

Statement

The International Community Must Save Aleppo

Aleppo City is still witnessing huge waves of killing, destruction, and displacement

The government forces started its barbarian military campaign against Aleppo city on 23 November, 2013 after...

The government forces started its barbarian military campaign against Aleppo city on 23 November, 2013 after it destroyed and displaced most of the residents of Aleppo countryside cities and towns. Shelling using barrel bombs, thermobaric bombs, and even internationally-prohibited cluster munitions has been targeting many residential neighborhoods within the city since then, according to a previous SNHR's report.

After about three months, on 22 February, 2014, The UN Security Council passed the Resolution 2139 that was to allow the humanitarian aids to enter the city and to stop the indiscriminate shelling specifically referring to the barrel bombs shelling. However, this resolution, which was adopted unanimously, was under Chapter VI, thus, the Syrian government disregarded it. According to our team, the rate of the indiscriminate shelling hasn't changed after the passing of the resolution.

From 23 November, 2013 until 26 April, 2014, there have been 1940 barrel bombs dropped on Aleppo city alone which killed 2508 people including only 19 rebels (less than 1%) whom, we believe, were killed by accident. On the other hand 2489 civilians have been killed including 635 children and 292 women (the percentage of the children and women victims is 38% of

the total number of victims). This clearly indicates that civilians are being deliberately targeted. Furthermore, the indiscriminate shelling destroyed approximately one-third of the city either completely or partially, this made more than 220,000 people either refugees or IDEs during this period of time.

In the same period of time, 745 people have been killed in Aleppo countryside; 92% of them were civilians.

Appendixes and Attachments

The following URL contains [*all the details and information about the civilian victims*](#)

The following URL contains [*all the details and information about the rebel victims*](#)

Conclusions

1-SNHR affirms that the shelling using explosive barrels is an act of indiscriminate shelling that targeted armless civilians, thus the government forces and its militias have violated the articles of the international law for human rights which guarantee the right to live. Furthermore these violation were perpetrated during a non-international armed conflict which can be classified as war crimes.

2- The random attacks committed by the government forces are considered violations of the customary international law considering the fact that government forces have attacked residential areas rather than a specific military target.

3- These attacks, especially aerial shelling, have caused casual humanitarian and material losses. There are strong indicators that prove that the damage was deeply severe compared to the expected military advantage.

4- The magnitude of this wide systematic frequent shelling, the level of its excessive strength, its military nature, and the coordinated approach of these attacks must be based on high orders, and a state policy.

Reccomendations:

The Security Council

Protect the Syrian civilians from these daily attacks and shoulder its historical and moral responsibility

Take further actions as the Syrian regime didn't comply with Resolution 2193 and mocked it as usual.

