



No less than 49 Massacres in September 2016 Including 46 at the Hands of the Russian and Syrian regimes

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I. Executive Summary

SNHR documented no less than 49 massacres in the month of September which were distributed as follows:

- A. Government forces (Army, security, local militias, Shi-ite foreign militias): 26
- B. Russian forces: 20
- C. ISIS (Self-proclaimed the Islamic State): 2
- D. Armed opposition factions: 1

SNHR describes an incident as a massacre if it involves the killing of five peaceful people at the same time. For more information about [our methodology in documenting victims](#) please visit the Following URL

Massacres perpetrated by government forces in September 2016 are distributed by areas of control as follows:

- 17 massacres in areas under the control of armed opposition factions.
- Three massacres in areas jointly controlled by armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front.
- Six massacres in areas under the control of ISIS.

Massacres are distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:

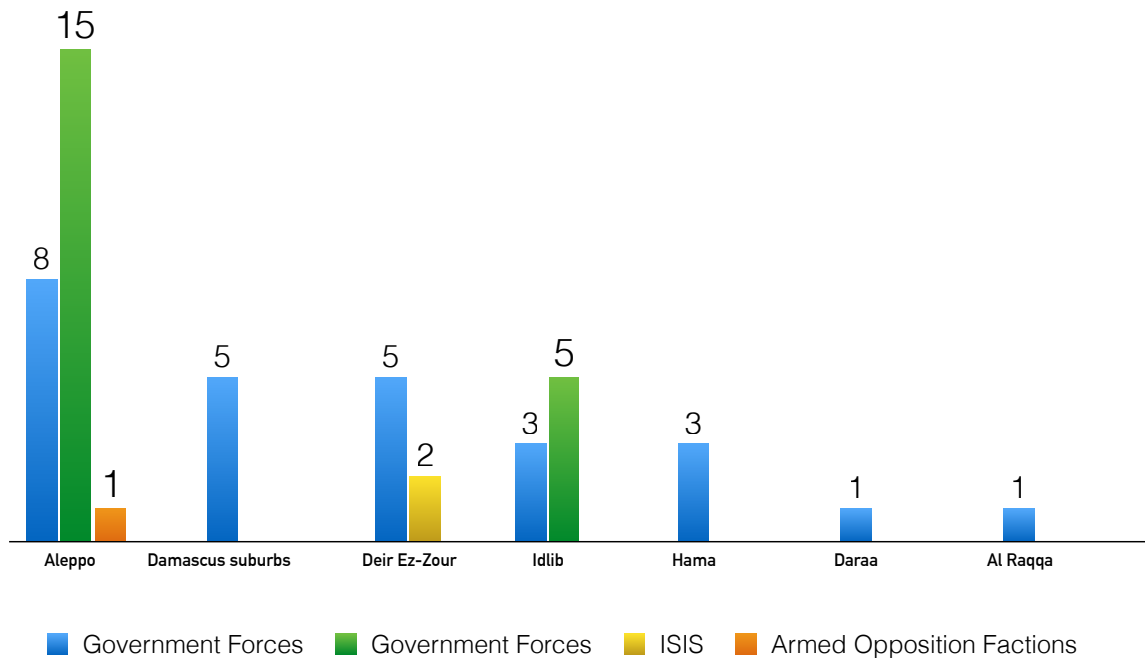
- Aleppo: 24 massacres
- Idlib: 8 massacres
- Deir Ez-Zour: 7 massacres
- Damascus suburbs: 5 massacres





Hama: 3 massacres
Daraa: 1 massacre
Al Raqqa: 1

Massacre distribution by the influential party



According to the victims documentation team at SNHR, 498 individuals including 161 children and 64 women died in these massacres which means that 46% of the victims were women and children. This high percentage indicates that the civilian residents were targeted in most of these massacres.

Death toll of these massacres is divided by the influential party as follows:
Government forces: 211 individuals including 65 children and 25 women.
Russian forces: 257 individuals including 87 children and 38 women.
ISIS: 21 individuals including two children and one woman.
Armed opposition factions: Nine civilians including seven children.





II. Details

A. Government forces (Army, security local militias, foreign Shiite militias)

Aleppo governorate

Monday 5 September 2016 noon, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted the residential buildings in the vicinity of the vegetables market in Al Sukkari neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of five individuals at once including two children.

