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246 Civilians, Including One Media Worker and Six Medical and Civil Defense Personnel, Documented Killed in Syria in February 2019

SNHR Documented Eight
Massacres and 29 Persons
Who Died due to Torture



SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Friday, March 1, 2019

The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, independent group that is considered a primary source for the OHCHR on all death toll-related analyses in Syria.



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I. Introduction and Methodology

The documentation process to register victims killed in Syria is one of the most important roles performed by the Syrian Network for Human Rights since March 2011. This is all the more crucial since murder is the greatest pattern amongst all the violations perpetrated, and the one which most profoundly affects the Syrian people, with families suffering incalculable and irreparable trauma through the loss of fathers, mothers, brothers, friends, etc. These violations have become widespread, predominantly through Syrian regime forces' and affiliated militias systematic killing of civilians using every kind of weapon. The regime began by using tanks and artillery, then progressed to also deploying warplanes and helicopter gunships which have dropped or fired barrel bombs, in addition to Scud missiles and chemical weapons.

The entry of several parties into the Syrian conflict has increased the importance and complexity of documenting the victims killed in Syria.

Since 2011, the Syrian Network for Human Rights has created complex electronic programs to archive and categorize the victims' data, which the team collects and verifies; enabling us to catalogue the victims according to the gender and location where each was killed, the governorate from which each victim originally came, and the party responsible for the killing, and to make comparisons between these parties, and identify the governorates which lost the largest proportion of residents.



Since 2011, we have also deemed it appropriate to highlight the death toll among women and children due to the vulnerability of these groups and their central role in the community, and because they give a strong indication of the targeting of civilians. We later added other groups which have played a key role in the popular movement and later in the armed conflict, such as media, medical, relief and civil defense personnel.

Given the importance and sensitivity surrounding the murder of Syrian citizens, the Syrian Network for Human Rights has never stopped issuing daily death toll of victims for nearly eight years, or publishing monthly reports documenting the death toll of victims Syria lost each month, in addition to issuing an annual report, as well as dozens of other reports documenting massacres committed on Syrian soil. Also, SNHR periodically sends a special form to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial killings.

It should be noted that the United Nations has relied on the Syrian Network for Human Rights for all the statistics it has used in its analysis of victims in the conflict, given SNHR's prominent role as one of the most credible sources. SNHR is also used as a trustworthy source by a large number of Arab and international news agencies and many international human rights organizations.

Methodology

This report records the death toll of victims killed by the main perpetrator parties to the conflict in Syria in February 2019, particularly focusing on those victims killed under torture, and victims amongst media and medical personnel, paying particular attention to the massacres committed by the main perpetrator parties to the conflict over the past month that the SNHR team was able to document.

We should note that in this context we use the term "massacre" to refer to any attack that resulted in the deaths of five or more peaceful individuals in the same incident.

The report also includes a review of the most prominent incidents during this period. Finally, we maintain the details of the complete incidents in the SNHR's database.

The report catalogues the death toll of victims perpetrated by each of the main perpetrator parties in the Syrian conflict; accurately ascribing responsibility sometimes requires more time and investigation than usual, especially in the case of joint attacks. On some occasions, when we are unable to definitively assign responsibility for specific attacks to one specific party, as in the case of air strikes by Syrian or Russian warplanes, Syrian-Iranian attacks, or attacks by Syrian Democratic Forces and International Coalition forces, we indicate that responsibility for these attacks is held jointly by the parties in question until we are able to likely establish which one of the parties was responsible, or it's proved that the attack was a joint initiative carried out in coordination between the two parties.



The main perpetrator parties to the conflict in Syria are:

- Syrian Regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias)
- Russian forces
- Extremist Islamist groups
- Factions of the Armed Opposition
- Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic forces (the Democratic Union Party)
- International Coalition forces
- Other parties

Through use of SNHR's extensive database, we can catalogue the victims by the governorate where they were killed, and also by the governorate from which they originally came. Through cataloguing the victims according to their governorates of origin, we aim to show the magnitude of the human loss suffered by the people of each governorate; which will later help in assessing the course of transitional justice. This report catalogues the death toll of victims by the governorate to which they belong.

In relation to victims amongst armed forces, these are divided into two categories:

- Victims from the armed opposition: We face additional difficulties in assessing these casualties as many of these victims are killed on battlefronts rather than in cities or other urban settlements. We are also often unable to obtain information on the victims such as names, photographs and other important personal details due to the reluctance of armed opposition forces to reveal such sensitive information for security concerns among other reasons. Therefore, the actual number of victims is far higher than the number documented.

