

# Children Without Protection

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# Children Without Protection



The Belady Center for Rights & Freedoms (BCRF) is an Egyptian organization that promotes human rights and freedoms through research and litigation. BCRF proposes and advocates for policies, legislation, and amendments that promote the respect of international human rights standards. BCRF specifically focuses on violations that occur to children in relation to political or social turmoil. It provides legal and psychological support for children during their incarceration and upon their release, and documents the violations committed against them in the hope that its reports may contribute to their redress.



# **Executive summary**

The crackdown on opposition and political activism and the deteriorating human rights conditions that are sweeping Egypt extend to children, and not as isolated incidents. Children are being extensively targeted and subjected to violations by law enforcement authorities for their alleged participation in political activities. Besides being actively targeted by authorities throughout Egypt, in Sinai, where there is an ongoing war on terrorism, children are victimized by either being actively targeted by authorities, or by not being afforded the protection mandated by international law.

This report provides an overview of the main violations against children who were embroiled in the political and social turmoil from June 30, 2013 until Dec 31, 2018. The main violations documented include (a) deprivation of liberty (b) unlawful deaths, (c) enforced disappearances, (d) torture, and (e) military trials.

A total of 4130 violations were documented. The highest number of violations occurred in 2018 reaching 1218 violations, followed by 2017 totaling 889 violations. Although the height of the turmoil was in 2013, the numbers alarmingly indicate a near steady increase in violations<sup>1</sup>.



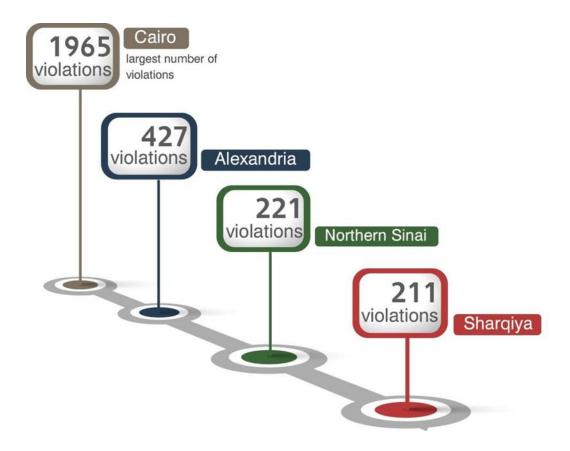
The most frequent violations are related to deprivation of liberty: There were 1556 cases of formal arrests, 1496 orders of continued pretrial detention, and 192 prison sentences- two of which prescribed the deathpenalty.

In total, 231 deaths were documented. 101 of the deaths were in Sinai: 64 from operations by the armed forces and 37 from terrorist attacks. Although Northern Sinai is amongst the least populated provinces, it witnessed the third highest number of violations<sup>2</sup>. Besides the deaths in Sinai, the main causes of death that occurred in the other provinces are: (a) killing by security forces during demonstrations, (b) torture, (b) medical negligence, and (c) extrajudicial killings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Refer to figure 2. for ranking of violations by year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Refer to figure 1. for the top four provinces with the most violations. The ranking of all provinces is found in the database.

198 cases of enforced disappearances and 71 cases of torture were documented, three of which resulted in death.



The report proceeds to highlight how law enforcement authorities violate national and international laws, mainly: the Egyptian constitution, Child Code, Code of Criminal Procedures, and the International Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Finally, the report identifies several discrepancies between Egypt's national laws, such as the 2015 Counter-terrorism Law, and the international conventions and standards aimed at protecting children's rights.



# **Background:**

Since 2013, and in the pretext of fighting terrorism, the Egyptian government has arrested, disappeared, tortured, and sentenced to death thousands of activists and dissidents, most on spurious grounds, and mostly for acts that are not criminal, but rather, for exercising protected rights under international law such as the right to freedom of expression and assembly.

Children have not been spared. They have been targeted and deprived of their liberty, either through formal arrest or enforced disappearance. Once in the custody of law enforcement officials, they may be subjected to torture, long periods of pretrial detention during which they undergo a wide array of additional violations, unfair trials, and unjustifiably harsh sentences.

This report sheds light on the scope and type of these violations, and highlights law enforcement officials' violations of national law and international standards.

# **Methodology:**

The data collected in this report covers the period from June 30, 2013 until December 31, 2018. The process of gathering, organizing, and classifying the data in this report began in May 2018 and ended in January 2019.

