



Death Penalty

a road paved
with Torture

December
2022

A human rights\ legal report
monitors all violations related to the
death penalty in Egypt and some of
the Middle Eastern countries.

Published on the Human Rights Day

By: Justice foundation for Human Rights.



Execution is a path paved with Torture

Human Rights report on the Death Penalty in Egypt and some Middle
Eastern countries

Published on the Human Rights Day

Countries: Egypt - Saudi Arabia – Iran

DECEMBER 2022

A report by\ **Justice foundation for Human Rights- JHR**

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Justice foundation for Human Rights- JHR

An independent, non-governmental human rights foundation that supports justice and the protection of human rights, acts in accordance with the rules, mechanisms and working systems of international organizations, and that has considerable partnership with the organizations concerned.

The Foundation's objective is to combat the death penalty in Egypt and the world, to protect and promote human rights in accordance with international standards adopted by the United Nations and relevant international covenants and conventions, and to support and defend the oppressed.

<https://www.jhrngo.net>

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Introduction

Execution is a path paved with torture. In all or most of the executions - torture is systematically inflicted on victims before they're sentenced to death or executed. From the moment of arbitrary detention, the victim is physically and mentally harmed and subject to cruel and degrading treatment. When investigated and interrogated, the purpose of the interrogation is to force the victim to confess, starting with detaining him in inappropriate places, whether in prison or in any other place of detention. Another form of torture is often practiced against the death row convict - by denying him visits, communicating with his family, and medical and health care. The path of those sentenced to death is paved with torture even after the sentence is pronounced, so they are held in a private place, waiting to die at any moment.

Twenty years have passed since the establishment of the International Coalition against the Death Penalty, the cruel punishment that is abused by governments and states that still apply it, especially in cases with a criminal appearance, and a political reality. In such cases, sentences are intended to repress civilian politicians opposed to governments. This is especially true in the Middle East, where three countries are in the top five executioners worldwide: Iran, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia - Iran -after China- is ranked second, Egypt is ranked third for two consecutive years, and Saudi Arabia is ranked fourth.¹

It is imperative that the issuance of death sentences, rather than their execution, be surrounded by legal and judicial guarantees - which must be respected and observed. This requires a fair and independent judiciary, which is non-existent in light of political disputes and the ruling of the executive power over the judiciary.

JHR is keen to affirm its position against the death penalty and those unfair sentences which violate fair trial guarantees, in line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states that the death penalty is the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment.

The International Coalition Against the Death Penalty has dedicated the 20th anniversary to saying that execution is a path paved with torture. That's why we have dedicated this report on this international occasion - to talking about the death penalty in Egypt and some of the Middle East countries that are classified globally as being among the top executioners, because of the increasing cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment of people sentenced to death.

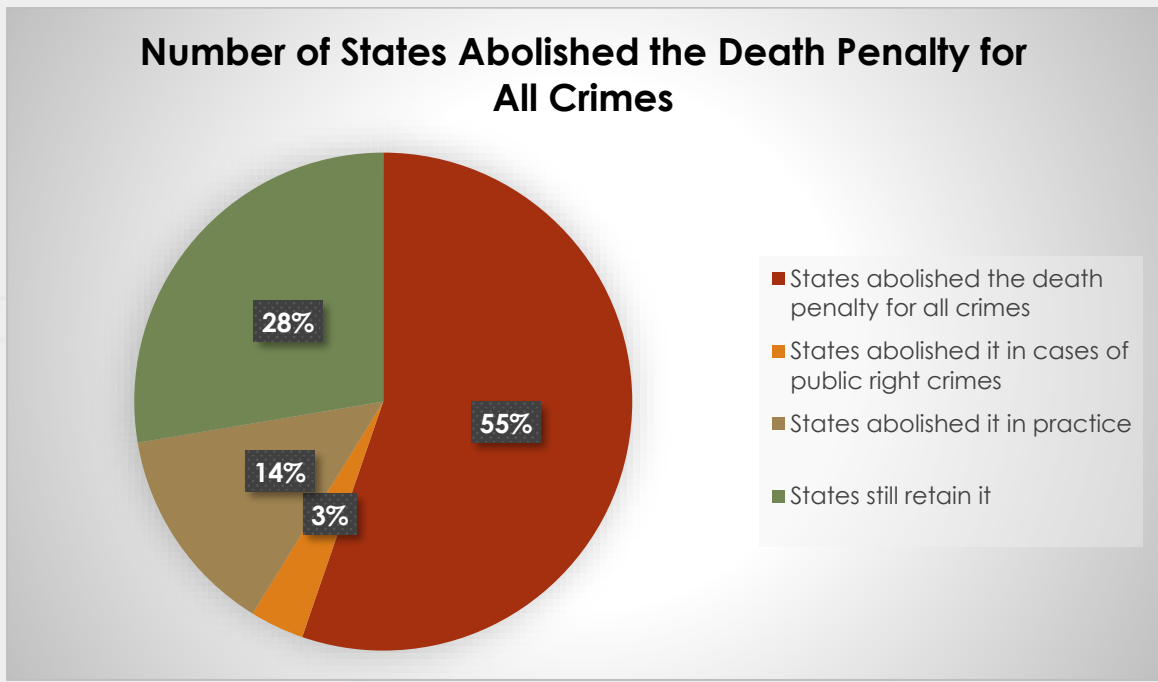
¹ Amnesty International Link

Report Methodology:

- This human rights report is part of a global international event; the International Day Against the Death Penalty.
- It focuses on the death penalty in Egypt and some Middle Eastern countries so that the cases of political execution victims are kept in minds - to put more pressure on the perpetrators to stop or delay executions - or to abolish the penalty once and for all.
- The report provides an overview of death sentences in Egypt, Iran and Saudi Arabia through statistics that have been monitored - whether by our Monitoring and Documentation Unit, our sources at JHR, the media and websites of human rights organizations that monitored and documented executions in the countries in question, or through the International Coalition Against the Death Penalty.
- The report is based on the information and testimonies of the families of the victims, lawyers, 'monitoring and documentation' and 'research and studies units,' and some of the reports issued by a number of human rights organizations and official websites.
- The report aims to highlight the countries in question, because of the seriousness of the death penalty and to call on them to abolish, commute or suspend the sentences.

Amnesty International's Statistics on Death Penalty²

- **110** States have abolished the death penalty for all crimes.
- **7** States have abolished the death penalty in cases of public right crimes.
- **27** States have abolished the death penalty in practice.
- **55** States still retain the death penalty.
- The top five executioners in 2021 are, in order: China, Iran, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria.



² <https://worldcoalition.org/ar/campagne/%d8%a7%d9%84%d8%af%d9%88%d8%b1%d8%a9-%d8%a7%d9%84%d8%b9%d8%b4%d8%b1%d9%88%d9%86-%d9%84%d9%84%d9%8a%d9%88%d9%85-%d8%a7%d9%84%d8%b9%d8%a7%d9%84%d9%85%d9%8a-%d9%84%d9%85%d9%86%d8%a7%d9%87%d8%b6%d8%a9/>

Overview of death sentences in Egypt and some Middle Eastern countries

Egypt

- Executions are considered one of the means of political retaliation against opponents of the Egyptian government, as Egypt was ranked by the International Coalition Against the Death Penalty among the first five countries who have implemented executions in the world, along with Saudi Arabia, Iran, China, and Syria.³
- The Egyptian judiciary, both civil and military, has been issuing death sentences, more than 1600 sentences, in cases of a political nature for nine years.
- 105 victims have been executed over the past years in political cases.
- Currently, 95 civilians are on death row after being sentenced to final, enforceable judgments handed down by a non-independent judiciary.

