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The Most Notable Human Rights Violations in Syria in April 2019



SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Saturday, May 4, 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

Syria has seen an unprecedented number of violations since the start of the popular uprising for democracy in March 2011. Extrajudicial killings, arrests, torture and enforced disappearances are at the top of the list of violations suffered by the Syrian citizens. While the Syrian regime and its affiliated militias were the sole perpetrators of these violations for the first seven months or so of the uprising, other parties subsequently joined in, also violating the rights of Syrian citizens. The SNHR has continued to document every incident that its team members are able to verify, with these violations escalating very dramatically in 2012 and 2013, prompting us to expand our issuance of periodic monthly reports recording and highlighting the continued suffering of the Syrian people, which subsequently grew to eight reports on different issues issued at the beginning of each month. In the course of our work, SNHR has compiled a massive database cataloguing hundreds of thousands of incidents, each of which involves a pattern of violations that we have been able to document.

By the end of 2018, with a reduction in the level of violence compared to previous years, we changed our previous strategy and now compile our reports into a single monthly report featuring the most prominent violations in Syria which we have been able to document in the preceding month.



This month's report focuses on the human rights situation in Syria in April 2019, and catalogues the record of civilian victims whom we documented killed by the main parties to the conflict during this period, as well as the record of cases of arrests and enforced disappearance. The report also highlights indiscriminate attacks and the use of outlawed weapons (cluster munitions, chemical weapons, barrel bombs, incendiary weapons) and attacks on civilian objects.

The report also includes documentation of violations distributed according to the perpetrator parties responsible for each one. 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 particular 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 likely responsible, or it's proved that the attack was a joint initiative carried out in coordination between the two parties.

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 information and collect evidence and data. In some cases, researchers are able to visit the incident location promptly, although this is a rarity in light of the incredibly high security risks involved, and given the frequency of daily incidents and the scarcity of human and material resources to carry out this work. 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 also analyzed videos and photographs that our team has documented, or 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 the bodies of the deceased victims and the injured, the scale of destruction, and the remnants of the incendiary and cluster munitions and other munitions used, 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, as well as keeping 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. Readers are welcome to find out more about our methodology¹.

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. April Outline

In April, the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) monitored the continued military escalation by the Syrian-Russian alliance forces on the fourth de-escalation zone, which intensified simultaneously with holding the 12th round of the Astana Conference in the Kazakh capital, Nur Sultan, on April 25-27, with the Russian warplanes intensified raids, causing the deaths of many civilians and perpetrating massacres against them, while Syrian Regime forces launched ground and air attacks mostly in the demilitarized zone.

We have recorded the continuation of bombings and assassinations in areas that are out of the control of Syrian Regime forces, which resulted in the deaths of dozens of civilians and caused damage to vital civilian facilities, most notably in the governorates of Raqqqa and Idlib.

In April, the Syrian-Russian alliance forces inflicted the highest toll of victims comparing to the other parties, with 54 percent of the total toll of civilian victims documented in April, 79 percent of whom were killed in the fourth de-escalation zone.

Syrian Regime forces arrested some of the previously forcibly displaced civilians as part of these settlement agreements who returned from north Syria to their home towns, while the arrests carried out by Syrian Democratic Forces targeted IDPs residing in areas under their control, mainly the residents of refugee camps. Meanwhile, Hay'at Tahrir al Sham arrested students and cadres from the 'Free' University of Aleppo, while factions of the Armed opposition operating in the suburbs of Aleppo governorate arrested many civilians without judicial authorization and without any clear charges.

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>



In April, we documented that Syrian-Russian alliance forces launched 83 percent of the total number of attacks on vital civilian facilities, all of which were in the fourth de-escalation zone, mostly on mosques, schools and medical facilities.

We also documented in April the continued use of cluster munitions by the Syrian regime in a greater intensity than in March. Most of the attacks were on Idlib governorate, which resulted in the deaths of dozens of civilians and inflicting variable material damage in vital civilian facilities. We issued [a report](#) on the use of cluster munitions in the Idlib de-escalation zone by the Syrian-Russian alliance forces since the Sochi Agreement on September 17, 2018. We also documented the use of long-range missiles on Jisr al Shoghour city in the southern suburbs of Idlib, causing damage to a school, although we were unable to determine the source of the missiles up to the time of publication of this report.

