

The Association of Victims of Abductions and Enforced Disappearances mentioned in its report for 2011:" the State may be involved in the Islamization of Christian minor girls. A businessman, a police officer and a Sheikh are members of a group for the kidnapping Coptic girls; 60% of the girls disappeared due to sentimental reasons and family mistreatment and 40% were abducted.

The Association for Victims of Abductions and Enforced Disappearances (AVAED) said in its annual report that it was able to monitor during 2011 a total of 44 cases of disappearances, which they were " given permission to publish", in addition to other cases where families rejected being publicly involved . AVAED also added in its report that the age of those abducted ranged between 14 and 40 years, including 60% where the main reason behind the disappearances was an emotional relationship and mistreatment of the girls by their families due to social customs and traditions. Another reason was the proliferation of media technology, social networking and dating sites.

The report added that two disappearance cases in Al-Kantara East, Ismailia governorate, the first was "A. KH. B ", and the second "D. A. SH." Bothe were introduced to the young men through social networking site which turned into emotional relationships. In one of the cases, the young man baited one of the minor girls by asking questions about the Bible's Song of Songs by King Solomon. He started comparing between the "Song of Songs" and "the Qur'an " ; at that time the girl was a minor under 17 year of age.

The annual report confirmed that 40% of cases were subjected to abduction with the aim of forcing the Christian girls to convert to Islam, and this was proven in the official records along with the testimonies of the witnesses.

The report pointed out that there are certain authorities involved in these disappearances and abduction cases involving businessmen who fund and provide private residences for the abducted girls, a former State Security officer who is now working for the National Security who played a role in facilitating the procedures of conversion to Islam besides misleading the kidnapped girls' families during their search for their missing daughters, and thirdly a Sheikh living in the area of Hosh ISSA , Beheira, known as "M. A". He is a Salafist Sheikh who works as Quran memorizer as well as and making comparison between Islam & Christianity. This information was confirmed by the girl "M.H.M" who was kidnapped and returned back to her family a few days ago.

The AVAED report explained that those three parties were supported by several countries outside Egypt, according to the "Diary of a Demon" which is a confession of a former Muslim who was a member of a radical Islamic association , who was successful in the Islamization of a number of Christian girls; Ahmed Aouni Shalkami – a former Muslim converted later to Christianity.

The report pointed out that there is an organization called "Coalition for the Support for New Muslim Women," made up of Salafist sheikhs and activists whose main concern is the Islamization of Copt girls. They have several Internet sites such as the "Islamic Observatory for the Resistance of Christianization," which organized several

demonstrations against the Church and insulted Pope Shenouda III, Patriarch of the Coptic Orthodox Church, allegedly that Kamilia Shehata Zakher wife of "Pastor Thaddeus Simon", was rumored to have left Christianity and wanted to convert to Islam. Kamilia denied all these rumors in one of the TV channels, but they still went on demanding her return, claiming that "a Muslim sister is held captive inside a monastery."

The Association of Victims of Abductions and Enforced Disappearances in its 2011 report also demanded the return of the "counseling sessions" after the necessary modification has been made and to be held in the National Council for Human Rights and in presence of a priest, a sheikh and a member of human rights organization. The Association explained that the counseling sessions are governed by law, which existed since the era of Ismail Pasha in 1863, almost 142 years ago. These sessions are provided by the "law of notarization", in which article 58 states "when a person wishes to convert to Islam, the administrative authority "meaning the Directorate of Security" must notify the religious institution "Church" to come to the Directorate of Security to discuss with whoever wants to convert to Islam; it gives the priest the right to be alone with whoever wants to change his/her religion to ensure that it is his/her own genuine desire and is not made under pressure or coercion, and that the person came to this step in order to achieve a desire or not to escape from a particular problem). The report mentioned that the priest was allowed to hold more than one session with the same person, and sometimes there were delays similar to inversions court sessions, These "counseling sessions" were cancelled by the former Minister of Interior "Habib al-Adli" in 2004 after the case of Wafaa Constantine. Habib al-Adli is now on trial for the murder of demonstrators together with President Mubarak. The report also called for raising the minimum age for religious conversions to be 21 years instead of 18 to avoid cases of abduction and disappearance of minor girls and forcing their Islamization without having any knowledge of Islam.

