



## 38 Vital Centers were Targeted at Least during December 2014

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1- Schools

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### First: Executive Summary

During the months of December, 38 vital centers were targeted as follows:

Government forces: 28

Extremist groups: three

Armed opposition factions: three

Unidentified groups: four

The centers that were targeted are as follows:

Ten schools

Nine houses of worship

Eight medical facilities

Seven infrastructure projects

Three markets

One bakery

If the Security Council was unable to carryout 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 at least should press on the Syrian regime to stop targeting vital places, which are usually crowded, such as schools, hospitals, markets, bakeries, and places of worships. This report 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 should justify its brutal attacks before the United Nations and the Security Council.





## Second: Details

### A. Government forces

#### Schools

1- On Monday 1 December, 2014, government forces artillery targeted the yard of Al-Hekma School in Old Aleppo – Jub Al-Qubba neighborhood.

The shelling damaged the school and no humanitarian losses were recorded on account of the school being empty at the time of the shelling.

2- On Wednesday 17 December, 2014, government forces helicopters dropped two barrel bombs on [Qasim Ali Jadid School](#) in Damascus countryside – Madaya town which led to the school being out of commission because of the [heave damages](#). No casualties were recorded.



3- On Monday 22 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted Hafsa Elementary School in Idlib countryside – Saraqeb with a missile which killed four children and wounded 10 others in addition to damaging the school.

4- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted an [elementary school](#), located near the cultural center, in Damascus countryside – Douma city with two thermobaric missiles which resulted in the death of nine civilians, including five children, and wounded 15 others.

5- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Safouhan Preparatory School in Idlib – Safouhan town to kill five victims in addition to damaging the school.

6- On Friday 26 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted [Hamouriya School](#) in Damascus countryside – Hamouriya city with one missile which destroyed the roof of one of the school's buildings.





7- On Sunday 28 December, 2014, government forces targeted the Islamic orphanage's charity school with a thermobaric shell from a checkpoint in Homs – Al-Wa'r neighborhood which damaged the school.

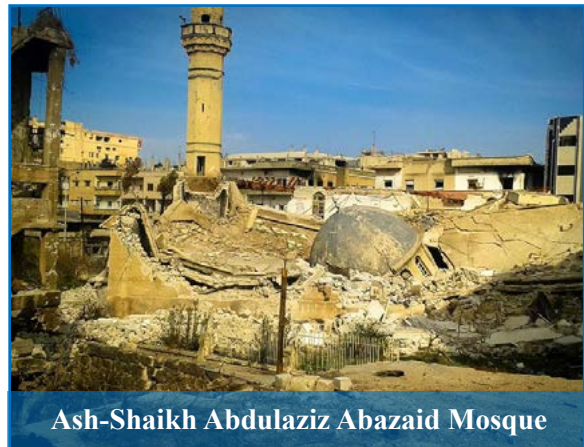
8- On Tuesday 30 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted [Alma Preparatory School](#) in Daraa with a missile which damaged the school. No casualties were recorded.

9- On Wednesday 31 December, 2014, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on a school in Damascus countryside – [Az-Zabadani](#) which heavily damaged the school.

### **Houses of worship**

1- On Wednesday 10 December, 2014, government forces artillery shelled the areas located nearby Ali bin Abe Taleb Mosque in Aleppo – Al-Mashad neighborhood to kill three victims and wound four others.

2- On Thursday 11 December, 2014, landmines planted by government forces inside Ash-Shaikh Abdulaziz Abazaid Mosque exploded in Daraa city – Daraa Al-Mahatta. The landmines were planted by government forces in order to prevent the rebels from taking over the mosque. The landmines destroyed the mosque completely.



**Ash-Shaikh Abdulaziz Abazaid Mosque**

3- On Friday 12 December, 2014, government force artillery targeted [Salah Ad-Din Mosque](#) in Daraa countryside – Eastern Mlieha town with heavy shells which destroyed part of the mosque wall.

4- On Wednesday 17 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted a mosque in Aleppo eastern countryside – Maskna city to wound five victims and damage the mosque.

5- On Thursday 18 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted [Al-Eman Mosque](#) in Damascus countryside – Zibdeen city to destroy its minaret.





6- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, government forces warplanes carried out a number of airstrikes on Ar-Raqqa city; one of which targeted [Al-Huda Mosque](#) and heavily damaged it.

7- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted [Al-Eeman Mosque](#) in Ar-Raqqa city with a missile which partly destroyed the mosque.

8- On Friday 28 December, 2014, government forces artillery targeted Damascus – Al-Yarmouk camp with a number of mortar shells. One of the shells fell in [Abdulqader Al-Husseini Mosque](#) and damaged it.

9- On Friday 25 December, 2014, government forces artillery targeted Omar Bin Al-Khattab Mosque in Daraa countryside – Nawa city with a number of shells which killed five victims, including three children, and damaged the mosque.

#### **Medical facilities:**

1- On Friday 5 December, 2014, government forces shut down Al-Amal Hospital in Aleppo city – Al-Khaldiya neighborhood and got the medical staff and patients out of the hospital for no known reason.

2- On Saturday 6 December, 2014, government forces shelled Orient hospital in Idlib countryside – Ma'rat An-Nu'man city which destroyed parts of the hospital's third floor.

