# The Killing of 21 Medical and Civil Defense Staffers in February 2016 13 amongst which were killed by Russian forces

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# **I. Executive Summary:**

SNHR's high standards for documentation are based on collecting direct testimonies from survivors or victims' families in addition to analyzing and verifying photos, video footages, and some medical records. However, we can't claim that we've documented all the incidents in light of the ban and pursuit by the Syrian regime and other armed groups.

- To read more about the methodology of SNHR in documenting victims, please visit the following URL.
- The consistent bombing and targeting of medical facilities, medical and civil defense facilities and teams since 2011 by the different conflict parties indicates a systematic policy that only aims to kill more victims and deepens the suffering of the injured civilians and rebels.

SNHR documented the killing of 21 medical personnel and civil defense staffers in February 2016, incidents are detailed as follow:

- A. Government Forces (army, security forces, local militias, and foreign Shiite militias) killed 6 medical personnel and civil defense cadres, detailed as follows:
- a nurse
- 5 civil defense members
- B. Russian forces: killed 13 medical staffers, detailed as follows:
- A doctor
- 6 nurses including 4 females







- 2 volunteers in the Syrian Red Crescent
- 4 medical staffers including a woman

### **B. Extremist Islamic Groups:**

- ISIL killed one volunteer in the Syrian Red Crescent
- A. Kurdish Self Management Forces: killed on medical personnel.

## **II. Incidents' Details:**

#### A. Government forces:

<u>Kassem Mohamad Al Amouri</u>, a paramedic in the civil defense center in Al Marej region, was killed on 1 Feb 2016 due to the government warplane shelling on the region while he was evacuating injured people from a previous shelling.

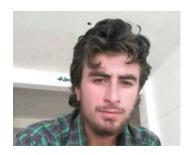


<u>Tarek Moustafa Akrad</u>, a civil defense member in Daraa governorate, from Tareeq Al Sad neighborhood, married, died on 11 Feb 2016 in one of the Jordanian hospitals after wounds he sustained from the government artillery shelling on his neighborhood on 9 Feb 2016.

Amina Houssien Al Hassan, a nurse from Ma'ar Shoureen town in Idlib, worked in the National Hospital in Ma'art Al No'man city in Idlib. She died on 15 Feb 2016 due to government warplane shelling on the hospital.

Ahmad Ali Mokdad, a civil defense member in Daraa governorate, was killed on 16 Feb 2016 due to the government warplane shelling on Busra Al Sham.

Ousama Naser Al Asi, a civil defense member in Bzabour Center in Idlib. He died on 27 Feb 2016 due to wounds he sustained from the government shelling on Areeha city in Idlib on 26 Feb 2016







Ahmad Saleh Majajo, a civil defense member in Bzabour Center in Idlib died on 26 Feb 2016 due to wounds he sustained from the government shelling on Areeha city in Idlib.



#### **B. Russian Forces:**

Abdul Karim Kheir Allah, a volunteer in the Syrian Red, from Adnan city in Aleppo, 47, died on 2 Feb 2016 due to alleged Russian shelling on an ambulance that belongs to the Red Crescent in Adnan city in northern Aleppo suburbs that is under the control of armed opposition.

Mohamad Saleh Barbana, a volunteer in the Syrian Red Crescent from Adnan city died on 2 Feb 2016 due to alleged Russian shelling on an ambulance that belongs to the Red Crescent in Adnan city in northern Aleppo suburbs that is under the control of armed opposition.

Houssien Taboush a driver from Adnan city, 38, died on 2 Feb 2016 due to alleged Russian shelling on the Physiotherapist Center in Adnan city that is under the control of armed opposition. Houssien Tabboush was one of the center's drivers.

<u>Imad Al Deen Mohamad Al Niser</u>, a doctor from Khan Shaykhoun city in Idlib, a delegate for Doctors without Borders, died on 15 Feb 2016 due to alleged Russian shelling on the makeshift hospital that belongs to Doctors without Borders in Idlib suburbs.

