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**HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION (HRA)**  
**EASTERN AND SOUTH-EASTERN ANATOLIA REGIONS**

# **REPORT**

## **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

25 November 2018 – 25 November 2019

25 November 2019  
HRA Diyarbakir Branch

## PREFACE

*The data and the data tables have been compiled from individual applications by victims to our offices and branches, from local sources, and media search (Milliyet, Hürriyet, Sabah, Evrensel, Birgün, Cumhuriyet, Yeni Yaşam, Cnntürk, TRTHaber, NTV, Habertürk, Fırat Haber Ajansı, ETHA, DHA, AA, İHA, ANHA, Bianet.org, BBC, Sputnik, T24, Dihaber, GazeteDuvar, GazeteKarınca, Mezopotamya Ajansı, JINNEWS)*

*Some of the data in the report are the claims based on the statements of the witnesses. However, unless there are statements from the concerned persons and institutions that could disprove these claims, they will be considered true and real.*

*As long as new data about the claims comes out, related sections will be updated accordingly, so these claims could remain in the report or be omitted.*

PEPARED BY

HRA Diyarbakır Branch / Documentation Unit

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## INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Today is November 25, **International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women**. It is the day when the Mirabal Sisters were murdered in the Dominican Republic in 1960, and it has been commemorated as the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women** since 1981. We, as women from the HRA, revere to all the oppressed and all women who lost their lives while fighting for the freedom of women

The history of women's oppression and violence goes back to ancient times. Enmity towards women has continued throughout history, and it seems that it will. But this is not a fate. The history of women's struggle is not new either. Unfortunately, while violence against women continues in all geographies, women and children in the Middle East, which is a war zone; continue to be the most oppressed sufferers of wars.

All the practices of masculine politics, all the means used for the continuation of capitalism, inequality, and the economy of war have been producing violence recurrently. During the war that began in Syria in 2011, nearly 5,000 Yazidi women were captured by ISIS and the fate of 3,000 women is still unknown. Mass graves where women and children were buried were found near Baguz, which was taken from ISIS in Syria. Thousands of women and children had to leave their homes. Women and children were enslaved and subjected to violence as slaves. Recently, a woman was found as a prisoner in the hands of an ISIS member in Keçiören, Ankara and taken back by her family.

Violence against women is multidimensional. Physical, psychological, sexual and economic violence continues. And unfortunately, all women are affected by this violence, albeit in different dimensions.

According to 2018 Gender Equality Report by the World Economic Forum, Turkey ranks the 130th among 149 countries. The current political structure of the country ignores gender equality and politicians' discourses are in this direction. Current policies confine women more to the home and try to keep them away from social life and equal participation in social life.

Women's participation in politics is not equal to that of men. In Parliament only 102 of the 600 deputies are women. In fact, the Parliament of the country is the most striking indicator of gender inequality. Men decide women's policies. Women who have been able to take part in politics do not work in effective areas, but in more secondary areas. This low rate of participation in politics is not only about being a member of parliament but also being represented in political parties, which is almost non-existent today.

There is an attempt to eliminate women's right to receive alimony (spousal maintenance). Since the care of the children is mostly assumed by the mother, the right of child support to be paid as a result of the joint care responsibility is considered as an unjustified payment, an attempt that might lead to the victimization of women. But alimony is not charity-giving but a right.

Women do not benefit from equal pay for equal work policies. Between the two persons of the same qualification, women are given less authority and less payment on the basis of gender. Women are exposed to mobbing and harrassment in the workplace. They are often dismissed when they seek their rights. Saadet, who was working as a contract teacher in Antep, committed suicide by leaving behind a suicide note that reads, “*I am tired of your everyday threats that my job was hanging on by a thread.*” When working women have children, the employment contract is terminated or their legal leave is not available. Unemployed women are exposed to domestic violence systematically and may not find the strength to stand up and fight for their rights for fear that they cannot take care of themselves economically.

With the migration of refugees that started with the Syrian War, asylum-seekers and children became the most disadvantaged community in our region today. In areas where asylum seekers are concentrated, children are forced into marriage and subjected to abuse; women are dragged into prostitution and hundreds of children give birth. However, no solution is sought to this problem. Women and children are exploited as cheap labour

Almost three women are murdered each day. Women are subjected to violence or murder by their husbands or partners with whom they want to break up, or their brothers or fathers. Domestic violence and domestic abuse are often not brought to the judiciary and the issue is closed within the home and family. In cases that can be brought to the judiciary, perpetrators are generally rewarded with impunity for reasons such as good conduct and remission of punishment on grounds of provocation. In many cases, law enforcement authorities consider domestic violence as a private situation within the family and tend to give advice to family members, which should be considered as negligence and misconduct. In 2019, four women in Diyarbakır were brutally murdered by their spouses or partners. If effective protection had been provided and violence had not been normalized by society; they could be alive today. The courage of those who murder women is a result of the impunity policies. That is because the judiciary and politics first accuse the woman and imply that she goes beyond gender roles. The courts and the lawyers of the killers question the lifestyles of women. The perpetrators of Şule Çet have not been punished yet. Although Nadira Kadirova's death points to murder, no effective investigation has been opened and the case is to be closed. The questions of her family and civil society organizations have not been answered. The provisions of the Istanbul Convention on Prevention and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence are not complied with. The Convention is almost ignored and there is a widespread anti-propaganda against it. However, this agreement, which was signed in 2011, is equivalent with the provisions of the Turkish Constitution. It cannot be changed according to Article 90 of the Constitution. Also, Law No. 6284 on violence against women is not applied properly.

Prisons are another area where women are subjected to violence. There have been female prisoners who were physically tortured and beaten by law enforcement officers during their transfer to the hospital and the court. However, none of the perpetrators have been subject to legal investigations, and problems continue to increase due to impunity.

Trans-women are exposed to violence in almost all areas of society and are subjected to transphobic violence. These women are subjected to violence by the police as well as by men. 89% of 104 transgender women who participated in a survey by Lambdaistanbul, a LGBT

solidarity association, in 2010 stated that they were exposed to physical violence in police custody. This number rises to 97% in cases of verbal violence, profanity and humiliation. 77% of the respondents stated that they were exposed to sexual violence and 86% stated that the police did not keep a record of their detention.

The Government ought to take every precaution to prevent violence against women. It should produce policies to promote gender equality across all groups of the society and to eliminate gender-based discrimination. Perpetrators should be put on trial and impunity policies should be abandoned. Article 5 of the Istanbul Convention imposes obligations on the state. According to this; 1) Parties shall refrain from engaging in any act of violence against women and ensure that State authorities, officials, agents, institutions and other actors acting on behalf of the State act in conformity with this obligation. 2) Parties shall take the necessary legislative and other measures to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, punish and provide reparation for acts of violence covered by the scope of this Convention that are perpetrated by non-State actors. As women from the HRA, we will keep fighting determinedly against.

**DATA TABLE**

<b>Suicide among Women</b>	
Death by Suicide	16
Suicide Attempts	3
<b>Domestic Violence</b>	
Death	41
Injured	40
<b>Non-domestic Violence</b>	
Death	13
Injured	21
Sexual Assault	9
<b>Suspicious Deaths of Women</b>	
	13

APART FROM 16 DEATHS BY SUICIDE, 54 WOMEN WERE MURDERED AS A RESULT OF DOMESTIC OR NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BY MEN IN THE EAST AND SOUTHEASTERN ANATOLIA REGIONS.

