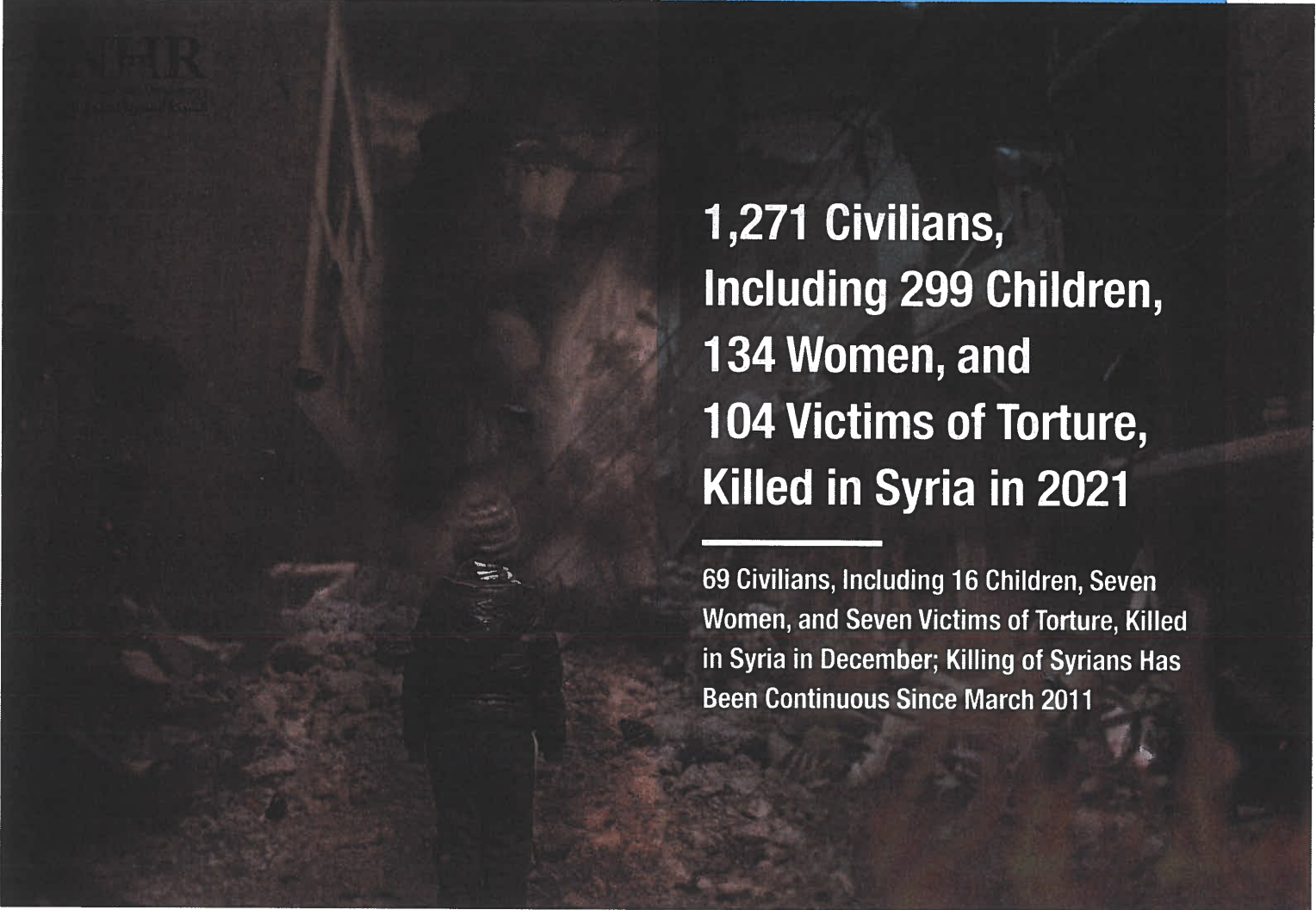


Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

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1,271 Civilians, Including 299 Children, 134 Women, and 104 Victims of Torture, Killed in Syria in 2021

69 Civilians, Including 16 Children, Seven Women, and Seven Victims of Torture, Killed in Syria in December; Killing of Syrians Has Been Continuous Since March 2011

Saturday 1 January 2022

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. Background and Methodology:

This report records the death toll of victims whose deaths were documented by Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) as taking place at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria both in the past month of December and in the whole of 2021, particularly focusing on those victims killed under torture, and victims amongst media, medical and Civil Defense personnel, paying particular attention to those massacres committed by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces which the SNHR was able to document in this period.

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 an outline of the most notable incidents during this period. Finally, we maintain the full details of every incident on the SNHR database.

The documentation process to register victims killed in Syria is one of the most important roles performed by the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) since March 2011. This is all the more crucial since murder is the most prevalent of all the violations perpetrated, and the one which most profoundly affects the Syrian people, with countless families suffering incalculable and irreparable trauma through the loss of fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, friends, etc.

These violations have become so widespread primarily through Syrian regime forces' and affiliated militias' systematic killing of civilians, with these forces being almost the sole perpetrators of killings from the aforementioned date up to the beginning of 2012. The regime began by using tanks and artillery, then proceeded to also use warplanes and helicopter gunships which have deployed barrel bombs, in addition to Scud missiles and chemical weapons.

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

The report catalogues the death toll of victims according to the perpetrator parties in the Syrian conflict. Accurately ascribing responsibility sometimes requires more time and investigation than usual, especially in the case of joint attacks. We also face additional challenges in assigning responsibility for the attack in some incidents of ground bombardment, especially those in which the source of the bombardment is an area adjacent to the control of another party among the controlling forces, continuing our investigations until we are able to conclusively identify the party responsible for the bombardment.

In addition, in cases where we are unable to definitively assign responsibility for a particular killing to one of two possible parties because of the area's proximity to the lines of engagement, the use of similar weapons, or other reasons, the incident is categorized among 'other parties' until we have sufficient evidence to conclusively assign responsibility for the violation to one of the two parties.

The parties to the conflict who this report documents as committing extrajudicial killings are:

A. The main parties:

- Syrian Regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias)¹
- Russian forces
- ISIS
- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham²
- All Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army
- Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party)
- US-led coalition forces

B. Other parties

Through use of SNHR's extensive database, we can catalogue the victims according to the governorate where they were killed, and also by the governorate from which they originally came. This report catalogues the death toll of victims according to the governorate in which they were killed, rather than by the governorate they originally came from.

In this report, we record only the death toll of civilians, whose deaths we were able to document during the last month and throughout the whole of 2021. SNHR does not document the deaths of fighters and militants killed during the conflict, while 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 link³.

This report draws upon the ongoing daily monitoring of news and developments by SNHR's team, and on information from our extensive network of various sources that has been built up over the course of our work since 2011. Our team follows up on incidents and related reports in a variety of ways in the effort to verify information and collect as much relevant evidence and data as possible. In some cases, researchers are able to visit the incident location immediately. However, this is a rarity in light of the incredibly high se-

¹ We generally use the term 'the Syrian regime' rather than 'the Syrian government', because the nature of the ruling power in Syria is a totalitarian dictatorship based on ruling the nation in an authoritarian fashion through a very limited group of individuals, primarily the President of the Republic and his selected leaders of the security services, while the ministers, including the Prime Minister and the Minister of Interior, play a restricted, largely ceremonial role, which is limited to implementing precisely what the ruling regime orders, without any decision-making power or active role; this means that the government's role is wholly subordinate and limited to serving the regime, with all the main powers being concentrated in the hands of the President of the Republic and the security services. Governance in Syria is wholly decided by the autocratic authority of the ruling family and there is no independent decision-making structure. Rather, the government is an empty façade there for show: the Minister of Interior receives orders from the security branches over which he nominally presides which are in turn under the command of the President, while the Minister of Justice cannot summon a civilian-level security agent other than the head of a security branch; the security branches, along with the president, are the true power and the governing regime in Syria.

² The United Nations has designated it as a terrorist organization

³ 'Syrian Network for Human Rights Methodology', Syrian Network for Human Rights.
<http://sn4hr.org/public_html/wp-content/pdf/english/SNHR_Methodology_en.pdf>

curity risks, and given the frequency of daily violation incidents. SNHR's customary policy in such cases is to rely on accounts from survivors who experienced the violation firsthand, as we try to reach them promptly, and secondarily on the accounts of those who witnessed or photographed the violation in question, in addition to analyzing available materials from open sources such as the Internet and media outlets; third, by talking with medical personnel who treated the individuals injured in these incidents, examined the deceased victims' bodies, and identified the cause of death. The SNHR also provides [a special form](#) that can be completed by victims' relatives with victims' names and personal information so that the Victims Documentation Department can follow up on the information provided, verify its accuracy and then include it in the database.

The death toll of victims detailed on SNHR's database includes extrajudicial killings by the controlling forces which occurred as a violation of either international human rights law or international humanitarian law or both, but does not include cases of natural deaths or those which occurred because of disputes between members of society or other such issues.

This report contains one first-hand account that we've collected through speaking directly with an eyewitness, which is not 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 providing them with any incentives. Also, SNHR endeavors always to spare the eyewitnesses the agony of remembering the violations as much as possible, as well as providing assurances that we will conceal the identity of any witness who prefers to use an alias.

Our investigations confirm that all of the attacks included in this report that were carried out by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces 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.

Also, there is great difficulty in determining which party was responsible for planting landmines, due to the multiplicity of forces controlling the areas in which these explosions occurred, and therefore we do not attribute the vast majority of deaths caused by landmines to a specific party. None of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria have revealed maps of the places where they planted landmines. We have recorded continuing deaths due to landmines despite repeated appeals by the Syrian Network for Human Rights, and urgent requests for the essential intervention of international teams to help uncover the locations where landmines are deployed and to put pressure on the controlling forces in Syria to determine their locations of deployment in order to reduce the number of casualties among civilians resulting from them.

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. The Issues That Characterized 2021 According to the SNHR's Database of Extrajudicial Killings:

The killing of civilians in Syria has continued for the eleventh consecutive year, having gone on since the outbreak of the popular uprising for democracy in Syria in March 2011, resulting in casualty numbers that are among the largest worldwide, demonstrating the instability of the situation in Syria, and underlining the fact that it is still the most dangerous country in the world for civilians, and remains an exceptionally insecure and dangerous place wholly unsuitable for the return of refugees. Although we noticed that 2021 saw a decline in the rates of killings of civilians compared to previous years, with the year seeing an overall reduction of the average annual rate of more than 95% (the average annual death toll has been about 25,000, if we divide the total death toll by the number of years, so the 2021 figure shows a decline of more than 95% compared to this average, while the rate of reduction for 2020 was about 93%). Despite this, however, SNHR documented the killing of more than 1,200 Syrian civilians in 2021, including 229 children, among the highest rate of extrajudicial killings in the world. These statistics include solely the incidents that we at the Syrian Network for Human Rights were able to record; we are very sure that there are at least dozens more cases which we were unable to document, especially in the category of extrajudicial killings (unlawful executions in detention centers) carried out by Syrian regime forces.

