hodiedah governorate, eastern Yemen, arrested his sons and shot him to death at his apartment.



**SAM organization obtained written testimony from his family states that;**

*“At 7 a.m. on 17 November 2015, our house was sieged by Houthis armed patrols and raided. They wear military and security uniform, they break in the apartment. Handcuffed us and took us to one of the patrol vehicles, at gun point wearing our nightclothes.*

*Houthis request reinforcements that arrived shortly after and decided to raid the apartment where the father “Abdulsalam” resides, they break all the three doors, using his son Shaker as human shield to storm the apartment, they fired several bombs and assassinated his father on spot. Shaker heard his father moaning and yet they continued firing at him till he breathed his last. They went out chanting their “scream”. They moved us to the CID in Bajil, beating and threaten us there. then returned to our trade stores. Houthis took over Al-Shameri’s trade corporation, destroyed the furniture and other assets, they are still confiscating all trade assets and stores of Al-Shameri, and refused to bury his dead body”.*

*End of testimony.*

## Collective Execution in Al-Baidha Governorate:

On Monday, 1 July 2016, a group of shepherds found four dead bodies of Aal Omer sheikhs, in the street connecting Al-Hadhira, Al-Shaqab, Al-Malahim district, near Houthis-Saleh checkpoint. The four sheikhs were arrested from their houses before one day. They bullet injuries detected in their bodies and their hands were tied.

**SAM organization has received a testimony on then incident from a human rights activist from the area;**

*“On Thursday, 28th June 2016, Houthis militia and forces loyal to Saleh, abducted sheikh Ahmed Saleh Al-Omeri, and 16 others, and released them in the evening of the same day, after mediation by one of the village dignitaries. Sheikhs of the village met and decided to avert any confrontation with Houthis militia, and denounce any military act against Houthis, however the militia returned on the next day and abducted;*

*Sheikh Ahmed Saleh Al-Amri, 56 years*

*Saleh Ahmed Saleh Al-Amri, 35 years*

*Sheikh Mohammed Ahmed Al-Amri, 50 years*

*Sheikh Saleh Salem Al-Amri, 57 years*

*On the next day, goat shepherds found the four dead bodies of the sheikhs in of Al-Khad-  
era-Al-Shaqab-Magradh triangle, between Fadhma and Al-Hat area in Al-Malagim dis-  
trict near Houthis-Saleh militia checkpoint. Some of their fellow tribesmen identified the  
bodies, who were found handcuffed. Soldiers in the checkpoint confirmed that the killer  
has fled to Amran governorate.*

*End of the testimony.*

## Execution of Basheer Shihra in Ibb Governorate:



Basheer Shihra, 40 years, is one of old Ibb city dignitaries, he refused imposing a new Imam to the grand mosque in Ibb, by Houthis militia.

On Thursday, 14 April at 6 a.m. SWAT team, affiliated to Special Forces, aided by Houthis militia in civilian dress, surrounded Basheer's house, as soon as he opened the door, they shot at him and he was dragged outside his house before, also they looted some of his personal belongings from the house. In a video taken by a neighbor, the armed men chanted Houthis group scream following killing Basheer.

## **Killing of three Security Guards at Total Company Office in Sanaa:**

On Saturday, 3 December 2016, a group of armed Houthis raided Total company premises in Hadda, Iran st. near German embassy, to take away equipment belongs to the company, the guards refused, being in-charge of these equipment and claiming that they have some financial claims with Total. The armed men forced their way killing three guards; Ali Yahya Mohammed Al-Sanhani, Omer Al-Zabedi, and Abdulrahman Hassan Khairan.