The Association issued a recommendation to the Christian families to treat their daughters well and ease the harshness of the community customs and social traditions which violate their rights and to provide them with the appropriate social environment, so they don't search for another source of proper treatment or kindness. It has also criticized the failure of the Church in the service and care for the girls, and demanded that Pope Shenouda III, Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of Saint Mark See, Patriarch Antonius Naguib, Patriarch of the Coptic Catholic Church, and Rev. Dr. Safwat Bayaadi President of the Evangelical Church, to intensify the role of priests in the care and follow-up of families.

The report clarified that the first words given by officials when a girl is abducted or has disappeared is that the girl left the house by her own will, and these claims were repeated in all cases.

The report criticized the negative attitude of human rights organizations and their silence on what the minor girls are exposed to. It pointed out that Mr Gamal Eid, director of the Arabic Network for Human Rights issued a statement in connection with Kamilia Shehata.s case, but did not bring to the attention the tragedy of the minor girls cases or offered

any help although AVAED has sent him several reports on the disappearance of some minor girls and the role of the security authorities.
The report monitored three cases of girls, one of them returned to her parents while the two did not return until the publishing of this report.

Facilitation of Abduction:

The first case is "M. H. M" who grew up with her family in Hosh Issa, Beheira governorate and when she was in middle school; her family agreed with a small cart driver called Samy M.Z. to her pick up and drop her to school on a long-term basis. But the small cart (TOK-TOK) driver(TOK_TOK is a cheap mean of transportation common in poor areas) told the girl that he wanted to leave Islam and convert to Christianity; she welcomed that and a love story was developed. Shortly after she informed her family, they went to the young man at his home and asked him to leave their daughter alone. After the school year ended, the family left Beheira governorate and moved to Burj al Arab, in Alexandria where her father and her brother worked in her uncle's factory. The girl joined the industrial secondary school and began having new friends among whom were Safaa A. from Baheej Area and Aziza A.A, from algharbaniat, and this friendship became strong among them. The young man appeared again in her life and phoned her through Safaa's and Aziza's phones who already had a relationship with two other young men "Ramadan & Momen" from school.

Abduction:

One day, Samy tried to meet the Christian girl in front of her school but she refused, then Samy went home, after that Safaa brought a plastic ring as a gift to the girl. That was on Tuesday two days before from the girl's disappearance.
On Thursday, 24/11/2011 the girl went to school and at the door Safaa, Aziza and Ramadan were waiting for her and informed her that Samy was coming to go with her to the beach in Alexandria until the end of the school day. They asked her to wear a veil so that no one would recognize her; they took a TOK-TOK till the old tower roundabout where Samy was waiting for her in a 7-passenger Suzuki along with a driver, after which the Christian girl disappeared.

When the girl was late returning home, her family was worried and began to search for her and asked all neighbors and friends to help search with them. Her brother managed through the help of someone to reach Safaa's

family address and when he entered the house her mother gave him a piece of chocolate, but he refused fearing of magic as per his story, but she insisted and said to him: "I will not speak about your sister, unless you ate the chocolate," but he refused, then Safaa's mother ask him to drink a cup of tea, but he refused In order to get her to talk, he took a chocolate and put it in his pocket and Safaa's mother spoke and said to him: "why are you making the girl sad and beating her?", although this never happened, then she told him that his sister would return but did not disclose any other information.

The family submitted a report to the police station and the prosecutors brought Safaa, Aziza and Ramadan who confessed to everything, but the police department refused to bring Sami.