The first three months of the year saw the killing of approximately 34% of the 2021 death toll that we documented; on March 21, the Syrian-Russian alliance forces, in a sudden military escalation, launched air and ground attacks targeting civilian areas outside the control of the Syrian regime in northwest Syria; these areas contain vital installations and facilities, including al Atareb Surgical Hospital and Bab al Hawa border crossing. According to our database, most of the targeted facilities were bombed for the first time. These attacks resulted in the deaths of eight civilians, including one child and one woman, and injured 17 other civilians. We issued a [special report](#) on the attacks that took place in the Idlib region in northwest Syria on that day. We note that March 2021 saw a Russian military escalation, the largest since March 6, 2020 - from the date of the entry into force of the Russian-Turkish ceasefire agreement.

With the beginning of June, we documented a sudden military escalation by the Syrian-Russian alliance forces in attacks targeting the Jabal al Zaweya area and its surroundings which remain outside the Syrian regime's control in northwest Syria, using mostly ground attacks on civilian areas. [This military campaign continued until September](#); according to our database, it resulted in the deaths of 61 civilians, including 33 children and 12 women. Among the most prominent features that distinguished this military campaign

was the intense bombardment following the flights of reconnaissance planes, with attacks concentrated on gatherings of people. We also recorded an intensive deployment of higher-quality weapons in terms of their accuracy in hitting the target and in the great destruction caused to the target site due to their being laser circuit-guided, with the Syrian-Russian alliance forces again deploying munitions whose use hadn't been previously documented in the Syrian conflict. Additionally, we also faced great difficulty in definitively identifying the party responsible for some of the attacks, being unable to ascertain whether Russia or the Syrian regime bore responsibility, due to the presence of some launching platforms belonging to the Syrian regime, and others belonging to Russia, with these platforms being transferred between different locations.

Daraa governorate also saw a military escalation by Syrian regime forces backed by Iranian militias, in retaliation for its people's peaceful and civilized rejection of [the illegitimacy of the 'presidential elections'](#) held unilaterally by the Syrian regime at the end of May. This military campaign extended from June 24 until October 2021, and included a siege on Daraa al Balad area and Tareeq al Sadd and the Camps neighborhoods, which resulted in the deaths of civilians. On August 9, we issued a [special report](#) providing details of this military escalation, which was followed by [another report](#) on October 19.

On Friday, September 24, 2021, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Michelle Bachelet, announced that 350,209 people had been identified killed in the conflict in Syria between March 2011 and March 2021, including 26,727 women and 27,126 children, noting that the largest number of killings was recorded in Aleppo governorate, followed by Damascus Suburbs, Homs, Idlib, then Hama. This was reported in an [oral update delivered to the Human Rights Council](#) during the meetings of the forty-eighth session of the Council in Geneva. We issued [a statement](#) on this subject. We note that the Syrian Network for Human Rights is a primary source of victim data cited in all statistical analyzes issued by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

On October 20, Syrian regime forces launched the largest military attack on the northwest region of Syria since March 6, 2020, in terms of civilian casualties. The attack took place in the densely populated Ariha city, two days after the start of the sixth round of talks of the Constitutional Committee, in a clear indication of the Syrian regime's indifference to the agreements that could result from these meetings. The attack carried out by the Syrian regime artillery forces, which coincided with the flight of a Russian reconnaissance plane over the area, resulted in the deaths of 11 civilians, including four children and one woman. We released [a report](#) documenting the details of the attack.

In 2021, we recorded continuing civilian deaths as a result of landmine explosions in different governorates and regions of Syria, with SNHR documenting the deaths of 176 civilians, including 74 children and 25 women, since the beginning of 2021. The prolonged conflict, the continuation of bombardment with various types of weapons for nearly 11 years on populated areas, and the use of prohibited and indiscriminate munitions, such as cluster munitions, which remain unexploded and turn into landmines, have all caused the maiming or death of civilians even years after the bombardment incidents in which they were originally deployed; in 2021, we recorded cases of deaths resulting from the remnants of previous bombardment.

The insecurity seen in all areas, including those under the control of the Syrian regime, has caused the continuation of remote/ suicide (forced suicide) bombings, many of which resulted in civilian casualties. We documented the deaths of at least 111 civilians, including 51 children and eight women, as a result of bombings whose perpetrators we have been unable to identify.

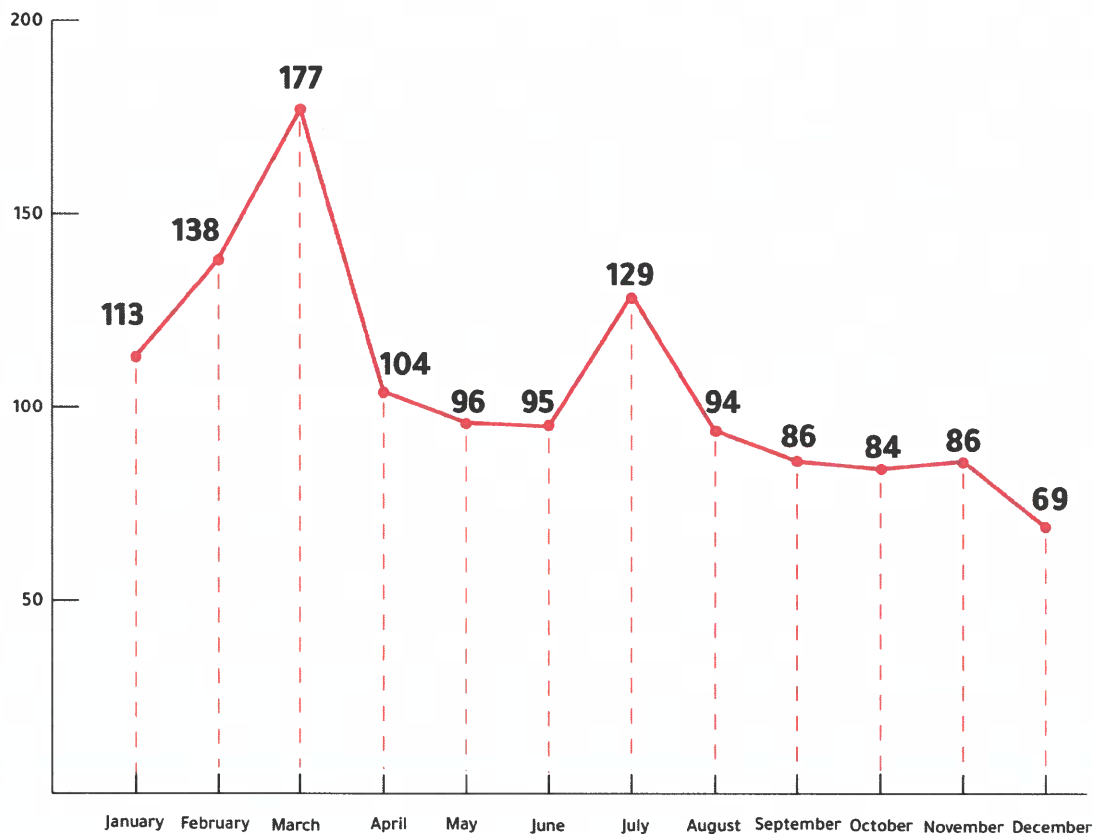
With the continued deterioration of the conditions in the IDP camps in various areas, we recorded cases of deaths in the camps as a result of the lack of food and medicine and the camps' lack of the minimum necessities of life, in addition to deaths caused by fires due to the misuse of heating and cooking methods. Al Hawl Camp⁴, in the eastern suburbs of Hasaka, which is under the control of Syrian Democratic Forces, saw the continuation of killings by gunmen that we have been unable to identify, who are believed to be affiliated with ISIS cells. Since the beginning of 2021, we have documented the deaths of 76 civilians, including 10 children and 23 women, in al Hawl Camp at the hands of gunmen that we have been unable to identify.

III. Death Toll of Civilian Victims:

1. In 2021:

SNHR documented the deaths of 1,271 civilians, including 299 children and 134 women (adult female), killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria in 2021.

