



No less than 56 Massacres in July 2016 Including 43 Massacres at the hand of Syrian and Russian regime

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Executive Summary

SNHR documented 56 massacres at least in July distributed as follows:

- A. Government forces (army, security forces, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias): 34
- B. Russian forces: nine
- C. ISIS (self-proclaimed the Islamic State): five
- D. Armed opposition factions: one
- E. International coalition forces: Four
- F. Unidentified groups: three

SNHR describes an incident as a massacre if it involves: “the killing of five peaceful people at once”, for more information on our methodology, please visit the following URL:

http://sn4hr.org/public_html/wp-content/pdf/english/SNHR_Methodology_en.pdf

The massacres in July 2016 are distributed across areas of control as follows:

- 30 massacres in areas under the control of armed opposition factions.
- 4 massacres in areas under the control of ISIS.

Massacres distribution across governorates:

- Aleppo: 21 massacres
- Idlib: 11 massacres
- Damascus suburbs: eight massacres
- Daraa: four massacres
- Homs: four massacres
- Deir Ez-Zour: two massacres





- Hama: two massacres
- Al Hasaka: two massacres
- Damascus: one massacre
- Al-Raqqa: one massacre

According to SNHR documentation team, 778 individuals were killed in these massacres including 246 children and 150 women meaning that 51% of the victims were women and children which is a considerably high percentage that indicates that civilian residents were the target in most of these massacres.

Victims toll of the massacres are distributed by the perpetrator as follows:

Government forces: 337 individuals including 89 children and 57 women.

Russian forces: 130 individuals including 48 children and 20 women.

ISIS: 105 civilians including 13 children and 19 women.

Armed opposition factions: 10 civilians including two children and four women.

International coalition forces: 143 civilians including 76 children and 33 women.

Unidentified groups: 53 individuals including 18 children and 17 women.

Details

A. Government forces (Army, security, local militias, Shiite foreign militias)

Aleppo governorate:

Friday afternoon 1 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on the residential building located near [Al Halawaniyeh round](#) in [Tareeq Al Bab neighborhood](#) in [Aleppo city](#) that is under the control of [armed opposition factions](#). As a result, [16 individuals](#) were killed including [five children](#) in addition to about [15 others](#) were wounded.

Monday morning 11 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on [Bazzeh yard](#) in [Bab Al Maqam neighborhood](#) in Aleppo city that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 14 individuals were killed including three children in addition to about 10 others who were wounded.

Saturday dawn 16 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on the residential buildings Al Almaji yard in Bab Al Nasr neighborhood in Aleppo city that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 11 individuals were killed including five children and three women.





Thursday noon 21 July 2016, government helicopters dropped a barrel bomb near [Abdul Al Qader Al Jaylani mosque](#) in [Al Saleheen neighborhood](#) in [Aleppo city](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, [eight individuals](#) were killed.



Saturday noon 23 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on [residential buildings](#) in the vicinity of [Meqdad Bin Al Aswad mosque](#) in Al Qaterji neighborhood in Aleppo city that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, eight individuals were killed including one child and one woman.

Monday morning 25 July 2016, government helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on the [residential buildings](#) on the vicinity of [Al Mash-had neighborhood yard](#) in [Aleppo city](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, eight individuals were killed including two women.

Wednesday noon 27 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on the popular market in Al Sakhour neighborhood in Aleppo city that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, seven individuals were killed including two children in addition to 10 others who were wounded.

- Homs governorate:

Saturday 2 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on [Al Rastan city](#) in the northern suburbs of Homs governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, eight individuals were killed including two children and one woman.

Sunday noon 10 July 2016, government warplanes carried out an airstrike using missiles on [residential building](#) in [Buri Qa'ee village](#) in the suburbs of [Homs governorate](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, eight individuals were killed most of





them from the same family including six children and one woman.

Wednesday 13 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on [popular market in Al Rastan city](#) in the northern suburbs of Homs governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 20 individuals were killed including two women.

Thursday 21 July 2016, Regime/Russian forces warplanes (Investigation are still ongoing to identify the perpetrator party) fired missiles on a residential house in Al Taibeh village in the eastern suburbs of Homs governorate that is under the control of ISIS. As a result, five individuals from the same family were killed (four children and one woman).

- Damascus suburbs governorate:

Saturday 2 July 2016, government warplanes carried out several airstrikes using missiles on several areas in the eastern area in Jiroud city that located in Al Qalamoon Mountains in Damascus suburbs governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. On that day the bombardment resulted in the death of 35 individuals including three children, four women and five medical cadres of the medical point in addition to about 50 others were wounded.