The last day of this month also saw the Syrian regime's using the weapon of barrel bombs in the fourth de-escalation zone for the first time since the Sochi Agreement entered into force. The SNHR's records indicate that the last use of barrel bombs was on September 10, 2018. At the end of April, the northern and western suburbs of Hama, Sahl al Ghab area and Shahshabo mountain in particular, saw a massive displacement of people towards the far north of Syria following the intensification of the military campaign against the area.

III. The Most Notable Human Rights Violations in Syria in April

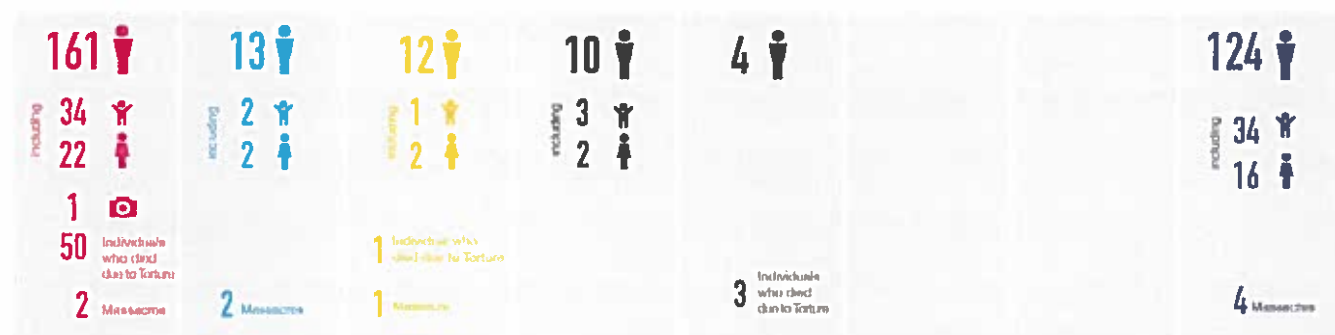
This report outlines the most notable human rights violations that were documented by the SNHR in April 2019 at the hands of the main perpetrator parties to the conflict in Syria.



Record of the Most Notable Human Rights Violations in Syria in April 2019

Syrian Regime forces	Russian forces	SDF (mainly PYD)	Extremist Islamist groups ISIS Hay'at Tahrir al Sham	Factions of the Armed Opposition	International Coalition forces	Other parties
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Extrajudicial Killing



Arbitrary Arrests and Unlawful Detention



Attacks on Vital Civilian Facilities



Record of Indiscriminate Attacks and Attacks Using Outlawed Weapons



SNHR
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As documented by SNHR



A. Extrajudicial killing:

In April 2019, SNHR documented the deaths of 324 civilians, including 74 children and 44 women (adult female), including one media worker, with the highest rate of killings being carried out at the hands of the Syrian-Russian alliance forces. We also documented the deaths of 54 individuals due to torture, and at least nine massacres. We issued a report on the first of this month detailing the civilian victims documented killed in April at the hands of the main perpetrator parties in Syria.

The death toll of civilian victims was distributed by the main perpetrator parties as follows:

- **Syrian Regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias):** 161, including 34 children and 22 women.
- **Russian forces:** 13, including two children and two women.
- **Extremist Islamist groups:** 14, including three children and two women, divided between:
 - **ISIS (the self-proclaimed 'Islamic State'):** 10, including three child and two women.
 - **Hay'at Tahrir al Sham (an alliance composed of Fateh al Sham Front and a number of factions of the Armed Opposition):** Four.
- **Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party):** 12, including one child and two women.
- **Other parties:** 124, including 34 children and 16 women

B. Arbitrary arrest and enforced disappearance:

SNHR documented in April 2019 at least 459 cases of arbitrary arrests, including 34 children and 23 women (adult female), at the hands of the main perpetrator parties to the conflict in Syria. The largest number of arrests was carried out by Syrian Regime forces in the governorates of Damascus Suburbs, Aleppo and Deir Ez-Zour. We issued a report on the second of this month detailing the record of cases of arrests and enforced disappearances which we documented in April 2019 at the hands of the main perpetrator parties in Syria.

