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Tuesday 13 December 2016, the Russian regime, in coordination with the Turkish regime, announced a ceasefire agreement inside the neighborhoods of Aleppo city that are under the control of armed opposition factions. The agreement stated that civilians, wounded, and gunmen will be evacuated via Al Ramousa crossing to Uqdat Al Raqqa area and then to the western suburbs of Aleppo. As a result, about 11400 individuals, including 350 injured persons from Aleppo's eastern neighborhoods, were evacuated before the agreement was impeded as the Syrian regime and its Shiite militias breached it. We have documented these breaches in a special [Report](#).

The Iranian regime, through its Shiite militias, successfully obstructed the first agreement which resulted in totally different negotiation process. On Sunday 18 December 2016, armed opposition factions announced that the new agreement with the Russian regime stated that 400 individuals will be evacuated from Al Fou'a and Kafrya towns, which are besieged by armed opposition factions in Idlib governorate, to Aleppo city in exchange for evacuating the rest of residents of Aleppo's besieged neighborhoods, in addition to 1500 individuals from Madaya and Al Zabadani towns in Damascus suburbs, which is besieged by the Syrian regime and its Shiite militias. This agreement will be achieved in three stages:

The first stage: the evacuation of 1250 individuals from Kafrya and Al Fou'a towns in exchange for the evacuation of a half of the besieged persons in the eastern neighborhoods of Aleppo city.

The second stage: the evacuation of 1250 individuals from Kafrya and Al Fou'a towns in exchange for the evacuation of the rest of the besieged persons in the eastern neighborhoods of Aleppo city.

The third stage: the evacuation of 1500 individuals from Kafrya and Al Fou'a towns in exchange for the evacuation of 1500 individuals from Madaya and Al Zabadani towns in Damascus suburbs.





On Sunday 18 December 2016, the first stage of the agreement started by the arrival of 15 buses to outskirts of Kafrya and Al Fou'a towns. When the first five buses had arrived to Al Fou'a and Kafrya through Bab Al Hawa road and the security procedures were completed by the members of Al Fateh army (armed opposition factions joint rally, also contains Fateh Al Sham front), about 50 individuals including armed members attacked the buses fleet on Al Kornaish near Al Ram checkpoint near Ma'aret Misreen circle in North Idlib city and indiscriminately opened fire and burned 10 buses while chanting words against the evacuation of civilians. They also accused those who try to evacuate the besieged people of betrayal and dealing with the west and Russia.

The perpetrators of this incident broadcasted a [video](#) footage adopting the burning of buses. SNHR has audio footage of Abo Al Baha Al Asfari, a leader in Jund Al Aqsa, and Abo Hashem Al Mayri, a member of the organization, while they incite people to cut the road and ban the convoys to reach Al Fou'a and Kafrya towns. Moreover, a number of families and media activists told us about the perpetrators of this incident as they are members affiliated to Jund Al Aqsa the extremist group that previously swore allegiance to Fateh Al Sham front. Despite that, Jund Al Aqsa has its independence in its field work.

Monday 19 December 2016, the agreement was executed and the evacuation process from Kafrya and Al Fou'a towns started as Al Fateh army provided guarantees to the Syrian Red Cross and Red Crescent not to attack the buses, while the other factions condemned the incident and issued a statement to clarify their condemnation.

Fadel Abdul Ghani, chairman of SNHR, says:

“The Shiites militias crossed borders and that are supported by the Iranian regime on one hand and the extremist Islamic militias like Al Qa'eda organization, ISIS , Al Nusra front and Jund Al Aqsa, were and will be an obstacle that frustrate any political settlement agreement, as these cross-border organizations feed on chaos. The International committee contributes in the extension of the existence of these organizations and empowering them by its neglect of the Syrian tragedy during six whole years”





Attachments:

A statement of armed opposition factions condemning the attack against the convoys of Al Fou'a and Kafrya, 18 December 2016



Image of buses that entered Al Fou'a and Kafrya towns to evacuate families, 18 December 2016



Images of buses that were burned before entering Al Fou'a and Kafrya towns, 18 December 2016



Video footages shows the burning of buses that headed to Al Fou'a and Kafrya towns, 18 December 2016

A video footage shows the members that adopted the burning of buses 18 December 2016

