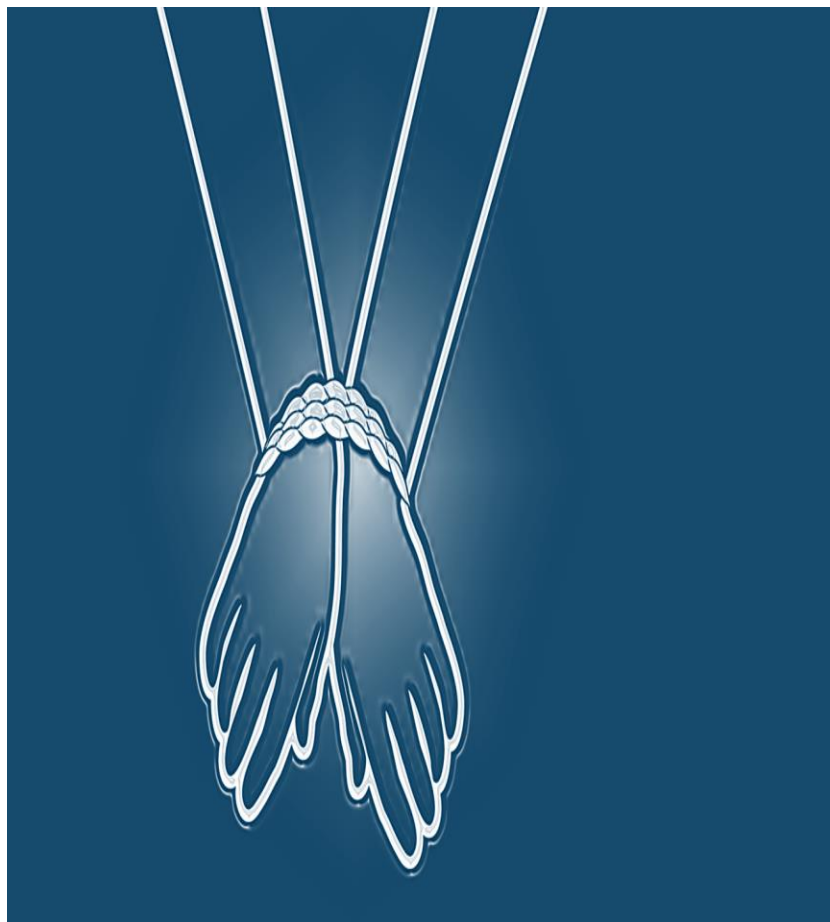


Torture in Turkey 2021 Report



JANUARY 2021

ASSEDEL Research



“In the days and weeks following the coup attempt, the torture and ill treatment have been widespread. Information has been obtained about the torture made by police, gendarme and military personnel in the official and unofficial detention locations”.

Nils Melzer, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Preface

L'Association européenne pour la défense des droits et des libertés, ASSEDEL, is a Strasbourg-based human-rights advocacy association. Its objective is to disseminate, promote and defend human rights and fundamental freedoms in the spirit of the European Convention on Human Rights, both within the Council of Europe system and at local, national, and international levels. The organization guides and supports victims of human rights violations.

This report has been prepared by ASSEDEL to inform the CPT Turkey Group about torture and ill-treatment that has been systematically continuing since 2016 in Turkey. The main source of information was the reports of human rights organizations, the studies provided by human rights defenders, and websites/tweeter accounts that opened to expose torture and ill-treatment in Turkey. Torture and ill-treatment are generally conducted in prisons, police centers, and MIT (Turkish Intelligence Service) bases.

The report starts with the reminding of the definition and the potential consequences of ill-treatment and torture in international and in Turkish law. The report continues with the description of two popular but “not-existing” torture centers in Ankara.

Both international and Turkish jurisprudences strictly forbid ill-treatment and torture. However, the details told by those who were tortured show the severity of the disconnection between theory and reality. The narrations of victims were quite detailed and could long several hundred pages for this report. We preferred to summarize the available information and present them as four-appendixes in table forms for easy use and follow-up. The report provides an additional chapter with the personal details of 23 strongly suspected torturers who have been reported by multiple victims. We expect the CPT to initiate an inquiry of investigation from Turkish officials about these officers.

We dedicate this report in memory of individuals and families whose lives have been darkened due to torture and ill-treatment since 2016 in Turkey. We hope that the report will assist the CPT Turkey Group well.

Sincerely

ASSEDEL

L'Association européenne pour la défense des droits et des libertés

Torture and Ill-Treatment in International Law

Article 1 of the “Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment” which is adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1984, defines torture as follows:

‘Any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity.’

The Convention entered into force on 26 June 1987. Turkey ratified the Convention on 25 January 1988, it is published in the Official Gazette on 29 April 1987 and has become effective.

According to the Convention:

- ***Each State Party shall ensure that all acts of torture are offenses under its criminal law. The same shall apply to an attempt to commit torture and to an act by any person which constitutes complicity or participation in torture.***
- ***Each State Party shall make these offenses punishable by appropriate penalties which take into account their grave nature.***
- ***International norms decree the torture be defined as a crime and punishable by penalties. Turkey is one of the state parties which ratified this Convention. Article 3 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms states that “No one shall be subjected to torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”.***

After the preamble which points to the international rules of law, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment proclaims that torture and inhuman treatment can never be used under any circumstance whatsoever, including state of war and state of emergency. Article 2 of the Convention states that no exceptional circumstances whatsoever, whether a state of war or a threat of war, internal political instability, or any other public emergency, may be invoked as a justification of torture.

The decisions of the European Court of Human Rights discriminate between torture and ill-treatment by taking into consideration the criteria regarding the severity and intensity of the torture. These criteria are, in general, the duration of the ill-treatment, physical and psychological effects, the gender, age and health condition of the victim, and the method and procedure of the ill-treatment.

Torture and Ill-Treatment in Turkish Law

Articles 94 and 95 of the Turkish Penal Code require a penalty of imprisonment for a term of 3 to 12 years for the crime of torture committed by a public official. If the offense is committed against a child, a pregnant woman, a public officer, or a lawyer, imprisonment for a term of 8 to 15 years shall be imposed. If the act is conducted in the manner of sexual harassment, the offender shall be sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of 10 to 15 years. The Article states that

“Any other person who participates in the commission of this offense shall be sentenced in a manner equivalent to the public officer”.

