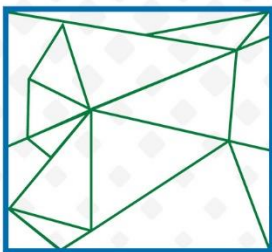


Afrin: Al-Sham Legion Tortured a Civilian to Death



سوريون
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For Truth
& Justice



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Afrin: Al-Sham Legion Tortured a Civilian to Death

Abdulrazaq al-Nuaimi was beaten to death by members of an armed opposition faction, making him the second man tortured to death by armed factions in the area in 2022

On 25 February 2022, local activists posted several photos on social media of a dead body displaying brutal marks of torture. Field researchers with Syrians for Truth and Justice (STJ) followed leads on footage and discovered that the victim in the photos was Abdulrazaq Trad al-Obaid al-Nuaimi, a civilian displaced from Hama province.

Al-Nuaimi was detained in one of the security centers of al-Sham Legion/Faylaq al-Sham in Afrin region, where he was tortured to death.

Addressing the photos on the same day, the legion published a statement confessing to the torture and subsequent death of al-Nuaimi in a detention center affiliated with its security administration. The faction stressed that they handed over the body of the victim to his family, with evident torture marks. The faction added:

“We decry the practice . . . we have arrested the interrogation committee and the members in charge of the detention center where the crime occurred. They were delivered to the military judiciary . . . with the aim of achieving full justice.”

Notably, this is the second case of faction brutality that STJ documents in Afrin in 2022. Previously in February, STJ published a detailed [report](#) verifying the torture and death of a civilian, Rezan Khalil, at the hands of the Tajammu Ahrar al-Sharqiya/Gathering of Free Men of the East, which operates under the Turkey-backed Syrian National Army (SNA).

Death of al-Nuaimi

Abdulrazaq Trad al-Obaid al-Nuaimi, known as Abu al-Auf, escaped his hometown [Marzaf](#) in Hama’s countryside and settled down in Afrin region after it was controlled by the Turkish Army and the SNA.

Al-Nuaimi used to live in [Celemê](#)/Jelemah village, in Jindires district, administratively affiliated to Afrin region.

He worked in the car trade and ran his business from an office in Jindires town.

On 24 February, around 10:00 a.m., al-Nuaimi was arrested while on his way from home in Celemê/Jelemah village to his office in Jindires town. His phone remained out of coverage until 3:00 p.m. when a member of the legion used the victim’s phone and called one of his family members. The faction member said that they had arrested al-Nuaimi, he was being interrogated, and he would be released soon.

Al-Nuaimi was held in one of the legion’s [centers](#)¹ near the archeological Tell Jindires (Jindirir Hilltop). The center is a house belonging to one of the area’s original residents, Khojah Ziebee. The house was seized during the Turkey-led Operation Olive Branch in 2018.

The faction accused al-Nuaimi of working for the People’s Protection Units (YPG) in the al-Shahbaa area, which cannot be true because the YPG had arrested al-Nuaimi before.

According to a relative of the victim, the true reason behind al-Nuaimi’s arrest was that he was late on paying the faction the monthly tax/royalty it imposed on the residents living in the areas they control.

¹ Coordinates: 36.38777965722025, 36.69010468861586

The relative added that al-Nuaimi had never been late on payment before.

At the dawn of Friday, 24 February, the faction delivered the dead body of the victim, with clear marks of marks, to the Military Police. Later, the police informed the family and handed them the body.

Photos of the body went viral on social media, showing undeniable marks of torture, mostly on the back, thighs, and legs, in addition to bruises and traces of shackles around the wrists and feet.

In a circulated voice note, a relative of the victim said that the forensic report confirmed that the victim was electrocuted on his genitals and anus, which caused his death.

Annexes



Image (1)- Victim Abdulrazaq Trad al-Obaid al-Nuaimi before his death.



Image (2)- Abdulrazaq Trad al-Obaid al-Nuaimi after his death.



Image (3)- Dead body of the victim Abdulrazaq Trad al-Obaid al-Nuaimi, with torture marks on his back.



Image (4)- Dead body of the victim Abdulrazaq Trad al-Obaid al-Nuaimi, with torture marks on his left thigh.



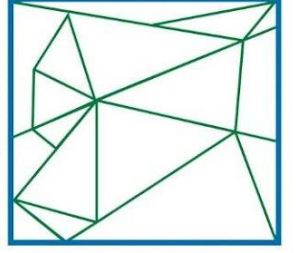
Image (5)- Dead body of the victim Abdulrazaq Trad al-Obaid al-Nuaimi, with torture marks on the feet.



Image (6)- Dead body of the victim Abdulrazaq Trad al-Obaid al-Nuaimi, with torture marks along his thighs and legs.



Image (6) - Copy of the statement published by the al-Sham Legion/Faylaq al-Sham following the death of Abdulrazaq Trad al-Obaid al-Nuaimi, saying that they had referred the perpetrators to judiciary.



About Us:

Syrians for Truth and Justice (STJ) is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization monitoring human rights violations in Syria. Founded in 2015, STJ has been based in France since 2019.

STJ is an impartial and independent Syrian human rights organization operating across Syria. Our network of field researchers monitor and report human rights violations occurring on the ground in Syria, while our international team of human rights experts, lawyers, and journalists gather evidence, examine emerging patterns of violations, and analyze how violations break domestic Syrian and international law.

We are committed to documenting violations of human rights committed by all parties in the Syrian conflict and elevating the voices of all Syrians victimized by human rights violations, regardless of their ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, class, and/or gender. Our commitment to human rights monitoring is founded on the idea that professional human rights documentation meeting international standards is the first step to uncovering the truth and achieving justice in Syria.



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EDITOR@STJ-SY.ORG