



## Not Less than 26 Massacres Committed in March 2014

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### I- Executive Summary:

SNHR documented not less than 26 massacres perpetrated in March 2014, detailed as follows:

- A- Government Forces (army, security forces, local militias and foreign Shiite militias) committed 20 massacres
- B- ISIL committed one massacre
- C- Armed Opposition Groups committed 3 massacres
- D- Unidentified Groups committed 2 massacres

SNHR describes an incident as a massacre if it involves: “the killing of five unarmed people at least”, for more information on our methodology, please visit [the following URL](#).

The massacres were detailed as follows according to Syrian governorates:

- Aleppo: 11 massacres
- Damascus suburbs: 4 massacres
- Idlib: 4 massacres
- Daraa: 2 massacres
- Damascus: 1 massacre
- Homs: 1 massacre
- Lattakia: 1 massacre
- Hama: 1 massacre
- Al Hassaka: 1 massacre





## Massacres' Details according to the main conflict parties:

Massacres' distribution according to main conflict parties in March 2014				
Unidentified Groups	Armed Opposition Groups	ISIL	Government Forces	Conflict Party
				Governorate
			1	Damascus
			4	Damascus suburbs
	2		9	Aleppo
1			1	Daraa
			4	Idhb
1				Homs
			1	Hama
		1		Al Hassaka
	1			Lattakia

According to SNHR documentation, these massacres resulted in the death of 225 individuals, including 50 children and 33 women. 37% of the victims were children and women which is a strong indicator that government forces targeted civilians deliberately and indiscriminately.

### Massacres' distribution according to its perpetrators:

Government Forces killed 171 individuals, including 39 children and 16 women.

ISIL killed 10 civilians, including a child and 4 women.

Armed Opposition Groups killed 23 civilians, including 2 children and 5 women.

Unidentified Groups killed 21 individuals, including 8 children and 8 women.

## II- Report Details:

### A- Government forces

(army, security forces, local militias, foreign Shiite militias):

#### Aleppo Governorate:

1- On 1 March 2014, government aviation launched a rocket on Bani Zeid neighborhood in Aleppo which killed 5 individuals including 2 children.

2- On 7 March 2014, government aviation dropped **two barrel bombs** next to Al Khabab mosque in **Al Sukari neighborhood** in Aleppo city which killed 14 individuals, including 8 children and a woman. Materials damages occurred and the region was burned.





- 3- On 9 March 2014, government aviation dropped a number of [barrel bombs](#) on [Al Haydariya mosque](#) in Aleppo city which resulted in [the death of 15](#) individuals, including 2 children.
- 4- On 18 March 2014, government aviation launched a rocket on Karm Al Beik neighborhood in Aleppo city which killed 9 individuals including 3 children and a woman.
- 5- On 18 March 2014, government [aviation launched](#) a rocket on [Sad Al Lawz neighborhood](#) in Aleppo city which [killed 11 civilians](#) including 2 children.
- 6- On 23 March 2014, government aviation dropped [a barrel bomb](#) on [Al Sukari neighborhood](#) in Aleppo which [killed 7 civilians](#) including 2 children.
- 7- On 24 March 2014, government aviation launched a rocket on Al Sukari neighborhood in Aleppo which killed 6 individuals, including 3 children.
- 8- On 24 March 2014, government aviation dropped a [barrel bomb](#) on Hritan town in Aleppo governorate which killed 5 civilians.
- 9- On 26 March 2014, government aviation dropped a [barrel bomb](#) on Adnan city in Aleppo suburbs which [killed 6 civilians](#) including a woman.

### **Idlib Governorate:**

- 1- On 1 March 2014, government aviation launched [a number of rockets](#) on [Kafr Takhareem](#) city in Idlib suburbs which [killed 16 individuals](#).
- 2- On 15 March 2014, government warplanes [launched a rocket](#) on the market in [Ma'art Masreen](#) in Idlib suburbs which [killed 9 individuals](#) including 2 children and 2 women.
- 3- On 20 March 2014, government warplanes [launched a rocket](#) that targeted a bus at Al Jandoul roundabout in Ram Hamdan town in Idlib suburbs which killed 8 civilians.
- 4- On 31 March 2014, government [warplanes raided](#) Harem city in [Idlib suburbs](#) which [killed 6 individuals](#) including a child.

### **Damascus Suburbs Governorate:**

- 1- On 3 March 2014, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on Zakia town in Damascus suburbs which killed 6 individuals including a child.
- 2- On 16 March 2014, government artillery launched a number of missiles on a number of buses on Kwa' Rankous road in Damascus suburbs which killed 6 civilians including a child and two women.
- 3- On 18 March 2014, government [artillery forces](#) shelled Yelda market in [Damascus suburbs](#) with mortar missiles which [killed 5 civilians](#), including a child.
- 4- On 19 March 2014, government warplanes conducted 3 aerial raids on the surrounding of Al Mohamadi mosque in [Kudsaya town](#) in Damascus suburbs which killed 10 individuals.





