



No Less than 51 Massacres were Perpetrated in April 2015 19 Massacres in Idlib Alone

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First: Executive Summary

SNHR documented in the month of April no less than 51 massacres as follows:

First: government forces: 50 massacres

Second: armed opposition: one massacre

SNHR describes an incident as a massacre if it involved: “the killing of five unarmed people at least” for more information on our [methodology](#), please visit the following URL.

The regional distribution of the massacres that were perpetrated in April 2015 is as follows:

Idlib: 19 massacres

Aleppo: 11 massacres

Daraa: seven massacres

Damascus suburbs: four massacres

Hama: four massacres

Homs: three massacres

Der Ezzor: one massacre

Al-Hassaka: one massacre

Ar-Raqqa: one massacre

According to SNHR documentation team, 499 victims at least were killed in those massacres including 110 children and 79 women which amount to 38% of the total number of victims. This notably high percentage indicates that civilians were mostly targeted in these massacres.

The death toll of these massacres according to its perpetrators **Government forces:** 492 victims; including 108 children and 79 women.

Armed opposition: seven civilians; including two children





Second: Details

A. Government forces

Idlib governorate:

1. On Thursday 2 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Idlib – An-Nayrab village with a missile which resulted in the killing of six civilians including three children and one woman.



2. On Sunday 5 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Idlib – Silqean city with one missile which resulted in the killing of five civilians including three women.

3. On Sunday 5 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Idlib – Kafr Takharim city with one missile. Nine civilians were killed; including four children and three women.



4. On Sunday 5 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Idlib city to kill five civilians including one child and one woman.

5. On Tuesday 7 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped barrel bombs on Idlib – Kourien city to [kill eight civilians including two children and three women](#).

6- On Tuesday 14 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Idlib city with one missile to [kill 11 civilians](#).

7- On Tuesday 14 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Idlib – Saraqeb city to kill 14 civilians including nine women.

8- On Wednesday 15 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Idlib – Taftnaz city which killed [11 civilians](#) including four children and three women.

9- On Friday 17 April, 2015, government forces targeted [Ma'rat Misreen city](#) in Idlib with two surface-to-surface missiles to kill nine civilians including three children and one woman.





10- On Friday 17 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped one barrel bomb on Idlib – Mjezer village and killed four children and two women.



Idlib – Mjezer village

11- On Tuesday 21 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped two barrel bombs on Ma'rat An-Nu'man city in Idlib to kill [six civilians](#) including [five children](#).

12- On Saturday 25 April, 2015, government forces executed 27 prisoners, including a child, at a Military Security detention center in Idlib – Jesr Ash-Shoghour before it retreated from the city.



Idlib – Jesr Ash-Shoghour

13- On Sunday 26 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Idlib – [Jouzeeph village](#) with one missile to kill [nine civilians](#) including four children and one woman.

14- On Sunday 26 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Idlib – Al-Malaj village which resulted in the death of [eight children](#) and one woman.

15- On Sunday 26 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted a market and a school, where IDPs were residing, in Idlib – Darkoush town with missiles. 55 civilian were killed including [seven children](#) and 14 women.

16- On Sunday 16 April, 2015 government forces warplanes targeted Darkoush town road in Idlib with a missile which killed five civilians including one child and one woman.

17- On Monday 27 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Idlib – Jouzeeph with a missile to kill 10 civilians including nine children.



the main market in Idlib – Binnish city

18- On Wednesday 29 April, 2015, government forces targeted [the main market in Idlib](#) – Binnish city. 15 civilians were killed including two children and two women.





19- On Wednesday 29 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Idlib – Al-Janoudiya village with a missile which killed seven civilians and wounded about 40 others.

Aleppo governorate:

1- On Thursday 2 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped one barrel bomb on a residential building located near Al-Walid School in Aleppo city – Al-Firdous neighborhood which killed [five civilians](#) including two children and two women.

2- On Friday 3 April, 2015, government forces targeted Salah Ad-Din neighborhood in Aleppo city with a surface-to-surface missile which killed seven civilians including two children.

3- On Saturday 11 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped one barrel bomb on [a vegetables market in Aleppo](#) – Al-Ma’adi neighborhood. The shelling [killed 26 civilians](#) including six children and one woman

4- On Sunday 12 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Sa’d Al-School in Aleppo – Al-Ansari neighborhood with a thermal missile which [killed 11 civilians](#) including four women.

5- On Monday 13 April, 2015 government forces warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on Sukkar Mosque in Aleppo city – Bostan Al-Qaser neighborhood to [kill seven civilians](#) including three wome.

6- On Wednesday 15 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Aleppo city – As-Sukkari neighborhood with a missile to kill five civilians including three children.

7- On Friday 17 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped a [barrel bomb](#) on Jamal Mosque in Aleppo city – Al-Kallasa neighborhood to kill [seven civilians](#).

