



21 Women and Children Kidnapped, Toll Victims of Bloody Attacks Rise in al-Sweida

Kidnapping Took Place in Shabaki, Eastern Countryside, in Conjunction with the Armed Offensive Launched by the Islamic State on July 25, 2018

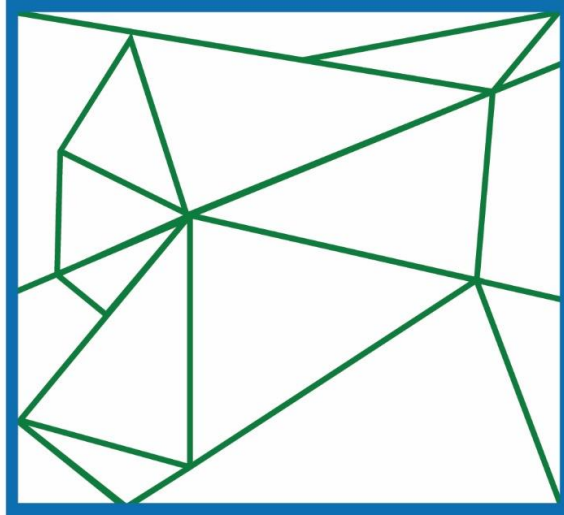
About Syrians for Truth and Justice

[Syrians for Truth and Justice \(STJ\)](#) is an independent, non-governmental and non-profit organization whose members include Syrian human rights defenders, advocates and academics of different backgrounds and nationalities. It also includes members of other nationalities.

The initiative strives for SYRIA, where all Syrian citizens (males and females) have dignity, equality, justice and equal human rights.

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At least 21 civilians, being women and children, from the al-Sweida province, predominantly inhabited by the Druze sect, were kidnapped in conjunction with the recent military attacks launched by the organization that calls itself The Islamic State, also known as ISIS, against several villages in al-Sweida on July 25, 2018, which had resulted in the death of at least 240 persons, being civilians or armed individuals from the "Domestic Protection Groups" and the injury of 170 others in a non-final outcome.

Shadi Sa'eb, the journalist and the activist who resides in al-Sweida, said in an interview with STJ on July 26, 2018, that they documented the kidnap of 19 women and girls in addition to 3 children from Shabaki village, located in the eastern countryside of al-Sweida, by the elements of ISIS during their ground offensive on the village. The journalist said there are more than 19 other kidnapped whom their identity had yet to be defined.

Some of the identified kidnapped are Fadia Badi Abu Ammar, Shahad Jawdat Abu Ammar, Qusai Jawdat Abu Ammar, Suad Adib Abu Ammar, Mirna Hikmat Abu Ammar, Lamis Hikmat Abu Ammar, Aktham Hikmat Abu Ammar, Rasmiya Adib Abu Ammar, Muhannad Zoqan Abu Ammar, Raeda Saber Abu Ammar, Asma Tabeel Abu Ammar, Tharwat Fadel Abu Ammar, Ferial Ezzaddin Abu Ammar, Mashael Said Abu Ammar, Mariam Said Abu Ammar, Jomana al-Shaer, Zena Jamil Abu Ammar, Ghusn Hasan Abu Ammar, Lana Nashat Abu Ammar, Najwa Saiyah Abu Ammar, Abeer Shalghín and her children, and Doha al-Jba'ei, the journalist reported.

Local activists from al-Sweida circulated images of the 21 kidnapped persons published by ISIS-run Amaq News Agency without referring to their fate. The activists called and appealed for their release.



*** نساء السويداء المختوفات: شادي صعب added 14 new photos to the album: لدى داعش
2 hrs -

نشر تنظيم داعش الإرهابي عبر موقعه الرسمي صوراً لأربعة عشر إمرأه من محافظة السويداء كان قد
أختطفهن فجر الأربعاء من منازلهن في قرية الشبكي في الريف الشرقي للسويداء بعد اقتحام القرى الأمنة
وارتكاب مجازر بئد لها جبين الإنسانية راح ضحيتها أكثر من 240 شهيد وشهيد.
الآن مطلوب تحرك على كافة المستويات من كل شخص ومجموعة ومنظمة وحزب، من كل انسان سوري
او او عربي او او اجنبي بقاسنا قضيتنا الانسانية.
يجب العمل بكافة الطرق والوسائل اللاعنفة من وجهة نظري، ولا اعترض على خيارات الآخرين المتاحة،
هدفنا استرجاع المختوفات بكافة الوسائل المتاحة.
#الحرية لمختوفات السويداء



Image taken from social media showing photos of the women kidnapped on July 25, 2018, by ISIS from Shabaki village located in the east countryside of al-Sweida. Amaq News Agency, loyal to ISIS, had published the photos and the province activists circulated them.

Sa'eb said that on June 26, 2018, Amaq News Agency published a video footage showing the execution of four previous kidnapped persons by ISIS, two of them were from al-Sweida province who were kidnapped two months ago in the eastern Badia of the eastern countryside of the province. The journalist considered that posting this video footage in synchronization with the offensives and the last kidnap operation is but a message to intimidate the residents of the area.

On the other hand, the toll of the victims of the bloody attacks on the province was 240 deaths and 170 wounded, mostly civilians, and the rest were the young men who belonged to "the Domestic Protection Groups", which are independent groups that affiliate no faction or military party and was formed by the residents of theses villages to defend their villages, and they carry light weapons. The Domestic Protection Groups encountered the offensives launched by ISIS, according to the journalist Shadi Sa'eb.

In the same context, a doctor who refused to disclose her identity for security purposes, that works in a hospital in the province said to STJ on July 27, 2018, concerning her testimony,

"Following the explosions and the clashes occurred in the east countryside, large numbers of the wounded got to the hospital, they were affected with gun shots and explosive bullets, they were transferred to the National Hospital of al-Sweida. Through the checkup, we noticed that two kinds of bullets were used in the attacks. The first kind was explosive bullets and the second one was suspected to contain toxic substance, and we will try to analyze the projectiles of the bullets that were extracted from the bodies of the wounded. The surprising thing that make us suspect that there is poisonous substance inside these bullets is that the wounded showed symptoms of charring on their bodies in addition to the death of many of them suddenly at night or a day after receiving treatment, although their injuries were minor. The preliminary assessments refer to the existence of poisonous substances. In addition, the same symptoms of charring was shown on the body of a young man who was affected by a bullet from a sniper in the left side of the jaw, which emphasize our suspicious." She said.

On July 25, 2018, al-Sweida province had witnessed [bloody attacks and explosions that targeted the city center](#), in addition to a ground offensive against 8 villages in the eastern countryside. The Islamic State-ISIS announced responsibility of the attacks claiming that it had targeted military zones and security headquarters of the Syrian regular forces, which was denied by local activists who confirmed that the attacks were on civilian gatherings.