**SAM organization contacted one of the killed guards' relative who provided his testimony below:**

*“My brother was a security guard at Total company with twelve others. On Saturday, 8 December 2016, there were five guards on duty; Ali Yahya Mohammed Al-Sanhani, Omer Al-Zabedi, Abdulrahman Hassan Khairan, and Majid Al-Shar’abi, and Ahmed Sultan. Houthis armed men came to the company carrying instructions from Abu Alkarrar, assigned by Houthis as deputy minister of interior, and from Galal Al-Rwaishan, minister, in addition to instructions from Abu Mustafa, who Houthis supervisor for oil companies. The instruction requested taking generator sets from the company to another place. The guards denied access to the intruder, who fired at them using sniper gun, causing fatal injuries at neck and head of the three guards.*

*“later three patrol vehicles belong to Houthis came and carried the injured to German hospital, Al-Moushki, and Al-Quds hospitals. before that the armed men prevented rescuing the injured guards, saying “let them die, they are Daesh “ISIS”, added the eyewitness.*

*“on Monday, 5 December 2016, Abu Ali Al-Hakim, a Houthis leader, appointed recently as the commander of military zone, came to the parliament and offered tribal arbitration, considering it as unpremeditated crime, due to lack of coordination between security agencies” concluded the eyewitness.*

*End of testimony.*

## Execution of Mohammed Mohammed Saleh Al-Sabari



On 28 November 2016, a military force composed of several vehicles carrying 30 of Houthis-Saleh armed men, led by Abu Shihab, Houthis leader and in-charge of Sana'a governorate's Operations, in Mitna district, and Abu Yahya, sieged Mohammed Al-Sabari farm, who was inside the farm along with his wife and two of his sons, one is 8 yrs.

### According to testimony received by SAM:

*“the military force fired Al-Sabari and his family, injuring him and left him bleeding before his wife and children. later they took him to the hospital, but he died en route, and dead body was taken to the hospital.*

*“one of Al-Sabari's children was also injured and his nephew, who were rescued to a hospital in Sana'a' the eyewitness added.*

*SAM contacted one of Al-Sabari's relatives who confirmed that, the military campaign looted his car along with his personal belongings, and use to transport Al-Sabari, who was alive then, but he died before making it to the hospital in Mitna, Bani Matar district, and left his dead body in the mortuary.*

*End of testimony.*



**Execution of Nabeel Nagi Saeed, in Sailat Al-Gumhuri,  
Taiz Governorate:**



On 19 November 2016, Nabeel Nagi Saedd was executed by more than 70 bullets and his body was dumped at Sailat Al-Gumhuri in Taiz.

**His sister reported to SAM that;**

*“he has been requested by an individual to transport him to a neighborhood under Al-Qaeda’s control, using his motorbike. Nabeel was then taken to the Saila “water path” near Al-Gumhuri hospital and showered him with bullets, and left him there. His sister added that many witnesses tell her the story, but they dare not to record and document their testimonies, fearing for their lives. according to these testimonies Nabeel was killed because he is “cursing ‘insulting the religion”.*

*End of testimony.*

## Second; Death Under Torture;

SAM Organization has documented 58 cases of killing under torture by all parties to the conflict, in all governorates, where Hodiedah governorate registered the highest number with 10 cases, followed by other governorates, as follows:



**Some cases of death under torture at Houthis-Saleh prisons that SAM has documented since Houthis overran Sana'a in September 2014; as follows:**

- Saleh Al-Bishri, 37, activist, Sana'a, died on 14 February 2015
- Abdulrahman Maoudha, 40, lawyer, Sana'a, died on 28 February 2015
- Yaser Al-Nasheri, 25, engineering, Hajjah, died in Sana'a on 18 August 2016
- Adil Al-Zou'ri, 27, researcher, Sana'a, his dead body was found on 22 August 2016
- Sheikh Mohammed Zeid Al-Sabal, 24, Al-Qifr district, Ibb, died on 1 April 2016
- Sharfat Al-Hemyari, 28, Al-Qifr, Ibb, died on 1 February 2016
- Mujahid Mohammed Ahmed Al-Zaiedi, Al-Qifr, Ibb, died on 13 April 2016
- Adel Abdulmalik Al-Hasani, 28, died on 2 August 2016 at political security prison.



## **Means of Torture;**

Following analysis made to the monitoring questionnaires, to the statements contained, and to the medical reports received, SAM concluded that the violators used several and systematic means in torture, including:

- Physical and psychological torture before, during and after interrogation.
- Beating at different parts, particularly at backs and faces.
- Prolonged night interrogation sessions, and depriving detainees from sleep.
- Denying access to toilet, or at limited times.
- Chained for long periods.
- Torture at nights by beating and dragging and other humiliating forms of torture.
- Using trained police dogs in torture.
- Force detainees to unstrap their clothes and shower them with cold water.
- Using electric shocks at different parts of the body.
- Denial of food, and medicines to the sick detainees.
- Stuffed at narrow cells.
- Denial of family visits.

