

On the 9th Anniversary of the Popular Uprising, the Deaths of 226,247 Civilians Have Been Documented, including 14,391 Due to Torture, along with the Enforced Disappearance of 100,000, and the Displacement of 15.2 Million Syrians

222 Chemical Attacks, 492 Cluster Attacks, and 81,916 Barrel Bombs Documented, the Terrible Cost of Demanding Political Change toward Democracy

SNHR

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

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The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, independent group that is considered a primary source for the OHCHR on all death toll-related analyses in Syria.

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I. Emphasizing the Right to Demand Political Change towards Democracy and Human Rights

Nine years ago, on the current date in 2011, the popular uprising in Syria began, with the long-suffering people demanding freedom from tyranny and from the suppression and oppression of the security services, and calling for the fundamental right to live in dignity. The ruling authorities met these basic demands immediately and viciously, using live bullets, killing and wounding scores of Syrians over the following weeks, and launching mass arrest campaigns that affected dozens of others, inflicting the most heinous acts of torture against those detained, with some of them subsequently becoming forcibly disappeared persons. After several months, the level of the people's demands increased to political change through fair elections free of the influence of the brutal security services that have guaranteed the Assad family's control of Syria since 1970 to date. The public movement continued with its demands, despite the expansion of repressions and violations committed against those peacefully protesting, and in light of a complete international failure to protect Syrian civilians, the popular uprising turned into an internal armed conflict in April 2012, that is, more than a year after the popular uprising began.



Due mainly to the failure to protect the members of society that demanded freedom, dignity and political reform towards pluralism and democracy, the Syrian ruling authorities and local and Iranian militias felt able to react with absolute impunity, perpetrating various types of violations and atrocities, many of which amounted to crimes against humanity; after this horrendous situation lasted for many months, seizing on the climate of impunity and knowing no protection was being offered for the people, extremist Islamist groups began to appear around the beginning of 2012; the Kurdish Democratic Union Party forces also emerged in some areas in Hasaka governorate around the same period, and the form of the Syrian conflict evolved. After ISIS emerged in 2013, US-led coalition forces intervened to fight it in September 2014, and in September 2015, Russian forces intervened alongside the Syrian regime and Iranian militias. This was followed in 2019 by the intervention of Turkish forces, and the map of Syria assumed the form that we see today. This short introduction doesn't fit to provide broader details, which perhaps may be in a separate report later.

Every year, Syrians who have supported the demand for freedom, dignity and political change towards democracy greet, commemorate the start of the uprising and remember the hundreds of thousands of victims, including the detainees and the forcibly disappeared, along with the millions of displaced Syrians inside and outside the country. It did not occur to Syrians in those early days that their just and fair demands would cost them such a terrible heavy price on every level, including human, material and psychological levels, with the Syrian regime harnessing all the capabilities of the Syrian state and its institutions to crush the popular uprising and maintain its power over Syria, even if that cost the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Syrians, the displacement of half of the Syrian population, and the widespread destruction of Syria's cities and towns. All of this horror could have been avoided if the authorities had agreed to political change through fair elections, but the Assad family could not stand to lose its tyrannical rule over Syria, which it considered and still considers it personal farm or private property, whose territory and people it can dispose of at will.

In this report, we attempt to recall a small portion of the human and material costs already paid and still being paid by the Syrian people, as documented on the Syrian Network for Human Rights' (SNHR) database, which we have built over nine years of continuous daily work. We also reaffirm the right of the Syrian people to demand a change of government and the downfall of the ruling regime after it committed crimes and violations of such a terrible magnitude that they amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, as well as reaffirming the people's right to obtain international protection from the ruling authority and its allies.



Fadel Abdul Ghany, Chairman of the Syrian Network for Human Rights, says on the ninth anniversary since the start of the popular uprising towards freedom and democracy in Syria:

“Neither the Syrian society nor the Syrian state can settle in the light of the survival of the Syrian regime, with its victims having reached millions of Syrian people who want to hold it accountable. We will continue to defend the rights of Syrians to demand political change towards a democratic regime that respects the Syrian people and defends the human rights and dignity of the Syrian citizens; the countries that support the Syrian regime and try to return it to the Arab League and other international and commercial platforms must feel shame and disgrace in front of the victims of this brutal regime, which is rightly accused of committing crimes against humanity.”

II. The Deaths of More Than a Quarter of a Million Civilians Have Been Documented

Over the past nine years, the SNHR has documented attacks deliberately targeting civilians, which have resulted in the death and injury of tens of thousands of men, women and children; Syrian Regime forces have used various types of munitions in their war against the Syrian people, and have not hesitated to use prohibited weapons such as cluster munitions and chemical weapons, with the military escalation and ground advance often coinciding with the Syrian regime using indiscriminate munitions such as barrel bombs and nail missiles, which cause massive and unjustified material damage and human loss.

