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50 Civilian Deaths, Including 13 Children and Six Women, Documented in Syria in September 2024, as well as 10 Deaths due to Torture, One of Them a Child

96 Syrian Refugees Killed in the Israeli
Offensive on Lebanon, Including 36
Children and 19 Women

Tuesday 01 October 2024

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.

Contents:

I. Background and Methodology	1
II. Brief on the Most Notable Killings and Attacks on Vital Facilities in September	3
III. Civilian Death Toll	6
IV. Deaths due to Torture	8
V. Victims Among Medical Personnel	9
VI. Attacks on Vital Civilian Facilities.....	11
VII. The Syrian Regime Has Failed to Register Hundreds of Thousands of the Citizens It Killed Since March 2011 in the Civil Registry's Death Records	13
VIII. What is SNHR Doing About the Extrajudicial Killing Issue?	14
IX. Conclusions and Recommendations	15
Acknowledgment.....	20

I. Background and Methodology

This report documents the civilian deaths and attacks on vital facilities documented by the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) as being perpetrated in Syria by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in September 2024. The report sheds light particularly on those victims who died due to torture, and victims among medical personnel, as well as focusing on documenting the massacres perpetrated by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria that SNHR's team was able to document during this period; it should be noted that we use the term, 'massacre' to refer to an incident in which no fewer than five peaceful individuals were killed. The report also includes a summary of the most notable incidents that took place during this month. Full details of every incident are archived on the SNHR database.

This report catalogues civilian deaths according to the parties actively engaged in the Syrian conflict. In this context, 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 attacks in some incidents of ground-based bombardment, especially those in which the bombardment originates from an area adjacent to the one targeted, which is controlled by a different party to the perpetrator. In such cases, SNHR tries to thoroughly investigate each incident, in order to conclusively identify the party responsible for the bombardment.

Despite these efforts, however, there are cases in which we are unable to definitively assign culpability for a particular killing to one of two possible parties due to the area's proximity to the lines of engagement, the use of similar weapons by different parties, or other reasons. In such cases, the incident is classified under the category 'other parties' until such time as we have gathered sufficient evidence to conclusively assign responsibility for the violation to one of the two parties.

While we at the SNHR are keen to accurately ascribe responsibility for incidents to the relevant parties, we exclude two types of attacks from the process of assigning responsibility, namely anti-personnel landmines, and remote explosions, including suicide or forced suicide attacks. We discussed this issue previously in [detailed reports](#).

As for the anonymous victims whose names we have not yet been able to determine or regarding whom we have so far been unable to find any identifying information or any picture or video footage, these cases are catalogued in a separate archive until any information confirming these victims' identity is received which would enable their cases to be transferred to the victims archive, with their names and other details registered accordingly.

In this report, we record only the death toll of civilians whose deaths we were able to document in the past month. 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, namely the date when we were able to document the victim's death, and the date on which we believe the death occurred. The report also sheds light on attacks on civilian objects that SNHR was able to document during August September 2024.

This report draws upon the SNHR team's constant daily monitoring of news and developments in Syria, and on information supplied by our extensive and varied network of sources across the country, which has been built up over the course of our work since 2011. The SNHR also provides [a special form](#) that can be completed by victims' relatives with victims' names and personal information so that our Victims Documentation Department can follow up on the information provided, verify its accuracy, and then add it to the database.

Our investigations confirm that all 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. Also, the perpetrators of these attacks failed to issue any warnings to civilians prior to any of the attacks as required by international humanitarian law.

There are many additional steps and challenges to take into account in the process of documenting civilian deaths, which we've detailed [in this file detailing our methodology](#) that can be found at this link. We've opted to shed light on only some aspects of these challenges in order to ensure the report is kept to a manageable length.

The information included in this report only represents the bare minimum of the actual severity and magnitude of the violations documented. Also, it doesn't include any analysis of the profound social, economic, and psychological ramifications of these events.



II. Brief on the Most Notable Killings and Attacks on Vital Facilities in September

A. Killings in Syria and abroad

1. in Syria

In September 2024, we documented the killing of 50 civilians, including 13 children and six women. Below are a number of observations regarding the events that marked this month:

i. Syrian regime forces

In September, regime forces killed 18 civilians, including three children, two women, and one medical worker, accounting for about 36 percent of all the month's civilian deaths. These victims were killed across various Syrian governorates: 11 were killed in Idlib governorate, four in Hama governorate, two in Daraa governorate, and one each in the governorates of Aleppo and Deir Ez-Zour.

- On Monday, September 23, Syrian regime forces used artillery and rocket launchers to fire multiple rockets and shells at Kafrayya village and its outskirts in northern rural Idlib governorate. [The attack killed five civilians](#), including an elderly man and two adult sisters, and injured 13 other people, including six children and three women. The attack hit houses and civilian facilities, including al-Shahba Park. The area was under the control of armed opposition factions and Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) at the time of the incident.
- We also documented nine deaths due to torture, including one child, at the hands of Syrian regime forces. The Syrian regime has been responsible for about 60 percent of all deaths due to torture documented in 2024 to date.

ii. Other parties

In September 2024, we documented the killing of 29 civilians, including 10 children and four women, at the hands of other parties, who were responsible for about 58 percent of all the month's documented civilian deaths; the governorates of Daraa and Aleppo each accounted for about 31 percent of all the victims killed by other parties this month, followed by Deir Ez-Zour governorate with 14 percent.

