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MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA ARMED CONFLICT

Syria: Nowhere to hide for civilians killed by reported Russian air strike in Arbin

23 March 2018, 17:18 UTC

Responding to reports that an alleged Russian air strike using an incendiary weapon burned to death 37 civilians – mainly women and children – hiding in an air-raid shelter in the Syrian town of Arbin on Friday, Amnesty International's Senior Crisis Advisor Rawya Rageh said:

"We have previously documented how the use of incendiary weapons is burning alive civilians who are literally left with nowhere to hide. This attack would appear to be the latest horrific example in that pattern.

" Civilians told us what particularly struck fear into their hearts during the final period of the siege before they were forced out was the use of incendiary weapons. "

Rawya Rageh, Senior Crisis Advisor

"In areas besieged by the Syrian government such as Daraya and elsewhere, civilians told us what particularly struck fear into their hearts during the final period of the siege before they were forced out was the use of incendiary weapons.

"Many told us they stopped going down to shelters for fear of being burned alive. Those fears seem especially poignant today in light of this latest horrifying loss of life."

According to [Russian state media](#), Russia's Ministry of Defence denied responsibility for the attack.

Syria: 'Surrender or starve' strategy displacing thousands amounts to crimes against humanity

Syria: 'We leave or we die' - forced displacement under Syria's 'reconciliation' agreement

Topics

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SYRIA

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

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STOP THE BOMBING OF PEOPLE IN EASTERN GHOUTA SYRIA

Stop the bombing of people in Eastern Ghouta, Syria

22,155 ACTIONS TAKEN

7,845 NEEDED