This report is based on interviews and several data sources. In total, thirteen interviews were conducted. Twelve interviews were with formerly incarcerated children or their relatives, and one with a human rights lawyer. Pseudonyms are used to protect the identity of the interviewees.

# The data sources used in this report are:

- Direct communication with witnesses, victims, their families and lawyers.
- BCRF's legal team.
- Newspaper archives and official statements.
- Reports and documents from human rights organizations.
- Human rights activists and defenders.
- Judicial sources.
- Social Media, especially pages and groups by concerned citizens in various governorates.

The data included is not exhaustive as several difficulties were experienced during data collection. Difficulties include (a) operating in a dangerous setting, (b) lapse of time, (c) reticence of witnesses, and (d) restricted access to information.

# • First: Arrests and Deprivation of Liberty

#### A- The Violations:

1556 cases of formal arrests<sup>3</sup> occurred from June 30, 2013 to December 31, 2018. On several occasions, children have been apprehended from schools and educational facilities.



In most cases, arrested children are accused of joining banned political groups, mainly the Muslim Brotherhood, and a cluster of charges related to this main charge such as plotting to overthrow the regime and disturbing public peace. In addition to these "standard" charges, children may be charged with a variety of additional charges that range from ludicrous offenses such as "spreading a pessimistic atmosphere" to serious ones such as plotting to assassinate the deputy attorney general.

Judicial authorities widely turn a blind eye to abuses that occur during the arrest and to the spuriousness of charges.

Female children face violations as well. Nada, a female child, has been arrested more than four times between her thirteenth and eighteenth birthday. She was repeatedly held in National Security premises- an illegal detention facility notorious for torture and abuse. The prosecutors who interrogated her never asked for her transfer to a social care institution or placement under judicial probation, as provided by the Child Code.

In addition to the illegality of most of these arrests, the authorities violate the law in terms of the responsible authority to arrest a child. All documented arrests are carried out by regular police forces instead of juvenile police officials in violation of national law. Such intransigence and failure to observe the national law the authorities are entrusted to implement raises serious doubt to the partiality and fairness of the judicial process.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Where a police report is issued.

#### **B- Legal Analysis:**

The Egyptian Criminal Procedure Code<sup>4</sup> and the Constitution<sup>5</sup> require law enforcement authorities, when making an arrest, to either (a) present an arrest warrant while making the arrest, or (b) apprehend the suspect en flagrante delicto. Yet, in most cases of arrest, law enforcement authorities do not observe either of those requirements.

Most of these arrests count as arbitrary arrests. The only activity most children are suspected of committing are related to freedom of expression and assembly, activities protected by the constitution<sup>6</sup>. Thus, the arrests violate both national law and the constitution.

# Second: Enforced Disappearances

#### A- The Violations:

Besides the cases of formal arrests, we documented 198 cases of enforced disappearances. Most of the children reported as disappeared were later found in detention facilities with legal cases pending against them, some appeared without any charges or police reports, some have been killed, and some have not appeared to date.

Ibrahim Mohamed Shahin was forcibly disappeared from Alarish city in July 2018 and has not appeared to date.

Alhosainy Galal has been disappeared since May 2016. He has not appeared to date.

Mahdy Hamad Salmy Hamad was forcibly disappeared from Alarish when he was fifteen. He disappeared for one hundred days, was then transferred to Alarish first-police station for two days, then to national security, before he was referred to the State Security Prosecution in Cairo. When he was finally transferred to the juvenile detention center in Almarg city he was denied visitation rights.

When Mahdy tried to complain of the one hundred days of disappearance to the prosecutor and tell of the torture he underwent in national security, the prosecutor closed the file and ended the interrogation<sup>7</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Articles 34, 35

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Article 54

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Articles 65 and 73.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Annex 1,2,3

Abdullah Bou Median forcibly disappeared from Alarish city when he was twelve. He was later found in in Alazbakia police station where he was held in solitary confinement and was denied visitation.

#### **B- Legal Analysis:**

National law does not define or criminalize "enforced disappearance". Hence with no definition there can be no punishment.

