



Report on The Massacre of Al Qbeir Farm – Hama Governorate

Location of Al Qbeir farm: Al Qbeir is located 20 kilometers to the west of Hama city and 2 kilometers to the south of Ma'zraf village.

- Al Qbeir farm is a small population that consists of 25 rural houses making up to 150 people approximately.

Date of the report: June 9, 2012

Eyewitnesses:

- 1- Ahmad Al Yatim (One of the people who survived the massacre), age: 45-year-old.
- 2- Fedda Al Yatim (One of the people who survived the massacre), age: in her 40s
- 3- Witness code (12001), from Ma'zraf village
- 4- Witness code (12002), from Ma'zraf village

Report:

After talking to multiple eyewitnesses, we concluded the following:

On Wednesday, June 6, 2012, around 12:30 PM, a group of six armed men wearing civilian clothing used Kalashnikovs to attack a military checkpoint for the Syrian army for the purpose of liberating an individual who was arrested at an earlier time of the same day. The detainee was held at the checkpoint. During the clashes, Syrian army reinforcements, which consisted of three T72 tanks, a number of armored military vehicles, and a number of ZiL military trucks (Trucks that are manufactured in Russia), carrying fully armed forces. The forces circled the attacking group and engaged with them, killing the six of them: 1- Mohammad Hasan Elean, Jrejis village, Hama, 2- Mahdi Ahmad Elwan, Jrejis village, Hama, 3- Sari Ali Al Hamdou, Jrejis, Hama, 4- Emad Ismail Elwan, Jrejis, Hama, 5- Mohammad Saleh Elan, Jrejis, Hama, 6- Salah Jamil Elwan.

Then, the three tanks, along with the ZiL trucks, six white buses, oil-colored ar-





mored vehicles (on one of the vehicles, there were a sentence that reads “Riot Control”), and a number of pickup cars in which were fully armed members of the Arab Syrian Army who packed single weapons that were mostly Kalashnikovs and a number of PKCs, headed for Al Qbeir village.

The witnesses said that other civilian cars -two Hyundai cars, pickup cars, and a car with three locally-made wheels (Called Turteira)- came with the military force. In these cars, there were a number of individuals wearing civilian clothing who had sticks and white weapons (various knives), while others had guns and Kalashnikovs.

Between 1:40 and 1:50, these forces surrounded Al Qbeir village from three axes (The northern axis: the side of Ma’zraf village, the eastern axis: the road of Al Majdal village, and the western axis: The road of Al Twym village).

Once the forces were fully stationed, the tanks fired four shells directly at the houses with no prior warning, and then heavy and medium machine guns opened fire against the houses as well. About 10 minutes later, the tanks entered the village along with the Syrian regime army forces that were wearing military uniforms and the civilians who came. They opened heavy fire from the single weapons. The sounds of shooting were heard in the village, intermittently, for an hour and a half, even though the forces stayed in the village until 7:30 PM. According to one of the survivors (Fedda Al Yatim), the military guys took some of the residents out of their homes and shot them directly. She adds that some of the guys who were wearing civilian clothing and holding sticks, along with some members of the Syrian regime army, took her husband and put him with other guys who were taken from the houses next to their house, before they had him lying on the ground, and then hit them on their heads repeatedly with the sticks until they sensed that they are dead. Then, they set their dead bodies of fire.

Another witness (12001) said that he went to the village to aid the survivors, after the army withdrew, and saw a woman’ dead body in front of a house. The woman was shot in the chest and her right hand was cut off from her wrists, and next to her was an infant’s dead body who was stabbed in his abdomen with a sharp blade, where his intestines were out.





One of the survivors (Ahmad Al Yatim) said that he was hit on the head and body with sticks and bottoms of rifles repeatedly by guys wearing military uniforms and others wearing civilian clothing until he passed out.

Another witness (12002) said that six ambulances came briefly before the forces withdrew and took about 25-30 corpses. The ambulances left the village along with the forces.

Furthermore, witness (12001) affirmed that two dead bodies were tied to a bold green vehicle for the Syrian regime army using a rope and then they pulled heading west towards what is locally known as Asila road.

Survivors and residents talked that the death toll exceeded 100 individuals. However, we only documented 50 names in addition to the six people who were killed in the clashes at one of the checkpoints. This was due to the fact that a number of the dead bodies were heavily disfigured that the residents couldn't recognize them, or because some dead bodies were taken, and the government, the army forces, of the Syrian security refused to reveal their fates or even conduct a serious and transparent investigation regarding the incident. It should be noted that the Syrian government, and the Syrian security forces refused to let the international observers who were present in Hama enter the area, where they were stopped at one of the checkpoints for the Syrian army that surrounds the area on the day following the incident, June 7, 2012. They were blocked from heading to Al Qbeir village and they were asked to go back to Hama city. The observers weren't allowed to enter the city until June 8, 2012.