Then a member of the girl's family met Ramadan and asked him about the reason for doing what they did and he said that it is for the service of God, then the family offered him some money to reveal her place but he asked them to give him time to think about it. Shortly Ramadan contacted a Salfi sheikh during his meeting with the girl's family and told him that the family attacked him and gave the telephone receiver to the family to speak with the sheikh, who told the family how could they dared "attack one of our sons".

After that the girl's uncle who owns the factory went to the school and asked to see Ramadan in the director's office. During the interview, Ramadan said: "I do not know anything about the matter and I got Safaa, Aziza and one veiled girl and dropped them in the old tower round-about, the girl's uncle said to him "you are stupid, driving girls around without knowing anything." Ramadan got angry and said: "Why do you insult me?" and took out his phone and called someone, within ten minutes about 20 Salafists carrying swords, chains and sticks arrived at school, but the director and the teachers told them that the uncle said nothing wrong, so they left

After that, the lawyer of the girl's family, who is also one of her relatives contacted one of the police officers and asked his assistance to bring Sami in a friendly manner to the police station. The police officer told Sami "You are fleeing from the implementation of the judicial provisions and a fleeing from military service and it is not in your favor to add to those crimes another crime of kidnapping of a minor and sexual assault, and offered him some money to inform them the whereabouts of the Christian girl.

On 5/1/2011, Sami got scared of the police officer's words, and gave a mobile phone to the girl. Next day's evening on 01/06/2011, the Coptic Christmas Eve, was a great surprise when around 9.30 pm, the girl's mother received a phone call (from number 01125269804) from her daughter who asked her mother: "Mom, are you going to kill me if I returned", the mother said "No, Do not be afraid, whatever happened do not be afraid," the girl replied: "I will return very soon", and when the mother asked her about her location, she denied knowing the location and promised to call her back.

The mother got another call from (phone no. 01229103432) at 1.30 am, which lasted for ten minutes and the girl told her mother "Mother don't worry I am fine and I will run away at the earliest opportunity." Then the mother received another call from the same phone number at 5.00 am on January 7, the Christmas Day, which lasted until 6.00 am, and the girl said: I am at Abbasyia area next Naguib Mahfouz, Delingate city in Beheira. Then called again at 8 am from the same number for 5 minutes, fifth call at 11.30 noon, where she confirmed to her mother that she managed to escape, and he is running and struggling in the street wearing a veil and slippers where she was bitten by a stray dog, all that and still with her mother on the phone.

During her escape, she stopped a TOK-TOK, but found that the driver was bearded and

told her he would drop one passenger, then drop her. wherever she wanted, but her mother told her to continue running and not go with him. She then found a pickup truck and the driver was known to her, his name is Ayman, he used to go to the same church in Beheira. She called him and told him who she was and asked to be dropped by him, but he refused as he did not recognize her with her veil. Her mother was still on the phone line with them and heard everything. She asked her daughter to give the phone to Ayman and then told him to keep her daughter with him until pastor Philemon Khalifa of St. Antony church in Hosh Issa contacts him.

Immediately, the mother called Father Philemon and told him that her daughter is with the driver Ayman and asked him to go and fetch her and she would come soon to pick her up.

The Return:

The girl said that the kidnappers tried to remove the cross tattoo from her right wrist using acid, but the attempt failed and burns developed on the right hand where the cross is. She also said that she left school during the break and was supposed to go back home at end of the school day as usual but Samy delayed her until 3 pm then told her if went home now her family may kill her or beat her, so he advised her to go with him.

She continued saying: "At first I went to Hosh Issa in Mansheya, Beheira, where I spent two days at Sami's home, after that she went to a Salafi sheikh called "Mahmud Effesh" whose job was to make people memorize the Quran, besides making comparison between "Song of Songs" one of the Bible books and the Quran, also the Gospel of Matthew chapter tenth, the verse: "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law." The sheikh then presented a fabricated pornography for His Holiness Pope Shenouda III, Pope of Alexandria, the Patriarch of the Coptic Orthodox. The Christian girl continued her narration that the sheikh brought a sheikh and scholar as well as a girl called Marwa who accompanied her the whole time. She also said that at one time a sheikh came and asked for two cups of tap water and an aluminum tray and started to read incoherent words and asked her to drink the glass of water with my left hand and when I tasted the water, it was very bitter, so I quickly made the sign of cross without him seeing me do it, and held the cup by my right hand and found the taste of water returned normal.