In September, we documented five civilian deaths, four children and one woman, in explosions of landmines of unidentified source. Adding September's death toll to the rest of the year's total to date, a total of 80 civilians, including 17 children and 16 women, have been killed by landmines since the beginning of 2024.

- On Friday, September 20, [four girls](#), from al-Sfira city in eastern rural Aleppo governorate, were killed, and a fifth one injured, by the explosion of a landmine of unidentified source while they were collecting plastic in an agricultural area on the outskirts of Kabrja village to the south of Manbij city in eastern Aleppo governorate. The area was under the control of Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) at the time of the incident.

In September 2024, gunfire of unidentified source killed 12 civilians, including two children and two women, accounting for about 41 percent of all the victims killed by other parties this month. Eight of the 12 victims were killed in Daraa governorate, while two were killed in each of the governorates of Deir Ez-Zour and Raqqa.

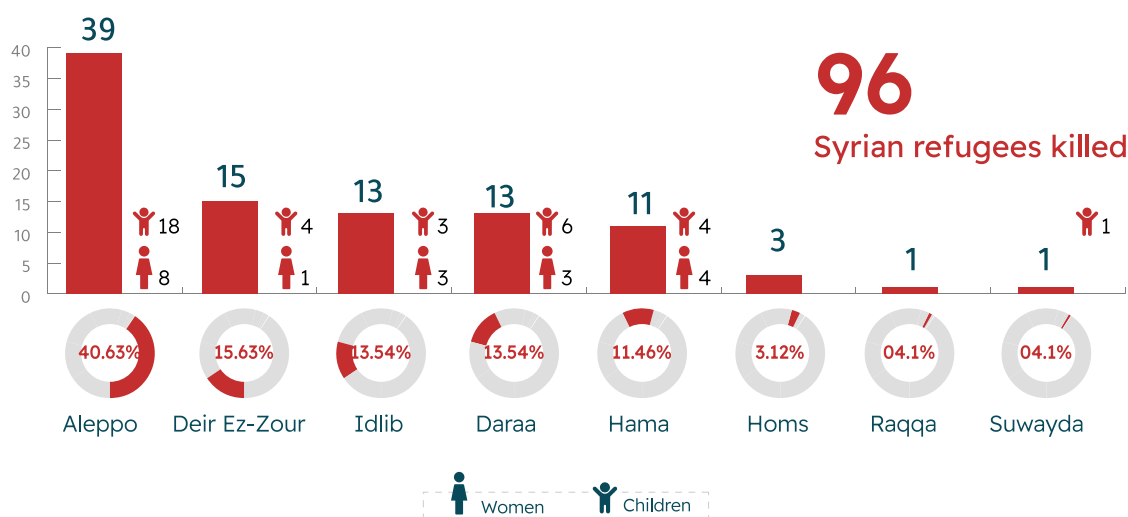
- On Friday, September 13, [Abdul Salam Ahmad al-Nazzal](#), a 68-year-old man who was the head of the farmers' association in his hometown of al-N'eima in eastern Daraa governorate, was shot dead by unidentified gunmen in the town center. The area was under the control of Syrian regime forces at the time of the incident.

In September 2024, bombings by unidentified parties killed five civilians, including one child. On Sunday, September 22, a man, identified as [Ahmad al-Jalli](#) from Kelli village in northern rural Idlib governorate, and his son Tamim were killed by the explosion of a war remnant of unidentified source while Ahmad was trying to disarm the war remnant in his home in the village. Ahmad's wife, identified as Heba al-Jallawi, and his daughter Tayba were injured in the explosion. The house was also heavily damaged. The area was under the control of armed opposition factions and HTS at the time of the incident.

2. In Lebanon

The airstrikes carried out by fixed-wing Israeli warplanes on wide civilian areas in Lebanon have killed hundreds of civilians, including Syrian refugees. According to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), about 1.5 million Syrian refugees have fled the violations taking place in Syria, seeking asylum in Lebanon, since March 2011. As SNHR's database confirms, the overwhelming majority of these violations were carried out by Syrian regime forces and their Iranian and Russian allies.

In the period between September 23, 2024, and September 30, 2024, a total of 96 Syrian refugees, including 36 children and 19 women, were killed in Israeli airstrikes across several areas of Lebanon. These are distributed by governorate of origin as follows:



B. Attacks on vital civilian facilities

In September 2024, SNHR documented no fewer than 10 attacks on vital civilian facilities. Of these 10 attacks, three were on educational facilities (schools), one was on a medical facility, and two were on places of worship. Since the start of 2024 up until the end of September, SNHR has documented 82 attacks on vital civilian facilities by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria.