13 WOMEN WERE FOUND DEAD and CAUSES ARE STILL UNEXPLAINED (SUSPICIOUS DEATH).

## STATISTICAL DATA on MURDERED WOMEN

### CITIES WHERE DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC MURDERS WERE COMMITTED:

URFA	: 8
DİYARBAKIR	: 7
ANTEP	: 6
MARAŞ	: 5
BATMAN	: 4
MALATYA	: 4
MARDİN	: 3
IĞDIR	: 1
ELAZIĞ	: 3
DERSİM	: 3
AĞRI	: 3
ERZURUM	: 2
VAN	: 1
BİTLİS	: 1
ŞIRNAK	: 1
BİNGÖL	: 1
HAKKARİ	: 1

### The MANNER of MURDERS:

#### **Domestic;**

29 women were shot dead with firearms, 6 women with sharp objects, 2 women were burned to death, 1 woman was strangled, 1 woman was beaten and 2 women were killed in an undetectable manner.

4 women were wounded with firearms, 8 women with sharp objects and 28 women were injured by beating.

#### **Non-domestic;**

11 women were killed by firearms, 2 women by sharp objects.

6 women were wounded by firearms, 3 women by sharp objects and 9 women were injured by beating.



**The CITIES WHERE SUSPICIOUS DEATHS HAPPENED:**

<b>BATMAN</b>	<b>: 1</b>
<b>ERZURUM</b>	<b>: 1</b>
<b>ERZİNCAN</b>	<b>: 2</b>
<b>HAKKARİ</b>	<b>: 2</b>
<b>ANTEP</b>	<b>: 1</b>
<b>MALATYA</b>	<b>: 2</b>
<b>DİYARBAKIR</b>	<b>: 2</b>
<b>ARDAHAN</b>	<b>: 1</b>
<b>SİİRT</b>	<b>: 1</b>

## DETAILED DATA

### SUICIDES BY WOMEN

**On November 27, 2018**, the 23-year-old R.N. and his 17-year-old brother, Z.N., learned that their father, who had sexually abused them, was likely to be released from prison, and attempted suicide. Z.N. cut his wrists, and R.N. wanted to jump off the rooftop. After a four-hour negotiation effort, the women were taken to hospital. **WHAT HAD HAPPENED BEFORE?** *In Urfa, Hüseyin N. (48) had sexually assaulted and attacked 4 of his children for 8 years. When the 14-year-old daughter told her mother on July 12, “I have pain and bleeding”, the mother took her daughter to hospital, where the examinations revealed sexual abuse. When the incident was brought to the judicial authorities, the father Hüseyin N. was arrested on 27 July and sent to Eyyübiye E Type Closed Prison.*

It was learned that R. S., a 50-year-old woman with 7 children, claimed to have fallen into depression in **Batman's Yenişehir District on 20 January 2019**. She jumped off the 8th floor of an apartment building and committed suicide.

**On 22 March 2019**, the 30-year-old teacher Özlem Göl, who worked in the Çeper Village Martyr Gendarmerie Private Fevzi Güngör Primary School in Çeper Neighbourhood of Lice District of Diyarbakır, was allegedly ended her life by hanging herself.

**On 8 April 2019**, 20-year-old Hasret, a woman from the Devteşti Neighbourhood of the District of Haliliye in Urfa, allegedly committed suicide by jumping off the roof of the building. She landed on a parked vehicle in front of the building. She was seriously injured and taken to the hospital of Balıklıgöl.

**On 3 May 2019**, a woman named Rabia Çelik, a mother of two children, committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling in Bahçebaşı Neighbourhood of Dargeçit District of Mardin.

**On 4 May 2019**, the 42-year-old woman named Saime V. was allegedly committed suicide by jumping off the historic Ten-Eyed Bridge in Diyarbakır. On May 5, 2019, it was learned that her body was found in Karpuzlu Quarter, which is approximately 10 kilometres away from the Bridge.

**On 20 May 2019**, it was learned that a woman named Merve Ç had committed suicide by jumping from the fourth floor of an elementary school. It was stated that an investigation was started.

**On 6 June 2019**, Kadriye Ç. was found dead hanging from the ceiling with a rope at home. It was stated that an investigation was started.

**On 7 July 2019**, 38-year-old Nihal Ç., who lived in Düzler Neighbourhood of Urfa, was reported to have committed suicide by jumping from the 6th floor of the apartment where she lived with her family. It was learned that the woman lost her life at the scene and an investigation was started.

Sibel Varlı, a 23-year-old married woman with 1 child, was claimed to have committed to suicide and lost her life in the town of Erçiş in Van Province on **12 July 2019**. It was alleged that she had been subjected to violence by her husband M. Varlı systematically.

**On 17 July 2019**, a 35-year-old woman named Güler Adam, living in the Midyat District of Mardin, was killed by suicide. As a graduate of Sivas Cumhuriyet University School Teaching Department, she had taken the Public Personnel Selection Exam (KPSS), but was not assigned to a school after the results were announced. She, therefore, started to have psychological problems.

Fatma Kabukçu, a class teacher in the Başkale District of Van, committed suicide on **26 July 2019** in Kozaklı District of Nevşehir where her family lived.

Nafia Canan Gürsoy, a woman doctor working for İnönü University Turgut Özal Medical Centre in Malatya on **9 September 2019**, was found hanged on a child swing by her husband upon his arrival. It was stated that an investigation was started.

**On 12 September 2019**, 25-year-old young woman named Taşdemir committed suicide in the Akköprü Neighbourhood of Tusba, Van. It was stated that an investigation was started.

**On 17 October 2019**, a woman named Gülay K., a mother of 6 children, allegedly committed suicide by shooting herself in the abdomen with a gun in the Village of Çiftlik in the Horasan District of Erzurum. It was learned that the woman, being treated in Horasan State Hospital, lost her life. It was learned that the woman's husband S.K. was taken into custody by the gendarmerie and released after his statement was taken.

**On 26 October 2019**, two women (21-year-old Cansu Güven and 23-year-old Songül Önemli) were found to have been shot by a shotgun in an empty field in Adıyaman. Cansu Güven's death was verified at the scene and the severely injured other woman was taken to Adıyaman Training and Research Hospital, but it was reported that, despite all the medical interventions, she could not be saved. It was learned that the shotgun used in the incident was confiscated and the investigation was started. The police investigation revealed that two women committed suicide, and that Songül Önemli firstly shot Cansu Güven in the chest and then killed herself with the same gun. It was learned that 6 people from the relatives of both women were arrested on the grounds that they were considered responsible for suicide.

**On 10 November 2019**, a 25-year-old Turkish teacher, Saadet H., was found to have ended her life by jumping off the terrace of a 6-floor apartment building in Antep. It turned out that Saadet H. had been exposed to mobbing through social media before she committed suicide.

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

On **25 November 2018**, a male person named R.N. shot dead his wife Vildan Nerede and a man named Dincer Dogan for they were in the same car. The husband then gave himself over to the police.

On **1 December 2018**, Ö.M, a 29-year-old man, granted with a domestic violence restraining order, stabbed his wife H.M. in the middle of the street. The woman was seriously wounded. Reports said that the woman was taken to the hospital, and the attacker fled the scene.

Rojbin Yetiş, a 19-year-old woman with 2 children, who was living in Şehitlik District of Yenişehir District of Diyarbakır Province, was stabbed by her husband on **7 December 2018**, but unfortunately could not survive despite all medical attention in hospital. It was stated that Rojbin Yetiş was subject to systematic violence by Mahsun Yetiş and wanted to divorce.

On **13 December 2018**, M.H.A, the ex-husband of Aynur Top, shot her dead by pistol in her house, injuring their twin girls who want to intervene in the fight (Merve A and Sefa A.)

On **17 December 2018**, Y.A. battered his 28-year-old ex-wife K.E. at home.

On **18 December 2018**, R.E. was beaten by her husband E.E, who claimed she had cheated on him. The pregnant woman was seriously wounded with a shotgun. The woman had a miscarriage and the attacker was arrested.