Tuesday 19 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on the residential buildings in Bait Sawa town in Eastern Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, six individuals were killed including two children and three women in addition to 10 others were wounded.

Thursday 21 July 2016, government artillery fired shells on [Douma city](#) in Eastern Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, nine individuals were killed including one child and four women in addition to about 20 others were wounded.

Saturday 23 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on a [market in Mesraba town](#) in Eastern Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 12 individuals were killed including five children and four women in addition to about 30 others were wounded.





Friday evening 24 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on a popular market in Erbeen city in Eastern Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, five individuals were killed including two girl and one woman in addition to about 45 others were wounded.

Monday 25 July 2016, government warplanes dropped a bomb loaded with cluster munition on [residential buildings](#) in [Douma city](#) in Eastern Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, six individuals were killed including one child in addition to about 15 others were wounded.

Wednesday 27 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on Bait Sawa town in Eastren Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, six individuals were killed including two children in addition to about 27 others were wounded.

- Idlib governorate:

Wednesday 13 July 2016, government warplanes carried out two airstrikes using four missiles on northeast areas in [Jericho city](#) in the northern suburbs of [Idlib governorate](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. One missile dropped on a [residential neighborhood](#) in the west of Idlib Garage resulting in the death of seven individuals. On that day the bombardment caused the death of 19 individuals at least including seven children and two women in addition to about 30 others were wounded.

Friday 15 July 2016, government warplanes carried out an airstrike using missiles on [the center of Abu Al Thohour city](#) in the eastern suburbs of Idlib governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 12 individuals were killed including six children and four women, and about 10 others were wounded, in addition to great destruction of five buildings.





Wednesday 20 July 2016, Regime/Russian forces warplanes (Investigation are still ongoing to identify the perpetrator party) fired missiles on [Al Kastana round](#) in [the center of Idlib city](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, nine individuals were killed including one girl, in addition to about 20 others were wounded.

Thursday 21 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles [near gas station](#) in the northern parts of [Talmennes town](#) in the eastern suburbs of [Idlib governorate](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 19 individuals were killed including four children in addition to about 15 others were wounded.

Thursday 21 July 2016, government warplanes carried out an airstrike using missiles on residential buildings in Sarmada city in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 10 individuals were killed including three children and three women and about 17 others were wounded. In addition to great damages of several buildings.

Thursday 21 July 2016, Regime/Russian forces warplanes (Investigation are still ongoing to identify the perpetrator party) fired missiles on [residential Buildings](#) in [Al Baqa'a area «the northern neighborhood»](#) in [Idlib city](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, six individuals were killed. It is worth mentioning that, on that day, the six airstrikes on several areas in the city by government warplanes caused the death 10 individuals including two children and one woman, in addition to about 36 others were wounded.

Saturday 23 July 2016, Regime/Russian forces warplanes (Investigation are still ongoing to identify the perpetrator party) carried out two airstrikes using missiles on [Al Sawma'a yard](#) in the center of Jisr Al Shoghour city in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 12 individuals were killed including two children and six women, in addition to about 30 others were wounded.

Friday 29 July 2016, government warplanes carried out two airstrikes using missiles on Salqeen city in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. One airstrike targeted Al Jam'ieh area in the southern outskirts of the city. As a result, seven individuals were killed.





Friday 29 July 2016, government warplanes carried out an airstrike using missiles on northern outskirts of [Sarmada city](#) in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, five individuals were killed including three women in addition to 15 others were wounded.

- Deir Ez-Zour governorate:

Thursday 14 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on Rowaida neighborhood in Al Bolail town the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate that is under the control of ISIS. As a result, 11 individuals were killed including five children and four women in addition to five others were wounded.

Saturday 23 July 2016, government warplanes fired missiles on Al Tebni town the western suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate that is under the control of ISIS. As a result, 10 individuals were killed including five children and two women in addition to about 15 others were wounded.

- Hama governorate:

Friday 15 July 2016, government artillery, stationed in Maḡan village in the north-east suburbs of Hama governorate, fired mortar shells on Atshan town in the eastern suburbs of Hama governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, six individuals were killed at one.

Saturday 23 July 2016, Regime/Russian forces warplanes (Investigation are still ongoing to identify the perpetrator party) fired missiles on Soha village in the eastern suburbs of Hama governorate that is under the control of ISIS. As a result, six individuals were killed most of them from the same family including four children.