These arrests are distributed according to the main perpetrator parties, as follows:

- **Syrian Regime forces:** 225, including 23 children, and 17 women.
- **Extremist Islamist groups:**
 - **Hay'at Tahrir al Sham:** 48, including one child and one woman.
- **Factions of the Armed Opposition:** 31, including four children and two women.
- **Syrian Democratic Forces:** 55, including six children and three women.



C. Attacks on vital civilian facilities:

SNHR documented in April at least 51 attacks on vital civilian facilities, 83 percent of which were carried out at the hands of the Syrian-Russian alliance forces in the fourth de-escalation zone.

Among these attacks, 15 were on schools, six were on medical facilities and eight others were on places of worship.

These attacks are distributed by the main perpetrator parties as follows:

- **Syrian Regime forces:** 39
- **Russian forces:** Three
- **Extremist Islamist groups:**
Hay'at Tahrir al Sham: One
- **Other parties:** Eight

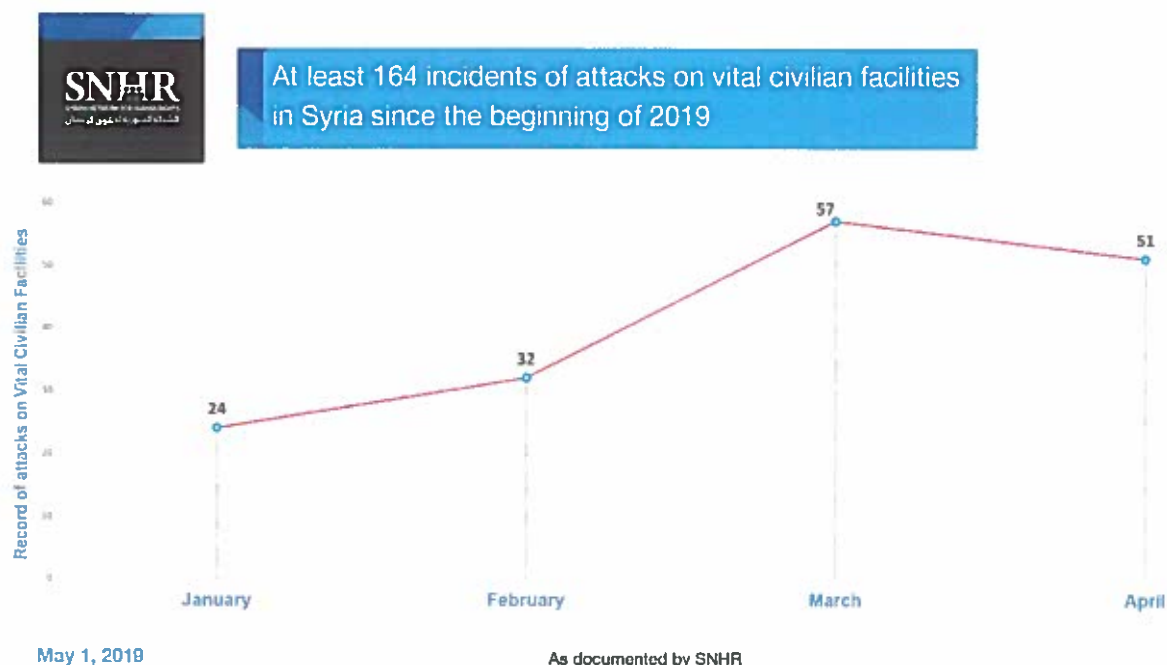


The record of attacks documented in April on vital civilian facilities is distributed according to the perpetrator party as follows:

Perpetrator Party	Syrian Regime Forces	Russian Forces	Extremist Islamist Groups	Other Parties
Attacked Facility			Hay'at Tahrir al Sham	
Places of Worship				
Mosques	7			1
Vital Educational Facilities				
Schools	14			1
Educational Institutes	1			
Vital Medical Facilities				
Medical Facilities	4	1		1
Ambulances				1
Communal Facilities				
Markets	3			2
Infrastructure				
Civil Defense Centers	2	1		
Power Stations and Energy Facilities		1		
Official Headquarters	6			1
Means of Transport			1	
Bakeries	1			
Refugee Camps				
Refugee Camps	1			1
Total	39	3	1	8



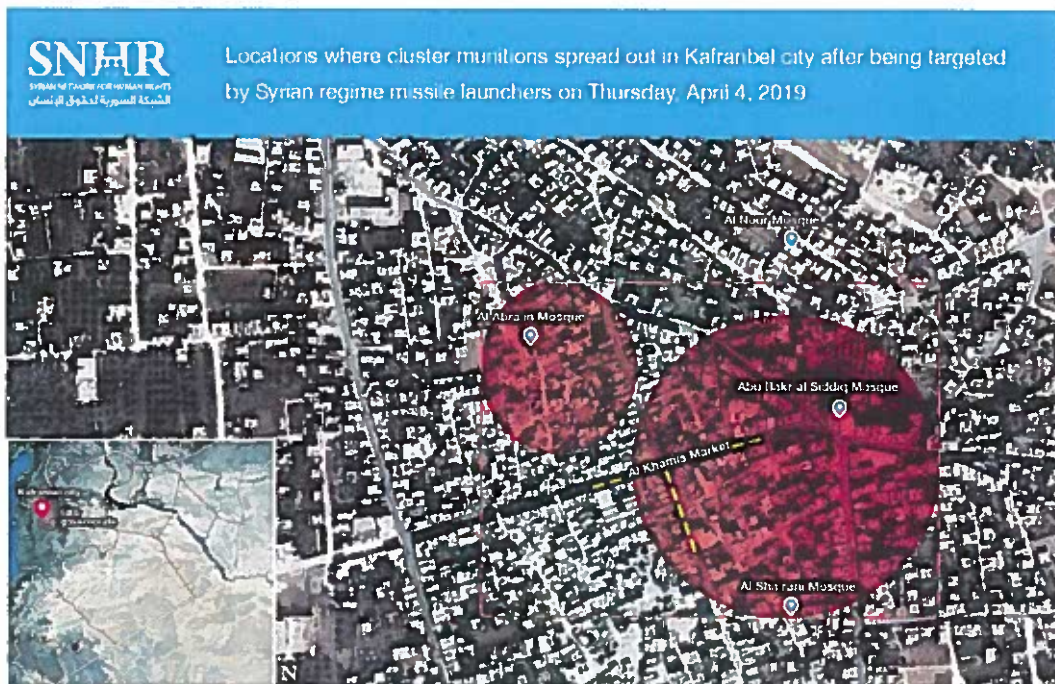
Thus, the record of attacks on vital civilian facilities since the start of 2019 up to the start of May of the same year at the hands of the main perpetrator parties in Syria has now reached 146 in total, distributed monthly as follows:



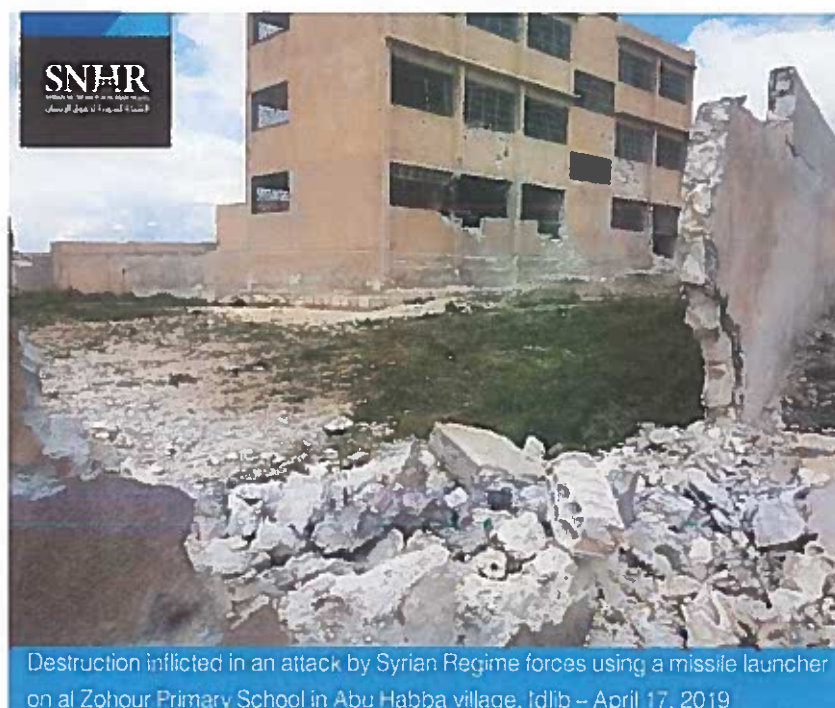
The most notable attacks on vital civilian facilities that were documented in April:

On Thursday, April 4, 2019, Syrian Regime forces used a missile launcher to fire three SMERCH-9M55K missiles loaded with 9n235 cluster submunitions. The missiles exploded in the air with their contents falling across an area covering 1.1 square km in the center of Kafranbel city in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The explosions of the submunitions resulted in the deaths of 13 civilians, including five children and two women; the same submunitions explosions also caused minor material damage to a number of vital civilian facilities, including the primary health care dispensary supported by the Syria Relief and Development Organization (SRD), the Kafranbel Emergency System building – headquartered in the former Kafranbel post office building-, [al Sha'rani Mosque](#), [al Arba'in Mosque](#), [al Kabir Mosque](#), Abu Bakr al Siddiq School, the main market known as al Khamis Market, and al Baraka Automatic Bakery. 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.

Map showing the area of dispersal of cluster munitions in Kafranbel city following a ground attack by Syrian Regime forces on April 4, 2019:



On Wednesday, April 17, 2019, Syrian Regime forces used a missile launcher to shell al Zohour Primary School in Abu Habba village in Idlib governorate's southern suburbs, partially destroying the school building and its perimeter fence, as well as inflicting moderate material damage to its furniture. The village was under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at the time of the incident.



On Wednesday, April 17, 2019, elements affiliated with Hay'at Tahrir al Sham used home-made mines to blow up [al Twaina Bridge](#) linking the villages of al Twaina and al Hurra in Sahl al Ghab area in the western suburbs of Hama governorate, partially destroying the bridge and putting it out of service. We note that the bridge connects between areas under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham and areas under the control of Syrian Regime forces in Sahl al Ghab area. The bridge is located in areas under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham.



The destruction of al Twaina Bridge in Hama suburbs following the bombing by Hay'at Tahrir al Sham – April 17, 2019

On Friday, April 19, 2019, Syrian Regime forces used a missile launcher to shell [al Rahman Mosque](#) in Khan Sheikhoun city in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, partially destroying the mosque building, as well as inflicting moderate material damage to its furniture. 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.