Extraordinary Judiciary:

- Death sentences in Egypt are issued by an extraordinary judiciary, contrary to the Egyptian constitution and international covenants and conventions – by the so-called Terrorism Chambers, Military Courts, or Emergency State Security Courts.
- The decision to establish the Extraordinary Terrorism Chambers was taken in contravention of the decision of the General Assembly of the Judges of the Court of Appeal to distribute the judicial work in accordance with the Judicial Authority Act No. 46 of 1972.

³ according to the Amnesty International

- Civilians have also been sentenced to death by military courts⁴.
- When the emergency law was activated, final sentences were issued by the Emergency Supreme State Security Courts allowing no appeal before the Court of Cassation⁵.
- Defendants in political cases have been subject to numerous violations of Egyptian law, constitution and international treaties such as arbitrary arrests and detentions - enforced disappearance: arrest, detention or abduction - torture and forced confessions, not to be tried before their natural judge, but before an exceptional judiciary.

Holding of Trial Sessions at Ministry of Interior Headquarters:

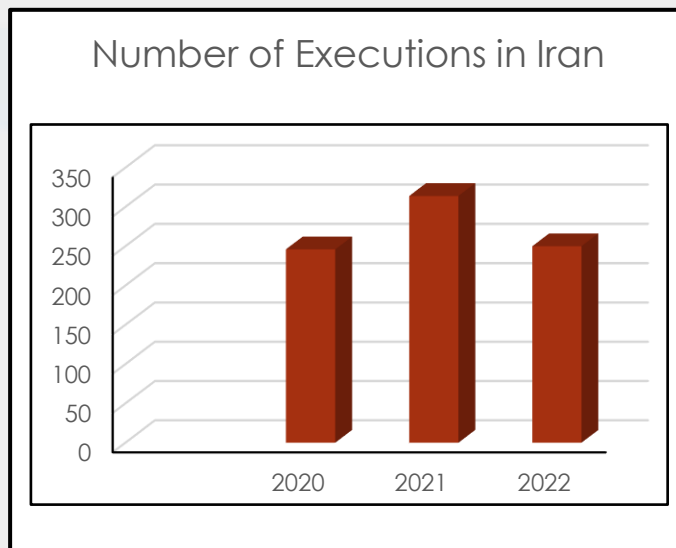
- Since July 2013, the out-of-court hearings have been held either at the Police Academy headquarters or at the Tora Police Secretaries Institute - south of Cairo, which is part of the Egyptian Ministry of Interior -, contrary to the principle of judicial independence. In addition, a number of lawyers and relatives of defendants have been denied their right to attend the hearings unless with an official permission that mostly isn't easy to get.

⁴ "Military Courts in Egypt - Extraordinary courts are conducted by a court composed of military personnel, to try and adjudicate crimes referred by the public prosecutor's office."

⁵ Egypt's state of emergency lasted eight years before being lifted a year ago.

Iran

- It's ranked the second top executioner (globally).
- In 2021, there was a worrying spike in executions and death sentences, said by Amnesty International.
- At least 314 citizens were executed in 2021 (compared to at least 246 in 2020), the highest execution rate since 2017.
- Roya Boromand, executive director of the US-based Abdolrahman Boromand Center for Human Rights in Iran, says: "There is no prison sentence for murder in Iran; either you're forgiven or executed."



Saudi Arabia

- Saudi Arabia in general is experiencing a situation of restrictions on all rights and freedoms, in particular the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly.
- Activists, human rights defenders, and anyone who criticizes the ruling authority - as well as women's rights activists are arrested frequently.
- There are also security campaigns to arrest many of Saudi Shia for expressing their opposition to the Saudi regime.
- Some have been subject to unfair trial - some have been sentenced to prison under the Anti-Terrorism Law, and some have been sentenced to death, whether been executed already or still on death row.
- It's ranked the fourth top executioner (globally).
- In 2020, a Royal Decree announced an end to the use of the death penalty against persons under 18 years of age at the time of the crime, but only in cases of aggravating circumstances unrelated to the Anti-Terrorism Law. The decree did not specify whether it's applied to minors sentenced for blasphemous crimes (those punishable by fixed and severe penalties under sharia law) or crimes punishable by retribution. The royal decree falls short of fulfilling Saudi Arabia's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Death penalty in Egyptian legislation

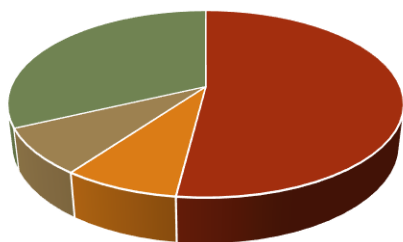
- There are **105** crimes punishable by death in Egyptian Legislation - The Egyptian legislator extensively established the death penalty as a cruel punishment, especially when he included acts that do not fall within the scope of the most serious crimes.
- **Laws containing acts and offenses which carry the maximum penalty of death:**
 - The Penal Code No. 58 of 1937 and the amendments thereof.
 - The Military Provisions Act No. 25 of 1966.
 - The Arms and Ammunition Act No. 394 of 1954.
 - The Drug Control Act No. 182 of 1960.
- Most of these crimes and acts do not fall within the scope of the most serious crimes as per international conventions to which Egypt is a signatory. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) - Article 6, paragraph 2, states that "states that have not yet abolished the death penalty should apply it only to the "most serious crimes." Therefore, the most serious crime is murder. Many of the provisions that establish the death penalty in Egypt are a clear departure from the principle of "legality of crimes and punishments" by not establishing a precise and specific definition of a criminal act that "itself constitutes a crime" punishable by death.
- There are also crimes in which the legislature did not define precisely what constitutes capital punishment, but merely described it in very broad terms.
 - Article 77 of the Penal Code stipulates that: "Anyone who intentionally commits an act that undermines the independence, unity or territorial integrity of the country shall be sentenced to death."
 - "Article 26/Last paragraph of the Arms and Ammunition Act" punishes the death penalty if the possession of arms, ammunition or explosives is intended to be used in any activity that violates public security and order and violates the system of government and the principles of the Constitution or the statutes of the social body, national unity or social peace.

- Article 26/ Last paragraph of the Arms and Ammunition Act states that the death penalty shall be imposed if the possession of arms, ammunition or explosives is intended for use in any activity that violates public security and order and violates the system of government and the principles of the Constitution or the statutes of the social body, national unity or social peace.

Executions in politically-related cases:

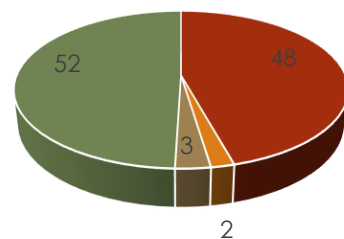
- In 25 cases - described as political - 105 civilians were executed by hanging⁶.
- 13 military cases - Civilians were sentenced to death by military courts, and sentences were carried out on 48 civilians.
- 2 cases were judged by Emergency State Security Courts – 2 civilians were executed.
- 2 cases were judged by ordinary criminal circuits - 3 civilians were executed.
- 8 cases from Extraordinary Chambers - Terrorism Chambers - 52 civilians were executed.

Number of cases



- Military cases
- Emergency State Security courts
- ordinary criminal circuits
- Terrorism Chambers

Number of Victims



- Military cases
- Emergency State Security courts
- ordinary criminal circuits
- Terrorism Chambers

⁶ The sentences were carried out during the years 2013-2022.

