## Killing The Messenger – 2012

An analysis of news media casualties carried out for the International News Safety Institute by Cardiff School of Journalism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of death</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel/OccupiedTerritories</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DominicanRepublic</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>152</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1 This report does not contain any citizen journalists. With constant developments in technology and participation, and in an increasingly volatile and diverse global media landscape – for example the potential influence of the Shaam News Network in Syria – the inclusion of citizen journalists and citizen news networks is currently under review by INSI.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Origin</th>
<th>Number of Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown(^2)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel/OccupiedTerritories</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DominicanRepublic</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>152</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^2\) This includes unidentified victims attacks on media offices in Nigeria (7).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer/Commissioner</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Press</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TV</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News agency</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Bar chart showing the number of deaths by employer/medium.

- Press: 57
- TV: 50
- Radio: 25
- News agency: 10
- Online: 6
- Unknown: 4
- Total: 152]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional position</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journalist/Media Worker</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified(^3)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Worker</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^3\) This includes unidentified victims of the attack on media offices in Nigeria.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status in country of death</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>152</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Status of journalist in country of death:
- Unknown
- Local
- International
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context of death</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>peacetime</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>national armed conflict</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>international armed conflict</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Bar chart showing the number of deaths in different contexts](image-url)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of death</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shot</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blown up</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road accident</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air accident</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unclear⁴</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossfire</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stabbed</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaten</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tortured</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decapitated</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural causes⁵</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other accident⁶</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other non-natural⁷</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>152</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Two bodies found dismembered having been kidnapped in Mexico, three bodies found having been kidnapped in Syria, one "assassinated" in Syria (no further details found).

⁴ One asthma attack, one malaria.

⁵ One hit by falling rocks in Nepal, one fell into hole in sports stadium in Ukraine.

⁶ Body found in ditch near motorcycle with suspicious injuries.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perpetrator</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unknown assailant(s)</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular armed forces</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armed militants</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurgent</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorist</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal organisation</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rioter/demonstrator</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposition military troops</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual(s)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>120</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accidents are not included here. This includes 18 road accident victims, 10 road accidents, two other accidents and two natural causes/ill health.

Nigeria attacks.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deaths unrelated to war reporting</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accident</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unclear</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigating drugs</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corruption</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil unrest</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigating crime</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorism</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigating paramilitary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political violence</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>84</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Bar chart showing the number of deaths for each category]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>War/Conflict zone reporting</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unilateral without military/police escort</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unilateral with military/police escort</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>68</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**War/conflict zone reporting**

![Bar chart showing the distribution of deaths across different reporting categories.](chart.png)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal outcome</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No identification + no legal proceedings</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identification of perpetrator</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This does not include 18 road accident victims, twelve killed in indiscriminate bombings, ten air accident victims, six killed in crossfire, two natural causes/ill health, two killed by Government forces in Syria while staying with activists, and two other accidents.