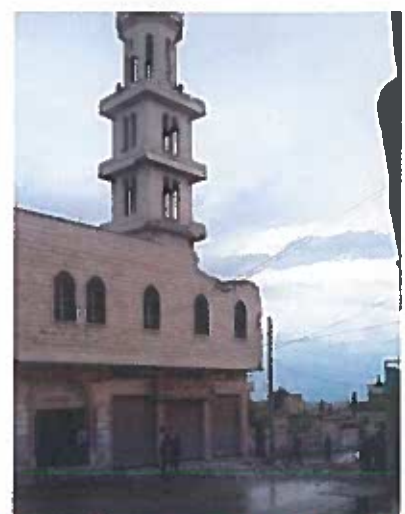
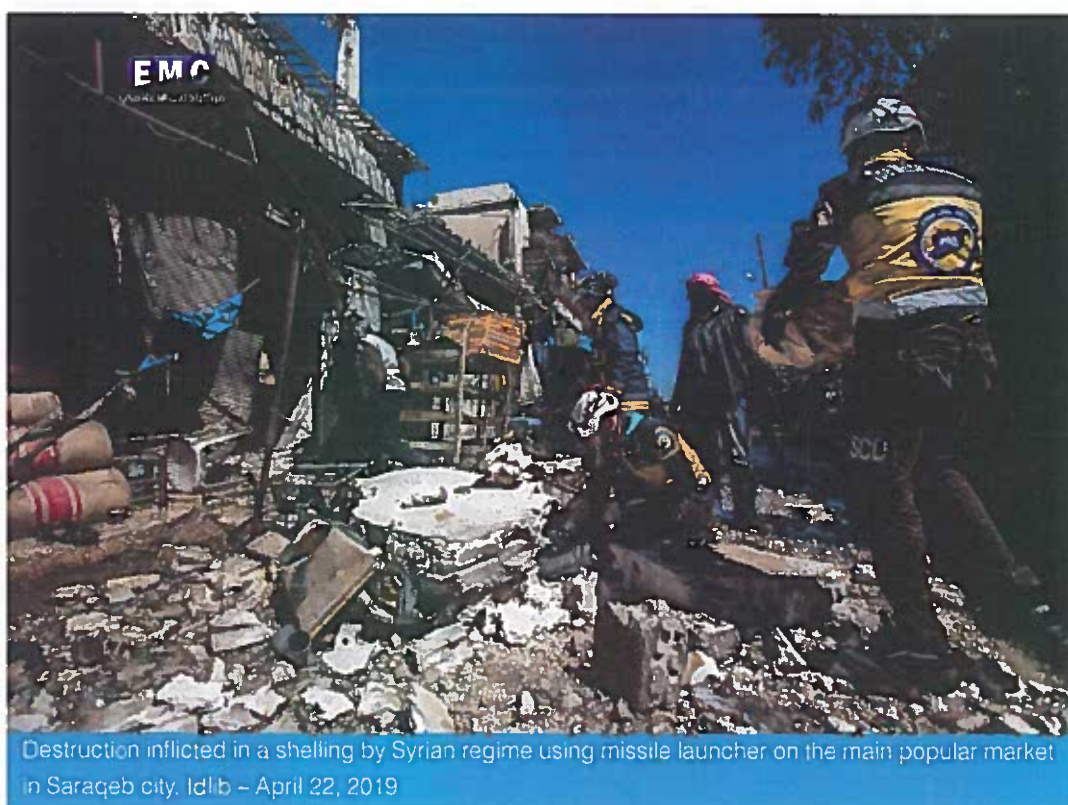


Photo showing al Rahman Mosque in Khan Sheikhoun city, Idlib, before and after it was damaged as a result of shelling by Syrian regime missile launcher - April 19, 2019



On Sunday, April 21, 2019, gunmen fired indiscriminately at Shamarekh IDP camp near Izaz city in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, killing one child, as well as inflicting moderate material damage to a number of tents. We were unable to determine who was responsible for the shooting up to the time of the preparation of this report. The area was under the control of factions of the Armed Opposition at the time of the incident.

On Monday, April 22, 2019, Syrian Regime forces used [a missile](#) launcher to shell the main [popular market](#) in the center of [Saraqeb city](#) in the eastern suburbs of Idlib governorate, resulting in casualties, as well as inflicting significant material damage to a number of shops and the market facilities. 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.



On Tuesday, April 23, 2019, Syrian Regime forces used a missile launcher in tandem with artillery to shell an area near the Androun IDPs Camp in [al Hambushiya village](#) of Jisr al Shoghour city in Idlib governorate's western suburbs. The shells fell 200 meters away from the camp, inflicting moderate material damage to several tents. The village was under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at the time of the incident.





Damage inflicted in a Syrian Regime forces' ground attack near Androun IDPs camp in al Hambushiya village, Idlib – April 23, 2019

On Thursday, April 25, 2019, Syrian Regime forces used a missile launcher to shell an area near the Martyr Khaled al Najm Primary School in Khan Sheikhoun city in Idlib governorate's southern suburbs, causing moderate material damage to the school building. We note that the school had also been attacked by the same forces two days earlier. 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.