Execution: A Path paved with torture

- All or most executions are preceded by torture, in a systematic and widespread manner.
- Victims have been subject to torture after the arbitrary arrest, during investigations, at trial, before being sentence to death and even before execution.
- Victims are physically and emotionally abused.
- They are subject to cruel and degrading treatment.
- The interrogation is under torture to coerce the victims to confess.
- Detention facilities are not in legally appropriate places, whether in prison or in any place of detention where another form of torture is often practiced with the person sentenced to death - as follows:
 - Denied visits, or contact with family.
 - Denial of medical and health care, and medicine.
- The path of the death row convicts is paved by torture by holding them after they are sentenced, in a special place away from the rest of the defendants, awaiting death at any moment.

Some Victims who were Tortured then Executed

1- Ahmed Maher Al-Hindawy:

He was sentenced to death by hanging and executed in January 2019.

- On February 4th, 2015, he was arrested and forcibly disappeared for nine days.
- He was beaten, had cigarettes extinguished on his body, was threatened of being killed him and his family, and threatened with the arrest of his sister - she had been detained four months before his arrest to force him to surrender.

2- Al-Mu'tazz Billah Ghanim:

He was sentenced to death by hanging and executed in January 2019.

- In February 2015, he sent a letter from his prison titled "My Testimony After What Happened to Me and What Might Happen to Others," detailing the torture he was subject to, which forced him to confess to the crime;
- He said he was arrested at his home on the fourth day of Eid al-Adha, 11th October 2014, and when he arrived at the Mansoura First police station, his eyes were blindfolded and his hands tied behind his back. When asked about his connection to the murder, he denied any connection with the crime, and his punishment was, as he put it, lethal beatings and electric shocks in various parts of the body.
- The torture continued daily, but he was not blindfolded the following times, as described in his letter, so he was able to identify the officers who tortured him,
- They are: Officers/Sh.A., M.H., M.A.

3- Abdul Hameed Abdul Fattah Metwalli:

He was sentenced to death by hanging and executed in January 2019.

- On 28th December 2014, he was arrested at Borg al-Arab Airport in Alexandria Governorate and was forcibly disappeared for nearly nine days, during which he was severely tortured - according to his wife - by being severely beaten in certain places more than the rest of his body, such as the knee, shoulder, and back.

Kafr El-Sheikh Stadium- Military Case

Four victims were executed on the 2nd January 2018 after confessions under physical and moral torture, according to their families.

1- Lotfi Ibraheem Ismaeil Khalil:

After he was forcibly disappeared and in the first visit from his family in Tanta prison, Ghrabiya governorate, his mother saw the marks of torture on his body - he told her he had been threatened with death and assaulting his family to force him to confess to the crime. According to her - Military Intelligence interrogators tortured him (severely). He was stripped naked, forced to sleep on his stomach, and his body was electrocuted, including his genitals, according to his mother. He was placed in a room called a 'furnace,' where he was hung in the ceiling of this room by his legs, for long periods, forced into stress positions, like his hands tied behind his back and hung on the edge of the door from above. Yet he was executed after a journey of torture.

2- Ahmed Abd Al-Mone'm Salama Ali Salama

Ahmad Abdel Moneim Salama was arrested on 20th April 2015 from his workplace and then forcibly disappeared. On 6th May 2015, his family learned that he was at the Central Security Camp. They visited him, found him immobile, with a broken nose, and said to them "I almost died several times".

3- Ahmed Abd Al-Hady Mohamed Al-Sehimy

He was arrested on 14th April 2015, the day before the crime he is accused of.

His brother said: "He was with me when he was arrested in an ambush and I was released. My brother Ahmed has been forcibly disappeared. We have not been able to know where he is being held. After Ahmed appeared, he told us he was tortured, severely beaten, and treated harshly by the security forces.

4- Sameh Abdullah Mohamed Youssef

On 28 August 2015, Sameh Abdullah Mohamed Youssef was arrested at Cairo Airport while trying to travel, subject to enforced disappearance and torture before he was executed.

Victims of torture Sentenced to death in case No. 108 Military

Arbitrary Detention and Coercion to Confess Crimes:

- The military court issued its ruling on specific grounds, including confessions by some of the defendants in the case in violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.⁷
- The court was reassured by the veracity of the verdict of defendant Ahmed Mohammed Gabr, who was sentenced to life imprisonment, and defendant **Badreddine Mohamed Al-Gamal**, defendant **Ahmed Mohamed Al-Sayed Yakout**, and defendant **Azzam Ali Shehata** who are sentenced to death.
- Through testimonies and documents sent to our Monitoring and Documentation Team, the families of these defendants reported that all of them had been arbitrarily arrested and forcibly disappeared.
- They were also tortured, beaten and given electric shocks, to force them to confess to crimes they did not commit.
- The arbitrary arrest and enforced disappearance have been documented by official telegraphs to the authorities.⁸
- Enforced disappearance and torture were not only against the death row convicts, but also, according to victims' families, affected other defendants in this case.

⁷ Not to be compelled to testify against himself or to confess guilt." Article 14/3/g".

⁸ Note: Photocopies of these telegraphs are attached.

We have received letters in the handwriting of some of the families of the victims who have been sentenced to death and subject to torture, in which the following is stated:

Letter by the family of **Mahmoud Ismail Aly Ismail**, who is sentenced to death in person:

- Mahmoud was born on 1991/12/28, studied at the Faculty of Dar AI-Uloom in Menia. Then, he finished his military service, and he was known for his high morals during the military service period. He was arrested during his departure from work on 2016\3\11, and was taken to an unknown destination. Telegraphs were filed to the Attorney General, to the Minister of Justice, and to the Public Prosecutor. His whereabouts remained unknown for three months, and after that his body was filled of signs of severe torture and mutilation.

Letter by the family of **Ahmed Mohamed Abdel-Al Amin Al Deeb** “This is exactly how we received it”:

- He was kidnapped from his home at noon on 19\01\2015. We met him for the first time after that in the maximum security Scorpion ‘Aqrab prison’ in February 2015, when he told us that he was taken to the Directorate of Security of Alexandria, to "the fourth floor slaughterhouse"
- He was subject to electrocution all over his body.
- His body was full of cigarettes burns, and he was electrocuted in his head and neck until he fainted,
- Then, they pour cold water on him without clothes until he wakes up from his fainting in order to re-torture him again.
- There are signs of electrocution on the both sides of his head.
- On his first appearance on television on 27\01\2015, they tried to hide the burn marks in his neck by placing a cloth around it, in the case of 68 military which were on the same charges and the same judiciary for the military case 108.

