



More than 44 Massacres Committed in May 2014 amongst which were pretreated by government forces 32

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I- Executive Summary:

SNHR documented not less than 44 massacres that were committed in May 2014, detailed as follows:

A- Government Forces (army, security forces, local militias and foreign militias) committed 32 massacres

B- Extremist Islamic Groups:

i- ISIL committed 2 massacres

ii- Al-Nusra Front committed 1 massacre

C- Armed Opposition Groups committed 6 massacres

D- Unidentified Groups committed 3 massacres

SNHR describes an incident as a massacre if it involves: “the killing of five unarmed people at least”, for more information on our methodology, please visit the following URL:

- Massacres' distribution according to the Syrian governorates:

- Aleppo: 23 massacres

- Daraa: 7

- Idlib: 6

- Hama: 3

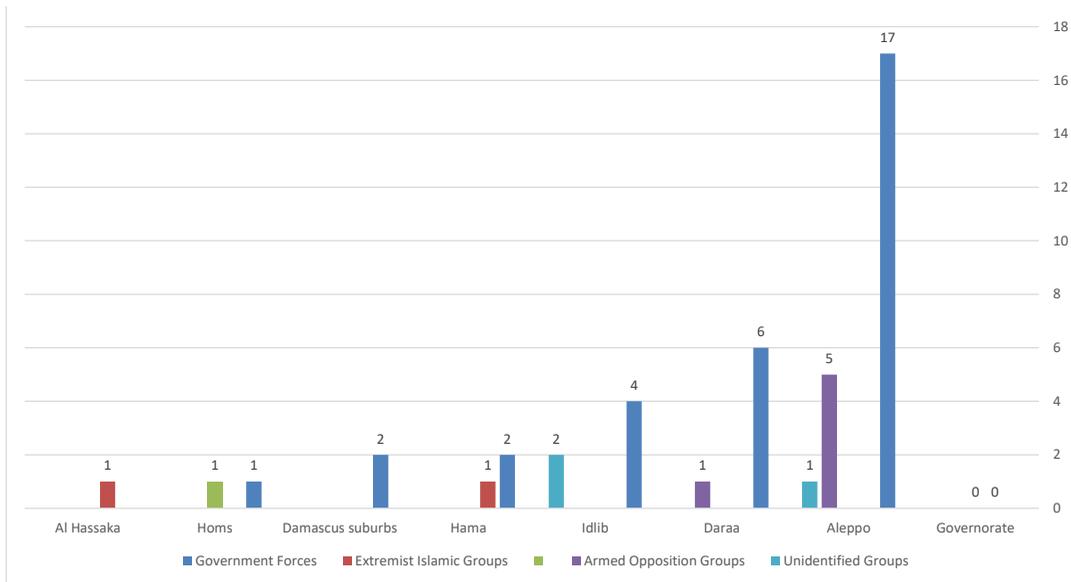
- Damascus Suburbs: 2

- Homs: 2

- Al Hassaka: 1

- Massacres' Distribution According to the Main Conflict Parties:





According to SNHR's documentation team, 526 individuals were killed this month, including 159 children and 71 women. 44% of targeted victims were women and children which is a strong indicator that civilians were targeted deliberately.

• The victims' death toll according to massacres' perpetrators:

- Government forces killed 317 individuals, including 96 children and 47 women.

- Extremist Islamic Groups:

i- ISIL killed 30 individuals including 15 children and 6 women.

ii- Al Nusra Front killed 11 individuals including 4 children.

- Armed Opposition Groups killed 95 individuals, including 33 children and 18 women

- Unidentified Groups killed 73 individuals including 11 children.

II- Incidents' Details:

A- Government Forces:

• Aleppo Governorate:

1- On 1 May 2014, government helicopters dropped four barrel bombs on a market in Al Halak neighborhood in Aleppo city which killed 67 individuals including 17 children and 8 women.

2- On 5 May 2014, government warplanes launched a rocket on a market in [Ezzaz city](#) in Aleppo suburbs which killed 5 civilians including 3 children.

3- On 6 May 2014, government warplanes launched three rockets on Ezzaz city in Aleppo suburbs which killed 6 civilians including 2 children and 2 women.





4- On 10 May 2014, government helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Um Al Amad town in Aleppo suburbs which killed 13 individuals (11 children and two women) and injured 10 others. The barrel bomb fell on three nearby houses.

5- On 14 May 2014, government warplanes launched 5 vacuum missiles on Al At-areb city in Aleppo suburbs which killed 12 individuals including 2 children and 2 women. Forty others were [injured](#).

6- On 16 May 2014, government helicopters dropped two barrel bombs on Hraytan city in Aleppo suburbs which killed 5 civilians including 4 children while they were in their houses.

7- On 18 May 2014, government warplanes launched a rocket on Al Kallasa neighborhood in Aleppo city which killed 6 individuals including 3 children and a woman.



