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MONTHLY REPORT **for Victims of Extrajudicial Killing in Syria**

**The Death of 157 Civilian Including
20 Children and 11 Women, and One
Death due to Torture Recorded
in May 2025**

Sunday 01 June 2025

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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 outlines the victims documented by the **Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR)** as having been killed by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in **May 2025**. The report focuses particularly on deaths due to torture, victims among medical personnel, media workers, and Civil Defense personnel, and the massacres committed during the period covered by this report. Furthermore, the report outlines the most notable incidents. SNHR stores the full details of these incidents on its database. It also includes the documented attacks on civilian vital facilities during the month.

The fatalities recorded in this report are limited to civilian deaths documented in the preceding month. Some of these deaths may have taken place months or years before and only have been formally confirmed or documented during the past month, in which case we list the date on which the death was officially documented, as well as the estimated date of death.

We have taken into consideration the major changes in Syria with the downfall of the Assad regime on December 8, 2024. However, we are still recording civilian deaths at the hands of pro-Assad forces in various forms, despite the ousting of the Assad regime. These forms include:

- Pro-Assad militias killing civilians or Syrian security personnel.
- Explosion of cluster bomblets left from past attacks carried out by Russian forces or Assad regime forces.
- Citizens injured in attacks by Assad regime forces and died later from their injuries.

This report catalogues the civilian deaths according to the parties responsible. In some cases, this may require additional time to properly investigate, especially in cases of joint attacks. To address this, our teams continue investigations until accurately identifying the perpetrators. In the event that identifying the perpetrator was found to be not possible, however, we catalogue such incidents under other parties until new evidence comes to light.

While we, at SNHR, are keen to assign culpability to the parties responsible, two types of cases are excluded: anti-personnel landmines (APLs) and remote bombings, with the latter including suicide or forced bombings. We have explained our reasoning behind this in detail in separate reports.

As for anonymous victims, that is, victims whom we have not been able to identify or obtain any information indicating their identity, we store these cases in a separate archive until we can obtain new information.

SNHR also documents deaths from drowning during irregular migration attempts, since the group views those attempts as a result of the overall conditions in Syria being worsened by the conflict and violations. Additionally, SNHR monitors munition-related incidents and unexploded ordnances (UXO) incidents, particularly those involving children. Similarly, such incidents underline the unregulated security situation and poor management of the weapon circulation issue, but are not considered violations committed by a party to the conflict .

This report draws upon the continuous monitoring of news and developments carried out by SNHR, and through an extensive network that includes dozens of resources that SNHR has fostered since 2011. In this regard, SNHR has created [a special form](#) that can be filled out with the names and information of victims, so our victim documentation team can follow up and verify these information before adding them to our database.

All of the attacks included in this report have targeted civilian areas. We recorded no military presence in the attack sites. Civilians have also not been alerted prior to the attack by the aggressor forces as required by international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

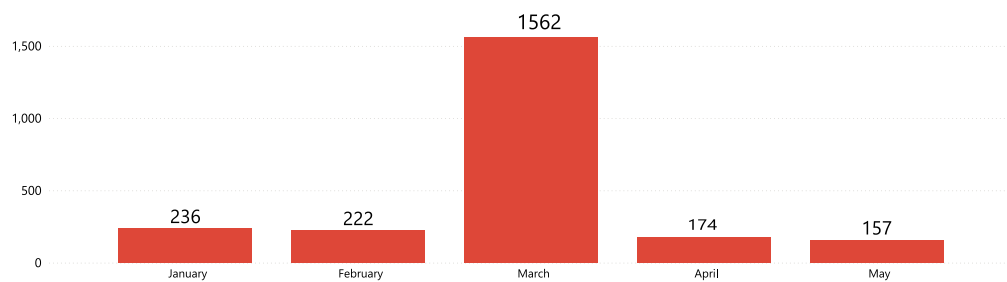
In the end, it is important to note that this report only covers the bare minimum of the volume and magnitude of the violations that occurred, which SNHR was able to document. It also does not cover the social, economic, and psychological of these violations.

II. EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS

A. Extrajudicial killing since the start of 2025

Since the start of 2025 up until the end of May 2025, SNHR has documented the killing of 2,351 individuals at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria.

