



**Targeting Mosques by Syrian Government's Armed Forces
More than 1451 mosque have been totally or partially destroyed
and the kill of at least 48 orators and Imam of the mosque**

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Period covered: 15/3/2011- 6/6/2013

Context:

Targeting Mosques by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

Targeting Mosques by Armed Rebels

Legal conclusions

Recommendations

Introduction:

Totalitarian Dictatorial Syrian regime prevented for decades any public gatherings, or peaceful sit-ins, tortured and arrested who did or tried to do such acts

When the Syrian Revolution began in the context of the Arab spring, mosques were the only place available for demonstrations where the people were gathering in , most of demonstrations launched form mosques with participant form other sects and religions cause it was gathering points

In this regard , Syrian government's Armed Forces deliberately targeted to shatter the prestige that Syrian People feels towards mosques , so they shelled , destroyed , vandalized and stormed mosques in unprecedented barbaric ways , even in the days of French colonialism which takes into account the sanctity of the mosques and didn't pursue anyone entered a mosque.

[SNHR](#) already have been prepared report on destruction's percentage in Syria , which amounted more than 3 million building affected , more than 700,000 buildings totally destroyed including houses , schools , mosques , hospitals .

[SNHR](#) also conducted report about destroyed or damaged schools, another report about destroyed or damaged churches, detailed report about hospitals, and in this context we review in a survey conducted in all of the Syrian provinces about damaged and destroyed mosques. this survey took longer time, cause of the large number of destroyed mosques

First: targeting mosques by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

SNHR documented at least 1451 mosques, at least 348 totally destroyed cause of shelling by Scud missiles, surface to surface missiles, TNT, artillery, and other weapons.

Targeted mosques were systematically and widespread included all Syrian governorates in a very large numbers where the ratio was distributed as follows:

SNHR have videos and photos of most destroyed mosques with their names and locations and can provide them for any hand ask for

Damascus countryside topped this statistic with almost 400 mosques, then Idlib, Daraa, Homs, and Aleppo :

Damascus countryside: 387

Idlib : 308

Daraa : 237

Homs : 217

Aleppo : 158

Homs : 135

Damascus : 92

DierAlzoor : 67

Lattakia : 37

Raqqqa : 25

Qunaitra : 5

Hasaka , Tartous and Swidaa didn't targeted any mosque.

SNHR also documented in addition to destroy mosques the kill at least 48 orators and Imam of the mosque in different Syrian Governorates by Syrian Government's Armed Forces in shelling and raiding in , and some in ethnical cleansing operation (Baniyas massacre and JdidtAlfadl massacre) 6 field execution , 1 slaughtered by knives , 2 arrested and cruelly tortured to death.

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B9Bj18tIYYKBQUxKdDVKZFBHZU0/edit>

Syrian Opposition transferred many mosques to shelters because of the destructions of hundreds of thousands of homes which led to shell it by Syrian Government's Armed Forces.

About 100 mosques transferred to field hospital to cure and receive injuries

Few mosques transferred to schools and educational places.

Appendix and attachments:

Examples for damaged and destroyed mosques in various different governorates

Damascus :

- Damascus countryside:Arbin

8/12/2012, Syrian Government's Armed Forces shelled mosque in Arbin

- Damascus –Alqadam

27/7/2012, the effects of destruction on HasanAlbasri mosque caused by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Damascus Countryside – Daria

9/12/2012, the effects of destruction on the oldest mosque in the city by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Damascus Countryside – Harasta

14/11/2012, the effects of destruction on Sheikh Mosa mosque after shelled by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Damascus – HajarAlaswad

19/7/2012, the effects of destruction on Imam Nawawi mosque after shelled by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Damascus Countryside – Doma

29/7/2012, shelledAlbaghdadiAlsharqi mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces\

- Damascus Countryside – Doma

1/1/2013, the effects of destruction on Taha mosque after shelled by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Damascus Countryside – Doma

2/11/2012, the effects of destruction on the big mosque by MIG

- Damascus Countryside – Mdira

16/12/2012, the effects of destruction on the town mosque with rocket launcher by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

Idlib :

- Idlib:Binch

13/2/2013, the effects of destruction on the town mosque for the second time by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Idlib – MaaratAlnoaman

24/10/2012, huge destruction in Bilal mosque cause shelling by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Idlib – Maarshmarin

12/10/2012, effects of destruction on a mosque cause shelling on Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Idlib – Binch

14/12/2012, Bilal mosque shelled by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Idlib – Taftanaz

5/8/2012, effects of destruction on the town mosques cause shelling on Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Idlib – MaaratAlnoman

20/11/2012, destroy minaret of TheiAlnorin mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Idlib – MaaratAlnoman

3/11/2012, effect of destruction on the big mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

Lattakia :

- Lattkia countryside

31/7/2012, effects of destruction on mosques by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Lattkia –Marwniate

