

**The Syrian Government and poison gas
attacks from 2012 until 2014**



**CHEMICAL MASSACRE
IN SYRIA**

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Later, the government forces attacked...

Executive Summary

[SNHR's reports and researches team has documented the use of poison gases by the government forces in 28 different occasions before the Eastern and Western Ghoutas attacks on 21 August, 2013.](#)

The Ghoutas attack was the 29th attack which was followed by the Syrian government's signing on the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) treaty.

Later, the government forces attacked on 28 August, 2013 the Damascene neighborhood: Joubar; only seven days after the Ghoutas attacks. It seemed as if the Syrian government was testing the National Community's seriousness. This attack was the 30th.

Please see the report about Joubar chemical attack on [SNHR](#) website.

Afterwards, Government forces didn't use any chemical weapons until the beginning of 2014 which had 17 chemical attacks. In total, 47 chemical attacks have been documented to the date of this report based on the indications and information that we were able to verify.

Details of the poison gas attacks in 2014

Since the beginning of 2014, government forces attacked using gases, thought to be poison, in 17 different occasions, targeting eight different Syrian areas. Addi-

tionally, barrel bombs containing liquid chlorine were used against four areas: Kafrzyta, Talmanas, At-Taman'a, and Atshan.

It's noticed that Kafar-Zeeta has been attacked the most as it was targeted in five different occasions in less than 10 days.

According to [SNHR](#)'s documenting team, the chemical attacks in 2014 killed 29 victims including four children and three women, and injured no less than 670 people in total.

While poison gases attacks killed 974 people at least and injured 11830.

Government forces' poison gases shelling incidents

Since [SNHR](#)'s team wasn't able to visit the location of the incident, and considering the network's limited financial resources and present circumstances, we relied in this report, as all of the previous report the we published about the use of chemical weapons by the Syrian government, on survivors' testimonies, eyewitness, and the pictures and video footages that we verified after we had received it from our certified activists. This report includes five testimonies in addition to the verified pictures and video footages that were sent by cooperating activists from inside the city as no one of our team managed to visit the targeted location. We verified 14 video footages. Please know that we changed the eyewitnesses' names according to their own will.

For more information about [*SNHR's methodology in documenting victims.*](#)

- **Dariyya, Monday, 13 January, 2014 and 22 April. 2014:**

Dariyya is in Damascus countryside, it is to the west of the capital Damascus and it's very close to the Damascene neighborhood Al-Mazzeah and Moa'admyet Al-Sham city. It's the biggest city in western Ghouta.

The Following URL shows the location of Dariyya city:

The eastern areas of Dariyya city was shelled on 13 January, 2014 with three bombs that are likely carrying chemical poison gases which caused the death of four people, all rebels, and more than other ten injuries.

The government forces renewed it's shelling on the northern area on 22 April, 2014 using bombs carrying poison gases, probably liquid chlorine, after the rebels' bombing of a tunnel used by the Syrian government forces to enter the city. This attack caused more than ten injuries mostly minor.

SNHR contacted with Abo Ez-Zeen, media activist from Dariyya, and he gave the network his testimony about the second shelling incident in the city:

“ The regime targeted the northern battlefront at about 1 PM after the rebels discovered a tunnel used by the regime forces to break into Dariyya so they bombed it. The regime's hit-back was a gas bombs shelling.

There were, due to the attack, more than ten minor injuries that didn't need more than simple aids as we were prepared to such attacks after it became more common, we used preventing masks.

SNHR has published a report about [*targeting Dariyya with poison gases on 17 January, 2014*](#)

- **‘Adra , Damascus countryside, 2 March 2014:**

‘Adra is 25 Km to the eastern north of Damascus

The following URL shows the location of ‘Adra city

The government forces shelled ‘Adra city in Damascus countryside with gas bombs, which were likely containing poison substances, causing the death of four rebels and no less than 30 other injury.

- **Jobar neighborhood in Damascus, Thursday and Friday, 3 and 4 April, 2014:**

Jobar neighborhood is in the eastern north of Damascus.

The following URL shows the location of Jobar neighborhood

The government forces targeted one of the rebels-used tunnels near the highway that separates Jobar neighborhood and Al-Abbasyeen Square with a bomb containing poison gases that couldn't be identified, but it was suspected to be liquid chlorine.

