#### Crimes against Humanity Committed by the Houthis in 2022



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#### Introduction:

The Houthis are not only a religious group, but the owners of an armed political project who seek to rule Yemen in light of the failure of the Yemeni regular army to confront it. This is because they believe that they are the most suitable, deserving of governance in order to work to restore the Imamate system.

The violations committed by the Houthi militia against the Yemeni people have left a lot of suffering and wounds. The militia has been repeating and increasing the abuse. It has committed many crimes against the Yemeni people, using all the heinous tools and methods against the Yemeni people.

These crimes are repeated on a daily basis by the militias. They are met with international silence. As a result of the silence of the international community, the Houthis have escalated their crimes and violations against the people to include all segments of Yemeni society: the elderly, women, and children. They have even diversified these crimes between bombing civilians, violating the rights of women and children, planting mines, bombing populated areas, torturing prisoners, recruiting children, kidnapping civilians and other violations that are considered war crimes.

Before discussing the most prominent violations committed by the Houthi group in Yemen, we will briefly address who the Houthis are, their emergence, their beliefs, the reasons for their strength, their main goal, the attitude of the international community towards them, then we will demonstrate their clear violation of the rules of international human rights law.

The report will also display the sectors that the Houthi militias deliberately targeted, the sectors that the Houthi militia deliberately targeted and destroyed, such as health, education, water, religious belief, and the rights of women and children.

Then, it provides different cases that were monitored throughout the year, including killing, kidnapping, torture, displacement and other cases that constitute different forms of degrading, inhuman treatment.

First: Who are the Houthis?

The Houthis are defined as a religious group based on both Shiism and the mandate of the Twelve Imams (Twelver Shiism) like the Iranian model.

#### Second: The Emergence of the Houthis

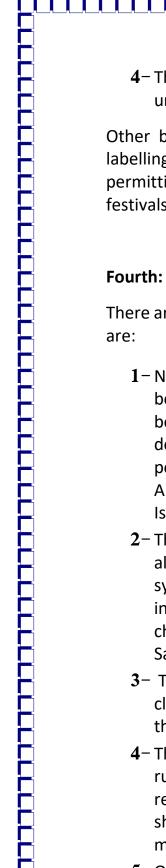
The emergence of the Houthi group began in the nineties of the twentieth century in a governorate called Saada, which is about 240 km north of Sana'a. The Houthis belong to the Zaydi sect, which is the Shiite sect closest in its teachings to the Sunnis. However, they belong to the Jarudi branch, which is the most stringent branch, as they are closer to the principle of *Wilayat al-Faqih* prevailing in Iran.

The Houthis were named after the founder of the movement, Badr al-Din al-Houthi. They then began to form a phenomenon called the Young Believers/ *Al-Shabab Al-Moamen* in the nineties. They took as their leader, Hussein al-Houthi, the son of Badr al-Din al-Houthi, the founder of the movement. The movement then turned into an armed organization in 2004, the year Hussein Badr al-Din al-Houthi was killed.

#### Third: The Houthi Beliefs

The Houthis have misguided and deviant beliefs, which include:

- 1- Claim that the Qur'an is distorted: They question the way the Qur'an was collected, claiming it is distorted. They believe the real Qur'an is the Qur'an of *Sayyida Fatima* (may Allah be pleased with her).
- 2- Denial of the Sunnah of the Prophet: The Houthis did not leave an Islamic sanctuary without challenging it. They deny the Sunnah of the Prophet (PBUH) that was narrated by the Sahaabah (Companions of the Prophet PBUH) and was collected. They insult the books approved by the Sunnis and criticize some of the hadith narrators.
- 3- Magic and talismans among the Twelver Shiites and the Houthis: During the wars with the Houthis, the dead among them were found with talismans, charms, and papers containing magic symbols, or animal remains, which they plant on the battlefield, believing it will help them.



**4**–They view the *Sahaabah* as sinful, aggressors, immoral, even unbelievers. This is what they are fighting for.

Other beliefs that they also believe in, such as: Cursing the Sahaabah, labelling those Muslims who disagree with them as disbelievers and permitting the spilling of their blood, attacking mosques, holding extraneous festivals that Yemeni society had not heard of before...etc.

