

September 2021

سوريون
من أجل
الحقيقة
والعدالة
Syrians
For Truth
& Justice



Syria: 108 arrested in Olive Branch and Peace Spring Strips in August 2021

This report documents the arrests of 17 persons, one of whom died under torture, in Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê and Tal Abyad, and the arrests of an additional 91, among them women and children, in Afrin

Syria: 108 arrested in Olive Branch and Peace Spring Strips in August 2021

This report documents the arrests of 17 persons, one of whom died under torture, in Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê and Tal Abyad, and the arrests of an additional 91, among them women and children, in Afrin

Syrians for Truth and Justice (STJ) documented the arrest of at least 108 persons in August 2021. The arrests concentrated in the areas of Afrin, Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê and Tal Abyad, which are controlled by the Turkish army and affiliated factions of the opposition Syrian National Army (SNA).

In this report, STJ provides a detailed account of the 108 arrests, which included 14 women and four teenagers. Over the course of the documentation process, STJ recorded the death of one detainee under torture. Additionally, STJ registered the release of only 12 detainees, as of 5 September 2021, while the fate of the remaining 95, including the women and teenagers, continues to be unknown.

Notably, this report draws on two sets of evidence compiled by STJ and [Hevdestî](#) Association (Synergy) for the Victims of Turkish Military Offensives in Northeastern Syria. For its part, STJ relied on its network of researchers, civil sources, eyewitnesses, and sources from within the SNA to document arrests and releases across the three target areas, aggregating evidence and information into a designated database.

I. Arrests in the “Peace Spring” Strip

In the “Peace Spring” strip— including Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê and Tal Abyad, SNA-affiliated factions arrested at least 17 persons, among them two women and a teenager. One of the detainees died under torture, while the fate of the remaining 16 continues to be unknown.

1. Arrests in Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê

In Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê, STJ and Hevdesti verified the arrests of seven persons. One detainee died under torture and the other six remain unaccounted for.

1. Ali al-Ahmad, 35, was arrested on 1 August by the Civil Police while trying to illegally cross the border to Turkey. In detention, Ali was tortured by two Civil Police officers and was subsequently transferred to Ras al-Ayn Public Hospital on 2 August after his health deteriorated. He died at dawn on 3 August.
2. Khaled Saad Jebara, born in Raqqa in 2004, was arrested on 19 August from Mabrouka village by members of the Sultan Murad Division on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.” One of the eyewitnesses interviewed for this report said that Jebara is detained in the Souq al-Dajaj (Chicken market) Prison in Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê city.
3. Barjas Hakim al-Nafel, born in Raqqa in 1982, was arrested on 25 August from Mabrouka village by members of the Sultan Murad Division on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.”
4. Imad al-Abed al-Ali was arrested on 29 August by members of the Malek Shah Division. The documentation team could not obtain additional details on his arrest.
5. Khalil Halboushi was arrested in August from Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê city. The documentation team could not obtain additional details on his arrest.

6. Hajj Melhem al-Rada, born in al-Mayadin city in 1998, was arrested in August from Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê city by members of the al-Hamza/al-Hamzat Division on the charge of “bringing explosive materials into the city.” Notably, the detainee is a construction worker.
7. Ahmad Ali al-Sanad, born in Manbij city in 1990, was arrested in August from Mabrouka village by members of the Sultan Murad Division on the charge of “smuggling civilians” between areas held by the SNA and those controlled by the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF).

In addition to these seven cases, Hevdesti is currently working on verifying another 15 arrests perpetrated by the Military Police in Ras al-Ayn/Serê Kaniyê city. The detainees were arrested for allegedly attempting to illegally cross into Turkey.

2. Arrests in Tal Abyad

In Tal Abyad, field researchers with STJ documented the arrests of 10 people, including two women and a teenager, by several factions operating in the area. All 10 detainees remain unaccounted for.