After the Russian forces joined the parties to the conflict in September 2015, the intensity of this targeting of civilians clearly increased, as did the frequency of killings; four years since the Russian intervention, Russian forces no longer content themselves with launching air attacks, but have engaged in ground attacks and strengthened their presence on the ground, launching ground attacks using artillery and tanks, which resulted in a significant increase in the death toll of civilians.

Some of the attacks by the US-led coalition forces constituted a violation of the rules of customary international law by targeting civilians, as these forces did not take all possible precautions; the US-led coalition and the Syrian Democratic Forces also carried out joint patrols to target the remaining ISIS cells. Despite supposedly being carefully planned and carried out to ensure high levels of accuracy, these operations have led to civilian casualties.

Extremist Islamist groups have also continued to carry out extrajudicial killings, while mines planted by ISIS in the areas from which they've withdrawn have killed hundreds of civilians. We have also recorded the deaths of hundreds of civilians at the hands of factions of the Armed Opposition, whether through indiscriminate bombardment targeting areas under the control of the Syrian Regime or during clashes with other factions of the Armed Opposition or with Extremist Islamist groups.



Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) (mainly the Kurdish Democratic Union Party forces) also carried out indiscriminate bombardment and committed a number of massacres.

The death toll of civilian victims killed since the outbreak of the popular uprising for democracy in Syria from March 2011 until March 2020, according to the SNHR's database, has reached 226,247 civilians, including 29,257 children and 16,021 women (adult female). These deaths have been recorded through continuous daily documentation on the SNHR's database, providing various details such as the name, location and time of death, the type of weapon used, and the party that carried out the killing. According to the statistics catalogued on the database, the Syrian-Russian alliance is responsible for 91.36 percent of the death toll compared to the other parties, with the percentage of women and children of the total number of victims exceeding 18 percent, an excessive ratio which further confirms that the Syrian-Russian alliance is deliberately targeting civilians.

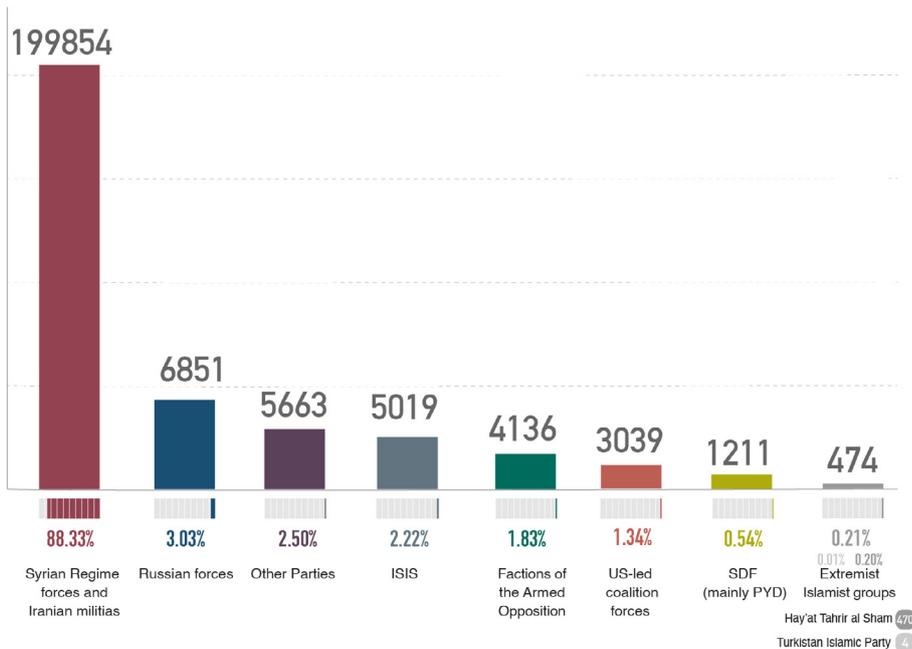
SNHR has launched an interactive interface on its official website showing the toll of civilian victims who were killed in Syria since March 2011 until January 2020. The interactive graphics show the record of civilian victims distributed across Syrian governorates and their distribution by year. These graphics also show the toll of victims distributed according to the governorate from which they originally came and classify them according to category as adult male, female and child, in addition to distributing them according to the party responsible for the killing. This clarifies the casualties that we were able to document in every governorate, helping to draw a clear picture to evaluate the victims' compensation and reparations processes of transitional justice in future.