On **21 December 2018**, M.S.B shot dead his 26-year-old wife Rojda Bulga, who left him, and her mother Sadiye Andıç and father Eyyüp Andıç in their home. After the incident, the husband was detained. M.S.B., who had a record of various crimes, was released by judicial control a while ago.

On **26 December 2018**, Mesut Kaya, 35, stabbed his wife Mekiye Kaya, 38, in the Neighbourhood of Bahçelievler, in Urfa's Viranşehir District. The wounded woman could not be saved despite all medical interventions at Viranşehir Public Hospital. The assailant is said to have given himself up to the police after the murder.

On **11 January 2019**, in Malatya, 38-year-old Ü.G. killed his wife Sibel G, 30, who wanted to divorce, and 55-year-old mother-in-law Fatma Özdemir. The person who escaped after the murder was reported to have been arrested.

On **14 January 2019**, Ö.Ö. battered his wife S.O, and threatened to kill. The assailant was arrested over the breach of restraining order. The man was sentenced to 40 days of imprisonment.

On **24 January 2019**, Mahmut Kurt, 23, killed his 2-month pregnant wife Esmâ Kurt in the Buhara Neighbourhood of Urfa. The person, after killing his wife, confessed that he had wanted to make it seem like a suicide.

**Sibel Kaleci, who applied to the HRA Diyarbakır Branch on 28 February 2019, stated:** *Although I have custody of my child for 1.5 years, I have not heard from my child for 1.5 years. Despite many criminal complaints I have filed to various authorities, I cannot get any results except that my husband is sentenced. I am psychologically affected by not being able to hear from my child's fate. I want this clarified as soon as possible. My husband lives in Rize Fındıklı District. They don't show my kid to me despite my attempts. At the same time, I am insulted by my husband's family because of my Kurdish identity. Since I am Kurdish, they do not allow my child to be raised by me. Besides, I was subjected to physical violence by my husband's uncle. He threw hot water at me and tried to burn me. I took a medical report saying I was beaten and injured due to the violence by my husband's father. I was constantly insulted by my mother-in-law. The last time I went to pick up my child, my mother-in-law and my husband took my child away from me and prevented me from seeing my child. After this incident, I filed a criminal complaint with the gendarmerie. They said to the gendarmerie "Why did you come? She is a Kurd" and tried to disgrace me because of my Kurdish identity? I want to file a criminal complaint against my husband and his family for this incident. I ask you to provide legal support on this matter."*

On **4 February 2019**, Ertan Daşdelen, who was living in Antep, went to the family house of Sultan Daşdelen, who had started divorce proceedings, and killed his 60-year-old mother-in-law Özden Şahin and his wife's uncle 69-year-old Bayram Şahin shooting them in the head. Later, the person went to the Neighbourhood of Fıstıklı, and killed his wife Sultan Daşdelen, 31, her two sisters, Semra Yaprak, 20, and Dilek Çakmak, 36, again by shooting in their heads. The person who escaped after the incident was taken into custody by the police.

On **16 February 2019**, the 54-year-old H.S. was beating his wife at home, when their 16-year-old daughter S.S. shot him dead. The child was taken into custody.

On **23 February 2019**, 42-year-old Özkan Güngör stabbed and killed his wife Fidan G., a 35-year-old mother of five, in the street. He was caught and arrested.

On **5 March 2019** in Urfa. by the help of another man, a husband abducted his wife S.G. and tied her hands and feet, taking her to the outskirts of the city, and beat her. After the assault, the two men were issued an arrest warrant. The woman was reported to have bruises and traces of cutting tools on her body.

On **16 March 2019**, Hüseyin Bektaş, a 35-year-old gendarmerie sergeant in Dersim killed his wife Sibel and her son Doruk and then committed suicide.

In Gaziantep on **19 March 2019**, 41-year-old A.K beat her 50-year-old wife Saadet K and then killed her. The man, who strangled her by hands, was arrested.

Ö.P, a 39 year-old man, shot and killed his 28-year-old wife Seher P. while leaving the courthouse after divorce trial in Erzurum Province on **26 July 2019**.

On **9 April 2019** M.Y., who was living in Cumhuriyet Neighbourhood of Ceylanpınar District of Urfa, shot his wife Özge Y. after an argument.

On **12 April 2019**, it was learned that a male person had thrown his wife out of his car and then punched and beat her with a stick in Antep. The incident was recorded with a security camera.

On **20 April 2019**, the male person named Ömer A. in Akçadağ District of Malatya seriously wounded his 31-year-old daughter-in-law Şeynur A. by shooting with a pistol. The woman was taken to hospital, but lost her life despite all medical attention. Ömer A. was arrested and detained with the pistol he used in the incident.

On **23 April 2019**, V.G. entered a cafe in Batman Park Mall in Batman. He took his wife E.G. hostage with a gun and threatened to kill her. It was learned that the attacker had gave himself up to the police, leaving his gun.

On **27 April 2019**, 49-year-old Bayram İlyan killed his wife Ayşe İlyan, 45, with a knife, cutting her throat in the Viransehir District of Urfa.

On **2 May 2019**, a 52-year-old male named Bülent Paşaoğlu shot and killed his 48-year-old wife Ayşe Zeynep Paşaoğlu in Hürriyet Street of Iğdır's Topçular Neighbourhood.

On **8 May 2019**, in Turgut Özal Neighbourhood of Karlıova District in Bingöl, Ömer Dinler, a 30-year-old village guard, shot dead his 24-year-old wife Songül Dinler and their 3 children (Fatih(3), Efehan(1), Yusuf(6)) with a pistol. Of the victims taken to the Karlıova State Hospital, Songül Dinler and his son Efehan Dinler could not survive in spite of all the interventions, and the other wounded children were taken to Bingöl State Hospital for better medical attention. The person who handed himself in to the police after the incident, was arrested after the police interrogation was completed.

On **14 May 2019**, a woman named Aslıhan Uluç was allegedly "killed" by her own son in the Village of Buğdaylı (Taxyan) in Silopi, Sirnak. Uluç's body was taken to the Sirnak State Hospital for autopsy, stated authorities.

On **19 May 2019**, 43-year-old lawyer Müzeyyen Boylu Issı was shot and killed by her husband Mesut Issı, a 45-year-old lawyer on 252<sup>nd</sup> Str. in Diclekent Neighbourhood of Kayapınar District of Diyarbakır. Mesut Issı, who killed his wife, then gave himself over to the police.

On **19 May 2019**, 27-year-old male named Ferhat E. killed Ulviye Demir, his 52-year-old aunt, in Elbistan District of Maraş with a shotgun.

As a result of a quarrel in the car in Üçyol Neighbourhood of Bismil District in Diyarbakır on **2 June 2019**, Recep Günler stabbed his 20-year wife Aygül Günler in front of his children. To find the murderer, an investigation was initiated.

On **4 June 2019**, E.Y. stabbed and wounded his ex-wife of N.Y.

On **4 June 2019**, a male named M.T. beaten his wife G.T, and then he left the scene with their 11-month-old baby.

On **8 June 2019** in Diyarbakır, M.Y.Ö., after a family quarrel, beat his wife (to whom he married unofficially), and that he was beaten by the woman's relatives in the workplace.

