

In Its 11th Day: 79 Breaches in the Ceasefire Agreement The Killing of 83 individuals and not less than 418 breaches since the ceasefire started

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# I-Introduction

SNHR sent documented reports regarding all the breaches and violations of Kofi Anan's 6 point plan in April, May and June 2012 to his office. This plan proved its fruitlessness since the Syrian regime continued to commit different kinds of massacres and crimes that amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity; as we previously documented.

We hope that the ceasefire will pave the way to a political change towards democracy. The previous 6 points plan was under the auspices of the UN, while this ceasefire is sponsored by Russian and the USA only. As it is known, Russia cannot take that part since it is a loyal ally to the Syrian regime and one of its supporters. Hence, we questioned this ceasefire and its outcomes. The Syrian regime has violated and breached several UNSC resolutions and it was not held accountable. What if Russia follows the same footsteps? And will it be held accountable?

# Fadel Abdul Ghani, head of SNHR, says:

"The international community, represented by the UNSC, knows exactly what it should do to end this circle of violence, however, it resorts to unproductive solutions. We need a political transition that would transform the ruling to a democratic one. We have previously said that after Geneva 1, the bloodshed is not going to end and state administrations will be doomed to failure. ISIL and Iranian militias are filling the space the corrupted Syrian government left. We are with any agreement or resolution that would end the cycle of violence and massacres in Syria."







Concerning the statement itself, the Syrian regime and its Russian accomplice can strike regions under the control of armed opposition in northern of Syria under the pretext of the presence Al Nusra front, even if it is extremely limited, without breaching the ceasefire.

After some experience with the oppressive Syrian regime, it will welcome any breach in the ceasefire agreement and wishes that its Russian ally would end the presence of its opponents. It appears to us that the Russians would not want to get more involved in the Syrian swamp and this ceasefire would just buy them some time to rethink their options.

SNHR team documented these breaches as it is the bare minimum of what we were able to document according to our methodology. We interviewed eyewitnesses and verified the footages and images we received. This report documents all the breaches that were committed by all conflict parties since the ceasefire started.

Those strikes happened in regions under the control of armed opposition and in regions that are controlled by joint forces of Al Nusra front and the armed opposition groups. The report also does not include any military operations in regions under ISIL's control.

Also it is worth noting that there are some regions that are still under siege like northern Homs suburbs.

# **II- Executive Summary**

This report depicts the breaches in the ceasefire agreement in its 11th day, 8 March 2016, as it reached 79 breaches which include military attacks and arrests. Some breaches happened during the past days but we include it in this report after we were able to verify it.

# 1- Military Attacks:

SNHR documented not less than 52 breaches detailed as follows according to the main conflict parties:

A- Government forces committed 46 breaches, detailed as follows according to the Syrian governorates:

Damascus suburbs: 10

Hama: 5

Homs: 5

Lattakia: 5

Daraa: 10

B- Russian forces committed 3 breaches:

One breach in each of Hama, Aleppo and Idlib

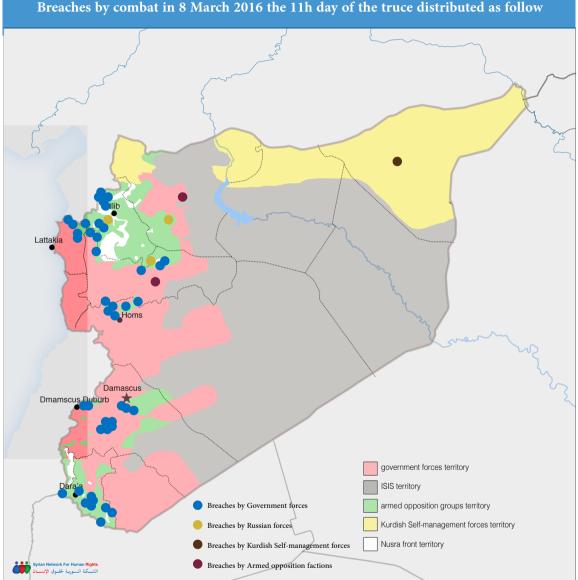
C-Kurdish Self Management Forces: committed one breach in Al Hassaka governorate.

