#### **Summary of the First Report**

On the Saudi Arabia Aggression on Yemen (26<sup>th</sup> March -3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015)

# Prepared by Monitoring and Documentation Unit

September, 2015

## First Report On the Saudi Arabia Aggression on Yemen

#### **Contents**

First: Introduction on the definition Aggression

Second: Saudi justification for aggression

Third: The aggression and its impact on the humanitarian

situation

Fourth: Conclusion

Fifth: Recommendations

#### First: Introduction on the definition Aggression

On the twenty-sixth of March 2015, Saudi Arabia launched, along with other countries called "Arab military coalition on Yemen". It is an aggression by Saudi Arabia in accordance with Article No. (1) of resolution No. (3314) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations unanimously on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 1974, which stipulates that "aggression is the use of armed force by a State against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of another State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations."

Saudi Arabia is an aggressor state according to the text of Article No. (2) of the decision of the Definition of Aggression, which states that "the State using armed force first; contrary to the Charter; will be the first environment adequate for an act of aggression." If the General Assembly of the United Nations fell silent for the commission of an act of aggression by Saudi Arabia; it would leave a legal outlet to justify the aggression and to get rid of international responsibility.

#### Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

The aggression is confirmed by Article (3) of the definition of aggression, which states that "any of the following acts; is an act of aggression:

- 1. Invasion by armed force of a State; the territory of another state or attack it...by force
- 2. A state bombings by armed force; the territory of another state or the use of any type of weapons by a state against the territory of another state.
- 3. The blockade of the ports or coasts of a state; by the armed forces of another state.
- 4. Send armed gangs or groups or irregular forces; or mercenaries; by or on behalf of the state; which perform acts of armed force against another State; as dangerous in manner similar to the acts above; or the involvement of the state truly in it. "

In light of the foregoing Saudi Arabia did the following:

- 1. Invasion by armed force and attacks on Yemen.
- 2. Throwing bombs and missiles and the use of all types of weapons, including those internationally banned.
- 3. The imposition of an armed blockade on the ports and the beaches of Yemen and the imposition of land and air blockade.
- 4. Different types of armed attack on Yemen.
- 5. Saudi Arabia allowed the use of its territory as a base for aggression against Yemen.
- 6. Saudi Arabia sent armed groups (Al Qaeda and ISIS and mercenary groups) to perform aggressive military acts against Yemen. As well as military support with arms and funding to non-state terrorist groups and mercenaries to perform the military acts of aggression.

#### **Second: Saudi justification for aggression:**

#### 1. Face the perceived threat

A justification rejected because Article No. (51) of the UN Charter confined the case of legitimate self-defense in the event of armed aggression, not just doubts or illusions.

# 2. Responding to the request of the President of the Republic in military intervention

A statement by the official spokesperson of the aggression (Saudi Arabia and its allies) said that its interference, with the participating countries in the war on Yemen, was a response to a formal request for the legitimate President of the Republic. Although Saudi Arabia knows that Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi is no longer the legitimate leader and had resigned at the same time. However, Aside from it; we would like to point out that the placebo request of intervention that Saudi Arabia insisted on Hadi to submit was on March 24; the aggression was launched on the morning of March 26, in less than 48 hours. The question that arises; Is it reasonable to plan an aggression on Yemen and begin the implementation of military operations in a short period not exceeding 48 hours of that date; which confirms that Saudi Arabia had planned the aggression on Yemen and was conspiring in advance and this justification is a frail attempt to evade the consequences of aggression and bear the international responsibility. In addition, Al Habeer said that we, with the United States, were preparing for the war several months ago.

In addition to the foregoing, it is not permissible for the state to ask for a direct military intervention but in case of aggression from a foreign country on Yemen. This criterion was never met, because there was no external armed military attack on Yemen. Moreover, the political crisis in Yemen is an internal affair; it is the remnant of the resigned president, who was one of the tools of igniting the crisis to achieve the objectives of the intervention in the internal affairs of Yemen and attacking it. The second criterion; is that outside interference should only be based on the request of the head of state to repel armed aggression exclusively. This criterion does not have any realistic and legal presence; and therefore the illegitimacy of the Saudi interference in the internal affairs of Yemen. This means that the Saudi aggression against Yemen is an attack on the terms of reference of the United Nations, the party concerned with the resolution of disputes by peaceful means. During the 48 days, the Saudi aggression against Yemen formed the most serious violations of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and all international norms and conventions, which prohibits the use of force in international relations. The Charter of the United Nations has enjoined upon all States, and the United Nations itself, to refrain from interfering in the internal

------

#### Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

affairs of any state and necessitated the States to solve their disputes through peaceful means

The principle of the prohibition of the use of force, is not only of the important principles of international law, but is a basic rule for any international legal state seeking to achieve peace and security in international relations, and serves as the backbone of the international system, as the fundamental obligation of all countries of the world.