1. Saradar Asem al-Hadad, born in Kobani/Ayn al-Arab city in 1991, was arrested on 1 August from Suluk city by members of the Ahrar al-Sharqiya faction on the charge of “dealing with the SDF.” The detainee worked as a nurse at the Suluk Public Hospital.
2. Murhaf Ahmad Hajj Hassan, born in Deir ez-Zor city in 1999, was arrested on 8 August on the road between Suluk city and Hamam al-Turkeman town by members of the Ahrar al-Sharqiya faction on the charge of “smuggling food and fodder to SDF-held areas.” The detainee worked as a truck driver and was arrested while transferring a fodder shipment between the two areas.
3. Maya Khalaf al-Khalil was arrested on 12 August from Tal Abyad city by members of the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
4. Rawda Abed al-Ahmad was arrested on 12 August from Tal Abyad city by members of the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
5. Azmi Bandar al-Mawla, born in Raqqa city in 1990, was arrested on 14 August from Tal Abyad city by members of the Glory Corps/Faylaq al-Majd on the charge of “transferring wheat to areas controlled by the Syrian government.” One of the eyewitnesses interviewed for this report said that al-Mawla is detained at the Corps’ headquarters on al-Mahatta Street in Tal Abyad city.
6. Hatem Ghassan Munif, born in Deir ez-Zor city in 1996, was arrested on 24 August from Ain al-Arous town by members of the al-Shamiya Front/al-Jabha al-Shamiya on the charge of “working for the Syrian government.” One of the eyewitnesses interviewed for this report said that Munif is detained at the Ain al-Arous Central Prison.
7. Saad Basel al-Wayli, born in Ain Issa city, north of Raqqa province, in 2000, was arrested in August from Tal Abyad city by members of the al-Shamiya Front/al-Jabha al-Shamiya on the charge of “spying for the SDF.” One of the eyewitnesses interviewed

for this report said that al-Wayli is detained at the Front's headquarters, located near the Tal Abyad Courthouse.

8. Abdulaziz Muhammad al-Marandi, born in Raqqa in 2000, was arrested in August by members of the al-Shamiya Front/al-Jabha al-Shamiya while trying to illegally enter Turkey. One of the eyewitnesses interviewed for this report said that al-Marandi is detained at the Ain al-Arous Central Prison.
9. Hadi Nader al-Dandal, born in Tabqa city in 1995, was arrested in August by members of the Ahrar al-Sharqiya faction on the charge of "dealing with the Autonomous Administration." One of the eyewitnesses interviewed for this report said that al-Dandal is detained at the faction's headquarters, located in al-Ali village near Tal Abyad.
10. Hassan Mansour al-Hassan, born in Raqqa city in 2001, was arrested in August by members of the Glory Corps/Faylaq al-Majd on the charge of "dealing with the Autonomous Administration." One of the eyewitnesses interviewed for this report said that al-Hassan was arrested while trying to illegally enter Turkey.

II. Arrests in the "Olive Branch" Strip

In Afrin region, field researchers with STJ documented the arrests of at least 91 persons, among them 14 women and three teenagers, by several SNA-affiliated factions. Only 12 detainees were released, while the fate of the other 79 remains unknown.

Analyzing August arrest figures, STJ recorded a marked increase in arrests in Afrin compared to the previous three months.

1. Arrests in Afrin District

In Afrin district, the Military Police arrested six men and two women. All seven detainees remain unaccounted for.

1. Hamid Zaki Hassan, 21, was arrested on 1 August from al-Ziyarah village by the Military Police on the charge of "dealing with the Autonomous Administration." His fate remains unknown.
2. Ibrahim Khalil Sheikho was arrested on 6 August from Faftertin village by the Military Police on the charge of "dealing with the Autonomous Administration." His fate remains unknown.
3. Marwan Sheikho Ali was arrested on 6 August from Faftertin village by the Military Police on the charge of "dealing with the Autonomous Administration." His fate remains unknown.
4. Delfin Jamil Othman was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police on the charge of "dealing with the Autonomous Administration." Her fate remains unknown.

5. Fatima Jamil Othman was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.” Her fate remains unknown.
6. Mustafa Muhammad Ali was arrested on 13 August from Afrin city by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
7. Hikmat Amin was arrested on 15 August from Afrin city by the Military Police on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.” His fate remains unknown.
8. Mousa Hamou was arrested on 24 August from Afrin city by the Military Police on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.” His fate remains unknown.

2. Arrests in Rajo District

In Rajo district, the Military Police arrested 11 persons, among them two teenagers. Only one detainee was released, while the remaining 10 remain unaccounted for.