"Another time I got out of the house accompanied by two women, one was holding my right hand and the other my left hand and walked in front of my old house, in front of my uncle's old house and the houses of my friends, but I was afraid to speak or scream or say anything," , said the Christian girl.

She also said: "One time I went into a house with Marwa who always accompanied me and found stairs going down, so I asked her what is down stairs, she told me come and look, then I found a door at the end of the stairs and when I looked out of the door slot above the door to see what's in that room, I found huge quantity of weapons and munitions, including machine guns, pistols and swords. I used to see this in any house I go to, even Sami had a gun in his home."

She explained that after almost a month she went to someone called 'Masoud Al-Fiqi' at Alabasya, the same place where she escaped from later, who told me that after six months he will issue me with a national ID with the name of Mimar Masoud Al-Fiqi, because I would have then reached the age of 18 years, the legal age for conversion. The sheikh told her they would then go to Alazhar to convert her to Islam. He also asked her to go to a house in Mansoura, where a lot of abducted minor Coptic girls stay until they reach the age of 18. She refused and told him she will remain near Samy.

"Sami S. Z." who is fleeing punishment from military service as well as from the implementation of judicial provisions and a drug addict, as the girl's family revealed during their search for their daughter and other abducted and detained Christian girls at "seven-up" street, in Amiriya, Alexandria, which is known for the presence of abducted Coptic girls there, while police forces always present in this street. The family also discovered that Sheikh "Naji" at Matamir, in Beheira knew the whereabouts of the abducted Christian minor girls and boys and asked the sheikhs who abducted these victims to hand hand them over to him if they are not convinced by Islam, then he return the girls against the sum of twenty thousand Egyptian pound and ten thousand pounds for the boys.

The second Case

was that of "H. H. S" who disappeared since 21 August, 2011. She was born on January 29, 1994, completed the second year of commercial secondary school. She went out of her home to buy food and left her mobile phone at home; a police report was issued two days after her disappearance (record number 3521 Talbia Police Station). The report emphasized that her father recently received a threat from a young man named "Samir" via his mobile phone (Caller ID 01506645194), then had several unknown calls on his mobile phone, The investigation authorities are still inquiring about these numbers after the family filed several complaints, without any action.

The Third Case

also did not return back to her family. She is known as "A. Z. SH." 17 years old, resident of Mit Oqba in Giza Governorate. Her brother confirmed to the Association

personnel that she is absent since Friday 8 April, 2011., when in the morning she went out to go to a private lessons center at Ard Allewa, and did not return back since then.. He added that he asked the teacher and her colleagues but they confirmed that she did not come to the center on that day. A young man named Samir said that one of her colleagues named Dohaa informed the teacher that "Amal is sick and will not be able to attend class on that day" which directed her family to change the police report No. 6264 in Al-Agouza police station from record of disappearance to a record of kidnapping of No. 2545 administrative Agouza, accusing her colleague Dohaa and her mother of kidnapping the Christian girl. They were questioned by the police but denied those accusations. After that the abducted girl's family made several complaints to the police, but to no avail.

The AVAED report said that it does not include all abducted cases, pointing out that there are cases which converted to Islam, such as the case of Najwa Ibrahim Sargios and her children, whose video clip was broadcasted on the Islamic Observatory website, and there are cases who returned back to their families, but they refused to publish the details of what had been happened to them.

Ebram Lewis, the Association founder has called on the parliament members to intervene for the return of the counseling sessions with an amendment to its law to prevent dissension among the Egyptians, especially that the Christians say that the girls are abducted to convert them to Islam, while Muslims says that the church is holding the girls who want to convert to Islam inside the monasteries. "Both side's scenarios are wrong and threatens the peace and unity of the Egyptian society, especially with the failure of the security authorities in searching for the girls and returning them back to their families," said Lewis.