The following charts showing the toll of civilian victims killed in Syria and their distribution according to perpetrators:



Since the Popular Uprising Began

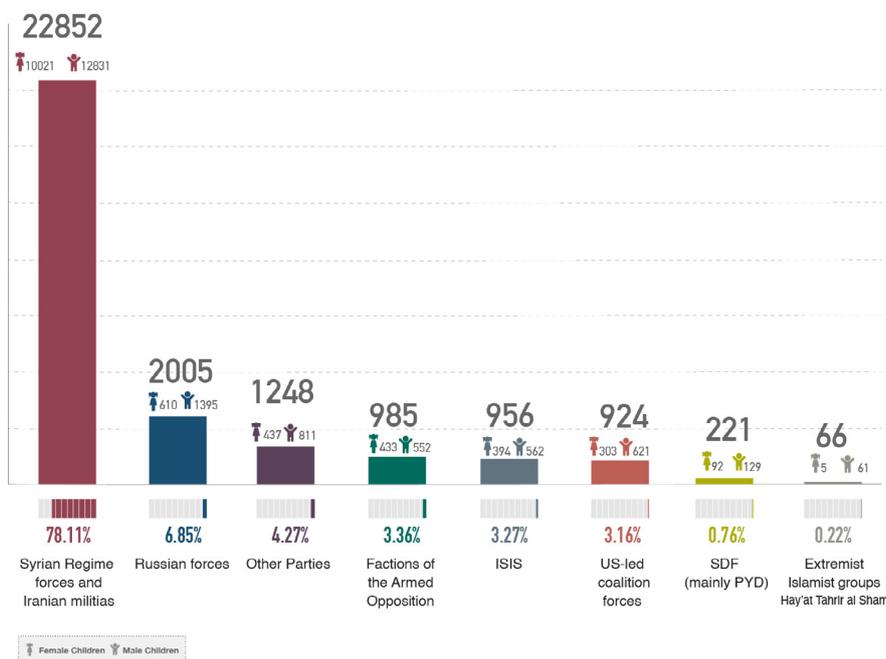


226,247 civilians were killed at the hands of the main perpetrator parties in Syria

from March 2011 to March 2020



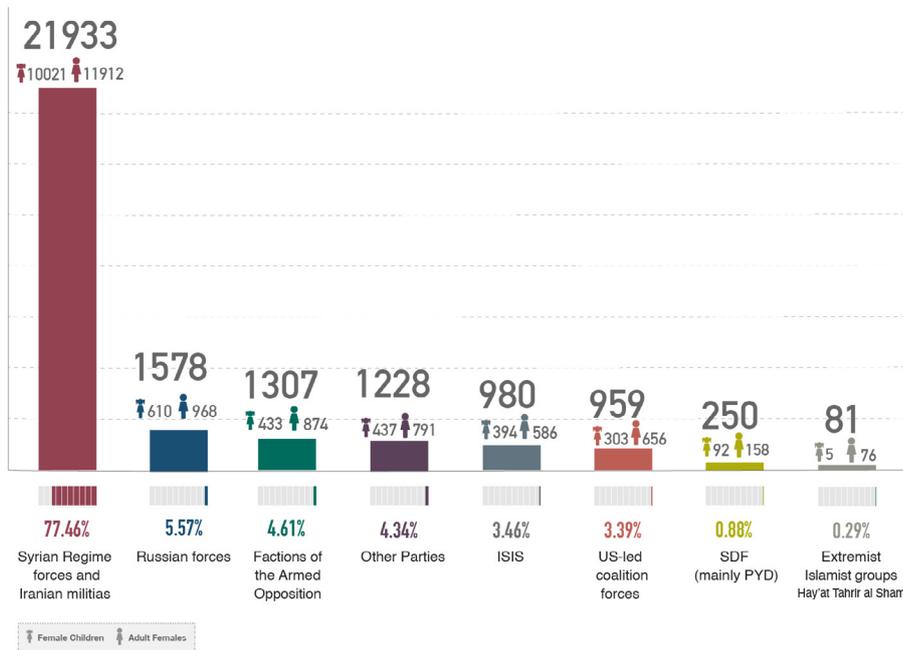
Since the Popular Uprising Began



29,257 children were killed at the hands of the main perpetrator parties in Syria

from March 2011 to March 2020





28316
females
were killed
at the hands of the
main perpetrator
parties in Syria

from March 2011 to March 2020

III. Nearly 147,000 Detainees or Forcibly Disappeared Persons Have Been Documented

Our estimates suggest that at least 1.2 million Syrian citizens have been arrested and detained at some point; however, nearly 147,000 individuals are still detained or forcibly disappeared (also undoubtedly being subjected to torture, with every detainee being subjected to at least one type of torture); with the novel COVID-19 virus recently spreading, tens of thousands of detainees are at risk of infection and of transmitting the virus, with the vast majority either still incarcerated in the Syrian regime's detention centers or having already been killed there. According to the SNHR database, at least 129,989 individuals are still detained or forcibly disappeared by the Syrian regime; the majority of these arrests begins with a group of armed men, often affiliated with the security services, wearing military or civilian uniforms, breaking into a house, raiding a workplace or public place, or detaining the victims at a checkpoint, with arrests carried out without presenting any arrest warrant, official order or judicial documentation for the arrest. These armed men refuse to reveal their names or identities or to give any information about their affiliations or which security service or official body they represent. These mafia-like abductions are usually accompanied by the use of excessive violence, physical and verbal abuse, using both to intimidate the detainee and other people in the area. From the moment of his or her arrest, every detainee is deprived of all legal and human rights and subjected to multiple forms of torture,