Civilian victims killed by the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria since the start of 2025 are distributed as follows

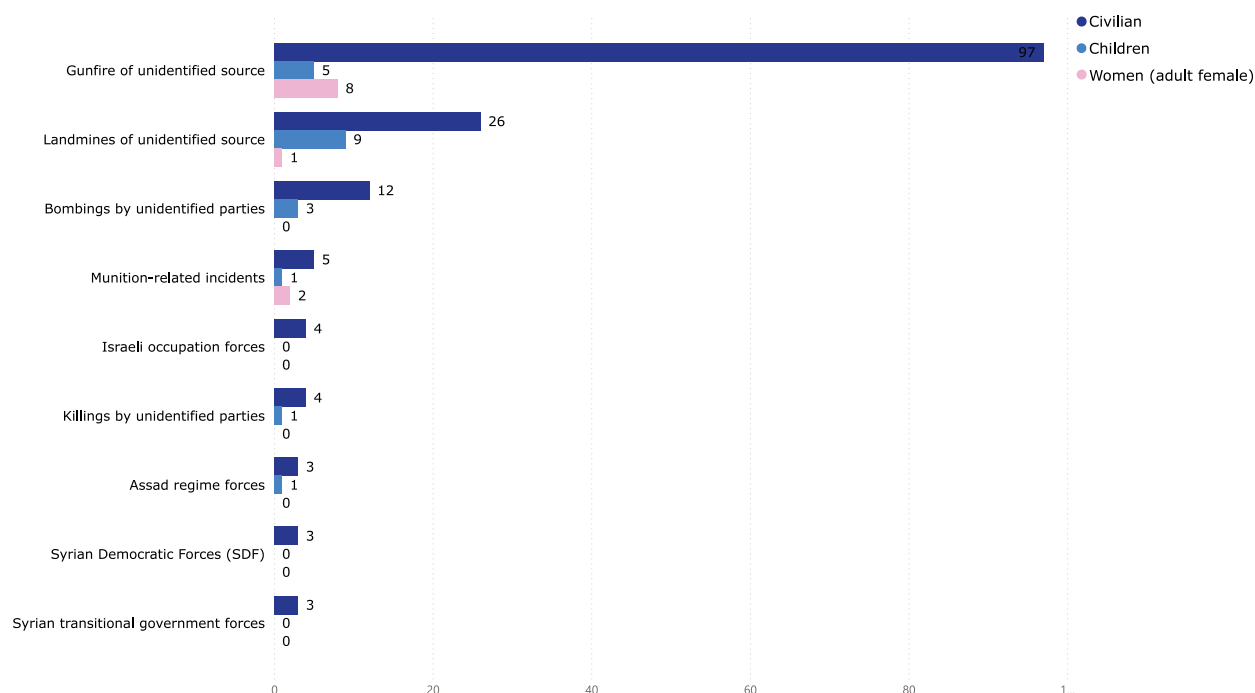


As shown on the graph, March saw the highest number of civilian victims since the start of the year, with 1,562 victims, which accounted for about 66 percent of all victims killed in 2025. These victims were killed on the backdrop of the military situation in the Syrian Coast. March was followed by January which accounted for 10 percent, and then February with 9 percent. May, on the other hand, recorded the lowest monthly death toll so far this year.

B. Extrajudicial killings in April 2025

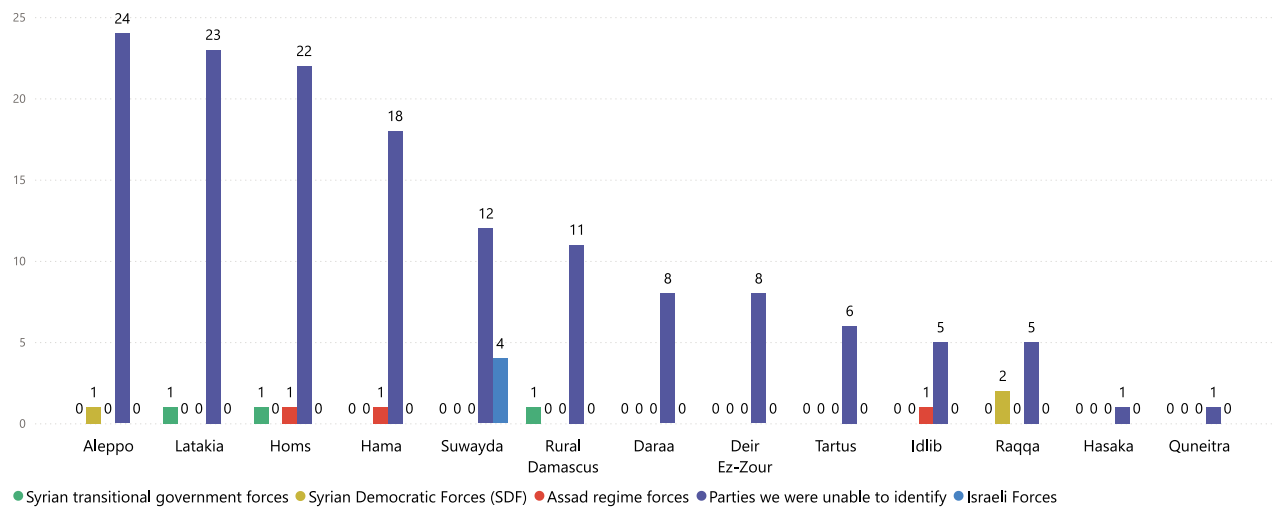
In April 2025, SNHR documented the killing of 157 civilians, including 20 children and 11 women (adult female), at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria. Among the victims were also three civil defense members, and one victim who died due to torture.

