

Statement

Most Notable Violations in April 2017

The Syrian Regime Perpetrates the Second-Biggest Chemical Massacre in Syria Following the Two Ghoutas Massacre

Russian Forces Carry Out their most Vicious Campaign yet against Medical and Civil Defense Personnel and their Respective Operable Facilities Since the Start of the Russian Intervention in Syria

SNHR

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Thursday, May 11, 2017

The Syrian Network for Human Rights, founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, non-profit independent organization that is a primary source for the United Nations on all death toll-related statistics in Syria



SNHR has released eight reports with the start of May 2015, documenting the most notable violations that were perpetrated by the seven parties to the conflict in Syria in April 2017 - civilian death toll, victims due to torture, toll of arbitrary arrests, most notable violations against media activists, most notable massacres, most notable violations against medical and civil defense personnel and their respective facilities, most notable incidents of attack on vital civilian facilities, and toll of barrel bombs use.

These reports draw upon the daily documentation processes during April, where SNHR, through its scattered members throughout Syria, monitors all violations by the parties to the conflict, and publishes most notable news, before releasing a preliminary death toll at the end of each day. For more information, please see our [documentation and archiving methodology](#).

The report documenting the civilian death toll for this month, entitled "[1014 Civilians Killed in April 2017](#)", stresses that the Syrian and Russian regimes have recorded the highest toll of civilian kills since November 2016, where the two regimes were responsible for 71% of total civilian deaths this month.



A chart showing the civilian death toll in Syria throughout April 2017, and its distribution by the parties to the conflict.



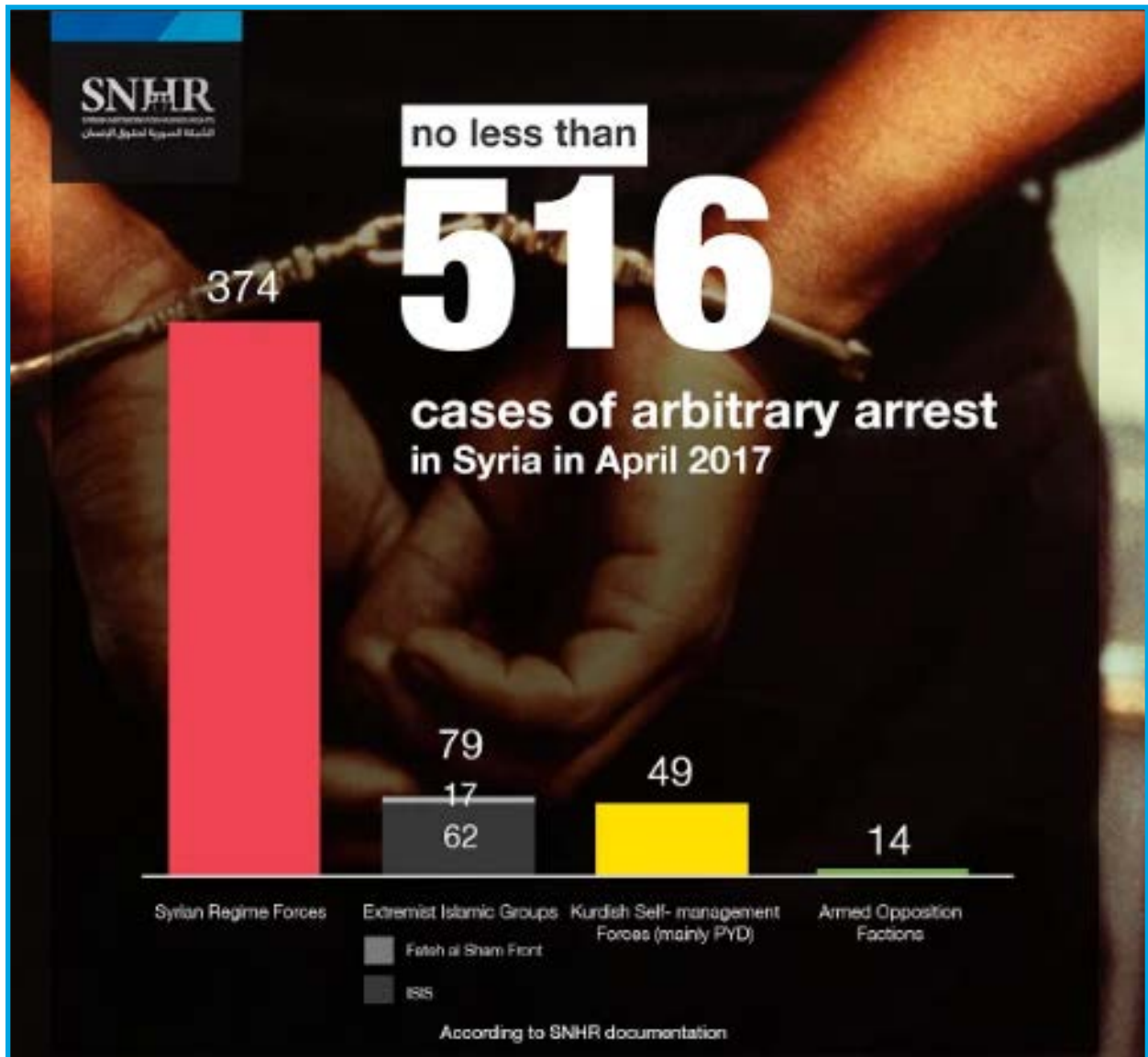
The report “[10 Individuals Died due to Torture in April 2017](#)” outlines the toll of victims who died due to torture. All of those have died at the hands of the Syrian regime forces according to the report, which notes that Homs governorate saw the highest toll with three individuals.