#### Fourth: Reasons for the Houthis' Strength:

There are a number of reasons behind the Houthis' power and these reasons are:

- 1- No small group can survive without outside help. Perhaps the biggest beneficiary of the Houthis' rise in power is the state of Iran. The reason behind that is that Iran is a country that follows the Twelver Shiite doctrine, strives to spread its doctrine. The arrival of the Houthis to power in Yemen will become a victory for Iran, as it will besiege Saudi Arabia. This will give it pressure cards in its relationship with the Islamic world.
- 2- The public sympathy in the city of Saada with the rebel movement although they did not follow their deviant ideology. Rather that sympathy resulted from the deteriorating economic, social conditions in Yemen. Yemen suffers from weak infrastructure, and a state of chronic poverty among most of the population, especially the city of Saada and major Yemeni cities.
- 3- The dominant tribal situation in Yemen: Yemen consists of a group of clans and tribes. A number of tribes support the Houthis as a result of the existence of feuds between them and the ruling regime.
- 4- The mountainous nature of Yemen: Yemen is characterized by its rugged terrain, which makes it difficult to control, especially for regular armies, as it abounds in crypts and caves. There are no studies showing the roads between the mountains or satellites that monitor movement.
- 5- One of the things that also contributed to the strength of the Houthis is the Yemeni government's preoccupation with calling for the

secession of Yemen into north and south, as well as the demonstrations calling for this separation. This is led to the dispersion of the government, army, which enabled the Houthis to control the country, and increase their influence.

6- A range of analyses suggest that the Yemeni government itself wants the Houthis to continue in order to gain some international benefits, especially after the United States indicated a relationship between the Houthis and al-Qaeda.

#### Fifth: Houthi Goals

The Houthi movement aims to restore the defunct Imamate rule by relying on the theory of *Welaya*/guardianship and *Ahl al-Bayt*, which they are trying to enshrine as an essential part of the religion.

The Houthi project seeks to separate northern Yemen from its south. As a result of its historical heritage (political and sectarian), they do not believe in a unified Yemen. They do not work for its existence within the framework of one state. Therefore, the Houthis support the armed separatist movement, and push strongly towards the secession of the south. To strengthen their position, the Houthis plan to build a parallel army, in cooperation with Saleh's wings in power, and Iranian expertise.

#### Sixth: The International Community Position towards the Houthi Militia

It seems that the negative and soft response of the international community towards the terrorist acts of the Houthis has led to their continued intransigence, and lack of attention to the calls launched by international, regional organizations in order to stop these violations, which are considered crimes against humanity.

The situation of the Yemeni crisis is worsening day by day. The number of its victims is rising due to the terrorism committed by the Houthi militias, whether inside Yemen or in neighboring countries. These actions require an international response in order to add political legitimacy from inside Yemen. Hence, the international community is required to be stricter towards threats to international peace and security.

In its resolution 2624 (2022), the Security Council describes the Houthi movement as a terrorist group, condemns Houthi cross-border attacks on civilians, infrastructure in both Saudi Arabia and UAE.

## Seventh: What the Houthis are doing in Yemen is a Clear Violation of the Rules of International Human Rights Law:

The conflict taking place in Yemen is between the recognized legitimate government against a group of Houthi coup militias. Each of the parties must abide by the principles of international humanitarian law embodied in the four Geneva Conventions, which Yemen is one of the signatories to.

Protocol II of the Geneva Conventions states that each State must commit itself to provide additional protection measures to warriors, civilians during non-international armed conflicts.

Each side of the conflict must respect the laws of war whether the other party adheres to them or not.

International humanitarian law requires a distinction between civilians, warriors, not to mention the prohibition of the use of projectiles in populated areas. It also allows the passage of humanitarian supplies to civilians.

Article III of the four Geneva Conventions states that parties of a conflict must distinguish between civilians, warriors at all times in order not to cause harm to either the civilian population or civilian property. Only attacks against military objectives can be launched. The use of weapons and methods of warfare with indiscriminate effects that are likely to cause unnecessary pain and damage is prohibited.

International humanitarian law also gave special protection to the elderly that both sides of the conflict must protect them from robbery or violation. Protection must be provided for both women and children. The pain suffered by children and women pushed the countries to enact special charters such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the

#### Cases of Houthi Violations of Human Rights in Different Sectors and Fields:

#### First: Houthi Violations against the Health Sector:

The Houthis have committed serious violations in the health sector since the beginning of the war. This led to the continued collapse of the medical sector and the health system, not to mention the disruption of service in more than half of its facilities. The violations affected many facilities in areas under their control. There are complaints from citizens about the almost total lack of medical services, in addition to the outbreak of many diseases, epidemics, and the spread of corrupt medicines.

In a report, the Yemeni Network for Rights and Freedoms revealed that more than 5,119 Houthi violations of health facilities, hospitals and health workers were recorded in separate areas of Yemen during the period from 2018 to March 2022.

