



7 Medics Killed in July 2015

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I. Executive Summary:

SNHR's high standards for documentation are based on collecting direct testimonies from survivors or victims' families in addition to analyzing and verifying photos, video footages, and some medical records. However, we can't claim that we've documented all the incidents in light of the ban and pursuit by the Syrian regime and other armed groups.

To read more about the methodology of SNHR in documenting victims, please visit the following [URL](#).

The consistent bombing and targeting of medical facilities and medical teams since 2011 by the different conflict parties indicates a systematic policy that only aims to kill more victims and deepens the suffering of the injured civilians and rebels.

SNHR documented the death of 7 medics in July 2015, incidents are detailed as follow:

- Government Forces (army, security forces, local militias, and foreign Shitte militias) killed 5 medics, detailed as follow: a doctor, two Syrian Red Crescent volunteers and 2 medics.
- ISIL killed a doctor.
- Unidentified Groups killed a doctor.





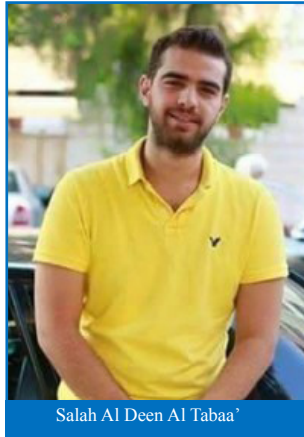
Incidents' details:

A. Government Forces:

Abu Ja'afar Khalil (a pseudonym used due to security reasons), was an Anesthesia Technician from Aleppo, age 50, worked in Al Qudus Makeshift Hospital in Al Sukari neighborhood in Aleppo and in a number of makeshift hospitals in regions under the control of the Armed Opposition Groups. On 5 July 2015, he died of his wounds after government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb next to his house on 27 June 2015.



[Moutaz Abdulkadir Tallawi](#), a urinary tract surgeon, from Khan Shaykhoun in Idlib, died on 25 July 2015 affected by his wounds due to the government warplane shelling with a rocket on Baybis town in Aleppo on 20 July 2015.



Salah Al Deen Al Tabaa', a volunteer in the Syrian Red Crescent in Damascus, from Al Shaghour neighborhood in Damascus, age 21, was arrested by government forces on 5 September 2014 while he was crossing the Syrian-Lebanese borders. His family assured us that he was a healthy young man before his arrest. However, Salah was shot-to-death by a firing squad inside the General Directorate of the Military Security branch in Kafrsousa neighborhood in Damascus. The Syrian authorities delivered the victims' ID to his parents but not his body.

[Mohamad Faysal Al Khalil](#), an Anesthesia Technician, from Knasfra town in Idlib, died on 28 July 2015 due to a missile strike launched by the government warplanes on the city.

[Khaled Al Hafez](#), a volunteer in the Syrian Red Crescent, from Idlib, age 24, died on 30 July 2015 due to missile strike launched by government warplanes on Areeha city in Idlib.





B- ISIL:

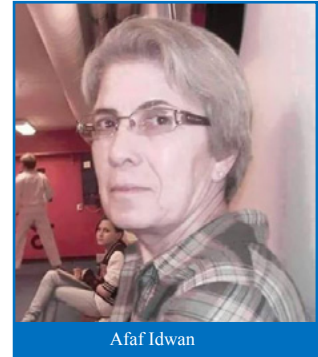
On 19 July 2015, Haneen Othman, a student in the Faculty of Dentistry, from Al Tadamon neighborhood in Damascus, died of her wounds due to ISIL's artillery shelling with mortar missiles on her neighborhood.



Haneen Othman

C-Unidentified Groups:

On 9 July 2015, Afaf Idwan, a doctor from Al Makrouda town in Damascus suburbs, was found dead on the Hisno road intersection on Damascus-Qunaitra Highway. She was abducted then shot by unidentified groups while she was going to her clinic in the town. The groups who perpetrated this crime remain unknown up to the moment of making this report.



Afaf Idwan

Conclusions and recommendations

The Syrian government has blatantly violated both the International Humanitarian Law and the norms of the Humanitarian law; particularly Article 3 of Geneva Conventions and the international humanitarian law and committed crimes that can be openly classified as war crimes when it targeted medics as well as crimes against humanity through these numerous acts of killing.

The employment of weapons in indiscriminate bombing is an explicit violation of the international humanitarian law. All the armed opposition factions should immediately stop these practices.

The Security Council

The Security Council should uphold its legal and moral responsibilities in respect to what happening in Syria instead of only watching the daily bloodbath only becoming bigger. Russia and China should stop protecting the Syrian regime after it was proven that it has perpetrated war crime and crimes against humanity. Also, the International Community should take further steps to protect the lives of the Syrian people if Russia and China didn't change their positions.





Medical organizations around the world

There is a severe shortage in the medical teams in Syria because of the ceaseless killing of Syrian doctors which should be properly addressed. Also, these organization can send volunteers to safe areas where wounded are sent for treatment. We have recorded many cases where wounded died due to lack of medical capabilities.

Acknowledgment

Our thanks go to victims' families and friends and to the local activists who contributed majorly to this report. Also, our most heartfelt condolences go out for the victims' families.