Deaths documented in May 2025 are distributed according to the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria as follows:



- **Syrian transitional government forces:**
We documented the killing of three civilians by Syrian transitional government forces.
- **Assad regime forces**
We documented the killing of three civilians by Assad regime forces, one of them a child.
- **Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF):**
We documented the killing of three civilians by the SDF.
- **Landmines of unidentified sources:** 26 civilians, including nine children and one woman.
- **Gunfire of unidentified source:** 97 civilians, including five children and eight women.
- **Bombings by unidentified parties:** 12 civilians, including three children.
- **Killings by unidentified parties:** four civilians, including one child.
- **Munitions-related incidents:** five civilians, including one child and two women.
- **Israeli forces:** four civilians.

Deaths at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria that were documented in May 2025 are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:



As the chart shows, Aleppo, Latakia, and Homs governorates saw the highest number of civilian deaths documented in May, accounting for 15 percent of the total, followed by Hama governorate with about 12 percent. Most of those victims were killed by unidentified parties.

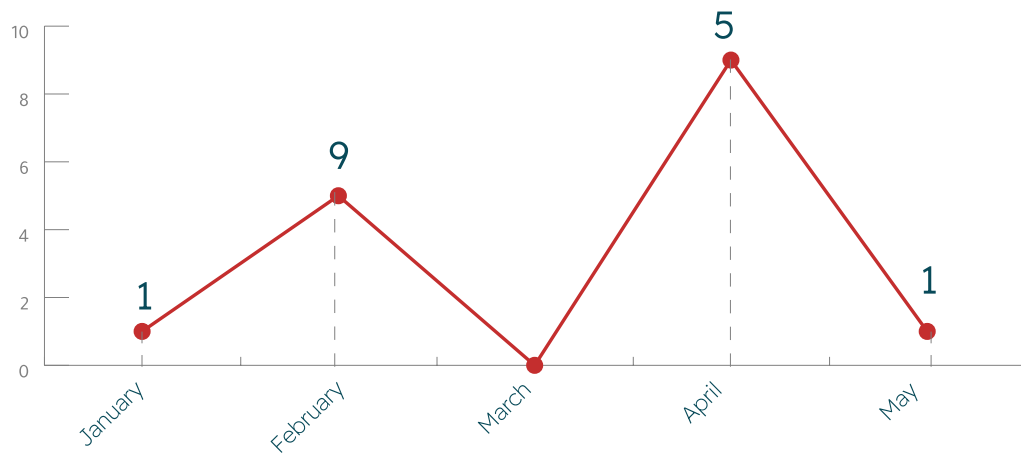
C. Massacres

In May 2025, SNHR documented two massacres, one of which was by gunshots from unidentified gunmen, while the other was due to bombings by unidentified parties.

D. Deaths due to torture

In May 2025, SNHR documented one death due to torture at the hands of the controlling forces, bringing the total of deaths due to torture recorded since the start of 2025 up until the end of May 2025 to 16 deaths due to torture.

Deaths due to torture recorded at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces in Syria since the start of the year is distributed as follows:



The Syrian transitional government forces have been responsible for about 56% percent of all deaths due to torture recorded so far in 2025. February recorded the highest number of deaths due to torture in one month, accounting for 56# percent of the total.

Deaths due to torture recorded in May at the hands of the parties to the conflict and controlling forces are distributed as follows:

- Bashar al Assad Regime forces: One death due to torture.

E. Victims among media personnel

In May 2025, one media worker was killed by gunfire of unidentified source.

F. Victims among civil defense personnel

In May 2025, three civil defense members were killed due to the explosion of a landmine.

III. BRIEF ON THE MOST NOTABLE KILLINGS IN MAY 2025

The killings documented in May 2025 underlines the security and human rights challenges confronting Syria in the course of its transitional phase. To that end, these killings expose the fragile security structure in some areas, particularly with the emergence of non-state armed groups, as well as the effects of the prolonged conflict on civilians. The extrajudicial killings recorded in May marked a number of patterns as follows:

A. the security escalation in areas of Rif Dimashq and Suwayda governorates:

Between April 29 and May 4, 2025, several areas in the Damascus countryside and As-Suwayda governorates witnessed a large-scale security escalation, represented by the outbreak of violent armed clashes and attacks targeting civilian neighborhoods, security checkpoints, and main roads. These events were concentrated in cities and towns such as Jaramana, Ashrafiyah Sahnaya, and Sahnaya in Rif Dimashq, and a number of villages in Suwayda governorate, and resulted in the killing and wounding of dozens of civilians and military personnel.

