



## Not Less than 36 Massacres Committed in November 2015 amongst which were committed by Russian Forces 13

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### I. Executive Summary:

SNHR documented not less than 36 massacres that were committed in November 2015, detailed as follows:

- A. Government Forces (army, security forces, local militias and foreign Shiite militias) committed 19 massacres
- B. Russian Forces committed 13 massacres
- C. Armed Opposition Groups committed 2 massacres
- D. International Coalition Forces committed 1 massacre
- E. Unidentified Groups committed 1 massacre

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.

Government forces committed 19 massacres in November 2015, detailed as follows:

- 14 massacres were committed in regions under the control of armed opposition groups.
- 5 massacres were committed in regions under ISIL's control.

Massacres' distribution according to the Syrian governorates:

- Damascus suburbs: 7 massacres
- Aleppo: 6
- Daraa: 6
- Homs: 4
- Idlib: 4





Deir Al Zour: 4

Raqqqa: 2

Hama: 1

Al Hassaka: 1

Lattakia: 1

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

Massacres' distribution according to the main conflict parties in November 2015					
Conflict Party	Governme nt Forces	Russia n Force s	Armed Opposition Groups	Internation al Coalition Forces	Unidentifi ed Groups
Damascus suburbs	6	1			
Daraa	5	1			
Deir Al Zour	3	1			
Idlib	2	2			
Homs	2	2			
Aleppo	1	3	1		1
Raqqqa		2			
Hama		1			
Lattakia			1		
Al Hassaka				1	

According to SNHR documentation team, these massacres killed 479 individuals including 91 children and 59 women. 31% of targeted victims were women and children which is a strong indicator that civilians were targeted deliberately.





## Victims' death toll according to its perpetrators:

- Government forces killed 185 individuals, including 38 children and 32 women.
- Russian Forces killed 257 individuals, including 50 children and 17 women.
- Armed Opposition Groups killed 25 individuals including a child and 6 women
- International Coalition Forces killed 7 individuals including 3 women
- Unidentified Groups killed 5 individuals including two children and a woman

## II. Report Details:

### A. Government Forces:

#### Damascus Suburbs Governorate:

On 2 November 2015, government rocket launchers launched a surface to surface missile on Douma city that is under the control of armed opposition which killed 7 individuals including 3 children and a woman.

On 4 November 2015m [government military aviation and its rocket launchers launched several rockets and surface to surface missiles](#) on Douma city which killed 15 individuals including a child and three women.

On 10 November 2015, government forces warplanes and rocket launchers launched [several rockets on Douma city](#) in Damascus suburbs which killed 17 individuals [including 5 children and 3 women. Also 100 others were injured.](#)

On 19 November 2015, government warplanes launched several rockets on Douma city which killed 15 individuals including two children and a woman.

On 20 November 2015, government warplanes launched several rockets on Ein Terma city which is under the control of armed opposition. As a result, 7 individuals were killed and not less than 20 others were injured.





On 29 November 2015, [government rocket launchers launched two rockets on Douma city](#). One of the rockets killed 5 individuals including 3 children; most of the victims were from one family.

#### **Daraa Governorate:**

On 31 October 2015 government helicopters dropped several barrel bombs on Namer town that is under the control of armed opposition which killed 9 individuals most of them were from one family.

On 12 November 2015, government warplanes [shelled a civilians' gathering](#) next to one of the water wells in western Ghareya town in Daraa suburbs that is under the control of armed opposition which killed 7 individuals including a child and a woman.

On 19 November 2015, [government tanks and artillery launched several rockets and Gvozdika missiles](#) on the olive presser in Al Shiekh Miskeen city in Daraa suburbs that is under the control of armed opposition [which killed 16 individuals including a woman](#).

On 19 November 2015, government helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on a house in Shiekh Meskeen city in Daraa suburbs which killed 5 individuals from one family (5 children and two women).

On 28 November 2015, [government warplanes shelled Al Soura town in Daraa](#) in Daraa suburbs which killed 6 individuals from one family including 3 children.

#### **Deir Al Zour Governorate:**

On 17 November 2015, government warplanes shelled Al Mouhassan city in eastern Deir Al Zour suburbs that is under the control of ISIL which killed 9 individuals including 3 children.

On 20 November 2015, government warplanes shelled Al Zibari town in eastern Deir Al Zour suburbs which killed 23 individuals including 13 women and injured not less than 40 others.

On 20 November 2015, government warplanes shelled Al Bouleel town in eastern Deir Al Zour suburbs which killed 5 individuals including 2 women and injured 3 others.





### **Idlib Governorate:**

On 3 November 2015, [government artillery forces shelled Khan Shaykhoun city](#) in Idlib that is under the control of armed opposition which killed 8 individuals including 2 women.

On 28 November 2015, government warplanes [shelled Binnish city in Idlib](#) which killed 6 individuals most of them were from one family, [including 4 children and a woman](#).