Wednesday 7 September 2016 noon, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted [the public square](#) in [Al Sukkari neighborhood](#), located in [Aleppo city](#) and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in [the killing of 13 individuals](#) including two children.



Friday 9 September 2016 morning, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on [the residential buildings](#) in the vicinity of the Sharia institute in Salah Al Din neighborhood, located in Aleppo city within the parts that are under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of nine individuals at once including four children.

Saturday 10 September 2016 noon, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted the residential buildings on the road between Al Shaikh Saeed neighborhood and Al Salihein neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of seven individuals at once including one woman.





Sunday 11 September 2016 noon, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted [the residential buildings](#) in the vicinity of [Al Salihein neighborhood circle](#), located in [Aleppo city](#) and is under the control of [armed opposition factions](#), which resulted in [the killing of five individuals](#) at once including two children.



Monday 19 September 2016 evening, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted the main street in Hawwar town, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 14 individuals including one woman.

Sunday 25 September 2016 afternoon, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on the residential buildings in Karm Al Tahhan area Al Myassar, located in neighborhood in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of seven individuals at once.

Sunday 25 September 2016 noon, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on [the residential homes](#) in the vicinity of Salah Al Din mosque in [Bostan Al Basha neighborhood](#), located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of seven individuals at once including six children.





Damascus suburbs governorate

Saturday 10 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted Douma city in Eastern Ghouta, located in Damascus suburbs governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of six individuals including three children and two women. Additionally, about 20 others were wounded.

Sunday 11 September 2016, government forces artillery fired a number of rockets on Douma city in Eastern Ghouta, located in Damascus suburbs governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of six individuals including one woman. Additionally, about 15 others were wounded.

Monday 12 September 2016, government forces artillery fired shells and rockets that targeted [Douma city in Eastern Ghouta](#), located in [Damascus suburbs](#) and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 13 individuals.

Wednesday 28 September 2016, government forces helicopters dropped barrel bombs on Al Wadi neighborhood in Al Mqielbiya town, located in Western Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of five individuals at once including two female children and one woman. Additionally, about eight others were wounded.





Friday 30 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted [Kafir Batna city](#), located in [Eastern Ghouta](#) in [Damascus suburbs governorate](#) and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in [the killing of nine civilians](#) including seven children and one woman. Additionally, about 30 others were wounded.



Deir Ez-Zour governorate

Friday 2 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted Al Tayyana town, located in the suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate and is under the control of ISIS, which resulted in the killing of five individuals at once, three children and two women, and wounded about five others.

Thursday 15 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes dropped cluster bombs on Al Karaj square in Al Mayadein city, located in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate and is under the control of ISIS, which resulted in the killing of 25 civilians including nine children and three women. Additionally, about 30 others were wounded.





Monday 19 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes dropped cluster bombs on Al Jaish street in Al Mayadein city, located in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate and is under the control of ISIS, which resulted in the killing of five civilians at once including a female child.

Monday 19 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted Al Khan area in Al Tabni town, located in the western suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate and is under the control of ISIS, which resulted in the killing of seven civilians from two families including three children and two women. Additionally, about 10 others were wounded.

Friday 23 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted Al Labid neighborhood in Mohasan city, located in the suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate and is under the control of ISIS, which resulted in the killing of five civilians including two children and one woman. Additionally, about five others were wounded.

Idlib governorate

Wednesday 21 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes (Sukhoi 22) carried out two airstrikes using missiles that targeted [Al Rawda neighborhood](#) in [Khan Shaikhoun city](#), located in [the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate](#) and is under the control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front, which resulted in the killing of seven civilians at once including two children and three women. Additionally, about eight others were wounded. It should be noted that fixed-wing government forces warplanes carried out seven airstrikes targeting the city on that day where 18 individuals, including six children and four women, were killed as in three of these airstrikes in addition to about 30 injuries.

Thursday 29 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes dropped cluster bombs on the northern neighborhood of Khan Shaikhoun city, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is jointly controlled by armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front, which resulted in the killing of six individuals at once including two children. Additionally, about seven others were wounded.