The Syrian Network for Human Rights documented the deaths of at least 111 people, including civilians, security personnel, and local militants. Only civilian casualties are included in the monthly report on civilian casualties, while investigations into the remaining killings and their circumstances are ongoing, including the extent of involvement of official or local parties. A separate detailed report covering the incidents documented in these areas is being prepared.

On Friday, May 2, 2025, Majid Hamza, a civilian nicknamed Abu Safi, from the town of Rasas in the southern countryside of Suwayda Governorate, died of serious injuries he sustained as a result of mortar shelling that targeted the town two days earlier.

B. Assad Regime forces:

The Syrian Network for Human Rights continues to document the continued fall of civilian casualties in Syria at the hands of Assad regime forces. Field data indicates that the majority of these cases are not the result of direct violence or military confrontations, but rather the cumulative effects of violations committed by the Syrian regime over the years of conflict. These violations have left a lasting threat to the lives of civilians. The most prominent causes of these deaths were unexploded cluster munitions and the collapse of damaged buildings. The deterioration of the infrastructure, as a result of the repeated targeting of residential neighborhoods by the forces of the former regime, led to the collapse of a number of buildings that had not undergone any restoration work or safety assessment, resulting in injuries and deaths among civilians returning to their areas.

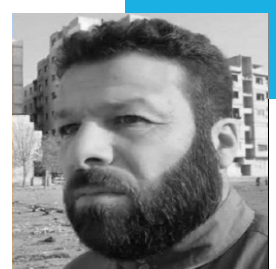
On Friday, May 2, 2025, [Ahmad Radwan al-Jaru](#), a child from the village of Suha in the eastern Hama countryside, was killed by the explosion of a cluster munition left over from a previous bombing by the Assad regime and Russian forces. He was near his home in the village, which is under the control of the transitional government.

SNHR asserts that these incidents are a direct extension of the Assad regime's policies of indiscriminate bombing and widespread use of internationally prohibited weapons, which have transformed many areas into unsafe environments for civilians even after the fighting has ceased.

C. Syrian Democratic Forces

Even though the SDF signed agreements to protect civilians and adhere to international humanitarian law, we recorded the killing of a number of civilians, including children, at the hands of the group in May. These victims were killed by shooting.

On Saturday, May 24, 2025, Abdul Aziz Briho Al-Assaf, from the village of Qawas in the countryside of Al-Khafsia district in the eastern countryside of Aleppo Governorate, was killed by bullets fired by members of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), while attempting to arrest him from his home in the village. It is worth noting that the area is under the control of the SDF.



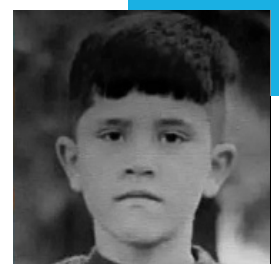
↑ ⓘ Abdul Aziz Briho Al-Assaf

D. Landmine explosions

Landmines, which have been planted over the years during the conflict, are still claiming civilian lives to this day across Syria. Since the start of 2025 and up till the end of May, a total of **212 civilians**, including 33 children and ten women, have been killed by the explosion of landmines since the start of 2025. Deaths resulting from landmines explosions that took place in April can be broken down into two subcategories:

1. **Victims who were killed while disarming landmines:** seven civilians.
2. **Victims who were killed in landmine explosions:** 19 civilians, including nine children and one woman.

On Monday, May 5, 2025, 8-year-old [Izzat Radwan Brimo](#), from the village of Ahras in the northern countryside of Aleppo Governorate, was killed by a landmine explosion while herding sheep in the area between the villages of Ahras and Harbal. It should be noted that the area was under the control of the transitional government at the time of the incident.



↑ ⓘ Izzat Radwan Brimo

On Saturday, May 24, 2025, [Ahmed Haj Ramadan and Ahmed Suleiman Al-Dakkak](#), members of the engineering battalion responsible for demining under the Ministry of Defense of the transitional government, were killed while attempting to defuse a landmine near the city of Al-Dumayr, east of Rif Dimashq Governorate. The attack resulted in their immediate death and the injury of another member.

E. Bombings by unidentified source

Explosions have been recorded in populated areas, some of which were caused by unexploded ordnance or unexploded missiles. We have also recorded a massacre resulting from a car bomb. The most notable of these cases are:

On Sunday, May 18, 2025, at approximately 19:13 local time, a car bomb exploded near Al-Mayadin prison, on Al-Corniche Street on the outskirts of Al-Mayadin city in the eastern countryside of Deir ez-Zor Governorate. The explosion [killed five people](#): a civilian and **four** members of the General Security Service of the Ministry of Interior of the Transitional Government. **Two** civilians, including a child, were injured, along with extensive material damage in the area. It should be noted that the area where the explosion occurred is under the control of **the Transitional Government**.