**S.Y.S. applied to the HRA Diyarbakır Branch on 10 June 2019 and stated:** *“I have been married to A.S. since September 2015. I have a 3-year-old daughter from this marriage. Since the first day of my marriage, I have constantly been beaten and insulted by my husband. When I respond refuse any of my husband's request, he constantly hits me on the head, squeezes my throat and spits in my face. And then he laughs at me like nothing happened. After these quarrels, I told him that I wanted to leave because we could not get on well. But he said he was not going to leave me, and told me to go and kill myself somewhere and if you died, I could get rid of this. Even though my husband's family knows this violence, they never say anything to my husband. On the eve of Eid al-Fitr I was beaten again. After the violence, I went to the Alişan Police Station and filed a complaint and the police officers. They took me to the hospital and I got a medical report. After the date I complained, I started to stay with my sister A.Y. My husband came here and took my daughter away and then called me and told me that she had killed my daughter. When I heard this, I ran out with my nephew. When I went downstairs, I saw my husband and daughter in the garden of the apartment complex. My nephew immediately took my daughter away from him. He immediately attacked my nephew. When the people inside the complex informed the police, the police arrived and took us to the police station. My husband had been restrained from the house due to my complaint before, but my husband does not comply with this order. It bothers me and my daughter all the time. I am requesting support from your association due to the situation I explained above.*

**On 11 June 2019, S.A applied to the HRA Diyarbakır Branch and made the following statement:** *“I have been unofficially (by religious marriage ceremony only) married to M.D. since 2005. We have two children. One is 12, and the other is 11 years old. When I was pregnant with my first child, I found out he was married. While waiting for the official wedding, I learned this, and then I went to Izmir. However, he started to put pressure on my family by bullying and physical violence. Then, people persuaded me, and I had to return because of my child's well-being and my family. During this 12-year marriage, I have been subject to insults, profanity and degrading sentences. I have been repeatedly accused of heavy charges in front of my children. When I didn't respond to his demands, he broke the television, He used to shout at me by throwing any object at me, a lighter, an ashtray, or anything close to him, and would threaten to take my kids and kill my family. At one point he took my children away because I did not respond to his demands. Because I was scared and for the good of my children, I had to do a lot of things that I didn't want to accept. But nothing changed. He squeezed my throat repeatedly and threatened to kill me. I did not remember the exact date, but in 2008, I went to the police station in Diyarbakır. I filed a complaint. They sent him to the Prosecutor's Office. I showed them the threat messages. They led me to the gendarmerie. The gendarmerie then sent me the neighbourhood's mukhtar (headman). He tried to be a mediator and I had to return home again because of helplessness. During these 12 years, I have always been subject to this violence. I have repeatedly expressed my wish to leave, but each time I was frightened with my children. I was threatened with death. He seized, without my knowledge, my share from the variety shop that I partner with my sister. As*

a result of an argument we had, he came home drunken one day and set fire to the house by lighting the seat cushions and pillows in the house. He said he wanted to kill me. It burned a long time, the smoke filled everywhere. He left me there and escaped, so I brought water bottles from the fridge and some other buckets and tried to put out the fire. The parquet and carpet were damaged. After a while, he came home and saw that I had put out the fire and said, 'Why did you put it out, I'll kill you?' Then he physically started beating me. I tried to stop her kicks and slaps, but I couldn't do anything. Then he told me that I must leave the house, and when he woke up, I had better not be there. I was so scared that I couldn't find time to get dressed. In pyjamas, I called a taxi and went to a friend. One day later I went to Istanbul to my brother. This time he started threatening my brother. "If you don't come this time, I'm going to kill your brother and hurt your family" he said. I was scared and had to return. Threats and violence continued during this time. He started taking alcohol and raping. During this time, I found out he was with another woman. One day I received a letter saying the woman was beaten. I found out her name was O. This time I started suffering this kind of psychological violence. Although I had repeatedly stated that I wanted to leave, he told me that I had better leave the children and the car and then could go where I wanted. Then he said he wouldn't let me go. We are not seeing each other anymore and I am not getting him to home. One evening he called home and began threatening, then came home. I couldn't open the door due to fear. He asked me to open the door by punching and insulting. I called the police. He had left by the time the police came. He came again and insulted me again. I called the police again. This time they talked to the police and the police convinced him away. But he came again and continued the same insults. Together we went to Peyas Martyr Alişan Police Station on May 1, 2019. I filed a complaint. A one-month restraining order was issued. During this protection decision, he began to behave well with messages. He started visiting the kids. He started giving the kids pocket money. Upon seeing that I was not getting soft on him and was determined to leave, he started threatening with messages again. He went to my friend's wife and said that he was going to kill me. During this time one day while I was driving to the market, he cut me off with a car. I've locked the doors in horror. Then he said he would like to talk. I wound down the car window. He put his hand inside and grabbed my phone. My son was inside at the time. Just as I was trying to drive off, he blocked my way with his car. A driver saw this and informed the police. When I arrived at our complex's car park, the police had already arrived. On 24 May 2019, I went to the police station accompanied by some police officers. I filed a complaint. As the restraining order was still in effect, I went back home. On 01 June, my sister and I went to the hairdresser's. After our work was done and while getting in car, he entered the car and said he would kill me if I screamed. I grabbed the keys and threw myself out. My sister remained there. I rushed into the hairdresser's and asked them to call the police. M.D. firstly got behind the wheel, but, seeing there was no key, got off the car, and asked for the key. I refused and told him I had called the police. He ran away and got in the white car behind ours and drove off. My sister and I went to Alişan Police Station and gave a complaint letter. I felt suspicious as he could easily find us wherever we went. I took my car to a garage and had it searched. There was a tracker device installed behind the car stereo. I parked the car in another car park and left it there. He kept threatening me via SMS. I asked him how he had found my new phone number. He said "from the police station." I blocked his calls. But through some other phones, he went on his threats, against me and my father. Finally, on 10 June 2019, he sent me a message saying that he would come to my father and wanted to have some tea and talk. He told me to make tea and come downstairs, and that he liked my father. He came with a person named D. They talked to



*my father. D. asked my father why he didn't give the man's wife. At that time, my husband threatened my father, and he was drunk. He said "You will give her back to me!" That's when I called the police. He called me back from a different number and started insulting and swearing. He threw insults at my father. He made dishonourable accusations with curses. The police team arrived after they left. My brother and I went to the April 10<sup>th</sup> Police Station and filed a complaint. I want to leave. M.D's threats and attacks continue. Despite my complaint, he does not obey the restraining order. Somehow he finds a way and bothers me. He took my son with him a few days before the incident on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Now I'm afraid he'll take my daughter and hurt me. I am requesting support from your association due to the situation I explained above.*

**On 13 June 2019**, a 24-year-old male named Serdar Yılmaz, shot dead his a 22-year-old and 4-month pregnant wife, Melekşah Yılmaz in Bölükonak Village of Kozluk District of Batman Province. The person then committed suicide with the same weapon.

**On 16 June 2019**, 25-year-old specialized sergeant Y.D. shot dead his wife Münevver D. and committed suicide using the same weapon.

**On 17 June 2019**, the 66-year-old B.Ö. wounded his wife F.Ö. with a knife and was taken into custody.

**According to the information obtained from the news on 26 June 2019**; a husband named F.Y. strangled his wife A.Y. at home. The incident that took place on December 31, 2014 was reflected in the press when the case was reinvestigated in June. The man claimed that his wife had been poisoned by fish in 2014. F.Y. and his lover A.D. were arrested.

**On 26 June 2019**, in Antep Province, a man named Ü.G. threw his wife out of the house. He was reported to have been using systematic violence on his wife.

**According to the news in the press on 27 June 2019**; Veysel G., who lives in Hacıömer District of Siverek District of Urfa, has 1 official (Hülya G.) and 2 religiously married wives (E.Y., 30, and G.İ., 29). He was reported to resort to violence against the women and their 11 children aged between 1.5 and 11. Footages showing the violence appeared on social media. Veysel G. was detained and taken to the police station, but, after his statement was taken, he was released.

**On 2 July 2019**, M.A. raided the home of Kübra A's parents, his 28-year-old wife, who is in the stage of divorce, in Tilmerç Neighbourhood, and he beat his wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law and sister-in-law and then escaped.