Thursday 29 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted residential buildings in the eastern neighborhood of Jarjanaz town, located in the eastern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of





armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front, which resulted in the killing of five civilians at once, three children and two women, in addition to greatly destroying two buildings.

Hama governorate

Thursday 1 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted a civilians gathering on the road between Al Latamna and Taybat Al Imam cities near Al Masasna village, located in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of seven individuals at once including one woman.

Thursday 1 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted a civilians gathering on the road between Al Latamna city Latmein village, located in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 13 civilians; nine children, two women, and their two fetuses where most of the victims were from the same family.

Saturday 10 September 2016, government forces artillery fired missiles that targeted Kafr Zita city, located in Hama governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of five civilians from the same family including three women.

Daraa governorate

Sunday 18 September 2016, government forces helicopters dropped four barrel bombs on [Dael city](#), located in the suburbs of Daraa governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 10 individuals including a child.

Al Raqqa governorate

Friday 9 September 2016, fixed-wing government forces/international coalition (Investigations are still ongoing to determine the perpetrator party precisely) warplanes fired missiles that targeted Al Jmeili neighborhood, located in Al Raqqa city and is under the control of ISIS, which resulted in the killing of five civilians at once including one woman. Additionally, about 10 others were wounded.





B. Russian forces

Aleppo governorate

Wednesday 7 September 2016 dawn, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted the residential buildings in the vicinity of Al Karaj circle in Tadef town, located in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of ISIS, which resulted in the killing of 10 civilians at once including six children. Additionally, about 15 others were wounded.

Saturday 10 September 2016 noon, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted the vicinity of Mousa ben Nousair mosque in Batbo town, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 12 individuals including four children and four women.

Monday 19 September 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted a warehouse for the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) – Urm Al Kubra town branch, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 12 individuals at once including the head of the SARC branch in Urm Al Kubra town. Additionally, about 21 others were wounded.

Wednesday 21 September 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted a medical point in Khan Touman town, located in the suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 10 individuals.

Thursday 22 September 2016 dawn, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted the residential buildings in the vicinity of “Ghajar’s Chicken” shop in Al Kallasa neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of nine individuals at once including three children and three women.

Friday 23 September 2016 morning, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted the vicinity of Al Qaterji neighborhood circle, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of nine individuals at once including three children and two women.





Friday 23 September 2016 morning, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted a residential building in eastern Bashqatein village, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 15 individuals from the same family including 11 children and three women.

Friday 23 September 2016 noon, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted the residential buildings in the vicinity of “Al Kanej Fuel Station” in Al Kallasa neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 10 individuals.

Saturday 24 September 2016 dawn, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted residential buildings on the road leading to Al Qaterji neighborhood from Tareaq Al Bab neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of seven individual from the same family including five children and one woman.



Saturday 24 September 2016 dawn, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted [the residential buildings](#) in the vicinity of [Al Sena'a circle in Bab Al Nayrab neighborhood](#), located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of five individuals from the same family including three children and one woman.





Saturday 24 September 2016 morning, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missile that targeted the residential buildings in the vicinity of Hamza mosque in Al Mash-had neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of seven individuals; most of whom were from the same family, including five children and one woman.

Saturday 24 September 2016 morning, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted [residential buildings](#) in the vicinity of Sukkar mosque in Bostan Al Qaser neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 13 individuals including one child.

Tuesday 27 September 2016 afternoon, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are [Russian residential buildings](#) in [Al Albesa Al Rejjaliya street](#) in [Al Sha'ar neighborhood](#), located in [Aleppo city](#) and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in [the killing of 15 individuals](#) including six children and three women, Additionally, about 20 others were wounded.





Friday 30 September 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian residential buildings in Al Hollok Al Tahtani area Al Hollok neighborhood, located in in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of seven individuals at once including three children.

Friday 30 September 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian residential buildings in Al Shaikh Fares area in Al Hollok neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of 14 individuals including seven children and four women.

Idlib governorate

Saturday 3 September 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles loaded with cluster bombs on a vehicles gathering near the international highway in Khan Al Sobol town, located in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is jointly controlled by armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front, which resulted in the killing of five individuals at once. Additionally, about 20 others were wounded and a number of vehicles were burnt.