- Daraa governorate:

Monday 25 July 2016, government rocket launcher fired surface to surface rocket on [Daraa Al Balad area](#) in [Daraa city](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result [eight individuals](#) from the same family were killed including five children and two women.





Tuesday 26 July 2016, a landmine planted by regime forces exploded on the vicinity of Al Mlaiha Al Gharbiyeh town in the suburbs of Daraa governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result six individuals were killed (a mother and her five children) including four children and one woman.

Sunday 31 July 2016 Regime/Russian forces warplanes (Investigation are still ongoing to identify the perpetrator party) fired missiles on Jasem city in the northern suburbs of Daraa governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result nine individuals were killed including two children and three women.

B. Russian forces:

- Idlib governorate:

Friday 8 July 2016, alleged Russian battleships fired long range missiles on [residential buildings](#) in the eastern area of [Darkosh city](#) in the western suburbs of [Idlib governorate](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result [27 individuals](#) were killed including [two girls and 10 women](#). In addition to about 40 others were wounded.

Monday 11 July 2016, alleged Russian warplanes carried out nine successive airstrikes using cluster bombs and missiles on [the road of fuel Lorries between Termanein town](#) in the suburbs of Idlib governorate and Darat Ezzeh in the suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result nine individuals were killed including one child. In addition to about seven others were wounded.

- Aleppo governorate:

Thursday afternoon 7 July 2016, alleged Russian warplanes fired missiles on residential buildings located near the round of Al Saleheen neighborhood in Aleppo city that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result six individuals were killed including four children.

Sunday afternoon 10 July 2016, alleged Russian warplanes fired missiles on [residential buildings](#) in the north of [Ebeen town](#) in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result 19 individuals were killed including 15 children and one woman.





Thursday noon 14 July 2016, alleged Russian warplanes fired several missiles near [Al Halawaniyeh round](#) in [Tareeq Al Bab neighborhood](#) in Aleppo city that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result nine individuals were killed including three children and three women.

Saturday morning 16 July 2016, alleged Russian warplanes fired missiles on [residential building](#) in [Al Masakin area](#) in [Al Ferdous neighborhood](#) in [Aleppo city](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, [11 individuals](#) were killed including [two children and three women](#).



Tuesday noon 19 July 2016, alleged Russian warplanes fired missiles on [Al Senayyeh area](#) in [Al Atareb city](#) in the western suburbs of [Aleppo governorate](#) that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, [17 individuals](#) were killed including four children and one woman. In addition to about 10 others were wounded. It is worth mentioning that the airstrikes on that day, on the city resulting the death of 21 individuals including six children and one woman.



Sunday night 24 July 2016, alleged Russian warplanes fired missiles on popular market in Al Atareb city in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 12 individuals were killed including one child. In addition to about 30 others were wounded.

Friday evening 29 July 2016, alleged Russian warplanes fired missiles on residential buildings of northern areas in Al Atareb city in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 20 individuals were killed including 15 children, one fetus and two women.





C: ISIS:

- Damascus suburbs governorate:

Saturday 2 June 2016, a suicide bomber from ISIS blew himself up by explosive belt in a [kitchen belonging to Al Islam Army](#), one of armed opposition factions, in Al Dmair town in Damascus suburbs governorate, while they prepared to the wedding of administrators of the army. As a result 16 civilians were killed, most of them from Al Islam Army administrators, including three children.

- Al-Raqqa governorate:

Tuesday 5 July 2016, ISIS slaughtered five civilians using knife in front of [Al Faisal shops](#) near Al Daleh round in Al-Raqqa city that is under the control of ISIS, with charge of dealing with international coalition forces.

- Al Hasaka governorate:

Tuesday 5 July 2016, a suicide bomber from ISIS blew himself up using explosive jacket in front of 8 March bakery in Al Salehiyeh neighborhood in Al Hasaka city that is under the control of self-management forces (Consisting primarily of the Democratic Union Party, a branch for the Kurdistan Workers' Party). As a result 19 civilians were killed including two children and two women, in addition to about 30 others were wounded.

Wednesday 27 July 2016, a suicide bomber from ISIS blew himself up inside lorry bomb in front of the headquarter of self-management forces (Consisting primarily of the Democratic Union Party, a branch for the Kurdistan Workers' Party) in the western neighborhood in Al Qamishli city in the suburbs of Al Hasaka governorate. As a result 50 civilians were killed including eight children and 14 women, in addition to about 50 others were wounded.

