

Statement

**Documentation of the Killing of One civilian and
the Arrest of Seven Others during a Ground
Incursion Carried out by Israeli Occupation
forces in the Town of Beit Jinn in Rif Dimashq
June 12, 2025**

**The International Community Must Pressure Israel to Halt
the Repeated Incursions and the Violations They Entail**

Wednesday 25 June 2025



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.

At dawn on Thursday, June 12, 2025, Israeli occupation forces carried out a large-scale ground incursion into the town of Beit Jinn, located west of the Rif Dimashq Governorate, using military vehicles and supported by units from the Alexandroni Brigade of the 210th Division. The operation resulted in the death of one civilian and the arrest of seven others, amid a state of tension and alert among the local population. The area is under the control of the Syrian transitional government.

Documenting the killing of a civilian and the arrest of seven others in connection with the military operation

According to what the Syrian Network for Human Rights documented through reliable local field sources, Israeli forces stormed residential neighborhoods in the town of Beit Jinn, resulting in limited clashes between local residents and the invading forces. These clashes resulted in the death of a young civilian, **Muhammad Hamada**, from the town, who was shot by the invading forces. The arrest of seven other civilians, most of whom are from the same family and residents of the town, was also documented. The detainees were transferred to an unknown location without being presented to any local judicial authority or presenting arrest warrants, which, under international human rights law, constitutes a form of arbitrary detention.

The narrative of the Israeli occupation army and the local population:

On the same day (June 12), Israeli army spokesman Avichay Adraee [announced](#) on his official social media platforms that the operation was carried out to “arrest terrorists affiliated with Hamas,” claiming that weapons and ammunition were seized during the raid and confirming that the detainees were transferred to Israel for investigation.

In contrast, the Syrian Network for Human Rights contacted activists who had traveled to Beit Jinn following the incursion. They reported, based on what they learned from local residents, that all those arrested were civilians known for their work in agriculture and sheep herding, and had no organizational ties to any armed or political group, including Hamas. The residents considered the Israeli army's statement to be devoid of evidence and to be used as a pretext to justify violations.

Statements condemning the incursion and the violations that occurred from the Transitional

Government:

The Ministry of Interior of the transitional government issued a [statement](#) condemning the operation, describing it as a “blatant aggression against Syrian sovereignty,” stressing that it is following up on the incident and working to document it. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Syrian Arab Republic also [expressed](#) its condemnation of the Israeli incursion, considering it a clear violation of international law and relevant Security Council resolutions.

Condemnation, conclusions and recommendations:

The Syrian Network for Human Rights strongly condemns the Israeli ground incursion into the town of Beit Jann, which resulted in the death of one civilian and the arbitrary detention of seven others. The Network affirms that these practices constitute a flagrant violation of international humanitarian law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Legal Conclusions:

- The killing of civilian Mohammed Hamada by direct fire from the invading Israeli forces, without any legal justification, constitutes an extrajudicial killing and constitutes a grave violation of Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which stipulates that the right to life is an inherent right of every human being and that no one may be arbitrarily deprived of it.
- The detention of the seven civilians without a judicial warrant, a clear security imperative, or charges, and without respect for fair trial guarantees, constitutes arbitrary detention under Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which prohibits deprivation of liberty without legal basis.
- Since the detained civilians are residents of a temporarily occupied territory (due to the Israeli military incursion), their forcible transfer to a military installation of the occupying power or within occupied territory constitutes a violation of Articles 49 and 147 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibit the forcible transfer and unlawful detention of protected persons.
- According to Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions (Article 75), all detained persons must be treated humanely, with respect for their legal rights. This was not respected in this incident, neither in terms of the legal basis for detention, nor in terms of its duration or location.
- The Israeli military incursion and the execution of killings and detentions within Syrian territory constitute a flagrant violation of Article 2(4) of the UN Charter, which prohibits the use of force against the territorial integrity of any member state and constitutes an act of aggression that contravenes the rules of international law.
- Repeated incursions and occupation of military barracks inside Syria, and the implementation of security operations and detentions, are practices that perpetuate an unrecognized occupation reality and may pave the way for demographic change or the imposition of a de facto military authority, which threatens wider serious violations.

Recommendations by SNHR

- Clear international condemnation of the killing and unlawful detention by the Israeli occupation forces, considering it a violation of the Geneva Conventions and the UN Charter, requiring legal accountability.
- Calling on the UN Security Council and Human Rights Council to investigate the incident, through mechanisms such as the International Independent Mechanism (IIIM) and documenting it within the pattern of Israeli violations in southern Syria.
- Demanding that Israel disclose details of the detention process, provide public legal justifications, and compensate the detained civilians for the violations they suffered, including material and moral harm.
- Deploy international monitoring forces or expand the scope of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) to include monitoring cases of detention and violations against civilians in Syrian border areas.
- Activate international criminal accountability tools, particularly the International Criminal Court (ICC), to consider classifying these practices as war crimes related to unlawful detention in occupied or disputed territories.
- Improve civilian protection in conflict zones by establishing local early warning networks and documenting unauthorized foreign troop movements, in cooperation with civil society organizations and local human rights activists.



SYRIAN NETWORK
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



info@snhr.org
www.snhr.org

No justice without accountability

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