Where the act of torture causes (of the victim) a permanent impairment of the functioning of any one of the senses or an organ, or a distinct and permanent scar on the face, the penalty shall be increased up to 18 years. Where the act of torture causes (of the victim) an incurable illness, the complete loss of functioning of one of the senses or organs, the loss of the ability to speak or loss of fertility, permanent disfigurement of

the face, or the loss of an unborn child, where the victim is a pregnant woman, then the penalty shall be increased up to 24 years. Where an act of torture causes the death of the victim, the penalty to be imposed shall be aggravated life imprisonment.

Turkish Penal Code regulates the crime of ill-treatment under the section of “Torment” in Article 96 as follows:

“Any person who performs any act which results in the torment of another person shall be sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of 2 to 5 years. Where the act is committed against a child, a person who is physically or mentally incapable of defending himself or a pregnant woman, then a penalty of imprisonment for a term of 3 to 8 years shall be imposed”.

Turkish Constitution regulates the prohibition of torture in Article 17/3 as follows:

“No one shall be subjected to torture or maltreatment; no one shall be subjected to penalties or treatment incompatible with human dignity”.

As a result of all the above mentioned, torture and ill-treatment are prohibited according to **national and international norms**.

The Facts on Torture and Ill-Treatment in Post-2016 Turkey

Human rights activist and MP Omer Faruk Gergerlioglu, states that 100 individuals were exposed to different torture methods including rape with baton since July 2016. Based on interviews with lawyers and relatives, and a review of court transcripts, Human Rights Watch (HRW) 2020 report indicates ten cases in which security forces tortured or ill-treated a total of 22 people, and an eleventh case in which police beat scores of villagers, 38 of whom lodged formal complaints of torture. HRW 2020 report also presents details of five individual cases of abduction that likely amount to enforced disappearance by state authorities since March 2017.

According to official figures, over 150,000 people have passed through police custody in a year (2019-2020) with the accusation of terrorism offenses, membership of armed groups, or involvement in the attempted coup in July 2016. The highest number of detentions concerns people suspected of links with the Gülen (Hizmet) Movement. Until the coup attempt in 2016, the Gülen Movement was renowned and appreciated for the schools they opened in 170 countries around the world. Many ministers, statesmen and diplomats, including the president, had their children educated in schools opened by the Gülen Movement. The president and many of the state officials attended the International Language and Culture Festivals organized by these schools and praised their activities. However, after the 2016 coup attempt, this Movement was declared an enemy and terrorist organization. Innocent teachers, homemakers, shopkeepers were imprisoned as members of the Movement. Decisions named Decree Law were issued and hundreds of thousands of civil servants were dismissed overnight.

Since the 2016 state of emergency, abductions of men are reported by witnesses. The victims were abducted in broad daylight in the street by men who declared to passersby they were from the police. In most cases, the same type of vehicle, a VW Transporter, was used for abductions. The relatives of the disappeared men had difficulty lodging formal complaints with the authorities or with receiving information about the investigation. In one case witnesses to the abduction told relatives they called the police, who said they could not intervene because the individual's apprehension seemed to have been handled by the anti-terror branch of the police.

During the state of emergency, the maximum period of detention without charge was increased to 30 days; during that period, especially, the military personnel was exposed to severe torture; their photo images were released to the public by the state official media outlets, such as TRT and Anadolu Agency, and some other pro-AKP government media outlets without any hesitation. Many deaths and injuries have been reported during the detention period. Although the state of emergency has ended, systematic torture of the detainees still goes on in the detention centers. UN and European Union commissions keep criticizing and warning Turkey and recommending improving democracy and human rights at once.

Two “Non-Existing” but Popular Torture Centers in Ankara

Since 2016, the Turkish Intelligence Service, MIT, has started to abduct men and women. The victims were forced into the vans at broad daylight in metropole city centers such as Istanbul and Ankara, then brought to the detention centers. Since January 2016, over 25 victims have been identified, with witness testimonies and surveillance camera records, to be kidnapped by MIT.

The most popular MIT torture centers are “non-existing” places. One of the abducted men, recalls his kidnapping and aftermath as follows:

“As far as I could figure it out about, we were in a two-floored building with torture rooms of 50 by 20 meters in the basement and computer analysts and data experts working on the first floor. After I was released, I watched the videos of two top administrators of MIT, Erhan Pekcetin and Aydin Gunel who were kidnapped by PKK. In front of the camera, they were telling that the MIT had two centers for torture and interrogation. Everything became more and more clear after listening to them. They said that one of the two centers was in Marsandiz, a rural area, close to the President’s Bestepe Palace and the other was in the Yenimahalle Campus of the MIT.”

One of the female victims of torture, Ayten Ozturk, narrates her experience as follows:

“I was kept in the basement of a government building. I was hearing other people upstairs talking during working hours as well as the sound of the women walking back and forth wearing high heel shoes”.

One of the interrogators said to her during torture:

“This place does not exist. It is not a police station or prison. There is no time limit here. There is only God and us here. We have the final say here”.

Another abducted man, I.S., narrates his experience at the torture center:

“They put me in a cell. It had doors with iron slides. It was a dark cell, about 3 m2. Walls were covered with padding and carpets. It was like a government building. I could hear the sound of the women upstairs walking back and forth wearing high heel shoes. It is impossible for them not to hear the sounds of the torture that we were exposed to. They called each other with names Haydar, Hacı Ali, Emin, Muammer, Taskin, Seckin, Devrem. The interrogator told me ‘You will talk. We are getting paid by the government to torture and kill. There is no lawyer here, no doctor. We are the state, if we want, we can bring your wife here and do the same things to her’.”

According to these narrations, it is possible to identify two unofficial torture centers of MIT in Ankara. Allegedly, the first torture center is at the basement of the Headquarter of MIT in Yenimahalle (a metropolitan district of Ankara Province) and the second one is **at the intersection of Anadolu Boulevard and Marşandiz**, in the same district not so far from the Headquarter of MIT. The popular name of the place is **Çiftlik (Chiftlik)**. A drone view of the abovementioned torture center of MIT was published by Stockholm Center for Freedom.