On the contrary, new laws are legalizing forms of detention that would be considered enforced disappearances under international standards<sup>8</sup>. The Counter-Terrorism Law for 2015allows for the arrest of a person not caught in a criminal act and without a court order from the judicial authorities. Further, it permits denying the apprehended person contact with family and counsel if such contact was found "prejudicial to the interests of evidence gathering<sup>9</sup>."

This way, the legal guarantees that preserve the rights of detainees to communicate with the outside world, inform their family of their place of detention, know the charges against them, and have the presence of counsel during interrogation sessions, are rendered moot.

# • Third: Unlawful Deaths

#### A- The Violations:

126 children were directly killed by security forces. 123 of them died in the aftermath of the 2013 events. Three children were extrajudicially killed 10.

"Mohamed disappeared on November 10, they killed him on  $22^{nd}$  of the same month, and they fraudulently claimed that he died on the  $23^{rd}$ " - Mohamed Nader Fathy's mother.

Mohamed's mother recounts how he disappeared for thirteen days, and tells of the family's shock when they found their son's name among three persons the police declared to have been killed in an exchange of fire.

"Mohamed was last seen in the tenth district of Alasher Min Ramadan city. He had six bullets in his body. One was in his head above his left ear, one was in his heart, one was in his right side of his chest, two in his stomach, and one in his arm".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> EIPR-legal commentary on the Counter-Terrorism Law p. 12,13

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The 123 were victims of indiscriminate shooting/violence. The last three were individually and deliberately targeted.

After the declaration of his death, Mohamed Nader's family started to search for his corpse, which they finally found in Wadi al-Natroun's morgue, with an entry date of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November.

The family recovered the corpse after almost eighteen days of his death. On his death certificate, the cause of death was filled with the vague clause "under investigation".

### **B- Legal Analysis:**

The Counter-Terrorism Law<sup>12</sup> provides that "enforcers of the provisions of this Law shall not be held criminally accountable if they use force to perform their duties or protect themselves from imminent danger to life or property if the force is necessary to avert the risk".

This article gives authority to the police to use lethal force whenever 'necessary', without specifying the cases of necessity or the allowed degree of force.

More concerning is that the text does not include any penalty for the misuse of the sweeping power. Nor does it provide for a mechanism to investigate complaints that the person was unlawfully killed, was not killed in an exchange of fire, and posed no threat to the police.

Police forces have indeed made use of this article and increasingly resorted to extrajudicial killings. After each killing operation, the Ministry of the Interior issues statements that justify its use of lethal force with a 'standard' response, as follows:

- 1. The individuals have planned terrorist attacks.
- 2. The individuals were recruited by an entity, usually the Muslim Brotherhood.
- 3. Various items were found in individuals' possession such as bullets and explosives, and pamphlets from the illegal group.
- 4. Police forces were taken by surprise by the shooting.

The repeated use of such statements after each incident and their near identicality shed serious doubt to their validity.

Accepting the statements, and accepting that individuals were indeed terrorism suspects, the extrajudicial killings betray the shortcomings of the Ministry of Interior in apprehending terrorism suspects, deprive the victims of due process, and deny both the State and the people the right to information.

12 Law 94 for 2015

<sup>11</sup> Annex 4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Article 8, Law 94 for 2015

While there is no definition for terrorism that is agreed upon internationally, the broad and vague definitions used in the Counter-Terrorism Law violate international law. The United Nations General Assembly has affirmed that states "must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law." When implemented in a broad manner, the Counter-terrorism Law is very likely to implicate a number of rights, including but not limited to the right to life<sup>14</sup>.

# • Fourth: Torture

#### **A-The Violations:**

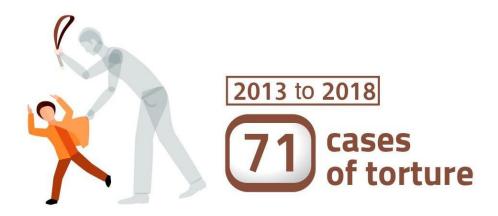
Seventy-one cases of torture were documented against children while held in detention facilities, three of which involved sexual assault, and three of which resulted in death.

"They chained me to the chair and severely electrocuted me in my private parts. This time the electricity was worse than previous times. They electrocuted me with a taser gun. One of them started to touch my breast with his hand and he put his penis in my mouth."-Nada.

Mazen was sexually assaulted. A wooden stick was inserted into his anus. He was electrocuted in his private parts. He was asked to confess that he joined a banned group.