8- On 20 May 2014, government artillery forces launched a surface-to-surface missile on [Mare'aa town](#) in Aleppo suburbs which killed 14 civilians including 11 children and two women. Almost 21 others were injured.

9- On 20 May 2014, government artillery forces launched a rocket on the industrial region in Ezzaz city in Aleppo suburbs which killed 10 individuals including a child and a woman.

10- On 26 May 2014, government helicopters dropped two barrel bombs on Buстан Al Qaser neighborhood in Aleppo which killed 16 individuals including 6 women. Also, a six-story building collapsed due to the shelling.

11- On 27 May 2014, government warplanes launched a rocket next to [Hassan Al Basri mosque in Al Maghayer town](#) in Aleppo which killed 6 civilians including 3 children and a woman. Eighteen others were injured and several houses were destroyed

12- On 27 May 2014, government helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Tareeq Al Bab neighborhood in Aleppo which killed 7 individuals including 2 children. 8 others were injured.

13- On 27 May 2014, government helicopters dropped several barrel bombs on Bani Zied neighborhood in Aleppo which killed 6 individuals including two children.





14- On 28 May 2014, government helicopters dropped several barrel bombs on Bustan Al Qaser neighborhood in Aleppo which killed 5 civilians including 3 children and a woman.

15- On 28 May 2014, government helicopters dropped several barrel bombs on [Al Maghayer town](#) in Aleppo which killed 5 civilians including 3 children and a woman.

16- On 28 May 2014, government helicopters dropped several barrel bombs on [Al Maghayer](#) neighborhood in Aleppo which killed 20 individuals including 3 children and two women. The shelling injured 20 others.

17- On 30 May 2014, government warplanes launched two airstrikes on [Bustan Al Qasser](#) neighborhood in Aleppo city which killed 10 individuals including a child and injured 20 others.



18- On 30 May 2014, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on [Al Qastelo Road](#) in Aleppo which killed 5 individuals from one family including 2 women.

• **Daraa Governorate:**

1- On 6 May 2014, government artillery forces launched several missiles on Jassem City in Daraa suburbs which killed 7 individuals including 2 children and a woman.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBfoZbZAFow&feature=youtu.be>

2- On 11 May 2014, government warplanes launched 4 rockets on Daraa Al Balad city which killed 5 individuals including a woman.

3- On 15 May 2014, government warplanes launched a rocket on Jassem city in Daraa suburbs which killed 5 civilians including 3 children.

4- On 16 May 2014, government artillery forces launched a surface-to-surface missile on Jassem city which killed 8 individuals including 3 children and a woman.

5- On 16 May 2014, government warplanes launched a rocket on Daraa Al Balad region which killed 5 individuals including a child and 3 women.

6- On 17 May 2014, government warplanes launched a rocket on Jassem city in Daraa which killed 11 individuals including 5 children and 2 women.

• **Idlib Governorate:**

1- On 5 May 2014, government warplanes launched two rockets on Arminaz town in Idlib suburbs. One of the rockets killed 7 individuals including 5 children and a





woman. The shelling injured 20 individuals.

2- On 14 May 2014, government warplanes launched 3 rockets on [Sarmada city](#) in Idlib suburbs which killed 9 individuals including a child and a woman.

The shelling [injured](#) 50 others.

3- On 21 May 2014, government rocket launchers launched several rockets on [Al Mouzara town](#) in Idlib which killed 7 individuals including a woman.

4- On 31 May 2014, government warplanes dropped a barrel bomb on Ein Al Sawda in Idlib suburbs which killed 9 individuals including a child.

• **Damascus Suburbs Governorate:**

1- On 2 May 2014, government artillery launched a surface-to-surface missile on the vicinity of Jisreen town which killed 2 women, one of them was pregnant. The shelling also injured 20 others.

2- On 22 May 2014, government artillery forces launched mortar missiles on Kafr Batna city which killed 6 individuals including 3 children and a woman.

• **Hama Governorate:**

1- On 4 May 2014, government forces stormed Taksees town in Hama suburbs and killed 8 individuals including 2 women by death squad.

2- On 6 May 2014, government artillery forces launched several missiles on Tebat Imam in Hama suburbs which killed 8 individuals including a child and a woman.

• **Homs Governorate:**

1- On 23 May 2014, government tanks launched several missiles on Kayseen town in Homs which killed 6 individuals including 2 children.

B- Extremist Islamic Groups:

i- ISIL:

• **Hama Governorate:**

1- On 2 May 2014, ISIL bombed a car in Jidreen town in Hama suburbs which killed 15 individuals including 9 children and 3 women. ISIL issued a statement declaring their responsibility for the bombing.





- **Hassaka Governorate:**

1- On 29 May 2014, ISIL members stormed Taleela town that belongs to Re'as Al Ein in Al Hassaka and shot at the residents which killed 15 civilians including 6 children and 3 women.



