



Government Forces intentionally targeted the crowded markets The bombing of Ma'art Al Nu'man and Kafr Nobul markets in Idlib is a Model

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I- Introduction

The cities of Ma'art Al Nu'man and «Kafr Nobul» trace Ma'art Al Nu'man area, southern Idlib governorate. Ma'art Al Nu'man is under the joined control of armed opposition factions and Al Nusra Front, but according to the people, all the military headquarters are outside the city. While Kafr Nobul city is under the control of civilian local councils.

In this report we document the perpetration of the government forces of two massacres; one in Ma'art Al Nu'man City and the other in Kafr Nobul City where the team of SNHR communicated with a number of the inhabitants of the town, eyewitnesses who were rescued, and with activists of the local media. We offer in this report three testimonies in addition to photos and videos that we assure its credibility. We also explained to the witnesses the aim of the interviews, and received their consent to the use of the information provided in this report. We reserve the copies of all videos, pictures, mentioned in this report.

Investigations proved in the present report that the targeted areas were civilian areas where there is no military or weapons stores belonging to the armed opposition or extremist Islamic groups during the attack or even before. The contents in the present report represent the minimum that we have managed to document regarding the size of the seriousness of the violation that happened, and does not include the talk about the social, economical, and psychological aspects.





II- Report Details

A. Massacre of Kafr Nobul city:

At approximately 11:30 noon, government warplanes bombed two missiles targeted the sub-market for fish in Al-Aziziyah neighborhood in the city of Kafr Nobul :

- The first missile targeted a house in the market caused its destruction and the injury of about 4 people.
- The second missile targeted a store selling ice creams; what led to the killing of 10 civilians, including a child. Shops were damaged in the market; also damages hit a building belonging to the educational center for children that is located in the same market.

SNHR talked to Mr. Aboud Kildow, local media activist from the city of Kafr Nobul, as he informed us with what happened after bombing his house:

«The bombing happened at the moment of my arrival to the door of the house. A large explosion caused my imbalance, and I no longer was able to see anything. Minutes after, I started calling on my family without hearing any answer. I entered one of the rooms I found my mother lying on the ground while my brothers in another room. I pulled my brothers and I was reassured that they had a slight wounds, and then tried to get them out the entire home for fear of a second raid. The destruction were displayed along the road, where another rocket fell in the middle of the market, I saw half of the body of a man in the middle of the road and considerable material damages in stores and shops of the market in addition to an educational center for children carrying the name of «Shakhabeet Center for Psychological Support. «Our city is under civilian management and free of any military headquarters».

B. Maḡart Al Nuḡman Massacre:

At about 12:20 p.m. government warplanes bombed the a missile targeted the vegetable market in the sub-street avenue of Abi Al Alaa Al Maḡrri; the bombardment caused the killing of 41 civilians, including 5 children, and 4 women, and injuring at least 73 others; in addition to the near-total destruction in about 40% of the market shops and its construction.

Mr. Abdul Rahman, the owner of a vegetable market informed SNHR about the story of bombardment:

«Al Maḡrri Market is considered as one of the popular markets that are visited by the people of the city and its suburbs in order to get all their needs. The bombing happened around 12:00 PM by the warplanes that targeted the market.





I did not hear anything but the sound of a large explosion before I found myself wounded and injured by splinters in the neck, chest and back. I was caught up by the civil defense teams. After two days, I went to the market; the destruction was very big and the shops were destroyed entirely, I did not find my shop and everything turned to debris».

SNHR talked to Mr. Ibrahim Sarmini, one of medical cadres in the city, and he stated his story:

«The aviation carried out its raid in peak time on the main market in the town where hundreds of people are daily situated. Approximately 2 km is found between the market and the hospital. Dozens of injuries arrived; including the proportion of women and children about half, most serious injuries and needs careful attention, including bone fractures and others in the head and chest. I saw a father Alloush family looking for his children who lost in the massacre, one of them was found among the injured in the hospital while the other is still with unknown destination».

III- Attachments and Annexes:

The victims of the massacre of Kafr Nobul

Pictures showing the effects of **destruction** in the sub-market of fish market as a result of the government warplanes bombed the city of **Kafr Nobul** Idlib in 19 April 2016.