- Victims from Syrian Regime force, extremist Islamist groups, and Kurdish Democratic Union Party forces: It is almost impossible to access information about this category of victims and the margin of error is considerably higher than usual due to the lack of any applicable methodology in this type of documentation, since these parties don't publish, reveal, or document information about their casualties. From our perspective and given these facts, the statistics published by some groups concerning casualties amongst this category of victims are fabricated rather than being based on any actual data.

In this report, we record only the toll of civilian casualties - with the exception of the death toll among victims who died due to torture, which includes armed combatants as well as civilians - whose deaths we were able to document during the last month. Some of the victims documented may have been killed months or even years ago, as in some cases of death due to torture; in these cases, where the deaths have only recently been confirmed, we include two dates, the date when we were able to document the victim's death, and the date on which we think the death occurred.



The methodology adopted by the Syrian Network for Human Rights in documenting the victims can be seen at this link¹.

This report draws upon the ongoing daily monitoring of news and developments by SNHR's team, and on our extensive network of relations with various sources that have been built up over the course of our work since 2011. When we receive information or learn some news about violations via the internet or media outlets, our team works to follow up these reports and attempts to verify reports and collect evidence and data. In some cases, researchers are able to visit the incident location promptly. However, this is a rarity in light of the incredibly high security risks, and given the frequency of daily incidents and the scarcity of human and material resources. Therefore, the opportunities available to access evidence vary between one case and another, and consequently the level of certainty in classification of each incident varies. SNHR's customary policy in such cases is to rely on accounts from survivors who experienced the violation firsthand, in addition to analyzing available materials from open sources such as the Internet and media outlets. We also talk with medical personnel who treated the injured in these incidents, examined the deceased victims' bodies, and identified the cause of death.

SNHR has analyzed videos and photographs that our team documented, which were posted online, or submitted by local activists via e-mail, Skype, or social media platforms. These videos and photos show, amongst other things, sites of attacks, and bodies of the victims and the injured, whilst other photos may show victims killed under torture, and victims amongst medical and media personnel who died in attacks carried out by parties to the conflict. We also retain copies of all the videos and photographs included in these reports, which are also reviewed in this report, in a confidential electronic database and hard disk backup copies, and we ensure always that all these data are stored with their original source. We do not claim, however, that we have documented all cases, given the severe prohibitions, restrictions and persecution by the Syrian Regime forces and some other armed groups.

This report contains two accounts that we've collected through speaking directly with eyewitnesses, none of which are cited from any open sources. We explained the purpose of these interviews beforehand to the eyewitnesses, who gave us permission to use the information they provided without us offering or giving them any incentives. Also, SNHR endeavors always to spare the eyewitnesses the agony of remembering the violations as much as possible, providing assurances that we will conceal the identity of any witness who prefers to use an alias.

¹ "Syrian Network for Human Rights Methodology", Syrian Network for Human Rights, <http://sn4hr.org/public_html/wp-content/pdf/english/SNHR_Methodology_en.pdf> accessed date: 27 February 2019



Our investigations confirm that all of the attacks included in this report that were carried out by the main perpetrator parties to the conflict in Syria targeted civilian areas where we documented no military presence or armories before or during the attacks, and in which the perpetrators failed to issue any warnings to civilians prior to any of the attacks as required by international humanitarian law.

The type and level of evidence available varies from one case to another. In light of the aforementioned challenges, the legal definition of many of the incidents documented may be subject to change based on any new evidence or information which emerge after this report is released. We shall update our data archive with any such items of evidence and information as soon as they become available. Meanwhile, although many incidents don't technically constitute a violation of international humanitarian law under the terms of such legislation, they involved collateral damage, so we have recorded and archived these incidents to document what happened historically and to preserve these as part of the national record, although we don't qualify these specific incidents as crimes.