While at home on the ground floor of a building in Şamdan St. in Sanayi Neighbourhood of Central Elazığ, **on 9 July 2019**, Y.S, a 40-year-old woman, was wounded by her husband, against whom she had filed a divorce case, when he shot a gun through the window. She was taken to Fethi Sekin City Hospital by ambulance as her state was severe. The man fled the scene but then detained by the police and arrested.

Specialized Sergeant Gokhan Kuzman, working in Gaziantep, shot his wife Müberra Kuzman in the car on **10 July 2019**, when they went to the wedding of relatives in the town of Kahramanmaraş Elbistan. She was seriously wounded and hospitalized, but had brain death.

On 23 July 2019, 17-year-old D.C.K. beat his 74-year-old grandmother Pakize Koç and took her money. He was arrested within the scope of the investigation conducted after the incident.

**On 26 July 2019, an applicant to the HRA Diyarbakır Branch, on condition of anonymity, stated the following:** *“On Monday, 22 July 2019, Ş.K. went home at around 4.00 while drunk and committed violence against his wife A.K. Later, according to the statement of his son İ.K. (12), he started hitting his daughter K.K. (15). Then, K.K. jumped off the balcony, or was thrown off by her father. Ş.K. was constantly drinking alcohol and beating his wife. 3-4 months before this event the dosage of violence had increased. A.K. and K.K. were repeatedly beaten, so K.K. went to the Çarşı Police Station for complaint of physical violence, but the police did not attempt to implement any precautionary action under the Child Protection Law for the benefit of K., who had been subject to violence. Moreover, they did not even refer the patient to a hospital for a beating report. According to K.'s complaint, the father was kept in custody for one day and then released. Ş.K. is a person who uses violence after drinking alcohol to his family and environment. In this last event, K.K., whether jumped off or was thrown off the balcony, is in intensive care. After the incident on Monday, July 22 at around 10.00, I called the police and noticed them on condition of anonymity. Ş.K. was released after his statement was taken, as far as I know. The statement was also taken from his wife A.K. But as far as I know, İ.K., who witnessed all these, was not invited for his statement. I demand that Ş.K. undergo the necessary judicial investigation, that the incident be clarified, and that the necessary criminal proceedings be applied to the offenders. I want my name to be kept confidential in the process. ”*

On **4 August 2019**, S.A., a mother of 8 children, living in the Village of Toptepe in the Midyat District of Mardin, was exposed to brutal violence by her husband Medeni Akkurt, also a village guard. She was hospitalized. It was learned that the assailant was taken into custody but then released. He was detained for the second time by the gendarmerie on 3 September 2019 and that he was arrested by the court this time.

On **4 August 2019**, a man named Hasan A. in the Neighbourhood of İstiklal in Malatya, saw his sister Gurbet A. and her boyfriend Kerem K. walking in the street. Then he attacked them with a knife. Gurbet A. and Kerem K. were taken to the hospital by ambulance and Hasan A. was arrested by the police.

On **7 August 2019**, M.S., 77, residing in Eyüp Sultan Neighbourhood of Nizip District of Antep had a quarrel with his 78-year-old wife Zühre S. The man was reported to have stabbed and killed her. The assailant gave himself over to Nizip Police Department.

On **8 August 2019**, 43-year-old Cebraail Ertürk, a man in Halfeti District of Urfa, killed his wife Filiz Ertürk, 40, mother of 8 children and his daughter Rukiye Ertürk with a shotgun over a marital discord. After the incident, he resisted against the gendarmerie and opened fire

randomly, but 3 hours later, he was detained. The remaining family 7 children, 2 of whom are disabled, were taken to the nursing home by the Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Policies teams.

On **16 August 2019**, a Syrian man, whose name was not learned in the Petrolkent Neighbourhood of Batman, was reported to have beaten and injured badly his wife Emel Hac Hüseyin, a 35-year-old mother of 6 children. The woman lost her life on 22 August 2019 while being treated in the intensive care unit of Batman Regional Hospital. It was learned that the person was arrested.

On **20 August 2019**, 28-year-old Özkan Nuyan killed Emine Nuyan, a 35-year-old wife and mother of one child, in the Patnos District of Ağrı by shooting her in the head with a pistol in the street. The woman had been staying in a women's shelter in Patnos for two months because of a marital conflict.

On **22 August 2019**, Ayten A., an 8-month pregnant woman living in Gaziantep, was beaten by her husband and his uncle on the grounds that she had renounced her inheritance rights and handed over her rights to her brothers.

On **24 August 2019**, a 35-year-old male named Ahmet Y. dwelling in Gaziantep, who was in the stage of divorce, attacked 28-year-old Güldane Y., who had just given birth. He stabbed and wounded the woman from various parts of her body while still in the hospital room. It was learned that the woman was taken to the intensive care unit and that the person was caught by the security of the hospital and delivered to the police and then arrested.

On **24 August 2019**, in the Province of Adıyaman, a man whose name could not be learned beat his sister A.K. while together in a car. Despite opening the door of the car and throwing herself out, the woman was followed by his brother, then beaten and stabbed by him near Sümer Park in Karapınar Neighbourhood. The residents intervened, and the person escaped from the scene. The wounded woman was taken to Adıyaman Training and Research Hospital. It was stated that an investigation was started.

In Diyarbakır, F.V., a drug addicted man, used violence for 3 years against his live-in partner R.A., a 28-year-old woman with 4 children, and threatened to throw her out of the house. It was learned that the incident came to light in an interview with the woman on **25 August 2019**.

On **4 September 2019**, in the District of Turgut Reis in Adıyaman, a young woman named Z.P. was beaten by her brother, whose name could not be identified, in the middle of the street.

On **12 September 2019**, on Doğu Avenue in Batman's Huzur Neighbourhood, a minibus driver used violence against a woman alleged to be his wife and whose name was not learned in front of her child. Passers-by reacted when they heard screams coming from a minibus parked the middle of the street with plate no 72 D 0307. Following this development, the man drove off with the woman and children and headed towards the Neighbourhood of Çamlıtepe.

On **13 September 2019**, 58-year-old woman named Z.T. was beaten by her son S.T. in Central Adıyaman. It was stated that an investigation was initiated.

In a press statement issued by **Eğitim Sen** (t/n: a teacher's union of social democrat origin) Diyarbakır Branch No. 1 on **13 September 2019**; in Kazım Karabekir Secondary School in Bağlar District of Diyarbakır, an assistant head teacher and a female teacher, who were union members, were beaten by their student.

On **23 September 2019**, Saadet Sevim was beaten by her husband Fatih Sevim while the woman was holding her one-year-old child. It was learned that the young woman was taken to hospital for treatment, and that the attack was spotted on a security camera.

On **23 September 2019**, it was learned that a woman who worked as a paramedic at the Selahattin Eyyubi State Hospital in Diyarbakır but whose name was not learned was attacked with a knife by her husband, who was in the process of divorce. The injured woman was learned to be treated by hospital staff.

On **7 October 2019**, 50-year-old Bünyamin Solmaz, a man from the Village of Değirmenci in the Patnos District of Ağrı, killed his wife Saima Solmaz, 50, and his 32-year-old daughter Keziban Kaya with a firearm. It was learned that the person escaped from the scene after the murder and was later arrested and taken into custody by the gendarmerie.