ILL-TREATMENT and TORTURE in PRISONS and POLICE STATIONS in TURKEY – 2021 REPORT

Appendix	1	Date	January 2021
Prepared by	ASSEDEL	Department	Research

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
Tekirdağ No 2 F-Type Prison	Tekirdag	5 or 6 prison guards	Beating, torture	Ömer Köse
Denizli T-Type Prison	Denizli	Prison guards	Guards said her clothes' color was banned and forced her to enter prison without clothes.	Fatma Demir (f)
Denizli T-Type Prison	Denizli	Prison doctor	The doctor prescribed her a very high dose of medication, which was given to the ones who brutally attack others.	Fatma Demir (f)
Denizli T-Type Prison	Denizli	Emergency response team	In soundproof walls of a room, he forcibly undressed, handcuffed, and tortured, because he wanted to be transferred to his father's ward. Father had a brain tumor and needed care.	Onur Demir
Ankara Police Department	Ankara	n/a	Torture	80 undergraduate students
Ankara Police Department	Ankara	n/a	Female students were being stripped to their underwear and beaten down.	Female students
Ankara Sincan Prison	Ankara	n/a	As a healthy 48-year-old doctor, he was dead after 3 months of imprisonment. Authorities declared it as a heart attack, but medical reports indicated internal bleeding.	Ali Özer

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
Menemen Prison	Menemen/ Izmir	Fatih Oktay, murderer prisoner	He was attacked with a piercing tool called skewer 7 times. At first, the murderer targeted his heart, then caused 7 injuries in his body.	Hazim Sesli
Gümüşhane E-Type Prison	Gümüşhane	Prison administration	He was moved in a cell with Covid suspicion and found dead a day after. His Covid test was negative.	Mustafa Kabakçioğlu
Diyarbakır T-Type Prison	Diyarbakır	Prison administration	80 years old found dead in his cell.	Bahattin Kardaş
Denizli T-Type Prison	Denizli	Prison administration	He was taken to his daughter's funeral with handcuffs under the surveillance of 12 officers.	Ali Koca
Kırıkkale F-Type Prison	Kırıkkale	n/a	Dead under torture. His family was called by the prison administration to come and get their deceased. His body had bruises and stick traces all over.	Serkan Tumay
Gaziantep H-Type Prison	Gaziantep	Prison administration	He was left to his fate in a cell after a positive Covid test.	Namık Bingöl
Kırşehir E-Type Prison Kayseri No 1 Prison	Kırşehir Kayseri	Prison guards Prison guards	They launched a hunger strike for ill-treatment in prison. They were transferred to Kayseri No 1 Prison. They were forced to strip-search and resisted, then beaten down. The same night 30-40 officers arrived in their ward and beaten them.	Cumali Yıldırım, Feyyaz Gürsoy, Ali Saday and Emrah Kına
Afyonkarahisar No 2 T-Type Prison	Afyonkarahisar	Prison guards	The A-13 ward was searched by guards on Aug. 21, 2020. The entire ward was subjected to inhuman treatment and psychological torture during this search. Despite the epidemic, the guards entered the ward without masks and gloves. Their beds were pressed with shoes.	Hüseyin Torlak
Afyonkarahisar No 2 T-Type Prison	Afyonkarahisar	Prison guards	Beaten in the groin by the guards during ward search. He could not sleep at night due to the impact and wanted to go to the hospital. He was mocked as "Are you having a heart attack? You will be in quarantine for 14 days on your return	İsmail Kılıç

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
			from the hospital, you will not have the right to call and view”.	
Afyonkarahisar Anti-Terror Branch	Afyonkarahisar	Male and female police officers at anti-terror branch	The couple experienced heavy torture for 14 days, beatings, electrification, and sexual torture. The officers told Murat Boşcu ‘your wife is in the next room if you don’t sign this document, we are not responsible for the consequences’. Murat Boşcu said later to his wife that he could not be a father anymore.	Murat Boşcu Müberra Boşcu (f)
Bakırköy Women's Prison	Istanbul	Prison guards	Strip-search, insult	A number of women
Aydın E-Type Prison	Aydın	Prison guards	Strip-search, insult	A number of women
Muğla KOM	Muğla	Officers	Strip-search, insult	50-year-old woman
Konya TEM	Konya	Police officers	Strip-search, insult	18-year-old, daughter of the abovementioned woman
Kayseri Bünyan Prison	Bünyan/Kayseri	n/a	68 yo with heart and chronic diseases, was kept in a cell for 10 months. He has caught Covid, referring to delay of execution, he was sent to hospital but handcuffed to the bed. He was rearrested and sent back to prison before the execution period ended. He is still dependent on an oxygen cylinder (Jan.2021) and has no caretakers.	Ahmet Türkmen
A container, 6 min. away from Esenboga Airport	Ankara	MIT agents	He was detained by Kazakh officials at Kazakhstan Almati Airport. After judicial procedures based on the Kazakhstan justice system, a decision was made to return him to Kyrgyzstan. Regardless, he and his colleague Enver Kilic were kidnapped by MIT. He said “By brute force, I was	Zabit Kişi

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
			<p>boarded on a pattern painted plane I could not describe, that had no numbers or signs on it. They jumped on me right after I was boarded. They slapped and kicked me while cursing at myself and my values. I was trying to understand what was going on. They were continuously hitting my genitals and my head. When I tried to ask something, they shut me down by cursing at me and saying “you will soon understand...” They blindfolded me while also covering my nostrils. The impacts on my genitals hurt me a lot, I was in agony. My head was pounding with pain, I had a hard time holding my head straight. My underwear that had blood due to the impact on my genitals was later eradicated. Blood discharged from my penis onto my underwear for days”.</p> <p>Mr. Zabit Kisi was tortured for 108 days. He was stripped naked, electrocuted, dehydrated for days, exposed to sexual abuse, continuously beaten, watched while he was going to the toilet, and when he was about to die, he has injected drugs and continued to be tortured. His penis was bleeding for days due to beating, his fingers were smashed, his ribs were fractured and cracked. The torturers told him that they would kill him by injecting drugs and then tell the authorities that he died due to a heart attack. He is currently in Kocaeli No 2 F-Type Prison.</p>	
Istanbul Police Headquarters	Istanbul	Counter-Terrorism Branch Officers	His head was smashed against walls, kicked while down on the floor, slapped and punched hundreds of times, and that he was feeling a never-ending pain in the ribs. His death was recorded on live cam.	Gokhan Acikkollu
MIT Yenimahalle campus	Ankara	MIT officers	He was strapped to a strappado while being subjected to electric shock and beaten with whips, sticks, and batons. He had an intestinal tear due to placing a baton inside his rectum. He was forced to sit on an artificial penis and	A.G. (name withheld for security reasons)