Lewis added that in 2011, the Association made 15 communications to the Attorney General to demand restoration of the counseling sessions, the last of which was made by the Legal Committee of the Association number 11019 for the year 2011. A copy of this communication was sent to the governing Military Council and the Office of the current Interior Minister, Major General Mohammed Ibrahim.

The Legal report on the Forced Islamization of Christian Minor Girls

The Spark:

"Saeed Fayez" a lawyer and the Legal Counselor of the Association, said that they are usually surprised by the sudden disappearance of one of the minor girls without any prior signs and her family would emphasize at the time that the girl was devoted to Church and that they are on good terms with their daughter and that they suspect that she was abducted and start searching in all plausible places to reach a first searching step.

Fayez added that the first step is to report to the police station in accordance with the instructions from the minister of Interior to the police stations superintendents, as disappearance or kidnapping police report cannot be recoded before 48 hours from the disappearance "and in the case of a disappearance of a Christian girl, we are not allowed to accuse any one as happened in Ain Shams police station". He added that the Ain Shams Police Station Deputy Superintendent said: " 'We will be gracious with you and file a record because we know how will the story will go. The girl certainly loves someone, and I apologize again because she says she converted to Islam and she is pregnant . This happens repeatedly.'" Fayez says that strangely enough, this is what usually happens. He explained that the fundamentals of the CID work in such cases is to do the necessary investigations to find out everything about the incident and its circumstances, but in the Islamization cases these investigations will never be carried out and if they have some information they will hide it totally from the girl's family, as happened with "Marina Hany Ernst"

According to Fayez the second step is usually when the minor girl suddenly appears, but this time she will be surrounded by a group of people, one of them is the hero of the love story, who is with the minor girl (though he is a criminal by the law according to the Children's Act) They cannot marry before the minor reaches the age of eighteen years. The rest of the group are defenders of their "sister who converted recently to Islam", as they are characterized by the Salafist trend of all having long beards with shaven mustaches. Then the girl will be questioned by the prosecution, while the Salafists prevent her relatives or their representatives from coming near her at all or talk with her even during investigations, "then we find that the investigator or the Attorney General, requests being left alone with the minor girl and no one knows what goes on inside, whether it is intimidation, encouragement or comparison between Christianity and Islam, but the outcome is always two sheets of paper in which the girl will tell the same story that she loved Islam and her heart is happy with Islam and that she saw the Prophet in her dreams and he told her that Islam is the religion of truth," said attorney Fayez. He added that in this situation the girl is less than 18 years old and may not have converted to Islam, as per Al-Azhar Al-Sharif formal response in its letter no. 13363, dated 25/12/2011, whereby the Chairman of the Azhar Fatwa Committee " Said Salah al-Din Amer" said: "Converting to Islam is for those who reached 18 years and this is a condition of Embracing Islam according to the opinion of the advisory Commission ", also as the minor have not reached the age of marriage, the situation is normal to deliver this girl to her family, but we find the prosecutor general follow a new approach and

instead deposits the minor in a care home, in violation of the provisions of Article III of the Children's Act.

The Association's Legal Advisor Fayez also said that when the girl's family objects to the decision of keeping the girl in a care home, the prosecutor general usually replying ' you see the Salafists surrounding the prosecution building and if we give her to you a civil war will break out. After that, the girl's family will go away happy that their daughter is in the hands of the State and that getting her back is a matter of time as promised. Then they discover that they cannot see their daughter or speak to her, until the commission finishes its report about the girl, and in some cases such as the one of 'Christine' and 'Nancy' the two girls from Minya as well as that of 'Amira Kamal Saber' who have settled in one of the Islamic religious associations to teach them Islamic religion until they reach the age of 18 years, by which time Islam has becomes true to them. In this repeated scenario, which occurs with all minors and gives us an indication, one way or another, that the State departments were involved in the Islamization of the minors for several reasons :-

1 – The police station refuses to search and refuses to give any information about the disappeared girls.

