



## Documentation of Kafr Batna Massacre – Eastern Ghouta, Damascus suburbs

On Sunday, March 24, 2013, government forces rocket launchers shelled Kafr Batna city in Eastern Ghouta, Damascus suburbs in a heavy and indiscriminate manner. According to SNHR members in Damascus suburbs, the shelling caused grave humanitarian and material losses.

SNHR team in Damascus suburbs was able to document the killing of 18 citizens, including one child and one woman. In addition, over 25 others were wounded.

Names of the massacre victims with pictures

- 1- [Suliman al Shati](#), from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 2- Mohammad Khair Ayshouna, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 3- Anas Ayshouna, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 4- Hasan Anas Ayshouna, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 5- Ahmad Abdul Aal Ayshouna, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 6- Moutaz Ashour, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 7- Fayez Ashour, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 8- Eid al Aghwani, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 9- Kamal Kefaya, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 10- Anas al Khatib, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 11- Khaled Sheikh al Ard, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 12- Unidentified victim, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 13- Unidentified victim, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 14- Unidentified victim, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 15- Mohammad Jradi, from Joubar, Damascus suburbs
- 16- Fatima Jradi, woman, from Kafr Batna, Damascus suburbs
- 17- Amer Awatma, from Joubar, Damascus suburbs
- 18- Abdul Razzaq al Slahi, from Joubar, Damascus suburbs





## Videos and Attachments

Video documenting the martyrs who have fallen in the massacre

Videos showing the destruction in the town

Videos showing the destruction in the town

## Conclusions

1. SNHR affirms that the bombardment against Kafr Batna city was indiscriminate and directed against unarmed civilians. 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 a non-International armed conflict so it mounts to war crime as all elements were fulfilled.
2. SNHR deems what happened in Kafr Batna city, the murder crime, a crime against humanity because it is not the first case but it has been systematically repeated throughout 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 rather than targeting specific military objects.
4. Those attacks, particularly the bombardment, caused casualties, injures or damaged civilian objects. Moreover, there are 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.

## Recommendation

### **The Syrian government**

1. Stop all Human Rights violations immediately.
2. 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.

### **Human Rights Council**

1. 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. Apply pressure on the Syrian government to cease murder, torture and release all kidnapped persons.





3. Hold Syrian government's allies and supporters- Russia, Iran, and China- morally and materially responsible for what is happening to the children of Syria.
4. Give the disastrous situation of victims' families in Syria greater interest and seriousness.

### **The Security Council**

1. Refer those who were involved in crimes and the criminal to the International Criminal Court.
2. Warn the Syrian government of the consequences of its violent behavior and the systematic killing, and put out clear messages in this regard.

### **The Arab League**

1. Ask the Human Rights Council and the United Nations to give the case of daily murder its right of interest and follow-up.
2. Give the case the serious and great interest and follow-up, and try to provide psychological, material and educational care for the victims
3. Apply political and diplomatic pressure on the main Syrian regime's 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.

### **International Commission of Inquiry**

Stop 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 purposes. It also has to increase its cadres that is concerned with the Syrian case due to the volume of the daily crimes which would insure a more comprehensive and complete documentation.

