



12 Medics and Civil Defense Personnel Killed in August 2016 All of them at the Hands of the Syrian and Russian regimes

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I. Executive Summary

SNHR's high methodology for documentation relies on survivors and families' direct accounts in addition to the process of verifying and analyzing pictures, video footages, and some medical records. However, we can't claim that we have documented all cases in light of the ban on SNHR by government forces and some of the other armed groups.

To read more about SNHR methodology in the documentation of victims, please see the following [URL](#).

The consistent bombing and targeting of medical facilities and civil defense centers by government forces since 2011, and the killing and arrest of medics and civil defense personnel at the hands of different conflict parties, especially government forces, indicates a systematic policy that only aims to shed more blood and deepen the suffering of the injured civilians and armed men.

SNHR documented the killing of 12 medics and civil defense personnel during the month of August as follows:

A. Government forces (Army, Security, Local militias, Foreign Shiite militias): killed nine medics and civil defense personnel as follows:

- Two doctors, one of whom due to torture
- Two civil defense personnel
- Five medical personnel

B. Russian forces: killed three medics and civil defense personnel as follows:

- Nurse
- One civil defense personnel
- One medical personnel





II. Details

[Belal Hosni Hamza](#), an ambulance driver, from Hamouriya city in Damascus suburbs governorate. Killed on Wednesday 3 August 2016 of wounds sustained during a government forces warplanes' bombing that targeted Dar Al Shefaa hospital in Hamouriya city in Damascus suburbs governorate with missiles on Sunday 24 July 2016.



[Tareq Awad AbdulBaqi](#), an ambulance driver, from Mhambel town in the suburbs of Idlib governorate, 50-year-old, a husband and father. Killed on Saturday 6 August 2016 by the bombing of the Russian/Syrian (Investigations are ongoing to determine the perpetrator party precisely) warplanes that targeted Al Amal surgical hospital with missiles in Melles town in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate.



[AbdulQader Taher AbdulBaqi](#), works as a security director at Al Amal surgical hospital, 50-year-old, a husband and a father. Killed on Saturday 6 August 2016 by the bombing of the Russian/Syrian (Investigations are ongoing to determine the perpetrator party precisely) warplanes that targeted Al Amal surgical hospital with missiles in Melles town in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate.

[Mohammad Farraj Bakran](#), works as a messenger at Al Amal surgical hospital, from Mar'yan town in the suburbs of Idlib governorate, 18-year-old, married. Killed on Saturday 6 August 2016 by the bombing of the Russian/Syrian (Investigations are ongoing to determine the perpetrator party precisely) warplanes that targeted Al Amal surgical hospital with missiles in Melles town in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate.

Ziad Hasan Ghali, from Bsanqoul town in the suburbs of Idlib governorate, works as a director of the maintenance and power department at Al Amal surgical hospital, 52-year-old. Killed on Saturday 6 August 2016 by the bombing of the Russian/Syrian (Investigations are ongoing to determine the perpetrator party precisely) warplanes that targeted Al Amal surgical hospital with missiles in Melles town in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate.





[Ahmad Walid Falah](#), a second-year student at the dentistry faculty in Damascus University, from Al Sanamein city in Daraa governorate, born in 1992. On Saturday 13 April 2013, he was arrested by the local committee militias, which are affiliated to government forces, from his dormitory at Damascus University. He was in good health at the time of the arrest. He was taken to branch 251, also known as Al Khatib branch. On Wednesday 10 August 2016 we received information confirming his death due to torture inside a government forces detention center in Damascus city

[Manar Abu Mohammad](#) (his full name wasn't disclosed for security reasons), a [member of the civil defense team](#) in Damascus suburbs governorate. Killed on Thursday 18 August 2016 by a government forces sniper in Darayya city in the Western Ghouta in Damascus suburbs as he was attending to one of the wounded whom the sniper shot at a previous time.



[Zaher Mohammad Ali](#), a member of the rescue team at the civil defense center, from Hraitan city in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, born in 1980, has a high school diploma, a father and a husband. Killed on Friday 26 August 2016 by a government forces rocket launcher that fired a rocket on his place of residence in Hraitan city.

[Mohammad Suliman Kalou](#), doctor, from Homs city, born in 1990, works as an intern physician in Al Amin hospital in Homs city, killed on Sunday 28 August 2016 by the regime artillery that fired a mortar shell near Khaled ben Al Walid stadium in [Al Hamraa neighborhood](#) in Homs city.



B. Russian forces

[Khaled Omar Hath](#), a member of the rescue team at the civil defense center – Al Anssari neighborhood branch in Aleppo city, from Aleppo city, born in 1985, has a secondary education certificate, married and a father of three. Killed on Thursday 11 August 2016 by alleged Russian warplanes that targeted Al Ramousa neighborhood with missiles as [he](#) was doing his job.





Nezar Ismail, paramedic, from Kafr Hamra town in the northern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, born in 1985, has a law degree from Aleppo University, married. Killed on Friday 12 August 2016 by alleged Russian warplanes that targeted the Children's and Women's hospital in Kafr Hamra town.

Mahmoud Barakat, nurse, from Kafr Hamra town in the northern suburbs in Aleppo governorate, born in 1985, has a nursing degree, married and a father of two. Killed on 12 August 2016 by alleged Russian warplanes that targeted the Children's and Women's hospital in Kafr Hamra town.

III. Conclusions and Recommendations

The Syrian government has blatantly violated both the international humanitarian law and the customary international humanitarian law; particularly Article 3 of Geneva Conventions and the international humanitarian law and committed crimes that can be openly classified as war crimes when it targeted medical personnel and medical facilities as well as crimes against humanity that manifested in the crime of willful killing.

Also, Russian forces has committed acts that constitute war crimes through the crimes of extrajudicial killing.

Conclusions:

The Security Council

The Security Council should uphold its legal and moral responsibilities in respect to what happening in Syria, at least against medical personnel, instead of only watching the ceaseless and daily bloodbath.

Russia and China should stop protecting the Syrian regime after it was proven, beyond any doubt, that the Regime has perpetrated war crime and crimes against humanity. Also, the International Community should take further steps to protect the lives of the Syrian people if Russia and China didn't change their positions.

Medical organizations around the world

There is a severe shortage in medical manpower in Syria because of the ceaseless killing of medical personnel. Firstly, Syrian doctors must come back to Syria to compensate for the severe shortage in medical personnel. Also, international organizations can send volunteers to safe areas where wounded are sent for treatment. We have recorded many cases where wounded died due to lack of medical capabilities.

Acknowledgment

Our most sincere thanks go to the victims' families and friends and to the local activists who contributed majorly to this report. Also, our most heartfelt condolences go out for the victims' families.

