# Not Less than 90 Vital Facilities Targeted in July 2015

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# **Executive Summary**

During July 2015, SNHR recorded not less than 90 incidents that targeted vital facilities, distributed as follows:

- Government Forces (army, security forces, local militias, foreign Shitte militias): 60
- Extremist Islamic Groups:
- ISIS: 6
- Armed Opposition Groups: 5
- PYD Forces: 8
- International Coalition Forces: 8
- Unidentified Groups: 3

# The most notable facilities that were targeted in June 2015:

21 places of worship, 14 medical facilities, 12 Infrastructure Facilities, 11 markets, 10 schools, 8 Bridges and Crossing points, 7 ambulances, 2 universities, 2 civil facilities, 1 bakery, 1 archeological site, 1 refugee camp.

# Distribution of the targeted facilities according to the major conflict parties:

Distribution of the targeted facilities according to the major conflict parties in July 2015 $$						
Unidentified Groups	Internationa 1 Coalition	PYD and YPG Kurdish Forces	Armed Opposition Groups	ISIL	Governme nt Forces	Conflict Party Targeted Facility
2			3		16	Houses of Worship
				1	13	Medical Facilities
		6		5	1	Infrastructure Facilities
					11	Markets
	8					Bridges and Crossing Points
					10	Schools
					7	Ambulances
			2			Universities
		1			1	Civil Facilities
1						Bakeries
					1	Archeological Sites
		1				Refugee Camps







The Security Council failed to carry out Resolution 2139, adopted on 22 February, 2014, which states: "all parties immediately cease all attacks against civilians, as well as the indiscriminate employment of weapons in populated areas, including shelling and aerial bombardment, such as the use of barrel bombs.", the Security Council should at least press on government forces to stop targeting vital places, which are usually crowded, such as schools, hospitals, markets, bakeries, and places of worships. In this report, SNHR highlights the documented attacks against vital facilities. It is worth noting that what we documented was the minimum due to the many practical obstacles we run across during our work

SNHR affirms, through its investigations, that there were no military points or presence in these places before or during the attacks. The Syrian regime, and the crimes perpetrators, should justify their brutal attacks before the United Nations and the Security Council.

# **Incidents' Details:**

# **Government Forces**

## **Houses of Worship:**

- 1. On 5 July 2015, government forces tanks launched two missiles on <u>Al Houriya mosque</u> in Hama which partially damaged the mosque's wall.
- 2. On 6 July 2015, government artillery forces launched two mortar missiles on Al Houda Mosque in Khan Al Sheieh camp in Damascus suburbs. The mosque was damaged partially.
- 3. On 7 July 2015, government warplanes <u>dropped two barrel bombs on Othman Mosque</u> in Al Ma'adi neighborhood in Aleppo that is under the armed opposition groups' control. 13 individuals were killed and <u>the mosque was partially destroyed</u>.
- 4. On 7 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on Abdul Rahman Mosque in Karm Al Beik neighborhood in Aleppo which led to the death of 20 individuals. The mosque was partially damaged.
- 5. On 8 July 2015, government artillery forces shelled the minaret of Houssien Bin Ali mosque in Al Ma'aliyi neighborhood in Al Moklaylilbi town. The minaret was partially damaged.
- 6. On 11 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on a mosque in Al Hweija town in Hama which led to a partial damage in the mosque's building.
- 7. On 13 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on <u>Al Housein mosque</u> in Daraa camp. The mosque was severely damaged.







- 8. On 13 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on Omar Bin Al Khatab mosque in the southern neighborhood of Al Latamna city which caused great and sever damage to it.
- 9. On 13 July 2015, government aviation dropped a barrel bomb on one of the mosques in Hass town in Idlib which caused material damages to it.
- 10. On 14 July 2015, government artillery forces shelled with Fozdika missiles the minaret of Al Bader mosque in Zakia town in Damascus suburbs that is under the control of armed opposition groups. The minaret was damaged.





