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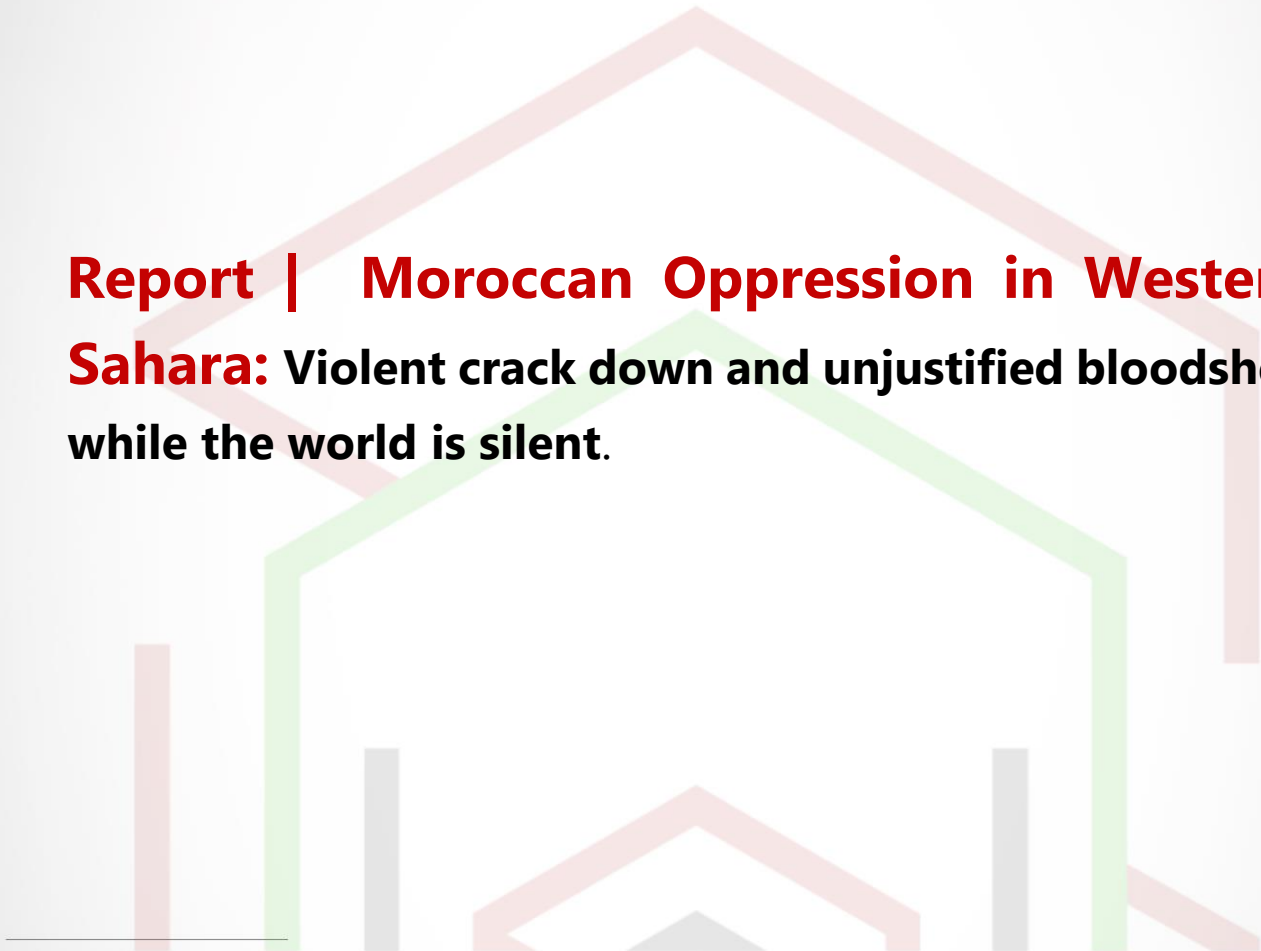
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**Report | Moroccan Oppression in Western Sahara: Violent crack down and unjustified bloodshed while the world is silent.**





Since the occupation of Western Sahara by Morocco in 1975, the indigenous Sahrawi

population who remained in the territory have suffered from discrimination, arbitrary arrest, and torture. The failure of holding the referendum on self-determination in the region pushed the native Sahrawis from the occupied zone to demonstrate their defiance through a non-violent civil struggle and have suffered repression as a result.