- On the evening of Monday, September 23, Syrian regime forces used artillery and rocket launchers to fire shells and rockets at Kafrayya village in northern rural Idlib governorate. The shells struck [al-Hekma School](#) in the village's al-Shamali neighborhood, [creating a crater in the schoolyard, while some of the school walls were moderately damaged](#). It should be noted that regime forces launched a ground attack targeting the village and outskirts at 19:05 that evening, using artillery and rocket launchers. On the same day, regime forces bombed the village multiple times in the span of several hours, resulting in casualties, as well as damaging the vital facilities and houses in the village and the surrounding area. The area was under the control of armed opposition factions and the HTS at the time of the attack.

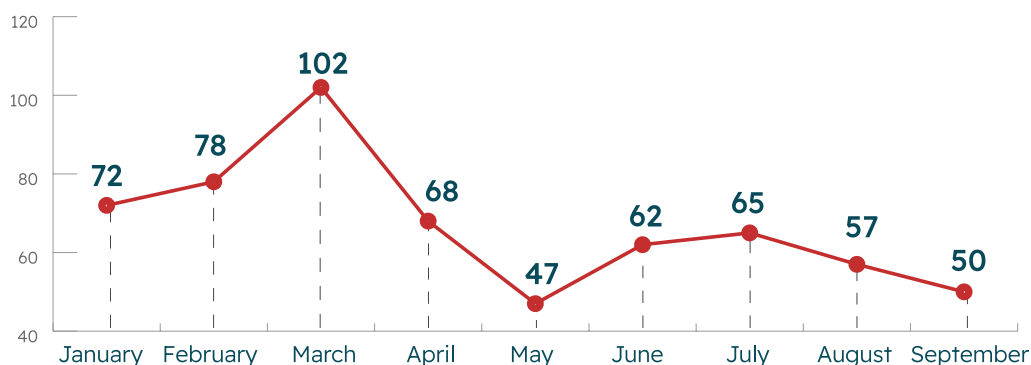


↑  Damage caused by a ground attack by Syrian regime forces on al-Hekma School in Kafrayya village in Idlib – September 23, 2024

III. Civilian Death Toll

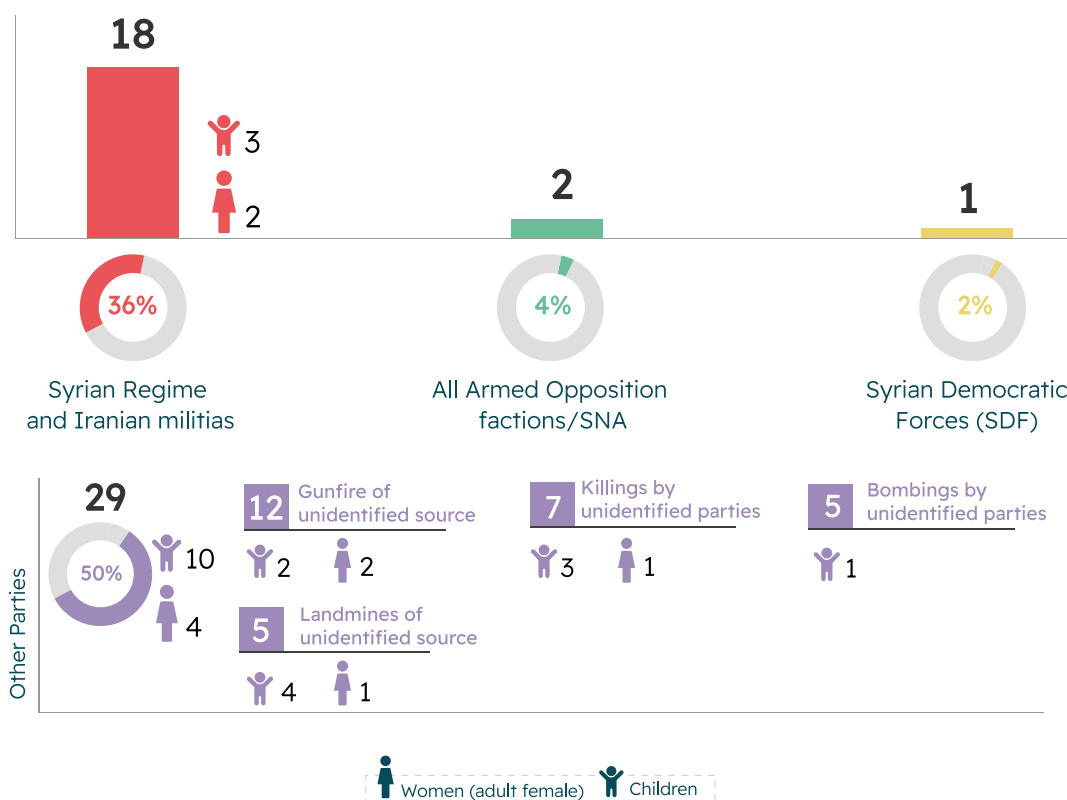
In September 2024, SNHR documented the killing of 50 civilians, including 13 children and six women (adult female) at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria, bringing the total number of civilian deaths since the start of the year, up until the end of September, to 601.

