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سوريون  
من أجل  
الحقيقة  
والعدالة  
Syrians  
For Truth  
& Justice



## Syrian Security Services Arrest Civilians in Douma and Recruit Young Men

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In December 2018, Syrian security services conducted several raid and arrest operations in the city of Douma in Eastern Ghouta, rural Damascus, during which they arrested two civilians at least and sent a number of young men to perform reserve military service, according to testimonies obtained by Syrians for Truth and Justice/STJ.

STJ interviewed several civilian residents of the city of Douma, who are now based there, in December 2018, in addition to a few of the city's people who have been displaced to northern rural Aleppo following the Syrian regular forces' control of Eastern Ghouta in April 2018, under a deal with the opposition armed groups.

Using a pseudonym, Hassan, a civilian based in the city of Douma, told STJ's field reporter the following:

**“The Military Security Branch, the headquarters of which are located near the Quwatli Street, close to the Douma Hospital, conducted several raids and arrested a number of civilians, though they have signed the regularization of status and the reconciliation document. On December 18, 2018, and in the Quwatli Street particularly, this branch conducted a raid and arrested several civilians, of whom I identified Abu Ahmad Slaik. The raid was undertaken on the pretext of searching for arms.”**

He added:

**“The State Security Branch, located in the al-Masaken region, within the city, also conducted raids and arrested several civilians, including women, of whom I identified a woman called Um Ali Halaweh, whose son is an opposition media activist. She was arrested to impose pressure on her son.”**

Concerning the operations in search of young men requested for the reserve military service, under a pseudonym, Ahmad, who is based in the city of Douma, said:

**“Once the lists of the young men, requested for both compulsory and reserve military service, were issued, the notifications of requirement to perform military service started to reach houses, With them, campaigns in search of requested people also began, and a number of young men were recruited while on the streets or at houses. This triggered fear among the people, and young men started to hide and refrained from getting out on the streets. One**

**of my friends paid a sum of two million Syrian pounds, just to remove his son's name from the reserve list."**



An almost empty street in the city of Douma. Taken in: December 2018. Photo credit: STJ.

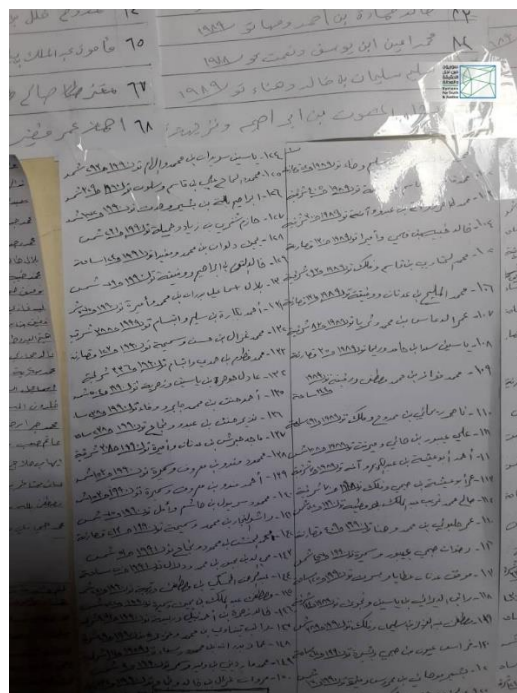
For his part, the media activist Taim al-Dimashqi, based in northern rural Aleppo, said that on December 3, 2018, the Douma Police Station hung lists with the names of people requested for military service. These lists included the names of young men whose birth years range from 1980 to 1990. It is also worth mentioning that a significant number of the people whose names were listed are either dead, have migrated or have been internally displaced.

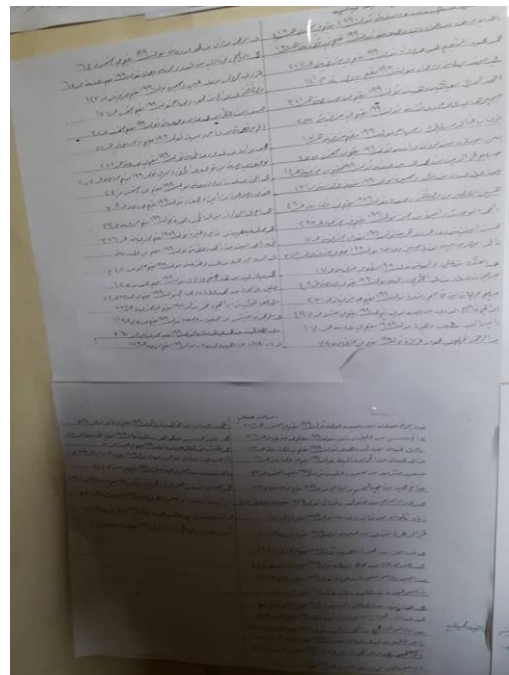
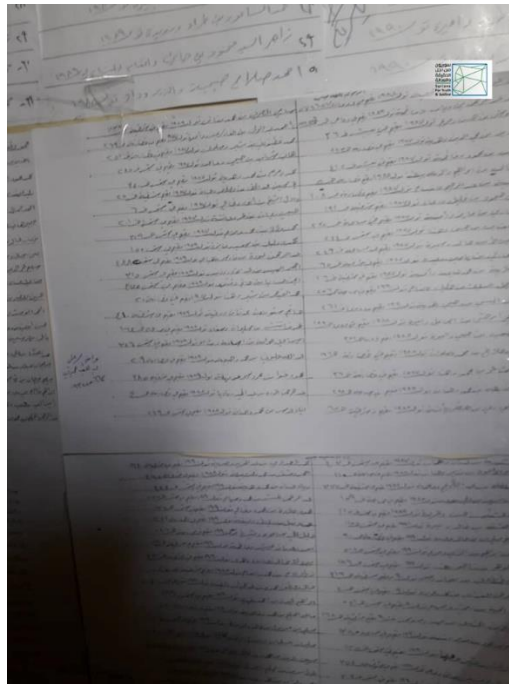
Handwritten list of names and dates in Arabic, likely a recruitment or arrest record. The text is written in a cursive style on lined paper. A small logo is visible in the upper right corner of the page.