D-Armed Opposition groups committed 2 breaches in each of Hama and Aleppo.















# These attacks killed 17 individuals:

- 16 civilians, including 5 children and 4 women
- 1 armed opposition member

## Victims' death toll according to the main perpetrators from the conflict parties:

- Government forces killed 7 individuals (6 civilians including 2 children and a woman, and one armed opposition member)

- Kurdish Self Management Forces killed one civilian
- Armed Opposition Groups killed 9 civilians including 3 children and 3 women.

# 2-Arrests:

SNHR documented the arrest of 27 individuals which constitutes a breach in the ceasefire agreement. Details:

- Government forces arrested 18 individuals including 6 women, distributed according to the Syrian governorates as follows:

Damascus: 5 Homs: 1 Damascus suburbs: 5 Lattakia: 3 Al Hassaka: 4 - Kurdish Self Management forces: arrested 9 individuals in Al Hassaka governorate.

# **III- Report Details:**

## 1- Military Attacks: A- Government Forces:

# Damascus suburbs:

- Daraya City: We recorded three breaches by government forces. The city is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra presence.

1st breach: at 22:52 government forces used its machine guns against the northern front in the city.

2nd breach: at 22:50 government forces launched an RBG missile on the same front. 3rd breach: 19:35 government forces used its machine guns on the same front.

- Khan Al Sheeh town: we recorded 5 breaches by government forces. The town is under the joint control of armed opposition groups and Al Nusra front. It is free of any ISIL presence.







1st breach: at 10:15 a.m. government helicopters dropped 8 barrel bombs, amongst which one barrel that did not explode. It fell on Sharaf Street eastern of Khan Al Sheeh camp.

Images that depict the smoke from the shelling due to the barrel bomb shelling 2nd breach: at 11:10 p.m. government warplanes dropped 4 barrel bombs on the eastern region of Khan Al Sheeh camp.

3rd breach: at 11:10 government artillery launched several missiles on the eastern region of Khan Al Sheeh

4th breach: at 12 p.m. government helicopters dropped 4 barrel bombs on Al Qusour Street in Khan Al Sheeh

5th breach: after 10 minutes, government helicopters dropped 4 more barrel bombs on the periphery of Al Salam highway

A video that depicts the smoke from the shelling on Khan Al Sheeh town

- Madaya town: we recorded 2 breaches by government forces and its supporting militias. The town is under the control of armed opposition.

1st breach: at 1 p.m. Hezbollah militia in Kala'at Al Qursy checkpoint used its machine guns on the southern entrance of Madaya town.

2nd breach: 1 p.m. Hezbollah militia in Al Arkoub checkpoint used its machine guns on the southern entrance of Madaya town.

# Idlib:

- Al Najeya town: we recorded two breaches by government forces in the town that is under the joint control of armed opposition and Al Nusra front. It is free of any ISIL presence.

1st breach: at 4:15 p.m. government helicopters dropped a barrel bomb that fell on the periphery of Al Najeya town.

2nd breach: at 15 p.m. government helicopters dropped two barrel bombs that fell on the periphery of Al Najeya town.

- Mar Ma'end town: We recorded two breaches by government forces. The town is under the joint control of armed opposition and Al Nusra front and free of any ISIL presence.

1st breach: at 4: 15 p.m. government helicopters dropped a barrel bomb that fell on the periphery of Mar Ma'end town.

2nd breach: at 5:15 p.m. government helicopters dropped two barrel bombs that fell on the periphery of Mar Ma'end town.







#### Badama town:

At 1:30 p.m. government rocket launchers in Joureen Camp in Sahel Al Ghab region targered Badama town in Jisr Al Shughour. The rockets fell on agricultural lands. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

A video that depicts the civil defense members when they were checking the shelling location in Badama town

- Jisr Al Shughour City: We recorded 6 breaches. The town is under the joint control of armed opposition and Al Nusra front. It is free of any ISIL presence.