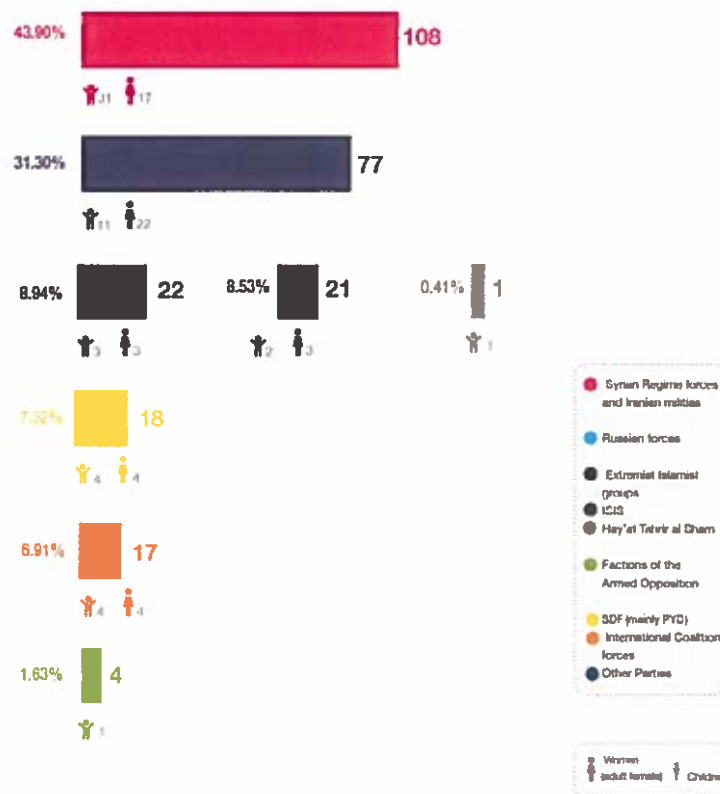
This report only represents the bare minimum of the actual severity and magnitude of the violations that occurred. Also, it doesn't include any analysis of the profound social, economic, and psychological ramifications.

II. Death Toll of Civilian Victims Documented in February

SNHR documented the deaths of 246 civilians, including 54 children and 50 women (adult female), at the hands of the main perpetrator parties in Syria in February 2019.

The death toll in February was distributed by the main perpetrator parties as follows:





As documented by SNHR

- Syrian Regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias):

We documented the deaths of 108 civilians at the hands of Syrian Regime forces, including 31 children and 17 women.

- **Extremist Islamist groups:** killed 22 civilians, including three children and three women. These groups are divided between:

- ISIS (the self-proclaimed 'Islamic State'): killed 21 civilians, including two children and three women.
- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham (an alliance composed of Fateh al Sham Front and a number of factions of the Armed Opposition): killed one child.

- Factions of the Armed Opposition:

SNHR documented the deaths of four civilians, including one child.

- Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic forces (the Democratic Union Party)

SNHR documented the deaths of 18 civilians, including four children and four women.

- International coalition forces:

We documented the deaths of 17 civilians, including four children and four women.