Letter by the family of **Azzam Aly Shehata**, who is sentenced to death in person:

- The letter writer says: I speak about the moments I saw him the first time on 14\08\2015 in Bab Sharq police station in Alexandria after his disappearance for 23 days.
- He was kidnapped on Tuesday 21\07\2015 at 2:00 am.
- When I saw him the first time after that period of his enforced disappearances, I noticed that his body became very weak and he looked very tired.
- He has dark circles around his eyes, and he got a long beard.
- When I asked him what happened to him and if he was beaten?
- He hesitated to answer me because of security personnel standing beside us, almost stick to us, and the visit also was less than 3 minutes.
- So I asked him secretly to write what happened to him and give it to me in the next visit.
- And it happened in a very difficult way, the paper was written in a very bad handwriting because of the supervision that follows him all the time.
- He referred to what was written later during the days of bringing him before the military prosecution to renew his detention periods.
- He told me that when they arrested him he did not know where was he.
- And later he knew that he was in the directorate of security in Alexandria.
- They asked him —while he was blindfolded- to tell them everything concerning the "special operations" and when he said: «what do you mean by the special operations., they hit him on his face in a very bad way, cursed him by saying bad words about his mother and said we knew that you did so and so ... killings, bombings in many places."
- When he swore that he did not know anything about these accusations they hit him and left him for a while, then they repeated hitting him again.
- He faced various ways of torture, beatings on his face, electrocution, holding him from his feet, beatings with sticks on his body and letting him to sleep on the floor of the room for a lot of days without mattresses, cover, food or drink.
- They transferred him to several places outside Alexandria, such as Cairo and they never stop beating him to make him confess that he used to move between those places.
- He met other victims he didn't know, but later he knew them after he met them in the renewal of detention at the prosecution's office and in the trial's hearings.
- When he denied being in these places, they threatened him by killing him and throwing his body in the desert.

- He also told me that when he was taken to the military prosecutor's office, the state security officer (who he thinks is the one who interrogated him, as he was blindfolded) said dismissively; “Do you know why we try you in a military case, Azzam? To execute you!!”

Letter by the family of **Badr Al-Deen Al-gamal**, who is sentenced to death:

- Badr Al-Deen family says he was arrested in the Agami area in Alexandria on 11\11\2015, immediately after his wedding.
- As he was riding a car to go home with his bride, a minibus and a police car got in the way of the participants of the celebration.
- Officers in plain clothes kidnapped him, according to what the family reported - which was denied in the media by sources in the Security Directorate of Alexandria.
- However, his family has submitted official communications through the Telegraph to the public prosecutor and all official authorities to prove the incident of the enforced disappearance, which was witnessed by many people.
- He was tortured by beatings and electrocution and he was forced to confess crimes he did not commit.

Some Victims of Torture in Raba'a Case, Sentenced to Death

1- D. Abdul Rahman al-Barr:

- Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdel Hamid al-Barr, a university professor - former dean of Al-Azhar University's College of Fundamentals of Religion - was sentenced to death in the high-profile case of the Rabaa dispersal.
- He was tortured and stated this during his trial.⁹
- Date: May 31st, 2016
- Video duration: 1.33 min.
- Venue: Tora Police Secretaries Institute
- Court: Presided by Counsellor Hassan Farid.
- He said in the video:
 - "I was arrested on 01\06\2015 before I was thrown to -Guantanamo Bay like prison- in Scorpion prison after twenty-one nights. For twenty-one consecutive nights, I was blindfolded, and handcuffed sometimes behind my back and sometimes in front."
 - "...I was forced to sleep on the floor, and my face to the wall prevented from saying any word except "O Pasha", so that I could call someone to come take me."
 - "...For more than 500 hours, I was being subject to this torture."
 - What hurt me the most wasn't the torture or the humiliation; it was that all the officers responsible for the torture kept saying: " We have everything in this country, the judiciary, we own it, we have the world, we sentenced you to death, don't think that the judge is the one who will sentence you to death and dismiss you from your position, we are the ones in control."

⁹ The source is Masr Alarabia channel on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NW3iTpgl33E>

2- D. Ahmed Mohamed Arif sentenced to death in the case - known in the media as - The dispersal of the Rabaa sit-in, tells the court about the torture he suffered.¹⁰

- Duration: 2.27 minutes
- Date: May 20th, 2017
- Location: Cairo Criminal Court headed by Counselor Hassan Farid
- Dr. Ahmad Arif's speech:
 - "I'll talk about the torture signs and evidence. A year ago, I stood here to tell you, your honor, about the systemic torture inside Scorpion Prison, and you asked me about the signs and evidence, I didn't get the chance then and our talk was cut. Now, I'll talk about what happened on 2nd of current May, 2017, as it's latterly a massacre. I can say that torture before the 2nd May was the tolerable torture, and what came after that date was the hideous torture..."
 - I ask the judge (pointing at the judge) to allow the extraction of the Scorpion prison surveillance cameras' video of that date from 7 pm to 12 pm. What happened is that a group of brigades and senior ranks, accompanied by a special operations force and many security forces with police dogs which were left to bite the detainees and by accident have bitten some of the forces too, entered the cell space in which we lived in solitary confinement, which has no windows for sun, for four years. The security personnel, then used sticks and electric detonators, all of this was recorded by audio and video, and blood was spilled in front of my cell, then incendiary chemicals were released that burned the faces of some and its smell is still in prison. We all inhaled these chemicals; I could not catch my breath for 3 hours.
 - All of this happened after they starved us and prevented us from eating or drinking by taking away all the food and water leaving only crumbs. Why did they do that? Because they want us to abandon our beliefs and state whatever they want us to say. We will never say what they want. They told us if we didn't say the statement by choice, they'll continue practicing all these violations all the time. We won't be subject to any political blackmail or bargaining for food or even water."

¹⁰ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIYdc9X1l9k&t=1s>

Examples of Execution Victims – Who were Tortured and Forced to Confess

- 9 Citizens Sentenced to death by the Emergency Court - Rashid bus case.

1. Mohamed Mohsen Suwaidan.
2. Maher Abdel Moneim Abul Hassan.
3. Maher Abdel Hamid Abdel Hamid.
4. Abdel Hadi Al-Sayed Al-Zayat.
5. Ayman Ibrahim Malek.
6. Ahmed Adel Al-Zari.
7. Al-Mu'tasim Billah Adel Al-Zari.
8. Mohamed Mohamed Al-Wali.
9. Saad Fathallah Mohamed Al-Haddad.

All of them were subject to arbitrary arrest, enforced disappearance, physical and moral torture, cruel treatment, forced confession, and trial before a single-degree court whose judgment cannot be challenged "Emergency State Security Courts."

Six young men have been sentenced to death in the Guardian case:

1. Khaled Refaat Gad Askar.
2. Ibrahim Yehia Abd El-Fattah Azab.
3. Ahmed Al-Walid Al-Sayed.
4. Abdel Rahman Mohamed Abdou Attiya.
5. Bassem Mohsen Khuraibi.
6. Mahmoud Mamdouh Wehbah.