On Thursday, May 22, 2025, **three** members of the Syrian Civil Defense (White Helmets) explosive remnants of war clearance team—[Mamoun Al-Omar, Jalal Tako, and Shaaban Shushan](#)—were killed by a remotely controlled explosive device while they were carrying out a mission to remove a suspicious object recently planted on a railway near the village of **Karah** in the northeastern Hama countryside. The area is under the control of the Syrian transitional government.

F. Gunfire of unidentified source and stray bullets

SNHR has documented **dozens of civilian deaths** caused by gunfire of unidentified source. These cases include direct targeting and those killed by stray bullets fired in celebration or domestic conflicts. This phenomenon exposes the poor security oversight, particularly in the areas that saw recent changes in control. The toll of victims distributed as follows:

- **Gunshots by unidentified parties:** 92 civilians, including three children and six women.
- **Random/celebratory gunshots:** Five civilians, including two women and two children.

On the evening of Saturday, May 10, 2025, [four civilians](#), including a child, were killed in two simultaneous shooting incidents carried out by unidentified gunmen in two nearby locations within a military zone adjacent to the village of Zama, in the Jableh district of rural Latakia province. The area is under the control of the Syrian transitional government, and the identity of the perpetrators remains unknown at the time of publication.

We also documented a massacre in May by gunmen:

On Monday, May 26, 2025, [five civilians, including a woman](#), were killed and three others, including a child, were wounded with varying degrees of severity. All were residents of the village of Al-Kindisiyya in the Latakia countryside. They were shot while in an agricultural field in the nearby village of Jur al-Maa by gunmen believed to be members of the Bedouin tribe. The area is under the control of the transitional government.

G. Israeli forces

Israeli forces carried out an airstrike targeting a farm containing ammunition near the village of Kanaker in the western countryside of Suwayda on Friday, May 2, 2025, **killing four civilians** and almost completely destroying the farm.

The Syrian Network for Human Rights issued a [statement](#) condemning the Israeli attacks that targeted various areas in Syria and caused civilian casualties.

I. Deaths due to individual mishandling of weapons

Five deaths were recorded, including one child and two women, as a result of the misuse of weapons. On Saturday, May 17, 2025, five-year-old [Muhammad Dawoud al-Bast](#), from the al-Sawaiq neighborhood in Hama, died of wounds he sustained on May 7, 2025, when he was shot indiscriminately while playing with other children in the neighborhood.

These cases reflect weak oversight and the proliferation of weapons among civilians without effective safety measures.

IV. ATTACKS ON VITAL CIVILIAN FACILITIES

In May 2025, SNHR documented at least **eight attacks** on vital civilian facilities. These attacks were concentrated on Suwayda, Aleppo, and Hama.

Distributed as follows:

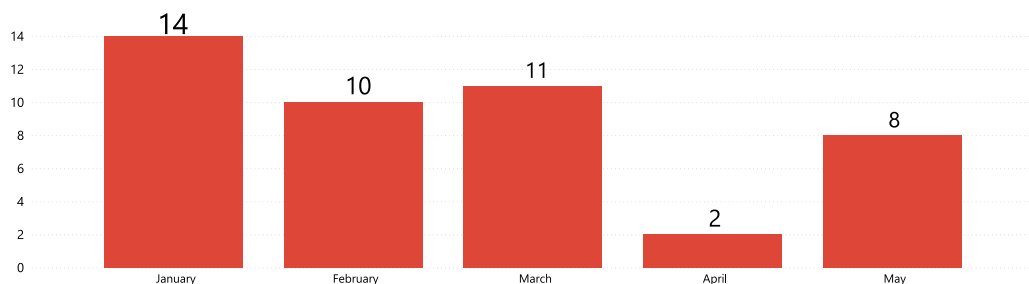
Syrian Democratic Forces: three attacks.

Gunmen of an unidentified affiliation: one attack.

Attack by unidentified parties: three attacks.

Bombings by unidentified parties: one attack.

Since the start of 2025 up until June, **45 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:



This toll indicates that attacks against vital civilian facilities and civilian objects have been occurring since the start of 2025. These attacks constitute a blatant violation of international humanitarian law, which mandates the protection of these facilities, which are essential for civilians. A total of **45 attacks** on vital civilian facilities have been carried out since the start of the year, as of the end of May 2025, with January recording the highest number of attacks in a single month, with **14 attacks**, accounting for approximately 32% percent of the total.

Below are the most notable attacks

In early May 2025, the Shrine of Al-Khidr, a religious site of special significance to the Druze community, in the village of Al-Soura Al-Kubra in the northern countryside of Suwayda Governorate, was subjected to an attack, including arson and vandalism, perpetrated by armed groups believed to be affiliated with Bedouin tribes. The attack resulted in extensive material damage to the shrine's building and contents. The area is under the control of the transitional government.