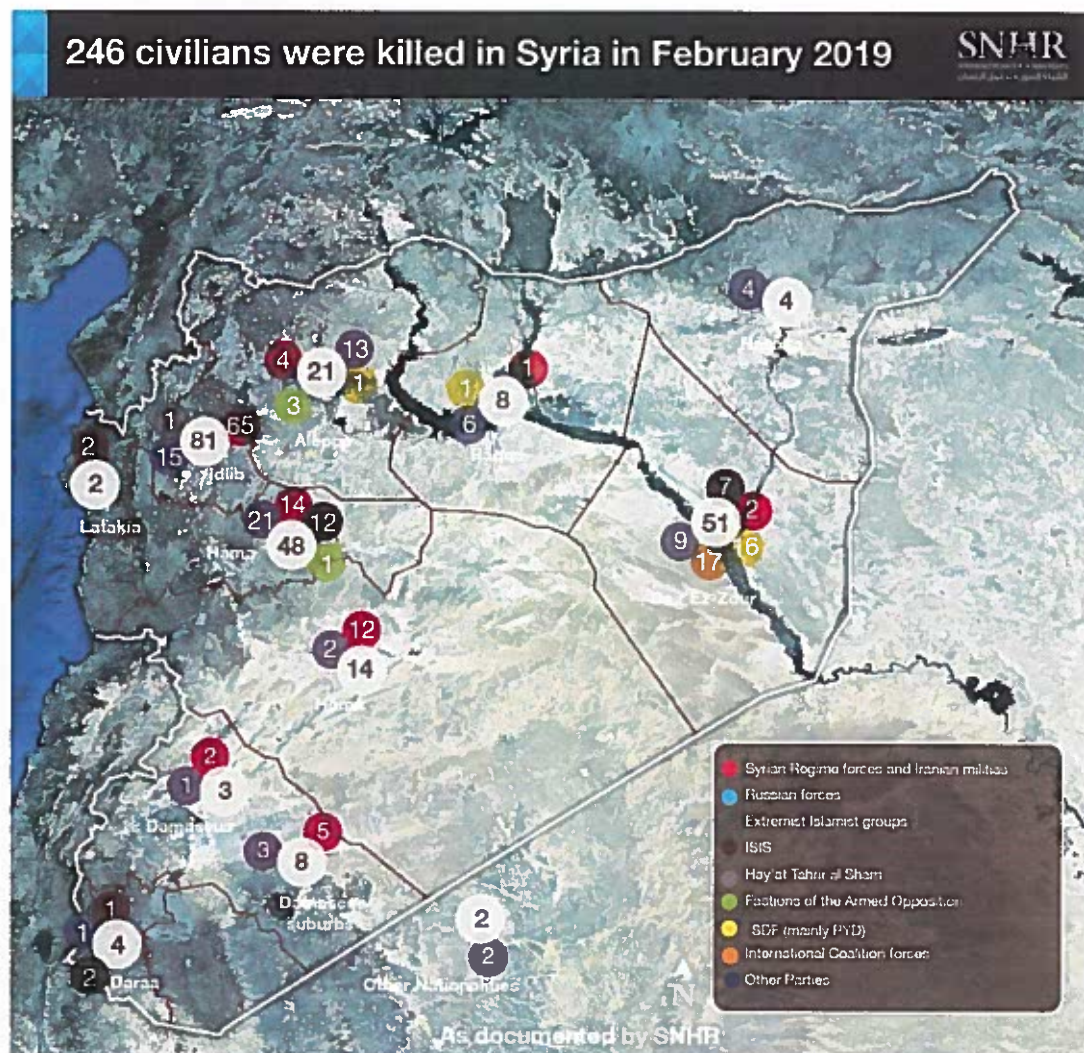
- Other parties:

We documented 77 civilians, including 11 children and 22 women, killed by other parties.



Victims of these parties include those who were killed in bombings whose perpetrators have not yet been identified, victims who died in fires of unknown source, victims killed by landmines of unknown origin, and victims who drowned, in addition to victims who died in fires, victims who were killed in indiscriminate shelling by Turkish aerial and land forces, and victims who were killed by Jordanian or Lebanese forces.

Death toll of civilian victims killed at the hands of the main perpetrator parties documented in February 2019 was distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:



III. Death Toll of Victims Who Died Due to Torture, and Victims Amongst Media, Medical and Civil Defense Personnel Documented in February

A. Death toll of victims who died due to torture

SNHR documented the deaths of 29 persons due to torture in February 2019, distributed by the main perpetrator parties as follows:

- Syrian Regime forces: 26
- Factions of the Armed Opposition: One
- Syrian Democratic forces: One
- Other parties: One

The most notable cases are:

Ibrahim Ismail Badran, a civil engineer from Douma city in the east of the Damascus Suburbs governorate, was born in 1976. He was arrested by Syrian Regime forces on Sunday, August 25, 2013, while he was passing through a regime checkpoint in Damascus city. On Monday, February 4, 2019, we learned that his death had been registered in the Civil Registry Department, with the date of death given as Tuesday, July 8, 2014. We consider it most probable that he has died due to torture inside one of the Syrian Regime forces' detention centers.



Mohammad Hussein al Zer, a student at the Faculty of Physical Education, University of Damascus, from Raqqa city. He was arrested by Syrian Regime forces in 2013. On Tuesday, February 5, 2019, we received information confirming that he had died due to torture on Friday, April 24, 2015, inside Sydnaya Military Prison in Damascus Suburbs governorate.



Mahmoud Ali al Mer'e, a lawyer from al Rastan city in the north of Homs governorate, was born in 1957, was arrested by Syrian Regime forces on Thursday, October 13, 2011, in Homs city. His family was able to visit him in March 2012 in Sydnaya Military Prison in Damascus Suburbs governorate. On Tuesday, February 12, 2019, we learned that his death had been registered in the Civil Registry Department, with the date of death given as Wednesday, February 13, 2013. We consider it most probable that he has died due to torture inside one of the Syrian Regime forces' detention centers.