## The most prominent cases that affected the health sector in 2022, are the following:

- 1– In November 2022, the Houthi militias kidnapped a doctor in Ibb Governorate, named "Nassar Al-kaffaz", while he was going to work at Al-Manar Doctors Hospital. They led him to an unknown destination.
- 2- In mid-November 2022, the Houthi militias kidnapped, imprisoned the director of the Saudi German Hospital, called "Abdullah Al-Daari" in Sana'a. The militia kidnapped him, and led him at gunpoint to one of the militias' prisons. The director of the hospital was kidnapped and imprisoned due to his arrest of a Houthi member named "Misfer Al-Talhi", because of his forgery and looting inside the hospital
- 3- On November 27, 2022, the Houthi militias kidnapped Professor of Surgery, Dr. Yasser Abdul Mughni at Faculty of Medicine, Sana'a University, one of Yemen's best surgeons. The Houthi militias are working to kidnap doctors and forcibly disappear them in order to restrict national cadres and push them to migrate outside the country to seize private hospitals. This in turn leads to the collapse of the

health sector and the deterioration of services provided to citizens, according to the Yemeni Minister of Information, Muammar Al-Eryani.

4- On September 24, 2022, the Houthi militias looted the treatment for diabetics to sell it in private pharmacies. Insulin is not available at the Health and Population Office in Ibb Governorate.

Most of the violations committed by the Houthi militias in the medical sector during the current year were aimed at kidnapping doctors and forcibly disappearing them in order to empty the state of them, and the collapse the medical system. Thus, the violations committed by the Houthis prolong an inherent human right demanded by international conventions, especially the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which is the "right to health".

## Second: Severe violations committed by Houthi groups against the education sector:

1– On February 20, 2022, the militias of the Houthi groups targeted the "Khalid bin Al-Walid" school in Al-Danana area, Hayran district, with a ballistic missile, causing severely damage to the area.

It also targeted "Al-Wahda" school in Harib district, south of Marib governorate, on February 19, 2022. This led to the severely wounding of three children, namely (Ali bin Naji Al-Qaisi - Muhannad Mubarak Al-Aqili - Hamdan Zayed Al-Qaisi), and their transfer to Ataq Hospital in Shabwa Governorate to receive treatment. Not to mention the bombing of the "26 September" school, north of the city of Hays in Al-Hudaydah Governorate on February 12.

2- In August 2022, Houthi groups destroyed the educational process by imposing exorbitant fees on students in schools, in addition to excluding educational staff and changing studies programs which threatens an entire generation.

They excluded cadres and educational leaders who are not allied with the militia in various directorates and appointed others who are loyal to them. Mr. Abdul Jabbar Al-Laith, director of Kamaran School in Al-Zahhar Directorate in Ibb governorate, was dismissed days after he demanded that textbooks be provided to students.

female students, hitting the education system in times of a very difficult economic situation.

They have also dismissed more than 20,000 teachers after cutting their salaries six years ago.

3- In an effort to eradicate education, the Houthi groups imposed exorbitant fees on university education, as well as closing dozens of departments. They raised tuition fees at the Faculty of Medicine to 27 thousand US dollars for the six years of study, and obligated the student to pay the fees in one payment.

Mohammed Al-Bukhaiti, who was appointed governor by the militias, broke into the buildings of the faculties of education and arts at Dhamar University, closed them and arrested its guards under the pretext that it belonged to the Ministry of Education, not to the university.

4- On August 17, 2022, in light of the Houthi militias' targeting of education and its institutions, a Houthi leader named "Abdul Rahim Al-Hamran", who has a kinship relationship with the militia leader, "Abdul Malik Al-Houthi", robbed and seized "Al-Wasi" school in Saada, and prevented students from studying. He wanted to turn the school into his personal property under the pretext that the land on which it was built belongs to his family.

#### Third: Houthi Violations regarding Freedom of Religion and Belief:

The Houthi militia is committing grave violations of freedom of religious belief in order to spread its sectarian and religious doctrine. The most prominent of these violations is the violation of mosques. They have turned mosques into headquarters where they kidnap, kill and assault, making their political ideas a religious ritual that they repeat on pulpits.

Since the beginning of the Houthi coup over the course of 8 years, there have been more than 3,000 Houthi violations against mosques, including killings, kidnappings and torture of preachers, imams and worshipers, not to mention converting some mosques into their headquarters.