Despite the repression perpetrated by the Moroccan government, many Sahrawi who lives in the occupied territories of Western Sahara continues to voice their concerns about human rights violations against the innocent Sahrawis.

Recently between 19th and 28th of July, numerous human rights violations have been recorded, pointing out a clear systematic policy that targets innocent Sahrawi's, especially the youth. There is also widespread evidence of the use of torture, arbitrary detentions, oppression of peaceful demonstrations.

The purpose of this report is to present the facts and report on the recent events that took place in the city of Al-Aiun occupied Western Sahara.



### **The case of Sabah Njorni**

On Friday night July 19th, 2019 , at approximately 10:30 pm - a 24 years old Sahrawi girl "Sabah Othman Ahmida" known as Sabah Njorni died; due to severe injuries after being run over by two vehicles of the four-wheel-drives belonging to the Moroccan Auxiliary forces at the intersection of the Almoravid School and Samara Street in Laayoune / Western Sahara. After 15 minutes, Sabah was transported by an ambulance to the nearest hospital; Hassan bin al-Mahdi where she was pronounced dead shortly after being in the Emergency Room.



This video documents the circumstances of her sudden and tragic death:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0GGkprf62RMAV>



[اللحظات الأخيرة قبل إستشهاد الشهيذة الصحراوية “ صباح  
إنجورني](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0GGkprf62RMAV)

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

اللحظات الأخيرة قبل إستشهاد الشهيذة الصحراوية “ صباح  
إنجورني

This video clip shows the moment when the young Sabah was run over by the two speeding Moroccan auxiliary forces vehicles. The two cars were part of a large convoy that was rushing to crackdown violently the peaceful Sahrawi protesters, who were out to celebrate the Algerian African Cup victory that night.

The Sahrawi citizen Ms. Ahmida was born on February 28th, 1995 in El-Aaiun, Western Sahara. She is a recent English Literature university graduate with a bachelor degree and was an English teacher at a private school in El-Aaiun city.



It all started when the Moroccan authorities suppressed and harassed the Saharawi citizens in the aim of stopping the Sahrawis from peacefully demonstrating and celebrating the Algerian football victory. During this event, more than six thousand of Saharawis were out in the street to celebrate cheerfully and peacefully the achievement of the Algerian team in the 2019 African Cup of Nations. During these celebrations, they carried the flags of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic and chanted slogans calling for the right to self-determination for the people of Western Sahara.

### **Other cases of abuse and violations**

The Moroccan security forces intervened violently to disperse the protesters using tear gas, water hoses, rubber bullets, and other police brutality instruments. There is even reports that live ammunition was used by the Moroccan army when they intervened later on and besieged the whole city as reinforcements joined in. Other videos and witnesses talk about more security forces, and the military came from Morocco than in convoys.

**video:** [https://youtu.be/yLs7JY\\_ZFAw](https://youtu.be/yLs7JY_ZFAw)

Eyewitnesses stories and videos show and reveal the heavy presence of the Moroccan auxiliary forces, police undercover and uniformed agents were crawling all over the place. They have been deployed in the public street to prevent the Saharawi demonstrators from continuing to celebrate the victory of the Algerian national football team at the African Nations. This video here shows



how things escalated and how the Moroccan forces were oppressing the Saharawis in total disregard and disrespect of all rights and international conventions and charts:

**video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cv82AgsOpXM>

In that same Friday night, the Oppressive Moroccan police of occupation raided many houses, destroyed many belonging, stole many goods and frightened hundreds of families. Most neighborhoods were besieged such as Maatallah, Batimat, Douirat, Alawda, Raha, Wifaq, Dchira, and Qiyadat Boucraa. The oppressive police forces, as well as the auxiliary forces, used rubber bullets when chasing the Saharawis. Many videos are documenting such brutal acts against defenseless civilians in El-Aaiun. Some Saharawis even found the shell cases such as the one below:

Other eyewitnesses and videos documented the use of live ammunition against the Saharawis in the street of El-Aaiun city where the Moroccan forces of occupation fired at will numerous times on Saharawis. Luckily, there are no victims of such a hideous act. However, there are many wounded Saharawis, especially the young demonstrators and bystanders who were out in the street that night. Many of them refused to seek treatment due to their fear of being captured and arrested the minutes they set foot in the hospital.