- Aleppo governorate:

Thursday morning 28 July 2016, ISIS infiltrated to Meshreft Al Bowair village in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of self-management forces (Consisting primarily of the Democratic Union Party, a branch for the Kurdistan Workers' Party) slaughtered and shot bullets indiscriminately. As a result 15 civilians were killed including three women.

D: Armed opposition factions:

- Damascus governorate:

Sunday 24 July 2016, a number of mortar shells dropped on Qamar Al Sham res-





restaurant in Al Qaimarieh neighborhood in Damascus city that is under the control of government forces, from artillery stationed in Eastren Ghouta that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, 10 civilians were killed including two children and four women, in addition to about 26 others were wounded.

E: International Coalition forces:

- Aleppo governorate:

Friday dawn 1 July 2016, international coalition warplanes fired missiles on residential house near Al Lanbeh round in Manbej city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of ISIS. As a result, seven civilians from the same family were killed including three children and three women.

Monday noon 18 July 2016, international coalition warplanes fired missiles on residential buildings in Al Tokhar village located in the north of Manbej city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of ISIS. As a result, eight civilians most of them from the same family were killed including two children.

Tuesday dawn 19 July 2016, international coalition warplanes fired missiles on residential buildings in Al Tokhar village located in the north of Manbej city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of ISIS. SNHR was able to document the death of 106 civilians including 68 children and 29 women as of this writing.

Thursday morning 28 July 2016, international coalition warplanes fired missiles on shops in the vicinity of Al Ghandora mosque in Al Ghandora town related to Jarablos city the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of ISIS. As a result, 22 civilians were killed including three children and one woman.

F: Unidentified groups:

- Daraa governorate:

Sunday 3 July 2016, a suicide bomber blew himself up using explosive belt inside a residential house in Inkhel city in the western suburbs of Daraa governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, seven individuals were killed (one woman and one children and five armed elements). We are unable to





identify the influential party as of this writing.

-Aleppo governorate:

Sunday 3 July 2016, a landmine exploded in a travelers bus «that takes travelers from Al-Raqa city to Damascus city» near Izzaz city in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate that is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, five individuals were killed including one child and two women, we are unable to identify the party that planted the landmine as of this writing.

Friday evening 8 July 2016, a number of missiles fired by launchers from unknown location near [university accommodation](#) on «[Al Express street](#)» in [Al Forqan neighborhood](#) in [Aleppo city](#) that is under the control of government forces. As a result, 41 individuals were killed including 16 children and 14 women. We are unable to identify the influential party as of this writing.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions:

Government forces and Russian forces:

1. SNHR affirms that the bombing incidents, deliberate or indiscriminate, targeted armless civilians, thus, government forces and Russian forces have violated the articles of the international human rights law which guarantee the right to life. Furthermore, these violations were perpetrated during a non-international armed conflict which amount to war crimes as all elements of a war crime have been fulfilled.
2. SNHR believes that the acts of killing that took place during these massacres can be classified as crimes against humanity.
3. These attacks, especially bombing, have resulted in collateral damage that involved casualties, injuries, and damages to civil facilities. There are strong indicators that prove that the damage was deeply severe compared to the estimated military benefit. In all of the cases, we didn't find any military targets before or during these attacks.
4. The magnitude of the massacres, its frequent pattern, the exaggerated use of strength, its military nature, the indiscriminate manner of the bombing, and the coordinated approach of these attacks must be based on high orders, and a state policy.

Other forces:

According to this report, International coalition forces, ISIS, and armed opposition factions have committed massacres that constitute war crimes. However, these





crimes are not crimes against humanity as in the case of government forces their allies that commit massacres in a widespread and systematic manner.

Recommendations:

To The United Nations and the Security Council

1. To refer the case in Syria to the International Criminal Court and stop 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 supports the culture of crime.
2. To impose urgent punishment on those who are involved in the violations of human rights.
3. To bind the Syrian government to allow all relief and human rights organizations to enter Syria, in addition to the International Intendent Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic and journalists and let them work without any obstructions.
4. Enforce an arms embargo against the Syrian government because it is using weapons in widespread 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 the international peace and security.
6. Listing the militias that are fighting with the Syrian government and have committed widespread massacres, like Hezbollah and the other Shiite brigades, National defense Army and “Shabiha” militia, on the international list of terrorist organizations.
7. Implementing the “Responsibility to Protect” norm agreed to by the United Nations General Assembly in 2005, in Syria as it is direly needed there.
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, are not being delivered to those who are in need and go instead to the people and parties 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.