as well as continuous fear at his or her unknown fate; a person detained in this way is simply deemed to have 'disappeared', with the ruling authorities denying all knowledge of his or her arrest or place of detention. The regime also forbids detainees from communicating with their families or even informing them of their arrest. Detainees are also denied any opportunity to appoint a lawyer, meaning that almost 90 percent of those detained in this way by the Syrian regime are ultimately classified as forcibly disappeared.

The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces have also carried out arbitrary arrests, either through campaigns of raids and arrests, or at temporary checkpoints that it establishes periodically, targeting employees of civil society organizations and using repressive practices to restrict the work of those organizations. SDF also targeted tribal sheikhs, dignitaries, and politicians opposing the group for arrest, as well as detaining individuals with close ties to members of ISIS or factions of the Armed Opposition. We have documented many incidents in which families were arrested collectively, including women and children, as well as documenting arrests of an ethnic character, in addition to arrest campaigns launched with the aim of forced conscription, which affected males and females of all ages.

We have documented at least 3,087 individuals who are still detained or forcibly disappeared by Syrian Democratic Forces since its establishment until March 2020.

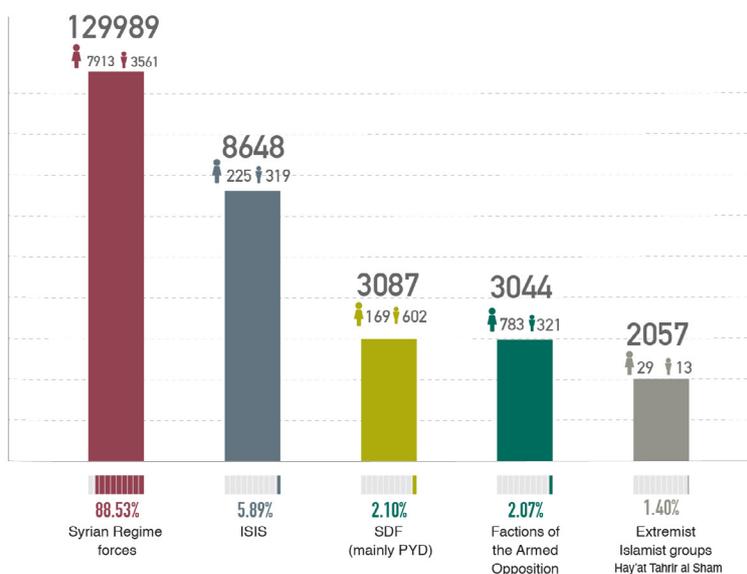
ISIS also sought to implement a policy of arbitrary arrest and enforced disappearance against civilians in areas under its control, and carried out mass abductions of civilians during attacks on areas free of its control, taking them as hostages. We documented that ISIS arrested at least 8,648 individuals since its establishment until March 2020; ISIS' loss of control over areas it had previously controlled means that the detainees and abductees it had previously kidnapped are now classified as forcibly disappeared persons following the group's evacuation of all its detention centers, with the detainees believed to have been taken to undisclosed locations and subjected to mass-killings.

Meanwhile, Hay'at Tahrir al Sham (formerly al Nusra Front) has pursued a policy of kidnapping and arbitrary arrest against media activists, journalists, human rights activists, foreigners, workers in humanitarian organizations and local councils, clan elders and dignitaries, and individuals who are members of Armed Opposition factions opposing HTS, taking many of them hostage to use them in negotiations with their families or with the bodies they work for, demanding massive ransoms in exchange for their release. Hay'at Tahrir al Sham has resorted to concealing the fate of the forcibly detained and abducted persons, and does not subject them to any trial except for the pro forma secret trials that are conducted by its sharia officials and security men. We have documented 2,057 individuals who are still detained or forcibly disappeared by Hay'at Tahrir al Sham until March 2020.



Factions of the Armed Opposition have also carried out arrests against civilians after storming areas controlled by Syrian Regime forces or in areas under their control. In addition, these arrests have also targeted activists who criticized these factions' policies or who failed to obtain work permits, as well as targeting forcibly displaced and indigenous peoples, taking many hostages to use them in negotiations for ransom, with their relatives forced to pay massive sums of money to secure their release. We have documented 3,044 individuals who are still detained or forcibly disappeared by factions of the Armed Opposition until March 2020.