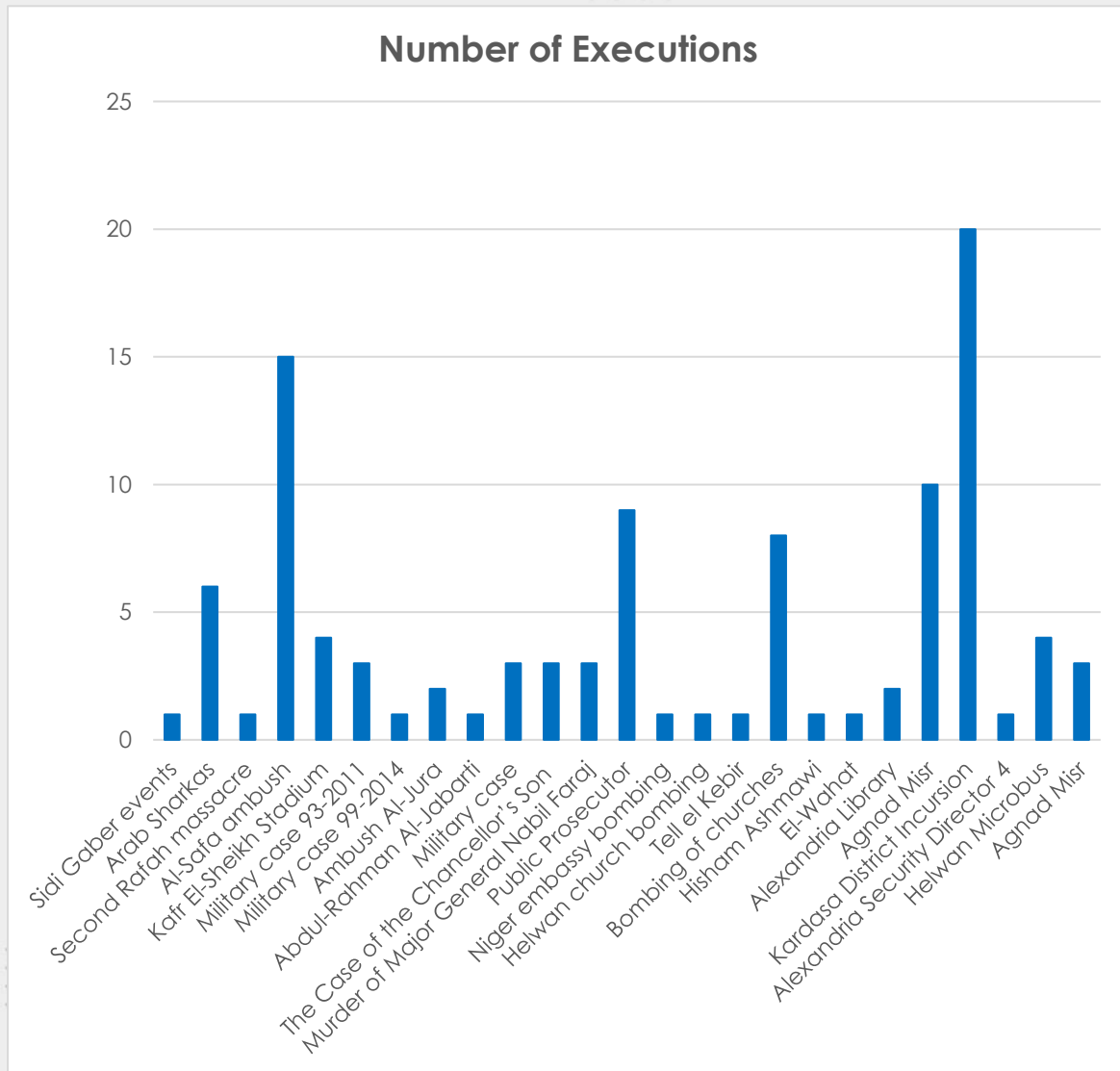
They were subject to the following violations:

1. Arbitrary Detention and Enforced Disappearance.
2. Torture, “beating, and electric shocks”.
3. They are threatened by assaulting their mothers and sisters.
4. Coercion to confess to a crime they did not commit.
5. Failure of a lawyer to appear during the investigation.
6. Their trial before an exceptional judicial department "Terrorism Chamber."

3 Civilians sentenced to final death sentences- Qatar spying case.

1. Ahmed Ali Abdu Afifi.
 2. Mohamed Adel Hamid Kilani.
 3. Ahmed Ismail Thabet.
- They have been arbitrarily detained.
 - They were denied of Trial before their Natural Judge, but before an Extraordinary Judicial Chamber ‘Terrorism Circuit 11.’
 - They were forcibly disappeared for a long time and had lost contact with their lawyers and relatives.
 - They were subject to beating and electric shocks to force confession.
 - The Public Prosecutor refused to present them to forensic medical examination to establish that torture had taken place.
 - There has been no investigation into the facts of torture and enforced disappearances.

Death penalty cases and number of executions

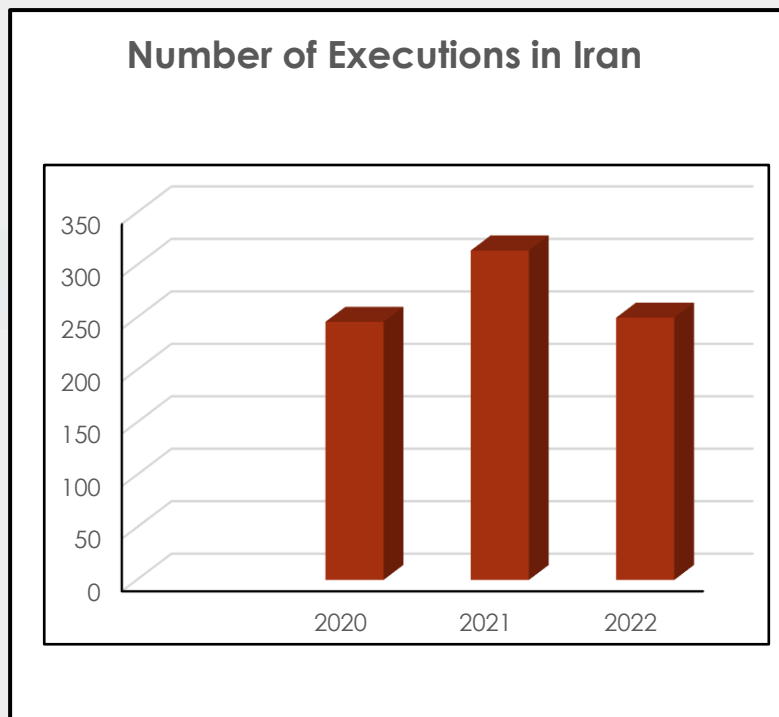


Execution in the Iranian Republic

- Iran is the second country in the world to execute executions in two consecutive years, after China, which ranked first in the world in executions.
- At least 314 citizens were executed in 2021 (compared to at least 246 in 2020), the highest execution rate since 2017.

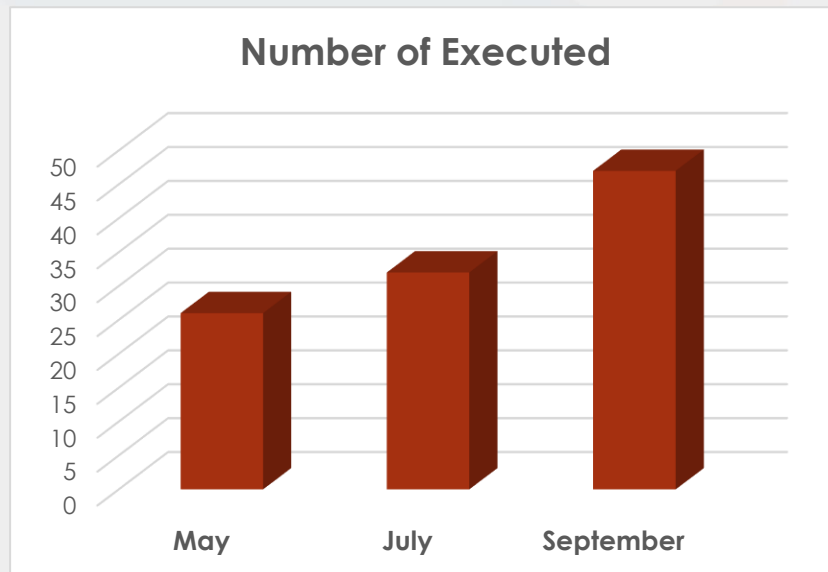
2022-2020 Executions:

- In 2020, 246 citizens were executed.
- In 2021, 314 citizens were executed.
- In 2022, 250 people were executed in just six months of this year.