On **10 October 2019**, E.Y. applied to the HRA Diyarbakır Branch and said: *“I was married at the age of 13 and I am 27 years old now. I have 3 children. I've been under constant psychological pressure since the first day of marriage. Later on, I was subjected to physical violence. Physical and psychological violence continued systematically. I was married for an average of 12 years. Then I wanted a divorce because I couldn't stand the violence. I went to my own family. My parents refused me and asked me to go back. So I refused and called the police, who later sent me to a guest house in Batman. I stayed in different cities for a while. I came to Diyarbakır in March 2019 and stayed at the guest house for two months and then I rented a house in Diyarbakır. My eldest child is 12; my other two daughters are 4 and 5 years old. I filed for divorce in May 2019. The case is currently pending, but the lawyer I had previously hired was withdrawn from the file because I could not afford it. 10-15 days ago I found a job in Diyarbakır and started to work. I have been receiving threats by A. and his family since my divorce proceedings began. I have changed my phone number, but this time they have been sending messages via acquaintances and threatening me. I'm worried about this and I don't think I have life safety. The protection decision of the court has also expired. I am requesting legal assistance from your association in this process since I do not have a good financial situation and life safety.”*

On **17 October 2019**, a 35-year-old male named Can Yılmaz in the District of Aziziye, Ergani District of Diyarbakır, burned alive his wife Güllü Yılmaz and his 12-year-old daughter Zeynep Yılmaz for unknown reasons. Police, paramedics and fire-fighters arrived at the scene, treated the victims with various degrees of burns and took them to Ergani State Hospital. It was learned that Güllü Yılmaz passed away on 29 October 2019 while she was being treated at the hospital.

On **28 October 2019**, a police officer named Seyfullah Çınar, employed in the service of Ömerli Police Department in Mardin, killed his wife Belma Çınar and his mother-in-law Ümmühan Güllü in his house in Yenimahalle Neighbourhood with a pistol after a family quarrel the reason of which could not be specified. The person was taken into custody by the police.

On **3 November 2019**, 65-year-old Hasip A., a 60-year-old man residing in the 601<sup>st</sup> street of Bismil District of Diyarbakır, killed his wife, Muteber A. (49), stabbing her 20 times. The perpetrator turned himself in to the police and then was arrested.

On **10 November 2019**, in Doğubayazıt District of Ağrı, 27-year-old man Ramazan İ., who came home late at night and was heavily drunk, beat his 20-year-old wife M.İ. by burning her face and feet with molten plastic, and burned their daughter N.İ.(3) in the same way. The mother and her daughter were taken to hospital. The person was taken into custody and released after his police questioning, but by order of the Public Prosecutor, he was detained and arrested later.

### **NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

On **5 December 2018**, it was learned that 2 women whose names could not be learned and identified as mother and daughter were wounded with guns in their homes in the Bağlar District of Diyarbakır. The women, who were taken to hospital by medical teams, said in their first statements that they had been shot by a family member. It was learned that the police started an investigation to arrest the attacker.

A.Ç., who applied to the HRA Maraş Branch on **7 December 2018**, made the following statements: *S.T., a family friend, after he was sure that my husband was not at home by checking on the phone, tried to rape my children while watching TV. Incidentally, my husband arrived home. I ask for legal support. ”*

38-year-old and mother of two children, Sema Özbudak, who was divorced in April 2018 with her 10-year husband Kaya Osanmaz in Antep, was exposed to threats from her husband after the divorce. According to the information obtained from the news in the press on **30 December 2018**; Özbudak stated that her applications to the Police and Prosecutor's Office for protection were unfulfilled, and added: *“He is constantly threatening on the phone and by texting. He once forced my daughter out of school. I was able to go pick up my daughter with the police. The problems I've had in the last 5 years have increased dramatically in the last 5 months. During this time, I constantly asked the security and the prosecutor for support. The last time he came to pick up my little girl, I gave it to her, even though it wasn't his visiting day. When he brought my child back, there were two bullets in my child's pocket. He gave me a message with these bullets. He's always threatening to kill me. He says he will throw acid onto my face, smash my feet, my kneecaps and put me into a paralyzed life. I can't stand these threats anymore. ”*

On **15 December 2018**, in Urfa, it was reported that a man whose name could not be learned battered the female doctor E.K., whom he had consulted before.

On **3 January 2019** a man named M.G. committed sexual assault against a visually impaired 82-year-old woman living in the same village in the woman's house. It was learned that the person, who escaped after the attack, was caught at the border while fleeing to another country, and was arrested.

The applicant, a student in Munzur University, who came to the HRA Dersim Branch on **23 March 2019** stated on condition of anonymity that she was constantly being harassed and threatened by a student from the same university; and that other female friends who supported her had also been threatened. The person, who was accused of harassment, called the applicant and apologised after she applied to our Association, the University Representative of Eğitim-Sen (a teacher's union) and Tunceli Bar Association. Then the applicant contacted our association again and demanded for no further assistance and that nothing be done.

On **30 March 2019**, F.N., a 26 year-old woman, was reported to have been followed by a man subjected to verbal harassment while entering her home. It was learned that the women filed a complaint to the police.

On **2 April 2019**, it was learned that a man named Ahmet Doğuç killed his ex-wife Aslı Yıldız Güçlü in Maraş by shooting with a pistol. Asef Güçlü, the woman's husband who was accompanying her at the time, was wounded. The attacker was arrested after being taken into custody.

As of **3 April 2019**, A.K. 45-year-old male, his brother-in-law's wife, 45-year-old Emine Yıldız went to the house and shot in the head with the shotgun in front of the eyes of his daughter killed. Person escaped after the event, was arrested and taken into custody.

On **21 April 2019**, 61-year-old Gülsüm Taş and her 30-year-old son Cafer Taş were attacked with knives by unidentified assailants on the way home at night in Pertek District of Dersim. Gülsüm Taş, who had been taken to Elazığ Fırat University Medical Faculty Hospital, lost her life, while Cafer Taş was said to have a risk of death. It was reported that a police inquiry was initiated to catch the perpetrator(s).

On **25 April 2019**, 38-year-old Cemile Aydın, a bank teller in Batman, was found shot in the car with a pistol and was seriously wounded. She could not survive the wounds and died during her treatment (on 30 April 2019).

On **9 May 2019**, M.D., a man employed in the service of Antep Provincial Directorate of Health, was reported to harass H.B. (nurse) by phone.

On **17 May 2019**, 57-year-old Sakine Oguz, a woman living in Dersim's Hozat District, was killed as a result of an armed attack by unidentified assailants while she was grazing her animals. The woman's body was taken to Hozat Integrated Hospital for autopsy. She had fractures in his jaw and chest, bullet wound on the forehead, cuts around the neck. During the crime scene investigation, two bullet casings were found. Eyewitnesses stated they had seen two motorcyclists riding off the region after they heard gunshots. Hozat Public Prosecutor's Office launched an investigation. It was reported that a 23-year-old soldier named Medet Can Ateş, who was a soldier in Çanakkale and had come to Dersim on leave, was detained in

Elazığ on 21 May 2019. The suspect's first statement was taken at Hozat District Gendarmerie Command, and he was then taken to the courthouse where he confessed the murder and then was arrested.

On **26 May 2019**, in Fabrika Neighbourhood of Diyarbakır's central Yenişehir District, a female police officer named Merve Ünal was shot by a police officer named Muharrem Y. with a gun, and was wounded with 9 bullets that hit her body. The woman could not survive the wounds and lost her life in hospital.

On **28 May 2019**, in Malatya, a man named H.A.B. shot and wounded a woman named A.D. and escaped from the incident.

On **28 May 2019**, in Elazığ, 37 year old male H.Ö. tried to force his ex-lover Ç.K. into the car, but wounded the woman who resisted with a gun. The man then attempted suicide with the same gun.

İsmail Kaya, who worked as a mufti (head religious officer) in Hazro District of Diyarbakır, was reported to sexually assault H.Y., who was a Quran instructor at Hamidiye Boarding Quran School for Girls. The assailant, who was detained on **29 May 2019** upon the complaint of the woman, was found to be married and had 6 children. He was later transferred to Diyarbakır Magistrate Criminal Court with the request of arrest for sexual assault, but he was released on bail.

On **2 June 2019**, 87-year-old Nazime Bilmez was stabbed to death in a fight with stones, sticks and knives between two families in the hamlet of Doğancık of Taşlıdere Village in Kozluk, Batman.

