

## Report about besieging neighborhoods in the city of Damascus

### Introduction:

Many governments, high level UN's officials, and Human Rights Organizations including Syrian Network for Human Rights called Syrian Government to grant access to the humanitarian aid to Qusair city during fighting in May and June, but security council didn't issue any statement because of Russian obstructionism.

Later Russia has hindered statement form security council about Homs, where government imposed besiege on opposition-controlled areas.

Syrian Government has rejected international calls to evacuate the civilians, and refused to grant access to independent observers were able to facilitate evacuation operations.

June 2,2013 , Syrian Foriegn Minister WalidAlmoaalem said that Syria will not grant the International Committee of the Red Cross access only after the end of frightening.

Syrian Government has not get enough with this work that indicate to a systematic assault on the right of the patient and the wounded, but even security forces and army continued this ring on the ground and imposed a besiege on the patient themselves, in spite of all relative international laws about wounded and patient that should for all parties to take into account.

We don't have to point out in this report about the systematic aggressive method followed by Syrian Government inside governmental hospitals which turned lot of them to security centers and places of torturing patients, and in some cases execute them, we will not talk about doctors that Government troops killed and arrested, we will deal with this issues later in other reports, but we would like to notify that we have statistics with name figure out the kill of at least 92 physicians with different specializations and the arrest of at least 750 physician, still in prisons to the time we make this report, not to mention that at least 52 paramedics including 23 for Syrian Red Crescent, and the arrest of 17 other from SRC.

### Report Details:

The Four Geneva conviction for 1949 and all annexes stated the provision of the protection of human rights dignity for all human beings in all circumstances and times, and all the necessary procedures without prejudice to stop the wounded, handicapped and patient's suffering whether they participated in any armed conflicts or were civilians.

The above mentioned agreements clearly indicate the need to provide appropriate and adequate treatment for all injured by medical staff in hospitals and fixed and transmitted clinics, regardless of the orientation of those who control those hospitals and clinics.

The besiege imposed on Barza, Qaboon, Qadam and Yarmouk refugee camp considered as crime against humanity because its widespread and systematic attack against all Syrian Governorates.

## **First: Barzah neighborhood:( North of the capital Damascus )**

The besiege on Barzah neighborhood is in its fifth consecutive months, where its surrounded by a lot of military checkpoints preventing the entrance of food and medical supplies easily, they often ask for lot of many or confiscate these materials, the situation in this neighborhood is the most dangerous being surrounded by neighborhoods established by Government Forces , and brought people from the Alwite sect to live there, these neighborhood considered as the most prominent resident to Shabiha and known as EshAlwarwar area, surrounded by Intelligence branch No.211 and Military Police.

Attacks' frequency have been raised in the last period to reach 200 shells a day, including mortar and artillery shell, most of them came from the artillery installed in Scientific research centre in AashAlwarwar mountain in Barzah, which are 57mm artillery shells, dShK machine gun and Gvozdika. More than 400 victims still inside the neighborhood and in urgent need to different medical treatments.

the shell led also to mass destruction inthe buildings, lately the Big Mosque, JaafarAltayar mosque and many schools have been damaged because of shelling.

SNHR estimates the destruction proportion in Barzah neighborhood with almost 50%, most of the residents have been displaced cause of shelling and wide destruction, we estimate the numbers of displaced with more than 40.000 residents, dispersed on the neighboring areas as Maarba and Al Taalm, there are many families remained trapped inside their homes because the spread of Government Forces' snipers near their homes.

Just in July: Government's Forces barriers that besieging the neighborhood have also arrested more than 182 residents including media activities and one relief activity.

Syrian Government also kept cutting off electricity for long times over 10 hours a day, the phone as well, Sewerage systems widely damaged in the last period.

The remaining residents in the neighborhood suffering from very bad humanitarian situation in securing the requirements of food, especially bread, drug, medical treatments for people who have diabetes, pressure , and the wounded of shelling and repeated sniping.

### **Some attachment:**

Doctor in the field hospital explain the situation and the wounded suffering

[Nurse in the field hospital explain the situation.](#)

[another video for a doctor explain the situation in the field hospital.](#)

[Video for a citizen explain the situation in the neighborhood.](#)



### **Second: Qabon neighborhood:**

Government forces escalated destruction, displacement and shelling campaign on Qabon neighborhood since 19/6/2013, to the date we prepare this report ,Government Forces used various kinds of weaponsincluding chemical weapons against the people in this neighborhood. Monday 24/6/2013, Government Forces used poisonous gases against the people in the neighborhood, which led to kill 1 citizen and more than 20 injuries, according to a statement by field hospital in Qabon ,and we check via Syrian Network for Human Right's member in Damascus.

[The victim is Mohamad Ghazal from Doma city.](#)

[video shows injuries cause of poisonous gases.](#)

Thursday 26/6/2013, Government Forces used poisonous gases against the people in the neighborhood, which led to kill 1 citizen and more than 10 injuries from FSA.

video shows 8 injuries: [Link1](#) - [Link2](#)

Video shows the symptoms caused by chemical weapon

on one of the injuries, [explained by a doctor in the field hospital.](#)

[Trying to treat citizen Husam Almoarabai from poisonous gas infection.](#)

[Video shows Husam after killed cause of inhaling poisonous gases, he couldn't be aided](#)

Government forces targeted residential areas using randomly surface to surface missiles, artillery shelling, Gvozdika, 57mm artillery shells, heavy machines like tanks and armored vehicles, SNHR Statistic indicates based to daily monitor that more than 2000 mortar shells of caliber heavy 180-240 shelled the neighborhood, in addition to shell the neighborhood with more than 100 missile, long range artillery and 57 mm artillery focused on Qasion mountain. Besiege on Qabon neighborhood is exactly the same as on Barza neighborhood, and all the other besieged areas, lot of military checkpoints arrested, kidnapped, ransom, blackmail to enter food and medical supplies easily, humiliation and insult, all of that to make thousands residents to flee out, now less than 7000 citizen lives there suffering humanitarian crises similar to Barzah neighborhood like electricity and communication cut off and etc.

