

Government forces killed 312 victims of medical cadres

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Introduction :

Syrian Network for Human Rights considered one of the most prominent United Nation's sources in documenting non-international armed conflict's victims in Syrian, through permanent cooperation and coordination with Human Rights Data analysis group (HRDNG): Organization to analyze the conflict's victims of around the world.

Our Methodology relies in the first place on the information provided by Syrian Network for Human Right's team, and in case if we were not exist in an area, SNHR's members communicate with the residents, and eyewitnesses , we don't proof any incident without confirming from two different sources don't know each other, in addition to photos, videos from our camera or by trusted activists dealing with them since the beginning of the revolution via our email.

The report:

International Humanitarian Law and Customary IHL gives medical services' member special care and attention to the member of medical services, where they considered as civilians even if they are among the member of the armed forces.

Rule 3. All members of the armed forces of a party to the conflict are combatants, except medical and religious personnel.

Syrian Network for Human Rights was severely interested in documenting medical cadres, issued several reports in this regard in coordination with Avaaz in 31/1/2013, where government forces killed 222 victims of medical cadres.

We notice within our daily work that government forces raise the frequency of targeting hospitals and paramedics.

since the beginning of Syrian Revolution to 21/8/2013, SNHR documented the kill of 312 victims of medical personnel including:

6 women

6 field executed after raiding field hospitals

18 victims have been arrested and tortured to death

The 312 victims of medical personnel distributing as their specialist as follows:

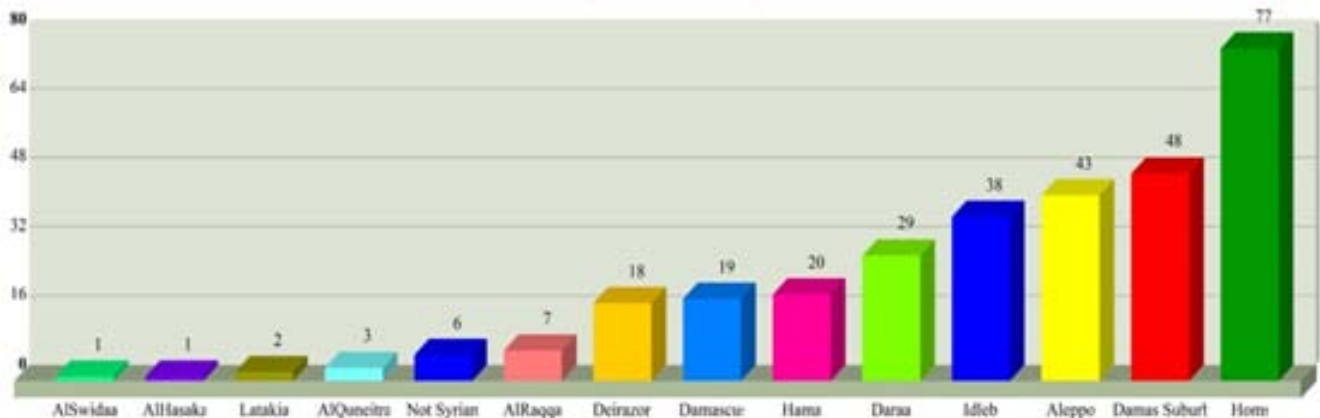
54 pharmacists

143 doctors of various specialties

87 paramedics, 23 of them work for the Syrian Red Crescent

Distributed in the Syrian Governorates as the following chart:

Homs:77	Aleppo: 43	Idlib: 38	Daraa: 29
Hama: 20	Damascus: 19	Raqqqa: 7	Qunaitra: 3
Lattakia: 2	Hasaka: 1	Swidaa: 1	Dier ez-Zoor : 17
Damascus countryside: 48	Not Syrian most of them Egyptian: 6		



Detainees:

Almost 194 thousand detainees, the Syrian network for human rights documented approx 3000 detainees from the medical cadres, including 600 doctors who were detained from various Syria districts. 18 of them were killed under brutal torture, which is another evidence of the systematic targeting of medical cadres. Additionally, there are 11 detainees from the Syrian Red Crescent who are in prison until this moment and the network received accurate testimonies which confirm that they were only arrested because they were paramedics.

Most prominent physician victims :

Dr. Mohamed Nur Maktaby

Air Forces Intelligence in Aleppo arrested him for more than five months as he was helping the wounded and injured people in field hospitals, which the Syrian government considers as a serious charge. He was tortured violently and systematically led to kill him , his body was delivered to his family in 15/11 /2012 . Dr. Nur was married and has 5 children

Khaldoun Al-Sawah

A field doctor from Khalidia, Homs, he provided medical services in the hardest conditions, he excelled in first aids and saving lives. He moved from Rastan, to Zafarana, to Karm Al Zeitoun to Deir Balaba and was killed by Syrian Government's Armed Forces in 05/04/2012 , while he was examine a girl child shot by a bullet

Dr. Ahmed Al-Fattih

He is from Deir Elzzor, he effectively contributed in providing first aids for injured and wounded people. He also participated in the establishment of field hospitals in various districts of Damascus. He was moving to Mademya Asham and Darya to heal the wounded people until his death on 28/11/2012 by Syrian Military Forces when they targeted his car in Mademya.