On **4 June 2019**, in the Province of Malatya, H.A.B., a man who was issued a restraining order, broke into the home of A.D. (the sister-in-law of his brother) and tried to abduct her sister, and shot and wounded A.D. The man was reported to have used violence against and harassed A.D. and her sister previously.

On **5 June 2019** it was learned that an unidentified man in Urfa harassed a woman on the bus and was detained afterwards.

**R.K., who applied to the HRA Diyarbakır Branch on 21 June 2019, stated:** *“I have been living in Huzurevleri Neighbourhood and working as a janitor I was attacked by a person named N., whose surname I don't know, and living on the 13th floor of the same building for two years. The person named N. did not pay for the maintenance charge for the water tank. I sent my daughter on June 19, 2019 to ask for the payment. When my daughter returned, she said “The man was not at home. His wife asked us to pay for the money, and her husband would pay it back as soon as he arrived.” Then I borrowed their share from the baker's below, and paid the maintenance fee. In the evening my daughter went up and asked again. He wasn't home. Later, as I was collecting rubbish from the flats with my daughter, the person named N. slapped my daughter on the stairs. I was downstairs at the time. Then he came to my door and said “I don't want you to be the janitor. I'm not paying for the engine. How dare you want money from me?” Then he slapped me and slapped him back. My son*

*works in a baker's on the ground floor of the building. My son told him "How could you slap my mother?" N. says, "Let's drop the subject, let's make peace." However, my door was knocked in the same evening at around 21.00. When I opened the door, N. and his relatives attacked me. He, his father, his wife, uncle, including 15 people entered my house. They had knives, cleavers and guns. His father pointed at the gun placed in his waistband and said, "I am standing by my son". They beat me, insulted me, and threatened me with death. My face and body were bruised. The neighbours gathered. While these events are happening, my son was attacked by N. and his relatives at the entrance of the building. They injured my son with three knives. That was when the police came. They took us to Gazi Yaşargil Training and Research Hospital. My son got treatment. They gave me a medical report showing assault and violence. A report was issued to my son, but I didn't get it yet. I gave my statement to the police and filed a complaint. I don't know how legal action would be taken against them. But there was no detention and arrest. Later we learned that they were village guards. N. and his relatives broke into my home. They beat me, wounded my son, and threatened me. I want these people tried. I claim compensation for pecuniary and non-pecuniary damages. I want legal support from your association on this issue."*

**Güler Deniz applied to the HRA Diyarbakır Branch on 24 June 2019 and stated:** *We have been working in Bağlar Women's District Market since 2013. 100 people work here. Since 2013, we have been experiencing various problems in this Neighbourhood market. Particular efforts are being made to allocate the Neighbourhood market for men, and our female friends are threatened. This situation has been shared with the press and the public many times and demanded that concerned people and authorities take the necessary steps to solve this problem. However, at this stage, our current problems have not been solved and the violence against women still continues in the Neighbourhood market. In 2014, the shop assistant named Mehmet Karacadağ knocked over our umbrella by his car. When we reacted against this, he started to attack with a cleaver. Our goods were severely damaged. Against this, we applied to the police station. We demanded that the representatives of NGOs and political parties be mediators to solve the problem. Probation measure was issued against the person due to the case file. In 2017, this person started to collect signatures in this market in order to remove women from the women's Neighbourhood market. I was in charge of the market then. He wandered through the market with papers and said, "The fate of the market is in my hand, I play with the fate of the market." He continued to threaten and create tension. In the meantime, the husband of a friend of ours tried to warn and respond to this person by saying, "These women are not helpless, "Why are you doing this?" This person, "Lucky for you that you are disabled, or I would bury your head down here," he continued his threatening without slowing down. When this person's father-in-law intervened, he took the old man's head under his arms and began to punch him. The person's wife Eylem KARACADAĞ came to help his father. When she tried to separate them, he tried to strangle his wife (Eylem KARACADAĞ) with both hands. These events happened right across our stall. While he was trying to strangle his wife, Meryem TÜRK, one of our colleagues, ran to them and grabbed his hands saying in a calm voice, "What are you doing?" The moment she said "What are you doing?" he started to attack Meryem this time. The attacker took the big watermelon knife from the stall of his mother-in-law and tried to stab Mary directly. Mary was attacked on her stomach, but when our friends pulled her back, he missed, but hit her on the right shoulder the second time he waved it. Our friend fell to the ground by the impact. After our friend fell to the ground, Mary started to wave a thin stick she grabbed from the*



*ground to defend herself and defeat the attack. She threw it at him, but it did not hit, but he was still attacking. Then he saw me and came towards me. "You wait there, I'll kill you," he said. He was deliberately threatening me because I had sued him before. He started cursing at me, making threats. In the meantime, my sister Garipşah DENİZ and Güneş ÇURGATAY, who are also stallholders, intervened. Güneş called out to me, saying "Run!" I started running to protect myself. I went to the corner and, by the help of a small truck driver, I went to the police check point 300 meters away from the market. Then he attacked our friend Neslihan AYDEMİR who had a stall next to ours. He started cursing her. Neslihan was attacked because she had testified against him in our other case. At that time, Neslihan AYDEMİR fainted and the attacker fled with the knife. Then we went to the hospital and the police station. We complained, but for some reason, he complained as if he was a victim. The case on this incident is continuing in Diyarbakır 7th Criminal Court of First Instance with the merits no 2018/230. Today is the third hearing of the case. He began to threaten and insult us while leaving the courthouse after the trial. He threatened Neslihan AYDEMİR and Güneş ÇURGATAY, who are our witnesses in the case, saying "I'll deal with you badly". Again, he continued threatening and swearing. In 2018, we started an association as women stallholders. After founding the association we had problems. In our market, men are forbidden to work, but despite this, they insisted on selling. The person I mentioned above was caught by the police teams and was warned not to open his stall here. After the officers left, Mehmet KARACADAĞ and his father Fehmi KARACADAĞ came towards my stall and accused me of complaining about them to the police. They threatened and insulted me saying, "It seems you won't stop until we break your nose". I went back to police and filed a complaint. He was given an imprisonment sentence for threatening and offense of libel by Diyarbakır 8th Criminal Court of First Instance on 19.06.2019, case number 2018/1017. I brought a copy of the court decision for you. We request that your association follow these files. He's always threatening us, insulting us. The hearing date of the main file at Diyarbakır 7th Criminal Court of First Instance by case number 2018/230 is on 10.10.2019. As Bağlar Women's District Market employees, we request legal support from your Association regarding these problems."*

On **24 June 2019**, it was learned that a man had beaten his ex-lover in the park on the grounds that she had refused to reunite, and then the man was detained.

On **26 June 2019**, it was learned that 3 male persons (V.T., O.A., and O.Ö.) sexually assaulted a woman in Van. V.T., the attacker under 18, was released, but the other 2 persons (O.A. and O.Ö.) were arrested.

It was reported that on **2 July 2019**, in Kızıltepe District of Mardin, Ali A. followed for a while and then attacked his ex-wife, H.D, with a knife while she was walking in Kilise Street with her child. She was seriously injured and taken to Kızıltepe State Hospital, but the man had escaped from the scene. The police said he had been taken into custody.

On **8 July 2019**, 62-year-old Ayşe Çiçek, mother of 9 children, and her 14-year-old son Muhammed Çiçek were found wounded with firearms in the middle of the village in Cevizli Village of Çukurca, Hakkari. The mother lost her life and her son was taken to the hospital with serious injuries and was being treated. It was stated that an investigation was started.

On **9 July 2019**, an unidentified person knocking on the door of a house in an apartment on 677th Street in Bağlar District of Diyarbakır's 5 Nisan Neighbourhood opened fire on a 65-year-old woman named Halide Kaplan, who was looking at the door hole. The attacker fled the scene, and an investigation was launched.