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
			<p>attempted to rape. A typical torture session continued an average of 4-5 hours. In his cell, he was constantly hearing the scream of other victims. Mr. A.G. said “one of the torturers was hissing while speaking, most probably he was ex-military personnel. Once he had asked me to sing some folk songs. When I had not done so, he used electric shock. I sang a few songs. From then on, he made me sing while he was torturing me, I was crying and singing, and he was torturing me. He was increasing the intensity of the electric shock when I stopped singing. He used to tell me that my daughter would be taken away and be raised for espionage activities of the government. “Do you know what espionage is?” he asked me once, and then answered himself; “She will be a prostitute working for our government! They added, “this building does not exist; anything may happen to you here”. The torturer said to me “You may die here. If you die here, we can easily throw your dead body across the border of Syria. Even more, they might find you dressed like an ISIS member in the desert. No one cares about your death”.</p> <p>Mr. A.G. said “PKK supporters were tortured here heavily. They made us listen to the sounds of their torturing, my eyes were blindfolded, and I was strapped to a strappado. From what I could hear, I can say that they were raped. Objects were inserted into their rectum. I think some of them died. The torturer made me listen to the screams of those kidnapped using his cellphone, he called them PKK supporter journalists. He said they were Hursit Kulter, Taskin Yasak, and Mujgan Ekin.</p>	
6 min. away from Esenboga Airport	Ankara	Snow-masked torturers	Accused of being a member of the DHKP-C, Ayten Ozturk was arrested in Lebanon Airport on March 8, 2018. Someone named “Kadri” from the Turkish Embassy had	Ayten Ozturk (f)

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
			<p>come and talked to her and taken her pictures with his smartphone. She was brought to Turkey with a private jet. She had not seen a judge in a courtroom for more than one year. Then, in the court, she had made a long speech explaining in detail the heavy torture she was exposed to for six months in Ankara. The official records in Ankara Counter-Terrorism Branch indicate that she was arrested on August 28, 2018. However, she said, this is not true, and she was illegally brought to the detention center on March 13, 2018. She said that after 6 months of torture, one night she was handed over to the police in a rural area. In her statement, she said she was kept in the basement of a government building since she heard other people upstairs talking during working hours as well as the sound of the women walking back and forth wearing high heel shoes. The interrogator said to her “this place is not a police station or prison. There is no time limit here. There is only God and us here. We have the final say here”. She was forced to stand naked in front of the torturers, sexually violated with batons, waterboarding, force-feeding, burning her fingers, keeping her in a coffin-like box, strappado torture. The intensity of the torture especially was rising during her menstrual periods. The torturers said, “We are professionals. You won’t die but you will beg to die. If ever you get out, you will be mentally ill”. They treated me, injecting IV and rubbing cream-gel on my body and face. They kept me on IV for three days as far as I can remember. They were saying that they were treating me to torture me more. This period of treatment continued for about twenty days. During this period two snow-masked, short, old men with suits and ties were checking the torture marks on my body every day. After 6 months she was delivered to the</p>	

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
			police and she was then officially arrested by police as if she was just caught ordinarily.	
6 min. away from Esenboga Airport	Ankara	MIT agents	He was kidnapped by a VW van. Mr. I.S. said “the team leader was someone with the Black Sea region accent. While beating, they pulled me out of the van and took me to a place. They told me: “You will talk. We are getting paid by the government to torture and kill. There is no lawyer here, no doctor. We are the state, if we want, we can bring your wife here and do the same things to her”. We were in an ordinary building, on the ground floor. They put me in a cell. It had doors with iron slides. It was a dark cell, about 3 m2. Walls were covered with padding and carpets. It was like a government building. I could hear the sound of the women upstairs walking back and forth wearing high heel shoes. It is impossible for them not to hear the sounds of the torture that we were exposed to. They called each other with names Haydar, Hacı Ali, Emin, Muammer, Taskin, Seckin, Devrem. Two of them had Aegean region accents, an interrogator, and a guard. There were other victims in the cells adjacent to my cell. They were also being tortured. And one of them was a woman. She knew Turkish and told me that they were from Eastern Turkistan. Mr.I.S. was tortured in the abovementioned place for 7.5 months and lost 30 kgs.	İ.S. (name withheld for security reasons)
Van police station	Van	Police officers	They were severely beaten, and their heads were put inside the toilet. 14-yo O.S.said, “I left home to go to the store. When I went out, a police vehicle stopped by me. 8 policemen got out of the vehicle; they reverse shackled me. They laid me on the floor and hit my back twice with gunstock. The 8 policemen beat me by kicking me. Then 3 policemen stood me up and punched me on my face. They took me into the police vehicle. While in the car, one of the	Three teenagers aged 14, 16, and 17