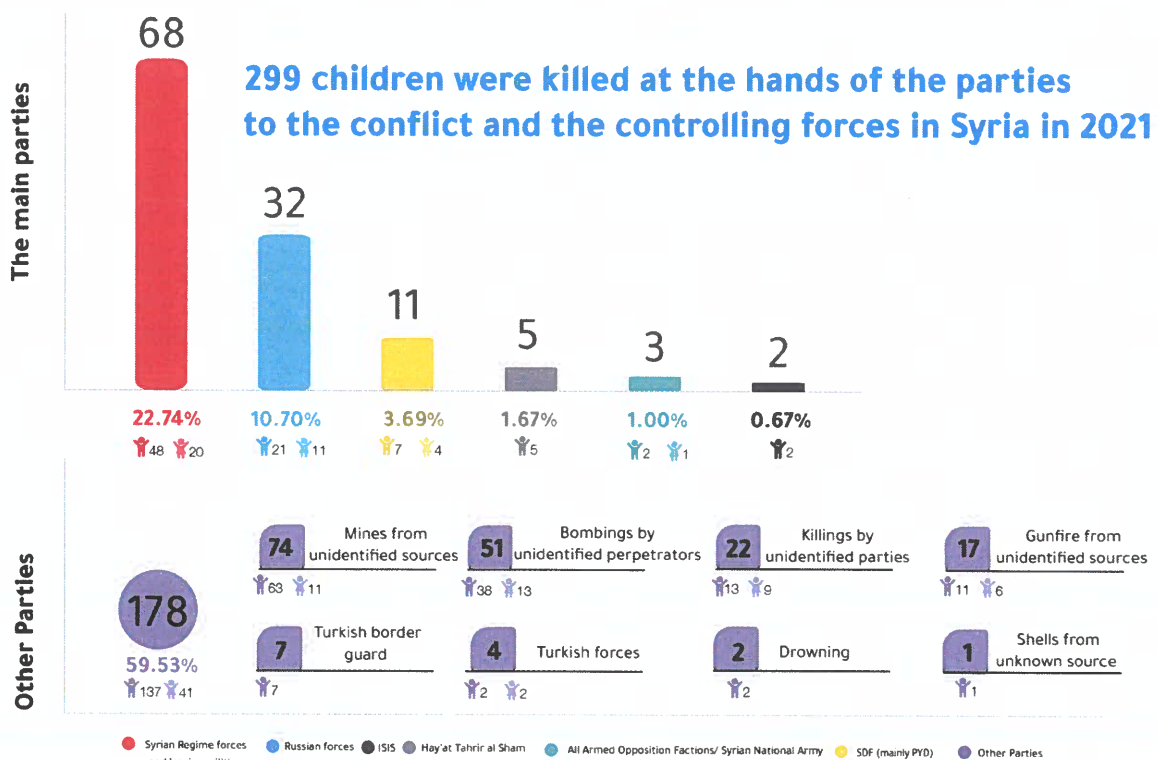
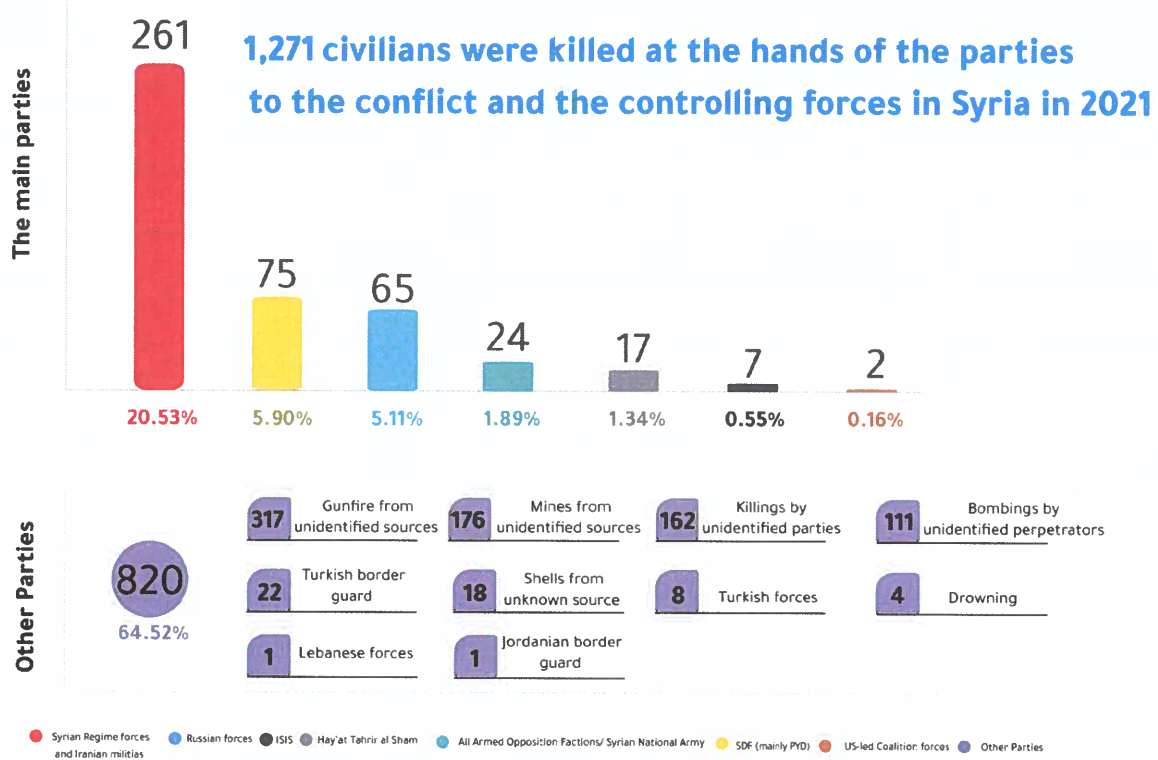
The death toll of civilian victims killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria since the beginning of 2021 was distributed as follows:

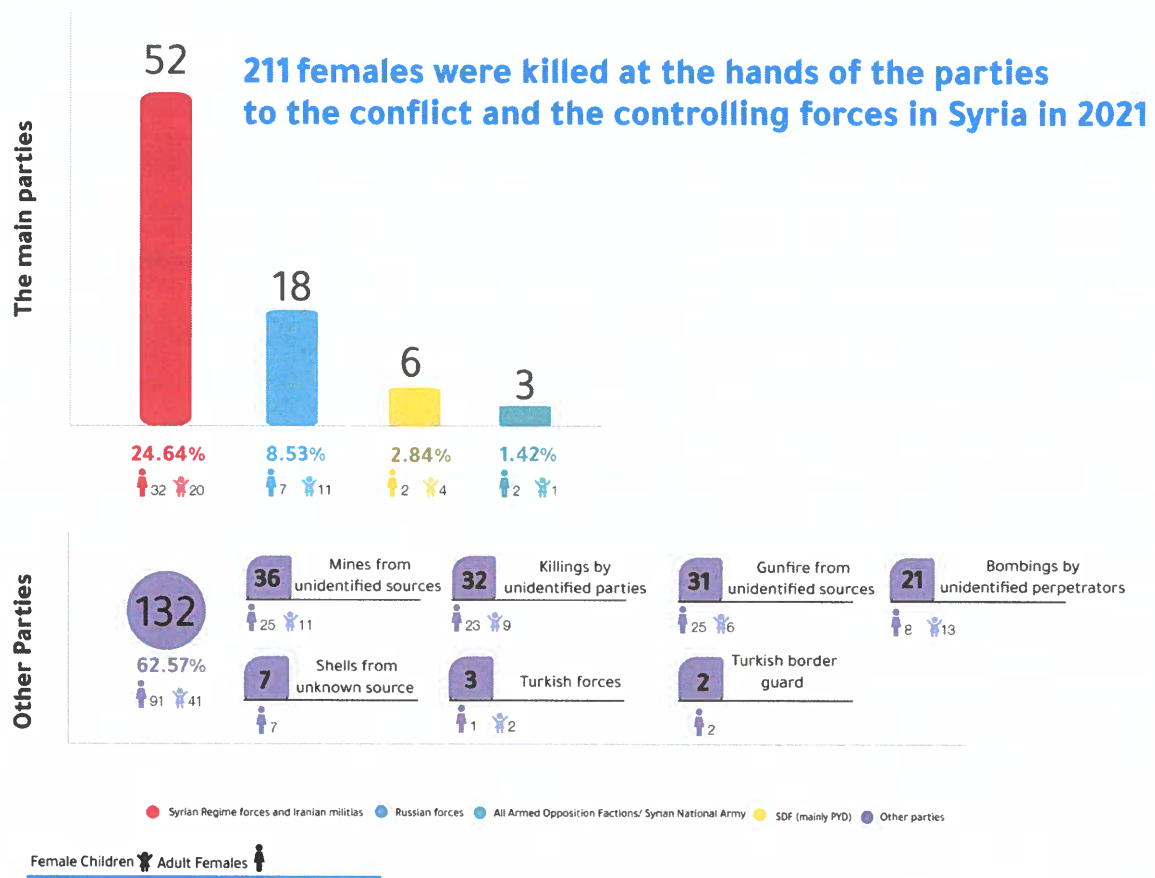


⁴ A camp located east of Hasaka city, near the Iraqi-Syrian border, which houses nearly 60,000 people

We notice a continuing decrease in the number of deaths compared to the early months of 2021, with the documented death toll in December accounting for approximately 5.43% of the total documented death toll since the beginning of 2021.

The death toll we documented in 2021 was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:





A. The main parties:

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

We documented the deaths of 261 civilians at the hands of Syrian regime forces, including 68 children and 32 women.

- **Russian forces:**

We documented the deaths of 65 civilians, including 32 children and seven women, at the hands of Russian forces.

- **ISIS:**

We documented the deaths of seven civilians, including two children, at the hands of ISIS.

- **Hay'at Tahrir al Sham:**

We documented the deaths of 17 civilians, including five children, at the hands of Hay'at Tahrir al Sham.

- **All Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army:**

We documented the deaths of 24 civilians, including three children and two women, at the hands of all Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army.

- **Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party):**

We documented the deaths of 75 civilians, including 11 children and two women, at the hands of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces.

- **US-led coalition forces:**

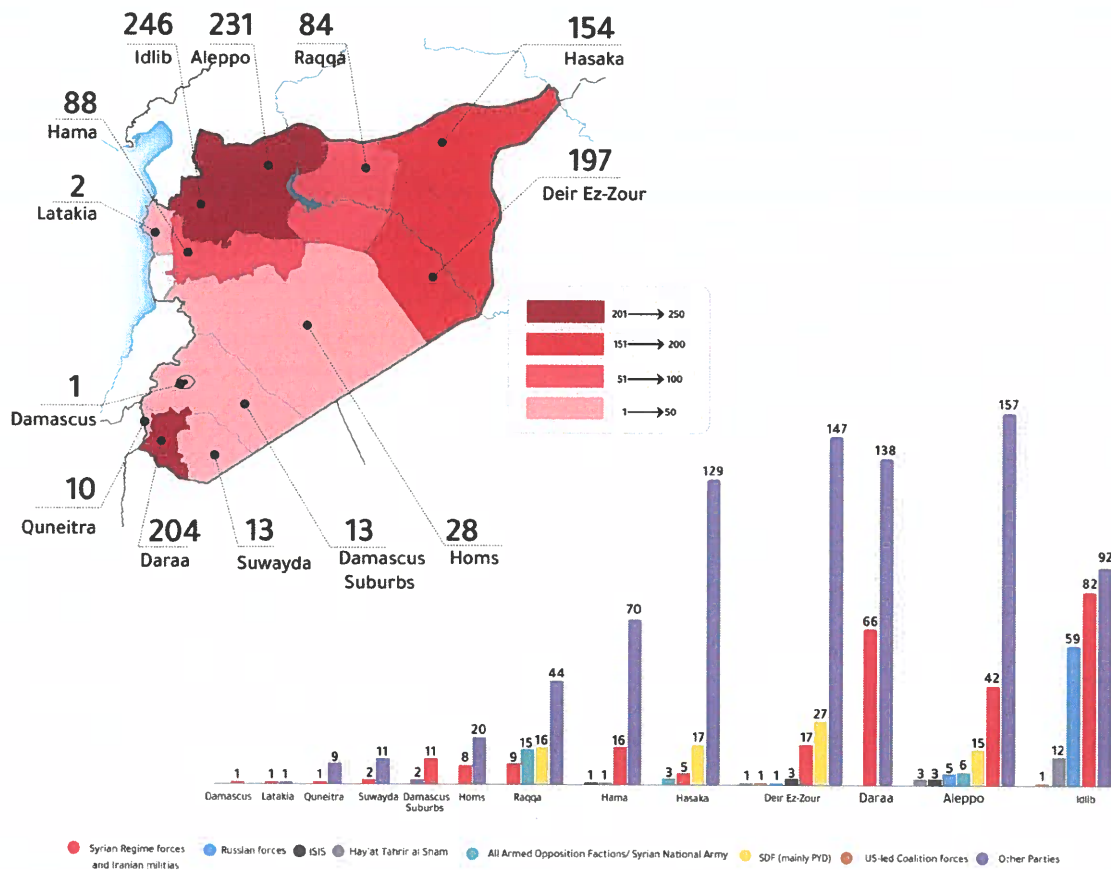
We documented the deaths of two civilians at the hands of the US-led coalition forces.

