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Homs: Syrian Security Services and Military Forces Seize Opposition Figures' Properties

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A number of Syrian security services and military forces seized several properties and houses in the city of al-Rastan, Homs, and turned them into headquarters. The confiscated real estate belong to opposition figures, who have been evacuated from the area towards Syria's north under a settlement/reconciliation deal with the Syrian government.

According to the field researcher of Syrians for Truth and Justice/STJ in northern rural Homs, the Syrian National Security Bureau has seized Sha'alan al-Dali's house in the city of al-Rastan and made it into a headquarter. Similarly, the Military Security Branch has appropriated the house of a doctor from the al-Ashqar family and several houses belonging to the al-Dali family, which they turned into headquarters and military detachments.

A military group, affiliated with the Syrian regular army, also seized a number of storages and warehouses, the ownership of which belongs to the al-Muqadam family, and turned them into a military post. In addition to this, the group appropriated a house, located on the al-Balan road, the owner of which STJ's field researcher could not identify, and a house belonging to the al-Dali family, located in the al-Karaj region, which they also turned into a military detachment.

The security services and the regular forces also seized several cars and machinery upon entering the city of al-Rastan and many of the owners of these properties paid money to get them back, resorting to intermediaries working for the security services, STJ's field researcher added.



The photo shows a military headquarters of the Syrian regular forces and the Russian forces, where the Russian flag is raised, appearing to the right corner. Taken on: November 4, 2018. Photo credit: STJ.

Since the Syrian regular forces and their allies controlled northern rural Homs in May 2018 under a deal with the opposition armed groups, several arrest and detention cases of persons, who underwent a reconciliation, were recorded, while several employees are prevented from returning to the institutions that dismissed them. Covering this, STJ published several detailed reports. ¹

¹ "Syria: National Security Bureau Summons Officer Defectors in Northern Rural Homs prior to their Discharge", Syrians for Truth and Justice, November 6, 2018, (Last visit: January 26, 2019). https://stj-sy.com/ar/view/937.

[&]quot;Ongoing Arrests against Former White Helmets in Homs and Daraa", Syrians for Truth and Justice, September 15, 2018, (Last visit: January 26, 2019). https://stj-sy.com/en/view/744.

[&]quot;The Syrian Government Refuses to Rehire Dismissed Employees in Northern Rural Homs, Contrary to Settlement Deal's Terms", Syrians for Truth and Justice, November 8, 2018, (Last visit: January 26, 2019). https://stj-sy.com/ar/view/943.



About Syrians for Truth and Justice:

STJ is an independent, nongovernmental organization whose members include Syrian human rights defenders, advocates and academics of different backgrounds and nationalities.

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

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