Civilian deaths documented since the beginning of 2024 are distributed by month as follows



As the graph shows, March saw the highest number of civilian deaths in one month so far this year, accounting for about 17 percent. Conversely, May and September saw the lowest documented number of monthly civilian deaths so far this year, with each month accounting for about eight percent of the total, followed by the month of August, which accounted for nine percent of the total.

Civilian deaths documented in September 2024 are distributed according to the parties to the conflict and controlling forces as follows:



A. Main parties:

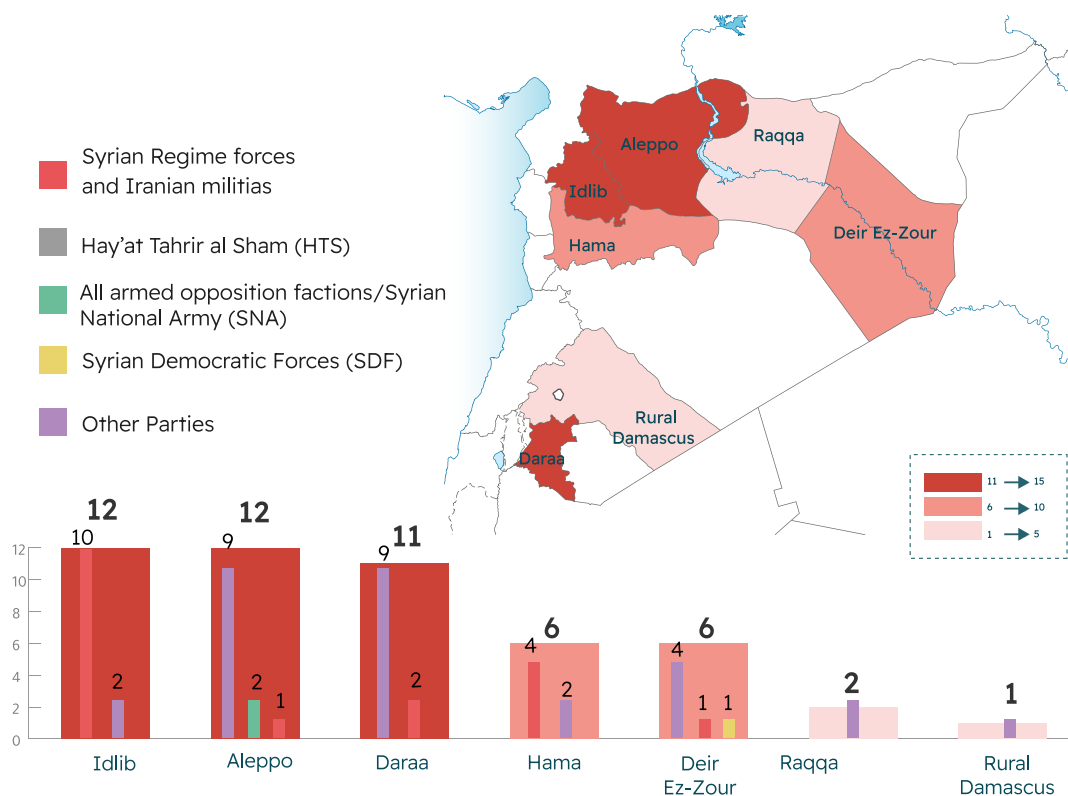
- **Syrian regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias):**
We documented the killing of 18 civilians, including three children and two women, by Syrian regime forces.
- **All armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA):**
We documented the killing of two civilians by all armed opposition factions/SNA.
- **Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF):**
We documented the killing of one civilian by the SDF.

B. Other parties:

We documented the killing of 29 civilians, including 10 children and four women, by other parties, distributed as follows:

- Landmines of unidentified sources: Five civilians - four children and one woman.
- Gunfire of unidentified source: 12 civilians, including two children and two women.
- Bombings by unidentified parties: Five civilians, including one child.
- Killings by unidentified parties: Seven civilians, including three children and one woman.

Civilian deaths documented in September 2024 at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:

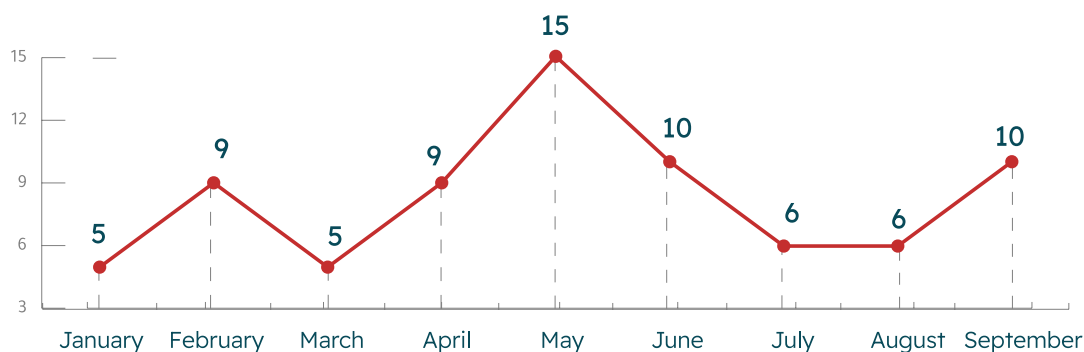


As the graph shows, the two governorates of Idlib and Aleppo accounted for 24 percent of all civilian deaths in September, with regime forces killing 11 victims in the two governorates in total. Aleppo and Idlib were followed by Daraa, which accounted for about 22 percent of the total, with nine civilian victims there being killed by other parties.

