
UN Human Rights Council
49th Session, 18 March 2022

Item 4 – Col on on Syrian Arab Republic

Mr. Joshua Pike
Political Affairs Adviser, Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations in Geneva

Thank you, Mr President.

On the night of the 17th of July 2021, Syrian government forces shelled a house where a family had gathered to celebrate a wedding. They killed the bride and eight others, including four sisters aged between one and seven.

On the 7th of September, a young woman who had graduated from college and a four-year-old boy and his father were killed by Syrian government forces in Idlib.

On the 20th of October, ten munitions fired by Syrian government forces hit Ariha town as children were going to school. The attack killed at least 13 people, including four children and one teacher.

These are just three examples outlined in the COI report of the daily situation innocent Syrians face living under the brutality of the Syrian Government.

These are just the stories of 25 innocent people murdered by the Syrian Government forces, but there are over hundreds of thousands more.

Hundreds of Thousands more innocent people murdered at weddings, murdered on their way to school, murdered while sitting with their fathers.

Mr. President,

1 in 13 of those killed in this conflict are reportedly children. Children have been deliberately targeted by Syrian government forces with sniper fire, cluster munitions, thermobaric bombs, and chemical weapons.

The COI's report shows that the Syrian Government continues to commit war crimes and crimes against humanity. It continues to rape and murder; it continues to shoot and torture; it continues to detain and bomb; thousands of innocent civilians. The International Community must continue to hold the Syrian Government to account.

I thank you.