**Researcher Adel Al-Zou'ri,  
died at Political Security Prison due to Torture;**



A poet and academia, abducted by armed men in three unidentified vehicles, from restaurant in western 60 st., Sana'a while taking his dinner.

**SAM organization has received below testimony from one of Al-Zou'ri's relatives;**

*“on 13 July 2016, while Adel was taking his dinner with his colleague, a group of armed men and other in civilian dress abducted Adil, his colleague managed to flee. Adel was summoned to 14th October police station, then to Al-Judairi, and we could not visit him since his disappearance”*

*On 22 August 2016, a man called sheikh Aabid Rajeh Muslih, sheikh of Al-Haima Al-Dakhlya, called Mr. Naji Al-Zou'ri and asked him to contact Adil's family, thereafter Adil's sister called sheikh Aabid who told her that Adil has died and his body is at Police hospital in Sana'a. there, we saw signs of beating by stick in the head, two dagger stabs, in the neck with stitches, and wide wound between his eyes, also they saw blood coming out of his nose and years. They were not allowed to examine his whole body. We requested autopsy to the body”.*

*End of testimony.*

## **Torture and Execution of Mohammed Al-Sabl and Basheer Shaarf- fat;**

Mohammed Zeid Ahmed Al-Sabl and Basheer Murshid Shaarf-  
fat, were abducted from a checkpoint affiliated to Houthis in Rahab, Al-Qifr, Ibb governorate, on Tues-  
day, 2 p.m. 23 February 2016

### **One of Al-Sabl relatives stated that;**

*“Mohammed Al-Sabl and his companion were detained at a security check-  
point, supervised by Saleem Al-Quhaish, nicknamed as Abu Al-Hasan.. we were  
hit by the gun butts, then transported handcuffed to Al-Qala’a prison. Next day  
morning they were transferred again to Al-Samsara prison, where an eyewit-  
ness saw him taking his breakfast, and someone is telling him that “few mo-  
ments left for your life”. Then both moved to Bani Saba, which is Al-Quhaish  
village. Al-Sabal requested sheikh Mohammed Saleh Ghallab to interfere to re-  
lease him, but he apologized that he can’t. Women inhabitant of the village said  
that they heard (detainees) voices while they are tortured in Al-Quhaish house,  
and they (women) begged the torturer to have mercy on them, saying “shame  
on you. this is not acts of men”, the eyewitnesses continued.*

*Villagers in Aryan village heard fire shots inside the car that carried Al-Sabal  
and his colleague from Al-Masna’a village.. later fire shots were found in dif-  
ferent parts of Al-Sabal dead body, his eyes were gouged out, his tongue was  
cut, his nose was broken, and many stabs in his back.. while Basheer body was  
totally scorched.*

*The two dead bodies remained in morgue refrigerator in Yareem hospital, for  
about one month, while Houthis denied knowledge of their fate.. when we knew  
their whereabouts, we could not see them until we pay a bribe, and the forensic  
was allowed only after interference of security officials. The prosecutor inter-  
rogated Al-Quhaish and released him. (end of testimony)*

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Mohammed Zeid Ahmed Al-Sabl and Basheer Murshid Shaarf-  
fat, were abducted from a checkpoint affiliated to Houthis in Rahab, Al-Qifr, Ibb governorate,  
on Tuesday, 2 p.m. 23 February 2016

## Torture and execution of Waleed Qassim Al-Ibbi



On Thursday, 10 November 2016, Waleed Qassim Al-Ibbi, resident of Al-Giraf, Sana'a, was abducted while he is on his way back home with his wife, by armed men who took him to the CID prison.