The following chart show the record of cases of arbitrary arrests or enforced disappearances distributed by perpetrators:



At least
146,825
 individuals
 are still detained
 or forcibly disappeared
 at the hands of the
 main perpetrator
 parties in Syria
 from March 2011 to March 2020

Women (Adult Females) Children



IV. The Deaths of Nearly 14,391 Individuals Due to Torture

Syria continues to lead all the world's countries in the practice of torture against detainees, leading to death in many cases. We have documented at least 14,391 deaths as a result of torture, with diseases caused by poor conditions of detention or hemorrhage due to beatings being the main causes of deaths due to torture. The Syrian regime is responsible for 99 percent of the documented cases of death by torture. Torture is used as a tool to intimidate, impose power, crush opponents and to terrorize and destroy society and force citizens into submission, silence and surrender to the hereditary dictatorship of the Assad family.

The types of torture used by Syrian Regime forces in regime detention centers are numerous and so widely practiced that hardly any survivor of detention has not been subjected to at least one and more usually several of these methods. Through talking to hundreds of survivors of detention or torture, we've been able to [document 72 methods of torture which the Syrian regime continues to practice in its detention centers and military hospitals](#). We have documented 14,221 individuals who died due to torture in the Syrian regime's prisons between March 2011 and March 2020.

ISIS practiced vicious methods of torture against its detainees, with the aim of extracting information, taking retaliation, or spreading terror and fear and intimidating other detainees and civilians. The levels of torture used by ISIS vary according to the charges against the detainee and are most severe against media activists, military personnel and foreign abductees. We have documented the deaths of 32 individuals due to torture in the prisons of ISIS since its establishment in April 2013 until March 2020, using methods including the stoning to death of detained girls. In general, ISIS's practices were very similar to those used by the Syrian regime.

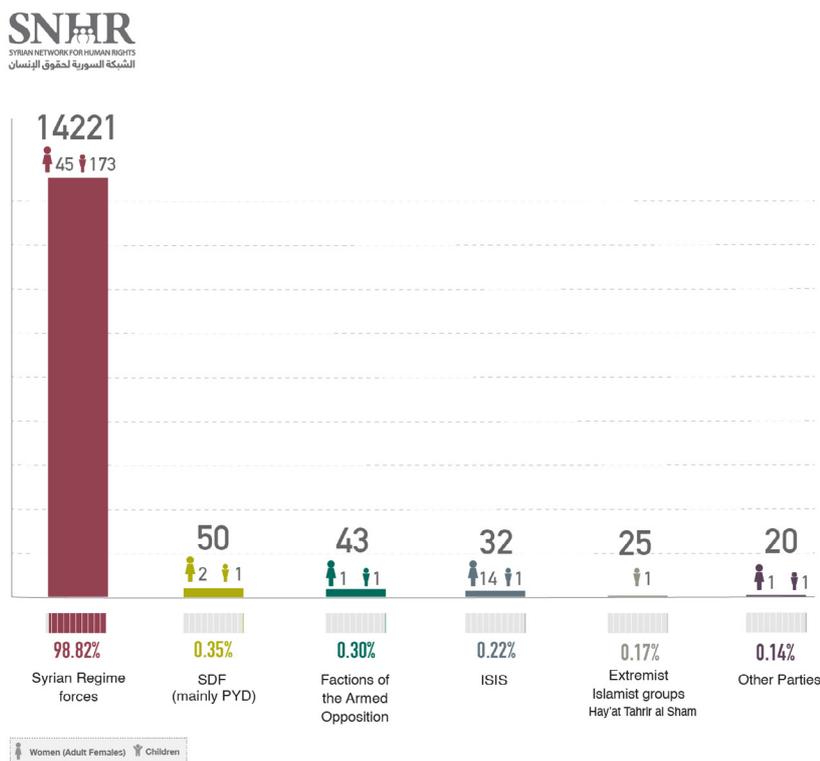
Detainees and abductees held by Hay'at Tahrir al Sham are also routinely subjected to severe beatings, flogging, and use of the regime's 'Shabeh' torture technique. The group also practices psychological torture, such as mock executions, and threats of death and assassination against individuals in case they are charged again. We have documented the deaths of 25 individuals due to torture in their prisons until March 2020.

In their detention centers, Syrian Democratic Forces resorted to the use of severe beatings causing bone fractures, most commonly during the interrogation of detainees and abductees. These forces also used methods of torture similar to those practiced by the Syrian regime such as al Shabeh, the tire, electrocution, starvation and deprivation of healthcare, especially against those accused of belonging to Armed Opposition factions and their relatives or those accused of belonging to ISIS. We have documented the deaths of at least 50 individuals due to torture in the SDF's prisons until March 2020.



Factions of the Armed Opposition have resorted to severe beatings with tools such as wooden sticks, metal and electric wire during the interrogation of detainees, in addition to using torture techniques such as the tire and al Shabeh. These factions also practiced torture against critics of their policies, mainly against local media activists and civilians who oppose their decisions. Factions of the Armed Opposition have also used more severe levels of torture against Syrian regime personnel detained in the opposition prisons. We have documented the deaths of 43 individuals due to torture until March 2020 at the hands of all Armed Opposition factions.

