



## Report on the Recent Chemical Attack in Syria

April 5, 2017

Khan Sheikhoun, in the province of Idlib, has witnessed one of the most heinous war crimes of the Syrian crises. This report, based on eyewitness documentation from sources on the ground, describes the chemical attack. Khan Sheikhoun is located in the far south of the province of Idlib, almost 40 km from the city of Hama. The population of Khan Sheikhoun is roughly 63,000 in addition to 12,450 displaced persons who fled from the countryside of Hama and Homs.

After the Free Syrian Army (FSA) forced Louaa al- Aqsa (Jond al-Aqsa) to leave the city of Khan Sheikhoun, the city was no longer home to any military headquarters, especially following fierce battles with FSA factions and Islamic factions on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2017.

Khan Sheikhoun is far from the main battles sites of the conflict; the closest active battle between opposition armed groups and the Syrian regime is 25 km away in Mahreda, and 27 km from the town of Maerdas.

At roughly 6:30 AM Syrian time on one recent day in April 2017 a military air craft (a Russian-made Sukhoi air craft) raided the town of Khan Sheikhoun. It was found that some of the rockets that hit the city were loaded with poisonous substances that are internationally prohibited.

Witnesses claim that the rockets were loaded with sarin gas based on the symptoms it caused, including generalized and extensive spasms in the respiratory tract, paleness, and narrowing of the dorsal rings. The incident led to the occurrence of roughly 100 civilian casualties and the injury of nearly 300 others, mostly children. The cause of injury and death was the inhalation of poison gas, according to the testimony of medical staff and human rights organizations working to document cases.

The injured were sent to the existing medical centers and clinics near the area to receive first aid. Due to the fact that hospitals in the area have been hit by shelling during the recent period there are few and far between. The last hospital hit was Maarat Al-Numan Central Hospital. The critical cases which needed intubation were transferred to Turkey due to the large number of injuries as well as the fact that there is no longer any intensive care department in any of the northern Syrian hospitals.

Most of the medical centers and clinics lack equipment and supplies for dealing with injuries resulting from toxic gases – for example, water tanks, oxygen isolation tents (in sufficient quantities), atropine and peraloxime.

Until the writing of this report many of the victims have not been documented due to the large number of displaced people in the area and the death of entire families in the attack; in many cases there is no one who is able to identify the bodies. In addition, clinics and hospitals in many cases have no way to contact next-of-kin for those victims who were sent alone for medical care far away.



Names of victims	Names of victims
1. Mulham Jihad al-Yousef	33. Alaa Anas al-Khaled (child)
2. Yaser Jihad al-Yousef	34. Anas al-Khaled (child)
3. Amar Yaser al-Yousef (child)	35. Abdulrahman Anas al-Khaled (child)
4. Mohamad Yaser Al-Yousef (child)	36. Khadija Anas al-Khaled (child)
5. Sanaa Haj Ali	37. Ahmad Khalid Halawa
6. Abdu Karim Ahmad al-Yousef	38. Khalid Halawa
7. Ahmad Abdul Hamid al-Yousef (child)	39. Shimaa Ibrahim al-Jawhar (child)
8. Aya Abdul Hamid al-Yousef (child)	40. Ahmad Shahood al-Rem
9. Dalal Ahmad al-Soh	41. Abo Ayman al-Jawhar
10. Ibrahim Mohamad Hasan al-Yousef	42. Safia Haj Kadour
11. Mohamad Hasan al-Yousef (child)	43. Mayar al-Meraey (child)
12. Hind Turkey al-Yousef	44. Lawer Amer al-Naeef
13. Umran Suhel al-Yousef	45. Alaa al-Naeef
14. Ahmad Suhel al-Yousef	46. Mohamad al-Naeef
15. Nehad Ahmad al-Yousef	47. Alaa Mohamad al-Naeef
16. Malak Turkey al-Yousef	48. Wife of Alaa Mohamad al-Naeef
17. Noor Nehad al-Yousef	49. Alaa Mohamad al-Naeef's wife's sister
18. Hasan Mohamad al-Yousef	50. Jamele Hafed al-Kasem
19. Ahmad Ibrahim al-Yousef	51. Drar al-Alewe
20. Emad Aldin al-Kadah	52. Mohamad Jamal al-Kasem
21-23. The children of Emad al-Din al-Kadah	53. Fares Mohamad Saied al-Barhoum (child)
24. Turkey al-Kadah	54. Maher Mohamad Saied al-Barhoum (child)
25. Wife of Turkey al-Kadah	55. Soha al-Kasem
26. Hind Turkey al-Kadah (child)	56. Fatema Jamal al-Kasem
27-28. Children of Turkey al-Kadah	57. Hayan al-Ali
29. Rajaa Mohamad al-Mohamad	58. Sara al-Sulyman
30- Anas al-Khaled	59. Ahmad Hayan al-Ali
31. Fatema al-Susi	60. Mohamad Hayan al-Ali
32. Musafa Anas al-Khaled (child)	