



40 Massacres were Perpetrated at Least during December 2014

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Executive Summary

SNHR documented 40 massacres during the month of December 2014 as follows:

Government forces: perpetrated 32 massacres

Extremist groups: perpetrated seven massacres

Unidentified groups: perpetrated one massacre

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

Those massacre took place in various Syrian governorates as follows:

Der Ezzor: nine massacres

Damascus countryside: eight massacres

Idlib: six massacres

Aleppo: five massacres

Ar-Raqqa: four massacres

Daraa: four massacres

Homs: three massacres

Hama: one massacre

In those massacres, 545 victims were killed at least including 82 children and 41 women. This suggests that 22.57% of the victims who died in those massacres were children and women which is a significantly high percentage that clearly indicates that civilians were deliberately targeted in most of those massacres.

Victims who died in those massacres were divided as follows:

Government forces: 341 victims, including 79 children and 40 women.

Daesh: 199 victims including one child and one woman. Most of the victims were prisoners.

Unidentified groups: five victims including two children





Details

A. Government forces:

Damascus countryside

1- On Thursday 4 December, 2014, government forces warplanes carried out six airstrikes targeting Damascus countryside – [Der Al-Assafir](#) to kill 6 victims from one family including three children and one woman with her fetus.

2- On Monday 8 December, 2014, government forces warplanes carried out two warplanes targeting Damascus countryside – [Hamouriya town](#) to kill nine victims including one woman.

3- On Monday 8 December, 2014, government forces warplanes carried out two airstrikes on Damascus countryside – [Douma](#) city to kill five victims.

4- On Saturday 27 December, 2014, government forces warplanes carried out an airstrike on Damascus countryside – [Douma](#) city to kill 11 victims including six children and two women.



Idlib

1- On Monday 15 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted Idlib countryside – [Kafr Takharim](#) city with one missile to kill 13 victims, including one woman, in addition to wounding 40 others.



2- On Tuesday 16 December 2014, government forces warplanes carried out multiple airstrikes on Idlib – [Ma'rat An-Nu'man](#) city to kill 15 victims including one child and two women.

3- On Tuesday 16 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted the surroundings of Orient hospital in Idlib – [Kafranbul](#) city with one missile which killed 11 victims.

4- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on Saraqeb city to kill six victims.





5- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on a preparatory school in Idlib countryside – Sfohen town which killed five victims in addition to destroying the school partly.

6- On Wednesday 24 December, 2014, government helicopters dropped two barrel bombs on Idlib – Ma'sran town which killed six victims including one child.

Aleppo

1- On Saturday 20 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted Aleppo – Ma'rata Al-Maslmiya village with one missile which killed seven victims including one female child and three

2- On Tuesday 23 December, government forces warplanes carried out two airstrikes on Aleppo – Al-bab city which killed six victims including one child.

3- On Thursday 25 December, 2014, government forces carried out three airstrikes in the morning and one airstrike at night on Aleppo countryside – **Al-Bab**. 37 victims were killed by those airstrikes including seven children and two women. Additionally, a number of buildings were destroyed.

4- On Thursday 25 December, 2014, government forces warplanes carried out three airstrikes on Aleppo countryside – Qbasien town to kill 23 victims and destroy a number of residential buildings.

Ar-Raqqa

1- On Thursday 11 December, 2014, clashes took place between government forces and civil defense forces on Ar-Raqqa – Salmiya road which resulted in 12 civilians being killed from At-Tabaqa – Ar-Raqqa who were going to collect their salaries in Hama.

2- On Saturday 20 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted a civilians gathering in front of Al-Ferdous bakery in Ar-Raqqa with a missile which killed 11 victims including three children and one woman in addition to wounding 60 others.

3- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, government forces warplanes targeted **Ar-Raqqa** city to kill 28 victims, including nine children and five women, in addition to destroying a complete residential building.



4- On Wednesday 31 December, 2014, government forces targeted Ar-Raqqa city – Ad-Dar'iyā neighborhood with one missile which killed five victims including two children.





Daraa

1- On Sunday 21 December, 2014, government forces artillery targeted Daraa – [Bosra Ash-Sham](#) to kill six victims including four children and one woman.

2- On Friday 26 December, 2014, government forces artillery targeted [Nawa](#) city in Daraa countryside to kill five victims including three children.

3- On Saturday 27 December, 2014, government forces targeted Daraa – [Ibta'](#) town to kill seven victims.

4- On Wednesday 31 December, 2014, government forces dropped a barrel bomb on Daraa countryside – [Dael](#) city which killed seven victims including two children and three women.

Der Ezzor

1- On Monday 15 December, 2014, government forces carried out an airstrike on Der Ezzor – [Mo-hasan](#) town which killed five victims including two children.

2- On Monday 15 December, 2014, government forces targeted Der Ezzor – [Khsham](#) town to kill six victims including three children and two women.

3- On Tuesday 16 December, 2014, government forces targeted [At-Teb Al-Hadith](#) hospital in Der Ezzor – [Al-Mayadien](#) city with two missiles which killed 10 victims including four children and one woman in addition to heavily destroying the hospital.