- 11. On 14 July 2015, government artillery forces shelled with Fozdika missiles the minaret of Al Omari mosque in Jobar neighborhood in Damascus which completely destroyed it.
- 12. On 18 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket on Al Taybouri mosque in Erbeen town in Damascus suburbs. There have been no human casualties, however, the mosque was burned and greatly damaged.
- 13. On 19 July 2015, government aviation dropped <u>barrel bombs on a region next to Al Shamali mosque</u> in Al Hara city in Daraa which caused partial damage to the mosque's building.
- 14. On 21 July 2015, government aviation launched a rocket on Al Houssein mosque in Idlib causing minor material damages.
- 15. On 24 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb and a number of gas cylinders on one of the mosques in Al Tamane'a town in Idlib. The mosque was partially damaged.
- 16. On 26 July 2015, government artillery forces launched a number of missiles on <u>Abu Baker Al Sedeek mosque</u> in Al Tayba town in Damascus suburbs. The mosque's minaret was completely destroyed and its building <u>was damaged</u>.







#### **Medical Facilities:**

- 1. On 1 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket on Saida makeshift hospital's square in Daraa which led to the death of 15 individuals in addition to partially damaging the hospital.
- 2. On 1 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb behind <u>Saida makeshift</u> <u>hospital</u> in Daraa injuring 5 persons, including 2 individuals from the medical staff. The hospital was <u>greatly damaged</u> and went <u>out of service</u>.
- 3. On 1 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb and two gas cylinders next to the medical point in Al Tamane'a town in Idlib. The hospital was partially damaged and went out of service for 5 days.
- 4. On 2 July 2015, <u>Nadeb Houran hospital</u> in Dael in Daraa suburbs went out of service due to the lack of medical equipment. Nabed Houran Hospital statement:
- 5. On 5 July 2015, Daraa makeshift hospital went out of service since it was repeatedly targeted by government forces. The hospital was severely damaged.
- 6. On 5 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket on Knasfara town in Idlib which led to the death of one individual and a partial destruction to the hospital and causing it to go out of service.
- 7. On 16 July 2015, government warplanes launched three thermal rockets on Jib Al Kibba neighborhood in Aleppo that is under the control of armed opposition. One of the rockets was shelled next to the Blood Bank (that took a school in the neighborhood as its center). 10 people were killed and the building was damaged.
- 8. On 17 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket on a medical center in Deir Al Asafeer town in Damascus suburbs causing material damage to it.
- 9. On 19 July 2015, government warplanes launched three thermal missiles on Minbij town in Aleppo suburbs that is under the control of ISIL. 4 persons were injured and some facilities of the National Hospital (now known as Aisha Hospital) were burned. One hospital vehicle was burned as well.









10. On 19 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket on the makeshift hospital in Al Sakhour neighborhood in Aleppo that is under the control of armed opposition groups. The hospital was partially damaged.

- 11. On 23 July 2015, government forces dropped a number of barrels next to <u>Tal Shehab</u> <u>hospital</u> in Daraa which caused <u>great material damage to the hospital</u> and causing it to go out of service.
- 12. On 23 July 2015, government warplanes dropped five barrel bombs on Tal Shehab town, some of it hit the town's hospital, caused great damage to it and made it to go out of service.
- 13. On 28 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket on clinics in Idlib and injured 5 persons. The clinc's building and fence were partially destroyed.

#### Markets:

- 1. On 7 July 2015, government warplanes dropped two barrel bombs on the Gold Market in Jisr Al Shugour city in Idlib and burned a number of shops.
- 2. On 8 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a number of barrel bombs on Ma'art Al No'man town in Idlib which caused complete damage to some shops.
- 3. On 9 July 2015, government aviation launched two rockets on a fuel and diesel market in Idlib and killed 4 individuals. The market was burned as well.
- 4. On 11 July 2015, government aviation dropped two barrel bombs on Al Hal Market in Al Bab city in Aleppo, killed 13 persons and damaged a number of commercial shops.









