In Its 15th Day: 43 Breaches in the Ceasefire Agreement The Killing of 105 individuals and not less than 559 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

Since the ceasefire started on 27 February 2016 and up till its 15th day, on 12 March 2016, SNHR documented 559 breaches in the ceasefire agreement 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.

Military Attacks:

SNHR documented 351 breaches, detailed as follows:

A- Government forces: we recorded 313 breaches by government forces, detailed as follows according to the Syrian governorates:

- Damascus suburbs: 80

Hama: 59Homs: 48Daraa: 40Idlib: 40Lattakia: 40Al Qunaitera: 4

- Damascus: 2





B- Russian forces committed 31 breaches, detailed as follows according to the Syrian governorates:

- Aleppo: 9
- Lattakia: 5
- Idlib: 6
- Hama: 10
- Homs: 1

C- Kurdish Self Management Forces: committed 3 breaches, detailed as follows: 1 breach was recorded in each of Aleppo, Raqqa and Al Hassaka respectively.

D- Armed Opposition Groups: committed 4 breaches: 3 in Aleppo and 1 in Hama.

These attacks killed 105 individuals, detailed as follows:

- 64 civilians, including 13 children and 9 women
- 41 armed opposition members

The victims' death toll is detailed as follows according to the main conflict parties:

- Government forces killed 62 individuals:
- i- 24 civilians including 6 children and 4 women
- ii- 38 armed opposition members
- Alleged Russian forces killed 31 individuals:
- i- 28 civilians including 6 children and 6 women
- ii- 3 armed opposition members
- Kurdish Self Management Forces: killed 2 civilians
- Armed Opposition groups killed 10 civilians including 3 children and 2 women.

2- Arrests:

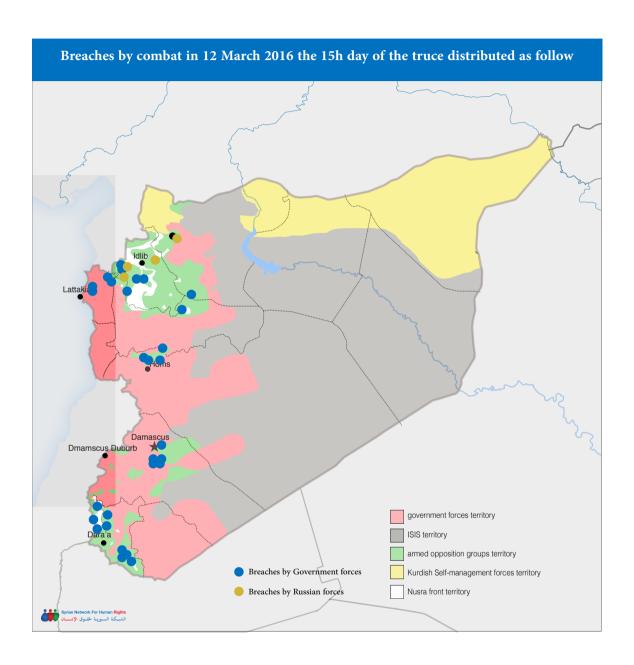
SNHR documented the arrest of 206 individuals detailed as follows according to the main conflict parties:

- a- Government forces arrested 169 individuals detailed as follows according to the Syrian governorates:
- Damascus: 43
- Damascus suburbs: 41
- Lattakia: 16Hama: 13Homs: 16















- Aleppo: 16

- Deir Al Zour: 13 - Al Hasska: 10

- Tartous: 1

B- Kurdish Self Management forces: arrested 37 individuals detailed as follows:

- 28 in Al Hassaka
- 2 in Al Raqqa in Tal Abyad city
- 7 in Aleppo
- 3- Obstructing Humanitarian Aid: 2 incidents happened in Mo'adameyat Al Sham city in Damascus suburbs.

III- Details of the new breaches:

43 breaches were documented and detailed as follows:

1- Military attacks: 32 breaches detailed as follows:

A- Government forces committed 28 breaches detailed as follows:

Damascus suburbs: 4 breaches

- Daraya city:

we recorded 4 breaches in the city that is under the control of armed opposition. The city is free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

Breaches' details: at 1:30 a.m., 1:40 a.m., 1:45 a.m, and 12:06 a.m., government forces launched 8 mortar missiles, 2 artillery missiles and a rocket on the city's downtown, southern and northern fronts.

Damascus governorate: 1 breaches

- Al Qaboon neighborhood:

At 5 p.m. government snipers in the municipality building killed an armed opposition member, Radwan Abdul Wahed, on one of the armed opposition fronts. The latter fired back at the gun fire source. The neighborhood is under the joint control of armed opposition and Al Nusra front.

