Report about targeting hospital in Syria figures and facts

Documented by SNHR

Introduction:

Government troops daily shelling since 2011 and so far with various types of weapons caused the damage of almost 3 million buildings (houses, school, hospital, mosques, churches) 800,000 of them are totally destroyed, random and deliberate shelling targeted hospitals in addition to lootings and systematic sabotage caused the stop work 45% of the hospital in Syria, the rest 55% are either partially works (15%), or works in good manner (40%).

There are almost 390 private hospitals in Syria and 124 Government hospitals, Raqqa governorate considered the most damaged when it became out of Syrian regime’s control, they started shelling it with huge number of Scud missiles leading to destroy large number of hospitals and stop functioning, SNHR estimation according to field visit shows that 75% of Raqqa hospital stopped working.

Government troops turned many schools, mosques, churches into military barracks; they did the same terrible act against hospital, where they put snipers on the roofs so it turned to military headquarters.

Most prominent governorates where private and governmental hospital stopped working cause of shelling, lootings and sabotage:

Raqqa: 75% of the hospitals are not working
Dierez-Zor: 80% of the hospitals are not working
Damascus countryside: 70% of the hospitals are not working
Homs: 65% of the hospitals are not working
Idlib: 35% of the hospitals are not working
Hama: 30% of the hospitals are not working

Syrian Network for Human Rights noticed that there is systematic and deliberate methodology from government forces and Shabiha in targeting and destroying hospitals, which reflect negatively and blatantly on health sector: many doctors and nurses flee out fear of endangering their lives, many of them volunteered to work in field hospitals and other immigrated out of Syria.

All the destroyed hospitals located in areas under the opposition control, which is a clear evidence of targeting hospitals and medical staffs.

On the other hands hospitals in areas loyal to the regime is functioning normally and with government supports.

Many doctors and paramedics in areas out of regime’s control tried to compensate the great imbalance with the help of some charity and medical organizations; they established the so-called medical points which is a small apartment contain some basic medical supplies, in Aleppo governorate 143 medical points, 80 in Damascus countryside, 12 in Idlib, and 10 in Hama. They also established some field hospital in Aleppo, there are almost 9 in Aleppo, 10 in Damascus countryside, 7 in Idlib, 10 in Homs, 3 in Hama, all suffering from severe shortage in equipments and main devices, it is closest to being Medical clinic than hospital.
We didn’t record any attack from armed opposition against hospitals except those that government forces converted to military barracks, where protection falls from them and turned to pure military target as what happened in Albir hospital in Homs and Alkindi hospital in Aleppo.

Second: Violations committed against hospital by government forces

Second: Violations committed against hospital by government forces are as follows:

1- Storming, shelling, sabotage, and lootings
2- Turning the hospitals to military barracks and deprive patient from using them or access.

Details, Appendixes and Attachments:

1- Storming, shelling, sabotage, and lootings:

**Damascus countryside Governorate:**

Shabiha and government troops stormed many hospitals in Damascus countryside and stole medical equipment as in Rajaa hospital in Arbin and Yaman hospital in Doma.

After large areas in Damascus countryside became out of regime’s control, government troops started shelled those areas daily, which led to destroy or damaged many number of hospitals, including:


There are many hospitals completely stopped working as example:

- Damascus countryside specialist hospital in Doma, IbnSina hospital in Doma, National hospital in Harasta, Dar Alhikma hospital in Zabadani and Daria hospital in Daria.

**Homs Governorate:**

Eastern Areas in city of Homs (InshaatMahata, Ghouta, Shamas, KarmAlshami, Khidr, JoratAlshaiah, Dablan) areas that witnessed wide popular mobilization, government troops destroyed the hospitals there as collective punishment, they all become out of service, Most prominent are:

- Medical care hospital, Alkindi hospital, Alhayat hospital, Alaasi hospital, Aljisri hospital, Alhikma hospital, Obstetrics and Surgery hospital, Almahata hospital, Medical centre hospital, and Government national hospital in JoratAlshaiah which was totally destroyed, and Alamal hospital the first private Oncology Center in Syria, in JoratAlshaiah, had big role in helping dozens of injured who shot by government troops, where they targeted the hospital many time, now cause of missiles it is totally destroyed.

