



Khiam Centers' report of the universal periodic review on the status of human rights in Lebanon

What is KRC?

Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Violence and Torture was founded in June 1999, it was called Khiam Center after Khiam Detention Camp in Southern Lebanon that was closed on the 23rd of May 2000. Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Violence and Torture is a non governmental organization which works to rehabilitate the victims of torture and violence and help them healthy, psychologically, socially, and vocationally. KRC is an accredited member of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture (IRCT), member of the Global Network against torture-SOS in Geneva and founder of the Arab organization for the defense of the detainees.

KRC is the secretariat of AMAN network, Network for the rehabilitation of Victims of Violence and Torture in the Middle East and North Africa. Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Violence and Torture is an independent organization depends on economic support from a number of contributors in promoting a culture of human rights, democracy, reject violence, torture and wars and it is funded by the European Commission in Lebanon and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture “UNVFVT”.

Khiam Center has adopted since it started a principle of providing support and assistance for every human being who falls within the target group for its projects' without making any regard for religious affiliation, ethic, regional, or political.

Summary of the contribution:

Center's report focuses on sectarianism and inequality that poses as a threat to civil peace and the continuation of Israeli interventions in the Lebanese situations and the issue of the disappeared in the Israeli and Syrian prisons and during the civil war, the detainees and kidnapped in the Arabic and Foreign prisons, mass graves, the Lebanese Prisons situation, and the forced detention for foreigners.

Sectarianism and inequality:

Violence and political assassinations have decreased. The parliamentary elections took place in June 7, 2009 during the dangerous political and sectarian division and mobile security incidents as a result of the election law called the Law of the sixty-a sectarian law contrary to the principles of human rights, citizenship and serve as a fuse to ignite a new civil war, Lebanon will remain suffering from continuous wars if the government doesn't make a democratic civil law that makes equality between citizens and phase sectarianism that divides the citizens on the basis of sects and doctrines contrary to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all international conventions signed by Lebanon.

Sectarianism is a form of racism and the antithesis of justice, equality and the source of wars and crises in Lebanon.

The sectarian discrimination in jobs and in senior positions in the state based on religion is a flagrant violation of human rights. **The Israeli factor:**



The Israeli factor is still a threat to civil peace and this factor was clear in Lebanon from a network of Israeli spy detected by the security services and aimed at destabilizing security, political, and economic situation. The number of suspects of spying for Israel in 2009 reached 30 people were supposed to be sentenced according to international standards for trials and are not subjected to torture with reference to the crimes they committed in the war of July 2006 that led to the death of 1200 martyrs, most of them were civilians.

The guide and helpers of the July 2006 war waged by Israel against Lebanon were members of spy networks , Lebanon is still suffering from this war and its effects and led to the death of hundreds and injuring thousands and destroying 77 bridges and 80 fuel stations and electricity transmission stations and Jiyeh electric factory, water systems and 50 schools, ambulances and locations of the international forces and the use of phosphorous bombs, and about two million cluster bombs still explode citizens, till the date of writing this report the number of martyrs reached 44 and 403 citizens injured, which would require Israel to pay compensation for all losses of the July war.

Enforced Disappearance:

The Exchange process between Israel and Hezbollah on July 16, 2008 has not closed the file of the missing Lebanese and prisoners in Israeli prisons, Israel is still keeping corpses of martyrs, and detained them in secret graves in Palestine and the south, and from these name: Yehia Al-Khaled from kafar hamam village, Iyad Kassir from Deir Qanoun el naher village, Faraj Allah Fouani from Houla village, Elias Harb from Tripoli and others.

Also revealing hundreds of missing persons who were directly kidnapped by Israeli or their agents during the repeated invasions of Lebanese territory since 1978, and we mention from them:

- 1- Moussa elshiek Salman from Maarakeh village, was detained by the Israeli forces on 8 June 1982, a delegate from the International Red Cross Committee moved him to the field hospital that belongs to the Israeli army and since then, his fate unknown.
- 2- Yehia Skaff from Al-minnieh north of Lebanon, was detained on 11/03/1978 and Israel is still denying his presence.
- 3- Ibrahim Zain el-din a teacher in Baaklen Secondary official school, was detained by the Israeli forces from his house on 08/10/1982 and not release till date.

In addition to Mohammed Saeed el Jarar, Mohammed Hawa, jamil Amhaz, Mohammed Ali Ghareeb, Hassan Ballout, Maher Kassir, Mohammed Ali Al-Aboush, Jammal Habal, Samir Al-kharfan, Mohammed Al-maalem, Ibrahim Nour eldin, Nizar, Yehia, Abed el-kareem Ashmar, Wafaa Jamil mouati, Ahmad Harbawy, Mohammed Faran, and the brothers Aziz, Ibrahim, Mansour and Ahmad Al-Derawi and many others.

Despite its withdrawal in May 2000, Israel continues its violations, abducting all of Khalid and Ali Diab Al-Mohammad -Ahmed Mohamed Ahmed Mustafa from the Al- Wazzani village and Geryes Makhoul from Rumaysh village and



were detained in a Nzalon civil
2008 on charges

prison in the years 2007 and

of drug trafficking they have been visited by the representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross on 31/8/2008, and legally, those kidnapped from Lebanese territory and Israel has to hand them over to the International Committee of the Red cross, and the Lebanese government is the one which holds the trial.

Rabieh Mohammed Zahraa from Shebaa village (17 years old) was kidnapped by Israeli occupation forces on the 1st of February 2010 and subjected to torture. Israel continued its violations on the Lebanese territories and kidnapping and torturing its citizens.