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
			<p>policemen was hitting my head forcefully with a bullet. They took us to the police station behind Van Shopping Mall. There they tried to get information. I told them I did not know anything, and I did not see anything. They slapped me there. They cursed and insulted very heavily. They did the same at the vehicle. After slapping, they took me to the restroom and dipped my head into the toilet. Right now, I have blurred vision and itching in my left eye. Then they took me to Van Regional Hospital. Late at night, they brought me to the Children Branch [of the police station]". 17-yo O.D. and 16-yo S.Y. told that they were taken into custody at the Hacibekir Neighborhood where the events took place and that they were exposed to similar treatments.</p>	
Gevas Police Station	Gevas/Van	Police officers	<p>In the town of Gevas in Van, there was an attack with a grenade launcher on the Police Station on the evening of June 9, 2017. Then it was announced that "3 PKK terrorists who were the perpetrators of the attack were caught." While the testimonies and investigation procedures were going on, the office of the Van Governor announced the 3 people who were caught as "terrorists have been caught alive."</p> <p>They were severely beaten, and the photos of their bodies drenched in blood were released to the public via social media accounts by the police officers themselves.</p>	Cemal Aslan (53), Halil Aslan (50) and Abdulselem Aslan (35)
Ankara Police Headquarters Financial Crimes Bureau	Ankara	The men who introduced themselves as MIT officers	<p>The ex-officers who were expelled by KHK, beating till they became unconscious, sexual abuse, and forced to watch people who were being tortured; torture that is against human dignity inflicted by individuals. One of the diplomats who fainted and taken to the hospital with no report prepared by the doctors on the incident; and that torture continued and would get heavier, and the</p>	100 ex-personnel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
			<p>allegations that testaments were imposed by force on people to sign through torture.</p> <p>5 of them said they were taken to a dark room at Financial Crimes Bureau. Individuals whose faces they could not see due to darkness first pushed them against the wall, blindfolded them, they were made to kneel, were made to crawl, hit by a club on the head, were threatened to be molested with the club, and moved the club on their bodies.</p> <p>3 of them said their clothes were taken off completely, one individual told his pants and underwear were taken off, one individual's pants were taken halfway off; and thereafter the first four individuals who were naked or partly naked were forced to an embryo-like position, with the club being moved on their anuses while touching the bodies, meanwhile being threatened and insulted to talk, were given one or two minutes; thereafter, while the men were talking about "transitioning to the second stage", they poured oil or lubricant on their anuses, and they were exposed to torture while a club was moved on their anuses touching the body.</p> <p>5 individuals stated that they were exposed to torture and mistreatment told that the people who tortured them in the darkroom were different from the people who were in the Financial Crimes Investigation Bureau. One individual told these people said, "We came from outside, we are a professional team."</p>	
Sinop Prison	Sinop	Prison administration	<p>"The Law on the Execution of Sentences and Security Measures" with the number 5275 is in force and the 4. paragraph of Article 16 of that law states that "Execution of the sentences shall be postponed for the pregnant women or for the women who gave birth in the last 6 months".</p>	Nurhayat Yildiz (f)

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
			Being pregnant to twin babies, Nurhayat Yildiz was accused of being a member of a terrorist organization because she had a ByLock communication application installed on her cellphone. She rejected the allegations against her, yet she was arrested at the Criminal Court of Peace. She was put in the Sinop Prison, in a ward of 25 total inmates. Nurhayat Yildiz lost her babies due to miscarriage on October 6, 2016. The bodies of the babies were not given to the family for a funeral procedure.	
Bandirma Prison	Bandirma/ Balikesir	Prison administration	As a mother of three children, the youngest of whom is 6 years old, is arrested and put in Bandirma Prison due to her alleged membership of the Gulen Movement. While being pregnant to her fourth child, she was urgently brought to Bandirma State Hospital on May 31, 2019. The doctors detected that the baby's heart stopped beating, one day later they performed the abortion. After she had lost her baby due to the negligence of the authorities, Asik was put back in the prison. Asik, in a letter that she wrote to her husband from the prison, summarized her situation as follows: "I am still thinking about whether what I lived through is real or just a dream. May God not let someone else live through what I did, my soul is very tired. I don't want to think, I don't want to talk. I am just reading books like crazy, to suppress the enormous disappointment and the anger inside me. ...just reading, non-stop, almost forgetting to eat and drink. I have to be like this, otherwise, I might lose my sanity, I can't take it anymore...especially that no one cares about this injustice. I just keep reciting the name of God, "Allah", and then take a deep breath".	Gulden Asik (f)
Osmaniye T-type Prison	Osmaniye	Prison administration	A mother of three children, and 2-month pregnant, is arrested and put in on June 27, 2019, within the scope of the investigation about the Gulen Movement. Her arrest	Hanife Ciftci (f)

Name of the Prison/Station	Town/City	Torturers	Complain	Victim (f:female)
			<p>violates Law No. 5275. Although she had stated and it was recorded in the police station, in the office of the prosecutor, and in the court trial that she was experiencing a high-risk pregnancy with abnormal bleeding, she was simply ignored. In a prison ward of 15 inmates and the heat of 43 Centigrade, she did struggle for her life and for her baby's life Ciftci appealed one more time to the office of the prosecution in Osmaniye on July 1, 2019, stating that she was experiencing difficulties in her pregnancy often with abnormal bleeding and that the environment in prison was endangering her pregnancy. Ciftci's lawyer also appealed to the Institute of Forensic Medicine in Adana stating that his client was in no condition to stay in the stressful prison environment and requested a medical committee report. Despite all the attempts, her appeal for release from prison was rejected. Hanife Ciftci became ill on July 29 and was taken to the hospital. After it was found out that she had lost the baby in her womb, they performed an abortion in the hospital, and on the same day, she was taken back to the Osmaniye Prison.</p>	
Corum Prison	Corum	Prison administration	<p>On 26 April 2019, it was announced that Mr. Ozcengiz died as a result of a heart attack in Corum Prison. He was sentenced to 12.5 years in prison. He was held in a solitary confinement cell for 2 years. He suffered from high blood pressure, diabetes, stomach disease, and passed away.</p>	Muzaffer Ozcengiz

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES in TURKEY – 2021 REPORT

Appendix	2	Date	January 2021
Prepared by	ASSEDEL	Department	Research

Suspected Institution	Town/City	Disappearance period	Victim, (f: female)
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Ankara	Feb. 7, 2019 - Nov. 6, 2019	Gökhan Türkmen Currently in Ankara's Sincan F-type Prison No. 1
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Ankara	Feb. 2019 – Jul.2019	Selim Zeybek
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Ankara	Feb. 2019 – Jul.2019	Özgür Kaya
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Ankara	Feb. 2019 – Jul.2019	Yasin Ugan
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Ankara	Feb. 2019 – Jul.2019	Erkan Irmak
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Ankara	Feb. 2019 – Oct.2019	Mustafa Yılmaz Currently in Ankara's Sincan F-type Prison No. 1
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Ankara	Aug.6, 2019 – STILL NOT KNOWN	Yusuf Bilge Tunç
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Ankara	Mar. 2017 – Jul. 2018	Mesut Geçer
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Ankara	Mar. 2018 – Sep. 2018	Ayten Öztürk (f)
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Istanbul Int. Airport	Oct.13, 2020 – STILL NOT KNOWN	Bahtiyar Fırat
Turkish Intelligence (MIT)	Istanbul	Jan.20, 2021 – STILL NOT KNOWN	Gökhan Güneş