Currently in those neighborhoods there are only three undestroyed hospital, only one of them is working:

- Alnoor hospital: private hospital in Inshaat neighborhood, opened, but only laboratory is working, operating rooms and clinics are stopped.

Al Razi hospital: private hospital in Inshaat neighborhood, opened, but only Radiography is working, other sections are stopped.
Al Amine hospital: private hospital in Inshaat neighborhood, the only hospital that most of its sections is working, but suffering from shortage in medical supplies and staffs.

Western Areas in Homs (Alwaar neighborhood).

**There are two hospitals:**

Albir society hospital in Alwaar, near military college, almost not working for many reasons most important snipers spread on the roofs, security forces and Shabihacentralized in the reception where they inspect every patient and if the patient’s name mention in their lists they arrest him regardless his illness, not to mention storming operations rooms during surgeries.

Alwalid hospital: Government hospital, most sections work but suffering from severe shortage of medical supplies.

As for Syrian Red Crescent in Homs, have branch in Ghouta neighborhood that secure logistic operation as transferring wounded and do first aid, it had been targeted more than two times with mortar shell by government forces, without doing surging, there are also small centre for SRC in KarmAlshami also help with simple medical procedures.

**Raqqa Governorate:**

Government hospitals: are all working but with poor medical potentials
1- National hospital, 2- Obstetrics hospital, 3- Polyclinics, 4- Thalassemia,
5- Health care (provided vaccines), 6- Tuberculosis Center.

**Private hospitals:**
1- Alshifaa hospital, 2- Modern medicine hospital, 3- Risalah hospital, 4- Alahli hospital.

Western area: (Al Raqqa west to the border of Aleppo and Idarea east), all the dispensaries are non-functional, but some of the medical points in Altabaqa, and they are National hospital, red crescent’s outpatient, Old health care (providing vaccines), Medecins across continents, hospitals belonging to the Association of Syrian-German liberties and human Rights).

**Eastern area:** (Raqqa east to DierezZor west, almost 100 km),
poor with Dispensaries and medical supplies.

**North area:** (Raqqa to Turkey in the north)

**Hospitals and Dispensaries only in Tal Abiad town, all functioning good:**
1- Mobile field hospital on huge Caravan
2- National hospital supported by Norwegian NorvkAssociation, and children section supported by Doctors without borders
3- Alhikam private hospital
4- Syrian Red Crescent dispensary supported by Qatari Red Crescent
5- Dispensary of I R C International Rescue Committee

Medical points:
1- Dispensary of M R F S ([Medical Relief For Syria](#))
2- Another dispensary of **I R C**
Dierez-Zor Governorate:

Government Hospital:
1-National hospital: works poorly because of lack of capabilities and besieged
2- Albasel hospital in Bokamal: in area controlled by opposition, government forces systematically shelled the hospital, which lead up to destroy large parts, as before government forces and Shabiha stole lot of its equipments, works now in a very limited possibilities.
3- Euphrates hospital in Harika neighborhood, shelling by government forces led to completely destroy so stopped of working.
4- Alassad hospital - on Palmyra-Damascus high way, located in area under regime’s control, functioning in a good manner.

Private Hospitals:
80% of the private hospital in Dierez-Zor have been systematically and deliberately shelled, as looting medical equipment by government forces where they broke, destroy everything that couldn’t steal, to this moment the effect of bullets can be seen on large number of medical devices, which led to very large fail in their performance, the most prominent hospitals that have been shelled are: Al Noor hospital, Alkahtan hospital, Alsaid hospital, Al Saed hospital, NoriAlsaaid hospital, Alhikam hospital in Alaashar, ShiekhYasine hospital, Alhamidiah hospital, Mohasan hospital, Bakras hospital, Modern Medicine hospital in Almaidadine, Aaisha charity hospital in Bokamal, Alzubair hospital in Bokamal, Altawfik hospital in Bokamal.

