

Statement

Documentation of the **killing of three** civilians, the detention of two others, and attacks on property during a security campaign carried out by the Internal Security Forces in the Latakia countryside following an armed attack on the Daliya Post Office – June 4 and 5, 2025

A call to hold those involved accountable and establish a code of conduct to regulate the performance of security forces during field operations

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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 analyzes in Syria.

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On June 4 and 5, 2025, the town of Daliya and several surrounding villages in the Latakia countryside witnessed a security campaign carried out by the Internal Security Forces of the Ministry of Interior of the Transitional Government. The campaign followed an armed attack targeting the Daliya post office by unknown gunmen. During this campaign, the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented several separate incidents that resulted in the deaths of three civilians and the detention of two others. Furthermore, there were attacks on private property, including the burning of homes and civilian vehicles and the confiscation of property, amid indications of excessive use of force in populated residential areas.

The attack on the Daliya Post Office – June 4:

On Wednesday, June 4, 2025, the post office in the town of Daliya, located in the countryside of Jableh city, was attacked by unknown assailants. The civilian post office, which was still in operation, was attacked. According to documentation by the Syrian Network for Human Rights, the attack was followed by clashes with the Internal Security Forces, who declared a curfew in the Daliya and Beit Ana areas and launched a combing campaign to pursue those involved in the villages within the Daliya sub-district center.

Implementation of the security campaign and casualties – June 4 and 5:

In the first hours of the campaign, the network documented the killing of [Issam Hassan Sharouf](#), a resident of the village of Batmouh, after he was shot by members of the Internal Security Forces while he was in a forested area near his village. He was wearing paramilitary uniform and happened to be in the area during the curfew.

The following day, Thursday, June 5, Internal Security Forces reinforcements entered the villages of Qarfais, Wadi al-Qalaa, Batmoush, Dweir Baabda, Beit Ana, and al-Daliya as part of the ongoing security campaign and the pursuit of those involved in the attack on the post office. During the sweeps, the network documented the deaths of two additional civilians:

- [Mazen Habib Ibrahim](#), from the village of Batshah, was killed while riding his motorcycle in a forested area near his village, during the curfew period.
- [Ali Aboud Rasouq](#), from the town of Beit Anah, was killed near his home while carrying a hunting rifle. His presence coincided with the curfew being in effect in the area.

Lawyer Radwan al-Ahmad and his brother, physician Wissam al-Ahmad, were also detained in the town of Daliya and taken to an unknown location as of the date of this statement.

SNHR monitored some Internal Security Forces personnel participating in the campaign firing indiscriminately at civilian homes, completely burning down approximately six homes, setting fire to five civilian cars parked in front of the homes, and confiscating six other cars belonging to civilians. On the evening of Thursday, June 5, the campaign was declared over and the security lockdown in the area lifted.

VISUAL DAMAGE VERIFICATION VIA OPEN SOURCES:

SNHR reviewed and verified open-source video footage showing damage to property in the town of Daliya and the village of Beit Ana in the Latakia countryside as a result of the security campaign carried out on June 4 and 5, 2025, to pursue suspects in the attack on the Daliya post office. Analysis revealed indiscriminate targeting of civilian buildings and vehicles.

Among the most prominent verified scenes:

- Effects of random gunfire on [a residential building](#).
- [Smoke rising](#) from a burning house.
- [A number](#) of civilian cars [were burned](#).

LEGAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Legal Conclusions:


- The killing of the three civilians, in the absence of clear indications of a direct threat or use of a weapon, constitutes a violation of the right to life, as stipulated in Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- The detention of the lawyer and doctor without official notification or disclosure of their place of detention constitutes a violation of Article 9 of the same Covenant, which prohibits arbitrary detention and requires clear legal procedures.
- The burning and confiscation of civilian homes and vehicles constitutes a clear violation of the right to property, as stipulated in Article 17 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, especially given the lack of any evidence that these properties were being used for military or non-civilian purposes.
- International human rights law requires security forces to use force in a gradual manner, proportionate to the level of threat, and emphasizes the need to refrain from firing in residential areas except in the strictest possible manner. It also commits to conducting independent investigations in the event of casualties.
- The transitional government has a responsibility to respect and protect human rights, conduct investigations into violations committed by its forces, and hold those responsible accountable, thus contributing to strengthening public confidence in state institutions during the transitional period.

Recommendations

- Open an independent and transparent investigation into all incidents that occurred during the campaign, particularly cases of killing, detention, and arson. Ensure the publication of the investigation's findings and hold those responsible accountable.
- Adopt a national code of conduct to govern the performance of security forces during field operations, and train personnel on human rights principles and mechanisms for dealing with civilians in emergency situations.
- Ensure justice and redress for victims by compensating those affected financially and morally and providing psychological and social support to victims and their families.
- End all forms of excessive use of force, particularly in residential areas, and adopt effective civilian oversight mechanisms for the performance of security institutions.

- Strengthen institutional oversight of the work of security forces, while providing regular training on the principles of international human rights law and professional treatment of civilians.
- Enhance transparency and cooperation with human rights organizations by enabling them to monitor the performance of security services, document violations, and provide recommendations aimed at preventing future violations.



↑  A number of civilian properties were damaged after Internal Security Forces carried out a security campaign in the Latakia countryside to pursue those involved in an armed attack targeting the Daliya Post Office - June 4 and 5, 2025



SYRIAN NETWORK
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



info@snhr.org
www.snhr.org

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