Monday 5 September 2016 evening, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted residential buildings located at [the southern entrance to Ma'aret Al No'man city](#), located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front, which resulted in the killing of nine individuals at once including three children. Additionally, about 15 others were wounded.

Tuesday 6 September 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian carried out two consecutive airstrikes using missiles that targeted the area near Abd Al Majid Al Bakri in the northern neighborhood of Khan Shaikhoun city, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions, which resulted in the killing of nine individuals including two female children and civil defense personnel.





Saturday 10 September 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian the area near [the educational complex](#) in [the vegetables market](#) in [the middle of the main market](#) in [the western parts of Idlib city](#), controlled jointly by armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front, which resulted in the killing of 65 individuals including 17 children and 15 women. Additionally, about 60 others were wounded.



C. Extremist Islamic Groups

ISIS

Deir Ez-Zour governorate

Saturday 10 September 2016, ISIS artillery fired a number of mortar shells that targeted a civilians gathering who were queuing for food supplies in front of SARC center in Al Joura neighborhood, located in Deir Ez-Zour city and is under the control of government forces, as aid supplies were being distributed which resulted in the killing of six civilians at once including two female children and one woman. Additionally, about 15 others were wounded.

Monday 12 September 2016, ISIS published a video production named: “The Making of Illusion” which shows [15 civilians from Al Msarrab town](#), located in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate and is under the control of ISIS, being slaughtered using a sharp blade and then hung on from meat hooks without giving the dead bodies to their families. As of this writing, we haven’t been able to verify the place and date of the killing.





D. Armed opposition factions

Aleppo governorate

Friday 9 September 2016 afternoon, a number of locally-made rocket shells fell on the 15th street in Salah Al Din neighborhood, located in Aleppo city within the parts controlled by government forces, which were fired by an artillery stationed in Al Mash-had neighborhood which is under the control of armed opposition factions. As a result, nine civilians were killed at once including seven children.

III. Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions:

Government forces and Russian forces:

1- SNHR affirms that the bombing incidents, deliberate or indiscriminate, targeted armless civilians, thus, government forces and Russian forces have violated the articles of the international human rights law which guarantee the right to life. Furthermore, these violations were perpetrated during a non-international armed conflict which amount to war crimes as all elements of a war crime have been fulfilled.

2- SNHR believes that the acts of killing that took place during these massacres can be classified as crimes against humanity.

3- These attacks, especially bombardment, have resulted in collateral damage that involved casualties, injuries, and damages to civil facilities. There are strong indicators that prove that the damage was deeply severe compared to the anticipated military benefit. In all of the cases, we didn't find any military targets before or during these attacks.

4- The magnitude of the massacres, its frequent pattern, the exaggerated use of strength, its military nature, the indiscriminate manner of the bombing, and the coordinated approach of these attacks must be based on high orders, and a state policy. Other forces:

According to this report, ISIS and armed opposition factions have committed massacres that constitute war crimes. However, these crimes are not crimes against humanity as in the case of government forces and its pro-forces that are committing massacres in a widespread and systematic manner.

Recommendations:

To The United Nations and the Security Council

1. To refer the case in Syria to the International Criminal Court and stop the disrupt-





ing 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 supports the culture of crime.

2. To Impose urgent punishment on those who are involved in the violations of human rights.

3. To bind the Syrian government to allow all relief and human rights organizations to enter Syria, in addition to the International Intendent Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic and journalists and let them work without any obstructions.

4. Enforce an arms embargo against the Syrian government because it is using weapons in widespread attacks against civilians.

5. Security Council must shoulder its responsibility of preserving security and civil peace in Syria because the violations of the Syrian government entail a gross threat to the international peace and security.

6. Listing the militias that are fighting with the Syrian government and have committed widespread massacres, like Hezbollah and the other Shiite brigades, National defense Army and “Shabiha” militia, on the international list of terrorist organizations.

7. Implementing the “Responsibility to Protect” norm, which was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2005, in Syria as it is direly needed there.

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 stop supplying the Syrian government with most of the financial and humanitarian aids that, in most cases, are not being delivered to those who are in need and go instead to the people and parties that support the Syrian government.

Acknowledgment

Our thanks and appreciations go to the victims’ families, eyewitnesses, and local activists whose testimonies contributed majorly to this report. Our most profound consolations go out to the victims’ families and friends.