The most prominent violations that affected mosques during 2022 were the following:

- 1– On March 28, 2022, the Houthi militias, led by the so-called "Ahmed Yahya Salah Al-Saraji" AKA Abu Turab, who was appointed by the militias as culturally responsible for Al-Radmah District, closed a Quran memorization school and mosque for women in Ibb Governorate in light of a war waged by militias against mosques, memorization schools and mosque preachers. The Houthi members accused those in charge of the school of not teaching the Houthi curricula and instead teaching curricula that differ from their ideas.
- 2- On April 15, 2022, the Houthi group broke into "Al-Iman" mosque in the Nuqum district of the capital, Sana'a. They assaulted worshipers and prevented them from praying Tarawih. As a result of the worshipers' refusal to obey the orders of the militias, sharp altercations broke out between them from attacking worshipers and preventing prayer without any regard for the sanctity of the mosque. Two days earlier, there was an attack on "Ahmed Nasser" mosque on Hayel street, Al-Shohada Mosque in Bab al-Yemen in the capital, Sana'a, where worshipers were prevented from performing the Tarawih.
- 3- On April 28, 2022, a group of Houthi members led by "Mufid Al-Zuhairi" broke into a mosque in the Wadi Anah area of Al-Udayn District, assaulted worshipers and the imam of the mosque "Abdullah Al-Hakami". They fired bullets inside the mosque, which led to the injury of a number of worshipers. The attack took place during Tarawih with the aim of preventing worshipers from praying.
- 4- On May 6, 2022, the Houthi militias changed the preacher of "Al-Redaei" mosque, called "Jamal Al-Shujaa", in the center of Al-Shaar District, east of Ibb Governorate. This is due to his refusal to identify with their sectarian rhetoric, which increased during that period. The Houthi militias aim to dismantle the societal fabric and change its identity.
- 5- On June 13, 2022, the Houthi militias led by "Faisal Ali Ghalib" broke into "Al-Shirai" mosque in Ibb, assaulted worshipers. They cut and damaged the wires of the loudspeakers, due to a broadcast of the Holy Quran. They threatened those who play the Quran again with imprisonment, death and kidnapping.

- 6- On June 17, the Houthi militias changed a mosque preacher in Ibb governorate after forcibly removing him from the Friday pulpit at Al-Khalil Mosque in Ahwal Ramadan, Al-Mashna district, Ibb governorate. The militias started preaching instead of him. This led to the anger of worshipers and prompted them to leave the mosque and the prayer.
- 7– On August 3, 2022, the Houthi militias broke into a mosque in the village of Al-Zhahra in Ibb governorate. A Houthi leader named "Ali Al-Assal" looted the library of the mosque, which contains thousands of religious and historical books, under the pretext that the books contained in the library are different from the ideologies and beliefs of the militias.
- 8- On Friday, December 2, 2022, the Houthi group targeted Al-Rawan Mosque in Al-Hudaydah governorate, which resulted in the martyrdom of two citizens, "Ayoub Maafa" (30 years old) and "Muhammad Ali Nasser"(20 years old), and the injury of 5 others, including children. This was a continuation of a series of violations that affected more than 3000 mosques since January 2015.

Looking at the crimes committed by the Houthi militias against mosques, we find that they contradict one of the inherent human rights, this is the right to freedom of religion and belief stipulated in international conventions and covenants, especially the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

#### Fourth: Houthis Violation of the Human Right to Obtain Water:

Water is an essential element for the enjoyment of a decent life. Every human being has the right to get water. It is a vital factor for achieving many other rights such as the right to health, the right to life, and the right to enjoy a decent standard of living.

The UN Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights has provided a set of guidelines for States to respect and protect the right to water. This right must include a set of interrelated, essential features such as, availability, quality and accessibility.

The most prominent violations that have been committed by the Houthis, which impacted the human right to obtain water during 2022, are the following:

The Houthis are expanding their activities to include water treatment plants in Sana'a, targeting a group of vital sectors in order to finance the Houthi group's frontlines. Their campaign led to the closure of 17 water treatment plants in the first two days of their launch.

The Houthi restarted a number of these factories after closing them, after imposing large sums of money on their owners. The militias target the rest of the stations owners in order to impose large sums of money on them as well, using all the oppressive means and methods. There is a fear among citizens about the closure of these stations, as they depend on these stations for drinking water. This harms the right of citizens to drink water. The Houthi militia are working to tighten the screws on the owners of the stations, which has led to the closure of many of these stations and the threat to the rest of them.

We find that the Houthis are working to violate human rights in obtaining water that they use for their most basic needs, which is drinking, personal hygiene and food which affects the lives of citizens.

#### Fifth: Severe Violations of Women's Rights:

Houthi terrorism continues to commit severe violations against women's right. Women initially thought they were protected in a country governed by customs and traditions that grant women their rights, but the Houthi militias committed many acts of killing, kidnapping, torture, rape against them.

The number of women in prisons increased. It did not stop at that. Many physical, sexual assaults were committed against them in secret prisons. some women suffered from psychological illness and episodes because of the systematic torture committed against them.