The following chart show the record of victims who died due to torture and their distribution according to perpetrators:



14391
individuals
 have died due
 to torture
 at the hands of the
 main perpetrator
 parties in Syria
 from March 2011 to March 2020



V. Siege as a Form of Collective Punishment

Syrian Regime forces have consistently adopted a policy of imposing starvation siege on areas under the control of factions of the Armed Opposition, using the policy of starvation as a form of collective punishment. These sieges and the deliberate withholding of food and medicine led to the spread of cases of malnutrition, dehydration and anemia, in addition to the outbreak of a number of disease epidemics due to environmental pollution, which resulted from the accumulation of waste and the damage of sewage networks. We have documented the deaths of 920 civilians, including 405 children and 189 women (adult female) due to lack of food and medicine in the areas besieged by the Syrian regime since March 2011.

Despite the end of siege in many areas as a result of the Syrian regime, which is responsible for besieging these areas and emptying them of their residents, imposing control over them, al Rukban Camp on the Syrian-Jordanian border is still subjected to siege imposed mainly by Syrian Regime forces, who often prevent personnel from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) from delivering aid to the camp, leaving the camp residents in horrendous circumstances and in constant need of relief and aid, with only the most basic needs.

ISIS used the same techniques against the neighborhoods of al Joura and al Qosour in Deir Ez-Zour city, as well as in al Yarmouk Camp south of Damascus. In addition, factions of the Armed Opposition have besieged towns in the suburbs of Idlib and Aleppo where the majority of residents are loyal to the Syrian regime, leading to the deterioration of the living situation there.

Syrian Democratic Forces imposed a complete siege on the last enclave, which was under the control of ISIS, an area extending from Hajin city to al Baghouz town in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate. The SDF prevented entry of food and medical supplies to the villages and towns that were under the control of ISIS, with the siege continuing until the announcement of ISIS' elimination in March 2019; we documented the deaths of 33 civilians, including 13 children, due to lack of food and healthcare as a result of siege imposed by SDF.



VI. 222 Chemical Attacks, 492 Cluster Attacks, 81,916 Barrel Bombs, and 171 Incendiary Weapon Attacks Have Been Documented

Syrian Regime forces used cluster munitions extensively in the context of its war on civilians. The SNHR's database indicates that the first documented use of cluster munitions occurred in July 2012. The period following the Russian military intervention on September 30, 2015, saw an unprecedented escalation in the use of cluster munitions. In addition, new models of munitions that have not been seen in the Syrian arena before, whether in the form of air or ground munitions, launched via missile launchers, have been tested in Syria. The Syrian-Russian alliance forces continue to use these weapons in operations that serve their military advances despite the horrific consequences of using these munitions and their sub-munitions, such as severe injuries and terrible mutilation, which the Syrian populace will suffer from for generations to come.

As of March 2020, we documented at least 492 cluster munition attacks carried out by Syrian-Russian alliance forces, distributed as follows:

- A. Syrian Regime forces: 248 attacks.
- B. Russian forces: 236 attacks.
- C. Russian / Syrian attacks: Eight attacks.

These cluster munition attacks launched by Syrian-Russian alliance forces between July 2012 and March 2020, have resulted in the deaths of 1,030 civilians, including 382 children and 217 women (adult female). We also documented the deaths of at least 357 civilians, including 107 children and 31 women (adult female), as a result of the explosion of munitions left from previous cluster munition attacks.

With regard to the use of chemical weapons, we have documented 222 chemical attacks, distributed as follows:

A. The Syrian regime carried out nearly 217 chemical attacks since the first documented use of this weapon in December 2012 until March 2020, distributed according to the Security Council resolutions as follows:

First: Prior to Security Council Resolution 2118 of September 27, 2013: 33 attacks.

Second: After Security Council Resolution 2118 of September 27, 2013, to date: 184 attacks.

Third: After Security Council Resolution 2209 of March 6, 2015: 115 attacks.

Fourth: After the formation of the United Nations mechanism and Security Council Resolution 2235 of August 7, 2015: 59 attacks



These attacks resulted in the deaths of at least 1,510 individuals, distributed as follows:

- 1,409 civilians, including 205 children and 260 women (adult female).
- 94 Armed Opposition fighters.
- Seven prisoners from Syrian regime forces who were being held in an opposition prison.

These attacks also caused the injury of at least 11,080 individuals, including five prisoners from Syrian regime forces who were being held in an opposition prison.

B. We documented five attacks in which ISIS used chemical weapons in Aleppo governorate, causing the injury of at least 132 individuals.