### **Damascus Suburbs:**

1- On 31 March 2014, government aviation launched a rocket on Jobar neighborhood in Damascus city which killed 7 individuals including 2 children.

### **Hama Governorate:**

1- On 21 March 2014, government aviation dropped a barrel bomb on Al Latamina city in Hama suburbs which killed 11 civilians, including 5 children and 5 women.

### **Daraa Governorate:**

1- On 29 March 2014, government aviation dropped two barrel bombs on Tfas town in Daraa. One of the barrels killed 9 civilians, including 4 children and 4 women.

### **B- ISIL:**

#### **Al Hassaka Governorate:**

1- On 11 March 2014, one of ISIL's members blew himself up in Hadaya Hotel in (it was considered a municipality headquarters for Qameshlo city that was affiliated to the PYD forces) in Al Qamishli city in Al Hassaka governorate. As a result, 10 persons died including 4 women, one of them was pregnant.

### **C- Armed Opposition Forces:**

#### **Aleppo Governorate:**

1- On 20 March 2014, a mortar missile fell on Al Aziziya neighborhood in Aleppo city. It came from a region under the control of armed opposition forces. SNHR documentation team killed 8 individuals including a child and two women.

2- On 26 March 2014, a mortar missile fell on Al Neil Street in Aleppo City. The missiles came from a region that is under the control of armed opposition forces. As a result, 7 children died including a child and 3 women.

#### **Lattakia Governorate:**

1- On 23 March 2014, a surface-to-surface missile was shelled on Sheikh Daher in Lattakia city. We learned that its source was from a region that is under the control of armed opposition forces. As a result, 8 individuals died.

### **D- Unidentified Groups:**

#### **Homs Governorate:**

1- On 6 March 2014, a car exploded in a commercial street in the Armenian neighborhood in Homs which killed 14 civilians including 5 children and 5 women. Also,





30 others were injured. We could not identify the responsible party for this attack up to the moment of making this report.

### **Daraa Governorate:**

1- On 27 March 2014, a bus bomb in **Al Mezreeb town** in Daraa suburbs. The explosion **killed 7 civilians** including 3 women. We were not able to identify the party responsible for this attack up to the moment of making this report.

## **III- Conclusions and Recommendations**

### **Conclusions:**

#### **Government Forces:**

1-SNHR affirms that the bombing, whether it was deliberate or indiscriminate, targeted armless civilians, thus, government forces and its militias have violated the articles of the international law for human rights which guarantee the right to live. Furthermore these violations were perpetrated during a non-international armed conflict which can be classified as war crimes.

2- SNHR believes that these acts of killing that took place during these massacres can be classified as crimes against humanity.

3- These attacks, especially aerial bombing, have caused immeasurable humanitarian and material losses. There are strong indicators that prove that the damage was deeply severe compared to the expected military advantage. In all of the cases, we didn't find any military targets before or during these attacks.

4- The magnitude of this wide systematic frequent shelling, the level of its excessive strength, its military nature, and the coordinated approach of these attacks must be based on high orders, and a state policy.

#### **Extremist Islamic Groups:**

##### **ISIL:**

ISIL's policy of execution and murder are being practiced on a large scale and, thus, can be classified as war crimes.

##### **Armed Opposition Factions**

Indiscriminate bombing in Aleppo and Lattakia is considered a war crime as it resulted in extrajudicial killings. The armed opposition should stop all the indiscriminate attacks.





## Recommendations:

### The United Nations and the Security Council

1. Transferring the Syrian issue to the International Criminal Court and stopping the disrupting of the decisions that must be adopted by the Security Council against the Syrian government. This disruption is a wrong message to all dictatorships around the world and an enhancement to the culture of crime.
2. Posing urgent punishment on those who are involved in the violations of human rights.
3. Binding the Syrian government to allow all relief and human rights organizations to enter Syria, in addition to the International Investigation Committee and allowing them to work freely.
4. Enforce an arms embargo against the Syrian government because it is using weapons in comprehensive attacks against civilians.
5. Security Council must shoulder its responsibility of preserving security and civil peace in Syria because the violations of the Syrian government entail a gross threat to international peace and security.
6. Listing the militias that are fighting with the Syrian government and have committed massacres, like Hezbollah and the other Shiite brigades, National defense Army and Shabiah militia, on the international list of terrorist organizations.
7. Implementing the principle of “protecting civilians” adopted by the General Assembly in 2005, in Syria now, as the situation there is direly requiring the implementation of such a principle.
8. With the crimes against humanity committed by the Syrian government, the international community should stop dealing with this government as an “official side” concerning the relief issues, and stopping supplying the Syrian government with most of the financial and humanitarian aids that, in most cases, don't reach those who are in need and go instead to the areas that support the Syrian government.

## Acknowledgment

Our thanks and appreciations go to the victims' families, eyewitnesses, and local activists whose testimonies contributed majorly to this report. Our most profound consolations go out to the victims' families and friends.