The violations carried out by the Houthi militias in 2022 against women were very bad. Many restrictions have been imposed on them, including the following:

1- The Houthi militias approved a plan to remove women's sectors from state institutions. The Ministry of Civil Service got the militias' approval of the plan to restructure all the government institutions in order to remove the status of women in it, such as, education, technical education, local administration, youth, sports and other institutions which had a section for women. This is in accordance with the scheme aimed at removing women from state institutions, replacing them with sectarian women. 2- Some female lawyers were insulted in the courts by members of the

- 2- Some female lawyers were insulted in the courts by members of the women's police, as the Houthis control the security and judiciary in the capital. They were forced to be inspected thoroughly and in an inappropriate manner. On the other hand, the women's police do not inspect female employees working in the courts. Male lawyers are also not inspected by police personnel. The female lawyers consider that as an insult and belittlement. To add to that, female lawyers who wear cosmetics are not allowed to enter the court.
- 3- The Houthi leader Khalid Al-Madani, who is the first deputy mayor of the capital Sana'a, prevented men and women from getting into coffee shops together except after providing proof of kinship in order to prevent the interaction of men and women. He also obligated restaurants not to seat males and females next to each other, but seat them in opposite directions to combat moral corruption. Campaigns were carried out against women's shops to prevent the display of indecent clothes ... etc.

Houthi leader Khaled al-Madani also prevents women from leaving the capital for any area unless they were accompanied by a first-degree male relative. He obligated checkpoints at the city's outlets not to allow any woman to leave without proving the presence of a male relative.

- 4- On June 15, 2022, a woman named "Noor Ali Abdullah Al-Sarari" was killed as a result of a Houthi projectile explosion in Al-Baydaa governorate. Hardly a day passes without civilian casualties due to mines planted by the Houthis.
- 5- On September 6, 2022, a woman named Wahida Mohammed Alwan was injured as a result of the Houthi mines in Taiz city. She was injured due to the mine explosion.

Since the beginning of the war, Houthi militias have planted landmines in several governorates. This has led to the deaths of thousands of civilians.

6– On September 16, 2022, the Houthi militia injured a woman named "Ammat Al-Rahman Mohammed" in Taiz city with a gunshot wound to her left shoulder. She had been transferred to the hospital for treatment.

- 7– On October 30, 2022, the Houthi militias prevented an academic from leaving Sana'a after receiving an invitation to participate in a scientific conference outside Yemen, due to the lack of a *mahram*. They made her return from a checkpoint on her way to Aden. This is despite the fact that she is a widow in her fifties and her only son has been emigrated outside the country years ago.
- 8- On November 6, 2022, the Houthi leader, "Abdullah Naji Al-Sabli", threw a seventy-year-old woman from the roof of a house in Al-Jaafari District in Rima Governorate. This was after she was beaten and assaulted, which led to breaking her ribs and four limbs. When her fifty-year-old daughter tried to save her, the Houthi leader shot her, causing her injury.

This was due to the Houthi leader's attempt to seize her land after she got a court ruling that she owned it. They assaulted her because of her refusal to give him bribes to leave.

Monitoring the violations that have been committed against women in Yemen since the beginning of the war, we find that 70% of these violations are by the Houthis.

Women have been suffering from various forms of oppression and all forms of violations that have prevented them from obtaining their rights, especially the rights to life, liberty and equality.

#### Sixth: Violation of Children's Rights:

There were severe violations of children's rights during 2022. According to Save the Children organization, there are more than one child everyday getting killed or injured in Yemen. The organization revealed that nearly 330 children have been killed or injured since the beginning of 2022 due to the war in Yemen.

The number of children injuries reached 241 cases, while the death cases reached 92 cases from January 1, 2022 to November 15, 2022. The number of violations against children from 2015 to 2022 reached approximately 52,303 cases, with the number of child killings being approximately 9,914 murders.

The Houthis carried out killings against their own relatives due to the repercussions of the sectarian and intellectual mobilization instilled by the Houthi militias in children's minds. This prompted them to carry out approximately 161 murders and injuries against their relatives, including, 121 killings and 60 injuries during the years 2021-2022 in 11 governorates under Houthi control. The most prominent cases of attacks and violations against children's rights are the following:

- 1- On June 2, 2022, a Houthi leader named 'Salim Al-Jama'i' kidnapped a 13-year-old girl named 'Fatima Abdel-Raqib Al-Jabri' in order to force her family to marry her to him while she lives in the Roma district in Zamar Governorate. The 'Rights Radar' organization considers that these actions affect honor, and seriously offend the families of the victims.
- 2- On June 8, 2022, two siblings, (Mohammed Najib Uday Najib), were killed as a result of the explosion of a Houthi mortar shell in Al-Maratba area of Jabal Habashi, west of the governorate. It is important to say that Houthi shells fall from time to time on residential areas in the governorate.
- 3- On July 26, 2022, a child named "Muqtadar Fouad" was killed by snipers of the Houthi terrorist militias in Al-Qaheifa area in Maqbanah district, west of Taiz Governorate.
- 4- On August 4, 2022, a child named "Amir Majed" from the city of Taiz was killed by Houthi militias while he and his family were passing through one of the Houthi checkpoints between Sami' and Al-Sallo.
- 5- On August 21, 2022, a 10-year-old boy named "Jihad Muhammad Bajash" was injured by militia snipers in western Taiz governorate near their home in the village of Sha'ab al-Quba Hazran.
- 6– In September 2022, a 13-year-old girl named "Adaya Dostor Al-Habashi" was injured as a result of a mine explosion in the city of Taiz, which was planted by Houthi groups. It resulted in serious injuries, including the amputation of her foot.
- 7- The killing of a child from Jablah district named "Qais Majid Sharaf Al-Umawy" in November 2022 by the Houthi militias in the Ibb region in the center of the country. This came in parallel with a state of security

chaos witnessed by the governorate's directorates. The Houthi militias target the people of the governorate without any oversight, and violate the rights of citizens, taking advantage of the state of security chaos. This in turn led to the spread of crime, murder, and robbery of citizens' property.

- 8- On November 6, 2022, a 15-year-old child named Ali Awad Al-Jarmi from Al-Baydaa area, was injured as a result of a mine explosion, which led to injuries that led to the amputation of his feet.
- 9- Furthermore, the injury of children as a result of the bombing of Al-Rawan Mosque on Friday, December 2, 2022.

The Houthis have pledged and signed a UN action plan pledging to end the recruitment, use, killing, and displacement of children, or attacks on schools and hospitals.

Despite this, the Houthis continue to violate children's rights in spite of their pledge to end these violations. This represents a clear violation of the Plan of Action they have signed and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

### Cases of violation of Rights (Killing, Looting, Theft, Kidnapping ... etc.) during 2022:

#### A- Murder Cases:

- 1- On January 13, 2022, the Houthi militias killed an elderly man in front of his family. 'Saleh Hussein Mufashkh Al-Barmani', 65 years old, from the village of Al-Solb, the area of Al-Barman in Al-Zaher district, Al-Baydaa Governorate, was killed by a Houthi sniper in the Yarah area. This happened while he was driving his car in order to save his daughter and was accompanied by two of his grandchildren. Fortunately, his daughter and the two children survived the killing.
- 2- On January 13, 2022, the Houthi militias led by "Al-Musharraf Ali Sila" killed a tribal sheikh named "Abdul Rahman Mirdas", and two of his relatives (Badr and Jamal). The reason behind this was that Sheikh Abdul Rahman Merdas refuse to mobilize fighters to the ranks of the Houthis in the Marib and Shabwa fronts. They ambushed and shot him and his relatives, which led to their deaths on the spot. The Houthis fled after confirming their deaths.

- 3- On January 30, 2022, the Houthi militias bombed a house in Al-Shammasi neighborhood in Taiz city. As a result, a groom and his bride were burned to death, namely (Abdullah Saeed Shmais, his wife Anisa). A month has not passed since their marriage. Anisa was his second wife, whom he married after the death of his first wife from cancer, The bombing also led to the injury of a number of his sons.
- 4- On March 4, 2022, the Houthi militias killed a young man named "Mahfouz Ali Abdul Jalil" after Friday prayer in Taiz governorate. The young man was visiting his father's house. Upon arrival, he was directly sniped by Houthi snipers stationed in Tabah Hami, north of Taiz city.

On March 7, 2022, the 60-year-old citizen "Hazzaa Hassan" was killed as a result of being targeted by a gunshot to the head while he was grazing sheep in Maqbanah district, west of Taiz governorate.

 5- On April 18, the Houthi terrorist militias killed a 24-year-old young man named "Rami Hassan Ghazi" as a result of a torture operation in the "Preventive Security" detention center in Hajjah governorate. That was after three months of his kidnapping.

Muammar Al-Eryani, Yemeni Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism explained that the killing of this young man is a war crime and a crime against humanity. It reminds us of the tragedy of thousands of prisoners and abductees who are with the most horrific forms of psychological and physical torture in prisons.