B. Death toll of medical personnel

SNHR documented the deaths of five medical personnel in February, distributed by the main perpetrator parties as follows:

- Syrian Regime forces: Three, including one woman, distributed as follows:

- One pharmacist
- Two medical personnel, including one woman.

- International Coalition forces: One nurse

- Other parties: One pharmacist

The most notable cases are:

Omar Khaled al Khbous, first- year college student at faculty of Dentistry in International Rescue University – branch of Ma'aret al Numan city in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. Omar, who came from Ma'ar Shoreen village in Idlib governorate eastern suburbs, was killed on Tuesday, January 29, 2019, in intensive shelling of Ma'aret al Numan city by Syrian Regime forces using a missile launcher.



Omar al Khbous

Ahmad Qaddour al Hamwiya, a pharmacist from Kafr Zita city in Hama governorate northern suburbs, born in 1987. Ahmad, who worked for the Information and Planning Department of 'Free' Hama Health Directorate, was killed on Saturday, February 16, 2019, when Syrian Regime artillery forces fired a shell at his place of residence in Qal'at al Madiq town in Hama governorate western suburbs.



Ahmad al Hamwiya



C. Death toll of media workers

SNHR documented the death of one media worker due to torture at the hands of Syrian regime forces in February

Bilal Abdul Kafi al Mohammad, nicknamed "Abu Orouba", a media activist and one of the founders of 'Syria Revolutionaries Gathering', from Talthahab town in Homs governorate northern suburbs, born in 1986, was married with a child. He was arrested on August 28, 2013, by Syrian Regime forces while he was passing through a regime checkpoint in Kfarraa village in Hama governorate northeastern suburbs, and taken to the Military Security branch in Hama city before being taken to Damascus city. On February 3, 2019, we received information confirming that he had been registered as dead at the civil registry department. We consider it most probable that he has died due to torture in one of the Syrian Regime's detention centers.



Bilal al Mohammad

The SNHR contacted the activist Samer al Mohammad², a cousin of the victim Bilal. He told us: **"The Syrian Regime forces arrested Bilal with all the occupants of the vehicle he was in as they were passing through one of the regime's checkpoints in Kfarraa village while he was on his way to Turkey, and took him to the Military Security branch in Hama city and then to Damascus. One of my relatives reviewed the Civil Registry Department on February 3, and found out there that Bilal is registered as dead."** Samer added **"Bilal had covered all events in al Hula such as demonstrations and shelling, and the massacre that was committed in al Hula was one of the prominent incidents he covered "**.

D. Death toll of Civil Defense personnel

SNHR documented the death of one Civil Defense team member at the hands of other parties in February

[Ayman Mohammad Abdul Fattah](#), a member of the Civil Defense from al Atareb city in Aleppo governorate western suburbs, [died on](#) February 4, due to gunshot wound to [his head](#) sustained on January 29 when he was shot by gunmen while he was travelling along the road linking Kafr Karmin village and Kafr Naseh village in Aleppo governorate western suburbs. We are unable to identify the responsible party up to the time of the preparation of this report.

The [Syrian Civil Defense](#) mourned Ayman on their official account on "Twitter".



Ayman Abdul Fattah

² We contacted him on his Facebook account on February 3, 2019



IV. Record of Most Notable Massacres Documented by SNHR in February

SNHR documented at least eight massacres in February 2019, distributed by the main perpetrator parties as follows:

- **Syrian Regime forces: Two**
- **Syrian Democratic forces: One**
- **International coalition forces: One**
- **Other parties: Four**

The two massacres committed by Syrian Regime forces in February took place in areas under joint control between factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham.

According to the SNHR's Victim Documentation team, the massacres documented this month resulted in the deaths of 80 civilians, including 17 children and 27 women (adult female). This means that 55 percent of all the victims were women and children, a noticeably higher proportion than usual, and an indication that civilian residents were specifically targeted in most of these massacres.

The death toll of these massacres was distributed by the perpetrator parties as follows:

- **Syrian Regime forces:** 12 civilians, including eight children (six males and two females) and three women.
- **Syrian Democratic forces:** Eight civilians, including three girl children and four women.
- **International Coalition forces:** 15 civilians, including four children and four women
- **Other parties:** 45 civilians, including two boy children and 16 women.

The most notable cases are:

On Tuesday, January 29, 2019, fixed-wing International Coalition warplanes fired missiles at [al Baghouz Tahtani](#) village, which is administratively part of al Boukamal city in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate, resulting in the deaths of 15 civilians, mostly from one family, including four children and four women. The area was under the control of ISIS at the time of the incident.