B. Other parties:

We documented the deaths of 820 civilians, including 178 children and 91 women, at the hands of other parties, distributed as follows:

- Landmines whose source we have not been able to identify: 176 civilians, including 74 children and 25 women.
- Bombings whose perpetrators we have not been able to identify: 111 civilians, including 51 children and eight women.
- Shells whose source we have not been able to identify: 18 civilians, including one child and seven women.
- Gunfire by parties we have been unable to identify: 317 civilians, including 17 children and 25 women.
- Killings by parties we have been unable to identify: 162 civilians, including 22 children and 23 women.
- Turkish border guards: 22 civilians, including seven children and two women.
- Jordanian border guards: One civilian.
- Lebanese forces: One civilian.
- Turkish forces: Eight civilians, including four children and one woman.
- Drowning: Four civilians, including two children.

The death toll of civilian victims killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces documented in 2021 was distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:

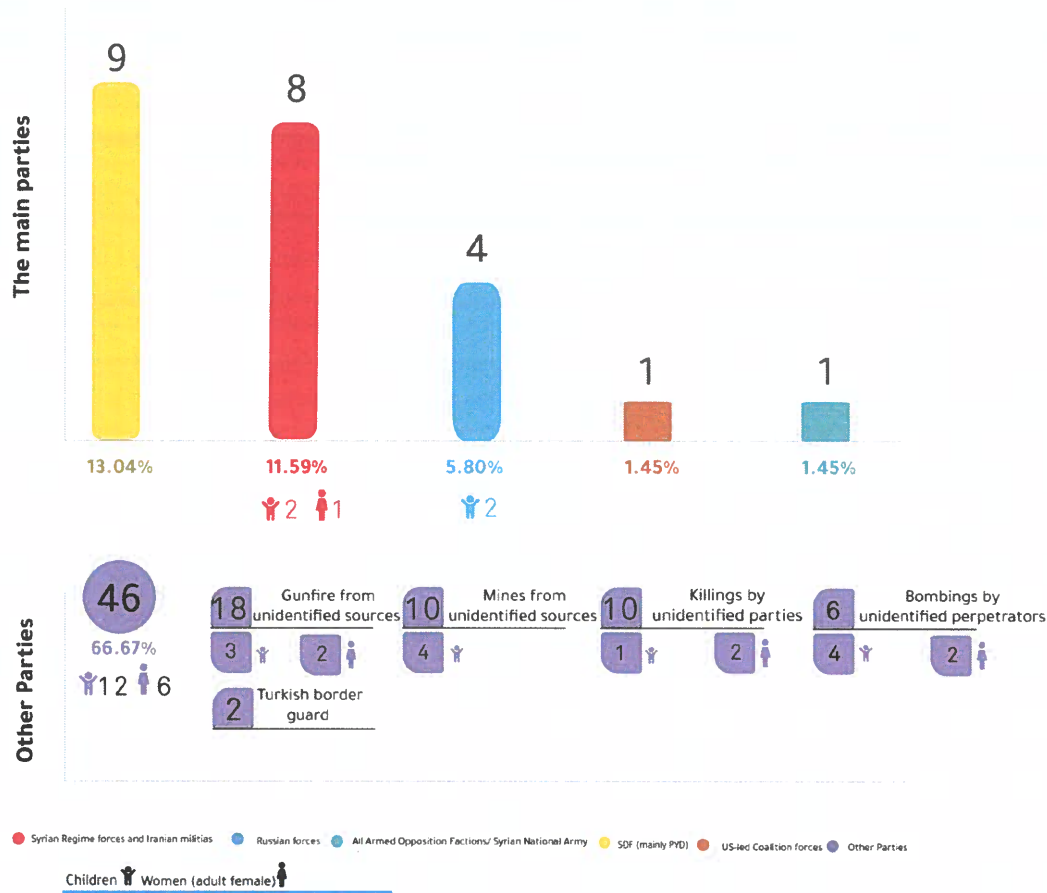


Idlib governorate saw the largest death toll compared to other Syrian governorates, accounting for 19.35% of the total death toll since the beginning of 2021, with 58% of the victims in Idlib governorate killed at the hands of Syrian-Russian alliance forces. Aleppo governorate came second with approximately 18%, followed by Daraa with 16.5%, Deir Ez-Zour with 15.5%, then Hasaka with 12.12%.

2. In December 2021:

In December 2021, SNHR documented the deaths of 69 civilians, including 16 children and seven women (adult female), killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria.

The death toll we documented in December 2021 was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:



A. The main parties:

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

We documented the deaths of eight civilians at the hands of Syrian regime forces, including two children and one woman.

- **Russian forces:**

We documented the deaths of four civilians, including two children, at the hands of Russian forces.

- **All Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army:**

We documented the death of one civilian at the hands of all Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army.

- **Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party):**

We documented the deaths of nine civilians at the hands of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party).

- US-led coalition forces:

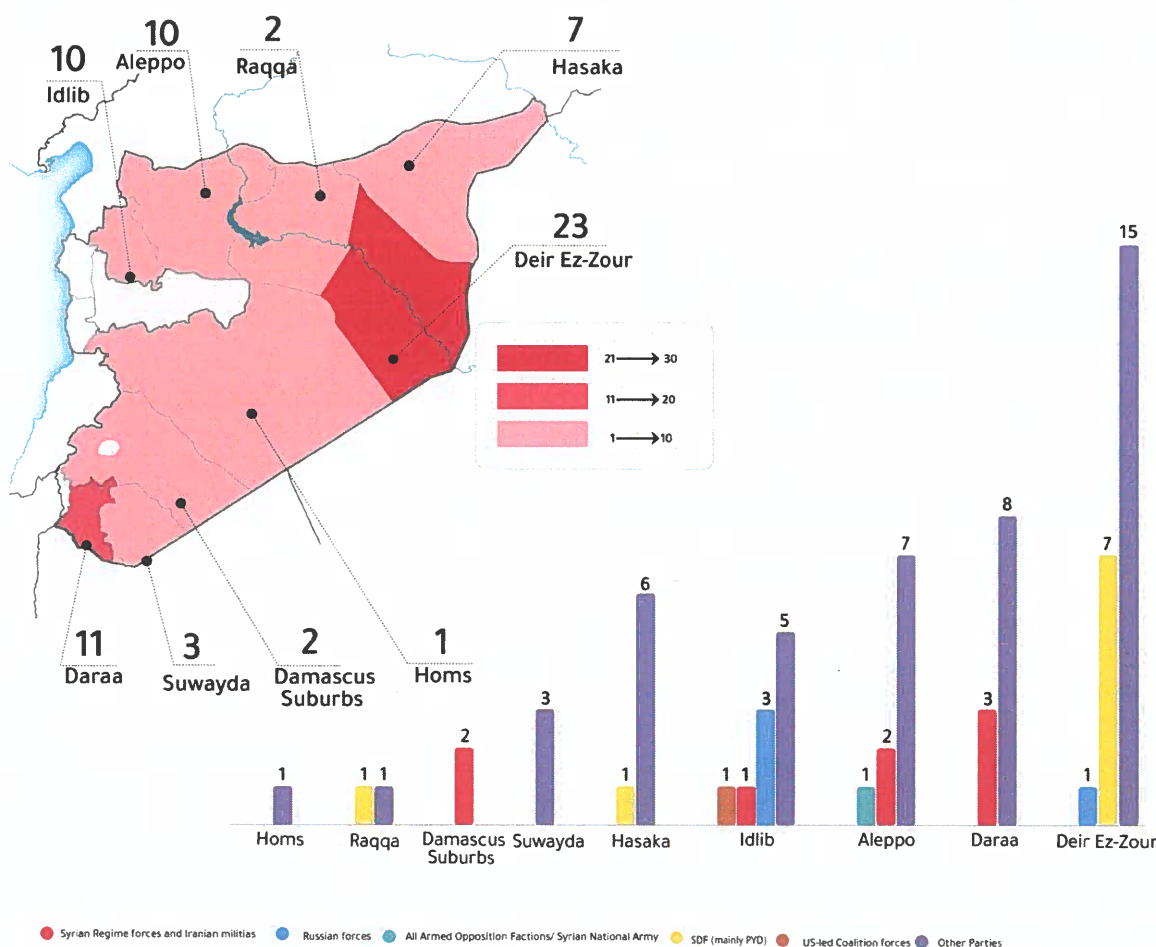
We documented the death of one civilian at the hands of the US-led coalition forces.

B. Other parties:

We documented the deaths of 46 civilians, including 12 children and six women, at the hands of other parties, distributed as follows:

- Landmines whose source we have not been able to identify: 10 civilians, including four children.
- Bombings whose perpetrators we have not been able to identify: Six civilians, including four children and two women.
- Gunfire by parties we have been unable to identify: 18 civilians, including three children and two women.
- Killings by parties we have been unable to identify: 10 civilians, including one child and two women.
- Turkish border guards: Two civilians.

The death toll of civilian victims killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces documented in December 2021 was distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:



Deir Ez-Zour governorate saw the highest death toll of victims documented in December compared to other Syrian governorates, accounting for 33.33% of the total death toll, with most of the victims there killed by other parties, followed by Daraa governorate which accounted for 15.94%, then Idlib and Aleppo governorates with both accounting for 14.49%.

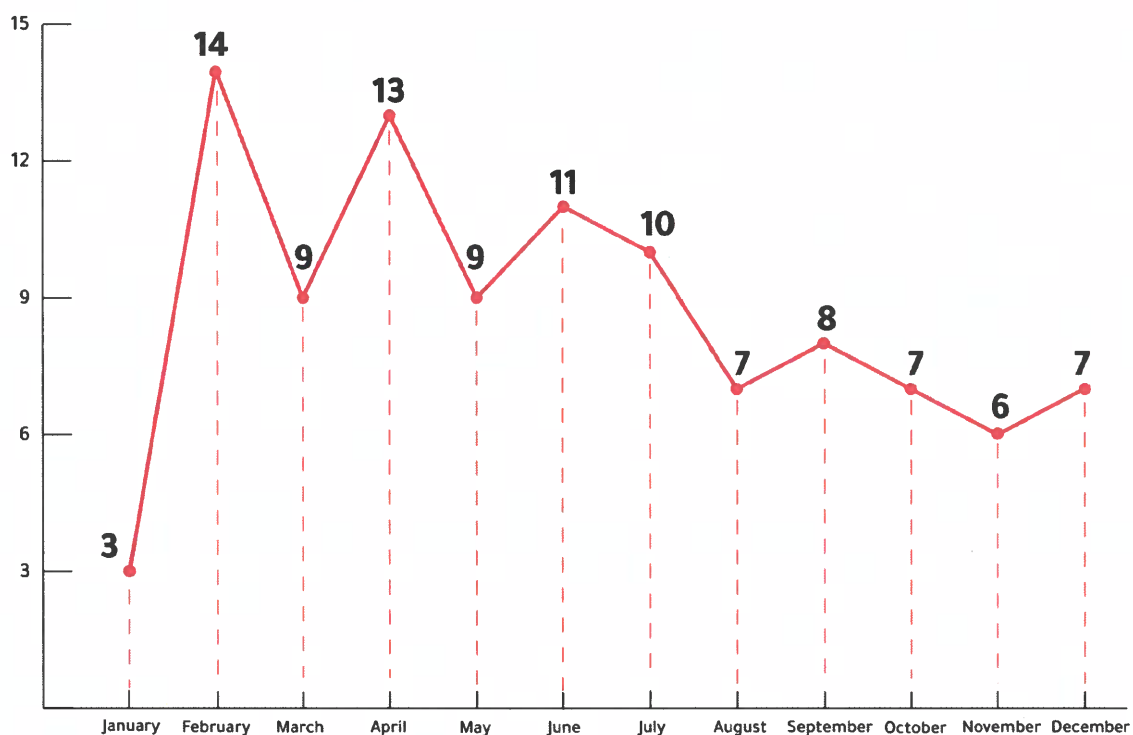
IV. Death Toll of Victims Who Died Due to Torture, and Victims Amongst Media, Medical and Civil Defense Personnel:

A. Death toll of victims who died due to torture

1. In 2021:

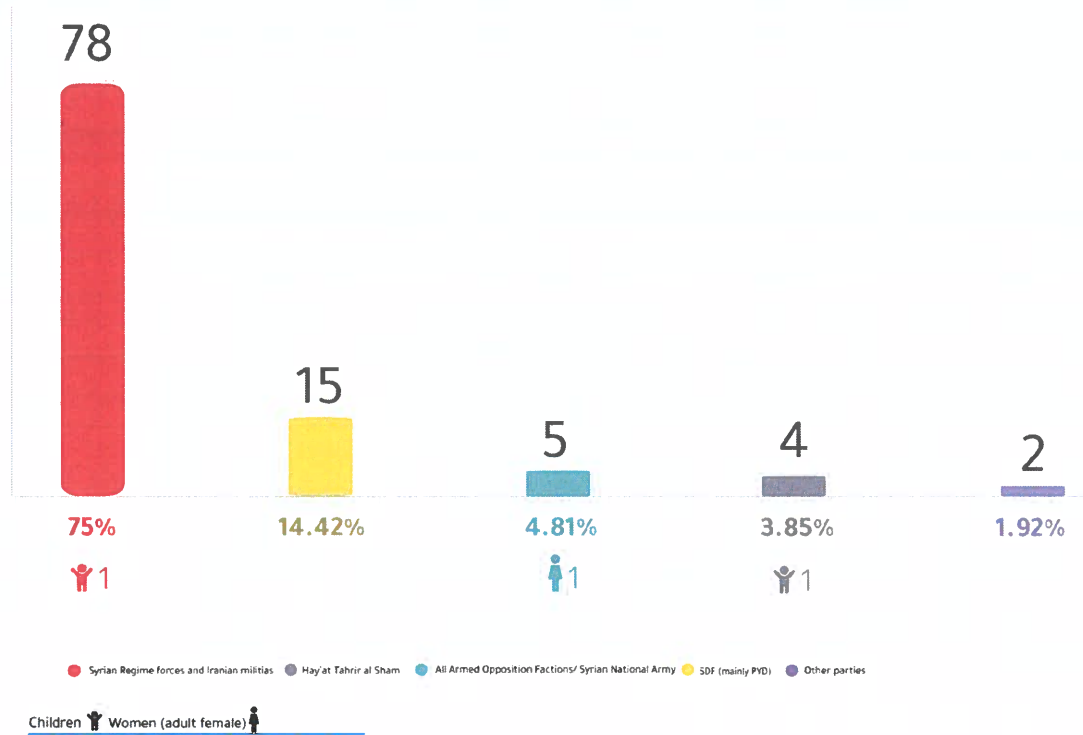
SNHR documented the deaths of 104 victims due to torture, including two children and one woman, in 2021 at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria.

The death toll of victims whom SNHR documented their death due to torture at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria in 2021 was distributed as follows:



Over the months of 2021, we recorded a continuation of the deaths of victims due to torture, with January witnessing the lowest number of victims whose deaths due to torture we documented since the beginning of the year, with the percentage of victims whose deaths by torture we documented as taking place in the Syrian regime's detention centers since the beginning of 2021 accounting for approximately 75% of the total death toll of torture victims.

The death toll of victims whom SNHR documented their death due to torture in 2021 was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:



A. The main parties:

- Syrian Regime forces: 78, including one child.
- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham: Four, including one child.
- All Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army: Five, including one woman.
- Syrian Democratic Forces: 15.

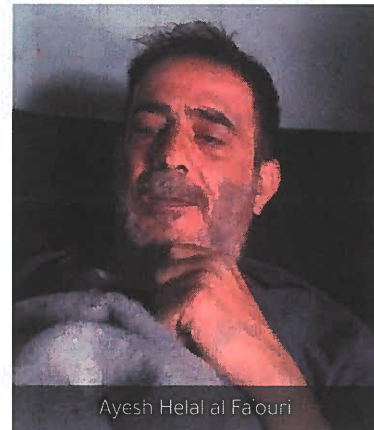
B. Other parties: Two.

The most notable deaths due to torture documented in 2021 are:

Nehad Atef al Maf'alani, from al N'eima village in the east of Daraa governorate, was 18 years old at the time of his arrest by Syrian regime forces on September 10, 2012. Almost since that date, he has been forcibly disappeared, with the Syrian regime denying his detention and preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting him. On January 9, 2021, SNHR received information indicating that he had died in custody. Our data from numerous sources confirms that he was in good health at the time of his arrest, indicating that he most probably died due to torture in Seydnaya Military Prison in Damascus Suburbs governorate. We also confirm that Syrian regime forces failed to hand over Ismail's body to his family.

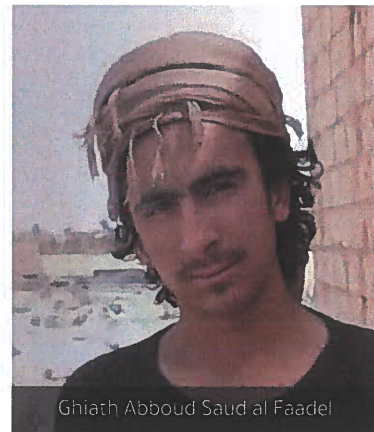
[Hussein Muhammad al Alloush](#), a 16-year-old child from Ebleen village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, who was living in Sarmada city in the northern suburbs of the governorate, was arrested by Hay'at Tahrir al Sham personnel on Wednesday, January 20, 2021, in Sarmada city, and taken to an HTS detention center, where he was tortured to death. On Wednesday, February 3, 2021, his body was handed over to his family bearing signs of torture.

Ayesh Helal al Fa'ouri, a 65-year-old maths teacher from al Sheikh Maskin city in the northern suburbs of Daraa governorate, was arrested by Syrian regime forces in 2018. Almost since that time, he has been forcibly disappeared, with the Syrian regime denying his detention and preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting him. On Monday, April 19, 2021, Syrian regime forces informed his family of his death, handing them his body the next day. SNHR data from numerous sources confirms that he was in good health at the time of his arrest, indicating that he most probably died due to torture in one of the regime's detention centers.



Ayesh Helal al Fa'ouri

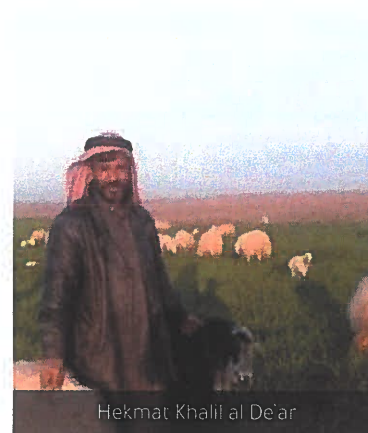
Ghiath Abboud Saud al Faadel, from Tal al Shayer village, which is administratively a part of al Shaddadi city in the southern suburbs of Hasaka governorate, born in 2000, was arrested by Syrian Democratic Forces personnel in May 2019. Almost since that time, he has been forcibly disappeared, with the SDF preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting him or knowing his fate. On Wednesday, May 12, 2021, his family was informed by SDF personnel that Ghiath had died in the SDF's Hasaka Central Prison in Hasaka city, with his body returned to them. SNHR data from numerous sources confirms that he was in good health at the time of his arrest, indicating that he most probably died due to torture in Hasaka Central Prison.



Ghiath Abboud Saud al Faadel

[Two brothers, Mahmoud and Omar Ali Mahmoud al Kurdi](#), from Busra al Sham city in east of Daraa governorate, were arrested along with their father by Syrian regime forces in the city in 2012 when the brothers were aged 19 and 17 respectively. Almost since that time, they have been forcibly disappeared, with the Syrian regime denying their detention and preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting them. On Thursday, June 17, 2021, their family received information indicating that they had died in detention. SNHR data from numerous sources confirms that they were in good health at the time of their arrest, indicating that they most probably died due to torture in one of the regime's detention centers. We confirm that Syrian regime forces did not hand over their bodies to their family.

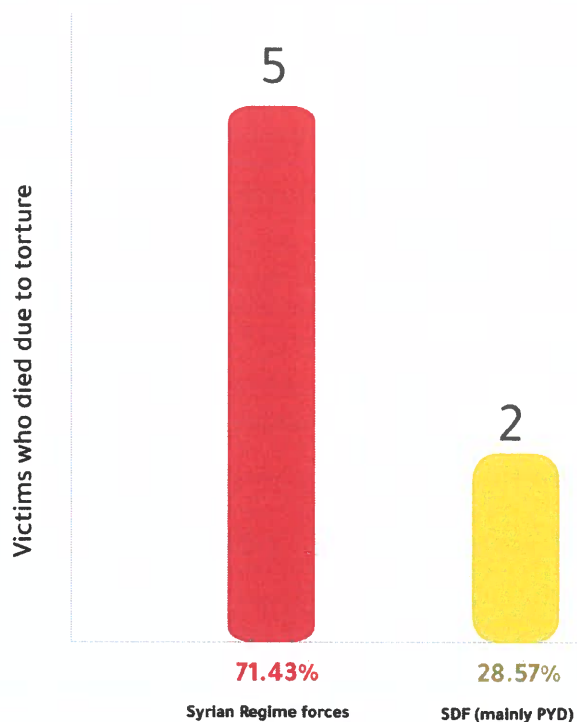
Hekmat Khalil al De'ar, from al Tayyana village in east of Deir Ez-Zour governorate, a 45-year-old married father of two, who worked as a shepherd, was arrested by the Suqour al Shamal Brigade affiliated with the Syrian National Army on Thursday, September 16, 2021, during a raid on his home in Ras al Ein city in the northwest of Hasaka governorate, on charges of having dealings with Syrian Democratic Forces, with Hekmat being taken to an SNA detention center in the city, where he was supposed to be held while awaiting a fair trial on these charges. On Monday, September 20, 2021, SNA members informed Hekmat's family of his death, handing over his body to his family members from Ras al Ein Hospital, with his body bearing signs of the torture he was subjected to during his detention. We note that Hekmat al De'ar had been persecuted by Syrian Democratic Forces in 2020 which forced him to leave al Tayyana village and move to Ras al Ein city. [We issued a condemnation statement on the incident.](#)



Hekmat Khalil al De'ar

2. In December 2021:

SNHR documented in December 2021 the deaths of seven victims due to torture at the of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria, distributed as follows:



Syrian regime forces: Five.