IV. Deaths due to Torture

In September 2024, SNHR documented 10 deaths due to torture, including one child, at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria. This brings the total number of victims documented as dying due to torture since the beginning of 2024, up until the end of September, to 75.

Deaths due to torture by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria that were documented in 2024 so far are distributed by month as follows:



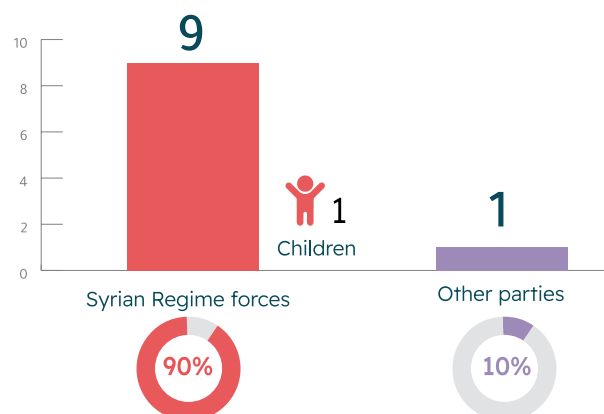
Syrian regime forces have been responsible for about 60 percent of all deaths due to torture recorded to date in 2024. In other words, more than half of all victims who died due to torture in 2024 have died at the hands of regime forces. The month of May has seen the highest documented monthly number of deaths due to torture to date in 2024, accounting for about 20 percent of the total so far this year.

Deaths due to torture by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria that we documented in September 2024 are distributed as follows:

A. Main parties:

- Syrian regime forces: Nine individuals, including one child.

B. Other parties: One individual.



Below are the most notable cases:

[Abdul Ghany Mustafa Munir](#), an architect born in 1991 from Aleppo city, was arrested on Saturday, August 17, 2024, by Syrian regime forces in Tadeef city in eastern rural Aleppo governorate as he was trying to cross into the areas under regime forces' control in Aleppo city. He was taken to a detention center in Aleppo city.



↑  Abdul Ghany Mustafa Munir

According to intelligence received by SNHR from people close to the victim, Abdul Ghany was a refugee in Türkiye where he worked on construction. He was forcibly repatriated to northwestern Syria in April 2024. During his stay in Izaz city in Aleppo governorate, a city that is under the control of the SNA, Abdul Ghany's family made the arrangements to settle his security situation with the regime and paid the required fees to relieve him from mandatory military service. Nonetheless, Abdul Ghany was arrested by regime forces on his way back to Aleppo city. He has been classified as a forcibly disappeared person ever since.

On Tuesday, September 10, 2024, Abdul Ghany's family received a notice from regime forces that Abdul Ghany had died inside the Syrian regime's Military Security Intelligence branch in Aleppo city. His body was returned to the family on the next day with signs of torture on the body. SNHR can confirm that Abdul Ghany was in good health at the time of his arrest, indicating a strong probability that he died due to torture and medical negligence inside the Military Security Intelligence in Aleppo city.

V. Victims Among Medical Personnel

In September 2024, we documented the killing of one medical worker at the hands of Syrian regime forces.

- On Friday, September 20, Zakariya Hekmet al-Akhan, a specialist nurse who was the head nurse at al-Hekma Specialist Hospital for Ophthalmology, was killed in an artillery attack by regime forces who fired multiple shells targeting Taftanaz city in northern rural Idlib governorate. The shells struck a public street and residential houses, partially destroying a number of houses at the targeted position. The city was under the control of armed opposition factions and HTS at the time of the attack.



Zakariya Hekmet al-Akhan, a nurse

Massacres from the History of the Popular Uprising for Democracy in Syria

In this month: September

- ▶ On Thursday, September 11, 2014, fixed-wing Syrian regime warplanes carried out four airstrikes, in which a number of missiles were fired at the Masjid Hasiba neighborhood in Douma city center. The attack **killed 58 people**, including 22 children and 10 women, and injured at least 175 others.
- ▶ On Saturday, September 10, 2016, fixed-wing warplanes believed to be Russian fired missiles at an area near the Educational Complex in Western Idlib city, which is in the vegetable market section of the city's main market, **killing 64 people**, including 16 children and 15 women, and injuring 60 others. The area was under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al-Sham Front at the time of the attack.

On Wednesday, September 20, 2017, at around 16:15, fixed-wing warplanes affiliated with the Syrian-Russian alliance fired missiles at the main market in the center of [Qal'at al Madiq](#) town in northwestern rural Hama governorate, **killing 11 people**, including four children and three women. The town was under the control of armed opposition factions at the time of the attack.