An infographic showing the toll of victims dying due to torture in April 2017



The report “[No less than 516 Cases of Arbitrary Arrest Recorded in April 2017](#)” notes that the extensive raids and arrests by the Syrian Regime and the Kurdish-Self Management Forces in their areas of control for the purpose of conscription raised the arbitrary arrest toll this month compared to last month.

A chart showing the toll of arbitrary arrests in April 2017, and its distribution by the parties to the conflict



The report “[Four Media Activists Killed, and 13 Injured, Toll of April 2017](#)” documents that half of the media activists killed in April were killed by Russian forces, while nine media activists were injured in Syrian regime’s attacks, including six suffocation cases caused by the Syrian regime’s use of poison gas in Khan Sheikhoun city in Idlib governorate on April 4, 2017

An infographic showing the toll of media activist victims in April 2017, and its distribution by the parties to the conflict



The report “[No less than 35 Massacres in April 2017](#)” records that the Syrian regime has committed 10 massacres in April, surpassing all other parties. The most notable was Khan Sheikhoun Massacre which is the greatest chemical massacre in Syria since the Two Ghoutas Massacre.

A chart showing the toll of massacres in April 2017, and its distribution by the parties to the conflict



The report “[23 Medical and Civil Defense Personnel Killed](#)” emphasizes that April marked an unprecedented escalation by the Russian forces who have deliberately carried out widespread, systematic attacks against medical and civil defense personnel and their respective operable facilities since the start of the Russian intervention in Syria. In one month, Russian forces killed three medical personnel and 10 civil defense personnel, and attacked 21 medical facilities and 12 civil defense facilities.

An infographic showing the toll of violations against medical and civil defense personnel and their respective facilities in March 2017, and its distribution by the parties to the conflict



The Seventh report, “[No less than 102 Incidents of Attack on Vital Civilian Facilities in April 2017](#)”, records that Syrian regime forces were responsible for 11 incidents of attack on places of worship to a percentage of 69% of the total number of attacks on these facilities, while Russian forces were responsible for 21 incidents of attack on medical facilities or 78% of the incidents of attack.

A chart showing the toll of attacks on vital civilian facilities in April 2017, and its distribution by the parties to the conflict



The report “[No less than 938 Barrel Bombs in April 2017](#)” notes that the Syrian regime increased the use of barrel bombs in April by double compared to the past month, marking the highest use of barrel bombs since November 2016.

An infographic showing the toll of barrel bombs in April 2017





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