Some names of those executed on political and religious grounds after confessions under torture:

- The young wrestler, Noued Afkari, 27, was executed on September 12th, 2020, despite international calls to stop his execution. He said before he was executed that his confessions were extracted under torture. And the Global Players Union was among those demanding a moratorium.
- 22 prisoners were executed, on September 6th and 7th, 2022.
- Mass executions were committed against 25 Sunni activists –September 21st, 2022.
- Between 17th and 27th May 2022, at least 26 prisoners were executed in different cities in Iran, including 24 men and two women.¹¹
- 32 People, including three women, were executed in the last week of July 2022¹².
- Iran is the country that most frequently executes women - at least 233 women were executed between 2000 and 2022¹³.
- 106 women were executed for murder and 96 for drug-related offenses.



¹¹ Iran Human Rights

¹² <https://www.bbc.com/arabic/middleeast-62329115>

¹³ Roya Boromand, director of the 'Abdul Rahman Boromand' Center

Executions in Saudi Arabia

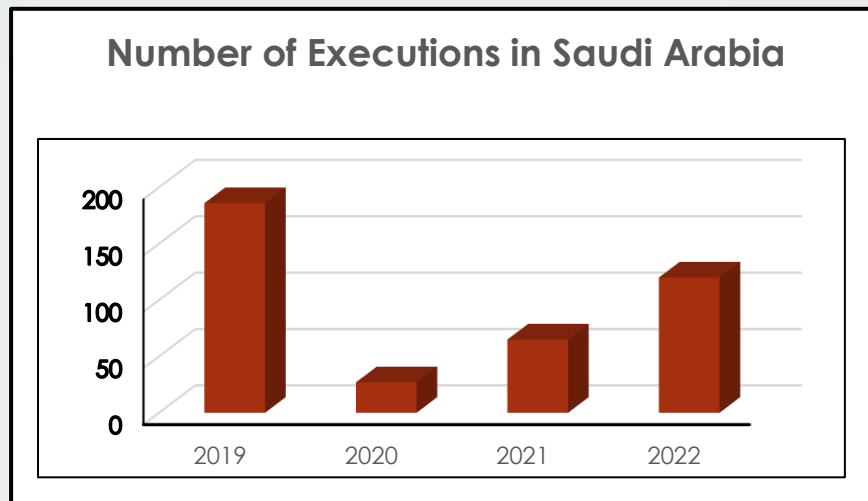
- Saudi Arabia was ranked the fourth executioner globally, having joined the top five countries for two consecutive years - 2020-2021 although in early 2021 the Saudi authorities announced changes related to the death penalty, including a moratorium on executions for drug-related offenses. They are judgments based on the judge's opinion and are not mandatory under Islamic law.
- While the moratorium appears to have been put into effect, it is not formalized and many are still on death row.
- Saudi Arabia carried out 423 death sentences between 2009 and 2014.
- Death sentences doubled in Saudi Arabia during the five years from 2015 to 2020, with 800 citizens executed.
- The Kingdom always asserts that its judiciary is "independent" and that the death penalty is imposed "only for the most serious and narrowly defined crimes and is carried out after the completion of the proceedings in all courts of different degrees". However, the reality is otherwise, and the number of those sentenced to death in political cases is increasing.

Executions in the Saudi Arabia from 2019 to 2022 amounted to 398.

- In 2019, 186 citizens were executed.
- In 2020, 27 citizens were executed.
- In 2021, 65 citizens were executed.
- In 2022, 120 citizens were executed.

43 Citizens Threatened with Execution in Saudi Arabia¹⁴:

- 6 Citizens sentenced to a final and enforceable death sentence.
- 4 Citizens sentenced to death with an approved judgment by the Court of Appeal.
- 13 Citizens sentenced to death by the first instance court.
- 20 Citizens are on trial for political cases and the prosecution is asking for their execution.



¹⁴ Salam for Democracy Organization

Conclusion:

- Human rights are above all and transcend all circumstances, regardless of gender, color, religion, or even political affiliation.
- The availability of real, tangible guarantees of respect for human rights and its established principles is evidence of the existence of a fair political system, and the lack of such guarantees is a sign of dysfunction and a threat to the stability of societies.
- Respect for human rights is an indispensable guarantee and necessity of a just democratic State, and none of these rights should be waived.
- The right to life is at the forefront of human rights, and the death penalty, which is abused by governments and those states that still apply it - especially in cases where it is criminal in appearance, and political in nature, where facts are conditioned on criminal but are originally political cases - the purpose of which is to suppress civilian anti-government politicians, and this is especially the case in Middle Eastern countries. There we can find unfair trials, torture of victims, cruel and degrading treatment, and forced confessions - and then the death penalty.
- Execution is a Path Paved with Torture - a report in which we presented a simple overview of the death penalty in some Middle Eastern countries, to demonstrate the seriousness of the death penalty, and our desire to protect and defend the right to life, because the political death penalty in Middle Eastern countries in particular - continues to be arbitrary and inhumane.
- Four countries in the Middle East are ranked high globally, among the top executioners: "Iran, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Syria" - Iran after China was ranked second, Egypt third for two consecutive years, Saudi Arabia fourth, and Syria fifth.
- Human rights in general, and the human right to life in particular, are among the most important rights that must be preserved and protected by the Government concerned, whether from the Government itself or from other relevant authorities.
- The more protection of the human right to life by States the greater stability and security of the entire society are gained.
- JHR considers this punishment a crime against humanity, and the calls to stop its implementation for the time being are among the most important measures that should be taken by governments, and everyone should stand united on this matter.
- It calls on governments to listen to domestic and international voices calling for the abolition of the death penalty in general, or a moratorium on its implementation.

Recommendations:

The authorities of the countries mentioned in the report should review legislation and laws that carry the death penalty as the maximum penalty, review all final death sentences, suspend their execution, and enact articles of the law with pardon or commutation of punishment other than death.

Justice foundation for Human Rights- JHR

Report Attachments

Table showing the names of the judges presiding over the terrorism chambers and the number of death sentences handed down from 2014 to 2022.

No.	Name of Judge	Number of death sentences	Circuit
1	Mohamed Nagi Shehata	265	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
2	Saeid Sabry	220	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
3	Shaaban El-Shamy	160	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
4	Hassan Farid	147	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
5	Mohamed Shereen Fahmy	56	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
6	Saeid Yousif Sa'd	37	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
7	Moataz Khafagy	30	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
8	Osama Abdelzaher	26	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
9	Mustafa Mohamed Lotfi Maghazy	24	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits (Emergency Supreme State Security)
10	Shabeib El-Damrany	21	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
11	Salah Hareiz	21	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
12	Alaa Eddin Shoga'	18	Kafr Al-Sheikh Felonies
13	Nabik Saleeb	21	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits

14	Fathy El-Baioumy	15	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
15	Farhan Batran	12	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
16	Hussain Qandeel	11	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
17	Mohamed Saeid El-Sherbeiny	10	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
18	Hefny Abdelfattah	8	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
19	Abdulla AbdulSamei	8	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
20	Fotouh El-Sayed Allam	5	Exceptional Terrorism Circuits
21	Ashraf Mohamed Ali	4	Minya Felonies
22	Gamal Aqrab	3	Alexandria Felonies
23	Gaber Khalil	1	Alexandria Felonies
24	El-Sayed Abdullatif	1	Alexandria Felonies

Examples of political cases in which death sentences have been passed in violation of fair trial guarantee:

First, Death sentences handed down in violation of fair trial guarantees, the victims have been executed:

Death sentences handed down in violation of fair trial guarantees, the victims have been executed