Aleppo Governorate:

Government Hospital:
ZahiAzrak hospital (Hamiat) in Alhalk neighborhood located under opposition’s control, have stolen many times by government forces before opposition could control it, then shelled with TNT and now is out of service.
Eye specialist hospital in KadiAaskar neighborhood: located in areas under opposition’s control, shelled by government forces and now out of service.
Children’s specialized hospital in KadiAaskar neighborhood: located in areas under opposition’s control, shelled by government forces and now out of service.
Alkindi hospital in Mslamiah town, one of the biggest Government hospital in Syria, contain rare medical equipments like equipment for the treatment of cancer, shelled by government forces led to destroy many parts of it, then they turned it into military barracks used to shell the neighboring areas, after that armed opposition tried to control it cause it turned into shelling headquarter.
Aleppo University hospital in Forqan neighborhood: in areas under the control of government troops, located in areas under regime’s control and functioning in a good manner.
Alrazi hospital in governorate neighborhood: in areas under the control of government troops, located in areas under regime’s control and functioning in a good manner.
Government maternity hospital in areas under the control of government troops, located in areas under regime’s control and functioning in a good manner.
Ibn Rushed in Ashrafia neighborhood in areas under the control of government troops, located in areas under regime’s control and functioning in a good manner.

Government hospitals in Aleppo countryside: when Aleppo countryside became out of the government’s control they started to shell it, except few hospitals that work in very limited abilities such as Albabnational hospital, Aazaz government hospitals.

**Private hospital:**
In areas under the governments control all functioning in a good manner.
In areas under the opposition’s control most of them was shelled by government forces like Dar Alshifaa in Alshaar neighborhood, where the hospital was totally destroyed.
There are some hospitals despite being shelled and destroyed but didn’t completely destroyed and residents and doctors trying to re-qualify and work within the available capabilities because many of medical equipments have extensively damaged or broken such as Sakhour hospital and Ihsan hospital in Sakhour neighborhood, ALhakim, Albayan, AlsaedaAlzahraa hospitals in Alshaar neighborhood, Omar Abdulaziz hospital in Alshaar neighborhood, Zarzor hospital in Alansari neighborhood, Jerusalem hospital in Alsukari neighborhood, Aldakak hospital in Shaar neighborhood.

Aleppo countryside: when it became out of Syrian regime’s control, wide areas from countryside have been destructed because of continuous heavy shelling, they shell the area with the biggest number of scud missiles among all the Syrian areas, hospitals there suffering from shortage in medical equipment, and works in very low capacity, some of them are not working at all like Farabi hospital in Hritan where it has been destroyed completely cause of shelling by government troops.

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**Idlib Governorate:**

**Government hospitals:**
National hospital in Althoura neighborhood, within areas controlled by government IbnSina hospital in Aldobat neighborhood within the areas controlled by government troops, functioning in good manner.

JisrAlshagour hospital: there is a military headquarter there, government forces turned it into shelling centre of JisrAlshagour countryside, only loyal to regime’s wounded can be treated there.

MaaratAlnoaman hospital: located in the area under opposition’s control, and as in all areas that came out of regime’s control, it has been shelled.

**Private hospitals:**
When government forces stormed the cities, towns in Idlib countryside they burned all the private hospitals, Idlib countryside known of his opposition to Syrian regime, as example what happened in Almajni hospital in Ariha, Shami hospital, Kansara hospital in AlzawiahMountain, government forces executed some of the medical staff during storming the hospital and then burned it.

There are in Idlib countryside many of the filed hospitals which work in very limited possibilities, sometimes only first aids such as JisrAlshagour field hospital, Slin field hospital, and Atama field hospital
**Hama Governorate:**
There are two government hospitals in Hama: National hospital, and Alassad Medical complex.
Seven private hospital: Medical centre, Hikma, Howrani, Dar Alshifaa, Albadr, Alamori, Eye hospitals, almost all functioning good.
Hama countryside: eight filed hospital works in a very limited capabilities and acute shortage with medical equipments.
There are two private hospitals work like a field hospitals and in very limited capabilities.
There are four government hospitals
Hilfaya hospital: now not working cause government forces stole its equipments and burn it after they storm the city
Afamia hospital: now not working cause government forces stole its equipments and burn it after they storm the city
Karnaz hospital: now not working cause of shelling by government forces.
Jawash hospital (TaibatAliman) function but in a very limited manner.