### **Third: Jobar neighborhood:**

Jobar neighborhood considered as the gate of the capital Damascus to Ghouta Sharqiya, located at the eastern north of Damascus between Alzabtani in the west, Qabon in the north, Ain Tarma and Zamalka south and west, with a population of at least 300.000 people.

The neighborhood exposed to a major escalation in the last two months by government forces against the attempts of Free Syrian Army to progress, the government forces shells without considering civilians, because are from far distance as the foot of Qasion mountain via tanks and heavy artillery, it led to large number of victims and wounded and mass destruction in houses and hospitals.

The neighborhood was targeted twice with chemical weapons, it is the first neighborhood that **have been targeted with chemical weapons:**

Sunday 7/4/2013, government forces shelled the neighborhood with poisonous gases, according to a residents Mr. Abu Adel and the activist Abu Wael, it led to more than 7 injuries among the civilians with the following symptoms:

Generalized Convulsion, respiratory failure, delirium accompanied with xeroderma, hematemesis, sever pain in eyes accompanied with myosis and blurred vision.

### **Appendix and attachments:**

Video filmed in Jobar documented the symptoms of the attack's victims:



Second attack was on Sunday April 14, 2013, government forces shelled the neighborhood by poisonous gas, led to 1 citizen victim and more than 30 injuries, many paramedics and nurses have been affected during helping injuries, the symptoms was respiratory difficulties, red eyes, chalasia, insensible.

[Ibrahim Aldarwish killed](#) cause of chemical weapon used by government forces.

Video shows many injuries



Jobar neighborhood is exposed to sever besieged applied on Qaboon neighborhood and Barazah, it is systematic methods with all rebellious neighborhoods.

#### **Fourth: Yarmouk refugee camp neighborhood:**

considered one of the neighborhoods that totally have been destroyed cause of the daily shelling by government forces from heavy artillery, and exposed lately to chemical weapons: Sunday 21/7/2013, Government forces used poisonous gases against the residents of Yarmouk refugee camp, it led to kill 5 citizens and injury at least other 10.

#### **Photos and names of the attack victims:**

- 1- MohamadZiadGhonem
- 2- KhaledMohamadBakir- known as AboNaser (Palestinian)-Yarmouk refugee camp
- 3- MohamadAlaataki -Yarmouk refugee camp
- 4- MahmofFrij -Yarmouk refugee camp
- 5- Hani Allafi - Yarmouk refugee camp

[Video shows shelling the camp with gases.](#)

[Photos show incident.](#)

The shelling followed by an attempt by government forces to raid the camp, which is a strict evidence that of deliberately using internationally banded chemical weapon in the Syrian non-international armed conflict.

Yarmouk refugee camp suffering the same as Barazah, Qabon, and Jobar neighborhoods.

About the besiege imposed on the refugee camp of the Palestinianmajority, Palestinian camps network news union sent to [SNHR](#) a copy of a letter talking about the siege and the big threat for families from famine and wide crisis , [the letter is addressed to the PLO, and this text.](#)

#### **Fifth: AlhajarAlaswad neighborhood:**

Especial report about the catastrophic humanitarian situation in AlhajarAlaswas neighborhood of Damascus

#### **period covered :**

since the beginning of the siege in 13/12/2012 up to this date:

Government forces imposed siege onAlhajarAlaswas neighborhood in 13/12/2012 to the date of this report, and throughout this period prevented the entry of food, medical materials and fuel.

Also Syrian Government stopped sending flour to furnaces which led to stop totally the work of 15 bakeries in the neighborhood:

#### **The victims:**

SNHR documented the kill of 416 residents from the neighborhood during the military campaign on including 8 tortured to death:

#### **Detainees:**

SNHR documented 150 missing and almost 27.000 citizens from the neighborhood have been arrested and tortured, many of them still in prisons to this date.

Shelling: Hospitals, schools, water and electricity stations, mosques, markets)

12/2/2012, Government forces shelled the electricity station, in addition to repeated shelling to water stations, systematic shelling to water stations 6 times led to shut them down.

As we documented deliberated shell to vegetables and fruits market more than three times in **this period:**

Government forces also shelled hospitals and Dispensaries, which led to burn tow hospitals and three Dispensaries, two of them totally became out of work.

Army forces and Shabiha stole and loot the equipments when they stormed the neighborhood.

Government forces shelled 6 mosques inside the neighborhood and 8 schools

#### **Displacement :**

All these acts reflected on the life of residents who decided to flee out, where more than 2000 families displaced, there are almost 5000 couldn't cause of their economical situation, so they are suffering from very bad situations there.

in the last few weeks women started to go into Damascus to bring some food supplies to their families, because families barriers arrests many of young people who go out of the neighborhood and even killed some, but government forces with the help of spies and informants arrested the women on the pretext that their sons from FSA, we have been documented within the past few days the arrest of 9 ladies from the residents.

Conclusions: Government forces and Shabiha imposed strict outer besiege on these cities and villages, while other groups of the raid, inspect, artillery arrest, and unlawful kill the unarmed citizens, where the security campaign began to increase as Syrian government deficit to break the will of the civilians in these areas. the continuation of the besiege imposed by Syrian Government and armed militia makes it very hard to enter medical supplies and food, and deprived hundreds of family from the opportunity to leave and move to safe areas, that's all flagrant violation of International Humanitarian Law.



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