Damascus :

Dr. Issa Ajaj

A political activist opposed the regime before the revolution; he was arrested several times on charges related to political views. He was fired from Daraa National Hospital upon a decision of the Intelligence. Following the outbreak of the revolution, he was arrested twice by the Air Force Intelligence for the treatment of wounded people in the demonstrations. He was severely tortured, threatened to be executed by Syrian Intelligence Forces if he continued to treat the wounded people. They assassinated him when he was leaving his house in Daraa on 1/9/2012.

Detained Doctors :

Dr. Omar Mohamed Mamoun Arnous (dentist) , his wife Dr. Maria Jawkhaddar and his child (two years and half) were arrested without any charge in Sunday 7/10/2012. He is a relief activist , Master degree , teaching in a private university in Damascus , preparing for PhD

Personal photo for Dr. Omar

Dr. Mohamed Bachir Arab

A laboratory doctor born in 1980, sole son for his mother, former detained in 2004 for 11 months, where he was tried before the Supreme State Security Court because of his activities with the students at the University of Aleppo. Following the breakout of the Syrian revolution, Mohamed Arab participated in field activities like peaceful demonstrations and others. He was chased for a long time and lived for six months using several nicknames. He was arrested on 01/11/2011 with his colleagues, and there were certain news that he was tortured systematically and severely led to make him entre Al-Mojtahid Hospital, Damascus on 12th of January where he died.

Most prominent victims of paramedics:

Hakm Drak Al-Sibai

Hakm Hatem Drak Al-Sibai, a young man of 27-year-old, a graduate of Business Administration, and a sole son for his parents. He volunteered at the Red Crescent and conducted courses on first aids and psychological rehabilitation.

He was wounded on 9/7/2012 while providing the first aids to a wounded person in Bustan Al-Diwan / Homs , where Syrian Government's Armed Forces shot the ambulance ; he was injured by 9 bullets and died after one week.

Ziad Abu Salah

Ziad Abdel Qader Abu Salah, a resident in Khaldiya, he is under 16 years, one of the youngest Red Crescent volunteers. He killed as a result of random shelling of Khalidiya neighborhood , he was providing first aids to the wounded people on 4th of February 2012.

The most prominent detainees of paramedics:

Sultan Jamal Sultan

A young man born in 1989, from Al-Qariat in Homs, a graduate of Dentistry Faculty with a very good grade, a Red Crescent medic and trainer, he was arrested in 23/9/2011 while he

was going to perform his duty in the Red Crescent in Al-Fakhoura where he lives, taking into account that he suffers from respiratory problems (asthma attacks).

Jihad Hakmi

Jihad was arrested at a checkpoint near to the Cultural Center in Homs , in 11/5/2012 while he was on his way to rescue injured people, and he is still detained so far

Osama Almudbak

Paramedic Osama Almudbak was arrested in the city of Damascus in 29/7/2012, the network confirmed that he was arrested for being a member of the Syrian Red Crescent, and is providing medical care for wounded people.

Mahmoud Khabiah and Imad Al-Haja

The two paramedics Mahmoud Khabiah and Imad Al-Haja, from the city Doma, were arrested on 2/12/2012 during an official mission for the Syrian Red Crescent, and are still being held so far.

Legal conclusions :

Syrian Government violated blatantly both International Human Rights Law and Customary IHL, and committed war crime by targeting medical personnel.

It is systematic methodology followed by government forces led to kill at least 312 victims of medical personnel in all of the Syrian Governorate, and considered as crime against humanity according to article 7 of the Rome Statute

Condemnation and holding responsibility:

We, in the Syrian network for human rights, as a National, Syrian, independent human rights organization with an aim of defending human rights, believe that the president of Syria and commander in chief of the army and armed forces, Bashar Al Assad, holds the total responsibility for the murder of medical cadres, their systematic targeting, their torture and detention, as he is responsible for making orders of such actions. We also consider all Syrian governments' personnel directly responsible for such actions in addition to the governments who support this regime, such as the Russian, Chinese and Iranian governments and Hezbollah brigades. They all hold the total responsibility for these crimes, which are considered to be breaches of human rights in view of the Rome statute, they are also responsible for the consequences and reactions of such actions especially from the Syrian civilians and the relatives of the martyrs.

We demand the Security Council, the United Nations and its member states, doctors without borders organization and all organizations concerned with protecting medical personnel to take action immediately to protect the Syrian civilians. The failure of these organizations to support the Syrian people and protect the civilians means that they also hold the responsibility with the Syrian regime for the crimes which are taking place, as they must abide to their legal and moral responsibilities and to accelerate the steps toward the assignment of all those involved in the massacres to the International Criminal Court.