According to what the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented, based on reliable local sources and field observations, the village of Al-Soura Al-Kubra was subjected to an armed attack carried out by outlaw armed groups believed to be from Bedouin tribes. The attack occurred between April 30 and May 4, 2025. The area witnessed acts of vandalism and arson targeting public and private property, including the shrine of Al-Khidr, which was deliberately targeted for burning, as part of the widespread attack on the village.



↑  Damage caused by an attack by armed men on the Al-Khidr shrine in the village of Al-Soura Al-Kabira in the Sweida countryside - May 2025

SNHR is still collecting eyewitness testimonies to verify the circumstances of the incident and fully document it.

On Saturday, May 3, 2025, members of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) blew up three bridges built over a watercourse passing through the Maskanah and Dayr Hafer areas in the eastern countryside of Aleppo Governorate. These bridges were: Al-Imam Bridge, Zaraia Bridge, and Tal Abyad Bridge. The bombings resulted in the near-total destruction of these bridges, putting them out of service, exacerbating the suffering of residents traveling between areas in the eastern countryside. It should be noted that the area was under SDF control at the time of the incident.

According to what the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented through reliable local sources, the three destroyed bridges are among five built along the watercourse. They connect the areas of Deir Hafer and Maskana with the Manbij area and the villages north of Deir Hafer and Maskana. These bridges are vital for the daily movement of residents of the eastern countryside, both for transportation and for the transport of goods and services.

On Thursday, May 22, 2025, a newly planted remotely controlled explosive device (IED) exploded on a railway near the village of Karah in the northeastern Hama countryside, while the Syrian Civil Defense (White Helmets) explosive remnants of war clearance team was carrying out a mission to remove a suspicious object. The explosion resulted in the deaths of three team members: Mamoun Al-Omar, Jalal Tako, and Shaaban Shushan, in addition to damaging the railway. The area is under the control of the Syrian transitional government.

According to information obtained by the Syrian Network for Human Rights from reliable local sources, a report was received by the Souran Civil Defense Center about a strange object on the railway line between Aleppo and Damascus, which is still in service. Upon the team's arrival at the site, three members, wearing their official uniforms and protective gear, went to inspect the object, which was later revealed to be an explosive device or a mine intended for remote detonation. Before they could move away, it detonated, killing them instantly and damaging the railway line.

On May 24, 2025, the Syrian Network for Human Rights issued a [statement](#) condemning the incident and affirming its continued investigation and gathering witness testimonies to fully document the incident. It also emphasized the need to protect those clearing explosive remnants of war as humanitarian workers.

Damage from a remotely controlled explosive device planted on the railway line between Damascus and Aleppo near the village of Karah in the Hama countryside, which killed three members of the Syrian Civil Defense crews, on May 22, 2025 | Open Sources



V. RECENTLY DOCUMENTED CASES OF PREVIOUSLY KILLED VICTIMS WHOSE REMAINS WERE RECENTLY DISCOVERED

During May 2025, the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented the discovery of four civilians from one family (a father, mother, and two children) after their bodies were found in locations suspected of being used as mass graves or hiding places for victims' bodies, such as water wells or abandoned buildings. Initial information indicates that these crimes occurred prior to the fall of the Bashar al-Assad regime on December 8, 2024, and date back to various phases of the armed conflict in Syria.

Although these crimes occurred before the period covered by the report, their inclusion in this report is based on SNHR's commitment to cumulative documentation of crimes according to the date of confirmation, highlighting the severity of these discoveries and the urgent need for independent judicial and forensic investigations to identify the victims and those responsible for their deaths.

These cases are not included in the official figures for April but are recorded separately until investigations are completed and evidence is gathered. They will then be incorporated into SNHR's databases, with victim timelines updated according to estimated dates of death.

- On Wednesday, May 14, 2025, local residents in the village of Al-Aziziyah, located in the city of Al-Safira in the eastern countryside of Aleppo Governorate, found the remains of four civilians from one family (the father, mother, and two of their children) in an abandoned well in the courtyard of a house in the village. The remains belonged to a family that went missing during the control of Bashar al-Assad regime forces over the village in 2014. It is noteworthy that the area is under the control of the transitional government.
- According to information we obtained from local sources, the remains were discovered after the family returned home and rehabilitated and cleaned the well. Civil Defense teams (the White Helmets) were notified, and they arrived at the site and recovered the remains. They were identified by family members. Initial observations showed that some of the remains bore signs of gunshot wounds or torture, suggesting that the victims were executed or subjected to mass killings.

VI. SNHR MOST NOTABLE WORK WITH REGARDS TO THE EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLING FILE:

1. Establishment and documentation since 2011

Since it began operating in 2011, SNHR has dedicated its efforts to documenting all forms of extrajudicial killings in Syria, including field executions, deaths due to torture, massacres, indiscriminate bombardment, and the deliberate targeting of civilians.