- 5. On 11 July 2015, government aviation dropped two barrel bombs on a vegetable market (Al Hal Market) in Al Bab city in Aleppo that is under ISIL control. 13 persons were killed and a number of shops and vehicles were burned.
- 6. On 13 July 2015, government warplanes dropped two barrels on a diesel and fuel market in Al Bab city and killed 15 persons. A number of vehicles were burned.
- 7. On 15 July 2015, government warplanes shelled a number of rockets on a market in Darat Ezza city in Aleppo and killed 8 persons. A number of commercial shops were damaged.
- 8. On 19 July 2015, government warplanes dropped 5 barrel bombs on Deir Hafer market in Aleppo, killed a child and injured several persons. A number of commercial shops were damaged.
- 9. On 23 July 2015, government warplanes launched a number of rockets on Al Bara town in Al Atarib in Idlib which killed 8 persons and injured 30 others. A number of shops were damaged.
- 10. On 23 July 2015, government aviation dropped a barrel bomb on the vegetables market in Al Mayser neighborhood in Aleppo. A number of shops were damaged.
- 11. On 29 July 2015, government air-force launched two rockets on a <u>market in Sarqeb</u> in Idlib which killed 16 persons and damaged a number of <u>commercial shops</u>.

#### Schools:

- 1. On 2 July 2015, government warplanes shelled <u>Fatima Al Zahraa School</u> in Ghayran neighborhood in Al Hassaka that is under ISIL's control. The school's building was partially damaged.
- 2. On 9 July 2015, government warplanes dropped two barrel bombs on Al Kuzaya School in Ma'arat Al No'aman in Idlib. The school was partially destroyed.
- 3. On 11 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on Al Assani School in Al Bab city in Aleppo suburbs that is under ISIL's control. 10 individuals were killed and the school had material damages.







- 4. On 13 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on Waleed Sha'aban School in Jisr Al Shougur in Idlib which led to a partial destruction to its facilities and great damage to it.
- 5. On 14 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket on Al Mishmishan town in Idlib. 7 children were injured and the school's building was partially destroyed.



- 6. On 14 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket next to one of the schools in <u>Arnaba town in Idlib.</u> The school's building was greatly damaged.
- 7. On 21 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb next to a <u>nursery school</u> in Hayyan town in Idlib which partially damaged it.
- 8. On 22 July 2015, government warplanes launched two rockets on a <u>school in Knasfara</u> Girls School which led to a partial destruction to the school's building and its fence.
- 9. On 30 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket next to a school (a refugee shelter center) in Minbij in Aleppo. The school was partially damaged.
- 10. On 30 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on one of the schools in Tafas in Daraa (a refugee shelter center). The school was partially damaged.

#### **Ambulances:**

- 1. On 17 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on an <u>ambulance that belonged to the second makeshift hospital</u> in Latamana town in Hama. It was partially destroyed.
- 2. On 19 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket next to <u>an ambulance that belonged to the National Hospital (Aisha Hospital)</u> in Minbij town in Aleppo that is under ISIL's control. The ambulance was burned and went out of service.
- 3. On 20 July 2015, warplanes launched a rocket next to <u>an ambulance in Ma'art Mesreen</u> in Idlib which was damaged by rocket shrapnel.
- 4. On 24 July 2015, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb next to an <u>ambulance</u> that belonged to the civil defense in Khan Shaykhoun in Idlib. The ambulance was greatly damaged and it went out of service.
- 5. On 28 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket on <u>clinics</u> in Idlib which injured 5 persons and damaged 3 <u>ambulances</u>.







#### **Infrastructure Facilities:**

On 15 July 2015, government warplanes dropped two barrel bombs on Al Ghaziyi station that is next to the power station in Al Zariyi town in Aleppo suburbs. It was greatly damaged and Aleppo and it suburbs suffered from power outage.

#### **Civil Facilities:**

On 10 July 2015, government warplanes launched a rocket on transportation vehicles in Ourm Al Jouz in Areeha suburbs in Idlib which killed 3 persons. A number of transportation vehicles were damaged.

#### **Archeological Sites:**

On 12 July 2015, government forces (in the regions that are under its control) blew up a tunnel in around <u>Aleppo Fort</u> which led to <u>destruction</u> of a part of the fort's wall.



