



The Documentation of Haran Al Awameed Village Massacre in Damascus Suburbs

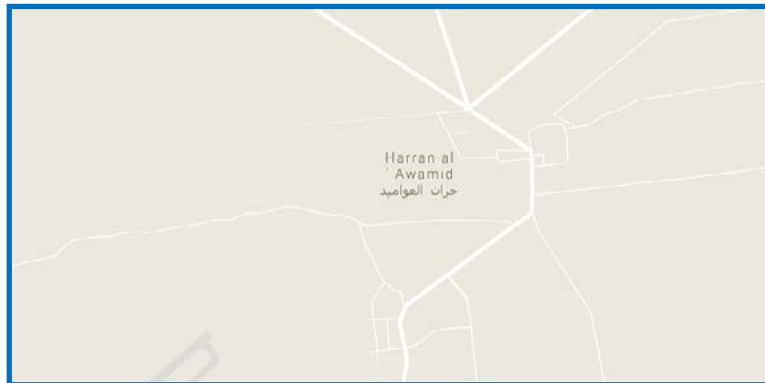
Haran Al Awameed village:

It is located in the capital Damascus and affiliated to Douma city, about 25 km away from the capital. It

is bordered by Al Rabie and Al Itaba valleys on the east, Al Gasoula and Al Ahmadiéh on the west, Al Qaysa on the north, Al Kafreen and Al Barkah on the south.

Its population is 24000.

The location on the map:



On Sunday 20 January 2013, government forces shelled a car carrying a family from Haran Al Awameed area to Al Barika area. As a result, 11 individuals were killed including one child and three women, all of them turned into shreds. SNHR's team have documented 11 civilians including a girl and a woman.

The names of the massacre martyrs:

- 1- [Belal AbdulKafi Zaytoon](#)/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.
- 2- Ali Omran Shahadeh/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.
- 3- Fraeiza Mohammad Shahadeh/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.
- 4- Hiyam Mohammad Shahadeh/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.





- 5- Ismail Ali Omran Shahadeh/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.
- 6- Mohammad Ali Omran Shahadeh/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.
- 7- [Omran Ali Omran Shahadeh](#)/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.
- 8- Fareez Theyab Al Soqi/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.
- 9- [Basem Fareez Al Soqi](#)/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.
- 10- A woman whose name hasn't been identified yet (the wife of Fareez Theyab Al Soqi)/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.
- 11- A woman whose name hasn't been identified yet (the daughter of Fareez Theyab Al Soqi)/ Damascus suburbs/ Haran Al Awameed.

Attachments:

[Video](#) depicting the massacre's victims

Conclusions:

1. SNHR affirms that the bombardment on Haran Al Awameed town was indiscriminate and directed against unarmed civilians. Thus, government forces and Al Shabiha have violated the international human rights law which protect the right to life in addition to being committed in non-International armed conflict so it mounts to war crime with all of its elements.
2. SNHR deems what happened in Haran Al Awameed, 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 its attacks to a specific military object.
4. Those attacks, particularly the bombardment, caused casualties, injuries 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 the Syrian government's allies and supporters- Russia, Iran, and China- morally and materially responsible regarding what is 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:

- 1- 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.