### **Homs Governorate:**

On 13 November 2015, [government forces ambushed several civilians](#) in Bahrat Al Ghajar region while they were passing from Al Houla city (that is under the control of armed opposition) to one of the towns in northern [Homs suburbs](#). [Government forces shot at the civilians which killed 6 individuals](#).

On 30 November 2015, government forces stormed several farms at Homs – Al Karyatayn crossing point that is under ISIL's control and killed 8 individuals including a woman who was shot dead.



### **Aleppo Governorate:**

On 9 November 2015, government helicopters dropped two explosive barrel bombs on Eisha town in Al Bab city that is under ISIL's control in Aleppo which killed 9 individuals (8 children and a woman). Also, not less than 10 others were injured and 6 houses were destroyed as well.

### **Russian Forces:**

#### **Aleppo Governorate:**

On 3 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes shelled Al Ansari neighborhood that is under the control of armed opposition which killed 11 individuals including 5 children. Also not less than 20 others were injured and some residential houses were destroyed.







On 3 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes shelled Bustan Al Qasser neighborhood that is under the control of armed opposition which killed 6 individuals including 4 children and injured more than 12 others. Also, several houses and shops were destroyed.

On 29 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes shelled Ezzaz city that is under the control of armed opposition which killed 8 individuals including a child.

### **Idlib Governorate:**

On 8 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes shelled a market in Ma'art Al Noaman city in Idlib suburbs which killed 10 individuals.

On 29 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes shelled Areeha city in Idlib which killed 38 individuals including 4 children.



### **Raqqa Governorate:**

On 3 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes shelled Raqqa city that is under ISIL's control which killed 32 individuals including a woman and a child. Not less than 50 others were injured.

On 26 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes shelled Al Raqqa city that is under ISIL's control. The shelling targeted Hatteen School which killed 8 civilians including 5 children. Also, not less than 10 others were injured.





### **Homs Governorate:**

On 2 November 2015, alleged [Russian warplanes launched two rockets on bread-distributing center in Al Karyatayn city](#) in Homs suburbs that is under ISIL's control. The shelling targeted a civilian gathering which killed 26 individuals including 3 children and two women.

On 27 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes shelled Al Sekhna city in Homs that is under ISIL's control. One of the rockets targeted two houses which killed 6 civilians including 3 children and a woman.

### **Hama Governorate:**

On 1 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes shelled Um Sahareej town in Hama suburbs that is under ISIL's control which killed 6 individuals from one family (a woman and 5 children).

### **Deir Al Zour Governorate:**

On 5 November 2015, alleged Russian warplanes launched [two airstrikes that targeted a market in Al Bukamal city](#) in eastern Deir Al Zour suburbs that is under ISIL's control which [killed 71 individuals including 9 children](#) and [injured more than 100 others](#).



### **Damascus suburbs Governorate:**

On 7 November 2015, alleged [Russian warplanes launched several airstrikes on Douma city in Damascus](#) suburbs which [killed 25 individuals](#) including [6 children and 7 women](#).





Daraa Governorate:

On 21 November 2015, [alleged Russian warplanes shelled several rockets on Tareeq al Sad neighborhood](#) in Daraa that is under the control of armed opposition which killed 10 individuals from one family including 4 children and 5 women.

### **C. Armed Opposition Groups:**

**Aleppo Governorate:**

On 21 November 2015, two local made missiles fell on Al Akrameyi neighborhood that is under the control of government forces in Aleppo city. The missile came from a region under the control of armed opposition in Salah Al Deen neighborhood. One of the missiles killed 5 individuals.

**Lattakia Governorate:**

On 10 November 2015 a local rocket-propelled grenade fell on Sbiero Station in Lattakia. The grenade came from artillery stationed in a region under the control of Ahara Al Sham, an armed opposition group. As a result, 20 individuals were killed including a child and 6 women. Also almost 50 others were injured and 14 cars were partly damaged.

### **D. International Coalition Forces:**

**Al Hassaka Governorate:**

On 10 November 2015, international coalition forces shelled a civilian house next to a Teshreen Field on the road between Al Hassaka city and Al Houli city in Hassaka suburbs that is under ISIL's control. As a result, 7 individuals were killed including 3 children and 7 others were injured.

### **E. Unidentified Groups:**

**Aleppo Governorate:**

On 21 November 2015 we recorded the death of [5 individuals from one family](#) including two children next to Harjale town in northern Aleppo suburbs that is under the control of armed opposition. [The victims died while they were trying to pass](#) from the Turkish to the Syrian side. They died to a land mine that was detonated and we have not been able to identify the group who is responsible for planting the mine.







## IV- Conclusions and Recommendations

### Conclusions:

#### Syrian Government and Russian 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.

### Recommendations:

#### To 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.