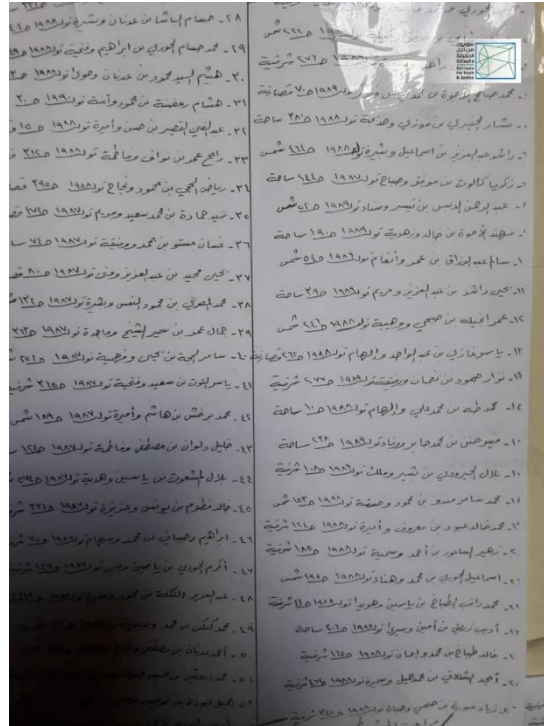
106 - محمد المالح بن عدنان ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
107 - عمر العباس بن محمد وريما 1989 12/11/1989  
108 - ياسين سعد بن حامد وريما 1989 20/11/1989  
109 - محمد فواز بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 11/11/1989  
110 - ناهي رماي بن محمد وملك 1989 11/11/1989  
111 - عايد عبيد بن صالح ووفيقه 1989 18/11/1989  
112 - أحمد أبو عيشة بن عبد الكوثر وآنس ووفيقه 1989 12/11/1989  
113 - عزابو عيشة بن مهدي وملك ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
114 - صالح محمد غريب بن الملك ووفيقه 1989 10/11/1989  
115 - عمر طبعوني بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
116 - رهنات مهدي عبيد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
117 - مرفق عدنان ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
118 - راجي ادريس بن ياسين ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
119 - علي بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
120 - فراس عيون بن مهدي ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
121 - بشير موهان بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989

Handwritten list of names and dates in Arabic, continuing the recruitment or arrest record. The text is written in a cursive style on lined paper. A small logo is visible in the upper right corner of the page.

122 - محمد بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
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124 - محمد بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
125 - محمد بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
126 - محمد بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
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137 - محمد بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
138 - محمد بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
139 - محمد بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989  
140 - محمد بن محمد ووفيقه 1989 14/11/1989



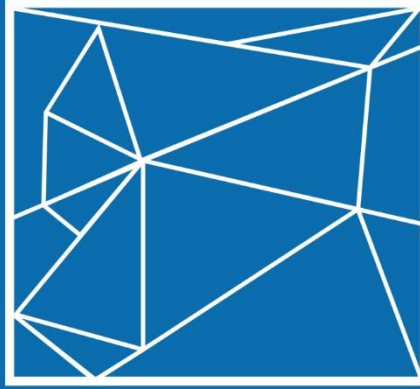




Photos showing the lists with the names of people requested for the reserve military service, hung inside Douma Police Station, which STJ was provided with by one of the eye witnesses it interviewed.



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## About Syrians for Truth and Justice:

**STJ** is an independent, nongovernmental organization whose members include Syrian human rights defenders, advocates and academics of different backgrounds and nationalities.

The initiative strives for SYRIA, where all Syrian citizens (females and males) have dignity, equality, justice and equal human rights.

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