1. Hanif Brimou, 60, was arrested on 1 August from Koran village by the Military Police on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.” His fate remains unknown.
2. Khaled Hussein Mustafa, 45, was arrested on 5 August from Musako/Māskānlī village by the Military Police on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.” His fate remains unknown.
3. Sharif Akash Qanbar, 30, was arrested on 7 August from Midana village by the Military Police on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.” His fate remains unknown.
4. Ali Muhammad Shaaban, 42, was arrested on 10 August from Mamlo Oshagy village by the Military Police on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.” His fate remains unknown.
5. Abdo Khlail, 50, was arrested on 10 August from Mamlo Oshagy village by the Military Police on the charge of “dealing with the Autonomous Administration.” His fate remains unknown.
6. Muhammad Khlail, 70, was arrested on 10 August from Mamlo Oshagy village by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.
7. Khlail Mustafa Sheikho, 48, was arrested on 14 August from Kosa/Kousanly village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
8. Khlail Sido, 42, was arrested on 23 August from Maydān Akbis village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
9. Abdo Shaaban, 38, was arrested on 23 August from Maydān Akbis village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
10. Teenager Abdo Shaaban, 15, was arrested on 23 August from Maydān Akbis village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
11. Teenager Hussein Ali, 16, was arrested on 23 August from Maydān Akbis village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.

3. Arrests in Bulbul District

In Bulbul district, the Military Police arrested nine men and a woman. Four of the male detainees, in addition to the woman, were released, while the other five remain unaccounted for.

1. Muhammad Khilail Hajj Hussein, 40, was arrested on 2 August from Khalil village by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.
2. Nazliyah Khilail Hamou was arrested on 2 August from Khalil village by the Military Police. She was subsequently released.
3. Salah Rashou Khityar, 38, was arrested on 7 August from Khalil village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
4. Salah Rashid Horou, 37, was arrested on 7 August from Khalil village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
5. Azad Hourik Habel, 27, was arrested on 7 August from Khalil village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
6. Kawa Ali Ma'mo, 37, was arrested on 12 August from Kêla/Kila village by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.
7. Hassan Ahmad Sido, 56, was arrested on 12 August from Kêla/Kila village by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.
8. Jalal Abdullah, 26, was arrested on 29 August from Aboudan village by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.
9. Jalal Abdullah al-Ibrahim, 28, was arrested on 30 August from Aboudan village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
10. Mannan Ahmad Bayram, 42, was arrested on 31 August from Kêla/Kila village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.

4. Arrests in Maabatli/Mabeta District

In Maabatli/Mabeta district, the Military Police arrested 11 persons, including two women. Only three detainees, including one woman, were released, while the other eight remain unaccounted for.

1. Adnan Othman Shalik, 38, was arrested on 1 August from Maasarke village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
2. Dilyar Muhammad Othman was arrested on 18 August from Ifraza village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
3. Faek Abdo Mustafa was arrested on 20 August from Maasarke village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
4. Muhammad Mustafa Hamou, 23, was arrested on 23 August from Brimice village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
5. Salah Ali Ali, 30, was arrested on 23 August from Brimice village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
6. Hawzan Aziz was arrested on 24 August from kurkê/Kourkan village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.

7. Mustafa Mahmoud Mustafa, 40, was arrested on 25 August from Shaikhotka village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
8. Farouk Hannan Kousra, 64, was arrested on 25 August from Shaikhotka village by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.
9. Imad Ahmad Bahbo, 35, was arrested on 25 August from Shaikhotka village by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.
10. Haivin Abdin Gharibo, 20, was arrested on 29 August from Be'dîna/Baadina village by the Military Police. She was subsequently released.
11. Lina Zakaray Ebesh, 22, was arrested on 29 August from Be'dîna/Baadina village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.

5. Arrests in Sharran District

In Sharran district, the Military Police arrested 24 persons, including five women and a teenage girl. Only two men were released, while the other 22 detainees remain unaccounted for.

1. Lutfi Mustafa Omar, 37, was arrested on 8 August from Ikidam village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
2. Akid Shabab, 28, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
3. Khalil Aref Malla was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.
4. Barakat Muhammad Barakat was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
5. Lukman Sheikh Ahmad, 51, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
6. Muhammad Sheikh Ahmad, 20, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
7. Abdin Ali Shabab was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
8. Adnan Barakat, 48, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
9. Adnan Mustafa, 55, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
10. Ahmad Adnan Mustafa, 26, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
11. Lukman Hamada, 20, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
12. Ebesh Barakat, 20, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
13. Soulin Barakat, 14, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.

