

Statement issued by the Civil Society Organizations in southern Yemen on the shooting of demonstrators in the city of Azan.

Aden October 3, 2019

The Southern civil society organizations are calling for the minister of defense and the governor of Shabwa province to be questioned for what their forces committed against citizens in the city of Azan al-Shabwanyah.

In a suspicious repressive situation, the government armed forces fired live bullets at civilians who were demonstrating peacefully in the city of Azan in Shabwa province, these demonstrators were demanding that the security in their province be contained in order to secure their lives, after which a number of them fell between one dead and one wounded, in addition to the arrestation of dozens of protesters.

We, the Southern Civil Society Organizations, condemn and denounce these acts perpetrated by the military forces against peaceful civilians, which constitutes an act of a mass murder condemned by all national and international laws, religious teachings and human values. We call for the arrest of the perpetrators and for ensuring that no impunity shall be accepted.

We, the Southern Civil Society Organizations, do believe that this repressive attitude of the government armed forces is a serious escalation of the situation, with negative repercussions on the tension in the southern regions in general, which will lead to the detonation of the military posture. Therefore, we hold the leadership of the government armed forces accountable, primarily the Minister of Defense and the Governor of the Province. We also call on the Arab coalition forces to protect the people of the south and contain this crime before it escalates, move the camps from the cities and move the northern forces to the fronts of the fighting with the Houthis .

We, the Southern Civil Society Organizations, remind these government forces that their battle is with the Houthi militias, who have occupied their towns and villages, not with the people of the south .

Issued by the Southern Civil Society Organizations listed below:

1. Southern Advisory Centre for Rights and Freedoms.
2. A right to pay for rights and freedoms.
3. Sama Development and Guidance Organization
4. Southern Media Association - Sama
5. Southern Feminist Bloc Germany
6. National Organization for Transparency and Financial and Administrative Reform
7. Hadramout Aden Youth Forum
8. Development Promotion Foundation
9. Aden Promising Youth Foundation
10. Ambitious Foundation for Human Development
11. Idraq Development Foundation
12. Broadconn's Development Organization
13. Human Touch Foundation
14. Sewing and Development Services Association

15. Ahrar Human Rights and Development
16. Al-Fanar Development Foundation
17. Aden Foundation for Environment and Development AFED
18. South Future Foundation
19. Aden Youth Foundation for the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Aden Province
20. Freedom For Human Rights and Development
21. Bahr Foundation for Development and Children's Rights
22. Amal Foundation for the Care of Orphans, The Poor and Humanitarian Work.
23. Maddar Center for Strategic Studies