### One of his relatives told SAM organization that;

*“at 7 a.m. on 17 November 2015, our house was sieged by Houthis armed patrols and raided. They wear military and security uniform, they break in the apartment. Handcuffed us and took us to one of the patrol vehicles, at gun point wearing our nightclothes.*

*Houthis request reinforcements that arrived shortly after and decided to raid the apartment where the father “Abdulsalam” resides, they break all the three doors, using his son Shaker as human shield to storm the apartment, they fired several bombs and assassinated his father on spot. Shaker heard his father moaning and yet they continued firing at him till he breathed his last. They went out chanting their “scream”. They moved us to the CID in Bajil, beating and threaten us there. then returned to our trade stores. Houthis took over Al-Shameri’s trade corporation, destroyed the furniture and other assets, they are still confiscating all trade assets and stores of Al-Shameri, and refused to bury his dead body”.*

*End of testimony.*

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SAM organization received copy of the autopsy report confirming presence of bruises in the left and right side of the neck, shoulder, chest, and lower abdomen, broken ribs, and one fire shot in his head.



**Mohammed Awadh Barahma,**  
leader in the popular resistance



On Friday 13 May 2016, military forces consisted of 4 vehicles affiliated to the “Hadrami elite” forces raided Awad Barahma house in Boish, Mukalla and forced three of his sons; Mohammed, one of southern resistance leaders in Shabwa governorate, and representative of the Shabwa resistance in Hadramout, waleed and Dr. Aidroos Awad Barahma, to accompany them.

On Monday, 16 May 2016, Mohammed dead body was found in the morgue refrigerator of Ibn Sina hospital in Mukalla city, with notable torture signs and bruises in different parts of his body.

**Mohammed Abdulla Abu-Zeid,**  
head of Yemeni Congregation Party “Islah” branch in Al-Zaidia district, Hodiedah governorate;



On 2 January 2016, Houthis militia abducted teacher Mohammed Abdullah Abu Zeid, some of his students saw the abduction incident at Al-Rashad school in Al-Zaidia district, Hodiedah eastern governorate. Abductors took Abu-Zeid to Al-Gaith charity foundation premises which Houthis-Saleh militia uses as detention and torture center, according to verified testimony received by SAM organization.

Houthis-Saleh militia denied visit to Abu-Zeid, although they received money from his relatives to release him, which they did not do, only as a dead body on 9 November 2016, with notable signs of torture in his body. His family believes that he died on 15 May 2016, but the militia did not confess his death and extorted his family throughout his disappearance period.

### **Suleiman Ali Hamoud Al-Bura'i,**

Leader in Youth Revolution and Member to Teachers' Syndicate



On 2 January 2016, armed men affiliated to Houthis militia raided Suleiman Hamoud Al-Bura'i house, searched the house and tampered with his belongings. Suleiman was abducted to the Tenth Brigade (republican guard) camp in Bagil town and then to the government complex in Al-Marawa'a, where he was tortured to death, and his dead body was handed over to his family on 2/3/2016, under commitment not to take him to the hospital and he was buried immediately.

### **Suleiman Yahya Suleiman**



On 18 April 2016, Houthis militia raided Suleiman Yahya Suleiman house, who is a laboratory technician in the health unit in his village. Houthis militia transferred Suleiman to unknown place and denied him visits, on 2 March 2016, Houthis asked his family to get his dead body from the military hospital in Hodiedah, and denied them to see his dead body, Houthis armed personnel accompanied the dead body to make sure that they will not take it to physician, before burial.

Nabeel Nagi Saeed



Suleiman Yahya Suleiman



Nabeel Nagi Saeed

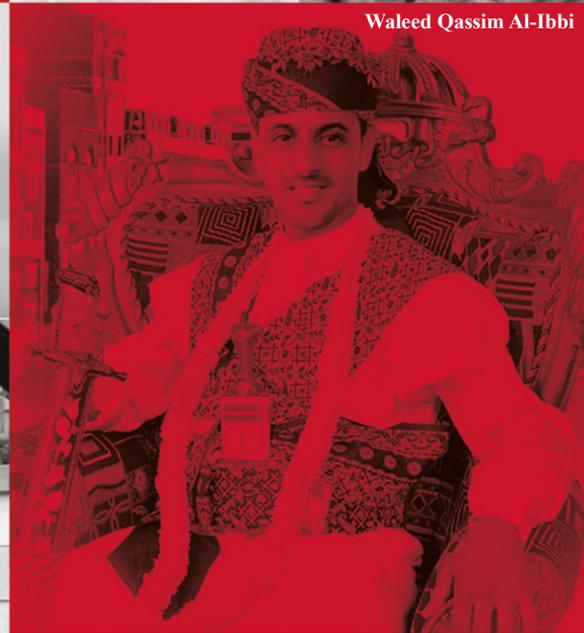


Mohammed Saleh Al-Sabari



Mohammed Awadh Barahma

Waleed Qassim Al-Ibbi





### Third; Killing of Enforced Disappeared persons by using them as Human Shields:

SAM organization has documented 18 killings of abductees and forcibly disappeared who were used as human shields at military sites or arms warehouses. Dhamar governorate was on the top with 11 killings, followed by other governorates as follows:







### **Human Shields in Hirran Park:**



SAM organization documented in Dhamar governorate, 100 km southern Sana'a, the brutal killing of 11 people who were abducted from Ibb and Dhamar governorates and placed as human shields in Hirran Park which is used by Houthis-Saleh militia and forces as military location and warehouse. On 21 May 2015, Arab Coalition fighters stroke the Park killing 11 detainees including politicians and news correspondents and others whose details were not obtained by SAM. Following are names of the killed people:

- Journalist Abdullah Mohammed Qabil, 23, correspondent of Yemen Shabab channel;
- Journalist Yousuf Mohammed Al-Aizari, 24, correspondent of Suhail channel;
- Amin Al-Ragawi, 50, leading member in Islah party from Ibb governorate;
- Mashkal Ali Hussein Maoudha, 30 years;
- Yahya Ahmed Ismael Humadi, 20 years;
- Haiash Mohammed Al-Methali, 20 years;
- Ahmed Rabbad, 20 years;
- Raju Abdullah A'mer, 26 years;
- Ali Naser Hassan Al-Subari, 45 years;
- Abdulgaleel Abdulmu'en Al-Nihari, 18 years;
- Ibrahim Hizam Al-Garshi, 20 years.

Hodiedah and Taiz governorates also witnessed similar killing incidents; one at police officers' club and at a farm in Al-Girrahi in Hodiedah, and at Al-Saleh city in Taiz. Below are the names of detainees used as human shields that SAM could document in Hodiedah;

- Yahya Ahmed Omer Mahrous, 25 years, political activist, killed on 3 May 2015, when used as human shield at police officers' club;
- Eltayeb Ahmed Wasil, 46 years, killed on 3 May 2015, when used as human shield at police officers' club;
- Saeed Qaid Al-Humeidi, killed on 3 May 2015, when used as human shield at police officers' club;
- Saeed Ahmed Omer Mahrous, 48 years, killed on 10 August 2015, when used as human shield at a farm in Al-Girrahi.

## Amin Al-Ragawi;

### 50 years, Leader at Yemeni Islah Parti in Ibb governorate

Amin received call from Fadhl Al-Muta', a Houthis leader, requesting him to attend an important meeting to discuss on various issues that concern the governorate.

Al-Ragawi called director of Ibb police to confirm the meeting, who confirmed the “emergency” meeting. Al-Ragawi left for the CID office, Ibb.



### SAM organization has documented Al-Ragawi's driver testimony, who accompanied him during the last moments prior his detention;

*“Mr. Amin left his house, and I was accompanying him, along with his son Osama to the CID office, where Al-Muta' received us at the yard and asked me to wait, few moments after Al-Ragawi and Al-Muta' entered the building, Al-Muta' came back and asked me whether I'm Al-Ragawi's son, I replied no; then he asked me to leave telling me that Al-Ragawi is detained. I tried to protest, but the armed men at the yard outnumbered him, so he left to the car to tell Al-Ragawi's son, and both tried to enter the building, but the armed men prevented us and ordered us to leave at gun point, and we left escorted by military patrol to the house”.*

*End of testimony.*

One released detainee from Hirran park detention facility, confirmed that he saw one child whose name is Abdulsalam Mufrih, from Rada'a, Al-Baidha who was detained at the second floor, also he saw Amin Al-Ragawi at the same place. He also identified sheikh Al-Barh, MP from Al-Qifr constituency who is detained along with others.

On the afternoon of Thursday, 21 May 2015, Arab Coalition stroke many Houthis and Saleh military sites and warehouses, in Dhamar including Hirran park. News spread out that Al-Ragawi body is at Dhamar public hospital, following many attempts and mediations, Ma'az, Al-Ragawi's son managed to reach the mortuary after nine days of the airstrike. Ma'az identified his father's body, as he confirmed in his statement to SAM.

