

# Center for the Victims of Torture

## Torture, Former Combatants, Political Prisoners, Terror Suspects, & Terrorists

<https://www.cvt.org/what-we-do/survivor-stories/hassans-story>

## Campaign and Advocacy

Hassan was unrecognizable after his torture, but he found the courage to speak out.

Hassan, who lived in Deraa when the revolution broke out, described himself as apolitical; he didn't really support or oppose the regime. One day while riding alone on a motorbike near his village, he was arrested at a checkpoint and held for 40 days. His fingernails were removed with pliers, which caused him to lose sensation in his fingers. His interrogators cursed at him, insulted him and drilled a hole into his leg with a power drill; he passed out from the pain. When he was released, he had lost 40 kilos (88 pounds) and his wife didn't even recognize him.

Hassan went through the interdisciplinary program of care at CVT Jordan and took the steps he needed to rebuild his life. Hassan wants his experience to be used to help others, so he stepped up to tell his story publicly and show the truth about the war in Syria.

\*Name and some details have been changed to protect anonymity.

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