On Monday, February 18, 2019, [a car bomb parked](#) on the right-hand side of a street in al Qosour neighborhood in the center of Idlib exploded. About ten minutes later, as local people and rescue teams rushed to save the wounded and retrieve the dead victims' bodies, another car bomb parked on the opposite side of the street exploded. In total, the two explosions resulted in the deaths of [13 civilians](#), including [one child](#), and [injured](#) approximately [70 others](#). We were unable to determine who carried out the bombing up to the time of the preparation of this report, given the difficulty in identifying the perpetrators of bombings. The city was under the control of Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at the time of the incident.





Retrieving one of the massacre victims following consecutive explosions of two car bombs of unknown origin in al Qosour neighborhood, Idlib city – February 18, 2019

On Friday, February 22, 2019, Syrian Regime forces used a missile launcher to fire a number of missiles at northwestern neighborhoods of the city of [Ma'aret al Numan](#) in Idlib governorate: [three of the missiles](#) landed in an open area of ground surrounded by homes located near the ancient citadel. At the time of the bombardment children were playing in the open area, with the bombing resulting in the deaths of [six civilians](#) at one time ([five male](#) children and one woman). The city was under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at the time of the incident.

Obada Thekra³ - Director of the Civil Defense Center in Ma'aret al Numan – told the SNHR that the city has been subjected to sporadic ground shelling from time to time since February 16, 2019 by the Syrian Regime forces stationed at Abu Dali and Abu Omar positioning sites: **“Today is February 22, Ma'aret al Numan was shelled by a variety of missiles, including a large one with massively destructive effects and ordinary launcher missiles. They targeted residential neighborhoods in the city. Some of these missiles landed in an empty space surrounded by a number of houses, next to the ancient citadel in the northwest of the city, causing a massacre in which five children were killed, including three brothers and another relative, in addition to a woman. All the victims were at the same site; we responded [to the emergency call-out] and headed there to recover the victims and the wounded.”** Obada added that 13 other people had been killed and nearly 30 injured in the previous six days as a result of the ongoing shelling, which led to a state of great fear among the people in the city that houses more than 40,000 displaced people as well as 100,000 of its original inhabitants, causing paralysis to the movement in the city and the closure of markets and schools in anticipation of repeated bombing at any moment.

³ We contacted him on WhatsApp on February 22, 2019



On Sunday, February 24, 2019, a landmine exploded while a car was passing by carrying civilians returning from harvesting truffles in Wadi al Atheeb area, northeast of Salmiya city in the eastern suburbs of Hama governorate; the blast resulted in the deaths of 20 civilians, including one child and 15 women. We are unable to determine the party responsible for planting the mine up to the time of the preparation of this report, given the difficulty in identifying the perpetrators of bombings. The area was under the control of Syrian Regime forces at the time of the incident.

V. Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions:

- The evidence we gathered indicates that attacks were directed against civilians and civilian objects. The Syrian-Russian alliance forces have committed various crimes of extrajudicial killings. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the war crime of attacking civilians has been committed in many cases.
- The Syrian government has not only violated international humanitarian law and customary law, but has also breached a number of UN Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 2139, resolution 2042 on the release of detainees, and resolution 2254, all without any accountability.
- The indiscriminate and disproportionate bombardment carried out by the alliance of International Coalition forces and the Syrian Democratic Forces is considered a clear violation of international humanitarian law, inflicting indiscriminate killings amounting to war crimes.
- Extremist Islamist groups have violated international humanitarian law, causing the deaths of many civilians.
- Factions of the Armed Opposition violated UN Security Council Resolution 2139 through carrying out attacks that are considered to violate customary international humanitarian law, causing civilian casualties or accidental injuries.
- The use of explosive arms to target densely populated areas reflects a criminal and wholly deliberate mentality intended to inflict the greatest possible number of deaths, which is a clear contravention of international human rights law and a flagrant violation of the Geneva Convention (arts. 27, 31, 32).
- We could find no record of any warnings being issued by the Syrian Regime, or by Russian or International Coalition forces prior to any attack in accordance with the requirements of international humanitarian law. This has been the case since the beginning of the popular uprising, providing another blatant demonstration of these forces' total disregard for the lives of civilians in Syria.