Homs

1- On Tuesday 16 December, 2014, government forces warplanes carried out six airstrikes on [Homs](#) city – [Al-Wa'r](#) neighborhood to kill 37 victims including seven children and nine women in addition to destroying a residential tower and damaging a number of houses.

2- On Tuesday 30 December, 2014, government forces helicopters dropped two barrel bombs on [Homs](#) – [Ar-Rastan city](#) – [As-Sena'a](#) neighborhood to kill five victims.



Hama

1- On Tuesday 23 December, 2014, government forces targeted [Hama](#) – [Um Zahmak](#) village to kill three children and two women.





B. Extremist groups

Der Ezzor

1- On Friday 12 December, 2014, residents of Al-Graniej village (Der Ezzor) found a [mass grave](#) in which 10 dead prisoners who were, as we found out, fighters from Ash-Sh'ietat tribe were buried. The prisoners were executed by Daesh during the clashes that took place in the past few months between the faction and Ash-Sh'ietat tribe.

2- On Monday 16 December, 2014, resident of Al-Kashkiya village (Der Ezzor) found a [mass grave](#) in the village. The grave contained the dead bodies of seven prisoners who were, as we found out, fighters from Ash-Sh'ietat tribe. Daesh executed those prisoners after arresting them during the clashes between the faction and the tribe.

3- On Saturday 17 December, 2014, we recorded no less than 115 victims who were mostly previously prisoners for Daesh from Ash-S'ietat tribe. Daesh forces had those prisoners executed four months ago. The residents of Badyat Abu-Hamam (Der Ezzor countryside) found the mass grave and recognized the dead bodies. The residents found the [mass grave](#) after they were allowed to return as Daesh displaced them during the clashes in August 2014. Among the executed prisoners, we recorded two children and one woman.

4- On Saturday 20 December, 2014, we recorded 28 [prisoners](#) who were, as we found out, fighters from Ash-Sh'ietat tribe in Der Ezzor countryside. The prisoners were executed by Daesh four months ago as they were arrested during the clashes that were between Daesh and Ash-Sh'ietat tribe in August 2014. Most of the prisoners were shot and some of them were beheaded after Daesh forces handcuffed them and buried them in Der Ezzor countryside – Darnej village.

5- On Sunday 21 December, 2014, residents of Al-Ghraniej village (Der Ezzor) found a [mass grave](#) in the village. 20 prisoners' dead bodies were found in that mass grave who were, as we found out, fighters from Ash-Sh'ietat tribe. Daesh forces executed them after arresting them during the clashes between the faction and Ash-Sh'ietat tribe.

6- On Monday 29 December, 2014, residents of Al-Ghraniej village (Der Ezzor) found a [mass grave](#) in the village. 12 prisoners' dead bodies were found in that mass grave who were, as we found out, fighters from Ash-Sh'ietat tribe. Daesh forces executed them after arresting them during the clashes between the faction and Ash-Sh'ietat tribe.

Homs

1- On Monday 29 December, 2014, A Daesh soldier blew up a car that he was riding. The car blew up in the middle of a gathering of workers who worked at a gas company / factory in Homs countryside – Al-Farqles near a government forces' military checkpoint. The bombing resulted in the death of seven [civilians](#) who were workers at the station.





C. Unidentified groups

Aleppo

1- On Sunday 28 December, 2014, a bombed car detonated near Qatma village in Aleppo. The bombing resulted in the death of five victims including two children. SNHR has not been able to identify the group behind the bombing.

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 responsibility in 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 that 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 the most amounts of financial and humanitarian aid that, in most cases, don’t reach those who are in need them and go instead to the areas that support the Syrian regime.

Human Rights Council

1. Demanding the Security Council and the involved international institutions to shoulder responsibility concerning the sufferings of the Syrian people which include killing, arresting, raping and displacement.
2. Pressing on the Syrian government in order to stop the acts of killing and torture.
3. Holding the allies and supporters of the Syrian government - Russia, Iran and China –as materially and morally responsible for the killing that is happening in Syria.
4. Human Rights Council must be more invested and serious concerning the catastrophic situation of the children, families and relatives of the victims in Syria.





The Arab League

1. Punishing all those who are involved in committing crimes in Syria and urging all the countries of the world to do the same thing.
2. Increasing humanitarian aid, especially on the levels of education and health care and taking care of the Syrian refugees in the Arab countries.
3. Requesting the Security Council to execute the above recommendations.
4. Asking the Human Rights Council and the United Nations to pay more interest to the case of daily killing in Syria.
5. To pay greater attention to the Syrian case, and working on taking care of the families of the victims psychologically, materially and educationally.
6. Pressing politically and diplomatically on the main allies of the Syrian government; Russia, Iran and China in order to prevent them from continuing to provide international and political backing and protection for the crimes committed against the Syrian people, and holding them materially and morally responsible for all the violations of the Syrian government.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic

The International Investigation Committee must stop depicting the struggle in Syria as a struggle between two sides equal in crimes, power and the centralization of decisions. It must describe the crimes as it is without belittling their extent for political reasons. The committee must also increase the number of its staff who work on the Syrian issue due to the amount of the crimes committed daily in Syria for a more comprehensive documentation.

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