

Documentation of Al Shammas Neighborhood Massacre in Homs

Incident details:

Al Shammas neighborhood is one of the southern neighborhoods in the city of Homs located on the side of Wadi Al Thahab which is considered one of the pro-government forces (Army, Security forces, local and foreign militias) neighborhoods and these neighborhood residents are active Shabiha for the regime

Al Shammas neighborhood has a population of at least 10,000 the number increased after the beginning of the barbaric military campaign in the city of Homs in the beginning of February s most families evacuated to from Baba Amro and other neighborhoods in Homs that suffered the shelling and the raids.

In Al Shammas neighborhood on its own more than 1,200 families has been recorded as an in-need family among them 550 families origin from Al Shammas neighborhood and 650 displaced families from other neighborhoods.

Al Shammas neighborhood and due to its location in the midst of many pro-government neighborhoods and as the biggest government forces gathering located nearby, the neighborhood residents – especially after thousands of displaced came to the neighborhood- stopped the weekly demonstrations to deny any reason for the government forces to raid the neighborhood, and commit massacres as they did before in Al Adweiya and Karm Al Zaitoun and Deir Ba'alba.

All this caution didn't stop the government forces and from their desire to keep the neighborhood residents in constant fear, and after the previous raid on May 15 that left 15 victims dead and the arrest and humiliation of hundreds others. The armed residents of Al Thahab neighborhood on the day of the incident on the 10th of August had gathered and prepared to once again raid the neighborhood.

They raided on the neighborhood on the morning on August 11 and the wide arrests campaign started and they gathered the neighborhood young men in a mosque and stroke them electricity cables and tortured them with hammers and then executed some of them in front of the rest of the neighborhoods eyes, and communication is available with the eyewitness from Al Shammas neighborhood on Skype to confirm SNHR story: soshoms

The raid on the neighborhood was accompanied with the spread of snipers on the towers surrounding the neighborhood and overlooks it, what increased the number of victims drastically as it amounted to 22 victims including 7 children and 3 women.

Name and Picture of number of victims including a baby

We managed to get the names of the massacre victims after long days and precise gathering of information and news through communication with friends and relatives and listening to the testimonies of the residents and eyewitnesses:

1. Basel Khalil
2. Ohammad Qasem Al Hasaiki
3. Nader Al Azo
4. Yassine Faisal Zuqrait
5. Mahmoud Al Kurdi
6. Feras Al Kurdi
7. Abdul Rahman Bassam Zuqrait – Child
8. Ibrahim Al Antouz (Ibrahim Al Elaiwi)
9. Alaa Al Din Jamal Al Hazouri
10. Hanan Mohammad Al Hazouri
11. Hiyam Shahoud
12. Ammar Al Azo – age 10
13. Aya Al Azo – age 7
14. Maha Al Shami – age 16
15. Brother of Maha Al Shami
16. Son of Rania Al Shami - Child
17. Son of Rania Al Shami - Child

18. Khalid Al Halabi
19. Nadia Al Hamwi
20. Kamal Hazem Khalil
21. Ramez Ammar AL Hamwi – Child
22. Suliman Al Rae'i

Here at SNHR as a human rights organization that concerned with defending human rights we firmly condemn this horrific massacre that is a crime against humanity with all the massacres that the Syrian people have suffered around the clock as well and we hold the Syrian government along with the Army Commanding Chief Bashar Al Assad fully and completely responsible for the massacre and its consequences and reactions, also Iran, Russia and Hezbollah are also held responsible for the ongoing killing and supplying the Syrian government with weapons and money, as we also ask the Security Council and United Nations to work in full speed to do what can be done to protect the civilians in Syria, and to shoulder its morale and legal responsibility and speed up the steps against all involved in these massacres to the International Criminal Court.