The Syrian regime's helicopters and fixed-wing warplanes have never stopped dropping barrel bombs, completely ignoring Security Council Resolution 2139, with the Security Council itself failing to monitor or condemn the Syrian regime's use of this barbaric weapon. According to our statistics, the Syrian regime's helicopters and fixed-wing warplanes have dropped nearly 81,916 barrel bombs since the first documented use on July 18, 2012, up to March 2020.

Since March 2011, the Syrian regime has also used incendiary munitions and barrel bombs loaded with incendiary materials; we documented a marked increase in the use of such weapons in 2016 and 2017, when Russian forces were most responsible for these attacks. According to the SNHR's database, we documented at least 171 attacks using incendiary weapons on civilian residential areas, distributed according to perpetrators:

A. The Syrian regime: 41 attacks.

B. Russian forces: 125 attacks.

C. US-led coalition forces: Five attacks against residential neighborhoods in Raqqa city.

VII. Hundreds of Attacks on Vital Civilian Facilities

The Syrian-Russian alliance forces have consistently violated the rules of the law of war, deliberately targeting medical facilities, schools, and places of worship, with the aim of crushing all forms of civilian life. We have documented on many occasions repeated attacks on the same vital facility, indicating deliberate targeting, with intent to destroy or inflict serious damage on infrastructure.

Other parties have committed similar violations to varying degrees, though these have never approached the level and magnitude of violations committed by the Syrian-Russian-Iranian alliance forces.



The attacks we recorded over the past nine years have varied, including deliberate shelling, intentional incapacitation of civilian objects and preventing them from performing their role in the service of civilians, despite the absence of any urgent military necessity or of their use for combat purposes, with the Syrian regime transforming many schools and stadiums into military barracks or detention centers in areas under its control, which could be used as justification for targeting them by other parties to the conflict.

VIII. Nearly 15 Million Syrians Displaced, Either IDPs or Refugees

Internal displacement and forced displacement represent one of the greatest tragedies that the Syrian people have suffered since the outbreak of the popular uprising for democracy in March 2011, having worsened and intensified to staggering levels over the years. 2017, 2018 and 2019 in particular saw huge waves of displaced persons from various Syrian areas forced to leave their homes and land as a result of military operations launched by Syrian-Russian-Iranian alliance forces or as the result of truces and agreements imposed on besieged cities and towns, whose content blatantly violates international humanitarian law.

The SNHR estimates that approximately 15.2 million people have been forcibly displaced since March 2011, of whom nine million have been displaced inside Syria, while nearly 6.2 million have been displaced outside Syria.

Military operations launched by Syrian-Russian-Iranian alliance forces are by far the largest cause of the mass displacements of Syrians, with the use of indiscriminate munitions and the attempt to crush civilian life being the main reason for the displacement of thousands from their homes.

Attacks by the forces laterally called the Syrian Democratic Forces and formerly known as the Kurdish Democratic Union Party forces, backed by US-led coalition forces, have also displaced hundreds of thousands of people from the governorates of Raqqqa, Deir Ez-Zour and Hasaka.

Due to the military operations carried out by the Armed Opposition forces backed by Turkish forces, thousands were displaced from the Afrin region in Aleppo governorate, while the military operations to the east of the Euphrates River caused a large displacement movement from the areas near the Syrian-Turkish border, with the residents of some areas not having previously been displaced.

During the past two months, Syrian, Russian and Iranian regime forces have caused the largest wave of forced displacement in and around Idlib governorate, with more than a million people being displaced during this short period, during which cities have been completely emptied and subjected to widespread looting, as happened in Ma'aret al Numan and Saraqeb cities for example.



In light of the global spread of the novel Corona virus known as COVID-19, the situation of the displaced Syrians is considered to be one of the most fragile situations in the world, mainly for the following reasons: the lack of quantities of water suitable for hand washing and bathing, the massive overcrowding of people within the same tent, in addition to the lack of adequate medical facilities for treatment within the camps after the Syrian and Russian regimes' aircraft targeted the vast majority of them, and finally the extreme difficulty in securing places for quarantine.

IX. Conclusions and Recommendations

- We noted that most of the attacks and incidents of violations were directed primarily by all the parties to the conflict against civilian individuals, which is a violation of international humanitarian law articles and the relevant Security Council resolutions. In addition, a large proportion of the incidents, which we documented and which were reflected in the statistics cited in this report, have caused civilian casualties, injuries or damage to civilian objects, many of which constituted crimes against humanity and war crimes.
- The report issued by delegates to the 2005 Summit states unanimously that each country had a responsibility to protect its population from crimes against humanity and war crimes. This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes, the prevention of incitement to commit them by all possible means, and when the state clearly fails to protect its population from egregious crimes, or itself is committing such crimes as in the case of the Syrian regime, means that it is the responsibility of the international community to intervene to take protective measures in a collective, decisive and timely manner.