The acts of military aggression and full blockade of Yemen committed by the countries of aggression is very dangerous not only to Yemen, but to international peace and security.

Here, the Security Council should have - at the time - criminalized this aggression and intervention as it has inherent jurisdiction to deter aggression and maintain international peace and security, pursuant to materials (39, 40, 41, and 42) of the Charter of the United Nations.

Thus, we call upon the Security Council to assume its role as assigned to it under the Charter, and the issuance of a landmark decision in the application of the definition of aggression committed by Saudi Arabia and its allies against Yemen and the international responsibility resulting of this aggression. The ongoing Saudi aggression and crimes against humanity in Yemen, and the violation of all international principles and norms that prohibits the use of armed force and aggression, happened and is happening under the eyes of the United Nations and the permanent members of the Security Council. Thus, the continuation of the Security Council in inaction and failing, starting with stopping the Saudi aggression against Yemen, and secondly, in taking a decision to condemn this aggression and to take legal action against the perpetrators, the Security Council is in breach of its obligations and duties in international peace and security keeping, as contained in the Charter of the United Nations. And then takes responsibility for these acts. Here we mention the resolution (Uniting for Peace) issued by the United Nations General Assembly on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 1950 on the Korean crisis. The decision included:

1. It granted the General Assembly of the United Nations broader powers and authorities than those provided for in the Charter, especially those concerning

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

the maintenance of international peace and security and to prevent acts of aggression, address them, and impose military sanctions.

- 2. This resolution confirmed the legitimacy of the international sanctions recommended by the General Assembly in the field of maintaining peace and security and the suppression of aggression.
- 3. Most importantly, the content of the resolution implies a warning to the permanent members of the Security Council, that the United Nations General Assembly has the power to revoke the privileges of those countries in the Security Council, through the expansion of its powers and authorities in the area of maintaining international peace and security, and preventing aggression.

The failure of the Security Council to put an end to the countries of aggression, who insist on dedicating it, raises many questions in the mind. Most importantly:

- 1. What is the use of the rules of international law?
- 2. What is the benefit of the United Nations Organization?
- 3. Where is the role of the Security Council in such an aggression, which constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security?
- 4. How would countries respect the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations?

Thus, we call upon the Security Council to hold the countries of aggression (Saudi Arabia and its allies) for International Criminal responsibility for the following crimes:

- 1. The crime of aggression.
- 2. The crime of breaching the peace and security.
- 3. War crimes.
- 4. Crimes against humanity.

The aggression has contributed to the creation of a painful humanitarian situation where citizens can not have access to health services, food, water, fuel, electricity, education, and economic activity has remained frozen in all sectors that millions of Yemenis lost their source of income.

This aggression avenged of the Yemeni people and complicated its daily living at all levels, as if it is a collective punishment. This resulted in a number of direct effects on the most important human right, which is the right to life, as follows:

- 1. Deprive all workers and employees of their source of income, as they were forced to park their cars due to their inability to obtain fuel.
- 2. The air, land, and sea blockade led to keeping more than 25,000 Yemenis stuck at international airports.
- 3. A large class of citizens is exposed to great suffering because of poweroutages, especially kidney failure, nurseries, and children with special needs, and that dead bodies decaying in refrigerators.
- 4. The disappearance of fuel has led to increased complexity of life for farmers who are unable to provide groundwater to irrigate their farms, which has a negative impact on the living situation accompanied by scarcity, and even lack, of agricultural products.
- 5. Many workshops, laboratories, and factories stopped leading to deprive its workers of their only source of income, which also led to the increase in the number of unemployment.

#### Third: The aggression and its impact on the humanitarian situation:

The aggression created a real disaster for all Yemenis in various parts of the Republic of Yemen. It also stopped the dialogue and resulted in violence and counter-violence by the army and security forces, along with the People's Committees on the one hand and the Reform Party, along with al-Qaeda and Hadi's militias, on the other hand, which resulted in many deaths and destruction and damage to public and private property, and helped al-Qaeda to exert his influence on the Hadramout province and some parts of Abyan, Shabwa, Baidha, and Marib. As a result of the aggression the educational process in schools and universities was disrupted and the educational process was completely paralyzed, complicating the daily life for students and their parents, in addition to attracting many students to the internal battles that were the result of the Saudi aggression that halted the political dialogue, which was ongoing between the Yemeni political forces, especially that the politics powers were just around the corner from the declaration of a political agreement if it was not for the

#### Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

Saudi aggression, according to what the former UN envoy to Yemen Jamal Benomar, who emphasized that the aggression on Yemen has helped the expansion of the war that benefited al-Qaida. Speaking to reporters, Benomar describe the humanitarian situation in Yemen as catastrophic in light of thousands of deaths and injuries among civilians and the displacement of tens of thousands of families that resulted in a very difficult social, psychological, economic, and living damage that is difficult to be estimated as it made access to water, food, and medicine a daily suffering for every Yemeni citizen and breadth of food security patch, which now threatens half of Yemen's 25 million people.