KNOWN CASUALTIES in TURKISH PRISONS (January 2020-January 2021)

Appendix	3	Date	January 2021
Prepared by	ASSEDEL	Department	Research

Prison	Prisoner	Date of the death	Reason
Düzce Prison	Metin Yücel	January 19, 2021	He was a lawyer and registered with the Bilecik Bar Association. He was also one of the founders of the Ak Party in Bilecik, did not remain silent against the injustices he saw. He fearlessly defended journalists, civil servants, housewives, and shopkeepers against the lawlessness in the courts. The brave lawyer of the victims, Metin Yücel, was arrested and sent to Düzce Prison. Despite all the efforts of the MPs, Aydın, and victims' families, he was thrown into the prison with the slander of terrorism and not released. 51-yo Metin Yucel could not get rid of the Covid-19 disease he was caught in prison.
Tarsus Alifaki Prison	Seyfettin Kurtçu	December 25, 2020	He was first dismissed from his teaching profession by decree. Later, he was detained for being sued and arrested on 20 June 2019. His son, a math teacher, was also in the same ward as his father. The tired heart of the 51-yo Kurtçu could not bear what he experienced any longer. He left behind a tearful wife, a son, and a daughter.
Afyon Prison	Ümit Gökhasan	November 23, 2020	He was serving as a commissioner in Bitlis. Gökhasan, who was expelled by decree in November 2016, was arrested on March 8, 2017. He was sentenced to 6 years and 11 months in prison. He contracted stomach cancer in prison. He was sent back to prison after the surgery on February 13th. All of his treatments were half-finished, chemotherapy was not started, and he passed away in prison.
Istanbul Silivri Prison	Yusuf Kurt	November 20, 2020	He was taken out of the barracks on the night of July 15, saying that there was a terrorist attack from the campsites in Yalova, was kept on the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridge until morning without getting off the bus, and taken to the police station in the morning, 4 days later, he was arrested like all cadets and was sent to Silivri Prison and he was imprisoned for 8 months. remained. After his release, he caught spinal cancer due to extreme stress, and Kurt and 70 cadets were sentenced to life imprisonment during the ongoing court process. Every

Prison	Prisoner	Date of the death	Reason
			court stress increased the tumor even more and Yusuf Kurt succumbed to the tumor that spread throughout his body towards the evening of 20 November.
Bursa H-Type prison	Hüseyin Özen	November 11, 2020	He was a retired chief inspector from Türk Telekom. A lawsuit was filed against him for depositing money in Bank Asya. He was sentenced to 7.5 years in prison. Özen had diabetes and caught Covid-19 disease in Bursa H-type prison. Although his condition gradually worsened, he was not allowed to receive treatment for a long time. He had pneumonia in both of his livers. 58-yo was died in prison as a result of negligence, left 2 tearful children and a painful wife behind.
Iskenderun Prison	Ahmet Kaplan	November 10, 2020	He was a police officer with a career full of success., who was arrested immediately after July 15 and finally sentenced to 7.5 years, has 4 months to be legally released in March 2021. Recently he had advanced stage metastatic lung cancer. The tumor was advancing rapidly. All calls for the release of Ahmet Kaplan, whose treatment was made in the prison ward of Iskenderun State Hospital, handcuffed to the bed, he died.
Ankara Sincan Prison	Mustafa Barış Avılan	October 18, 2020	Colonel Mustafa Barış Avılan, who was under arrest in Ankara Sincan Prison, had a heart attack in February 2018, and a pacemaker was inserted in March 2018. He wrote to his family by fax, "I AM DEATH". He passed away in Ankara Sincan Prison.
İzmir Buca Kırıklar Prison	Yunus Gökgöz	October 10, 2020	He was dismissed from his job with a decree, started working in a pastry shop to provide for his family. He was arrested due to the investigation opened against him and sent to İzmir Buca Kırıklar prison. Gökgöz, who was caught in covid in prison, is released before he fills his second month. His family stated that he passed away due to the delayed treatment.
Elazığ Prison	Nedim Yıldız	September 24, 2020	Despite having blood cancer and many other reported illnesses, in Elazığ Prison, in unhygienic conditions. He was released after being imprisoned for nearly a year. As a result of the approval of his sentence, he was released due to his illnesses after being imprisoned for another year. He caught Covid and died on September 24, 2020, at the age of 68.

Prison	Prisoner	Date of the death	Reason
Siirt Prison	Cengiz Karakurt	September 22, 2020	41-yo was dismissed from his profession with the decree. He was a Physics teacher in Batman, was arrested within the scope of Hizmet Movement investigations, and put in Siirt Prison. Fainted during the count in the ward. Karakurt passed away in the intensive care of the hospital where he was taken. He had been sick for the last 1 month when he had open-heart surgery in the past years, and this situation was passed on official statements as a cold.
Kütahya Tavşanlı Prison	Veysel Atasoy	September 21, 2020	The former police officer was dismissed from his job by KHK. He caught the corona virus and died in Kütahya Tavşanlı Prison where he was detained.
Istanbul Bakirkoy Prison	Beyza Özden (f)	September 03, 2020	She was a director of a student hostel and jailed in Bakirkoy Prison in Hizmet Movement investigations. Her body could not stand all these. She was 27-yo when she has died.
Gümüşhane Prison	Mustafa Kabakçioğlu	August 29, 2020	He was dismissed from his job while he was a deputy commissioner in Giresun Police Department, was arrested, and sent to Gümüşhane Prison. Police officer Kabakçioğlu, who was suspected of Covid19, died in a solitary cell, where he was not taken to the hospital, as his cough increased. His family filed a criminal complaint with the Gümüşhane Public Prosecutor's Office regarding the death.
Istanbul Silivri Prison	Fatih Terzioğlu	August 23, 2020	The film director was left in Silivri Prison for 21 months unfairly and unlawfully. He was not released despite being diagnosed with stage 4 stomach cancer, was too late for everything when his illness progressed, and passed away.
Uşak E-Type Prison Afyon Prison	Mevlüt Öztaş	August 19, 2020	He was a journalist and arrested in February 2018. He was first sent to Uşak E Type Closed Prison. Inguinal hernia appeared there. He was operated on without even informing his family. Then, kidney failure occurred due to prison conditions. Meanwhile, his asthma condition progressed. He repeatedly requested evacuation due to his illnesses. However, all his demands were denied. It was found that he had hypertension. He has been on a diet for months. As a result of the trial, the court sentenced to 9 years and 3 months in prison. Mevlüt Öztaş was released on June 24 due to public pressure, but it was too late now. The condition of Öztaş, who has pancreatic cancer, has worsened day by day.