On Friday, April 26, 2019, fixed-wing warplanes, which we believe were Russians, fired a number of missiles that landed near an ambulance of Center 33101 of the Civil Defense in Tal Hawwash village in Sahl al Ghab area in the western suburbs of Hama governorate, while the ambulance was carrying victims of a previous bombing on the village by the same warplanes, inflicting moderate material damage to the vehicle. The village was under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at the time of the incident.



On Saturday, April 27, 2019, an explosive device placed under the wall of a building located opposite the Baghdad hospital in [Kafr Karmin](#) village in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate was detonated, resulting in casualties, in addition to inflicting moderate material damage to an [ambulance](#) belonging to the "[Aleppo suburbs Emergency System](#)" – which was in front of the hospital - without recording any material damage in the hospital. 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 the bombings. The village was under the control of Hay'at Tahrir al Sham at the time of the incident.

D. Record of indiscriminate attacks and attacks using outlawed weapons:

SNHR documented in April at least 10 cluster munitions attacks, nine of which were carried out in Idlib governorate, while the other was carried out in Hama governorate, by Syrian Regime forces using missile launchers. These attacks resulted in the deaths of 28 civilians, including nine children and four women, and injured 69 others.

The Syrian Regime's air force also dropped barrel bombs on several areas in the suburbs of Idlib and Hama on April 30. The data concerning these attacks and the resulting violations is still being analyzed and will be included in the next monthly report.

The following are the most notable attacks using cluster munitions that we were able to document in April:

On Sunday, April 7, 2019, Syrian Regime forces, stationed in Abu al Duhour area in the eastern suburbs of Idlib, used a missile launcher to fire [two SMERCH-9m55k missiles](#) loaded with 9n235 [cluster submunitions](#), which targeted al Janoubi neighborhood in al Nayrab village in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The explosion of the munitions resulted in the deaths of seven civilians, including two children and one woman, all of whom were killed in different parts of al Janoubi neighborhood, while six others were injured. We also documented an explosion of several submunitions near the Mus'ab Bin Omair Primary School building while the students were inside the school. The area is under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham.

On Sunday, April 7, 2019, Syrian Regime forces used a missile launcher to fire a number of [missiles](#) loaded with cluster munitions, which targeted the northern parts of Kafr Nbouda town. The missiles landed on agricultural land without inflicting any documented damage. The area is under the control of factions of the Armed Opposition





Remnants of cluster munitions following a ground attack by Syrian Regime forces on Kafr Nbouda town, Hama
– April 7, 2019

On Wednesday, April 24, 2019, Syrian Regime forces used a missile launcher to fire a number of URAGAN missiles loaded with cluster munitions, which targeted the popular market in the center of Saraqeb city in the eastern suburbs of Idlib governorate, resulting in the death of one child, as well as inflicting material damage to a number of shops. The city is under the joint control of factions of the Armed Opposition and Hay'at Tahrir al Sham.

IV. Attachments

[324 Civilians, Including One Media Worker, Documented Killed in Syria in April, 2019](#)

[At least 459 Cases of Arbitrary Arrests Documented in Syria in April 2019](#)



V. Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions:

- The evidence we have gathered indicates that attacks continue to be directed against civilians and civilian objects. The Syrian-Russian alliance forces have committed various crimes, including extrajudicial killings, arrest, torture, and enforced disappearance. In addition, the indiscriminate bombardment and other attacks carried out caused 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.
- 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.
- 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 for freedom, providing another blatant demonstration of these forces' total disregard for the lives of civilians in Syria.
- 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.
- The indiscriminate and disproportionate bombardment carried out by the alliance of International Coalition forces and Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces is considered to be a clear violation of international humanitarian law, with indiscriminate killings amounting to war crimes.
- Extremist Islamist groups have violated international humanitarian law, causing the death of many civilians, as well as damage to vital civilian facilities.
- All the attacks documented in this report, 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 use of explosive arms to target densely populated areas reflects a criminal and wholly deliberate mindset, with the perpetrators clearly intending 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).