Syrian Democratic Forces: Two.

The most notable cases are:

Thaer Munir al Na'san, a student at College of Veterinary Medicine of Damascus University- Daraa branch, from Tseel town in the western suburbs of Daraa governorate, was kidnapped by Syrian regime gunmen on Sunday, January 19, 2020, in the Daraa al Mahatta area of Daraa city. Almost since that time, he has been forcibly disappeared, with the Syrian regime denying his detention and preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting him. On Tuesday, December 21, 2021, his family was notified of his death. SNHR's data from numerous sources confirms that he was in good health at the time of his arrest, indicating that he probably died due to torture in Seydnaya Military Prison in Damascus Suburbs governorate. We can also confirm that Syrian regime forces failed to hand over his body to his family.

Two brothers, Rami and Wasim Muhammad Omar al Hayek, from Tseel town in the northwest of Daraa governorate, were arrested in 2020 by Syrian regime forces during a raid on their workplace, an animal feed factory in the north of the town, despite both being amongst those who previously settled their security status. Almost since that time, they have been forcibly disappeared, with the Syrian regime denying their detention and preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting them. On Tuesday, December 21, 2021, as their family was trying to visit them, they were notified of Rami's death in Seydnaya Military Prison in Damascus Suburbs governorate, and two days later on December 23, 2021, they were notified of Wasim's death in the same prison. SNHR's data from numerous sources confirms that both men were in good health at the time of their arrest, indicating that they probably died due to torture in Seydnaya Military Prison.

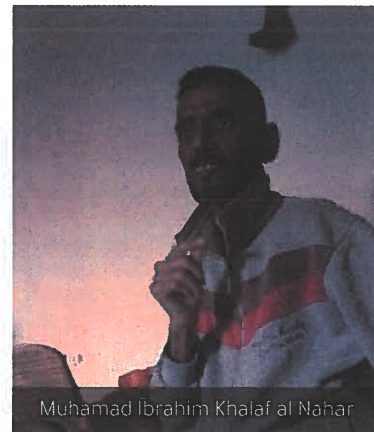


Wasim Muhammad Omar al Hayek



Rami Muhammad Omar al Hayek

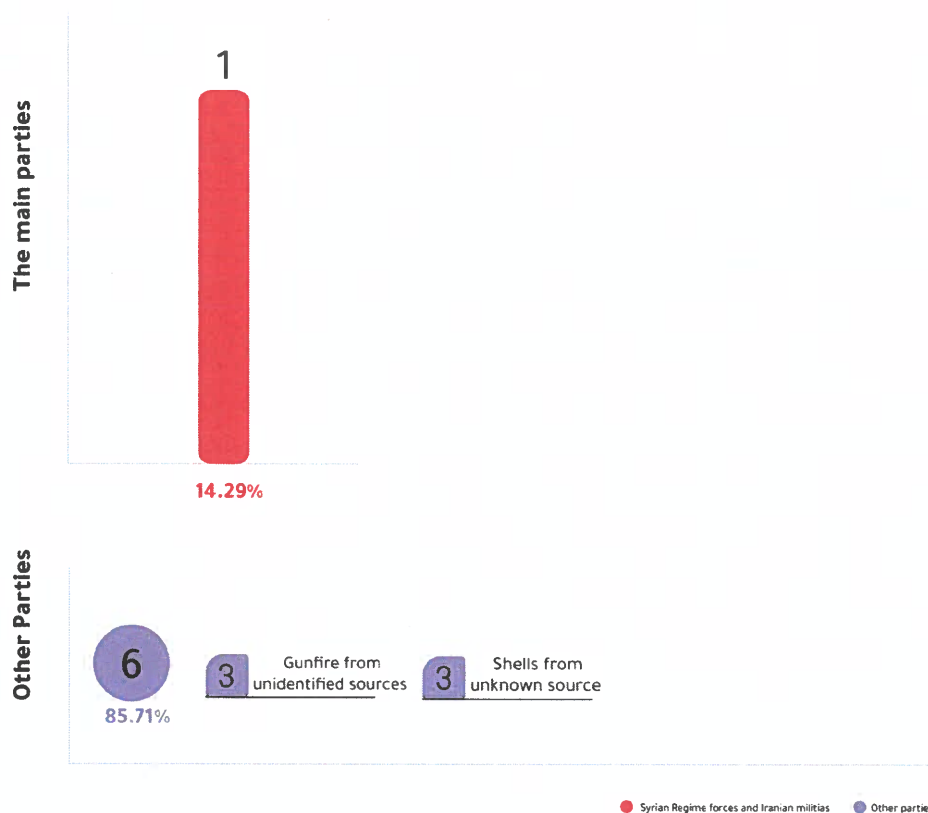
Muhammad Ibrahim Khalaf al Nahar, from al Bouomar village in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate, was detained by Syrian Democratic Forces in March 2021. Almost since that time, he has been forcibly disappeared, with the SDF denying his detention and preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting him. On Wednesday, December 8, 2021, SDF informed his family of his death in an SDF detention center in al Qameshli city in the suburbs of Hasaka governorate without handing his body over to them. SNHR data from numerous sources confirms that he was in good health at the time of his arrest, indicating that he probably died due to torture and neglect of healthcare in one of SDF detention centers.



B. Death toll of medical personnel

1. In 2021:

SNHR documented in 2021 the deaths of seven medical personnel, killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria, distributed as follows:



A. The main parties:

- **Syrian Regime forces:** One.

B. Other parties:

We documented the deaths of six medical personnel at the hands of other parties, distributed as follows:

- Shells whose source we have not been able to identify: Three.
- Gunfire by parties we have been unable to identify: Three.

The most notable cases are:

Atiyah Ali al Fajri, a 39-year-old pharmacist from Abu Hardoub village in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez- Zour governorate, was shot dead on Sunday, March 27, 2021, by gunmen that we have been unable to identify at his pharmacy in Suwaidan Jazira village in the eastern suburbs of the governorate, which is controlled by Syrian Democratic Forces.

[Dr. Amin Qushou](#), a 55-years-old anesthesiologist who worked in Deirsim Hospital in Afrin city, from Khal-nira village in Afrin suburbs, died on Saturday, June 12, 2021, when unknown parties used a missile launcher to fire a number of missiles targeting the vicinity of al Shefaa Hospital, located in Villas Street in the center of Afrin city in the northwestern suburbs of Aleppo governorate; the primary parties suspected of responsibility for the attack are either Syrian regime forces or Syrian Democratic Forces, with the attack emanating from an area controlled by them in the Kashta'ar area. The investigation process is still underway to identify the party responsible for the attack.

[Maryam Barakat](#), a nurse from Mhambel town in Idlib suburbs, who worked at the 'Save A Soul' Hospital in Salqin city, was killed on Saturday, July 17, 2021, when the house she was in, located on the northern outskirts of Ihsem town - on the main road between Ihsem and Mar'yan village - in the southern suburbs of Idlib, was hit with an artillery shell, resulting in a massacre, with the primary parties suspected of responsibility for the attack being Syrian regime forces or Russian forces, given that the shelling emanated from an area controlled by them. The investigation process is still underway to identify the party responsible for the shelling. We note that the attack coincided with a Russian reconnaissance aircraft flying over the area.

2. In December 2021:

SNHR didn't document any deaths among medical personnel in December 2021.

C. Death toll of media workers**1. In 2021:**

SNHR documented the death of one media worker in 2021, who was killed at the hands of Russian forces.

[Hammam al Asi](#), a [Civil Defense media worker](#) with [the Bazabour](#) center, was killed on Saturday, July 17, 2021, as a result of shrapnel in the chest, when artillery forces, which we believe were Russian, fired a shell equipped with a Krasnopol laser guidance system near him while he was providing media coverage of earlier shelling by the same forces on the southeast of Sarja village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. Hammam, a 30-year-old man from Bazabour village in the southern suburbs of Idlib, a first-year university student in the Faculty of Science/ Department of Physics at Tishreen University, was married with three children.

The [Civil Defense Organization](#) [published](#) an obituary mourning Hammam on its [official account](#) on Facebook.



Hammam Muhammad al Asi, following his injury as a result of a Russian ground attack targeting south of Sarja village in Idlib suburbs - July 17, 2021

The Syrian Network for Human Rights spoke with Hassan al Asi⁵, director of the Civil Defense Center in Bazabour village, who told us: "On Saturday, July 17th, the southeastern outskirts of Sarja village in the southern suburbs of Idlib were subjected to artillery shelling by forces we believe were Russian stationed in Khan al Sebel village, which is under the control of Syrian regime forces, resulting in the deaths of a number of civilians. During Hammam's media coverage of the location of the shelling, the same forces repeated their artillery shelling with an artillery shell equipped with a Krasnopol laser guidance system, with reconnaissance aircraft, which we believe were Russian, flying overhead. The shell landed near Hammam, injuring him with shrapnel in the chest. He was immediately taken to al Shami Hospital in Ariha city, and then to the al Muhafatha Hospital in Idlib city for surgery, but he died during the surgery. It is worth mentioning that the double-tap attack caused a massacre of five civilians, including three children and one woman, and injured five others. Including two Civil Defense personnel."

⁵ Via WhatsApp on July 25, 2021

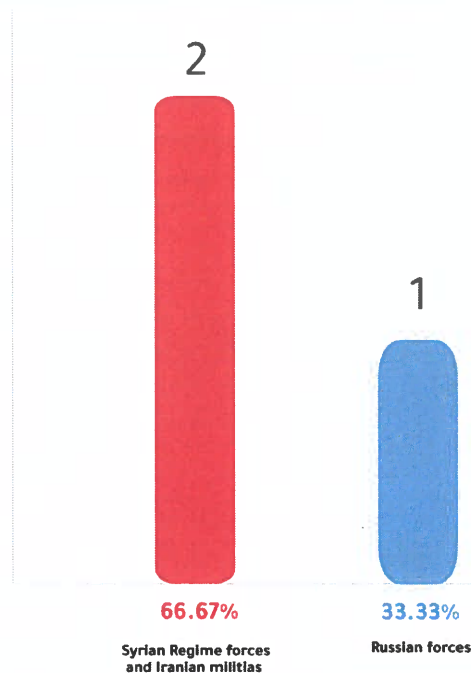
2. In December 2021:

SNHR didn't document any deaths among media workers in December 2021.

D. Death toll of Civil Defense personnel

1. In 2021:

SNHR documented in 2021 the deaths of three Civil Defense personnel, at the of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria, distributed as follows:



- **Syrian regime forces:** One.
- **Russian forces:** Two.