Ammar Ahmad Hallak, head of the nursing staff in the makeshift hospital that belongs to Doctors without Borders, from Kafr Nabel city, born in 1975, died on 15 Feb 2016 due to alleged Russian shelling on the hospital.



Mohamad Mahmoud Al Shawaf, a nurse, from Ma'art Al No'man city in Idlib, born in 1990, <u>died</u> on 15 Feb 2016 due to alleged Russian shelling on the hospital that belonged to Doctors without Borders.







Yehya Abdul Karim Kitaz, a laboratory technician, from Ma'art Al No'man city in Idlib, born in 1969, died on 15 Feb 2016 due to due to alleged Russian shelling on the hospital that belonged to Doctors without Borders.



Inas Homra, an intern nurse, 18 years old, from Me'yran town in Idlib, died on 15 Feb 2016 due to due to alleged Russian shelling on the hospital that belonged to Doctors without Borders.

Kawthar Al Swas, 40, worked in the physiotherapy department in the makeshift hospital that belonged to Doctors without borders, died on 15 Feb 2016 due to the alleged Russian shelling on the hospital.

Lamyaa Faylouni, a nurse, born in 1985, died on 15 Feb 2016 due to due to alleged Russian shelling on the hospital that belonged to Doctors without Borders.

Asmaa Dashash, an OR nurse in the makeshift hospital that belonged to Doctors without Borders, died on 15 Feb 2016 due to the alleged Russian shelling on the hospital.

Mohamad Askour, an employee in the makeshift hospital that belonged to Doctors without Borders, from Sahel Al Ghab region in Hama, died on 15 Feb 2016 due to the alleged Russian shelling on the hospital.

Iman Al Abdullah, a midwife from Adnan city in Aleppo worked in the charity hospital in Adnan city, died on 19 Feb 2016 in one of the Turkish hospitals after wounds she sustained due to alleged Russian shelling on Adnan city in Aleppo on 2 Feb 2016.

#### **Extremist Islamic Groups:**

#### **ISIL:**

<u>Ali Hamad Al Doura'ye</u> a volunteer in the Red Crescent from Al Zouraykat town in northern Aleppo suburbs, 28, was arrested by ISIL 3 months ago, was shot dead by ISIL under the pretext of apostasy.

#### **Kurdish Self Management Forces:**







<u>Basel Abu Al Baraa</u> (his name shall be kept confidential due to security reasons), a paramedic from Aleppo city who worked on military fronts, married, born in 1995, died on 24 Feb 2016 due to a sniper shot by one of the KSM forces on Al Ashrafeyi front in Aleppo.

### **III. Conclusions and recommendations**

The Syrian and Russian governments and ISIL have blatantly violated both the International Humanitarian Law and the norms of the Humanitarian law; particularly Article 3 of Geneva Conventions and the international humanitarian law and committed crimes that can be openly classified as war crimes when it targeted medics as well as crimes against humanity through these numerous acts of killing.

The employment of weapons in indiscriminate bombing is an explicit violation of the international humanitarian law. All the armed opposition factions should immediately stop these practices.

### **The Security Council**

The Security Council should uphold its legal and moral responsibilities in respect to what happening in Syria instead of only watching the daily bloodbath only becoming bigger.

Russia and China should stop protecting the Syrian regime after it was proven that it has perpetrated war crime and crimes against humanity. Also, the International Community should take further steps to protect the lives of the Syrian people if Russia and China didn't change their positions.

#### Medical organizations around the world

There is a severe shortage in the medical teams in Syria because of the ceaseless killing of Syrian doctors which should be properly addressed. Also, these organization can send volunteers to safe areas where wounded are sent for treatment. We have recorded many cases where wounded died due to lack of medical capabilities.

## **Acknowledgment**

Our heartfelt thanks go to victims' families and friends and to the local activists who contributed majorly to this report. Also, our most heartfelt condolences go out for the victims' families