- These attacks, particularly bombings, caused massive collateral damage that involved loss of lives, injuries, or significant damage to civilian objects. There are strong indicators suggesting that this damage was excessive compared to the anticipated military benefit.
- The magnitude and frequency of the violations, the disproportionate use of military force, the indiscriminate manner of the bombing, and the coordinated approach of these attacks leads to the inescapable conclusion that these acts are wholly deliberate and based on high-level orders, and as such constitute a part of state policy.

Recommendations:

Security Council

- The Security Council must take additional steps following its adoption of Resolution 2254, which clearly states that “ all parties immediately cease any attacks against civilians and civilian objects as such.”
- The Syrian case should be referred to the International Criminal Court and all those who are responsible should be held accountable including the Russian regime whose involvement in war crimes has been repeatedly proven.
- Ensure peace and security and implement the principle of responsibility to protect civilians' lives and to save their heritage and historical artefacts from destruction, looting and vandalism.
- The Security Council should adopt a resolution banning the use of cluster munitions in Syria, similar to the prohibition on the use of chemical weapons, and include advice on how to safely remove the remnants of such dangerous weapons.
- The four permanent members should put pressure on the Russian government to end its support for the Syrian regime, which uses chemical weapons, and expose its involvement in this regard.
- We request that all relevant United Nations agencies make greater efforts to provide food, medical and humanitarian assistance in areas where fighting has ceased, and in internally displaced persons camps, and follow-up with those States that have pledged voluntary contributions.

International Community

- In light of the split within the Security Council and its utter inability to take any effective action, action should be taken on the national and regional levels to form alliances to support the Syrian people by protecting them from daily killing and lifting sieges, as well as increasing support for relief efforts. Additionally, the principle of universal jurisdiction should be enacted in local courts regarding these crimes in order to conduct fair trials for all those who were involved.



- SNHR has repeatedly called for the implementation of the 'Responsibility to Protect' in dozens of studies and reports and as a member of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (ICRtoP) after all political channels through the Arab League's plan and then Mr. Kofi Annan's plan have proved fruitless, along with the Cessation of Hostilities statements and Astana agreements that followed. Therefore, steps should be taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, while the norm of the 'Responsibility to Protect', which was established by the United Nations General Assembly, should be implemented. The Security Council is still hindering the protection of civilians in Syria.
- Renew pressure on the Security Council to refer the case in Syria to the International Criminal Court.
- Work on fulfilling justice and achieving accountability in Syria through the United Nations General Assembly and the Human Rights Council and to activate the principle of universal jurisdiction.

OHCHR

- The OHCHR should submit a report to the Human Rights Council and other organs of the United Nations on the incidents mentioned in this report considering that these attacks were perpetrated by the parties to the conflict.
- Train Syrian organizations to undertake clearance of mines and other unexploded ordnance, and raise local awareness of the dangers of such ordnance.
- Establish a platform that brings together a number of Syrian organizations active in documenting violations and humanitarian assistance, in order to facilitate an exchange of skills and experiences within Syrian society.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry (COI)

- Launch investigations into the cases included in this report and previous reports. SNHR is willing to cooperate and provide further evidence and data.

International, Impartial, and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)

- Collect further evidence about the crimes documented in this report.

The United Nations special envoy to Syria

- Condemn the perpetrators of crimes and massacres, and those who were primarily responsible for dooming the de-escalation agreements.
- Re-sequence the peace process so that it can resume its natural course despite Russia's attempts to divert and distort it, and empower the Constitutional Commission prior to the establishment of a transitional government.



The Syrian regime

- Stop indiscriminate shelling and targeting residential areas, hospitals, schools and markets, and using prohibited weapons and barrel bombs.
- End the acts of torture that have caused the deaths of thousands of Syrian citizens in detention centers.
- Reveal the fate of some 82,000 Syrian citizens arrested by the security services whose fate has been concealed to date.
- Ensure compliance with UN Security Council resolutions and customary humanitarian law.

The Russian regime

- Launch investigations into the incidents included in this report, make the findings of these investigations public for the Syrian people, and hold the people involved accountable.
- Compensate all the damaged centers and facilities, rebuild and rehabilitate them, and compensate all the victims' families, who were killed by the current Russian regime, as well as all the wounded.
- Completely cease the bombing of hospitals, protected objects, and civilian areas, and respect customary international law.
- As a guarantor party in Astana talks, the Russian regime must stop thwarting de-escalation agreements, and apply pressure on the Syrian regime in order to end all indiscriminate attacks and allow unconditional passage of humanitarian aids to besieged areas.
- Stop using incendiary weapons in populated areas, compensate the victims and their families for all human and material damage caused by the use of these weapons, and provide treatment for dozens of civilian casualties.
- Provide detailed maps of sites where Russian forces have launched cluster munition attacks, issue these to the United Nations and inform the Syrian public about them, thus facilitating the disposal of unexploded ordnance.
- Begin to achieve a breakthrough in the issue of detainees by revealing the fate of 82,000 disappeared by the Syrian regime.