The most notable cases are:

Ahmad al Waki, a Civil Defense member, stationed at the Tarhin Center, who originally came from al Bab city in the eastern suburbs of the Aleppo governorate, was killed on Friday, March 5, 2021, while he was working to extinguish a fire caused by four long-range Tochka missiles loaded with cluster munitions, which are believed to have been fired from the Russian Hmeimim military airbase, targeting the fuel-refining burners in Tarhin village near al Bab city, also in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, resulting in massive fires in the burners; during the firefighting operation by the Syrian Civil Defense, one of the fuel tanks exploded, resulting in Ahmad's death, with the blaze also burning heavy 'packer-excavator' type machinery, and gutting a fire engine, putting it out of service. The area was under the control of the Syrian National Army at the time of the incident. [The Syrian Civil Defense published a tribute to Ahmad al Waki on its 'Twitter' account.](#)



Dahham Abdul Ghani al Hussein, a Civil Defense worker, from De-qmaq village in west of Hama governorate, was killed on Saturday, June 19, 2021, when the Civil Defense center in Qastoun village in the western suburbs of Hama governorate was subjected to an attack by several shells whose source hasn't been identified as of this writing, with the primary parties suspected of responsibility for the attack being Syrian regime forces or Russian forces, with the shelling emanating from an area controlled by them. The investigation process is still underway to identify the party responsible for the shelling. The shelling also injured three other Civil Defense workers, in addition to inflicting huge destruction on the center's structure and causing moderate material damage to two of the vehicles belonging to the Civil Defense (one fire truck and one service car). As a result, the center has been put out of service.

The Syrian Civil Defense published [a tribute](#) to Dahham al Hussein on its 'Twitter' account.



Dahham Abdul Ghani al Hussein

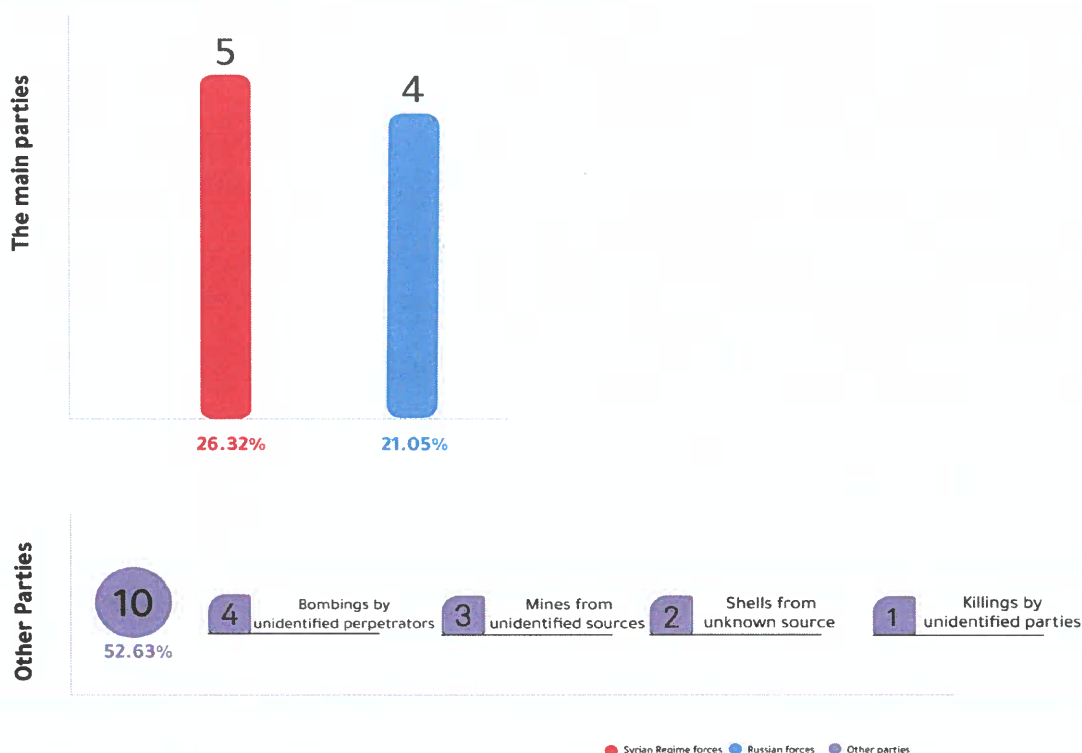
2. In December 2021:

SNHR didn't document any deaths among Civil Defense personnel in December 2021.

V. Record of Most Notable Massacres:

1. In 2021:

SNHR documented at least 19 massacres since the beginning of 2021, distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:



A. The main parties:**Syrian Regime forces:** Five.**Russian forces:** Four.B. Other parties:

We documented 10 massacres at the hands of other parties, distributed as follows:

- Bombings whose perpetrators we have not been able to identify: Four.
- Landmines whose source we have not been able to identify: Three.
- Killings by parties we have been unable to identify: One.
- Shells whose source we have not been able to identify: Two.

All the massacres perpetrated by Syrian regime forces in 2021 were in areas under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham

According to the SNHR's Victim Documentation team, the massacres documented in 2021 resulted in the deaths of 146 civilians, including 42 children and 41 women (adult female). This means that approximately 57% percent of all the victims were women and children, a very high proportion, and a clear indication that civilian residents were specifically targeted in most of these massacres.

The death toll from these massacres was distributed according to the perpetrators as follows:**Syrian Regime forces:** 41 civilians, including 16 children and nine women.**Russian forces:** 32 civilians, including 11 children and three women.**Other parties:** 82 civilians, including 15 children and 29 women, distributed as follows:

- Landmines whose source we have not been able to identify: 30 civilians, including one child and 18 women.
- Bombings whose perpetrators we have not been able to identify: 24 civilians, including seven children and two women.
- Killings by parties we have been unable to identify: 16 civilians, including six children and four women.
- Shells whose source we have not been able to identify: 12 civilians, including one child and five women.

The most notable massacres and killings documented in 2021 are:**Syrian Regime forces:**

On Sunday, March 21, at around 08:20 local time, artillery forces stationed at a site controlled by the Lebanese Hezbollah militias near Majbal al Zeft in Urm al Sughra village in the western suburbs of Aleppo fired three Krasnopol shells (laser-guided mortar shells fired by a drone that draws a laser circle on the target to direct the shell towards the circle drawn) at al Atareb Surgical Hospital (Al Maghara Hospital) - supported by the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS) - located in al Atareb city in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate, which was established within a cave in a mountainous area on the Abzemou Road to the north

of the city; one of the shells fell at the hospital's entrance directly, causing significant material damage to the external hospital structure, as well as damaging the orthopedic clinics in the ambulance department, the patient waiting area inside the hospital building, a tent used for isolating COVID-19 patients, a generator, and a maintenance caravan outside the building. As of this writing, the Syrian Network for Human Rights' Victim Department team [documented](#) the [deaths](#) of [eight civilians](#) in [this attack](#), including one child and one woman, and the injury of about 17 others, including five of [the hospital's](#) medical staff. [We issued a special report documenting the incident.](#)

On Thursday, July 29, 2021, [Ahmad Farhan al Qteifan](#) and Yazan Adnan al Metleq al Mheisen al Mahamid were killed when Syrian regime artillery forces fired a number of shells at the Daraa al Balad area in Daraa city.

On Thursday, July 29, 2021, [Ali Abdul Razzaq al Halqi and Abdou Ahmad al Halqi](#) were killed when Syrian regime artillery forces fired a number of shells at Jasem city in the northwestern suburbs of Daraa governorate.

On Wednesday, October 20, 2021, at around 08:01, Syrian regime artillery forces began [bombarding](#) Ariha city in the southern suburbs of Idlib, coinciding with a Russian reconnaissance aircraft flying over the area, and in conjunction with the students heading to their schools. The [shelling](#) lasted for about ten minutes, during which ten shells fell on separate areas in the city center, resulting in the deaths of 11 [civilians](#), including four [children](#) and one woman (a teacher), and injured about [30 others](#), in addition to causing damage to four vital civilian facilities. The city was under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham.



Russian forces:

On Thursday, June 10, 2021, Russian artillery forces, stationed in areas controlled by Syrian regime forces, working in coordination with a Russian reconnaissance aircraft, fired several shells targeting civilian homes in the center of Ebleen village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate; while other local residents were [evacuating](#) the [injured](#), Syrian regime artillery forces shelled the same location, again in tandem with the reconnaissance aircraft, [resulting](#) in [the deaths](#) of [12 individuals](#), [including](#) seven [civilians](#), [two](#) of [them](#) [children](#) and [one a woman](#), as well as [five fighters](#), including [the military](#) spokesman for [Ha'yat Tahrir al Sham](#), Abu Khaled al Shami, in addition to injuring about 11 people. Ebleen village was under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at the time of the incident.

At dawn on Friday, August 20, 2021, [four children](#), all siblings, were killed when artillery forces which we believe were Russian, who were assisted by a Russian surveillance plane overhead, fired a number of shells, equipped with the Krasnopol laser guidance system, at Kansafra village in Jabal al Zaweya in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, with one shell hitting the children's family's home in the eastern outskirts of the village.

On Thursday, November 11, 2021, at around 10:07, fixed-wing warplanes which we believe were Russian, fired a number of [missiles](#) targeting [a poultry barn](#) north of Idlib city, an [agricultural](#) area between Ma'aret Misreen and Idlib city, [adjacent](#) to [a residential house](#) belonging to [the poultry](#) facility which [was inhabited](#) by IDPs from [the southern](#) suburbs of Aleppo governorate. [The bombing](#) resulted in the deaths of five civilians, including three children and one woman, all from one family. Idlib city was under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at the time of the incident.

Some incidents of killings as a result of bombings whose perpetrators we have not been able to identify:

On Thursday, February 25, 2021, a [car bomb exploded](#) in the [poultry market](#) in Ras al Ein city in the north-western suburbs of Hasaka governorate, which was under the control of the Syrian National Army forces at the time of the incident, resulting in [the deaths](#) of five civilians, including two male children and one woman, while 10 other civilians were injured. We were unable to identify the party responsible for the bombing. SNHR is still trying to contact witnesses and survivors to obtain more details of the incident.

On April 23, 2021, [two sibling children](#) died, due to wounds inflicted by the explosion of an IED in al Sweisa village in the suburbs of Quneitra governorate, which is controlled by the Syrian regime. We were unable to identify the party responsible for the bombing.

On May 2, 2021, [a civilian died](#) and four others were injured, when a motorcycle bomb exploded in al Sena'a Market in Slouk town, which is administratively a part of Tal Abyad city in the northern suburbs of Raqqqa governorate, which is under the control of Syrian National Army. We were unable to identify the party responsible for the bombing.