*An eyewitness, Hussein Al-Esa, 35 years, who was detained in Hirran park said that they were knocking the door asking Houthis to come and interrogate them, but they did not respond. He said that his relatives were searching for him in all police stations in vain. His son Ahmed told him later that he came to Hirran park one hour before the airstrike, carrying food and clothes for him, but the guards told him that there is no detainee with such name, and asked him to leave before airstrike hits him.*

*He added, when we heard the Arab Coalition fighters flying, we understand that we will be targeted, so we shouted to the guards to let them go, but to their surprise no one was there, and soon after we heard the explosion in the nearby building. The explosion was so strong that it opened the windows. We tried to open the door but the second strike hit us and I fall under the debris and sustained many injuries, then the residents in the neighborhoods came to rescue us and pulled me out of the wreckages along with other dead bodies of the detainees*

**Houthis militia detained Al-Esa again on 19 February 2016, and he is still under detention, along with journalist, Abdullah Al-Manefi.**



# Categories of Killed People

When analyzing the monitor questionnaires and reports and statements made by eye-witnesses, we concluded that the three categories of victims that have been documented in this report, have included most of the Yemeni community categories; and in inhuman cruel manner, as the following details show;

- **27 killing cases of social activists;**
- **5 killings of political activists;**
- **4 killings of journalists;**
- **2 killings of self-employed people;**
- **1 killing of teacher;**
- **1 killing of academia;**
- **1 killing of physician;**
- **1 killing of unemployed person;**
- **1 killing of political leader.**





# Conclusion

- Houthis armed group and Saleh forces committed filed execution crimes against its opponents, in addition they've used detainees and abductees as human shields against Arab Coalition airstrikes at a number of military sites and arms warehouses at different Yemeni governorates;
- Absence of security and judicial institutions has encouraged increase in execution and field execution crimes, leading to increasing number of victims, where law and justice remained at the hands of the combating field commanders;
- Many Yemeni families are intimidated and terrorized due to the escalating number of detainees and abductees at Houthis-Saleh prisons and detention facilities, people fear being used as human shields at such detention facilities;
- Certain military agencies affiliated to the legitimate government, in Hadhramout "Hadhrami Elite" force, are committing gross violations against activists and civilians, causing death to some of them under torture.





# Recommendation

**SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties recommends to the;**

**First; International Community;**

- Exert pressure on all parties to end human rights violations in Yemen immediately, particularly torture and field executions, by reaching into solution that ends the fighting in Yemen, that has caused increasing suffering on children and women in particular.
- Pressure over Houthis group to release all detainees at their custody;
- Work with the international and local community to prosecute the perpetrators of all gross violations to the international human rights law, and international humanitarian law, during the ongoing war in Yemen.
- Support activation of judicial system to decide on inmates and criminal cases.

**Second; to the Legitimate Government:**

- Immediately release detainees in Aden and Hadhramout prisons, to end torture practices at the military groups prisons in Hadhramout and Aden.
- Investigate reasons behind the death of some detainees in Aden and Hadhramout prisons.
- Activation of judicial system to decide on inmates and criminal cases.

### **Third; to Houthis Militia and Saleh Troops:**

We confirm that such recommendations to Houthis-Saleh militia, shall not be construed as implicit or explicit recognition with them, or by any means shall be interpreted as approval to their control over Yemenis fates, and confiscation to their political rights. However, as with respect to the report subject-matter, we recommend the following:

- Allow access to all local and international human rights organizations to the governorates under their control and open the detention centers and prisons to verify the violations.
- Allow serious investigation to the claims on human rights violations that have impacted their opponents, particularly enforced disappearance, torture and field execution, and the identify the perpetrators.

### **Fourth; to the International Organizations:**

- We call upon all regional and international human rights organizations to dispatch missions to Yemen to monitor human rights situation in the country.



# Gratitude and Appreciation

**We would like to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude for all those who contributed in developing this report, particularly to;**

**The eyewitnesses and relatives of the victims;**

- Whose courageous contribution helped in communicating these violations to the monitors in SAM organization;

**SAM monitors and field researchers;**

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