Prison	Prisoner	Date of the death	Reason
Kandıra Prison	Yusuf Uzun	August 07, 2020	Yusuf Uzun, an accounting teacher who caught cancer in Kandıra Prison, where he was detained after being dismissed from teaching in Kocaeli Darica, succumbed to the relentless disease he had been fighting for three years.
Nevşehir Prison	Caner Durukan	June 03, 2020	He was a health officer who was dismissed from his job with the decree-law died in the Oncology intensive care of Kayseri Erciyes University Hospital, where he was treated. Durukan was arrested in mid-2017 as part of Hizmet Movement investigations and stayed in Nevşehir Prison for a year, has been receiving treatment for bowel cancer for 2.5 years. When Durukan's treatment was delayed in prison, the tumor spread to his liver.
İzmir Kırıklar Prison	Özgür Doğan	April 11, 2020	43-yo literature teacher and father of 3, dismissed from his profession with Decree No. 672. He has diagnosed with cancer in prison but was not evacuated until his illness reached the 4th stage as a result of negligence, and it was too late for everything after his release.
Kahramanmaraş Prison	Ümit Erdinç	April 02, 2020	Diabetic Ümit Erdinç, who was detained in Kahramanmaraş Prison, died of a heart attack.
Malatya Prison	Medeni Arifoğlu	January 25, 2020	He was one of the respected businessmen of Bingöl. After the state of emergency, all of his assets were confiscated and arrested, and put in Malatya Prison. She had a liver transplant, his appendicitis burst in prison, and was in intensive care. Medeni Bey, who was sentenced to 7.5 years, had not been released despite an 86% apology report and all efforts and was left to die.

KNOWN CASUALTIES in TURKISH PRISONS (January 2019-December 2019)

Appendix	4	Date	January 2021
Prepared by	ASSEDEL	Department	Research

Prison	Prisoner	Date of the death	Reason
Kahramanmaras Turkoglu L-Type Prison	Selim Bugrahan	September 09, 2019	87-year-old Mehmet Selim Bugrahan, who was arrested on charges of aiding the PKK after being sentenced to 4 years and 2 months in prison, died in Kahramanmaras Turkoglu L-Type Closed Prison. Bugrahan's wife was sick and bedridden, one of his five children was disabled, and the other was imprisoned in Bingol M-Type Closed Prison.
Ankara Sincan F-Type Prison	Omer Guni	September 01, 2019	He had a heart disease report that stated he could not remain in prison. He was released when his health condition became severe. Due to the social pressure policies against the individuals whose names were in the decree-laws, Guni told his family members: "I cannot take it anymore, what I have been through". He passed away due to a heart attack.
Manisa Prison	Tacettin Toprak	August 24, 2019	He was left unemployed after being dismissed from his duty as a teacher by a decree-law. He was being arrested within the scope of an investigation of the Gulen Movement, despite having bladder cancer. He was not allowed to be treated in prison. Toprak insistently demanded his release from prison to receive treatment. Despite the doctor's reports, the court decided to reject Toprak's release request three times. The disease progressed and cancer spread to his lungs.
Van F-type prison	Tahir Cetinkaya	August 2, 2019	The 67-yo with a disabled foot, accused of aiding the PKK, became paralyzed; after being diagnosed with a brain tumor, he was transferred from Van Prison to Sincan Prison for treatment. All requests made to the public prosecutor's office, to the prison, and the ministry, demanding a postponement to his punishment due to his health problems were denied. On July 26, the Ministry of Justice General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses responded to the appeal made on July 13, saying "conditions of probation are not established yet". Cetinkaya, who was

Prison	Prisoner	Date of the death	Reason
			detained for 8 months, was taken to the Ankara City Hospital 4 days before his death. His situation got worse three times in prison earlier.
Eskisehir Prison	Ali Ayverdi	July 24, 2019	He was sentenced to 3 years in prison and was released after a year due to his health condition. A brain tumor was detected, and surgery was performed. Ayverdi, who had to stay in prison for another 3.5 months, was arrested again. His friends and family started a campaign demanding Ayverdi's release, who at the time was denied hospital care and was not able to take care of himself alone. Ali Ayverdi, who suffered from memory loss and psychological problems, was able to see his visitors in prison in a wheelchair. All requests for his treatment were denied, stating "he would get treatment after his release". Ayverdi, the father of two children, passed away in Eskisehir Prison.
İzmir Aliaga Prison	Yavuz Bolek	June 16, 2019	He was 2nd-degree police chief before he was expelled from his duty at the age of 49. He suffered from colon cancer. Despite medical reports, he was arrested on August 25, 2016. His treatment in Antalya was abandoned and he was sent to İzmir Aliaga Prison. No treatment was provided while in prison. Due to severe prison conditions, cancer spread throughout his body. Bolek, the father of 3, passed away on June 16, 2019, on Father's Day.
İzmir Aliaga Prison	Dundar Kaya	June 13, 2019	Retired preacher Kaya was detained in Izmir Aliaga Prison for a year, despite his advanced age and illnesses. It was announced that Kaya weighed nearly 200 kg due to the medication he was taking, he was in intensive care for the last one month and then passed away.
Kirsehir Prison	Murat Korkmaz	May 12, 2019	He was a lawyer and father of two daughters. He was imprisoned in Kirsehir Prison for about 20 months. He had heart disease. He demanded release due to health problems but was refused. He had a battery in his heart, his heart stopped temporarily in prison. He was taken to a hospital in Ankara, handcuffed. After treatment, he was put back to prison. It was announced that he died of a heart attack shortly after his release.
Karabuk Prison	Ilyas Yildirim	May 03, 2019	He had the fear of being alone (monophobia), was kept in a solitary confinement cell for 28 months. He got skin cancer. When he was released, it was stated that it was too late for his treatment. He passed away in the hospital. His lawyer told that