Recommendations:

Security Council

- The Security Council must take additional steps following its adoption of Resolution 2254, which clearly insists that “ all parties immediately cease any attacks against civilians and civilian objects as such.”
- The Syrian issue should be referred to the International Criminal Court and all those who are responsible for violations 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 the Syrian people's 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 existing prohibition on the use of chemical weapons, and include advice on how to safely remove the remnants of such dangerous weapons.
- The four other permanent member states should put pressure on the Russian government to end its support for the Syrian regime, which uses chemical weapons, and to expose its involvement in this regard.
- 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 to 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 since 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 of residential areas, hospitals, schools and markets, and end the use of outlawed 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 those responsible accountable.
- Compensate all the damaged centers and facilities, rebuild and rehabilitate them, and compensate all the families of victims 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 to allow unconditional passage of humanitarian aid 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 safe disposal of unexploded ordnance.
- Begin to achieve a breakthrough in the issue of detainees by revealing the fate of 82,000 people forcibly disappeared by the Syrian regime.

The Coalition (international coalition forces and 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 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 the 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.



- Syrian Democratic Forces must immediately stop conscripting children, hold the officers involved in such violations accountable, and pledge to return all children who have been arrested for conscription immediately.

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.

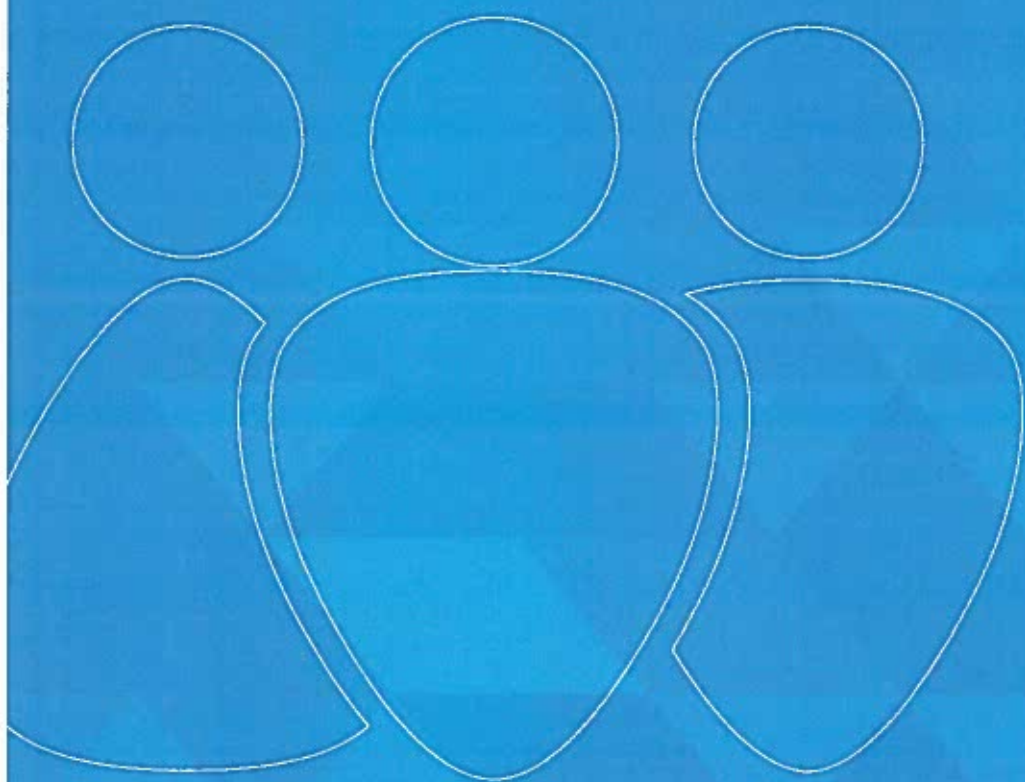
Humanitarian organizations:

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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