



## The Massacre of Kafr Hamra town in Aleppo Suburbs

A report by: The Syrian Network for Human Rights

Kafr Hamra is located in the northern suburbs of Aleppo and it is approximately four kilometers away from Aleppo city



On Sunday, June 2, 2013, Kafr Hamra town, located in the northern suburbs of Aleppo, was shelled with a scud missile. The missile was followed by a heavy shelling by artillery and rocket launchers. The shelling comes after the heated clashes that took place on the areas overlooking Kafr Hamra between the Free Army and the Syrian regime army.

Joumaa Al Umari, an eyewitness from the town who is still alive, offers his testimony

The eyewitness can be contacted via Skype: freedom12420

“On Sunday morning, June 2, 2013, the area saw heated clashes in the parts overlooking Kafr Hamra and Jabal Shwyhna. The heavy indiscriminate shelling on the civilian houses started. The northern suburbs never saw such heavy shelling before. About 100 shells fell in the town, and around 05:30 PM, a scud missile fell on the armless civilians’ houses, and completely destroyed four buildings, while about ten others are inhabitable. 43 martyrs were killed and about 200 people were wounded who were mostly children and women. The wounded were rushed to the nearby makeshift hospitals.”





A civilian eyewitness telling his testimony



SNHR team in Aleppo governorate was able to document the killing of 40 citizens including 12 children and 11 women. Additionally, about 100 others were injured including critical cases. Two building were completely destroyed and four others were partially destroyed.

The massacre victims' names and pictures

- 1- Ahmad Mohammad Sha'ban Hammoud, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 2- Mohammad Dib Sha'ban Hammoud, two-year-old, Aleppo suburbs
- 3- Mrs. Fatoum Salem, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 4- Female child Iman Kurdiya, six-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 5- Mohammad Zaitouni, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 6- Ahmad Mustafa, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 7- Child Abd Al Karim Taufiq Abd Al Raouf, 15-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 8- Mrs. Ghaihaa Shama, 60-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 9- Mohammad Taufiq Abd Al Raouf, 41-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 10- Child Munther Taufiq Abd Al Raouf, 12-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 11- Omar Abd Al Raouf, 32-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 12- Mrs. Fatima Abd Al Raouf, 45-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 13- Mrs. Rawan Taufiq Abd Al Raouf, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 14- Mrs. Nusaiba Shmali, 30-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 15- Mrs. Safaa Atrash, 18-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 16- Child Fadi Mohammad Assad, 17-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 17- Saleh Mohammad Assad, 19-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 18- Child Abd Al Muhaymen Jasim, 15-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 19- Yousef Rashwana, 20-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 20- Child Saeed Rashwana, 12-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 21- Child Abdullah Akkash, 17-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 22- Child Mohammad Haddad, 15-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 23- Yousef Handawi, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 24- Mahmoud Khatib, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 25- Mrs. Manal Hashoun, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 26- Unidentified female child, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs





- 27- Unidentified child, seven-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 28- Unidentified female child, seven-year-old, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 29-31- Three unidentified women, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 32- [Unidentified female child](#), two-month-old, Ma'arat Al Arteeq, Aleppo suburbs
- 33- Ibrahim Haqqani, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 34- Unidentified child, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 35- Unidentified woman, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 36-37- [Two unidentified names](#), Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 38- Unidentified female name, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 39- Unidentified child, Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs
- 40- [Unidentified child](#), Kafr Hamra, Aleppo suburbs

## Proofs and Attachments

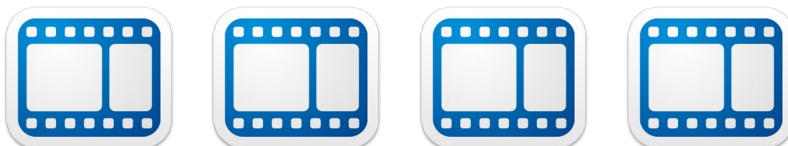
1- Videos showing dead bodies being pulled out from the rubbles



Video showing a female child, who was still alive, being pulled out from the rubbles



2- Videos showing the wounded in the makeshift hospitals

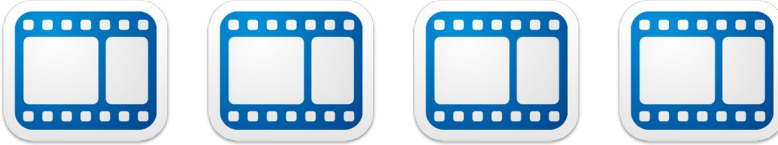




3- Videos showing the destruction in the town



**Pictures of the destruction**



4- Video showing smoke rising after a missile fell



5- Video showing a missile being fired from al Lewa' 155 in Al Qteifa in Damascus suburbs



Smoke from the first scud missiles that was fired from al Lewa' 155 in Al Qteifa which was directed at north Syria





## Conclusions

1. SNHR affirms that the bombardment on Karam Houmad neighborhood was indiscriminate and directed against unarmed civilians. Thus, government forces and Al Shabiha have violated the international human rights law which protects the right to life in addition to being committed in a non-International armed conflict so it mounts to war crime as all elements were fulfilled.
2. SNHR deems what happened in Karam Houmad neighborhood, the murder crime, a crime against humanity because it is not the first case but it has been systematically repeated throughout Syrian governorates in a widespread manner.
3. The indiscriminate attacks by government forces are violation of customary international humanitarian law where government forces launched several shells on populated areas rather than targeting specific military objects.
4. Those attacks, particularly the bombardment, caused casualties, injures or damaged civilian objects. Moreover, there are strong indicators that the damaged was great compared with the military benefits.
5. The volume of the massacre in addition to its nature, the amount of power that was used, and the indiscriminate and coordinated nature of bombardment cannot be without high instructions and it's a state policy.

## Recommendations

### The Syrian government

- 1- Stop all Human Rights violations immediately.
- 2- Respect its international commitments that includes the protection of civilians in the time of war, and respect the rules of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

### Human Rights Council

- 1- Demand the Security Council and the concerned international institutions to shoulder their responsibilities in regard to what is happening to Syrian people like murder, arrest, rape, and displacement.
- 2- Apply pressure on the Syrian government to cease murder, torture and release all kidnapped persons.
- 3- Hold Syrian government's allies and supporters- Russia, Iran, and China- morally and materially responsible for what is happening to the children of Syria.
- 4- Give the disastrous situation of victims' families in Syria greater interest and seriousness.





### **The Security Council**

- 1- Adopt a resolution to refer all perpetrators and criminals to the International Criminal Court.
- 2- Warn the Syrian government about the ramifications of severe acts and systematic murder and send a clear message regarding this case.

### **The Arab League**

- 1- Ask the Human Rights Council and the United Nations to give the case of daily murder its right of interest and follow-up.
- 2- Give the case the serious and great interest and follow-up, and try to give the victims' families psychological, material and educational care.
- 3- Press politically and diplomatically on the main Syrian regime allies- Russia, Iran and China- to ban them from providing the international and political cover and protection of all committed crimes against the Syrian people and to hold them morally and materially responsible for all Syrian government violations.

### **International Commission of Inquiry**

- 1- Stop depicting the conflict as it is between two equal parties in crimes, power and central decision-making, and to describe the crime as it is without mitigation for political purposes. It also has to increase its cadres that is concerned with the Syrian case due to the volume of the daily crimes which would insure a more comprehensive and complete documentation.