2 - Prosecutors refuse to investigate the incident of kidnapping; also refuse to send the girls to the forensic department to carry out a virginity test, because if it was proven that a minor was raped, whoever was responsible will be punished by the death penalty.

3 - Prosecutors procrastinate procedures in handing over the minor to their families in an attempt to gain time until she reaches 18 years of age, so that Islamization of the girl can take place.

4 – The presence of the minor girl in one of the Islamic Sharia associations is in itself a mistake, because the girl in that period of absence has been given several meetings with one of the sheikhs and is not given to one of her parents to explain questions she may have and this is a defect in a matter of choosing faith.

5 - Repeat of the same scenario confirms that behind these stories exist organized group penetrating even the state departments and its primary goal is to mislead the minor girls and induce them to declare their Islam and through what we have seen from the cases we found that cases of deception begins in one of two. They first play on emotions with a false love story is the most common – also deception through false information about Christianity and demonstrating that it is the religion of the unclean and that Islam is a religion of purity. The second threat comes from relationships between Christian and Muslim families whereby Muslims can take advantage of one of the girls and then blackmails her that if she does not do as he wants, he would harm a family member she loves. The temptation may come that converting to Islam may be a solution to the problem

Attorney Saeed Fayez finished his word by saying that what we talked about now is what is happening presently, but we will cite in the subsequent report the problems that exist

in the legal texts and provisions of the Court of Cassation, which conflict with international conventions of human rights, signed by Egypt, resulting in human rights crimes as well as an international crime which is that of enforced disappearance.

The report has pointed out many cases of abduction in 2011 who did not return to their families until the present time, are:

- 1 – Youstina Tadres Aziz
- 2 – Amel Zakeria Showky
- 3 – Irini Khairy Bekhit
- 4 – Demiana Abdulla Shenouda
- 5 – Farida Naiem Yousef
- 6 – Mariem Saleh Abdel Messiah
- 7 – Mariem Nabil Najeh
- 8 – Nermin Khairy Mosa
- 9 – Heba Adel Iskander
- 10 – Heba Naji Gad Al-Kareem
- 11 – Jacqueline Ibrahim Fakhry
- 12 – Edal Kamal Nissim
- 13 – Amira Emad Sami
- 14 – Iman Ishak Ramzy
- 15 – Dina Kamel Zaki Yousef
- 16 – Hanan Hakim Saeed
- 17 – Dalia Makhlouf Kamel
- 18 – Samia Aryan Thabet Gondy
- 19 – Samah Nairouz
- 20 – Najwa Ibrahim Sargious and her children Marina, Michael & Mario Maged Mikhail
- 21 – Mariem Atef Nairouz
- 22 – Vironia Saber Girgis
- 23 – Fifey Faiek Nasief

- 24 – Madeline Issam Kamel Girgis.
- 25 – Marian Haliem Monier Yousef Sidhom
- 26 – Marian Hany Arnest.
- 27 – Mervat Taoab Najeeb
- 28 – Mervat fawzy Mossad and her son Morcos Nadi Noman
- 29 - Nawara Gamal Tanagho Shenouda
- 30 – Yasmin hanna Megaly Girgis
- 31 – Manal Nassif Yousef
- 32 – marian Ghaly Aad yacob
- 33 – Merai Fawzi Dawood
- 34 – Cristine Ezzat and Nancy Magdy
- 35 – Sandy Mansour Waheeb
- 36 – Ameera Gamal
- 37 – Dalia Gamal NaserIla
- 38 – Janet Nabil Hanna
- 39 – Refka Fakhri Faried Nasif Romany
- 40 – Swsan Nabil Aziz Makhlof
- 41 – Marina Saber Nassif
- 42 – Marian Akram Elias Zakher
- 43 – Manal Nasif Yousef
- 44 – Rania Liesha Ibrahim

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