SNHR spoke with Hussein Kanaj, a media worker based in Qal'at al Madiq town, via WhatsApp on the day after the massacre. He gave us his account:

“ The destruction at the bomb site was horrifying. The search for survivors and dead bodies was underway. One of the surviving children was bleeding and running around screaming: ‘Mommy, I want my Mommy!’ Why did they bomb the market where there are only civilians!? The market is not a military position that can be bombed. ”



VI. Attacks on Vital Civilian Facilities

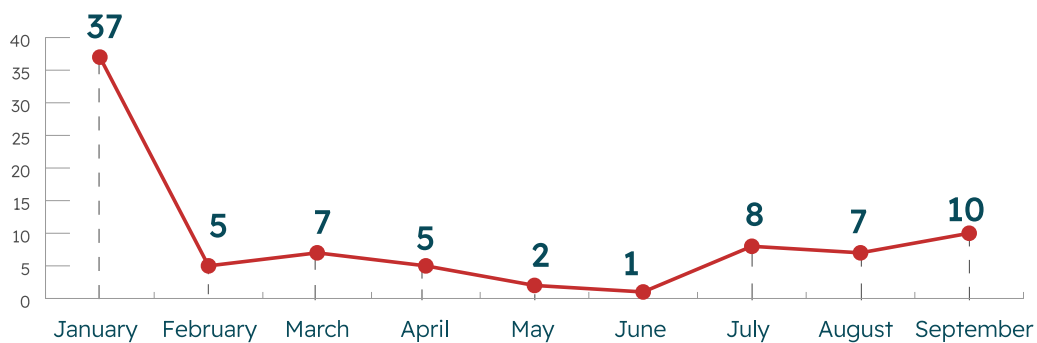
In September 2024, SNHR documented no fewer than 10 attacks on vital civilian facilities, including nine attacks by regime forces, most of which were carried out in Idlib governorate.

Of the 10 attacks documented by SNHR, three targeted educational facilities (schools), one targeted a medical facility, and two targeted a place of worship.

The attacks on vital civilian facilities documented in September 2024 were distributed according to the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria as follows:

- Syrian regime forces: Nine attacks.
- All armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA): One attack.

Since the start of 2024 up until the end of September, 82 attacks on vital civilian facilities by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria have been documented. These are distributed by month as follows:



As the chart shows, the attacks on vital civilian facilities that were carried out in September (10 attacks) accounted for about 13 percent of all attacks documented this year to date. In other words, September saw the second highest number of attacks on vital civilian facilities in one month this year to date. In September, we documented nine attacks on vital civilian facilities by regime forces, out of a total of 10, with eight attacks in Idlib governorate and one in Aleppo.

Below are the most notable attacks documented in September

On Monday, September 2, at around 09:30 local time, Syrian regime forces used a kamikaze drone to target [Kafr Nouran village](#) in western rural Aleppo governorate. The drone struck the popular market in the center of the village, [injuring approximately 12 civilians](#), with one of the injured dying of his injuries eight days later (on September 10, 2024), [while a number of shops and market facilities were heavily damaged](#). It should be noted that Syrian regime forces targeted the village using three drones on the same day at 06:00, where one civilian was injured, and a number of houses were damaged. The area was under the control of armed opposition factions and the HTS at the time of the attack.



↑ 👁 Damage following a drone attack by Syrian regime forces on the popular market in Kafr Nouran village in Aleppo - September 2, 2024

On Tuesday, September 3, Syrian regime artillery forces fired a shell at al-Haj Akid al-Aswad Mosque in [Ma'aret al-Na'san village](#) in northern rural Idlib governorate, [partially destroying its building, and moderately damaging the interior furnishing](#). The village was under the control of armed opposition factions and the HTS at time of the incident.

On Sunday, September 15, 2024, Syrian regime artillery forces fired a shell at [Hussein Haj Abboud Elementary School](#) in Sarmin city in eastern rural Idlib governorate, [partially destroying a number of classrooms, and moderately damaging the interior furnishing](#). The city was under the control of armed opposition factions and the HTS at time of the incident.



Destruction in Hussein Haj Abboud Elementary School in Sarmin city in Idlib caused by a ground attack by Syrian regime forces - September 15, 2024

VII. The Syrian Regime Has Failed to Register Hundreds of Thousands of the Citizens It Killed Since March 2011 in the Civil Registry's Death Records

Although hundreds of thousands of Syrian citizens have been killed, 'disappeared' or gone missing since the early days of the popular uprising in March 2011, they have not been officially registered as dead by the relevant official state authority, namely the Civil Registry Department. The Syrian regime unconscionably controls the issuance of death certificates, which are not made available to victims' families or the families of the missing and forcibly disappeared, whether the victims were killed at the hands of the Syrian regime or by other parties. In fact, the regime only allows death certificates to be issued for those who meet the narrow criteria set by the regime itself and its security services. In many previous reports, we have discussed the phenomenon of the regime's forcing victims' families to sign false statements written by the security authorities beforehand, which state falsely that 'armed terrorist gangs', rather than the regime, killed their loved ones, and which the families must sign if they wish to obtain death certificates. The Syrian regime has not only failed to launch any investigations into the causes of death for hundreds of thousands of Syrians but has also failed to hold to account even one member of its security or military forces for their involvement in these killings.