Pictures showing the effects of **destruction** in the «Shakhabeet Center for Psycho-social Support» by government **warplanes bombed** the city of **Kafr Nobul** with missiles in 19 April 2016.





A video showing the effects of destruction in the sub-market of fish market as a result of the government warplanes bombed the city of Kafr Nobul Idlib in 19/ April 2016

The victims of the massacre of Maarat Al Naaman

A picture showing the effects of mass evacuation of victims as a result of the government warplanes bombed market Maart Al Nuoman Idlib in 19 April 2016

A picture showing the effects of mass evacuation of victims as a result of bombardment of the regime warplane of the vegetable market in the Maart Al Nuoman Idlib in 19/ April 2016

Pictures showing the effects of destruction by the bombing of government warplane of the vegetable market in Maart Al Nuoman Idlib in 19 April 2016



A video showing the effects of destruction and aiding the casualties in the government warplane bombed the main vegetable market the city of Maart Al Nuoman Idlib in 19 April 2016.

IV- Legal Conclusions and Recommendations:

- Legal Conclusions

1. The Syrian regime, without any doubt, violated UN Security Council Resolutions 2139, in the worst possible way. It also violated Article VII of the Rome Statute through deliberate killing in widespread and regime atic way which mounts to crime against humanity.
2. We emphasize that these aerial attacks on Kafr Nobul Market and Maarrat Al Naaman have targeted unarmed civilians, subsequently, the government forces violated the international human rights laws that protect the right to life, besides the committing of these crime in non-international armed conflict and which mount to war crime with all within features
3. The attacks contained in the report carried out by the Syrian regime is considered as a violation of international humanitarian law as they targeted populated areas not a specific military target.





4. The attacks on Kafr Nobul Market and Maarrat Al Naaman resulted in great losses in the lives of civilians, injured them and caused great damage in the civilian objects. The indicators depicted that the damage was excessive compared with the military benefits.

5. The scale of the regime's attacks and frequent attacks, the level of excessive force used in it, and the deliberate nature of the extrusion and coordinated nature of the attacks confirm that they were issued with the consent of the ruling regime, which bears full responsibility for these attacks.

6. The Syrian regime with all its leaders and bodies is involved in crimes against humanity and war crimes against the Syrian people, as with whoever provides him with financial, political and military aid such as Russian government, Iranian government, the Lebanese Hezbollah and the arms companies that supply it with weapons and ammunition. All these parties must be liable to criminal prosecution.

- Recommendations:

- To the UN Security Council:

- The UN Security Council must take further action to apply the resolutions No. 2139 and 2254 as there are not any commitment to halting indiscriminate shelling, which has caused destruction and daily killings.
- It must put pressure on the supporting states of the Syrian regime to stop supplying it with arms and military experts after its proven involvement in crimes against humanity and war crimes.
- The Syrian file must be referred to the International Criminal Court and all those involved in war crimes and violations must be held accountable.
- The UN Security Council must establish peace and security and protect Syrian civilians and their heritage from looting, destruction and vandalism.
- It must expand the sanctions to include all pillars of the Syrian and the Iranian regimes as they are directly involved war crimes and crimes against humanity.

- To the High Commissioner for Human Rights:

We call upon the High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit a report to the Human Rights Council, Rights and other United Nations bodies about these two massacres in particular and the massacres that followed as they are stark massacres amid of many daily massacres. The High Commissioner for Human Rights must demand the implementation of the recommendations contained in this report.





- To the international community:

- Given the divisions at the UN Security Council, measures must be made at the national and regional level to build coalitions to aid the Syrian people through protecting it from the daily killings, lifting the siege, and stepping up the relief aid. Pursuit the international jurisdiction concerning these crimes before the national courts in fair trails for all those involved individuals.
- SNHR demands that the United Nations and the Security Council in several studies and reports to implement the principle of “protecting civilians” (ICRtoP), the political steps are exhausted through Arab league then Kofi Anan plan, so it must refer to the article VII to implement the principle of “protecting civilians” (R2P) that approved by United Nation General Assembly but was obstructed by Security Council.
- Re pressure on the UN Security Council to refer the Syria file to the International Criminal Court.
- Pursuit to achieve justice and accountancy in Syria through United Nation General Assembly and the Human Rights council and to apply the principle of jurisdiction.

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