24/9/2012, effects of destruction on Khaled mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

Homs:

- Homs – Talebesa – Awion Husain

30/1/2013, shelled Alwahid mosque by Artillery by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Homs, Buwaydah Al Sharqiyah

3/1/2013, shelling the village mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Homs - Alkhaldiah

28/11/2012, shelling Iman mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Homs, Sultaneah

23/9/2012, shelling the town mosque with artillery by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Homs, Alhwla

10/9/2013, effects of destructions on Taldao Archeological mosque cause of shelling by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Homs, Alhwla

10/9/2013, effects of destructions on Shuhadaa mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Homs, Aldaba

16/7/2012, effects of destructions on town mosque for the second time by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Homs, Alhwla

26/12/2012, effects of destructions on town mosque cause of shelling by Syrian Government's Armed Forces centered near Hamiri checkpoint

- Homs, Alrasthan

21/9/2012, effects of destructions on Hidayah mosque cause of shelling by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Homs, old city

9/12/2012, destroy mosque cause of shelling by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Homs

27/7/2012, targeting Khaled Bin Alwalid Archeological mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces shelling

Daraa :

- Daraa, Yadowda

12/1/2013, shelled Yadowda village mosques by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Daraa, Noaemeah

3/9/2013, shelled Abo Bakr Alsdik mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Daraa, Safirah

9/2/2013, shelled Ahl Badr mosque's minaret by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Daraa, Shiekh Miskin

10/11/2012, shelled Ali Bn Abi Taleb mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

DierAlzoor :

- DierAlzoor – Miadine

15/10/2012, effects of destructions on the main mosque in the town cause of shelling by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- DierAlzoor – Albokamal

8/9/2012, effects of destructions on the big mosque in the city of shelling by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- DierAlzoor – Alaardi

2/11/2012, effects of destructions on the Bilal mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

Hama :

- Hama – KafarNabodah

13/2/2013, effects of shelling on the town mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Hama – KafarNabodah

28/1/2013, shelling on city mosques by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Hama – Karnaz

1/2/2013, shelled the big mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Hama – KafarZita

22/1/2013, shelled on a mosque in the town by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

Aleppo:

- Aleppo – TarekAlbab

14/9/2012, the effect of destruction causes of shelling on Alaqsa martyrs mosque

- Aleppo – Andan

25/9/2012, the effect of destruction causes of shelling on big mosque by Syrian Government's Armed Forces

- Almahmandar(Alkadi) mosque , 26/8/2012

- Ismailiah Archeological mosque, 25/9/2012

- Othmaniah Archeological mosque, 21/9/2012

- Umayyad mosque

- Mosque in Alsahineneighborhood, 22/8/2012

- Alkhair Archeological mosque, 12/11/2012

- Mosque in Jainagharea, 1/7/2012

- Almshatiah , 13/12/2012

- Fatima AlzahraaMosque, 20/8/2012

- Albotool Mosque, 20/8/2012

- AlrashidMosque, 5/9/2012

Targeting Mosques by Armed Rebels

Some oppositions armed factions targeted at least 4 minarets for mosques , justified their action that Syrian Government's Armed Forces had used this minarets and put snipers in , where they snipes civilians , as an example explosion in Abo Bakr mosque minaret in Daraa which was located on a high hill overlooking the entire city , where the sniper killed more than 27 citizen from the neighborhood. Al Nusra Troops stormed Hosseiniyeh belong to Shiite sect, which is considered as an enemy, most of them being lining up with Alassad's regime , this incident occurred in Jisr Ash-Shughur area.

Recommendations

Human Rights Council:

- 1) Considering attacks that occurred in Syria on the sanctity of the mosques as violation of basic human rights that affect his sanctities and dignity
- 2) Denounce violations committed by Syrian Government's Armed Forces such as warship houses and mosques, and document those attacks
- 3) Pressure on the Syrian Government's Armed Troops and formally request to stop its violations on mosques
- 4) Hold alias and supporters of the Syrian Government's Armed Troops (support with weapons and gear) to take clear positions on those violations and make diplomatic and political pressure to stop and end these violations

Arab League:

- 1- Denounce violations of warship houses and mosques, and document those attacks
- 2- Pressure regionally and internationally to make effective decisions in this regard
- 3- Pressure on the Syrian regime to stop those violations that affect Muslims all around the world
- 4- Demand the states that can effect on Alassad regime to make it stop deliberate and wide spread violations on mosques.

Security Council:

- 1 Denounce violations of warship houses and mosques, and criminalized those attacks
- 2 Issue a binding decision against Syrian regime to stop all violations, specifically warship houses and mosques
- 3 Warning of the consequences of such violations for social peace and led for sectarian and religious wars, and hold Syrian Government's full responsibility about it
- 4 Announce demand to protect mosques and Archeological places and warning of endangerment them.