**Shelling and Raiding: Appendixes and Attachments:**

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<td>Almanar hospital - <strong>25/11/2012</strong></td>
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Damascus countryside - Doma town
Doma National hospital - 24/12/2012

Damasus countryside - Mliha town
Alsafe hospital - 13/1/2013

Damascus countryside - Zabadani town
Field hospital - 9/3/2013

Idlib governorate:
Idlib - Ariha town
Almajni hospital - 6/8/2013
Idlib - Alhbit town
Field hospital - 29/7/2013
Idlib - MaaratAlnoaman town
National hospital - 11/10/2012
Idlib - MaaratAlnoaman town
National hospital - 8/2/2013

Daraa governorate:
Daraa - Mahata neighborhood
National hospital - 26/4/2013

Homs governorate:
Homs - Inshaat neighborhood
Hikma hospital - 28/1/2012
Homs - Inshaat neighborhood
Hikma hospital - 5/2/2012
Homs - Ghouta neighborhood
Kindi hospital - 8/6/2012
Homs - JoratAlshaiah neighborhood
Alam hospital - 17/6/2012
Homs - Alrastan town
Albir hospital - 19/6/2012

Hama governorate:
Hama - Alnasr neighborhood
Alrais hospital - 22/8/2011
Hama - Alnasr neighborhood
Alhorani hospital - 23/8/2011
Hama - Aleppo highroad
Albaraa hospital - 14/8/2011

2- Turning the hospitals to military barracks and deprive patient from using them or access.
Government troops turned many schools, mosques, churches into military barracks, they did the same terrible act against hospital in violation to International Human Rights Law, following are examples in different governorates, where government forces used hospitals in shell and snipes another neighborhood:

Homs- Alwar neighborhood
Albir hospital: used as military barracks by government forces - 8/8/2011

Homs- Qusayer town

Homs- Alwar neighborhood
Albir hospital: snipers of the hospital’s roof - 17/5/2012

Hama- Aleppo highroad
Albadr hospital: siege with heavy vehicles - 8/8/2011

Hama- Alhader neighborhood
Alassad medical hospital: snipers of the roof - 14/1/2012

Most prominent rules violated by government forces in attacking hospitals

According to International Humanitarian Law: It is a war crime deliberately to attack a hospital or other medical unit, whether civilian or military. It is also unlawful to use a hospital in direct support of a military operation—to convert one wing of the hospital into an ammo dump, for example. (Indeed, hospitals that are misused in this manner lose their legal protection.) Medical personnel in general may not be attacked; but at the same time it is unlawful to use medical facilities, or related equipment such as ambulances, as camouflage or protection for military personnel, or as a shield for military forces.

Government forces also did not distinguish between civilian objects and military objectives and launched indiscriminate attacks and violated Customary IHL in this regard.

**Violate35 of customary international humanitarian law, which states:**

Rule 35. Directing an attack against a zone established to shelter the wounded, the sick and civilians from the effects of hostilities is prohibited.

**According to rule 156 of customary international humanitarian law, which states:**

Rule 156. Serious violations of international humanitarian law constitute war crimes.

**Legal Conclusions:**

1. Syrian network for human rights emphasize that the shelling of the hospital was randomly and aimed against civilian targets, so the shabiehaand Government forces violated international human rights law that protects the right of life. in addition that it has committed in non-international armed conflict so it tantamount to war crimes and had all the elements

2. SNHR considered shelling accompanied to killings is a war crime,

   Syrian Government Armed Forces committed these extensive systematic crimes in non-international armed conflicts, so it is considered as war crimes

3- Syrian government by killing and targeting civilians violated both International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law
**Human Rights Council:**
Considering attacks that occurred in Syria on the hospitals as violation of basic human rights that affect his sanctities and dignity
Denounce violations committed by Syrian Government’s Armed Forces against hospitals, and document those attacks
Pressure on the Syrian Government’s Armed Troops and formally request to stop its violations against hospitals
Hold alias and supporters of the Syrian Government’s Armed Troops (support with weapons and gear) to take clear positions on those violations and make diplomatic and political pressure to stop and end these violations

**Arab League:**
Denounce violations against hospitals, and document those attacks:
Pressure regionally and internationally to make effective decisions in this regard
Pressure on the Syrian regime to stop systematic and deliberate violations against hospitals
Demand the states that can effect on Alassad regime to make it stop deliberate and widespread violations against hospitals.

**Security Council:**
Denounce violations against hospitals, and criminalized those attacks
Issue a binding decision against Syrian regime to stop all violations, specifically against hospitals.
Security Council should referred the situation in the Syrian Arabic Republic to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court for investigation.