- ii- **Al Nusra Front:**

- **Homs Governorate:**

1- On 25 May 2014, Al Nusra Front bombed a car in a gathering zone for public transportation vehicles at the transportation roundabout in [Al Zahraa neighborhood](#) in Homs which killed 11 civilians including 4 children and injured 40 others. The place was burned and not less than 25 cars were damaged. Al Nusra front issued a statement declaring its responsibility for the attack.



- C- Armed Opposition Groups:**

- **Aleppo Governorate:**

1- On 2 May 2014, several mortar missiles fell on Al Shrafeyi neighborhood in Aleppo. It came from a region that is under the control of armed opposition and resulted in the killing of 9 individuals from one family, including 6 children and a woman. Not less than 21 others were injured.

2- On 14 May 2014, a rocket-propelled-grenade fell on Masaken Al Khaledya region in Aleppo. The grenades came from a region under the control of armed opposition which killed 6 civilians (5 children and a woman.)

3- On 17 May 2014, six rocket-propelled-grenades fell on Al Ashrafeya neighborhood in Aleppo. The grenades came from a region that is under the control of armed opposition. The shelling resulted in the death of 19 individuals including 8 children and 4 women.

4- On 31 May 2014, several mortar missiles fell on Al Meydan neighborhood in Aleppo which came from a region that is under the control of armed opposition. The shelling killed 17 individuals including 5 women.





- **Daraa Governorate:**

1- On 22 May 2014, two mortar missiles fell on an electoral gathering point affiliated to the ruling regime in [Al Matar neighborhood](#) in Daraa. An hour later, a third mortar missile fell in front of the East Hospital that treated injured people from the previous shelling. The shelling came from a regime under the control of armed opposition which killed 29 civilians, including 8 children and 5 women. 7 government forces were killed and almost 276 others were injured.



- **D- Unidentified Groups:**

- **Idlib Governorate:**

1- On 16 May 2014, a car was bombed in the main market in [Binnish](#) city in Idlib which killed 12 individuals including 2 children. Not less than 30 others were injured. [A mosque](#) and residential buildings were greatly damaged. SNHR was not able to identify the perpetrators up to the moment of making this report.



2- On 28 May 2014, a car was bombed in the fuel market in [Ma'art Al Ne'san](#) in [Idlib](#) suburbs which killed 17 individuals including a child. SNHR was not able to identify the perpetrators up to the moment of making this report.



- **Aleppo Governorate:**

1- On 15 May 2014, a car was bombed in Sijo Garage in Bab Al Salama crossing point in Aleppo. SNHR recorded the death of 44 individuals including 8 children. SNHR was not able to identify the perpetrators up to the moment of making this report.





III- Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions:

Government Forces:

1-SNHR affirms that the bombing, whether it was deliberate or indiscriminate, targeted armless civilians, thus, government forces and its militias have violated the articles of the international law for human rights which guarantee the right to live. Furthermore these violations were perpetrated during a non-international armed conflict which can be classified as war crimes.

2- SNHR believes that these acts of killing that took place during these massacres can be classified as crimes against humanity.

3- These attacks, especially aerial bombing, have caused immeasurable humanitarian and material losses. There are strong indicators that prove that the damage was deeply severe compared to the expected military advantage. In all of the cases, we didn't find any military targets before or during these attacks.

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.

Extremist Islamic Groups:

Al-Nusra Front

Al-Nusra Front committed unjustified murders and extrajudicial killings in Homs governorate.

Armed Opposition Factions

Indiscriminate bombing in Aleppo and Lattakia is considered a war crime as it resulted in extrajudicial killings. The armed opposition should stop all the indiscriminate attacks.

Recommendations:

The United Nations and the Security Council

1. Transferring the Syrian issue to the International Criminal Court and stopping the disrupting of the decisions that must be adopted by the Security Council against the Syrian government. This disruption is a wrong message to all dictatorships around the world and an enhancement to the culture of crime.

2. Posing urgent punishment on those who are involved in the violations of human rights.





3. Binding the Syrian government to allow all relief and human rights organizations to enter Syria, in addition to the International Investigation Committee and allowing them to work freely.
4. Enforce an arms embargo against the Syrian government because it is using weapons in comprehensive attacks against civilians.
5. Security Council must shoulder its responsibility of preserving security and civil peace in Syria because the violations of the Syrian government entail a gross threat to international peace and security.
6. Listing the militias that are fighting with the Syrian government and have committed massacres, like Hezbollah and the other Shiite brigades, National defense Army and Shabiah militia, on the international list of terrorist organizations.
7. Implementing the principle of “protecting civilians” adopted by the General Assembly in 2005, in Syria now, as the situation there is direly requiring the implementation of such a principle.
8. With the crimes against humanity committed by the Syrian government, the international community should stop dealing with this government as an “official side” concerning the relief issues, and stopping supplying the Syrian government with most of the financial and humanitarian aids that, in most cases, don’t reach those who are in need and go instead to the areas that support the Syrian government.

Acknowledgment

Our thanks and appreciations go to the victims’ families, eyewitnesses, and local activists whose testimonies contributed majorly to this report. Our most profound consolations go out to the victims’ families and friends.