Recommendations:

UN Security Council and the United Nations

- Members of the Security Council must stop using their veto to protect the Syrian regime, which has committed hundreds of thousands of violations over the past nine years, many of which constitute crimes against humanity and war crimes.
- Following the failure of the parties, in particular the Syrian regime, to comply with any of the Security Council resolutions concerning the use of chemical weapons, barrel bombs or enforced disappearance, the Security Council must, after nine years, intervene militarily in order to protect Syrian civilians.
- The Syrian issue must be referred to the International Criminal Court and all those involved should be held accountable.
- Ensure the establishment of peace and security and the implementation of the principle of the Responsibility to Protect civilians and save Syrians' lives, heritage and cultural artefacts from destruction, pillage and vandalism.



International Community

- The Syrian regime has not only failed to protect citizens for nine years to date, but has been by far the primary perpetrator of every kind of crime. The international community must immediately intervene to protect civilians after all their unimaginable losses and suffering.
- Put real pressure on Russia and Iran, and categorize them as key partners in the violations committed in Syria since they continue to supply the Syrian regime with weapons, as well as due to their direct involvement in thousands of violations against Syrian citizens.

The Parties to the Conflict

- Comply with the rules of customary humanitarian law and Security Council resolutions, ensure that civilians are treated as neutral, release detainees and hostages, stop torture, reveal the fate of the disappeared and missing persons, and lift the siege.

The Russian government:

- Stop investing in the Syrian regime, which is hostile to the vast majority of the Syrian people, and which is involved in committing crimes against humanity, and support a process of real political change in order to achieve stability.

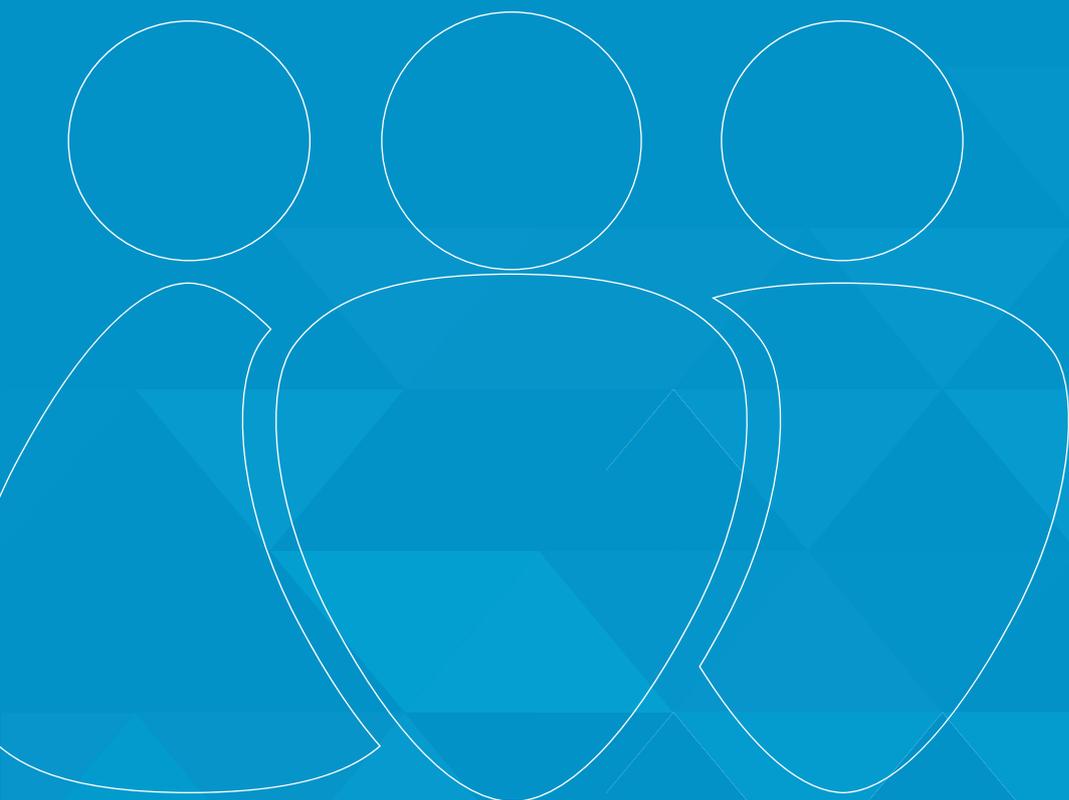
The US-led coalition forces:

- Work to protect Idlib and its environs, similar to protecting areas of northeast Syria from the aerial bombardments of the Syrian and Russian regime.
- Support a local election process in northeast Syria that leads to local councils representing the people of the region and the affiliation of military forces to them, then start to support reconstruction operations.

Acknowledgment

We offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to the victims' families and relatives, and to all the media activists from all fields, and extend our heartfelt condolences to the victims' families.





@snhr



Info@sn4hr.org

www.sn4hr.org

