



Documentation of the Massacre in al Nashabiya Village- Douma in Damascus Suburbs

The area where the village of al Nashabiya is located is in the Douma town in Damascus Suburbs governorate near Damascus International Airport. Al Nashabiya, which has a population of 40,000 people, is one of the villages that contains a large number of people displaced from Eastern Ghouta.

Location on the map



The Syrian Network for Human Rights obtained an eyewitness account of the events of that day from a local man named al Muntaser Billah, who was nearby at the time of the bombing.

Al Muntaser who spoke with the Syrian Network for Human Rights, can be communicated with through his Skype account via audio and video at:

Mahmoudabade

He told us: “We were close to the massacre location, and at around 11:00 on Sunday morning, we saw a large number of missiles in the sky over the village, which, after a few moments, landed in a populated area of civilians, then we saw smoke rising significantly.





We rushed to the site of the raid and saw the dead bodies and dozens of wounded. We and some civilians from the village pulled the bodies from the rubble.” The Syrian Network for Human Rights’ team in Damascus Suburbs was able to document the deaths of ten people, including nine children and one woman, all of whom had been displaced from al Abbada village. We were also able to document about 15 wounded.

Names of the massacre victims:

1. Suleiman Sarhan’s three-month-old daughter, from al Abbada, Damascus Suburbs
2. [Abdo Suleiman Sarhan](#), male child, from al Abbada, Damascus suburbs
3. [Mohammad Suleiman Sarhan](#), male child, from al Abbada, Damascus Suburbs
4. [Mohammad Khaled Eid Qalla’](#), male child, from al Abbada, Damascus Suburbs
5. [Maisa Khaled Eid Qalla’](#), female child, from al Abbada, Damascus Suburbs
6. Fatima Khaled Eid Qalla’, female child, from al Abbada, Damascus Suburbs
7. Najla Khaled Eid Qalla’, female child, from al Abbada, Damascus Suburbs
8. Eid Khaled Qalla’, male child, 12 years old, from al Abbada, Damascus Suburbs
9. Zaid Kaddour, male child, son of Mahdi Kaddour, from al Abbada, Damascus Suburbs
10. [Nabila Kaddoura](#), woman, from al Abbada, Damascus Suburbs

Evidence and attachments:

First: [Videos showing the massacre](#) martyrs killed as a result of bombing:

Second: [Videos showing](#) those injured as a result of the bombing:





Conclusions:

1. The Syrian Network for Human Rights confirms that the bombardment on al Nashabiya was indiscriminate and was directed against unarmed civilians, showing that the government forces and shabiha violated the provisions of international human rights law which protects the right to life. In addition, this crime was committed in the context of non-international armed conflict, meaning that it amounts to a war crime in which all the relevant criteria are present.
2. The Syrian Network for Human Rights also believes that what happened in al Nashabiya, represented by murder, is a crime against humanity, because this is not the first such incident, but one of many such atrocities that have become near-daily, systematic and widespread events targeting various Syrian governorates.
3. Indiscriminate attacks carried out by government forces are in violation of customary international humanitarian law; that is, government forces have fired shells into populated areas and have not directed them at a specific military target.
4. Such attacks, in particular the bombings, have incidentally caused losses to civilian lives or injuries or damage to civilian objects. There are very strong indications that the damage was exceptionally excessive compared to the desired military advantage.
5. The scale of the massacre, the nature of such repeated massacres, the excessive level of force used therein, the indiscriminate character of the bombing and the coordinated nature of these attacks means that they can only be carried out under the supreme directives which is to say that they are state policy.

Recommendations:

The Syrian government:

1. Immediately stop all human rights violations.
2. Respect its international obligations to protect civilians in time of war and respect the rules of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

Human Rights Council:

1. Demand the Security Council and the relevant international institutions to assume their responsibilities to act against the acts of killing, arrest, rape and displacement committed against the Syrian people.
2. Put pressure on the Syrian government to stop the killings and torture, and request that it released all the kidnapped.
3. Hold allies and supporters of the Syrian government - Russia, Iran, and China - materially and ethically responsible for what's been committed against the children in Syria.





4. The Human Rights Council must give greater attention and seriousness to the disastrous situation of the victims' families in Syria.

Security Council:

1. Adopt a resolution to refer all those involved in such criminal acts to the International Criminal Court.
2. Warn the Syrian government of the consequences of its violent behavior and systematic killing and send clear messages in this regard.

The Arab League:

1. Request that the Human Rights Council and the United Nations pay particular attention to the issue of stopping the daily killings and follow up on this matter.
2. Pay close and serious attention to this issue and place it in the center of permanent monitoring and follow-up and try to pay attention and provide care for the families of the victims psychologically, financially and educationally.
3. Put political and diplomatic pressure on the Syrian government's key allies - Russia, Iran and China - to prevent them from continuing to provide international and political cover and protection for all the crimes committed against the Syrian people, and hold them ethically and materially responsible for all abuses by the Syrian government.

International Commission of Inquiry:

The International Commission of Inquiry should stop depicting the conflict as if it were between two parties equal in status and in the number, degree and seriousness of crimes and centralized decision-making processes, and should describe the crimes as they occurred without mitigating them for political purposes. The committee should also increase the number of its personnel specializing in Syrian affairs due to the scale of crimes committed daily, enabling it to document events more extensively and comprehensively.