In order for deceased victims' family members to obtain death certificates, the Syrian regime requires three things:

- Medical reports prepared by regime personnel, citing a false cause of death, such as a heart attack for those forcibly disappeared in its detention centers, or claiming falsely that the victim died as a result of injuries from war munitions.
- Statements from the local neighborhood headman or 'Mukhtar' and any witnesses, who are asked to confirm the death.
- Acknowledgement from the victims' families, who often urgently need to obtain a death certificate; for this reason, family members understandably feel they have no choice but to remain silent about the true cause of their loved ones' deaths and the identity of those responsible for them.

Through our exhaustive monitoring and investigation process, we have been able to document three methods used by the Syrian regime to register the deaths of a limited number of its victims who were killed, or forcibly disappeared then subsequently killed, which we detailed in a report we issued on August 19, 2022, entitled 'The Syrian Regime, Through Its Security Services and State Institutions, Controls the Incidents of Registering the Deaths of Victims Killed/'Disappeared' in the Armed Conflict Since March 2011'.

It should be noted that the vast majority of victims' families are unable to obtain death certificates for their loved ones from the Syrian regime, for fear of linking their names with that of a person who was detained by the regime and killed under torture, which implies that their deceased family member had been a dissident who had opposed the Syrian regime, or had been registered as a 'terrorist' if he or she had been wanted by the security services. Additionally, many victims' families have been forcibly displaced outside the areas controlled by the Syrian regime.

On August 10, 2022, the Syrian regime government's Minister of Justice issued [Circular No. 22](#) specifying the procedures for the conduct of proceedings related to registering deaths at Sharia courts. The circular included new conditions stipulating that five items of evidence must be submitted to and approved by the relevant judges in proceedings related to registering a death. It also requires that all relevant courts involved in death registration cases comply with the circular's content. The circular also gave security clearance to judicial authorities empowering them to register deaths, and thereby increasing the security services' intrusion into this process. We issued [a report](#) in which we analyzed the constitutional and legal violations contained in this circular's text and the consequences thereof.

VIII. What is SNHR Doing About the Extrajudicial Killing Issue?

Since 2011, SNHR has been developing complex programs to archive and categorize the victims' data, which our team collects and verifies, enabling us to catalogue the victims according to their gender, age, the date and place of death, the method of killing and type of weapon used, and the perpetrator party, and to make comparisons between these parties. We can also distribute the death toll according to the governorate in which each death occurred, and the one from which the victim originated, in order to show the extent of the losses suffered by the people of each governorate, enabling us to accurately ascertain the rates of violence documented in relation to each violation. SNHR's Victim Documentation Department team constantly updates the network's 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 with the documentation of incidents involving the killing of children and women; there is hardly any statistic recorded on our database that does not include victims in either category and usually in both, 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 categories which have played a key role in the popular uprising and later in the armed conflict, such as media, medical, and humanitarian aid personnel, and Civil Defense rescue workers.

For nearly 13 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.

We have also turned the victims' database into a map and interactive charts accessible on our website, which categorize the victims according to governorate, gender, age group, the party responsible for their deaths, and other criteria. We also provide charts detailing the death toll of victims killed at the hands of all parties to the conflict, as well as others giving information on specific groups, such as specifically detailing the death toll among women and children victims, with all of these being updated regularly.

SNHR also periodically submits special forms to the United Nations [Special Rapporteur](#) on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, as well as to the Special Rapporteur on torture, submitting cases of killings in which we were able to document all of the available data, having obtained the consent of each victim's family members before submitting these.

It should be noted that the United Nations has relied on SNHR 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 on Syria. SNHR has also signed a [Memorandum of Understanding with Humanitarian Outcomes on contributing to its Aid Worker Security Database \(AWSD\)](#) project, which stipulated the establishment of a joint coordination and cooperation mechanism aimed at documenting and archiving violations and violence affecting aid workers. SNHR has also partnered with numerous United Nations bodies, in addition to various states' governments, to provide them with statistics from our databases, in order to serve the justice process, and ultimately to ensure the accountability and prosecution of criminals. SNHR is also used as a trustworthy source by numerous regional and international news agencies and many international human rights organizations.

IX. Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions

- The evidence we have collected regarding incidents involving deaths indicates that 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 the Syrians killed died as a result of landmine explosions, with none of the perpetrator forces involved in the Syrian conflict issuing maps revealing the locations where landmines have been planted. This indicates a chilling total indifference by all parties to the lives of civilians, particularly children.
- 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 resolutions 2139 and 2042 on the release of detainees, as well as resolution 2254, all without any accountability.
- The indiscriminate and disproportionate bombardment carried out by the SDF is a clear violation of international humanitarian law, with the crimes of indiscriminate killing amounting to war crimes.
- 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 Geneva IV Convention on Civilians of 1949, Articles 27, 31, and 32.
- We have 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.