Names of the victims who were able to document: 50 citizens including 10 children and 9 women

- 1- Ibrahim Al Yatim, child, four-year-old, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 2- Ibrahim Al Yatim child, nine-year-old, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 3- Ahmad Ali Al Yatim, child, five-year-old, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 4- Ayman Ahmad Al Yatim, infant, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 5- Jasim Al Yatim, Al Qbeir Hama.
- 6- Khaled Hussein Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 7- Ali Hussein Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 8- Fares Hussein Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 9- Mohammad Hussein Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.





- 10- Hussein Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 11- Hamza Ahmad Al Yatim, one-year-old, toddler, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 12- Aymad Hamoud Al Yarim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 13- Mohammad Hamoud Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 14- Hamoud Qastal Al Yatim, 68-year-old, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 15- Hamida Al Abdullah, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 16- Rashid Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama, not to be confused with Rashid Khirou Al Yatim
- 17- Ryad Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 18- Izzou Ahmad Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 19- Ali Ahmad Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, child, nine-year-old, Hama.
- 20- Khirou Ahmad Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 21- Rashid Khirou Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 22- Ali Khirou Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 23- Mohammad Khirou Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 24- Omar Ahmad Al Yatim, child, three-year-old, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 25- Awad Ahmad Al Yatimm woman, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 26- Ouka Ahmad Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 27- Fatim Ahmad Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 28- Faisal Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 29- Mohammad Ahmad Al Yatim, child, nine-year-old, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 30- Mohammad Ahmad Al Yatim, toddler, two-year-old, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 31- Mohammad Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 32- Mohammad Rashid Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 33- Mohammad Shehada Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 34- Mohammad Elwan, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 35- Mariam Ahmad Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 36- Mansour Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 37- Manfiya Steif, woman, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 38- Muna Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 39- Noufal Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 40- Roz Al Yatim, woman, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 41- Salloum Hasan Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 42- Samra Al Yatim, woman, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 43- Sabriya Al Yatim, woman, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 44- Abdullah Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 45- Khaled Al Yatim, Al Qbeir, Hama.
- 46- Noufa Al Yatim, woman, Al Qbeir, Hama.





47- Hussein Al Fares, Al Qbeir, Hama.

48- Khaled Al Fares, Al Qbeir, Hama.

49- Faisal Al Fares, Al Qbeir, Hama, one of the martyrs in the massacre of Al Qbeir.

50- Mansour Al Fares, Al Qbeir, Hama, one of the martyrs in the massacre of Al Qbeir.

Attachments

Video showing some of the children victims of the massacre

Video showing some of the victims of the massacre that was filmed in Ma'zraf town

The video published by the U.N. for its observers visiting the village

1. SNHR affirms that what happened in Al Qbeir is ethnic-cleansing Thus, government forces and Al Shabiha have violated the international human rights law which protects the right to life in addition to being committed in non-International armed conflict so it mounts to war crime as all elements were fulfilled.

2. SNHR deems what happened in Al Qbeir, the murder crime, a crime against humanity because it is not the first case but it has been systematically repeated in all Syrian governorates in a widespread manner.

3. The indiscriminate attacks by government forces are violation of customary international humanitarian law where government forces launched several shells on populated areas and did not direct to specific military object.

4. Those attacks, particularly the bombardment, caused casualties, injures or damaged civilian objects. Moreover, there are a strong indicators that the damaged was great compared with the military benefits.

5. The volume of the massacre in addition to its nature, the amount of power that was used, and the indiscriminate and coordinated nature of bombardment cannot be without high instructions and it's a state policy.





Recommendations:

To the Syrian government:

- 1- To stop all Human Rights violations immediately.
- 2- To respect its international commitments that includes the protection of civilians in the time of war, and respect the rules of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

To Human Rights Council:

- 1- To demand the Security Council and the concerned international institutions to shoulder their responsibilities in regard to what is happening to Syrian people like murder, arrest, rape, and displacement.
- 2- To press on the Syrian government to cease murder, torture and release all kidnapped persons.
- 3- To hold Syrian government's allies and supporters- Russia, Iran, and China- morally and materially responsible for happening to the children of Syria.
- 4- To give the disastrous situation of victims' families in Syria greater interest and seriousness.

To the Security Council:

- 1- To adopt a resolution to refer all perpetrators and criminals to the International Criminal Court.
- 2- To warn the Syrian government about the ramifications of severe acts and systematic murder and send a clear message regarding this case.

To the Arab League:

- 1- To ask the Human Rights Council and the United Nations to give the case of daily murder its right of interest and follow-up.
- 2- To give the case the serious and great interest and follow-up, and try to give the victims' families psychological, material and educational care.
- 3- To press politically and diplomatically on the main Syrian regime allies- Russia, Iran and China- to ban them from providing the international and political cover and protection of all committed crimes against the Syrian people and to hold them morally and materially responsible for all Syrian government violations.





To International Commission of Inquiry:

To cease depicting the conflict as it is between two equal parties in crimes, power and central decision-making, and to describe the crime as it is without mitigation for political objects. It also has to increase its cadres that is concerned with the Syrian case due to the volume of the daily crimes which allow it for border and more comprehensive documentation.