The shelling caused six injuries; all of which were treated by oxygen spray. The shelling occurred again on Friday causing more five injuries, all rebels.

[SNHR](#) has contacted with Mr. Maher, one of Jobar neighborhood media activists, and he gave the network his testimony about the gas bombs shelling incident:

“ On Thursday, at about half past 4 pm, one of the FSA tunnels was hit by chlorine-carrying gas bomb. The tunnel was in one of Jobar frontlines near Al-Abbasyeen square. The regime forces renewed it's shelling on the tunnel on Friday at about 11 am with another gas-carrying bomb.

There were 14 injuries in total. The symptoms were headache, vomiting, and very heavy breathing and they were all treated with oxygen spray.”

- **Harasta , 27 Mar, 11, and 16 April 2014:**

Harasta city is in the eastern side of the capital city, Damascus.

The following URL shows the location of Harasta city

In a less than 20 days, Harasta city was shelled with poison gases in three different occasions, the 1st incident was on Thursday, 27 March, when the Syrian government forces targeted a-rebels-used tunnel in Al-Koo'o area in Harasta with a rocket carrying gas bombs, causing the death of seven people, all rebels, and 30 injuries.

The shelling renewed on 11 April against one of the frontlines, where the rebels made a progress, with a gas bomb that the substances in which couldn't be identified. Three rebels were killed in addition to 16 injuries.

The Syrian government forces repeated the targeting of the city with bombs carrying poison gases on Wednesday, 16 April, causing the death of a rebel and more than 15 injuries.

SNHR published a report about [*targeting Harasta with poison gases on 10 Apr 2014*](#)

- **Kafar-Zeeta shelling on Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 10, 11 and 12, and 16 and 18 April, 2014**

Kafar-Zeeta city is 53 Km to the western north of Hama city. It has been a rebel-held area since the beginning of 2013

The following URL shows the location of Kafar-Zeeta

The Syrian government's helicopters dropped on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 10-11-12 April, four barrels that targeted Kafar-Zeeta neighborhoods; those barrels were carrying poison gases, likely to be liquid chlorine.

The government renewed its shelling on Wednesday and Friday, 16 and 18 April 2014, with more than three barrels carrying chlorine gas.

SNHR team documented the death of Mustafa Ahmad Al-Mohammad and his daughter Marwa Al-Mohammad in addition to no less than 125 injuries; most of them are women and children. SNHR contacted with Mr. Hasan from Kafar-Zeeta and he told the network about the shelling: “ On 10 April we were shelled with the 1st barrel carrying chlorine gas but the injuries didn't exceed three injuries and we thought the heavy breathing was because the dust caused by the barrel shelling.

that incident was followed with continuous shelling of chlorine-carrying-barrels; on 11 April we were shelled with three barrels between 4 and 10 pm, and on 10 April we were attacked again with one barrel at about past half 9 pm.

On 16 April the regime renewed its shelling with a barrel bomb at 11 pm, and on 18 April we were targeted with another two barrel bombs at 12 am.

This shelling caused more than 100 injury and was accompanied with a big displacement movement from the city. “

- **At-Taman’a village in Idlib countryside on Saturday and Friday, 12 and 18 April, 2014:**

At-Tamana’a is 8 Km to the east of Khan-Sheekh city:

The government’s helicopters dropped on 12 April a barrel bomb carrying chlorine gas on At-Taman’a village in Idlib countryside targeting (The Martyr Mustafa Al-Bakry) school, causing, as documented by [SNHR](#), more than 15 injuries.

The shelling renewed on Friday, 18 April, with another barrel bomb.

[SNHR](#) has contacted with one of the media office activists in At-Taman’a village and gave the network his testimony about the incident:

“ At about quarter to 10 pm during Saturday evening, the regime targeted The Martyr Mustafa Al-Bakry Schoon with a barrel bomb carrying chlorine, causing severe damages in the school In addition to the injuries caused by the poison gas.

I was one of those who were injured. I was breathing heavily and coughing rapidly. I needed oxygen spray to breathe again. In the beginning the injury cases didn’t pass 18 but after the spread of the gas by the wind the number increased and we started to receive more cases.

On Friday the regime renewed the shelling with barrel bombs carrying chlorine at about half past 10 causing the death of two people and more than 120 injuries. “

[SNHR](#) could document no less than 140 death and injury cases in the shelling of At-Taman’a village.