- 6- On May 16, 2022, the citizen "Bassem Abdul Karim Al-Hobri" died in the prisons of the terrorist Houthi militias as a result of the torture he was suffered from. The militia members handed over his body to his families by force and demanded that they quickly bury him to avoid any criminal investigations.
- 7- On May 19, 2022, Ali Hadi Misfer bin Raqba, a 25-year-old citizen from Al-Jawf governorate, died as a result of being tortured in one of the militia detention centers in Sana'a. He had been kidnapped two months earlier (to be the second to be killed of torture in less than two days).

The Rights and Media Committee stated that he is a civilian who does not belong to any party. He is considered as one of the victims of daily crimes committed by the Houthi militias against the people of Al-Jawf governorate.

- 8- On July 10, 2022, a citizen named "Abdo Al-Rimi" was killed in front of his house by Houthi militias stationed in Tabat Al-Qari, west of Taiz city. He was killed while bringing home the Eid sacrifice.
- 9- On July 22, 2022, the Houthi militias executed a citizen named "Mohammed Ahmed Abdo Humaidan" in the village of Al-Kidah in Hays district, Al-Hudaydah Governorate. They had kidnapped him a few days earlier to an unknown destination. Citizens found his body after the militias executed him and threw his body into a reef.
- 10-On September 1, 2022, the Houthi militias kidnapped a judge named "Muhammad Al-Harran". They led him to an unknown destination and killed him, so he would not continue exposing their corruption and in order to control everything.
- 11- On September 15, 2022, the Houthi militias killed two citizens (Muhammad Saif Ali Saeed and Muhammad Abdul Wasi) at west of Taiz region. They were employees in Al-Shaibani Paint Factory. The two citizens were waiting for the factory's bus to go home.
- 12- On December 2, 2022, two citizens of "Al-Abqa" family were assaulted, which led to their death (Hashem Ahmed Hashem Abaqa and Maqbool Ahmed Maqbool Abaqa), and the injury of three others, namely (Ali Muhammad Hassan, Adnan Muhammad Maqbool and Muhammad Muhammad Hashem) by Houthi gangs who sought to rob their lands by force in Al-Hudaydah Governorate.

The armed gang has tried to dig a well in their land and seize it. The gang led by "Adel Atef", specializes in looting and robbing land in Al-Hudaydah governorate, Salif and Bajil cities. This gang launches campaigns to loot the lands and turn them into private property.

- **13-** On December 7, 2022, a young man named "Fahmi Saeed" was run over to death in Ibb governorate by a group of Houthis. This is among the many violations and daily crimes the governorate witnesses. The young man belongs to an area called Karif Al-Sara, located in Al-Adin District, west of Ibb Governorate.
- 14- On December 8, 2022, an elderly citizen named "Abdullah Haidar" was killed as a result of being run over by a group of Houthis accompanying the Houthi leader "Muhammad Ali Al-Houthi" on the Western Ring Street of Ibb city, making him the second victim within hours.

**15-** In December 2022, journalist Tawfiq Al-Mansouri was tortured in a Houthi detention facility. His skull was fractured and died. He had been detained since 2015. He and two others were tortured in solitary cells for 45 days. The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate condemns these violations, torture and restriction of freedom.

#### B- Looting and Theft Cases:

- 1- On June 2, 2022, the Houthi militias stormed and looted the house of former parliamentarian and leader of the Yemeni Congregation for Reform, Dr. Abdul Rahman Bafdal, in the capital, Sana'a. The Houthi members climbed the wall of the house, broke the doors and stormed the house in a way that reflects the barbarism of the militias. This caused panic among the residents of the neighborhood.
- 2- On September 24, the Houthi militias looted equipment and property belonging to a sheikh named "Abdul Wahid Al-Daam" in Al-Radma district in Ibb governorate, in light of looting operations carried out by the militias. The looting was under the directives of Houthi leader "Yahya Hussein Al-Saraji".

#### C- Kidnapping Cases:

1– On July 22, the militias of the Houthi groups kidnapped two activists in Ghab, Murad Al-Banna and Khaled Al-Anas, due to their social media posts and placed them in one of their prisons in the city of lbb.

The militias carry out kidnappings in order to make money. They release some of the abductees but at the same time refuse to release others.

2- On July 25, 2022, the Houthi militias kidnapped a young man named "Abdul Latif Al-Taheri" in the lbb countryside district, in light of a set of violations committed by the militias in the governorate. He was kidnapped under the directives of the Houthi leader "Al-Ghader Al-Amri" due to the youth's criticism of the militia's violations. The people of the governorate accuse the Houthi leader of committing violations and imposing taxes on citizens.