Some incidents of killings as a result of the explosion of landmines whose source we have not been able to identify:

On Sunday, May 2, 2021, [a landmine](#), whose source we have not been able to identify, planted in the north of al Rahjan village in the eastern suburbs of Hama governorate, which is controlled by Syrian regime forces, exploded near a car belonging to civilian Ibrahim Abdou al Tabesh, resulting in his death.

On Wednesday, September 1, 2021, a landmine, [whose source we have not been able to identify](#), planted in farmland near Seftek village, which is administratively a part of Ein al Arab city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, which is controlled by Syrian Democratic Forces, exploded, resulting in the deaths of two children, named as Dayyar Muhammad Hasan and Muhammad Ali Hamki, aged 15 and 14 respectively.

On Thursday, December 16, 2021, a landmine, whose source we have not been able to identify, planted in farmland adjacent to al Zara village in the southern suburbs of Hama governorate, which is controlled by Syrian regime forces, exploded, resulting in [the death of Mahmoud Khaled Fatrawi](#), who was from Jarjisa village in the southern suburbs of Hama governorate.

Some incidents of killings as a result of the explosion of munitions left over from previous bombardment whose source we have not been able to identify:

On Thursday, October 21, [munitions left over from previous bombardment](#) in Tafranaz town, which is under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham, exploded while the child Kamal Muhammad Idris was playing with it near his family home, resulting in his death. The child Kamal was from Tafranaz town in the northern suburbs of Idlib.

Some incidents of killings as a result of gunfire by parties we have been unable to identify:

The body of a 27-year-old refugee Iraqi civilian, named as [Adnan Hamid](#), was discovered by local families in Section Two of al Hawl IDP Camp on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, bearing signs of gunshot wounds. The camp is under the control of Syrian Democratic Forces and is therefore responsible for providing security and protection for the detainees in the camp.

The body of Kefaa al Rashid, a 40-year-old Iraqi [female refugee](#), was discovered in her tent in Section One of al Hawl Camp on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, bearing signs of gunshot wounds.

The body of a 36-year-old woman from Aleppo governorate, named as [Latifah Suleiman](#), was discovered by local families in Section Five of al Hawl IDP Camp on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, bearing stab wounds inflicted with a sharp instrument.

Killings by Syrian Democratic Forces and US-led Coalition forces:

We documented Syrian Democratic Forces carrying out a [double-tap attack](#), which is a Russian military tactic that aims to kill and injure as many civilians as possible; on Thursday, August 5, Syrian Democratic Forces fired a guided missile targeting a recovery vehicle fitted with a crane on the outskirts of Hazwan village, which is administratively a part of al Bab city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, killing two civilians, named as Mahmoud al Badi and Hasan al Badi. As the Civil Defense teams arrived to recover the victims, the same forces renewed their shelling using another missile which hit a Civil Defense ambulance, burning it and rendering it inoperable, and injuring a Civil Defense member.

2021 saw [the deaths](#) of two civilians at the hands of the US-led Coalition forces, the first incident of this nature after a hiatus of nearly six months, as on Tuesday, May 4, a drone which we believe was flown by the US-led Coalition forces fired a missile targeting a car belonging to a civilian who was carrying out work on the vehicle at the time in the Badiya of al Shannan village, which is administratively a part of Theyban town in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate, resulting in the death of the civilian, a 30-year-old man, Basem Atwan al Belal, who worked as a dustman for the local municipality run by the Syrian Democratic Forces; the reason given for this vehicle being erroneously targeted by the Coalition was the extensive spread of ISIS members in this area, who use civilian cars during their movements. The area is under the control of Syrian Democratic Forces.

B. In December 2021:

SNHR documented one massacre in December 2021, perpetrated by parties which we have so far been unable to identify; this massacre, according to the SNHR's Victim Documentation team, resulted in the deaths of six civilians.

On Thursday, December 2, 2021, gunmen whom we have been unable to identify, who are believed to be affiliated with ISIS, launched an attack using machine guns on a civilian car carrying civil workers/ employees working in the al Kharata oil field in the Badiya of the western suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour, on al Madhoul road in the Badiya of the western suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour, resulting in the deaths of six civilians. The Badiya of the western suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour was under the control of Syrian regime forces at the time of the incident.

VI. The Most Notable Work Carried Out by SNHR on the Extrajudicial Killing Issue:

Since 2011, the SNHR 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 their gender, age, the date and place of death, method of killing used, type of weapon used, and perpetrator party, and to make comparisons between these parties. We can also distribute the death toll according to the governorate in which the incident of death occurred, and according to the governorate from which the victim originated,

in order to show the extent of the loss suffered by the people of that governorate, and enables us to accurately ascertain the highest rates of violence documented in the case of each violation. SNHR's Victim Documentation Department team constantly updates its comprehensive database, with all the data added to the SNHR's database being retained securely, and several backup copies being stored in different locations.

Since 2011, we have also been exceptionally concerned about incidents involving the killing of children and women; there is hardly a statistic recorded on our database that does not include either, due to the vulnerability of these groups in the community, and because they give an indication of the rate of targeting of civilians. We later added other civilian groups which have played a key role in the popular uprising and later in the armed conflict, such as media, medical, relief and Civil Defense personnel.

For nearly ten years, we have issued [daily death tolls of victims](#), as well as [daily news reports](#) on killing incidents. We also issue a [monthly report](#) detailing the death toll of victims, whose deaths were documented in Syria during the previous month, amongst civilians, as well as of those who died [due to torture](#), in addition to issuing a biannual report and annual report, as well as dozens of other special reports [documenting the total death toll](#) or the death toll at the hands of one of the parties to the conflict in particular, in addition to a [monthly report](#) and special and periodic reports documenting the [massacres](#) committed on Syrian soil.

SNHR also periodically sends a special form to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, submitting cases of killings on which we were able to document all of the available data, having obtained the consent of each victim's family members before submitting them.

<http://sn4hr.org/blog/category/special-rapporteur/extrajudicial-killing/>

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 has also partnered with numerous United Nations bodies, in addition to governments of states, to provide them with statistics from our databases, in order to serve the path of justice, and ultimately to ensure the accountability and prosecution of criminals. SNHR is also used as a trustworthy source by a large number of Arab and international news agencies and many international human rights organizations.

VII. Conclusions and Recommendations:

Conclusions:

- The evidence we collected indicates that some of the attacks documented in this report were deliberately directed against civilians and civilian objects. Syrian-Russian alliance forces have committed various crimes of extrajudicial killings, including fatal torture. Their attacks and indiscriminate bombardment have resulted in the destruction of facilities and buildings. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the war crime of attacking civilians has been committed in many cases.
- A large proportion of Syrians were killed as a result of landmines, and none of the perpetrator forces in the Syrian conflict have revealed maps of the locations where landmines were planted. This indicates total indifference to the lives of civilians, and children in particular.
- The Syrian regime has not only violated international humanitarian law and customary law, but has also breached a number of UN Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 2139 and resolution 2042 on the release of detainees, as well as resolution 2254, all without any accountability.
- The indiscriminate and disproportionate bombardment carried out by the alliance of US-led coalition and the Syrian Democratic Forces is considered a violation of international humanitarian law, with the crimes of indiscriminate killing amounting to war crimes.
- Factions of the Armed Opposition/ Syrian National Army have 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.
- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham has violated international humanitarian law, causing the deaths of civilians.
- The use of remote bombings to target densely populated areas reflects a criminal mindset intent on deliberately inflicting the greatest possible number of deaths, which is a clear contravention of international human rights law and a flagrant violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention (articles 27, 31, 32).
- We documented cases of extrajudicial killings committed by various controlling forces against the populations under their control, which constitute serious violation of international human rights law.

Recommendations:

UN 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, while Russia must stop using the veto, as it is a party to the Syrian conflict, and the UNSC states' veto power should be withheld when crimes against humanity and war crimes are committed.
- The Security Council should ensure peace and security and implement the principle of responsibility to protect civilians' lives and to save the Syrian people's heritage and historical artefacts from destruction, looting and vandalism.

- The Security Council should 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.
- There will be no stability in Syria without first achieving a political transition towards democracy and human rights in the country within a specific timetable, and this will only be achieved through the imposition of various pressures, mainly on the Syrian regime and its allies, because it will not give up power voluntarily. In addition, a timetable must be established to end the killing and implement Security Council Resolution 2254 as soon as possible.

International Community

- In light of the split within the Security Council and its utter inability to take any effective action, action should be taken at the national and regional levels to form alliances to support the Syrian people by protecting them from daily killing, as well as through 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' doctrine in dozens of studies and reports and as a member of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (ICR2P) after all political channels through the Arab League's plan and then Mr. Kofi Annan's plan 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' (R2P) doctrine, which was established by the United Nations General Assembly, should be implemented. By failing to do so, 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.
- Work to launch projects to create maps revealing the locations of landmines and cluster munitions in all Syrian governorates. This would facilitate the process of clearing them and educating the population about their locations.
- Pressure all parties to the conflict, especially the Syrian regime and its allies, to compensate the displaced victims, to repair homes and vital facilities, support the political transition process, and put pressure on all the parties obliging them to implement the political transition within a period of time not exceeding six months, so that millions of displaced people can have a safe and stable return to their homes.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (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 and previous reports since these attacks were perpetrated by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces.
- Work on preparing a special report on the use of landmines in Syria and the risks they pose to civilians, and identify the most prominent locations where landmines were planted.

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.
- Focus on the issue of landmines and cluster munitions within the next report.

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.
- Revive the peace process so that it can resume its natural course despite Russia's attempts to divert and distort it, empowering the Constitutional Committee prior to the establishment of a transitional governing body.

The Syrian regime

- Stop indiscriminate shelling and targeting of residential areas, hospitals, schools and markets.
- End the acts of torture that have caused the deaths of thousands of Syrian citizens in detention centers.
- Ensure compliance with UN Security Council resolutions and customary humanitarian law.
- Provide detailed maps of the locations where the regime planted landmines, especially in civilian areas or near residential communities.

The Russian regime

- Completely cease the bombing of hospitals, protected objects, and civilian areas, and respect customary international law.
- As a guarantor party in the 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 the unconditional passage of humanitarian aid to besieged areas.
- 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.

The Coalition (Us-led coalition and Syrian Democratic Forces)

- The states supporting the SDF should cease all forms of support until the SDF commits itself to complying with the rules of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. This is primarily the responsibility of the supporting states.
- The SDF should form a special committee to investigate incidents of violations committed by SDF forces, disclose the details of their findings and apologize for them, hold those responsible accountable, and compensate the victims and affected.
- Provide detailed maps of the locations where the SDF planted landmines, especially civilian sites or near residential communities.

All Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army:

- 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.
- Take punitive action against those who commit violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.
- Provide detailed maps of the locations where the Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army planted landmines, especially civilian sites or near residential communities.

Humanitarian organizations

- Develop urgent operational plans to secure decent shelter for internally displaced persons, especially widows and orphans.
- Exert efforts in landmine clearance operations in parallel with relief operations whenever the opportunity arises.

Acknowledgment

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