The Coalition (international coalition forces and the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces)

- The states of the coalition must unequivocally and sincerely acknowledge that some of their bombing operations have resulted in the deaths of innocent civilians. Rather than attempting denial, these states should take speedy steps to launch serious investigations, and immediately compensate and apologize to the victims and all those affected.



- The states supporting the SDF (mainly YPD) should apply pressure on these forces in order to compel them to cease all of their violations in all the areas and towns under their control.
- All forms of support, military and all others, should be ceased until the SDF commits itself to complying with the previous recommendations. This is primarily the responsibility of the supporting states. Providing SDF with weapons and support while knowing that these can be used in perpetrating war crimes or crimes against humanity can be seen as a contribution to these crimes.

Armed Opposition factions

- Armed Opposition factions must ensure the protection of civilians in all areas under their control. These forces should also take care to distinguish between civilians and military targets and cease any indiscriminate attacks.
- Pledge to cease any arbitrary arrests and investigate incidents that have resulted in violations of international humanitarian law.
- Take punitive action against those who commit violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

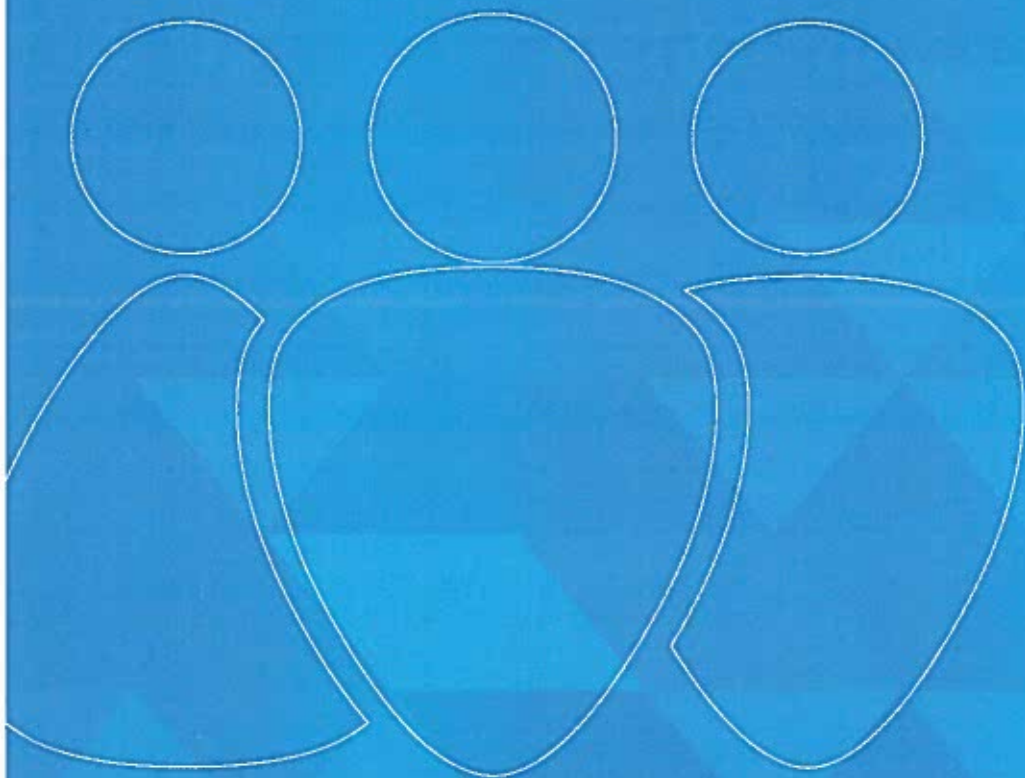
Humanitarian organizations:

Develop urgent operational plans to secure decent shelter for internally displaced persons.

Acknowledgments

We thank all family members, relatives and friends of the victims, eyewitnesses and local activists whose contributions have enriched this report.





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