1st breach: between 6 and 7 a.m. government rocket launchers in Joureen camp targeted Jisr Al Shoughour city with several rockets which killed a child, Nour Moustada, and injured 3 others.

2nd breach: at 8 a.m. government rocket launchers in Joureen camp targeted Jisr Al Shoughour city with several rockets

3rd breach: between 9 and 10 a.m. government rocket launchers in Joureen camp targeted the periphery of Jisr Al Shoughour city with several rockets

4th breach: between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. government artillery forces in Joureen camp launched its artillery missiles on Jisr Al Shoughour city

5th breach: between 10 and 11 a.m. government artillery forces in Jureen camp targeted Jisr Al Shoughour city

6th breach: at 12 p.m. government artillery forces in Jureen camp targeted Jisr Al Shoughour city

A video that depicts the government artillery and rocket launchers shelling on Jisr Al Shoughour city and its suburbs on 8 March 2016

# **Homs Governorate:**

- Al Hula City: Monday, March 7, 2016, we haven't mentioned it in our previous report as the incident was still being checked:

Around 8:00pm government forces used its machine guns to target a residential area in Al Hula city in Homs Governorate. The city is under the control of armed opposition and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

- The road between Eyoon Hussein and Al Saan villages: Monday, March 7, 2016, we haven't mentioned it in our previous report as the incident was still being checked:

Around 5:30pm a government forces' tank fired 4 shells on the road between Eyoon Hussein and Al Saan villages. The area is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.







A video that depicts the government forces shelling on the road between Eyoon Hussein and Al Saan villages on March 7, 2016

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## - Al Saan Al Aswad village:

Around 5:00 am government forces used machine guns to target armed opposition front in Al Saan Al Aswad village. The village is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

#### - Eyoon Hussein:

Around 5:00am government forces used machine guns to target an armed opposition front in Eyoon Hussein village. The village is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

#### - Talbisa city:

Around 1:00 pm government artillery forces fired 3 shells that targeted an armed opposition front in Talbisa city. The city is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

#### Hama Governorate:

- Al Surmaniyeh village: Around 9:00am government forces artillery fired shells on armed opposition factions front in Al Surmaniyeh village, the village is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

- **Qastoun town:** Around 9:00 am government forces artillery fired several shells on the farms of Qastoun town. The town is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

Kafr Nabouda town: We recorded 2 breaches by government forces. The town is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

- First Incident: around 2:00 am government forces' missile launchers fired 4 missiles on the farms in Kafr Nabouda town.

- Second Incident: around 6:00pm government forces artillery fired 2 shells on the Kafr Nabouda town







- Harbnafsah town: Government forces used machine guns to target an armed opposition front in the town. The town is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

# Lattakia Governorate:

- Kabana village: We recorded 2 breaches by government forces. The town is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

- First Incident: government forces artillery fired several shells on armed opposition forces front in Kabana village in the Kurds Mountain.

- Second Incident: government forces used machine guns to target an armed opposition front in Kabana village in the Kurds Mountain in an attempt to storm the village. Armed opposition forces responded by firing on the source of the fire.

- Shahroura village: Government artillery forces fired several shells on an armed opposition factions' front in Shahroura village in the Turkmen Mountain. The town is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

- Kalz village: Government forces artillery shells fired on armed opposition front in Kalz village in Turkmen Mountain in Lattakia Governorate. The town is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

- Sallor village: Government forces artillery fired several shells on armed opposition front in Sallor village in Turkmen Mountain. The town is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front. The artillery shelling killed a member from an armed opposition

# Daraa Governorate:

**Al Yadouda town:** we recorded 3 breaches by government forces. The town is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

- First Incident: around 9:00pm government forces used machine guns targeting armed opposition forces front in Al Yadouda town.

- Second Incident: around 9:00pm government forces artillery fired several mortar shells on armed opposition front in Al Yadouda town

- Third Incident: around 11:40 am government forces used machine guns to target an armed opposition front in Al Yadouda town







- Fourth Incident: Monday, March 7, 2016, we haven't mentioned it in our previous report as the incident was still being checked:

Around 11:35pm government forces used machine guns to target armed opposition front.