# **B-Legal Analysis:**

Torture is explicitly prohibited in the Constitution<sup>15</sup> and International Law<sup>16</sup>, yet it is widely used with children as a form of reprisal and to extract confessions.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> TIMEP Brief: Counter-terrorism Law

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>Article 52

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

# • Fifth: Military Trials

#### A- The Violations:

Military trials, which seriously undermine the guarantees of a fair trial, are now extensively used with children. In addition to the typical infractions of due process, we monitored violations related to the breach of the right to a fair trial, but which surpassed it in gravity. Children remain incarcerated for long periods of time for reasons that were neither necessary for the investigation nor for carrying out of a sentence.

First, they must await the issuance of verdicts, a procedure that may be delayed for periods that exceed a year on end, leaving the children indefinitely incarcerated.

Furthermore, after verdicts are finally issued, children must await their ratification, a procedure that may also extend to a year on end. Hence, children remain incarcerated for a long time even in cases of acquittal or lack of jurisdiction.

In case No. 185 of 2018, Cairo Military Court, several children were acquitted in July 2018, but were not released until January 2019.

In case No. 247 of 2016, the military court dismissed the case for lack of jurisdiction, and yet the children remain in pre-trial detention to date, awaiting the ratification.

In cases (a) No. 148 of 2017, East Cairo Military Court, and (b) No. 2 of 2015, the children have been awaiting the verdict for more than ten months.

# **B-Legal Analysis:**

Military trials for civilians violate rules set forth by the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as military courts cannot be deemed independent and impartial.

Despite that, the Military Justice Code extends the jurisdiction of military courts to children if they are found to be subject to its provisions<sup>17</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Article 8, Military Justice Code

# • Sixth: Judicial Sentences

#### **A-The Violations:**

#### (a) Death Sentences:

Two children received a death sentence.

One of these children, Ahmed Khaled Sadouma, received a death sentence for allegedly taking part in a crime that occurred on March 23, 2015.

Sadouma's family maintains that he was disappeared on March 3rd of that year, and they sent telegrams to the Public Prosecutor inquiring about his whereabouts. When he disappeared, he was still seventeen. He did not turn eighteen until the 17th of March, while he was in police custody.

The police report was issued on March 21<sup>st</sup>, rather than the 3<sup>rd</sup>, in an apparent attempt to cover up for faulty procedures. Hence, according to the suspiciously fraudulent police report, Sadouma would legally qualify for a death sentence. Sadouma is now waiting for the Court of Cassation's final verdict.

#### (b) Aggravated and Life Sentences:

Many children are given long sentences for the alleged crime of demonstrating or joining a banned political group.

Abdullah Mohammed and Bilal Ayman were each sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment for 'illegal' demonstrations.

Thirteen children were sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment in the Al-Matareya case, after almost four years of pretrial detention, and after being tried in a mass trial that included thirty suspects.

Those are besides the 15 year sentences issued in absentia as in the cases of Obada Ahmad and Yaser Taha. In such cases, the children become outlaws living in constant fear of apprehension while awaiting the appeal.

# **B- Legal Analysis:**

The Child Code provides several measures that aim to protect children from long and harsh sentences, and provides them with a special treatment.

First, it provides alternatives to detention for children who have not reached fifteen years of age such as reproach, judicial probation, community service, and placement in social care institutions<sup>18</sup>.

Second, it prohibits punishing children with (a) aggravated sentences, (b) life sentences, and (c) the death penalty<sup>19</sup>.

Third, it requires that social observers establish "a case file that includes a comprehensive assessment of "the child's educational, psychological, mental, physical and social status before any decision by the judge regarding the case. The Court, prior to issuing a judgment, shall discuss the content of the aforementioned assessment report with those that have compiled it and may order additional investigations<sup>20</sup>".

Fourth, and in regards to the constitution of the juvenile courts, the Code requires "the presence of three judges and two specialized experts." One of the experts must be a female<sup>21</sup>.

Judicial authorities violate the law procedurally when they try juveniles in mass trials and with adults, rather than in the juvenile courts provided by law and disregard the reports of the social observers. Moreover, they violate it substantively when they do not implement the alternatives to incarceration enumerated in national law and when they issue life sentences, aggravated sentences, and the death penalty.