8- On Saturday 18 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Bab Al-Hadid neighborhood in Aleppo city to kill eight civilians.



Boutsan Alqaser





9- On Wednesday 22 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted the National Hospital in Aleppo – Hafer city with missiles. The shelling resulted in the death of 21 civilians.

10- On Wednesday 22 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Aleppo – Sharba' village with a missile to kill 12 civilians.

11- On Thursday 30 April, 2015, government forces targeted [Marea city](#) in Aleppo with a thermobaric missile which killed eight civilians including five [children](#) and two women.

Daraa governorate:

1- On Thursday 2 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Daraa – Dael city with a missile which killed eight civilians including two children and two women.

2- On Thursday 2 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Kafr Shams-Aqraba road in Daraa with a missile which killed nine civilians including two children and one woman.

3- On Monday 6 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped a number of barrel bombs on Daraa – Bosra Ash-Sham city to kill seven civilians including five children and one woman.

4- On Wednesday 8 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Daraa – Al-Jiza town with a missile to kill [eight civilians](#) including three children and one woman.

5- On Sunday 19 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Al-Kark Ash-Sharqi town in Daraa. Six civilians were killed including one child and three women.

6- On Sunday 19 April, 2015, government forces warplanes carried out an airstrike that targeted Daraa – Dael city. The airstrike killed nine civilians including [five children](#) and two [women](#).

7- On Monday 20 April, 2015, government forces raided Daraa – Al-Lajat area and executed 5 civilians.

Damascus suburbs governorate:

1- On Wednesday 15 April, 2015, government forces targeted the main square in Damascus suburbs – Zibdeen town with a mortar shell which killed 12 [civilians](#) including six children.

2- On Wednesday 22 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Damascus suburbs – Harasta city with missiles to kill [10 civilians](#) including one child and two women. Additionally, about 30 others were wounded.





3- On Wednesday 22 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Damascus suburbs – Douma city with missiles to kill [seven civilians](#) including two children while about 40 others were wounded.

4- On Sunday 26 April, 2015, government forces launched two mortar shells that fell near Jayroud Hospital in Damascus suburbs. After people gathered to aid the wounded, a third mortar shell was fired which resulted in the killing of 11 civilians including a nurse.

Homs governorate

1- On Thursday 2 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped barrel bombs on Homs – Al-Ghantou town to kill five civilians including two children and two women.

2- On Monday 13 April, 2015, government forces helicopters dropped one barrel bomb on Homs – Al-Ghnatou town which killed five civilians including two children and one woman.

3- On Friday 24 April, 2015, government forces helicopters on Homs – Al-Ghnatou town. The bombing killed [five civilians](#) including one woman.

Hama governorate:

1- On Monday 13 April, 2015, government forces dropped a barrel bomb on Hama – Um Hartien village. The bombing caused the death of nine civilians including two children and four women.

2- On Monday 27 April, 2015, government forces dropped a barrel bomb on Hama – Ash-Shariy'a village to kill five civilians including two women.

3- On Monday 28 April, 2015, government forces raided Hama – Az-Zayyara town and executed six civilians including one child.

Der Ezzor governorate:

1- On Tuesday 28 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Der Ezzor city – Al-Jbiela neighborhood with two missiles which killed six civilians and wounded three others.

Al-Hassaka governorate:

1- On Saturday 25 April, 2015, government forces warplanes targeted Al-Shadadi market in Al-Hassaka with two missiles which killed [10 civilians](#) including a [child](#). Also, about 23 others were wounded and 13 shops were destroyed.

Ar-Raqqa governorate:

1- On Saturday 10 April, 2015, government forces targeted a residential building in Ar-Raqqa city with two missiles which killed [five civilians](#) including two children and two women. Additionally, three others were wounded.





B. Armed opposition

Hama governorate:

1- On Monday 6 April, 2015, an armed opposition artillery that was stationed at a rebel-held area fired a shell that fell near Al-Imam Ismail Mosque in Hama – As-Salmiya neighborhood. This caused the death of seven civilians including two children and wounded 18 others.

Third: Conclusions and Recommendations

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.

Armed opposition:

The indiscriminate bombing that took place in Hama is considered a war crime as it resulted in extrajudicial killings. The armed opposition should stop all the indiscriminate attacks.

Recommendations

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



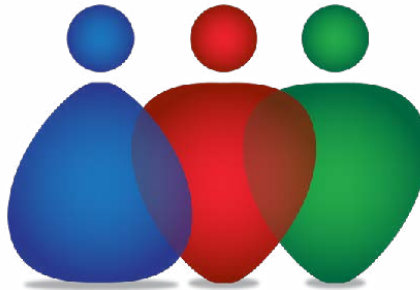


in Syria because the violations of the Syrian government entail a gross threat to international peace and security.

6. Listing the militias that are fighting with the Syrian government that 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 the 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 regime.

Fifth: 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.



Syrian Network For Human Rights

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