14. Ruwaida Suleiman was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
15. Muhammad Barakat, 60, was arrested on 10 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
16. Mazkin Osso, 45, was arrested on 13 August from Qastal Kishk village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
17. Haivin Osso, 39, was arrested on 13 August from Qastal Kishk village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
18. Adnan Sheikh Ahmad was arrested on 15 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
19. Aisha Alo, 81, was arrested on 16 August from Qatmah village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
20. Rashid Alo, 60, was arrested on 16 August from Qatmah village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
21. Fatima Muhammad Tawil was arrested on 22 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
22. Ruwaida Barakat was arrested on 22 August from Qartiqlaq village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
23. Muhammad Muhammad Bahri was arrested on 29 August from Gobeleke village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
24. Mustafa Baker Baker, 19, was arrested on 29 August from Darwish village by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.

6. Arrests in Shaykh al-Hadid

In Shaykh al-Hadid district, the Military Police arrested 12 persons, including a woman. Only one detainee was released, while the other 11 remain unaccounted for.

1. Ali Hassan Khalil, 40, was arrested on 1 August from Maghar Jaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
2. Muhammad Jamil Sheikho was arrested on 2 August from Shaykh al-Hadid town by the Military Police. He was subsequently released.
3. Muhammad Jamil Sheikho, 20, was arrested on 19 August from Hekja town by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
4. Abdo Hannan Sabri, 21, was arrested on 19 August from Hekja town by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
5. Shairhat Zaim Hassan, 27, was arrested on 19 August from Hekja town by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
6. Ali Yousef Khlaif, 40, was arrested on 19 August from Hekja town by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
7. Hussein Atiya Saloum, 30, was arrested on 19 August from Hekja town by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
8. Muhammad Khalilo was arrested on 19 August from Maghar Jaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.

9. Ali Khalilo, 37, was arrested on 19 August from Maghar Jaq village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
10. Maraym Khalilo, 30, was arrested on 19 August from Maghar Jaq village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
11. Azad Kamal Hassan, 32, was arrested on 31 August from Anqele village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
12. Aref Muhammad Shukri, 32, was arrested on 31 August from Anqele village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.

7. Arrests in Jindires District

In Jindires district, the Military Police arrested 15 persons, including three women. All 15 detainees remain unaccounted for.

1. Abdulqader Abdalnaser was arrested on 1 August from Kafr Dali village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
2. Muhammad Walid Hassan was arrested on 5 August from Jindires town by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
3. Shukri Ahmad Kanadi, 30, was arrested on 7 August from Hamam village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
4. Azad Fadel Arabo, 41, was arrested on 10 August from Celemê village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
5. Ali Baker Alo, 42, was arrested on 10 August from Celemê village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
6. Ibrahim Khaled Alo, 35, was arrested on 10 August from Celemê village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
7. Dalil Muhammad Kadlo, 40, was arrested on 10 August from Celemê village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
8. Haider Al Amo was arrested on 11 August from Ramadiyah village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
9. Ismat Ahmad Khalil was arrested on 12 August from Satya village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
10. Mustafa Muhammad Majid was arrested on 12 August from Kafr Safra village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
11. Haytham Sheikho Sheikho, 40, was arrested on 14 August from Celemê village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
12. Rukan Mustafa Sheikho, 24, was arrested on 14 August from Celemê village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
13. Juwan Mustafa Sheikho, 18, was arrested on 14 August from Celemê village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.
14. Roujin Enayat was arrested on 24 August from Khalta village by the Military Police. Her fate remains unknown.
15. Mustafa Sheikho was arrested on 29 August from Celemê village by the Military Police. His fate remains unknown.



History

Syrians for Truth and Justice was conceived during the participation of its co-founder in the Middle-East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Leaders for Democracy Fellowship program, who was driven by a will to contribute to Syria's future. Starting as a humble project to tell the stories of Syrians experiencing enforced disappearances and torture, it grew into an established organisation committed to unveiling human rights violations of all sorts.

Convinced that the diversity that has historically defined Syria is a wealth, our team of researchers and volunteers works with dedication at uncovering human rights violations committed in Syria, in order to promote inclusiveness and ensure that all Syrians are represented, and their rights fulfilled.

-
- 🌐 www.stj-sy.org
 - 📘 [syriaSTJ](https://www.facebook.com/syriaSTJ)
 - 🐦 [@STJ_SYRIA_ENG](https://twitter.com/STJ_SYRIA_ENG)
 - 📷 [Syrians for Truth & Justice](https://www.instagram.com/Syrians_for_Truth_Justice)
 - ✉ editor@stj-sy.org