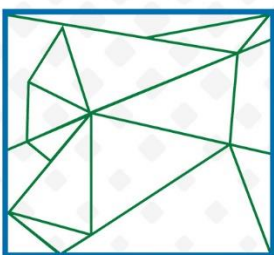


Northern Syria: SNA Gunmen Attack A'zaz Courthouse



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A commander of the SNA's 3rd Corps attempted to storm A'zaz Courthouse in response to a custody decision in favor of his ex-wife

On 21 February 2023, a [video](#) of members of the Syrian National Army (SNA) attempting to storm A'zaz [Courthouse](#) went viral on social media. Reportedly, the gunmen who appeared in the video are members of the 3rd Corps, under Major Majd Alwan, who is a commander in the Levant Front/al-Jabha al-Shamiya faction active in the areas jointly controlled by the Turkish Army and allied Syrian rebel groups.

Syrians for Truth and Justice (STJ) tracked the video and investigated it through its field researchers, in order to understand more about this disturbing incident, which came at a critical time, just days after the Syria-Turkey devastating [quake](#).

A local source testified to STJ's field researcher:

"On Tuesday, 21 February 2023, at approximately 1:00 p.m., Majd Alwan, a commander of the Levant Front/al-Jabha al-Shamiya attacked A'zaz Courthouse. Alwan's attack came in response to a decision made by the court granting his ex-wife custody of their girl child while preventing him from seeing her, the child, for five consecutive months."

According to witnesses, after the judge pronounced judgment, Alwan broke into the court and tried to kidnap the girl. However, police officers stopped Alwan and got him out of court. Thereafter, Alwan called his soldiers for assistance to storm the courthouse and take the girl at gunpoint; their attempt failed, nevertheless.

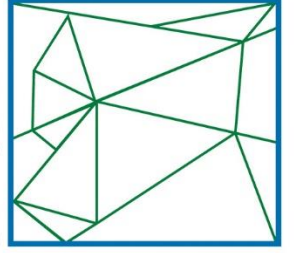
STJ's field researcher reported:

"On the same day, at around 5:00 p.m., A'zaz's District Attorney along with A'zaz's head of the military police, and the health director, Dr. Hassan, interceded with the judge in order to amend the court-ordered custody plan, and thus resolve the dispute between Alwan and his ex-wife."

STJ followed developments in this regard and managed to obtain an exclusive video showing Alwan confirming the resolution of the custody dispute with his ex-wife, under an agreement that satisfies both sides.

For the record, over the past few years, STJ has [documented](#) dozens of violations and acts of hostilities by SNA members in rebel-held areas, which continue to be in security chaos.





About Us:

Syrians for Truth and Justice (STJ) is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization monitoring human rights violations in Syria. Founded in 2015, STJ has been based in France since 2019.

STJ is an impartial and independent Syrian human rights organization operating across Syria. Our network of field researchers monitor and report human rights violations occurring on the ground in Syria, while our international team of human rights experts, lawyers, and journalists gather evidence, examine emerging patterns of violations, and analyze how violations break domestic Syrian and international law.

We are committed to documenting violations of human rights committed by all parties in the Syrian conflict and elevating the voices of all Syrians victimized by human rights violations, regardless of their ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, class, and/or gender. Our commitment to human rights monitoring is founded on the idea that professional human rights documentation meeting international standards is the first step to uncovering the truth and achieving justice in Syria.



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