Finally, as to the Child Code itself, it contravenes the Convention on the Rights of the Child by limiting the scope of alternatives to incarceration to children under fifteen whereas the Convention provides no such limit.

# • Seventh: Pretrial Detention

#### A- The Violations:

Judicial authorities excessively use pretrial detention for prolonged periods that often times exceeds the limit prescribed by law. In five and a half years, 1496 decisions of continued detention were issued. 234 were decisions from cases not yet referred to court and 1253 were decisions from the judge after thereferral.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Article 101

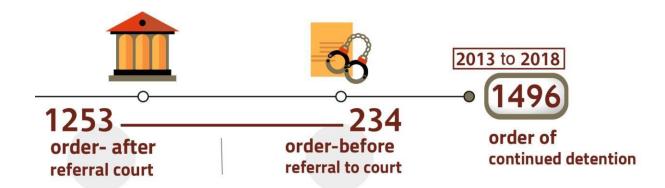
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Article 111 of the Child Code

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Article 127 of the Child Code

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Article 121 of the Child Code

Karim is still detained since 2016. His case has not yet been referred to court. On several occasions, the magistrate ordered his release, but the prosecutor appealed, and Karim remained in detention.

Hossam has been in prison for three years without referring his case to court.



## **B- Legal Analysis:**

The Child Code attempts to restrict the use of pre-trial detention, especially with children under fifteen. It states: "A child who has not reached fifteen years of age shall not be placed in pre-trial detention. The Prosecution may place him in one of the observation centers, for a period not exceeding one week, and shall make him available upon each request if the circumstances of the case necessitate keeping him in custody. However, the period for keeping the child in custody shall not exceed one week unless the court decides to extend the period according to the regulations for pretrial detention as stipulated in the Criminal Procedure Code."<sup>22</sup>

The article is commendable in its attempt to restrict the use of pretrial detention. Yet, limiting its scope to children under fifteen, and providing wide exceptions for these restrictions are unwarranted, and severely limit the application of the guarantees it seeks to provide.

The Code of Criminal Procedure places a two year limit on pretrial detention<sup>23</sup>. The Convention on the Rights of the Child state that pretrial detention should be used "as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time.<sup>24</sup>,

Contrary to the above mentioned provisions, judicial authorities make wide use of pre-trial detention, and explicitly violate the law in using pre-trial detention on children below the age limit, and exceed the two years stipulated by the law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Article 119

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Article 143

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Article 37- b

# • **Eighth:** Release Orders With Bail or a Probationary measure

#### **A-The Violations:**

We documented 126 orders of release from pretrial detention. Yet, all of the release orders were accompanied with either a financial burden or a burdensome probationary measure. Eleven of the orders included bail, and the remaining 115 orders were accompanied with probationary measures that require children to present themselves to their respective police stations for a specified number of days per week for a specified number of hours.

Though the release of children is commended in that they restore the liberty of a child, requiring bail or qualifying release with probationary measures continues to unduly infringe on the children's liberty. Needless to say, probationary measures hinder the children's ability to properly enroll in school and receive quality education.

Moreover, children continue to face abuses by authorities during the time they spend at the police station. Children report that police personnel heckle them as they come to report their attendance and departure, handcuff them when they are not supposed to, and refuse to implement prosecutor' orders that reduce the amount of time at the police station.



# **B- Legal Analysis:**

The burdensome measures that accompany release orders either hinder the restoration of the child's liberty-in case of bail that the child cannot pay- or unduly limit it. Thus, the same legal challenges of pre-trial detentionapply.

# • Ninth: Violations Inside Detention Facilities

# • Mixing with Adults:

#### **A-The Violations:**

Detained children are frequently held in the same facilities as adults, posing serious risks to their wellbeing. Besides the harm done from mingling with adult criminals, they face a variety of abuses in these mixed facilities. The cells they stay at are overcrowded and filled with smoke and lack proper ventilation, sunlight and room for exercise.

"I spent the first two days in the police station with [adult] criminals. They would curse and smoke everything...not just cigarettes. I suffered from a continuous headache. I fainted during my first day in detention. When I regained my consciousness, I could not remember anything. I would sleep on my side because it was impossible to sleep on my back<sup>25</sup>. During my first day, I slept right outside the restroom due to the lack of space. After that, I paid money to be able to sleep in a better spot"-Aziz.

