



Medical Personnel Victims in January 2014

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I. Summary of the Report:

The Syrian Network for Human Rights' team documented the killing of eight medical personnel, including three doctors, at the hands of government forces.

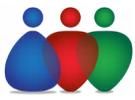
II. Introduction:

As the Syrian revolution entered its fourth year, medical personnel have continued to be in the crossfire and subjected to violence by all the parties to the armed conflict in Syria, with government forces far exceeding other parties, singly or collectively, in the number and magnitude of the violations perpetrated. To this day, the government's forces have not stopped targeting hospitals, health centers, pharmacies and ambulances in areas controlled by the opposition, in addition to targeting medical personnel for direct killing or death by torture in prisons, as well as for arrest, abduction and all kinds of persecution, on charges of providing medical services to persons or entities opposing the Syrian government.

III. Details:

Mohammad Ahmad Haja al Frouh, a nurse, from al Harra city in the northwestern suburbs of Daraa governorate, working in Jasem field hospital, was killed on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, in an airstrike by government warplanes on Jasem city in the same northwestern region of Daraa governorate.





Hasan al Khalaf, a doctor, from Tadef town in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, was killed in an airstrike on Sunday, January 12, 2014, when government helicopters dropped several barrel bombs on Tadef town.

[Adnan al Zein](#), an anesthesiologist from Aleppo governorate, was arrested by government forces in November 2013; it was subsequently confirmed that he died due to torture in a detention center in Damascus city on Sunday, January 12, 2014.

Ibrahim Ayyoub, a paramedic from al Mazraa village in Idlib governorate, a student at the Faculty of Arabic Literature, died on Saturday, January 18, 2018, while he was aiding one of those injured by a mortar shell fired by government artillery on an area in the Eastern Ghouta in east of Damascus Suburbs governorate.



[Qais al Qadi](#), a nurse from Qal'et al Hussen in the western suburbs of Homs governorate, worked in the Qal'et al Hussen field hospital. He was killed in his hometown on Monday, January 27, 2014, at the hands of government forces.



[Omar Mazhar al Taghlibi](#), a paramedic from Barza neighborhood northeast of Damascus city, died on Wednesday, January 29, 2014, in Tishreen neighborhood northeast of Damascus city, as a result of wounds sustained when he was shot by a sniper of the government forces.





[Yousef al Tukhli](#), a 20-year-old Syrian-Palestinian, nicknamed al Siddiq, a nurse from al Hajar al Aswad neighborhood south of Damascus city, died on Wednesday, January 29, 2014, when he was shot by government forces while he was working to help injured people in the area between the neighborhoods of al Hajar al Aswad and al Qadam.



[Hussam al Jroud](#), a doctor and member of an anti-polio medical taskforce from Sarqeb city in the eastern suburbs of Idlib governorate, died on Thursday, January 30, 2014, when government warplanes fired several missiles at an area adjacent to al Shifaa Hospital in Sarqeb city.



IV. Legal Conclusions:

The Syrian government has blatantly violated both international humanitarian law and customary humanitarian law, committing crimes amounting to war crimes by targeting medical personnel, as well as committing crimes amounting to crimes against humanity represented by mass murder.

Some armed groups have also committed crimes amounting to war crimes.

Condemnation and attribution of responsibility:

We, at the Syrian Network for Human Rights, as an independent Syrian national human rights organization working to defend human rights, attribute responsibility for the direct targeting, torture and detention of medical personnel to the President of the Syrian regime and the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Bashar al Assad, as the individual primarily responsible for ordering such acts. We also consider all organs of the Syrian government to be directly responsible, in addition to the governments supporting the Syrian regime, such as the Russian, Chinese and Iranian governments and all the militias loyal to them.





The Syrian opposition also bears responsibility for prosecuting and following up perpetrators of violations in areas under its control, and for actively deterring them from repeating such practices rather than merely issuing statements of condemnation.

Recommendations:

UN Security Council:

The UN Security Council must assume its legal and moral responsibilities vis-à-vis the crimes being perpetrated in Syria, rather than remaining a silent spectator amidst the daily bloodbath.