NO	Case	Case No.	Governorate	Date	No. of victims
1	Sidi gaber incidents	15663 of 2013, sidi Gaber felonies	Alexandria	07/03/2015	1
2	Arab Sharkas	43 of 2014, Cairo military felonies	Qaliubia	17/05/2015	6
3	Rafah second massacre	24856 of 2014, Abo kbeer, Sharkia felonies	North Sinai	15/12/2016	1
4	Military case	411 of 2013	North Sinai	26/12/2017	15
5	Kafr Alsheekh Stadiom	325 of 2015 military felonies	Kafr Alsheikh	02/01/2018	4
6	Military case	93 of 2011 Ismailia military felonies	Ismailia	09/01/2018	3
7	Military case	99 of 2014, military felonies	Sinai	30/01/2018	1
8	Military case	382 of 2013	North Sinai	23/03/2018	2
9	Abdel Rahman Algabarty	119 of 2016, Suez criminal court	Suez	25/06/2018	1
10	Military case	Military felonies	Sinai	09/07/2018	3
11	Death of the counselor's son	17853, Mansoura felonies	Dakahlia	08/02/2019	3
12	Murder of General- Nabil Farrag	983 of 2014	Giza	13/02/2019	3
13	The attorney general	314 of 2016 High State Security	Cairo	20/02/2019	9
14	Bombing of Nigar Embassy	268 of 2015 - Military - West Cairo	cairo	05/12/2019	1
15	Bombing of Helwan University	2278 of 2018 Helwan Felonies Supreme State security - Emergency	cairo	05/12/2019	1
16	Al-Tal Al-Kabeer	5713 of 2013 Ismailia Felonies	Ismailia	05/12/2019	1
17	Church Bombing	165 of 2017 Military Felonies.	Alexandria	25/02/2020	8
18	Hisham Ashmawi	1 of 2014 Military Felonies	Cairo	04/03/2020	1
19	El-Wahat	160 of 2018 - Military - West Cairo Felonies	El-Wahat	27/06/2020	1
20	Bibliotheca Alexandrina	20091 of 2013 Bab Sharqi Felonies	Alexandria	03/10/2020	2
21	Ajnad Misr	3455 of 2015 – South Giza Felonies	Giza	03/10/2020	10
22	Raiding Kerdasa Police Station	12749 of 2013 – Kerdasa Felonies	Giza	03/10/2020	20
23	3 Alexandria Security Manager	106 of 2019 Emergency High State Security Felonies	Alexandria	04/07/2021	1
24	Helwan Microbus	513 of 2016 State Security Survey	Cairo	10/03/2022	4
25	Ajnad Misr	3455 of 2015 Felonies of the South of Giza	Giza	10/03/2022	3

105 victims have been executed in 25 cases

95 Final judgments enforceable in 19 case

Second: Final and enforceable death sentences

Final and enforceable death sentences

NO	Case	Case No.	Governorate	No. of victims
1	Port Said Incident	437 of 2012 Port Said felonies	Port Said	10
2	Matay police station	1824 of 2013 North of Minia	Menia	6
3	Kill the guard	16850 for the year 2014 Mansoura felonies	Dakahlia	6
4	Ansar Bayt Al-Maqdis	Case No. 21947 of 2014 Felonies First Division Nasr City - Restricted No. 25 of 2014 Supreme State Security Crimes	Cairo	21
5	Fadl Alkawla	1781 of 2014 East of Alexandria felonies	Alexandria	1
6	Communication with Qatar	315 of 2014 High state security felonies	Cairo	3
7	Helwan Police Department	8280 of 2014 Helwan Felonies	Cairo	7
8	Ansar al-Sharia	2870 for the year 2014 entirely south of Cairo	Cairo	3
9	Osīm cell	2719 of 2015 Felonies of the North of Giza	Giza	1
10	Dispersal of the Rabaa Al-Adawiya	34150 of 2015 Nasr City Criminal	Cairo	12
11	Killing the Officer Wael Tahoona	288 of 2015 Military felonies	Cairo	3
12	Resistance Committees Kerdasa	12732016/ Kerdasa Felonies	Giza	6
13	Abu Kabir police guard	141 of 2018 felonies A.D. Abu Kabir	ALsharkiya	1
14	Rashid Bus	114 for the year 2018 and registered with No. 303 for the year 2018	Buhayre	9
15	Osama Goma Ali Daoud	Al-Tal Al-Kabeer Criminal Court in Ismailia	Ismailia	1
16	Ramy Shehata	598 for the year 2021 felonies state security emergency Nasr City	Cairo	1
17	Jund Allah case	Case No. 82 of 2021 State Security Criminal Courts Helwan Districts	Cairo	2
18	Mahmoud Obada Abdel Maqsood	Case No. 479 of 2018 Felonies of Abu Kabir Center and No. 141 of 2018 in total.	ALsharkiya	1
19	Case 108 military	Case 108 military felonies	Alexandria	1

95 Final judgments
enforceable in **19** cases

105 victims have been
executed in **25** cases

Infographics



**The case of
'Communication
with Qatar'**

**3
Civilians**
 sentenced
to death

- The convicts were arbitrary arrested and convicted by an exceptional judicial circuit, "Terrorism Circuit 11".
- They were forcibly disappeared for a long time, and they lost contact with their lawyers and tortured by beatings and electric shocks to confess the crimes.

#anti_execution ضد الإعدام



Ahmed Ismail



Ahmed Abdo



Mohamed Kilani

Justice for Human Rights 



**The case of
'Fadi Al-Mawla'**

citizen
 sentenced
to death

- A victim of a false witness, "a witness of proof", who has five different stories.
- No evidence to prove that he committed the crime.
- The witness changed his testimony, documented the second testimony and signed it in his handwriting.

#anti_execution ضد الإعدام



Fadi Al-Mawla

Justice for Human Rights 



فضل المولى



قضية فضل المولى

مواطن

يواجه الإعدام

-محكوم عليه بالإعدام بحكم من محكمة تفتقد لمعايير العدالة
-ضحية شاهد كاذب "شاهد إثبات"، له خمس روايات
-لا توجد أدلة بالأوراق تقطع بأنه ارتكب الجريمة
-الشاهد رجع عن شهادته، وقد وثق تلك الشهادة ووقع عليها بخط يده

مؤسسة عدالة لحقوق الإنسان JHR

#anti_execution ضد الإعدام



عصام عقل

أحمد الديب



سمير بدوي

بدر الدين الجمل

عزام شحاتة

طاهر إسماعيل



محمود سالم

عبدالرحمن صالح

محمود إسماعيل

أحمد الشربيني



القضية 108 عسكرية

10 مواطنين

يواجهون الإعدام

- جميع المتهمين من المدنيين تمت محاكمتهم أمام القضاء العسكري.

- أصدرت المحكمة العسكرية حكمها بناءً على اعترافات انتزعت تحت التعذيب والإكراه المعنوي.

مؤسسة عدالة لحقوق الإنسان JHR

#anti_execution ضد الإعدام

ضد الإعدام في مصر والشرق الأوسط

قضية استاد كفر الشيخ

4 مدنيين تم إعدامهم بتاريخ 02 يناير 2018، حكم عليهم القضاء العسكري، صادر من محكمة تفتقد لمعايير العدالة، تعرضوا للتعذيب والإكراه على الاعتراف.



#ضد_الإعدام
#Anti_execution



الإعدام طريق
ممهد بالتعذيب

ضد الإعدام في مصر والشرق الأوسط

قضية النائب العام

9 تم إعدامهم بتاريخ 20 فبراير 2019، انتزعوا منهم الاعتراف تحت التعذيب بالضرب، والصعق الكهربائي، ومحاكمة غير عادلة.