"My son has been in custody since 2015. Ever since that time he was held with [adult] criminals. He was always fighting with them because of smoking"-Hossam's mother.

#### **B- Legal Analysis:**

The Egyptian Child Code prohibits detaining children with adults and provides a penalty for those who commit such acts. <sup>26</sup>The Convention on the Rights of the Child affirms this prohibition, unless it were in the best interest of the child<sup>27</sup>. In a clear violation of this article, the police systematically detain children with adults in facilities not appropriate for children.

As to the design of the facilities, the UN Rules for the Protection of the Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty state: "The design of detention facilities for juveniles and the physical environment should be in keeping with the rehabilitative aim of residential treatment, with due regard to the need of the juvenile for privacy, sensory stimuli, opportunities for association with peers and participation in sports, physical exercise and leisure-time activities<sup>28</sup>." Mixed detention facilities do not provide for any of these rights.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Referring to the overcrowded conditions

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Article 112

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Article 37-c

#### • Visits:

#### **A-The Violations:**

Children spend most of their pre-trial detention periods in police stations. "The visit at the police station is not a visit. I see my son just enough to hand him the food I brought him"- Hossam's mother.

"At the beginning, the visit was too short. After a while, I started paying money in order to stay with him for a while"-Aziz's mother.

### **B- Legal Analysis:**

The aforementioned UN Rules state that "Every juvenile should have the right to receive regular and frequent visits, in principle once a week and not less than once a month, in circumstances that respect the need of the juvenile for privacy, contact and unrestricted communication with the family and the defense counsel<sup>29</sup>."

Yet visits in the police station neither respect privacy, nor provide space for communication with family and counsel.

# Medical Negligence:

#### A- The Violations:

Children in custody suffer from unsanitary and overcrowded conditions and lack of proper medical care. We documented 35 cases of medical negligence that resulted in exacerbated health problems ranging from aggravation of fractures, intoxication from contaminated water, scabies, and death, as in the case of Mohamed Abdullah Mohamed who died in 2016.

On occasion, officers allow the incarcerated child to visit a hospital. When this happens, children are expected to pay for their own expenses.

"When I was at the police station, I fainted. Then they allowed me to go to the hospital. My friends in the cell were afraid to let me go on my own and so the police officer allowed one of my friends to come with me, and handcuffed her with me. I had to pay for the cost. I got the treatment and I regained my consciences and as soon as I regained my consciousness the police officer said that I am ready to go back." -Nada

At other times, law enforcement authorities entirely prevent children from receiving medical care.

2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Article 60

"Hossam" requested a medical examination. The prosecutor approved, but the officer in charge did not let him take it.

"Mazen" tried to submit a request to see a doctor, but the officer in charge refused and tore the request.

# **B- Legal Analysis:**

The UN Rules provide that "every detention facility for juveniles should have immediate access to adequate medical facilities and equipment appropriate to the number and requirements of its residents and staff trained in preventive health care and the handling of medical emergencies. Every juvenile who is ill, who complains of illness or who demonstrates symptoms of physical or mental difficulties, should be examined promptly by a medical officer<sup>30</sup>."

Despite that, police stations are devoid from any medical facilities and equipment. Nevertheless, children are unduly restricted from receiving medical care outside the premises even if at their own expense.

# • Tenth: Violations Against Children in Sinai

#### **A- The Violations:**

Since 2013, Northern Sinai has witnessed a wave of terrorist attacks. In the context of fighting terrorism in Sinai, law enforcement authorities have unduly targeted children as terrorism suspects. Abdallah Bou Midyen, mentioned previously in the report, was disappeared when he was only twelve is one example.

Anas Hosam El-Deen, was disappeared for four hundred days when he was fifteen. He was referred to State Security Court, transferred to the notorious Azouly military prison, and charged with belonging to ISIS.

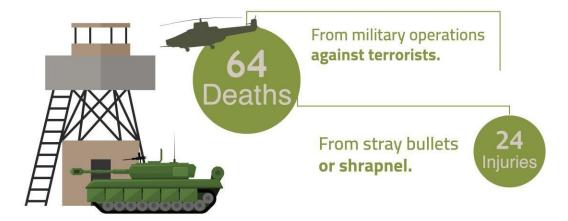
Both Abdullah and Anas have been disappeared, tortured, placed in solitary confinement, and denied visitation rights.