*Figure 1 : Rubber-Bullets used by Moroccan Police*

Two similar encounters recorded where the auxiliary vehicles ran over demonstrators. This time resulted in serious injuries .e.g. the young Sahrawi named Adnan was hit on the head and was transported the next day urgently to Marrakech for further treatment.



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Other videos show instances of other Saharawis wounded by the rubber bullets in their arms, chest, and back. Most of them are not life-threatening injuries:

**video:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=2&v=ys8qD578XCg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=ys8qD578XCg)

That same night and the morning that followed, many were arrested and even abducted including minors and adults. And according to various sources, dozens of Saharawis were detained and beaten up severely by uniformed and undercover policemen.

To instill fear the Moroccan police used excessive force, as well as many police officers who dressed in civilian clothes, were crawling all over the streets looking for Saharawi demonstrators.

It is confirmed that the Moroccan regime had brought special police forces teams to enforce its oppressive policy in Western Sahara after these mass demonstrations in the cities of Western Sahara. Both the protests and Algerian victory celebrations by Saharawi citizens in the cities of Boujdour, Dakhla and Smara, were all cracked down on violently and without mercy by the forces of occupation.





Many activists and Self-determination advocates sought refuge away from their families homes as they feared for their lives under such circumstances. The next two days proved to be very tough for the Saharawi population; as there were many arrests made while special police teams raided many houses. Here is a list of the houses in El-Aaiun city that were raided as the police were trying to arrest more Saharawis who some of them are still in hiding:

Name of House/Family	Family member	Situation
Laarbi Bahmad.	<b><i>Khalil,</i></b>	Abducted and arrested
Boughanbour	<b><i>Hafed Boughanbour</i></b>	Minor, was abducted and arrested
Nourmriya		
Mustapha Labarass	Mustapha Labarass	A political prisoner, Was not present at the time of the raid currently he WANTED
Nourmriya family		No arrest maid
El Moussaoui family	Mansour	Was not present at the time of the raid
Kaziza family.	Salek	He was not present at the time and he is WANTED
Gargar family.		No arrests were made
Zerouali family		No arrests made
Ayach Mohamed		No arrests were made
Saouni family		



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A few days later, on the following Sunday, nine adults and four minors were brought to the court of appeal to be interrogated by the prosecutor. According to their families, they were severely beaten, and their bodies showed signs of torture and beatings while in police custody.

Their families were not allowed to visit them or talk to them while in custody. According to families members; they were locked up in the police station under miserable conditions and continuous torture, some of the minors still bear the marks of torture and beatings. The prosecutor ordered the extension of the police custody for another more 24 hours as they have been already there for 48 hours before.

Just a week after on the fallowing Monday, detainees were brought again to court to be interrogated by the prosecutor and the judge later on.



The following four minors were conditionally set free but still have to attend their trial that is to be set later on by court:

Name of victim	Age	Situation/condition
Ousama El Mousawi	Minor	Freed, required to attend their trial that will be set forth by court
Mohamed El Moussaoui	Minor	Freed, will attend his trial set forth by the court
Hafed Boughanbour	Minor	Freed, will attend his trial set forth by the court
Abdallah El Bachra.	Minor	Freed, will attend his trial set forth by the court





The other following nine adults were sent to the local prison nicknamed Carcel Negra ( Black prison) with no bailout and will be awaiting trial:

Name of the victim	Bail/Trial	Jail/prison
Agay Duihi	No bail, awaiting trials	Carcel Negra ( Black prison)
Soufiane Boughanbour	No bail, awaiting trials	Carcel Negra ( Black prison)
Hafed Ayach	No bail, awaiting trials	Carcel Negra ( Black prison)
Saleh Boussoula	No bail, awaiting trials	Carcel Negra ( Black prison)
Hafed Riyahi	No bail, awaiting trials	Carcel Negra ( Black prison)
Mohamed Ali El Kaouri	No bail, awaiting trials	Carcel Negra ( Black prison)
Rguibi Ahel Sid Alyazid	No bail, awaiting trials	Carcel Negra ( Black prison)
Khalil Blouz Abahmed	No bail, awaiting trials	Carcel Negra ( Black prison)
Ali Mahrouk, a Moroccan national.	No bail, awaiting trials	Carcel Negra ( Black prison)

It is worth mentioning here that the arrests and kidnappings are still taking place while more houses are being raided.