- We have documented no warnings being given by Syrian regime forces, Russian forces, or US-led International Coalition forces before carrying out any of their attacks, as required by international humanitarian law. This has been the case since the beginning of the popular uprising in Syria, showing an utter disregard for the lives of civilians in Syria.
- It is clear from the volume of violations, their repeated nature, and the excessive level of force used, as well as the indiscriminate manner of the bombardment and the coordinated nature of the regime's attacks, that they must be the result of orders from the higher echelons of power, carried out in accordance with a state policy.
- All armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army forces have violated Security Council resolution 2139 through attacks that constitute violations of customary international humanitarian law, resulting in collateral civilian deaths and injuries.

Recommendations

UN Security Council

- The Security Council should take additional steps following the adoption of Resolution 2254, which clearly demands that all parties should, *"...Immediately cease any attacks against civilians and civilian objects as such, including attacks against medical facilities and personnel, and any indiscriminate use of weapons, including through shelling and aerial bombardment."*
- The Syrian issue should be referred to the International Criminal Court and all those involved in perpetrating crimes against humanity and war crimes should be held accountable.
- Members of the UN Security Council must stop using their veto to protect the Syrian regime, which has committed hundreds of thousands of violations over the past ten years, many of which constitute crimes against humanity and war crimes.
- Establish security and peace in Syria by implementing the 'Responsibility to Protect' norm (R2P) in order to protect Syrians' lives, heritage, and cultural artifacts from being destroyed, looted, and ruined.
- Request that all relevant United Nations agencies make greater efforts to provide humanitarian and food aid and medical assistance in areas where the fighting has ceased, and in internally displaced persons' camps, and follow up with those states that have pledged the necessary contributions.
- Seriously work to achieve a political transition under the Geneva Communiqué and Security Council Resolution No. 2254, to ensure the stability and territorial integrity of Syria, and enable the dignified and safe return of refugees and IDPs.
- Allocate a significant amount of money for clearing mines left over by the Syrian conflict from the United Nations Mine Action Service, particularly in areas prepared to carry out this task with transparency and integrity.

International Community

- In light of the split within the UN Security Council and its utter incapability, action should be taken at the national and regional levels to form alliances to support the Syrian people and increase support for relief efforts. Additionally, the principle of universal jurisdiction should be applied in local courts regarding these crimes in order to conduct fair trials for all those involved.
- SNHR has repeatedly called for the implementation of the 'Responsibility to Protect' doctrine (R2P) 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 were exhausted, with the Cessation of Hostilities statements and Astana talks that followed proving equally fruitless. Therefore, steps should be taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations and the norm of the 'Responsibility to Protect' doctrine, which was established by the United Nations General Assembly, should be implemented. The UN Security Council is still hindering the protection of civilians in Syria.
- Refer the situation in Syria to the International Criminal Court, or quickly establish a tribunal dedicated to trying crimes against humanity and war crimes to end the cycle of impunity that has now continued for 13 years in Syria.
- 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.
- Support the political transition process and impose pressure to compel the parties to implement the political transition within a period of no more than six months so that most of the violations end and millions of displaced people can safely return to their homes without fear.
- Prevent and end any forcible return of Syrian refugees, since the situation in Syria continues to be extremely unsafe, and put pressure on the Syrian regime to achieve a political transition that would ensure the automatic return of millions of refugees.

UN Office of the 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 violations mentioned in this report and previous reports and should shed greater light on the issue of the continuing killing in Syria.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry (COI)

- Launch extensive 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 its next report.
- Work on identifying the responsibility of individuals within the Syrian regime who are involved in crimes against humanity and war crimes, publish their names to expose them to international public condemnation, and end all dealings with them at every political and economic level.

International, Impartial, and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)

- Collect further evidence about the crimes documented in this report, and facilitate an exchange of experience and expertise with Syrian organizations working in the field of documentation, data collection and analysis.

The United Nations Special Envoy for Syria

- Condemn the perpetrators of these crimes and of the 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, empowering the Constitutional Committee prior to the transitional governing body.
- Call for rapid implementation of democratic political change that restores victims' rights and embodies the principles of transitional justice.
- There is no sense in pursuing any political process in light of the continued bombing of hospitals and theft of UN aid, and the pursuit of a zero-security military solution by the Syrian regime and its allies, and the UN Envoy must acknowledge this.
- Clearly assign responsibility to the parties responsible for the death of the political process, and disclose to the Syrian people the timing of the end of the political transition process.

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 tens 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.

Russian regime

- Completely cease the bombing of hospitals, protected objects, and civilian areas, and respect customary international law.
- Compensate, reconstruct, and rehabilitate the facilities that have been damaged, and compensate the families of those who have been killed and injured, by the current Russian regime.
- 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 International Coalition and SDF)

- The states supporting the SDF should suspend 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 one of the responsibilities 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 has planted landmines, especially in 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.
- Launch investigations into the human rights violations that have taken place, hold those responsible accountable, make the findings of these investigations public for the Syrian people, and take punitive measures against those personnel responsible for 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, particularly widows and orphans.
- Exert efforts towards carrying out landmine clearance operations in parallel with relief operations whenever the opportunity arises.
- Clearly mark protected facilities and equipment, such as medical facilities, schools, and ambulances, with identifiable symbols that can be seen and distinguished from afar.
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No justice without accountability

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