SNHR developed an advanced electronic documentation system that enables the archiving of victim data and their classification by gender, age, geographic location, date of death, method of killing, type of weapon used, and responsible party. This system has served as the backbone for tracking patterns of violence, analyzing the geographic distribution of victims, and providing accurate data to support justice and accountability efforts both locally and internationally.

2. Focus on vulnerable civilian groups and expanding documentation categories

SNHR has given special attention to documenting violations against children and women, due to the symbolic significance of these groups in armed conflicts and the degree to which they reflect systematic targeting of civilians. The database later expanded to include victims among media workers, medical personnel, humanitarian workers, and civil defense volunteers, i.e., individuals who played central roles in the civil and humanitarian efforts.

3. Producing periodic reports and visual and qualitative data analysis

SNHR has consistently issued daily, monthly, semi-annual, and annual reports documenting victim tolls, along with dozens of thematic reports on specific patterns or perpetrators. In an effort to enhance transparency and public accessibility, the database has been transformed into interactive maps and charts published on SNHR's official website which are updated regularly. This enables researchers, journalists, and institutions to track the evolution of violations and filter the data using various criteria.

4. International partnerships and data submissions to the United Nations

Since the early years of the conflict, SNHR has sent detailed forms to UN Special Rapporteurs concerned with extrajudicial killings and torture, with the consent of victims' families. This coordination continues to this day.

SNHR has become one of the most trusted and recognized sources of information for UN agencies, international human rights organizations, and global media outlets. It has also signed memoranda of understanding with entities such as [Humanitarian Outcomes](#) as part of the Aid Worker Security Database (AWSDB) project, in addition to other partnerships that reinforce its status as a principal reference source in this field.

5. Post-Assad regime phase and expanding the scope of work

With the fall of the Assad regime in December 2024, SNHR entered a pivotal stage in documenting extrajudicial killings. A significant portion of its work has shifted to monitoring new patterns of violations, which are no less serious but are tied to the post-conflict reality, including:

- Civilian casualties caused by war remnants such as landmines and UXOs.
- Collapses of buildings previously damaged by shelling, as in the case of the death of Mrs. Sanaa Al-Darwish in † Abu al-Dohour town in Idlib after she returned to her damaged home.
- Killings resulting from the proliferation of weapons and the breakdown of security.
- Killings under mysterious circumstances or by unknown parties.

With these new major developments, SNHR was able to expand its operations, allowing access to previously restricted locations, reopening delayed investigations, reviewing new testimonies, and collecting additional material evidence. It also strengthened its presence by forming local documentation teams and providing extensive training in documentation, testimonial collection, and safe data handling.

6. SNHR's role in supporting transitional justice and accountability

Through this continuous and diligent work, SNHR has become a key reference in supporting mechanisms of transitional justice and contributing to the building of a national memory that preserves victims' rights and promotes accountability for those involved in violations.

The data provided by SNHR forms a cornerstone for building legal case files that can be used before national and international courts, whether through UN mechanisms or through independent domestic investigations that may emerge during Syria's transitional phase.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

1. **Attacks on civilians and civilian objects:** The evidence collected by SNHR indicates that most of the attacks documented in this report were deliberately directed against civilians, including the destruction of civilian facilities.
2. **Landmines:** A large proportion of the Syrians killed in February died as a result of landmine explosions, with none of the perpetrator forces involved in the Syrian conflict, past or present, 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.
3. **Indiscriminate bombing by SDF:** The indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks carried out by the SDF are clearly violations of international humanitarian law, with the crimes of indiscriminate killing amounting to war crimes.
4. **Remote bombings:** 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.
5. Turkish forces have failed to respect the principle of proportionality, as prescribed in international law, in their attacks on SDF sites, which resulted in civilian casualties. Meanwhile, the SDF has violated international humanitarian law by stationing its personnel in civilian areas.
6. **Continued lack of security oversight even after the regime change**
Despite the downfall of the Assad regime, killings and armed attacks continue. This indicates that the transitional phase has yet to establish security and stability, underlining the imperative need for reforming and restructuring the security apparatus into a human rights-based, effective entity.
7. **Ongoing patterns of violations linked to the post-conflict reality**
April 2025 witnessed patterns of killings related to the misuse of weapons and drowning incidents resulting from migration. These reflect post-conflict challenges that require a different type of response, one that goes beyond documentation of violations to include prevention and community education.

Recommendations

These recommendations represent a practical roadmap for addressing the consequences of extrajudicial killings in Syria. They contribute to advancing the path of transitional justice, building institutions that respect human dignity and rights, and preventing the recurrence of violations.

Transitional Syrian government

1. Cooperate with international mechanisms

- Issue official invitations to independent UN and international mechanisms, including:
 - » International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)
 - » Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
 - » International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP).
 - » International Red Cross, Human Rights Watch (HRW), and Amnesty International.
- Enable these organizations to have unrestricted access to detention centers and crime scenes.