3- On Sunday 7 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted [The Martyr Dr. Zyad Al-Bqa'ie Field-hospital](#) in Damascus countryside – Khan Ash-Shaikh town with two missiles which wounded four members of the medical team and resulted in the hospital being out of commission after severely destroying it.



4- On Tuesday 16 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted [At-Teb Al-Hadith Hospital in Der Ezzor](#) – Al-Mayadien city to kill 12 victims, including three children and two women, in addition to heavily destroying the hospital.





5- On Tuesday 16 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted [Al-Orient Hospital](#) in Idlib countryside – Kafranbul city with one missile to kill three victims in addition to heavily destroying the hospital which resulted in the hospital being out of commission for nearly a week.

6- On Tuesday 30 December, 2014, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on [Ash-Shefaa' Hospital](#) in Idlib countryside – Saraqeb which heavily destroyed the hospital and resulted in it being out of commission.

### Infrastructure projects

1- On Sunday 14 December, 2014, government forces dropped two barrel bombs on the main street of Al-Firdous neighborhood in Aleppo city which destroyed no less than 20 meters of the neighborhood's main sewer line.

### Markets

1- On Wednesday 24 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted a urban market in Aleppo countryside – Al-Mahdoum town with a missile which killed four victims and damaged a number of shops.

2- On Thursday 25 December, 2014, government forces helicopters targeted [Tareaq Halab Street](#) “A market for furniture and house tools” with two missiles and also targeted Martou Street “A food and fruits market” in the middle of Aeppo – Al-Bab city. In total, 32 victims at least were killed, including seven children, in addition to wounding about 110 others and destroying tens of shops and cars.



### Bakeries

1- On Saturday 20 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted a civilians gathering in front of Al-Firdous bakery in Ar-Raqqa city with a missile which killed 11 victims, including three children and one women, in addition to wounded about 60 others.





## B. Extremist groups

### Infrastructure projects

1- On Monday 8 December, 2014, [the Islamic Commission](#) (Al-Hay'a Al-Isslamiya), in coordination with An-Nusra Front, cut off water and power in Idlib city as an attempt to press on the government forces in order to release a number of women prisoners. The water and power supply resumed on Wednesday 10 December, 2014 after government forces fulfilled their demands.

2- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, [An-Nusra](#) Front shut down the power plant in Aleppo countryside – Az-Zurba town which resulted in the power being cut off completely in Aleppo as an attempt to press on government forces in order to release about 37 female university students who were arrested on Sunday 21 December, 2014 while they were heading to Aleppo University. On Tuesday 30 December, 2014, the power supply was resumed after government forces released four students.



3- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, An-Nusra Front cut off the power supply in Idlib as an attempt to press on government forces in order to release about 37 female university students who were arrested on Sunday 21 December, 2014 while they were heading to Aleppo University. On Tuesday 30 December, 2014, the power supply was resumed after government forces released four students.

## C. Armed opposition factions

### Schools

1- On Sunday 28 December, 2014, an armed opposition faction fired an indiscriminate shell that hit Yahya Dihni School in Idlib city to kill one female child and wound 25 others in addition to damaging the school.





## Infrastructure projects

1- On Sunday 14 December, 2014, an armed opposition faction ([Omar May Allah be Pleased with Him Battalion](#)) blew up a high-voltage transformer that supplied 16 government-held villages with electricity after government forces refused to release the women prisoners in Der Shmiel camp in Hama.

2- On Sunday 21 December, 2014, an armed opposition faction (Omar May Allah be Pleased with Him Battalion) blew up the water pipelines that supply Al-Aziziya and Ar-Rasif, which support government forces, with water after government forces refused to release the women prisoners in Der Shmiel camp in Hama.

## D. Unidentified groups

### Medical facilities

1- On Thursday 18 December, 2014, a car was bombed in front of [Al-Kenana Hospital](#) in Aleppo countryside – Darat Izza city. Two people were injured in the bombing. Additionally, parts of the external clinics were destroyed, two ambulances were burned, and the glass of the hospital windows was shattered. SNHR hasn't been able to identify the group behind the bombing.



2- On Saturday 20 December, 2014, a bombed car detonated in front of [Dr. Eissa Ajaj Field-hospital](#) in Daraa city – Tareaq As-Sad neighborhood. . SNHR hasn't been able to identify the group behind the bombing.

## Infrastructure projects

1- On Monday 22 December, 2014, an unidentified group bombed the water tank and pumping station in Homs – Tadmour city. The bombing destroyed the water tank and pumping station and led to it being out of commission.

### Markets

1- On Wednesday 10 December, 2014, a bombed car was detonated in Damascus countryside – [Dmier city market](#). Two victims were killed the bombing and eight were wounded.





### Third: Conclusions and recommendations

According to the Humanitarian International Law, purposely, indiscriminate, or disproportionate attacks are prohibited. Thus, the Syrian regime's 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 centers. The indiscriminate bombardment is a violation of the international humanitarian law and can be classified as a war crime.

#### Recommendations

##### The Security Council

- 1- To bind the Syrian regime to respect Resolution 2139 by, at least, condemning the targeting of vital facilities that civilians need every day.
- 2- To ban the arming of the Syrian regime completely 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