#### **B- ISIL:**

#### **Infrastructure:**

- 1. On 6 July 2015, ISIL's members blew up a gas line that belonged to Al Faraklas town in Homs suburbs using amounts of explosives. The gas line was set on fire and power stations in the area went out of service partially. The power outage hours increased in the southern governorates. It is worth mentioning that Al Faraklas Company is under the government forces control.
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- 3. On 16 July 2015, blew up a gas line that belonged to Al Faraklas town in Homs suburbs using amounts of explosives. The gas line was set on fire and power stations in the area went out of service partially. The power outage hours increased in the southern governorates. It is worth mentioning that Al Faraklas Company is under the government forces control
- 4. On 19 July 2015, ISIL blew up the western gas line and the Euphrates gas line that supply Al Nasiriya station in Jabroub in Damascus suburbs in Al Mahasa region. It is worth mentioning that these gas lines supply Damascus.







5. On 23 July 2015, ISIL's artillery forces launched a GRAD rocket on Abeila gas factory in the eastern of Homs governorate. The factory's equipment was greatly damaged. It is worth mentioning that the factory had went out of service on 19 June 2015 since ISIL took control over the main gas line that supplies the factory.

## **Medical Facilities:**

On 24 July 2015, ISIL confiscated most of the medical equipment in the National Hospital in Al Raqqa city that is under ISIL's control. They transported it to unknown locations that we were not able to identify up to the moment of making this report.

# **Armed Opposition Groups**

# **Universities:**

- 1. On 12 July 2015, a mortar missile was shelled on <u>the Articheture Faculty</u> in Al Baramka neighborhood in Damascus city. The missile came from a region that is under the control of Al Islam Army, one of the armed opposition groups. Two university students were mildly injured. 3 cars were <u>damaged</u>.
- 2. On 16 July 2015, a mortar missile was shelled on the <u>Faculty of Architecture</u> in Damascus University in Al Baramika in Damascus. The missile came from a centered artillery in a region that is under the armed opposition control. <u>Some of the university's halls had monor damages</u>.

# **Houses of Worship:**

- 1. On 15 July 2015, a rocket and artillery missiles were shelled on Al Neil Street in Aleppo that is under the control of the government forces. The missile came from stationed artillery in Bani Zeid neighborhood that is the control of armed opposition groups. Some of the missiles hit Qutaiba Bin Muslim Al Bahli Mosque and injured a number of persons. The mosque's minaret was completely damaged. The mosque's building was partially damaged.
- 2. On 25 July 2015, rocket-propelled grenades were shelled on Al Zahraa neighborhood. The grenades came from an armed opposition group region. Basheer Al Nather mosque was damaged and parts of its minaret were destroyed.
- 3. On 27 July 2015, a number of missiles were shelled on Al Neil Street in Aleppo that is under the control of government forces. The missiles came from an armed opposition group region. The mosque was partially destroyed.







#### **D-PYD and YPG Kurdish Parties:**

#### **Instructures:**

- 1. On 6 July 2015, PYD Kurdish forces attacked a fuel station on the Sluk- Hamam Turkman road in Raqqa suburbs that is under their control. They stole the contents of the station, including air-conditioners, furniture and gas pumps.
- 2. On 6 July 2015, PYD forces raided the Askar military station southern of Tal Abyad that is under PYD control in the western suburbs of Raqqa governorate. They looted the station's content including furniture, fuel pumps and air-conditioners.
- 3. On 22 July 2015, PYD forces raided Tal Abyad fuel station that is under the PYD control in Raqqa. They looted the station's content.
- 4. On 22 July 2015, PYD forces raided the Iman fuel station in Al Badee town southern of Tal Abyad that is under PYD control in Raqqa suburbs. They looted the station's content.
- 5. On 22 July 2015, PYD forces raided Mafrak Al Ali fuel station southern of Tal Abyad that is under PYD control. They looted its contents.
- 6. On 22 July 2015, PYD forces raided Maymati fuel station southern of Tal Abyad and looted its contents.

#### **Civil Facilities:**

On 25 July 2015, PYD forces raided a pharmacy in Kfifa town in Ein Issa that is under PYD control in Raqqa suburbs. They looted all its contents and caused it to go out of service knowingly that it is the only pharmacy in the town.