UN former envoy to Yemen confirmed that the aggression stopped the political dialogue in Yemen, and that the UN resolution No. (2216) has not received any response from all parties, and noted in his report that the war has regionally expanded its turf, and that al-Qaeda takes advantage of the chaos and will be greater if the situation was not politically resolved, stressing that the only way for the resumption of the political process is through Yemeni-Yemeni dialogue.

This report summarizes the situation of human rights violations, the victims, the wounded, the suffering of women and children, the sick and the elderly, hospitals and health status, and air, land, and sea blockade that prevents citizens from moving between cities and hitting institutions related to food and oil derivatives, in addition to the impact of aerial bombardment by the aggression on the humanitarian situation for the people of the Yemen in various Yemeni provinces.

This report documents the most vicious collective and individual extrajudicial killing crimes, for the aggression committed crimes against humanity by subjecting civilians to the case of a comprehensive siege, starving, prevention the medicine, fuel, and mobility both internally and externally, preventing relief, the use of internationally prohibited weapons, and the bombing of civilians and torturing them physically and psychologically, as shown in the following statistics:

## A) The victims of Saudi aggression of children, women, and innocent civilians

No	Cavamamatas	Children		Women		Civilians and the elderly	
	Governorates	Deaths	Injuries	Deaths	Injuries	Deaths Injuries	Injuries
.1	Al Amanah	131	145	156	223	312	1402

ACHRS, Telefax: 962-6-4655043, Mobile 962-795151590, P.O Box 212524 Amman

#### Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

.2	'Amran	60	76	60	51	198	556
.3	Sana'a	106	78	89	120	216	726
.4	Taiz	151	91	112	109	265	1209
.5	Sa'dah	280	264	187	229	554	1761
.6	Ibb	64	44	54	49	145	395
.7	Dhale	23	10	38	26	160	209
.8	Hajjah	113	160	92	127	242	1124
.9	Al Hudaydah	30	12	29	33	95	339
.10	Aden	154	102	78	52	239	842
.11	Al Bayda	19	12	21	14	46	122
.12	Dhamar	50	20	10	38	59	421
.13	Ma'rib	11	21	6	14	113	129
.14	Shabwah	6	2	5	12	22	150
.15	Abyan	3	4	4	11	28	102
.16	Al Mahwit	10	9	15	14	5	54
.17	Al Jawf	16	10	7	13	8	96
.18	Lahij	10	2	6	5		3
.19	Zabid	19	15	19	23	16	209
Total		1256	1077	988	1163	2723	9849

#### **Notes:**

#### B) Damage caused by the Saudi aggression on residential buildings

No	Governorates	Totally destroyed buildings	Partially destroyed buildings
.1	Al Amanah	540	1900
.2	'Amran	225	980
.3	Sana'a	190	620
.4	Taiz	460	1240
.5	Sa'dah	1920	5602
.6	Ibb	320	545
.7	Dhale	125	780
.8	Hajjah	320	985
.9	Al Hudaydah	145	420
.10	Aden	670	1450
.11	Al Bayda	92	240
.12	Dhamar	60	280
.13	Ma'rib	110	630
.14	Shabwah	117	360
.15	Abyan	102	420
.16	Al Mahwit	65	118

------

<sup>\*</sup>This statistic until the date of 03.09.2015 as it is not final.

<sup>\*</sup> The number of displaced is estimated as four million people.

#### Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

.17	Al Jawf	39	115
Total		5500	16685

#### C) Communities

The brutal aggression over 2100 air strikes, in addition to sea and land bombardment, by the countries of aggression caused damage and destruction to (436) localities on the various governorates of the Republic. As follows:

No	Governorates	Apartment complex
.1	Al Amanah	78
.2	'Amran	14
.3	Dhale	18
.4	Taiz	78
.5	Lahij	15
.6	Hajjah	19
.7	Sa'dah	320
.8	Shabwah	19
.9	Ibb	36
.10	Dhamar	19
.11	Ma'rib	32
.12	Aden	112
.13	Abyan	19
.14	Al Bayda	24
.15	Al Hudaydah	42
.16	Sana'a	45
.17	Al Jawf	7

#### D) The damage caused by the aggression on civilian facilities

No	Created	Number
1.	Electricity generators and power stations	89
2.	Electricity converter stations	14
3.	Fuel stations	203

ACHRS, Telefax: 962-6-4655043, Mobile 962-795151590, P.O Box 212524 Amman Email:achrs@achrs.org, www.achrs.org

## Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

	•	
4.	Schools	387
	Schools closed	3750
5.	Institutes, colleges and educational institutions	112
6.	Mosques	538
7.	Hospitals and Units	107
8.	Clinics and health units and facilities	102
9.	Ports freely commercial vitality	8
10.	Ports	9
11.	Airports	13
12.	Factories	154
13.	Food stores	434
14.	Grain silos	7
15.	Media organizations	11
16.	Bridges and public squares	297
17.	Civil defense centers	32
18.	Security facilities	110
19.	Civilian aircraft	9
20.	Stations and electricity pylons	98
21.	Network Connections	93
22.	Clubs and athletic fields	18
23.	Archeological sites	37
24.	Parks and Recreation	22

#### E) The damage caused by the aggression on the private civil facilities

No	Civil the facility	Number
.1	Locomotives transport fuel	119
.2	Locomotives transfer of wheat and foodstuffs	344
.3	Transfer locomotives loaded with iron	33
.4	Private factories	149
.5	Private food stores	434
.6	Popular markets	202
.7	Poultry Farms	81
.8	Service centers	514
.9	Food factories for children	21
.10	Shops	1025
.11	Cars	2540

\_\_\_\_\_

#### F) Indirect damages caused by the aggression

In addition to the direct damages, there are many indirect damages caused by the aggression during the month of air, sea, and land bombardment and most important of these damages are shown as follows:-

- 1. Closure of several public and private hospitals because of power outages and lack of oil derivatives.
- 2. 1200000 students deprived from going to school.
- 3. 260000 university students deprived from going to their universities.
- 4. The lack of access to water due to lack of oil derivatives.
- 5. For more than a month and a half citizens are living in total darkness around the clock, because electricity towers are hit and the lack of oil derivatives.
- 6. Death of many pathological cases with kidney failure.
- 7. 116abortions cases because of the fear of mothers.
- 8. Nearly 900 people harmed with suffocation by the gas associated with internationally prohibited rockets.
- 9. Rise of unemployment due to air, sea, and land blockade.
- 10. Increase of displacement of up to 300,000 displaced people.

#### **Fourth: Conclusion:**

The aggression and humanitarian crimes and serious violation of human rights during the past one-handed and eight days was because of the Saudi aggression to thwart the political peace process in Yemen and to keep the Yemen under the hegemony of Saudi Arabia, and the continuation of this aggression will lead to a humanitarian catastrophe that would be difficult to control, which will reflect negatively on the security and peace not only in Yemen but also in the Gulf States.

The continuation of the aggression, the targeting of civilians in many areas and cities, pricing of internal war and supplying it with weapons and money, not to mention the media incitement of Yemeni people against each other, which has led to the continuation of assassinations and suicide operations targeting mosques and civilians.

The Saudi aggression, double standards, denial of Yemeni rights and the right of people to choose the path of social, economic, and political development without any

interference or dictation, is considered by our organizations as a departure from the United Nations Charter and humanitarian principles.

#### Fifth: Recommendations:

- 1. Urge the international community to carry out independent investigations and hold the aggression responsible of human, material, and moral losses, and investigation of the weapons used.
- 2. The immediate cessation of the aggression led by Saudi Arabia against the Yemeni people.
- 3. Activating the role of the United Nations agencies and international organizations to provide humanitarian assistance to Yemen to lead to stability.
- 4. Stop the unjust siege on the people of Yemen and the delivery of medicine, food, and petroleum products as soon as possible.
- 5. Form an international commission to investigate the crimes of aggression, war, and genocide suffered by Yemen and Yemenis.
- 6. Commitment of neighboring countries that participated in the aggression against Yemen not to violate the Yemeni sovereignty and assault it.
- 7. Demand Saudi Arabia for compensations for the losses of Yemen and the Yemenis resulting from the aggression through a special fund under the auspices of the United Nations, European Union, and Russia for reconstruction.
- 8. Reactivate Yemeni dialogue between the various parties and political and social actors to resolve internal differences and work on forming a national unity government with the invocation of all parties to the constitution, the law, and the outcomes of the approved national comprehensive dialogue, and respect for human rights and international law principles.

Email:achrs@achrs.org, www.achrs.org