Idlib: 2 breaches:

Al Habeet town: we recorded two breaches by government forces. It is under the joint control of armed opposition and Al Nusra front and free of any ISIL presence. 1st breach: government warplanes launched several rockets on agricultural lands on the periphery of Al Habeet town in Jabal Al Zawiyah.

2nd breach: government artillery forces launched several missiles on civilian houses which led to great material damages.





Homs: 4 breaches:

- Um Sharhouh town:

we recorded two breaches by government forces. It is under the control of armed opposition forces and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

1st breach: at 6 a.m. government artillery forces launched 2 missiles on an armed opposition front in Um Sharhouh town.

2nd breach: government snipers injured an armed opposition member after they targeted him.

- Teir Ma'ala town:

At 11:40 p.m. government tanks launched two missiles on an armed opposition front in Teir Ma'alee. It is under the control of armed opposition forces and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

- Al Rastan city:

At 1 p.m. government forces launched two mortar missiles on the western farms in Al Rastan city. The city is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

Daraa: 7 breaches:

- Busra Al Sham city:

we recorded 4 breaches. The city is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

1st breach: at 9:20 a.m. government forces launched 7 artillery missiles on the residential neighborhoods in Busra Al Sham city.

2nd breach: government forces launched 10 artillery missiles on the residential neighborhoods in Busra Al Sham city.

3rd breach: government tanks launched 2 missiles on armed opposition fronts in Busra Al Sham city.

4th breach: government rocket launchers launched 2 rockets on armed opposition fronts in Busra Al Sham city.

- Akraba town:

At 3:37 p.m. government artillery forces launched several artillery missiles on civilian houses in Akraba city. The shelling killed one civilian and injured 3 others. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

- Houmreen town:

At 3 p.m. government artillery forces launched several artillery missiles on civilian houses. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.







- Tal Al Hara region:

At 5 p.m. government artillery forces launched <u>2 artillery missiles</u> on an armed opposition front. The region is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

A video that depicts the shelling on the region

Hama: 2 breaches

Al Madeeq Citadel:

At 11 p.m. government forces used its heavy machine guns on a residential region in Al Madeeq citadel. The region is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

- Deir Sonbol town:

At 6:30 p.m. Government rocket launchers launched its rockets on the residential regions in Deir Sonbol town. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

Lattakia Governorate: 6 breaches

- Killiz town:

we recorded two breaches by government forces. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

1st breach: government artillery forces launched its artillery missiles on an armed opposition front in Killiz town.

2nd breach: government forces used its machine guns and targeted an armed opposition front in Killiz town in the Turkmen Mountain. At the same time, government forces tried to storm the town. As a result, armed opposition groups responded to the gun firing. Four armed opposition members were killed and 20 others were injured, 4 amongst which are in critical conditions.

- Al Tefaheyi town:

we recorded 2 breaches by government forces. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

1st and 2nd breach: government rocket launchers and artillery forces shelled a residential region and an armed opposition front in Al Tefaheya town in the Kurds Mountain.

- Al Qalaa region:

Government forces used its machine guns to target an armed opposition front in Al Qalaa region. Armed opposition groups responded to the gun firing source. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.







- Kibbana town:

Government forces used its machine guns to target an armed opposition front in Kibbana town. Armed opposition groups responded to the gun firing source. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

- Al Quniatera governorate: 2 breaches

- Al Mousahara town:

At 1:40 p.m. government artillery forces launched several artillery missiles on an armed opposition front in the town. Armed opposition groups responded to the gun firing sources with mortar missiles. The town is under the control of armed opposition. It is free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

- Um Batna Town:

At 1:40 p.m. Government artillery forces launched several missiles on an armed opposition front in Um Batna. Armed opposition groups responded to the gun firing. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.

B- Russian forces:

Aleppo Governorate: 1 breach:

- Al Atareb city: on 11 March 2016
- Alleged Russian warplanes launched several rockets that targeted the periphery of Al Atareb city in western Aleppo suburbs. The city is under the control of armed opposition.

A video that depicts the shelling aftermath on Al Atareb city on 11 March 2016

Idlib Governorate: 2 breaches

- Al Najeya town:

At 1:30 p.m. alleged Russian warplanes shelled the center of Al Najeya town in Idlib. The town is under the control of armed opposition and Al Nusra front.

- Kinda town:

At 1:30 p.m. alleged Russian warplanes launched several rockets on the center of Kinda town in Idlib. The town is under the control of armed opposition and Al Nusra front.

Lattakia Governorate:

- Al Tefaheya town:

Alleged Russian warplanes launched several rockets on an armed opposition front in Al Tefaheya town. The town is under the control of armed opposition and free of any ISIL or Al Nusra front presence.







2- Arrests:

We recorded the arrest of 11 individuals by government forces, detailed as follows according to the Syrian governorates:

Damascus suburbs: 4

Damascus: 3 Aleppo: 3 Homs: 1

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.





