



Institute for the Documentation of Human Rights Violations against Religious Minorities in the Levant

WHERE SILENCE ENDS AND JUSTICE BEGINS

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Report on Pattern of Abductions Involving General Security: Summary of Verified Cases

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A total of 98 abduction cases has been documented. Of these, 58 have been directly verified by staff members of the IDHRV-ARMIL through direct contact with the families of the abducted women. General security force involvement has been confirmed in 10 of the verified cases. In numerous incidents, the families who report the disappearance of female relatives are met with accusations from General Security, which routinely dismisses the cases as the voluntary runaways of women. In all verified cases, cooperation of general security with the affected families is rare, and investigative requests are often denied, dismissed, or obstructed.

In cases where the abducted individual has close relatives with prior military service, authorities have reportedly used the abduction as leverage, obstructing release as a form of collective punishment—even when direct security involvement could not be confirmed. In most abduction cases, victims are transported across provincial lines. It is widely understood that the perpetrators traverse multiple security checkpoints during these transfers, yet they are not intercepted or hindered to pass. In some cases where the Public Security claimed that they had released the abducted girls and returned them to their families, no arrests or accountability were recorded. The families were not informed about which party was responsible for the abduction.

The following summary of verified cases are presented as received by the IDHRV-ARMIL, with minimal editorial intervention. Names have been withheld for documentation purposes, but identifying details may be revealed in formal dissemination under assured conditions of strict confidentiality measures.

- **Case 1**
Date: 02/03/2025 | *Location:* Hama
 A young woman was reportedly abducted by a member of the security forces. Her father, under threat due to his sons' prior military service, was coerced into denying the disappearance.
- **Case 2**
Date: 02/21/2025 | *Location:* Hama
 According to testimony, the woman disappeared after visiting a health center in Hama for scheduled treatment. Her family reported the disappearance to local police, who were uncooperative and refused to issue a referral needed to trace her last phone call. Surveillance footage was unavailable, and hospital searches yielded no results. Three days later, she briefly contacted a relative, stating she had endured several days of confusion and woke up beside a man claiming to have married her. Ten days after that, an audio message was received in which she said she was abroad and married, asking not to be contacted. The voice resembled hers but appeared to be under duress, and the call originated from a non-Syrian number.
- **Case 3**
Date: 03/20/2025 | *Location:* Latakia
 A minor was abducted in public, and her captor circulated torture footage demanding ransom. Her father, previously employed as a driver for a former officer, received death threats from Public Security and remains in hiding, unable to file a complaint. When the mother attempted to report the case—after the girl appeared in a video claiming she had married willingly—authorities refused to accept it, insisting the father must be present. Despite credible evidence implicating security personnel, the state maintained the narrative of a voluntary marriage and later threatened the father with arrest to force closure of the case.
- **Case 4**
Date: 03/23/2025 | *Location:* Tartous
 Three siblings—two girls and a young man, one of whom is a 15-year-old minor—were abducted in Tartous. After approximately two months, on 05/24/2025, the two girls were returned. During their captivity, the girls were subjected to torture, physical abuse, religious humiliation, and sexual assault. Upon their return, they were immediately detained at the Public Security center for five hours. The family was threatened and instructed not to disclose any information. The whereabouts of the young man are still unknown.
- **Case 5**
Date: 03/27/2025 | *Location:* Jableh
 When contacted, the husband stated his belief that his wife was abducted and held in Idlib. He also confirmed that General Security refused to cooperate during her disappearance. The victim later reappeared, but all communication between her and her husband was cut off. She was subsequently arrested multiple times by security forces. Leaked messages containing explicit threats from security officers were circulated on social media. Conflicting reports indicate that she either fled to Lebanon or is currently being held in detention. Prior to her second disappearance, the victim testified to being abducted, raped, and beaten by members of the security forces.
- **Case 6***
Date: 05/17/2025 | *Location:* Jableh
 A woman and her infant were abducted. Her husband, detained and tortured, was forced to confess possession of weapons. She was subjected to severe physical abuse and nearly forced into marriage with a foreign fighter before being smuggled out of the country.

- **Case 7***
Date: 05/21/2025 | *Location:* Tartous
Abduction reportedly occurred in coordination with security forces. The woman remains missing. Her family was later assaulted and accused of hiding her.
- **Case 8**
Date: 06/21/2025 | *Location:* Latakia
Despite multiple interviews and evidence of abduction, authorities denied the claim. The victim was forcibly relocated to Aleppo, with indications of high-level state involvement.
- **Case 9***
Date: 06/26/2025 | *Location:* Jableh
The victim was abducted, raped, and subjected to sectarian abuse. After being abandoned and hospitalized, security forces restricted access and threatened her family into silence.
- **Case 10**
Date: 07/03/2025 | *Location:* Jableh
Witnesses reported abduction by known government officers. The victim was released after a public appeal, but witnesses were forced to retract their statements under threat.

*Extensive interviews and sworn affidavits have been collected for Cases **6, 7, and 9**, yielding substantial evidence that confirms direct involvement by security personnel. IDHRV-ARMIL is prepared to share further details and evidentiary material for contingent upon confidential conditions and secure channels of communication.

The *Institute for the Documentation of Human Rights Violations against Religious Minorities in the Levant (IDHRV-ARMIL)* was founded as an independent and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization registered with the Secretary of State on July 24, 2025, in the State of Kansas.

IDHRV-ARMIL is committed to survivor-centered, empirically grounded and cross-examined documentation that supports legal accountability and international advocacy of human rights violations. Its stated objective is to fill a critical gap in global efforts to call for justice for victims of atrocities: the systematic persecution of religious, ethnic, and other vulnerable minorities in the Levant, often under-documented and underserved by existing international human rights mechanisms.

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Place of Jurisdiction: Wichita U.S. Courthouse for the United States District Court for the District of Kansas, 401 N Market St, Room 204, Wichita, KS 67202, U.S.A. +1-316-315-4200.