- 3- On July 30, 2022, the Houthi group kidnapped a young man named "Mohammed Sadiq Qaed" in Al-Majmaah area of Ibb countryside district. That was after a few days of kidnapping the young man "Abdul Latif Al-Tahri". The Houthi "Al-Ghader Al-Amri" is also the one behind the kidnapping. He refuses to release him.
- 4- In December 2022, the Houthi militias launched a kidnapping campaign against citizens in Bani Matar district. They refused the confiscation of their lands at the hands of a group of Houthis. The people of the district had carried out a protest in order to return their lands. They were assaulted and all participants were arrested.
- 5- In November 2022, the Houthis also carried out similar military campaigns, kidnapping more than 25 sheikhs and residents because of their refusal the plundering of their land.
  The militias are working to dismantle the Bani Matar area in order to loot all lands and houses, assisted by their judiciary, which issues invalid rulings that enable them to loot citizens' property and land.

#### **D- Injury Cases:**

- 1- On August 15, 2022, a 22-year-old young man named "Aseel Zakir Al-Aghbari" was injured by the Houthi militias in Taiz Governorate. The young man was transferred to the hospital for treatment at a time when the people were under siege.
- 2- On August 20, 2022, one of the citizens, named "Mustafa Muhammad," a 28-year-old in Taiz area, was wounded by a sniper of the Houthi militia.

#### E- Different Cases:

1-On September 5, 2022, a group of Houthi militias assaulted a lawyer named "Najib Al-Nazari" inside the campus of the Judicial

death after assaulting him.

2- A Houthi leader named "Issa Mohammed Al-Jabi" shot his father in Al-Mukhadar district, north of Ibb governorate, in light of the escalation of murders of relatives in militia areas. The father miraculously survived after the neighbors intervened in order to prevent the son from killing his father

Ibb governorate and other governorates under the control of the Houthi militias are witnessing crimes of this kind with the presence of Houthi thinking based on shedding the blood of others, even if they are their fathers or mothers.

- 3- The human rights violations in Yemen, led to the displacement of about 485 families during November 2022. The number of internally displaced persons until November 2022 reached about 8,979 families consisting of 49,227 individuals from 21 governorates and distributed over 12 governorates. The war led to the destruction of their homes and the loss of means of gaining their living.
- 4- There are 124 cases of violence against humanitarian workers in Yemen in 2022:

The UN monitored approximately 15 incidents of kidnapping and 13 arrests of humanitarian workers, in addition to the abduction of approximately 34 cars related to humanitarian work. Humanitarian partners reported 124 incidents of violence against humanitarian workers and human assets in Yemen from January 2022 to September 2022. Most of these incidents were from April to June. As a result of these incidents, one humanitarian worker was killed and four others were injured.

The governorates of Al-Hudaydah and Hajjah are the cities that witness the most violations of humanitarian work.

#### Conclusion

The Houthis are considered a religious group based on the Shiite sect. They emerged in the nineties of the twentieth century. They are characterized by a set of misguided beliefs through which they seek to implement their ideas that they believe and seek to spread.

# The Houthis have gained strength as a result of external support, represented by the State of Iran. There are many other factors that have worked to increase this strength, in light of negative reactions by the international community and international organizations, which exacerbated the crisis and increased the number of victims.

The Houthis have committed great violations against humanity, targeting a range of different sectors, including all segments of society, which varied between killing, displacement, torture...etc.

The most prominent sectors targeted by the Houthis are health, education and places of worship, which are considered the basis for the strength or collapse of the state.

The violations included all segments of society, especially women, children and the elderly. They between killing, torture, disappearance, beating, displacement and other forms of degrading, inhuman treatment.

#### **Recommendations:**

In the end, there is a set of recommendations that can be used as guidance in order to try to stop the violations against human rights:

- The Houthis must be held accountable before international criminal courts for crimes against humanity they have committed, especially the Houthi leaders who worked to destroy state institutions.
- The international community has to take a real action to impose binding international resolutions on the Houthis.
- **3-** The Security Council must impose strict sanctions if the Houthis refuse to implement the decisions the resolutions.
- 4- Arms transfers to Yemen must be monitored with issuing decisions banning heavy and medium weapons, punishing anyone who does otherwise.
- **5-** Sanctions must be imposed on countries that support the Houthi movement and provide them with weapons in order to continue the fighting.
- **6-** Transitional justice mechanisms need to be implemented in the Yemeni society to establish peace and security and build a democratic society.
- **7-** Fact-finding committees should be established to clarify and monitor the violations committed by the Houthis in Yemen, in order to put a deterrent punishment against them.

- **8-** There must be a decisive military confrontation against the Houthi group in order to restore security and peace to the state once again.
- **9-** Means of protection need to be available for vulnerable groups, such as women, children and the elderly, in addition to civilians, as they are the groups most vulnerable to harm in that war.