Prison	Prisoner	Date of the death	Reason
			during his stay in the cell, Yildirim's health condition was extremely poor, but he was not transferred to a normal ward despite all his requests.
Corum Prison	Muzaffer Ozcengiz	April 26, 2019	<p>He was dismissed from his teaching duties, arrested and put in Corum Prison, died as a result of a heart attack. He was sentenced to 12.5 years in prison. He was severely ill and although he explained his situation with several petitions, he had been held in solitary confinement.</p> <p>His blood pressure medication was not given to him. Then he bought 250 grams of honey and some garlic from the prison canteen for 20 Turkish liras in total. He made a mixture in a glass jar and used it as a natural antihypertensive. During a search, it was taken away from him. His natural antihypertensive garlic honey mixture was taken away by the Corum Prison administration. He passed away on April 26, 2019.</p>
Sincan L2-Type Prison	Mustafa Celikbilek	April 22, 2019	<p>He was a system expert at the Ministry of Justice, was detained on 30 July 2016 for 12 days, and was subjected to ill-treatment. He was arrested on August 11 and was sent to the F 2 ward of the Ankara Sincan L2-Type Prison.</p> <p>He had 2 seizures in the ward. He wasn't taken to the infirmary. After the third seizure, Celikbilek was taken to the infirmary where he got much worse. Celikbilek was taken to the hospital handcuffed in a prisoner's vehicle, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. His lawyer's requests for Celikbilek's release to continue his treatment in the hospital was rejected by the court. He had two surgeries, but he did not respond to treatment. After a month of intensive care, he died. He had 2 children.</p>
n/a	Goksin Oz	April 21, 2019	He was dismissed from his job with a decree-law while he was working as a biology teacher at Bursa Gursu Toki Anatolian Imam Hatip High School and was then arrested. He got diagnosed with cancer in prison. When his condition got worse, he was released but passed away.
Isparta E-Type Prison	Bekir Bicakci	April 16, 2019	74 yo was detained in Isparta E-Type Prison for 34 months. On April 13, 2019, he fell in the bathroom. He was hospitalized as a result of a brain hemorrhage and died three days later.
Kandira Semi-Open Prison	Hakan Dumanay	April 13, 2019	He was held as a prisoner in Kandira Semi-Open Prison. As a result of a heart attack, he died in prison infirmary without being referred to the hospital.

Prison	Prisoner	Date of the death	Reason
Batman M-Type Prison	Yusuf Pacaci	April 15, 2019	A teacher at Batman Cumhuriyet High School was imprisoned for 20 months in Batman M Type Prison. He was sentenced to 8 years and 3 months in prison due to investigations about the Gulen Movement. He was kept in a 14-person-capacity ward with 27 other inmates. It was announced that he has died after heart failure.
Afyon Dinar Prison	Cemil Dilber	March 21, 2019	He was sentenced to 8 years and 3 months in Afyonkarahisar 2nd High Penal Court. In his defense at the hearing, he said: "I am 56 years old. I have always respected our republic and flag. I've taken no action against it. I've never been a member of a terrorist organization. I want to be acquitted or otherwise be released pending trial. My wife and daughter are psychologically impaired. They have no one to look after them. There is stent in my heart". The court ruled against his release and decided to continue his detention. Dilber had a heart attack in front of his family on the day of their visit to the prison. He was taken to the hospital, had an angiography, and then sent back to prison. Dilber, who became ill again in the ward, was taken to the hospital. However, he died after being in intensive care for a while. His family was not allowed to see him one last time even when he was at the intensive care.
Adana Prison	Saim Uyanik	March 15, 2019	The principal of Adana Ceyhan Burc School was arrested within the scope of the Gulen Movement investigation. He had been diagnosed with cancer while he was in Adana prison. After being released by pending trial due to his severe medical condition, it was announced that Uyanik died due to a brain tumor.
Elazig Prison	Ridvan Baris	March 11, 2019	18-yo Ridvan was an epilepsy patient, he did not receive any treatment and the necessary measures were not taken. It was announced that he had a heart attack and died in Elazig Prison.
n/a	Huseyin Cakir	February 28, 2019	He was a recording clerk in Diyarbakir. While he was in prison, he filed petitions for his release because he had a splenic disease. However, he was released 13 months later. Huseyin Cakir, the father of two children, died on February 28 after having undergone surgery on his spleen.
Tarsus T-Type Prison	Mehmet Gok	February 13, 2019	It was announced that 62-year-old Mehmet Gok, who was in Tarsus T-Type Closed Prison due to the PKK trial, died as a result of a heart attack.

Prison	Prisoner	Date of the death	Reason
Istanbul Metris R-Type Prison	Ali Haydar Yildiz	February 10, 2019	Istanbul Office of Human Rights Association (HRA) announced that Ali Haydar Yildiz, who was taken into custody in 2012 and later got paralyzed due to negligence, died in Metris R Type Prison. Despite the Forensic Medicine Institute's report he was not released.
Aydin E-Type Prison	Gungor Onol	January 30, 2019	It was announced that the retired non-commissioned officer Gungor Onol, who was arrested in December 2017 within the scope of investigation of the Gulen movement and put in Aydin E-Type Prison, died due to a heart attack.
İskenderun M-Type Prison	Burak Cihangir	January 24, 2019	26-yo was arrested in Antakya a while ago during the PKK investigation. He was put in İskenderun M-Type Closed Prison. Burak Cihangir was found hanging from the ceiling in the toilet of the C 16 ward where he stayed.
Sakarya Ferizli Prison	Recep Dogru	January 09, 2019	61-yo chronic heart patient was receiving help from Social Welfare Institution and living alone, was arrested and charged with breaking the seal on the water meter at his home since he could not pay his water bill. He had been in Sakarya Ferizli Prison for 20 months. It was announced that his medication was not provided to him regularly, and he had passed away after suffering a heart attack in prison.
Antalya Prison	Mehmet Ali Tokel	January 06, 2019	He was arrested because he was a member of the Aktif Educators Union (Aktif-Sen). He was the president of the Antalya Education Volunteers Association. The association was shut down on 24 July 2016. He got tried in Antalya 8th Heavy Penal Court. He developed lung cancer in Antalya Prison. His treatment was delayed. He died shortly after his release.

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