#ضد_الإعدام
#Anti_execution



الإعدام طريق
ممهد بالتعذيب

ضد الإعدام في مصر والشرق الأوسط

قضية نجل المستشار

3 تم إعدامهم بتاريخ 07 فبراير 2019، بحكم صادر من محكمة تفتقد لمعايير العدالة، تعرضوا للاخفاء القسري، والتعذيب وهم:



المعتز بالله غانم



عبد الحميد متولي



أحمد هندأوي



#ضد_الإعدام
#Anti_execution



الإعدام طريق
ممهد بالتعذيب

ضد الإعدام في مصر والشرق الأوسط

قضية أحداث سيدي جابر

- محمود رمضان.. تم إعدامه في 7 مارس 2015، بحكم صادر من محكمة تفتقد لمعايير العدالة.



#ضد_الإعدام
#Anti_execution



الإعدام طريق
ممهد بالتعذيب



Execution is always
Preceded with Torture

Anti-Death Penalty in Egypt and Middle East

The top executioners in the Middle East

- Iran (2nd globally)
- Egypt (3rd globally)
- Saudi Arabia (4th globally)

#ضد_الإعدام
#Anti_execution



ضد الإعدام في مصر والشرق الأوسط

أكثر الدول تنفيذًا لأحكام الإعدام في الشرق الأوسط

- إيران (المركز الثاني عالمياً)
- مصر (المركز الثالث عالمياً)
- السعودية (المركز الرابع عالمياً)



#ضد_الإعدام
#Anti_execution



الإعدام طريق
ممهد بالتعذيب

Twitter links

1- Campaign Promo (Ar)

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1578398111759831041>

2- Campaign Promo (En)

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1578724018462433280>

- 3- 'Against Execution in Egypt and the Middle East Campaign' launched by JHR on the 20th anniversary of the World Day Against the Death Penalty "A Path Paved with Torture" As we are working for the abolition of the death penalty and a moratorium on executions in political cases.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1578808088005865473/photo/1

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1578815191814656001

- 4- Against Execution in Egypt and the Middle East. Iran (second in the world) Egypt (third in the world) Saudi Arabia (fourth in the world)

#Anti_execution

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579082171587112961

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579088363675848709

- 5- Egypt topped the world in 2015 and was number one globally in issuing death sentences - according to Amnesty International in a report published at the beginning of 2016, ranking it third globally on death row in 2020, 2021.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579124869245329411

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579130557241622528

- 6- On 7th February 2019, three people were executed by a sentence from a court that lacked standards of justice and they were also subject to enforced disappearance and torture; Ahmed Al-Hindawy, Abdul Hameed Metwalli and Al-Mu'tazz Billah Ghanim.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579174607583842304

- 7- The Public Prosecutor's Case: Nine citizens were executed on 20th February 2019 after extracting confessions under torture by beating, electric shocks and an unfair trial.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579178088810033152

- 8- Official Statement by JHR on the 20th anniversary of World Day Against the Death Penalty Monday 10th October 2022: Execution is a path paved with torture.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579396137945300992

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579399831881408512

- 9- The case of Kafr El Sheik stadium: Four civilians were executed on January 2nd, 2018. They were sentenced by the military court to death by a court lacking standards of justice, tortured, and forced to confess.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579410282677665792

- 10- "Against Execution" campaign calls for posting a profile picture and posts that support the cause of saving the lives of victims of executions. #Anti_Execution

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579461938022862853

- 11- Mahmoud Ramadan. He was executed on 7th March 2015, by a court ruling that lacked standards of justice.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579485275595902976

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579493912296968192

- 12- On the occasion of the International Day against the Death Penalty, National TV program "Origin of the Story" hosted Mahmoud Gaber, lawyer and Head of JHR, Abdelmajid Marari, Head of the Middle East division of the AFD international and Francois Dorouch, Head of the Justice and Rights Without Borders organization in France.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579499149145165824

- 13- Amnesty International's Global Statistics on the Death Penalty: 110 countries have abolished the death penalty for all crimes. 7 States have abolished the death penalty in cases of common crimes. 27 countries have abolished the death penalty in practice. 55 countries still retain the death penalty.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579807244472193024

- 14- JHR statistics on the death penalty in Egypt: More than 1,600 death sentences have been handed down in recent years in political cases. 105 victims are executed after unfair political cases and 95 victims are awaiting execution. Execution is A Path Paved with Torture.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1579851045148459008

- 15- JHR: More than 1600 political death sentences in nine years, statistics issued by the Justice Foundation for Human Rights, in which 105 citizens were executed after unfair political cases. They were tortured and electrocuted for forced confessions. Other 95

are awaiting execution after unfair trials as well. JHR requests a moratorium on executions for these victims. These unfair sentences were based on imaginary evidence. Several public figures are on death row, at the top of which are Dr. Mohamed Al-Beltagi, Dr. Osama Yassin, former Minister of Youth, Dr. Ahmed Aref, the spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood, and Mohamed Sweidan, one of the people sentenced to death for Rashid Bus Case. October 10th is the International Anti-Execution Day, and Egypt is one of the top four executioner countries in the Middle East, that's why we launched this campaign.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1580168896556204032

- 16- Mahmoud Gaber - Head of JHR said that 1,600 political prisoners were sentenced to death in Egypt over the past nine years to be the third executioner globally.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1580202984851779585

- 17- Mahmoud Gaber, Head of JHR said that 105 Egyptian citizens were executed after being subject to enforced disappearance, torture and unfair trials."

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1580232039454081025

- 18- 9 innocent people facing execution in the fabricated Rashid bus case were sentenced to death by the State Security Emergency Court final verdicts that are not subject to appeal. They were tortured during the period of enforced disappearance to forcibly confess.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1580889240300580870?t=EePyVNbAXpAaLCJLW473YA&s=19

- 19- The case of Fadl Al-Mawla. He is a citizen facing execution sentenced to death by a court lacking standards of justice. He's a victim of a false witness "prosecution witness" who has five different stories about the incidents. There is no evidence in the papers to be conclusive that he committed the crime. The witness has retracted his documented testimony and changed it.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1580950366476435461?t=BqowgssSlGGaJBNOzJA5yQ&s=19

- 20- The Guard Case: 6 young men facing execution after arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, torture by beating and electrocution and being threatened with assaulting their mothers and sisters to force them to confess crimes they did not

commit. They were tried before an exceptional judicial department - a terrorism chamber.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1581266844790292480?t=eve8anl1Zu9uVHQUA-m-eog&s=19

21- JHR director and lawyer Mahmoud Gaber participates in a press conference on the occasion of International Day against the Death Penalty and on the situation of human rights in Egypt.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1581298308987129856?t=pLkDswdUQAXx-HI0OZyxtg&s=19

22- 3 citizens facing death penalty were arbitrarily detained and tried by a terrorism chamber. They were forcibly disappeared for a long time and had no contact with their lawyers or relatives and were tortured with beatings and electrocution to force them to confess crimes.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1581673169236426755

23- Case 108 military... 10 citizens face death sentence.. All the accused civilians were tried before military courts. The military court issued its verdict based on confessions extracted under torture and coercion.

https://twitter.com/JHR_NGO/status/1581974591047897088

JHR Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/383809935529982/photos/a.386014661976176/1203816063529361/>

JHR Telegram Channel

<https://t.me/stopexecution>

Against Execution Campaign (Telegram Channel)

<https://t.me/stopexecution>

JHR Website

<https://www.jhrngo.net>