On **10 July 2019**, in Malatya's Dogansehir District, a man named Kamil T. shot 54-year-old Azize Esen dead. It was reported that they had been arguing about land conflict. The killer was taken into custody.

On **12 July 2019**, a heated argument broke out over unidentified reasons between two groups of women sitting in Kaniya Navin Park in Silvan District of Diyarbakır. It was reported that male family members of one group attacked and beat the women in the other group with bats. Emine Aslan, one of the victims, made the following statements about the incident: *“Those women shouted at us, ‘Do you know who we are? We will give you a rough time!’ At that time, one of the women slapped my sister. They also summoned the young people wandering there and provoked them to attack us. They were trying to prevent us from getting out of the park. Eventually we escaped from the park with great difficulty. We were going to get a report of assault, but we gave up and went home. The victims reported that after leaving the park, they were followed by two men and attacked on a deserted street. Ms. Aslan said, “My 3-year-old daughter was with me at the time. I was trying to protect her. My daughter was in shock. They wanted to attack my daughter too. I fell on my daughter and covered her. They battered me, my older sister and my two younger sisters with sticks. They swore at us sexist curses and beat us up. I later learned that one of the men who attacked us was called F.S.”*

On **17 July 2019**, a male person in Adıyaman battered A.S., reported to be his ex-wife in the middle of the street. It was learned that an investigation was initiated upon the woman's complaint.

On **23 July 2019**, in front of the courthouse in Onikişubat District of Maraş, 31-year-old Murat A. stabbed his ex-wife Tuğba A (27) and a friend of her, Osman Ö. (29). Tuğba A. and Osman Ö. were taken to the hospital to be treated, while the attacker Murat A. was detained by the police.

On **24 July 2019**, 20-year-old Cuma G. and 18-year-old Recep G., who broke into the house of 90-year-old Halim Güven living in Cizre District of Şırnak, battered her during sleep on a sofa and ripping off gold necklace from his neck. Halime Güven's cries woke up the family members. The burglars, who ran out, were caught as a result of the investigation, and the gold was delivered to the old woman.

On **29 July 2019**, A.D., a male deputy director of the municipality in Mardin harassed G.K. (30). Upon her filing a criminal complaint, the man was taken into custody.

On **20 August 2019**, 48-year-old Kebire Atamaz, a mother of three children, was shot dead by her boss Ömer Cankara. The woman was working on a field in Yazıkönak Town of Elazığ.

According to the news in the press dated 6 September 2019, it was claimed that a female patient who had undergone surgery in a hospital in Elbistan District of Maraş in July was

sexually assaulted by the anaesthetist. In a statement made by the hospital management; a judicial and administrative investigation was launched against the suspected employee.

On **26 September 2019**, a woman named Siti Dayankaç, a 50-year-old mother of 10 children, who lived in the hamlet of Sarpkaya (İndîs) in the Village of Hizan, Bitlis, lost her life as a result of an armed attack with long barrelled guns in front of her house in the evening. The motivation of the attack could not be identified, and an investigation was launched.

On **26 September 2019**, 21-year-old E.S. was stabbed and wounded by a man allegedly her ex-boyfriend. He was taken into custody.

Sabri Keremoğlu, who was released from prison on **29 September 2019** by a permission of authorities for having an operation in Van, killed his wife Figen Keremoğlu with a firearm in a petrol station. Another person named Hakan K, who was shopping at a greengrocer's near the petrol station, was also killed by firearms. The police initiated an investigation into both incidents, but the suspect could not be found.

It was reported that, on **30 September 2019**, a woman named F.Ç. was battered by her ex-husband's wife A.D., her son Y.Ç.

On **14 October 2019**, it was learned that a woman walking in Kurt İsmail Paşa Street in Diyarbakır's Ofis District was subjected to sexual harassment. The man was reported to be caught by people around. They attempted to lynch the assailant but the police arrived and the man was detained.

A woman's body that belonged to a woman named G.K was left in front of the emergency entrance of Horasan State Hospital on **17 October 2019** by unidentified person/persons. The autopsy revealed that the woman was shot dead with a firearm. An investigation into the incident and the people who fled the scene was launched.

### **SUSPICIOUS DEATHS of WOMEN**

21-year-old Yeldana Kaharman, a second-year student of Fırat University Faculty of Communication and a nationality of Kazakhstan, was found dead on **28 March 2019**. It was announced that an investigation into Kaharman's death was initiated.

On **9 April 2019**, a woman's body was found on the banks of the Tigris River in Bahçelievler Neighbourhood of Hasankeyf, Batman Province, and the body was found to belong to a health care professional named Hayriye Arıca. Arıca, having filed a divorce case, was allegedly beaten and killed by his husband, and the police launched an investigation. It was learned that the body of Arıca's husband (Burhan Arıca) was also found near the Village of Irmak, Hasankeyf on **17 April 2019**.

Gözde Çulhaoğlu (25), an anaesthetist who was working in Erzurum Regional Training and Research Hospital was found dead on **13 April 2019** in her flat, reportedly by her fiancé. The police and medical professionals who arrived at the scene observed syringe and anaesthetic by

her. Her death was considered suspicious and the body was taken to the Erzurum Forensic Medicine Institute for an autopsy.

On **27 May 2019** in Hakkari, 18-year-old Selcan Özatak, a student of Sümbül Anatolian High School who left home for school, was not heard from again. Özatak's lifeless body was found on 01 June 2019 in Katramas Creek in the Biçer Neighbourhood. The body was turned over to Hakkari State Hospital morgue for an autopsy. A police investigation was started immediately.

On **4 June 2019**, the body of Derya H (42) was found in the street in Antep. It was stated that the woman had attempted suicide twice before.

On **18 June 2019**, 66-year-old Havva T. Erzincan was found dead in the barn.

On **22 June 2019**, 79-year-old Saadet K. was found dead in her home in Malatya.

On **30 June 2019**, a 47-year-old woman named Hazan S. living in Hakkari died as a result of falling into a creek and an investigation was started.

On **30 June 2019**, 19-year-old Canan Akar, a woman living in Paçan Neighbourhood of Gürpınar, Van, was found dead in her room. No information was found in the press about how Akar lost his life.

On **24 July 2019**, 50-year-old Pakize G., a woman living in Ergani District of Diyarbakır, was found by her relatives and neighbours, hanging with a scarf in the wardrobe in her house in Sanayi Neighbourhood. Within the scope of the investigation initiated about the incident, 3 suspects including Pakize G.'s son were detained. The detainees were released later.

70-year-old Süheyla Torun, who was living alone on the 1st floor of an apartment building in Malatya, was found dead on **6 August 2019** in her flat. Unable to determine how the woman died, the officials launched an investigation.

On **25 August 2019**, a 26-year-old woman named Birgül K. was found shot dead in the head inside the barn next to her home in the Village of Küçüksütlüce, 35 kilometres from Ardahan. The pistol next to the body was seized by the police, and the woman's husband was taken into custody within the scope of the investigation.

On **27 August 2019**, 25-year-old Halime Demir, a woman living in the Neighbourhood of Alan in Siirt Province, was found unconscious in the bathroom by her family and taken to Siirt State Hospital by paramedics. However, she could not survive despite medical attention.

On **9 September 2019**, a 47-year-old woman named Ayşe Cebecioğlu, who was living in the Mimar Sinan Neighbourhood in Erzincan, was found dead in her home. After the crime scene investigation made on suspicion of murder, a police investigation was launched about the incident.

A 35-year-old woman named Ayten Kaya was found dead in the barn of her home in Sarmaşık Village in Eğil, Diyarbakır on **16 September 2019**. She was claimed to have committed suicide. The police started an investigation.