



A report of the massacre of Al-A'atleh Check point
Rihan Town, Douma, Damascus Suburbs
Violations Documentation center in Syria
21- 05-2013





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A new massacre was discovered a few days ago near Al-A'atleh check point in the town of Al-Rihan, where many scorched bodies were found, with traces showing that they were executed in the field.

Al-A'atleh check point is situated at the entrance of Al-rihan town, of the city of Douma. Close to Adraa's Central prison, and close to two close-by hospitals that were lately utilized as military barracks, one of which is the Waleed Sanatorium for leprosy disease in the Al-Ghita region in front of the check point, and the other is "Ibn-Sinah " hospital for mental diseases . The area is well known for being dependant on agriculture, and having humble-looking houses for the locals

Regime forces raided the area around the checkpoint earlier in March 2013 incinerating all farms in the region with all its contents. Since then the region has become the front line between the regime's army and the Free Syrian Army.

During these military operations, many cases of enforced disappearance were recorded among the locals residing in the houses and farms around the checkpoint, as well as passers-by, and the fate of these people is still unknown.

On 16/05/2013 the Free Syrian Army raided the checkpoint and managed to control the area partially, and upon carding the surrounding farms, eight bodies were recovered, and were brought for burial in the city of Douma at 6:30 pm of the same day.

Other bodies were found as well, but couldn't be recovered, since they were almost fully burned, and only little remnants were left.

The center has documented the testimony of **Mr.Abo Yaseen**, who was there at the moment when these corpses arrived at the medical service point, Abo Yaseen says:

“Corpses were brought to the medical service point at 06:30 pm, and I think that corpses are for



people who have cited almost two or three months ago, just at the time when regime forces have raided the area to impose control

The corpses were for four men, two ladies and two children, children's ages ranging (10-14) year old.

Corpses have become charred skeletons, and seemed to be blindfolded at the time of execution, as traces of ligament covering their eyes can clearly be seen.

I was able to distinguish corpses of children through identifying the small sized skulls and their thin bones.

Some of the corpses were handcuffed which clearly indicates that they were field-executed and cremated

One of the child victims had at least a hand or a foot truncated, which suggests that they were subjected to dismemberment

All of the eight corpses that were brought in were found in one farm, knowing that more corpses were found by fighters of the FSA in other farms but couldn't be recovered, since the area wasn't fully liberated yet.

I buried the corpses after giving each of them a number so as to be distinguished later by the families, or in case samples are to be taken from the bodies to relate them to their relative of blood”

There were many speculations on the numbers of bodies that couldn't be buried, numbers ranged between (30- 50)

Identities of the corpses that have been pulled from the surrounding farms couldn't be identified, since they were incinerated, and accordingly haven't had any distinguishing features, nor any type of formal documents to prove their ID's.

Activists have recorded the following footages for the corpses that were brought to Douma's City for burial.

<http://goo.gl/GVytt>

<http://goo.gl/BBNhh>



And to further confirm the horrifying atrocities, extrajudicial killing and forced disappearance committed by regime's forces stationed at this checkpoint, we include the below list for martyrs cited on this location:

Name	Cause of Death	Date of Death	Link
Ahmad Khalil Al-Shwa	Detention & Torture	29/09/2012	http://www.vdc-sy.info/index.php/ar/details/martyrs/35479
Mahmoud Khaled Khibieh	Detention & Field Execution	16/10/2012	http://www.vdc-sy.info/index.php/ar/details/martyrs/38366
Unknow Martyr	Field Execution	18/12/2012	http://www.vdc-sy.info/index.php/ar/details/martyrs/80269
Abd El Razzaq Ameen Taha	Detention & Torture	18/12/2012	http://www.vdc-sy.info/index.php/ar/details/martyrs/48456

Photos taken for bodies recovered from the area around Al-A'atleh's check point:





For Any comments or questions, we can be contacted through this email address:

editor@vdc-sy.info

To view any earlier report, you can follow those links:

For the Arabic versions

<http://www.vdc-sy.org/index.php/ar/reports>

For the English versions

<http://www.vdc-sy.info/index.php/en/reports>