



The Documentation of Yabrood City Massacre in Damascus Suburbs

Date of incident: 17/5/2013

The documenting party: Syrian Network for Human Rights

Yabrood city:

It is located to the north of Damascus about 80 km within Al Qalamoon Mountains.

Its population is about 80000.

[The location on the map:](#)

A testimony of eyewitness who was at time of the bombardment. He is called Abu Mohamad Al Yabroodi and he is still alive:

It is possible to contact the eyewitness by his skype account:

brave.heart1234567.

“About 3:00 pm the intensive bombardment started on civil neighborhoods. The bombardment was with artillery and rocket launchers in addition to Mig shelling simultaneously with Toshka missiles and surface to surface rockets that we saw it at the first time. The bombing lasted for over two hours and a half.

The strongest bombardment was on Al Sina'eya area. Three airstrikes one of them involved the use of six missiles which were carried by umbrellas, and one airstrike in Al Salihia neighborhood on a children's park with two thermobaric bombs, and one raid on Al Qami'eya neighborhood. Then the bombardment was mostly by artillery and lasted for more than an hour and a half on Al Sina'eya.

When the missiles that were carried by umbrellas dropped, a huge explosion occurred and we saw a thick smoke, we hurried to the place of the explosion and saw corpses on the ground and tens of injured. We couldn't identified several corpses. We started rushing people immediately to the hospitals”.

SNHR's team in Damascus suburbs have documented the death of 15 civilians including one child and three women. We also documented more than 50 injured in addition to damaging of several building.





The names of the massacre victims:

A child from Barakat family, 3-year-old, Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

[Shehada Al Khateeb \(Raslan\)](#)/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

[Marwan Al Qasos](#)/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

Ahmad Khalil/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

Mohamad Zaqaq/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

Yahya Al Ainawi/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

Ahmad Haqooq/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

[Omar Romieah](#) (Dawleh)/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

Yousef Hadeed/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

Esraa Wawi/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

Razan Yazbak/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

Rola Anqa/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

His name is unidentified yet/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

His name is unidentified yet/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

His name is unidentified yet/ Damascus suburbs/Yabrood.

Attachments:

1. Video depicts [the martyrs](#) due to bombardment:
2. Videos [depict the aftermath](#) of the [bombardment](#):
3. [Videos depicts](#) the moment [of bombardment](#):

Conclusions:

1. SNHR affirms that the bombardment on Yabrood town 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 non-International armed conflict so it mounts to war crime as all elements were fulfilled.
2. SNHR deems what happened in Yabrood, the murder crime, a crime against humanity because it is not the first case but it has been systematically repeated in all 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 and did not direct to specific military object.





4. Those attacks, particularly the bombardment, caused casualties, injures or damaged civilian objects. Moreover, there are a 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:

To the Syrian government:

- 1- To stop all Human Rights violations immediately.
- 2- To 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.

To Human Rights Council:

- 1- To 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- To press on the Syrian government to cease murder, torture and release all kidnapped persons.
- 3- To hold Syrian government's allies and supporters- Russia, Iran, and China- morally and materially responsible for happening to the children of Syria.
- 4- To give the disastrous situation of victims' families in Syria greater interest and seriousness.





To the Security Council:

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

To the Arab League:

- 1- To ask the Human Rights Council and the United Nations to give the case of daily murder its right of interest and follow-up.
- 2- To give the case the serious and great interest and follow-up, and try to give the victims' families psychological, material and educational care.
- 3- To 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.

To International Commission of Inquiry:

- 1- To cease 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 objects. It also has to increase its cadres that is concerned with the Syrian case due to the volume of the daily crimes which allow it for border and more comprehensive documentation.



Syrian Network For Human Rights
الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