- **A’atshan in Hama countryside, 13 Apr 2014:**

The Syrian government’s helicopters dropped a barrel bomb carrying chlorine gas on A’atshan village in Hama countryside where the barrel was dropped near the water tank in the village.

[SNHR](#) team documented no less than 20 injuries.

[SNHR](#) has contacted with the eyewitness Abu Mohammad who was there when the shelling

took place and offered us his testimony:

“At about half past 8 am a bomb carrying chlorine gas was dropped by a helicopter that targeted the water tank in the village. The diameter of the affected area that the barrel bomb targeted exceeded 5 Km. The smell kept spreading until the next evening. Most of the injured suffered from choking and fainting. The number of the injury cases passed 20 cases amid a severe shortage of the medical capabilities needed in such cases.

A’tshan villages is a small village, and the presence of FSA is limited there usually. There are only a few rebels who live with their families.”

- **Talminnis, Monday, 21 April, 2014:**

Talminnis is in the east of Ma’aret Al-No’mān city.

The following URL shows the location of Talminnis

The government’s helicopters dropped a barrel bomb carrying poison gases that was likely to be liquid chlorine, which caused the death of a child and more than 200 injuries.

Dr. Bashar, one of Idlib city physicians who addressed most of the gas cases in At-Taman’a and Talminnis, says:

“ The symptoms that most of the injured suffered from were heavy breathing, coughing, itching, and redehyes. Of course the manifestation of the symptoms depends on how much the victim was exposed to the gas and the concentration of the poison substance.

The injured were treated by washing the area with clean water if available, oxygen sprays, and windpipe expanders.

There were about 150 injury in Talminnis and more than 100 in At-Taman’a”

Victims’ names

In total, SNHR's team documented the death of 29; including four children and three women, and no less than 600 injury.

The following URL contains [*the names of the victims*](#)

Photos and Attachments:

1st: A'adra city:

[*A video footage documents the place targeted by gas bombs in the city, the video also shows one of the rebels giving his testimony about the incident*](#)

[*A Video footage documenting one of the survivors' testimony about the incident:*](#)

2nd: Jooabar neighborhood:

[*A Video footage documents the treating of one of the gas-injured cases, and it's shown in the video a guy suffering from heavy breathing and he's healed by oxygen*](#)

3rd: Harasta city:

[*The following video footages show some of the injures that were caused by the gas bombs shelling on Harasta*](#)

4th: Kafar-Zeeta city:

[*A Photo shows one of the containers dropped on Kafar-Zeeta:*](#)

[*A Video footage documents the government's helicopter dropping the barrel bomb*](#)

[*A Video footage shows where the barrel bomb fell on 12 Apr 2014*](#)

[*A Video footage shows some of the injuries caused by the poison gases and it's shown in the video a group of children having symptoms including coughing and eruption*](#)

[*A Video footage documents a child injured by poison gases that shelled the town*](#)

[*A Video footage shows some of the injured while they were being aided*](#)

[*The following URL contains the names of the injured in Kafrzyta city*](#)

5th: At-Taman'a in Idlib:

[A Video footage documents one of the choking cases caused by the shelling of poison gases, and it's shown the video the treating of one of the injured rebels](#)

[A Video footage shows an injured child by the poison gas shelling](#)

6th: A'atshan in Hama countryside:

[A Video footage documents one of the injuries](#)

7th: Talminnis:

[A Video footage documents a group of the injuries who were exposed to the poison gases, and it's shown in the video a child suffering from heavy breathing and eruption.](#)

[The Following URL contains some of the names of the injured:](#)

Reccomendations

The International Inquiry Commission

The International Inquiry Commission should start investigating the incident immediately, and take serious steps to identify the responsible party that uses these kind of weapons especially after the Syrian regime has signed the CWC.

The Special Investigation Committee on Chemical Weapons Illuminating

Since the committee is currently in Syria and can move easily, it should head to the incidents locations and take blood samples from the victims for analysis.

The Security Council

To shoulder its responsibilities in maintaining safety and civil peace in Syria especially with the Syrian regime's violation that represents a blatant threat to the international security and peace, and to stop the political interests game on the account of the Syrian people.

FDemand the Security Council and the concerned international institutions to shoulder its responsibilities in regard to what happening to the Syrian people of killing, imprisoning, rape, and displacement.