#### **Refugee Camps:**

On 1 July 2015, PYD forces looted the office equipment of Ksas Camp that is under the control of PYD forces in Raqqa suburbs. Ksas Camp is the only camp in Tal Abyad that was established by the NRC according to International standards.





## **E- International Coalition Forces:**

# **Bridges and Crossing Points:**

- 1. On 5 July 2015 international coalition warplanes launched a rocket on Al Sibahyi town that is under ISIL's control. The bridge was a pedestrian crossing between the western suburbs and the city. The bridge was completely destroyed.
- 2. On 5 July 2015, international coalition warplanes launched a rocket on Al Furousyi Bridge in the north west of Raqqa that is under ISIL's control. This bridge connects the western suburbs of Raqqa and the city. It was almost destroyed.
- 3. On 5 July 2015, international coalition warplanes launched a rocket on Mazra't Al Omriya Bridge that is under ISIL's control. The bridge was a pedestrian crossing that connects the northern suburbs with the city. It was almost completely destroyed.



- 4. On 5 July 2015, the international coalition warplanes shelled <u>Minklak bridge</u> that was under ISIL's control. The bridge was pedestrian crossing that connects the eastern suburbs with the city. It was almost completely destroyed.
- 5. On 5 July 2015, the international coalition warplanes shelled Al Halbein Bridge in Al Housaiwa region that is under ISIL's control in the western city of Raqqa. The shelling destroyed the bridge that is a pedestrian crossing between the western suburbs and the city. It was almost completly destroyed.
- 6. On 5 July 2015, international coalition forces shelled Al Qunaitra Al Ka'asi Bridge eastern of Raqaa that is under ISIL's control. The shelling destroyed the bridge that is a pedestrian crossing between the eastern suburbs and the city. The shelling destroyed it completely.
- 7. On 5 July 2015, international coalition forces shelled Khatla Bridge in the eastern side of Al Raqqa that is under ISIL's control. The bridge that is a pedestrian crossing between the eastern suburbs and the city. The shelling destroyed it completely.





8- On 6 July 2015, international coalition forces shelled Al Sikka Bridge in the eastern side of Al Raqqa City that is under ISIL's control. The shelling destroyed the bridge completely. However, it should be mentioned that a train's railway that connects Raqqa city to the eastern side is located on that bridge.



# **E- Unidentified Groups:**

#### **Houses of Worship:**

- 1. On 3 July 2015, a bomb exploded in the Great Mosque in Al Tal City in Damascus suburbs. The Imam died immediately since the bomb was placed under his chair and the mosque was martially damaged. We were not able to identify the group who perpetrated this crime until the moment of making this report.
- 2. On 5 July 2015, Abdul Rahmad Bin Awef Mosque was damaged due the clashes between government forces and ISIL in Al Layla neighborhood in Hassaka that is under ISIL control. Since both parties used heavy weapons and mortar shelling using artillery canons, we were not able to identify the party that caused this damage.

#### **Bakeries:**

On 4 July 2015, <u>Al Aghawat bakery</u> was completely burned due to the clashes between government forces and ISIL in Ghwayran neighborhood eastern of Al Hassaka that is under ISIL control. Since both parties used heavy weapons, we were not able to identify the party that caused this damage.

# III. Conclusions and recommendations

According to the Humanitarian International Law, purposed, indiscriminate, or disproportionate attacks are prohibited. Thus, government froces' targeting of schools, hospitals, churches, and bakeries is an utter disregard for the minimum standards of international law and the UN Security Council Resolutions.

Some of the extremist groups and other armed groups targeted a number of those facilities. The indiscriminate bombardment is a violation of the intentional humanitarian law and can be classified as a war crime.







#### Recommendations

# **The Security Council**

- 1- To bind all the influential parties to respect Resolution 2139 by, at least, condemning the targeting of vital facilities that civilians need every day.
- 2- To enforce a comprehensive arms embargo on the Syrian regime considering its horrible violations of the international laws and the Security Council resolutions.
- 3- To consider the states that supply the Syrian regime with weapons and the groups involved in perpetrating crimes against civilians partners in these crimes as well as all weapon suppliers and distributors
- 4- States who support the armed opposition should stop supporting any factions that don't respect the international humanitarian law.