- Zamrin village: we recorded 3 breaches by government forces. The village is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

- First Incident: around 6:00am government forces used machine guns targeting residential houses in the Zamrin village in Daraa Governorate

- Second Incident: Monday, March 7, 2016, we haven't mentioned it in our previous report as the incident was still being checked:

Around 11:00pm government forces used machine guns to targer an armed opposition front in Zamrin village

- Al Herak city: we recorded 2 breaches by government forces. The village is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

- First Incident: around 9:40am government forces artillery fired 8 shells on Brigade 52 building in Al Herak city

- Second Incident: Monday, March 7, 2016, we haven't mentioned it in our previous report as the incident was still being checked:

Around 10:30am government forces artillery fired shells on Brigade 52 building in Al Herak city in Daraa Governorate

- Daraa Al Balad neighborhood: Around 1:30 government forces artillery fired mortar shells on civilians' houses in Daraa AL Balad neighborhood in Daraa city. The shelling killed 3 civilians including a woman and a child. The neighborhood is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

Al Mal village Around 8:25 pm government artillery forces fired 5 shells on a civilian side of Al Mal village in Daraa Governorate, which killed 2 civilians. The village is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.

# **B- Russian forces:**

#### Hama Governorate:

- Al Surmaniyeh village: Around 9:00 am suspected Russian warplanes fired several missiles on farms in Al Surmaniyeh village. The village is controlled by armed opposition forces and has no existing forces of ISIL or Al Nusra Front.





## **Idlib Governorate:**

- Al Najiyeh village: Alleged Russian warplanes fired 2 missiles on residential houses in Al Najiyeh village, destroying several houses. The village is controlled by armed opposition forces and Al Nusra Front and has no existing forces of ISIL. A video that depicts the destruction due to suspected Russian warplanes shelling on the village in March 8, 2016

Image that depict the destruction due to suspected Russian warplanes shelling on the village in March 8, 2016 - image source Jisr Al Shoughour Coordination.

#### **Aleppo Governorate:**

- Orm Al Kubra town: Monday, March 7, 2016, we haven't mentioned it in our previous report as the incident was still being checked:

Suspected Russian warplanes fired missiles on the road between Orm Al Kubra and A Atareb city wounding 6 victims including 2 children and a woman. The town is controlled by armed opposition forces.

# C- Kurdish Self-management forces:

#### Hassakah Governorate:

Abu Fas village, Hasakah southern countryside: Democratic Syria Kurdish forces opened fired on Muhaisen Al Raoof vehicle killing him.

# **D-Armed opposition factions:**

#### **Aleppo Governorate:**

- Al Sheikh Maqsood neighborhood: Monday, March 7, 2016, we haven't mentioned it in our previous report as the incident was still being checked:

Armed opposition factions located in Bustan Al Basha neighborhood fired mortar shells targeting residential building in the western parts of the neighborhood killing 9 civilians including 3 children and 3 women, and wounding 10 others. The neighborhood in controlled by Kurdish Self-management forces.

#### Hama Governorate:

- Ma'arKeba village: Around 3:00 pm armed opposition factions fired a missile on a government forces' vehicle on government forces front in Ma'arKeba village in Hama Governorate that is controlled by government forces.





#### **Recommendations:**

- We ask the joint American and Russian committee to investigate these incidents, announce its results to the Syrian people and prevent it from happening again.

- We demand the international community to correlate the ceasefire with political efforts that would pave the way towards a transitional stage that would result in a democratic regime, which will end the suffering of the Syrian people.

If breaches are still being committed, then this fragile ceasefire may fail at any moment. Since USA is a major advocate for this agreement, then it should persuade the Russian government to cease its airstrikes and pressure its ally the Syrian government to do so.

## Acknowledgments

Out most profound condolences go out to the victims' families and friends and our thanks to the local activists and families who contributed majorly to this report.

