2. Protect evidence and crime locations

- Take urgent measures to safeguard evidence, including documenting mass graves and detention facilities and preventing any tampering or trespassing.
- Register and clearly mark important sites to ensure they can serve as legal evidence in the future.

3. Promote justice and accountability

- Collect evidence on violations, including official records and crime sites.
- Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and grant the court retroactive jurisdiction.
- Adopt comprehensive transitional justice policies, including holding perpetrators accountable, compensating victims, and ensuring transparency and credibility.

4. Protect civilians and cultural sites

- Ensure the safety of civilians and minorities and protect their fundamental rights to live securely.
- Prioritize the removal of mines and remnants of war, allocate the necessary funding, and raise awareness of related risks.
- Protect cultural and heritage sites from looting or destruction..

5. Governance reform

- Build an inclusive governance structure representing all components of Syrian society, including women and minorities, as well as civil society organizations.

- Document and safeguard abandoned properties to ensure their rightful owners receive compensation in the future.
- Improve essential services and ensure they're accessible to all citizens, including those with disabilities.

6. Prevent further violations

- Ensure respect for fundamental rights and freedoms for all without discrimination.
- Reform the judiciary and security apparatus in accordance with international human rights standards.

7. Support affected populations and rehabilitation

- Provide psychological and social support to families of missing persons and conflict victims.
- Develop comprehensive programs for the rehabilitation of survivors and released detainees.

UN Security Council and the international community

1. Refer crimes to the ICC

- Refer the Syrian dossier to the ICC or establish a special tribunal to prosecute those involved in war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- Pressure international actors, including the Russian government, to hand over individuals responsible for crimes, including Bashar Assad and his family, to international courts.

2. Freeze and confiscate the former regime's funds

- Work on freezing the financial assets of the former Assad regime and its affiliates and allocate them to support transitional justice efforts and humanitarian aid, as well as for the victims and their families.

3. Enhance humanitarian efforts

- Urge UN agencies to intensify the delivery of humanitarian aid, including food and medicine, in affected areas and internally displaced persons (IDP) camps.
- Ensure humanitarian aid reaches northeastern Syria, in coordination with local authorities, to meet the needs of IDPs and facilities detaining individuals accused of formerly belonging to or being affiliated with ISIS.
- Guarantee that aid provided to the current or future government promotes respect for human rights and creates conditions for free and fair elections.

4. Remove mines and war remnants

- Allocate funding from the UN fund to support landmine removal efforts in affected areas to reduce long-term risks and ensure a safe environment for civilians.

5. Support the missing persons issue and national reconciliation

- Provide resources to strengthen the efforts of the ICMP, including training local staff and using advanced technologies to identify missing persons.
- Support initiatives contributing to national reconciliation and offer psychological and social support to families of missing persons.

6. Lift sanctions to ensure they don't adversely affect humanitarian operations

- Review economic sanctions imposed on Syria to ensure they do not adversely affect humanitarian operations while maintaining sanctions targeting designated terrorist groups.

7. Ensure protection of Syrian refugees

- Urge host countries to refrain from forcibly deporting refugees or pressuring them to return.
- Work to create conditions within Syria for the safe, voluntary, and dignified return of refugees in accordance with international standards, prioritizing infrastructure improvement and security stability.

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR)

Submit reports to the UN Human Rights Council and the UN on documented violations in this and previous reports, highlighting that killing is still going on in Syria.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (COI)

1. Open comprehensive investigations into the violations mentioned in this and previous reports. SNHR is willing to collaborate in such endeavors and share more evidence.
2. Work to identify individuals responsible for war crimes and publish their names to expose them internationally and halt political and economic dealings with them.

International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)

Collect further evidence of the crimes documented in this report and share expertise with Syrian organizations working on documentation and data collection.

Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)

1. Establish an internal committee to investigate violations committed by the SDF, hold those responsible accountable, and compensate the victims.
2. Refrain from positioning military forces in civilian areas, which poses a threat to their lives.
3. Provide maps indicating the locations of landmines planted by SDF personnel in civilian areas.

Armed opposition factions/Syrian National Army (SNA)

1. Protect civilians in all areas under their control.
2. Launch investigations into human rights violations, hold perpetrators accountable, and disclose the investigation results to the local community.
3. Provide maps indicating the locations of landmines planted by the factions in civilian areas.

Turkish forces

Launch investigations into the incidents documented in this report, compensate the victims, and respect the principles of international law, particularly the principles of distinction and proportionality.

Humanitarian organizations

1. Develop urgent plans to provide decent shelter for IDPs, particularly widows and orphans.
2. Intensify efforts to remove landmines alongside relief operations.
3. Equip vital facilities, such as medical facilities and schools, with ambulances marked with clear, recognizable signs visible from long distances.

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SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



info@snhr.org
www.snhr.org

No justice without accountability

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