



*Shelling Universities and Schools ..  
students killed in their classes*



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*Syrian Network for Human Rights  
Shelling The Educational building of Commercial  
high school in Raqqa Governorate  
Date of incident: 29 / 9 /2013*



The Syrian Network  
For Human Rights  
الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

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### **SNHR methodology:**

The methodology of this report based on the investigations conducted by SNHR's team in Raqqa Governorate with number of residents and activists.

It contains the testimonies of an eyewitness from the residents documented in the report, in addition to news and pictures from cooperative activists inside the city.

### ***The incident's details***

Sunday 29/9/2013, Syrian government's warplane and without any warning or real justification shelled Al-Tofail commercial high school, located in Cornich neighborhood, near political security branch.

### **Testimony of an eyewitness known as Abo Bakr, he was there in the time of shelling and talked to SNHR:**

You can communicate with the witness by Skype account:

### ***Freesyrian54***

" at almost 8:00 am, during the student's meeting in the yard of Tofail commercial high school, located in Cornich neighborhood, near to former political security branch, and before heading to classes to start taking lessons.... warplanes which I saw by myself as most of the people in the area was flying over the city ,then suddenly those warplanes launched an airstrike targeted directly the students in school's yard with two Thermobaric missiles, it led to kill 14 victims and more than 30 wounded all of them are students under the age of 17, the wounded and killed was immediately transferred by the few available ambulances in the city and cars of rebels and civilians to the field hospital, cause of the potentials' shortage in the field hospital in Raqqa, doctors had to transfer 5 wounded in Turkey cause of their serious conditions and treat the rest in the field hospital in Raqqa"

Video shows resident's story about shelling:



Syrian Network for Human Rights' director Fadel Abdulghani said " killings that take place in Syria without any kind of accountability in spite of thousands of violations since the beginning of the uprising so far caused big disregard of civilian's life, and we wonder if the Responsibility to Protect principle has not applied now, when and where it will applied? !!"

Syrian Network for Human Right's team in Raqqa governorate could document the kill of 15 civilians including 14 children of the school's student in the warplane shelling on Al-Tofail commercial high school:

**Name of the massacre victims:**

1- Ali Abo Husain 45 years old, office boy in the school

2- Child Ahmad Khudr Alfarah

3- Child Abdullah Alnafaa

4- Child Hasan Alburjus

5- Female Child Rose Alhasan Alhusain

6- Femal Child Ibtisam Alhason Alshawakh

7- Child Ali Alshabib

8- Child Mohamad Rasoul Al-Ibrahim

9- Child Ali Hamidi Al-Ali Alhusain

10- Child Mohammad Tarek Albotran

11- Child Anwar Alhassan Altaher

12- Child Ammar Alsheikh

13- Child Mhamoud Fadi Alawad

14- Child Monzer Alsaho

15- Child Abduokarim Alkhalaf Alsaaed

***Proofs and attachments:***

Video shows the massacre's victims:



Video shows destruction:





Syrian Network for Human Rights would like to thank families' victims, eyewitnesses and media activists, who their testimonies and opinions helped enabled us to issue this report

***Conclusions:***

1- Syrian network for human rights emphasize that the shelling of the school was deliberately and aimed civilian targets, so the Shabieha and Government forces violated international human rights law that protects the right of life. in addition that it has committed in non-international armed conflict so it tantamount to war crimes and had all the elements.

2- SNHR considered shelling school in Dier ez-Zoor accompanied by killings is a war crime, this is not the first time, but it's almost daily event in all Syrian governorate, so its systematic and widespread methodology.

3- Random attacks committed by Syrian government consider as violations of customary IHL, because they shell populated areas, not specific military target.

4- Those attacks, specially shelling, caused accidentally losses in civilians lives, injury , or damaged civilian objects, there are very strong indications to believe that damaged was too excessive when compared with expected military benefit.

5- The size and repeated nature of the massacre, the level of excessive force used, in addition to the random nature of the shelling , and coordinating attacks cannot be but only supreme directives which is state policy.

### ***Recommendations :***

#### **Syrian Governments:**

- 1- Immediately stop all human rights' violations.
- 2- Respect international obligations of protection of civilians in time of war, and respect for rules of international humanitarian law and international human rights law

#### **Human Rights Council:**

- 1- Demand the Security Council and the concerned international institutions to hold their responsibilities of what's happening for the Syrian People of killing , rape , displacement , and arrested.
- 2- Pressure on the Syrian Government Troops to stop shelling , killing and release all kidnapped and arrested.
- 3- Hold alias and supporters of the Syrian Government Troops : Russia , Iran and China, the moral and physical responsibilities for what's happening to the Syrian people.
- 4- Serious attention of this case and give it high priority, and try to take care of victim families Psychologically and materially and educationally.

**Security Council :**

- 1- Decision to refer all the criminals and the involved to ICC
- 2- Warn the Syrian Government Troops of their percussions of using brutal methods on the stability of civil peace and coexistence between the people of the same society
- 3- Insert Syrian National Army, and Shabiha troops loyal to Syrian Government's

**Arab League :**

- 1- Demand Human Right Council and United Nations to give a serious and right attention of stop daily killing.
- 2- Political and diplomatic pressure on the Syrian Government Troops 's main allies- Russia, Iran and China -to prevent them from continuous providing cover and international and political protection for all the crimes committed against the Syrian people and hold them moral and physical responsibility for all the excesses of the Syrian Government Troops.
- 3- Serious attention of this case and give it high priority, and try to take care of victim families Psychologically and materially and educationally.

***International Commission of Inquiry :***

The International Commission of inquiry must stop describing the conflict in Syria as a conflict between two equal parties in crimes, power and centralized decision , and give an accurate description of violations without alleviate for political purposes.

The committee must also increase its carders in Syria because of the magnitude of the daily crimes to enable them of wider and more comprehensive committed documentation.

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