

## **“Yemen: Cracking down under pressure”**

### **Quote Sheet**

#### **ARBITRARY DETENTIONS, TORTURE, UNFAIR TRIALS AND ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES**

“I was beaten by the police women. I held a photo of my husband and they tried to take the photo from me. When I refused they hit me in the face and on my mouth, blood came out of my mouth.” said Aliya Ibrahim al-Wazir describing how she and six other women relatives of detainees organized a sit-down protest near al-Salih Mosque in Sana’a in September 2009.

“I continued to visit the Political Security and National Security, but each time they told me they did not have him. He remained disappeared. I did not know anything about him, and whether he was dead or alive. After four months of suffering and searching he appeared in the Political Security prison.” said Yahya Abdullah al-Siyani, speaking about his son Abdul Ilah Yahya al-Siyani, a 21-year-old accountant, arrested 19 May 2008 from his workplace in Sana’a, who was subsequently tried before the SCC and sentenced to five years’ imprisonment on charges that included buying medicine for Huthis.

#### **TORTURE AND OTHER ILL-TREATMENT**

“I was handcuffed and shackled and the officer started hitting me with his feet on my back and head. I was beaten so much I lost consciousness, and I was taken in an ambulance to the hospital... The second time I was beaten was a week after I was detained, I was beaten until I felt I could not breathe.” said Nasser Ali al-Qadi, aged around 40, who had been arrested in the south of the country, twice by Yemeni security officials.

#### **VIOLENCE AGAINST DEMONSTRATORS**

“There were security men scattered in the streets and on roofs to guard or prevent or survey a peaceful protest... The time was about 7.30am. Suddenly they’re shooting at those present at the protest. Many were hit. I saw one die, he was next to me. He was hit with a bullet in head... I was hit in my left thigh and testicle... They took me to al-Naqeeb hospital.” said Ala Muhammad Ali Ubad, a 25-year-old student at the faculty of education at Aden University, injured during a demonstration on 21 May 2009.

“Security forces were dispersing and chasing us from street to street in order to stop the protest. I was caught by five members of the security... They beat me with sticks and rifle ends. They said: ‘We will kill you to make an example of you for others’... Another one said to me: ‘We will run you over with the chains of the tank. They then dragged me along for about 500 metres to the police station. I lost consciousness.” said Arif Abdullah Muhammad Saleh al-Aysai, a 41-year-old state employer who is not allowed to return to work, describing what happened to him during a protest on 1 September 2009 in Shaykh ‘Uthman, Aden.

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#### **Documentos y comunicados de prensa**

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