Rehabilitation of victims of Torture:

Thousands Lebanese torture victims who were released from Khiam detention camp and Israeli prisons and Syrian prisons . were subjected to multiple forms of physical and psychological torture and many of them had died after his release as a result of disease and from our experience in the rehabilitation project for victims of torture, it is out of 802 case that recieved medical consultation in 2009, showed 225 cases suffering from chronic diseases, hypertension, 16.39% and the pain of arthritis 6.69%, and diabetes as a result of torture during detention in addition to mental illness - memory loss, anxiety, depression, isolation in the absence of the process of restitution, compensation and an apology by the perpetrators torture.

Missing in Syrian Prisons:

Beside the issue of detainees and the missing in the Israeli prisons that has not been closed yet with the incomplete Israeli withdrawal in May 2000 and the Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon in April 2005 following the assassination of Rafik Hariri. The fate of 600 Lebanese citizens is still missing in the Syrian prisons despite the passage of 5 years of the mothers' sit in front of the United Nations House in Beirut since April 11 2005; this humanitarian issue has not handled properly by the Lebanese and Syrian governments, this issue has not received the needed attention from the international community, Israel denies the existence of missing in its prisons and Syria denies too this requires an international investigation and a formation of an international committee to uncover the fate of the missing Lebanese, whether in Syria or Israel.

The last kidnapped citizen in Lebanon was Joseph Sadar who was kidnapped in February 2009 while he was in his way to work in Middle East Airlines "MEA" at Rafik Al Hariri Airport and his destiny is still unknown.

Detainees and missing in the Libyan and Forigen prisons:

Also we note the disappearance of Al Imam Mousa Al-Sadr and AL-Sheikh Mohammad Yacoub and the Journalist Abbas Badr AL-Din who were kidnapped in Libya according to certain Lebanese parties.

The French authorities continued in arresting the Lebanese citizen George Ibrahim Abdallah since 25 years although his sentence has expired the French judiciary has renewed the process of being detained illegally.



Kidnapping Lebanese citizens from the Lebanese territory and being imprisoned in Israeli or Syrian prisons is contrary to the articles 49 and 76 of the Third

Geneva Convention which prohibits "the arrest and transfer of individuals outside the occupied territory to the occupied areas of the State". The crime of enforced kidnapping is an intractable serious crime and Lebanon still didn't sign the International Convention for the Protection of Individuals from Enforced Disappearance.

Mass Graves:

Mass Graves had covered all the Lebanese territories which hide a lot of Lebanese and Palestinian missing. Some of these graves are from the civil war from 1975 and the other is from 1978 during the Israeli invasions and others during the Syrian tutelage over Lebanon.

Some graves were discovered by accident and the others is still unknown, the Lebanese government had not made any investigation with the Leaders of Malachite's about these graves also it didn't provide a security protection for these discovered graves.

The mass graves is a humanitarian issue in which the Lebanese government should establish a formal committee in order to discover the graves' victims of the Israeli occupation, the Syrian dominance, and the civil war and these recommends establishing a DNA bank and make an analysis conducted anthropological and genetic and legitimacy to determine conclusively the cause of death and the identity of the death in order to determine the individual and official responsibilities' of detention, kidnapping, torture, and transmit the corpses under torture to their families and determine the cause of the death.

The Lebanese Prisons:

About five thousand Lebanese citizen and foreigner lies in the Lebanese prisons distributed over Roumieh, Al Kabi, Halba, Tyre, Tibnin, Zahli, Baabda, and Nabatiyah prisons.

The Lebanese prisons witnessed several rebellion accidents and escape attempts that's because of the deteriorating conditions on the health and social side moreover the members of the Parliamentary Commission on Human Rights during their visit to Zahli prison before 2 years, said: "It's a prison for those who are sent to death and it is the worst prison that doesn't fit to be an animal corral and the human being is scornful there".

Since January 2007 about 28 detainees had dead inside the prisons and the Lebanese detention centers without making any investigation to determine the reasons of their death.

Also torture and ill-treatment is practiced in the General - Security and the Ministry of Defense Both centers, do not allow any humanitarian organization to enter to them, also ill-treatment for the Iraqi refugees' is increasing inside the general-security center.

According to a declaration to Ziad Baroud the minister of the Lebanese interior ministry on 20/12/2009 63% of the detainees are not sentenced. This increases



the inhuman conditions overcrowding, long investigation, and the no-action complaints as the case of the Islamist detainees.

About 250 woman detainee suffer from bad situation about 30% of them suffer from a chronic disease and subjected to violence inside the prisons.

The Lebanese prisons are ticking bombs if the Lebanese government does not initiate to put a plan in order to build new prisons and make a whole reform process for these prisons.

Although Lebanon had signed the Optional Protocol Convention of the United Nations against torture on 22 December 2008, Lebanon did not meet the obligations in the formation of the national preventive mechanism to monitor prisons.

The forcible detention of foreigners:

Although Lebanon didn't join the Asylum Convention, since Lebanon joined the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which dictated to assist the oppressed people fleeing their country because of war, Lebanon is dealing with them as those who entered surreptitiously to its borders, which constitutes a violation of human rights and get detained for long periods of more than provided for a crime of entering illegally for the country and this detention in a form of arbitrary detantion and they are deported aslo arbitrary as the case of Iraqi refugees'.

Khiam Rehabilitation Center for victims of Torture
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