Other children, who have not been targeted, have nevertheless fallen victim to the conflict. Some fell victim to indiscriminate bombing and shooting by the military, and others to terrorist attacks.

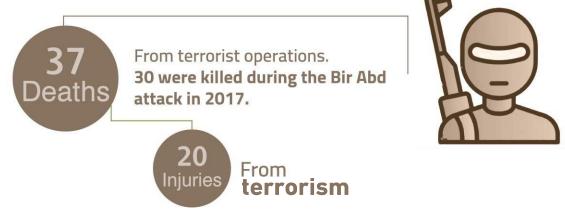
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Article 51

Sixty-four children were killed from military operations and twenty four sustained injuries from shrapnel and stray bullets.



Thirty-seven children were killed from terrorist attacks, thirty of which were killed during the attack on Al Rawda mosque in Bir Abd in November 2017. Twenty others were injured.



# **B- Legal Analysis:**

"Criminal responsibility shall not apply to the child who has not reached the age of twelve years at the time of committing the crime" 131. Yet Abdullah Bou Midyan has been charged with terrorism, placed in solitary, and medically neglected.

As for the disregard children's lives, the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that "States Parties shall --In accordance with their obligations under international humanitarian law to protect the civilian population in armed conflicts, -- take all feasible measures to ensure protection and care of children who are affected by armed conflicts<sup>32</sup>."

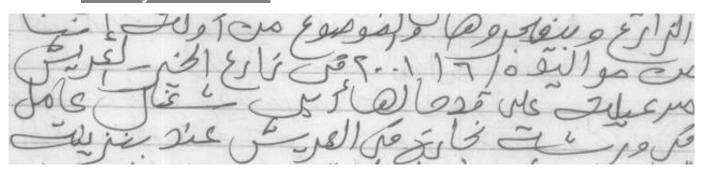
Yet rather than receive protection, the children are either targeted and accused of betrayal, or their lives disregarded. Deaths by military operations (sixty four) were significantly more than deaths by terrorist attacks (thirty seven).

<sup>31</sup> Child Code, Article 94

<sup>32</sup> Article 38 paragraph 4

# • Annex :

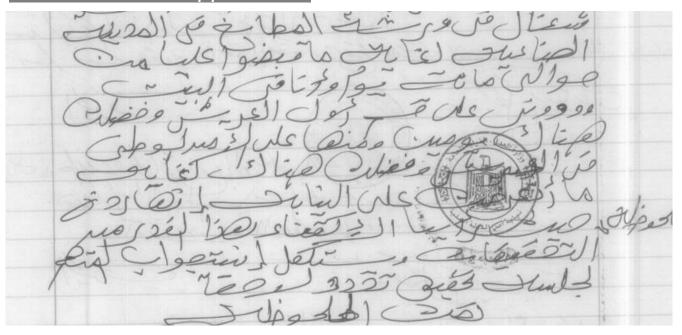
# Mahdy's birthdate



# Date of Mahdy's police report

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= فقد وردت معلومات بتردد المذكور على محل إقامته المشار إليه وبإعداد الأكمنة
بمحيط محل إقامته صحبة القوة اللازمة أسفرت إحداها عن ضبطه وتم إطلاعه على
طبيعة مأموريتنا والإذن الصادر بشأنه وبتفتيشه وقائياً لـم يعتـر معـه علـى ثمـة
مضيوطات الم

# Document where Mahdy testifies about his enforced disappearance



الموادح وقم ١٦				جمهورية عصر العربية	
السياسل المعلوم علي معد المولا				وة تصحة / وزارة الداخا	
مكتب صحة مكتباً صحة المرقز محافظة البحيرة		ادة والساة مجاناً للمرة الأولى		غية الأحوال المدنية	
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	مين المتوفر		الساعة	لوقمر	
ماعية اعزب	الحالة الاجت		الدقيقة	القان و سبعة عشر	
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ید بسجل و اقعات مکتب صحة محتب صحة المركز بتاریخ ۱۱۱۲ / ۲۰۱۸ برقم تحریسراً فی: ۲۰۱۸/۲/۱۱					
الثنهادة بالكامل سهير عبد الحميد الجمل المختص بالكامل مثال فتحي عقد					
توقيعه حراجال المنافقة					
AL WILLIAM		DALVO			

Mohamed Nader's death certificate

# Hosam's request to receive a medical exam

