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LOOKING THROUGH THE WINDOW DARKLY

A Snapshot Analysis of Rape in Syria

2011-2015



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For further information on this topic or the work of the Syrian Accountability Project please visit www.syrianaccountabilityproject.org.

Executive Summary

Syria has reached the end of its fifth year of continuous conflict. A political end to the conflict remains elusive. The death toll is over 250,000 with millions more wounded from sustained barrel bombings, the use of chemical weapons, and traditional warfare. Yet, there are an indeterminate number of silent victims to an equally prominent form of violence: rape and its consequent physical and mental torment.

Rape and sexual violence are a means to terrorize and it is a weapon of war dating back to ancient times. Rape, however, received little mention in international law until the 20th century. Currently, rape is a violation of several international statutes and its use imposes criminal liability on its perpetrators.

While some accounts of rape in Syria exist, the majority go unreported. Underreporting is a significant barrier to finding those responsible and holding them accountable. Moreover, underreporting is often furthered by social, religious, and cultural stigmas of rape, making it particularly difficult for victims in Syria to tell their stories. Nonetheless, this snapshot analysis documents and analyzes 142 alleged incidents of rape. It describes the perpetrators, victims, and types of rapes occurring in the conflict, and applies relevant laws to highlight potential sources of liability. Some of the key findings include:

- The 142 reported incidents affected at least 483 Syrian women and girls across the country.
- The Syrian Regime perpetrated 62% of the total incidents.
- Shabiha, the Regime's affiliate, was responsible for the second most rapes: 23%.
- Rebel forces of the Free Syrian Army were one of the least responsible perpetrators at 2%.
- The majority of rapes, 34%, occurred while the victim was detained or imprisoned.
- Rapes during home raids and rapes resulting from abductions were also commonly reported.

Introduction

The Syrian conflict is now five years old with no clear end or path to peace in sight. The conflict has resulted in over 250,000 deaths and more than one million wounded or injured.¹ Though the conflict is known for its unparalleled use of barrel bombings and chemical attacks,² another all too common means of war has emerged: rape. Despite the numerous reports and accounts of the ongoing atrocities in Syria, the accounts of rapes are meager in comparison. Although underreporting is not an uncommon occurrence in armed conflicts,³ justice demands the problem not be ignored or obscured despite the difficulty of obtaining evidence. This snapshot analysis aims to present information about the ongoing incidents of rape in Syria, underscore the legal implications of rape in war, and describe the perpetrators, victims, and types of rapes occurring in the conflict. It is designed to foster awareness and dialogue, and emphasize that gender crimes must continue to be in the forefront of criminal investigations. In these dirty little wars of the 21st century it is women and children who pay the price.

Methodology

This snapshot analysis is one of many components of the Syrian Accountability Project (“SAP”). The SAP is a student-run, internationally recognized organization based out of the Syracuse University College of Law. It utilizes open-source news and other widely available media, as well as direct contacts within the Levant to document crimes occurring within the Syrian conflict under international legal standards. Its purpose is to advocate on behalf of the victims of the conflict, and to provide legal analysis to aid in the eventual administration of transitional justice. Through the works of various online periodicals, international non-governmental organizations,⁴ and the United Nations, incidents of rape in this snapshot analysis were compiled and synthesized into two products: (1) the Conflict Narrative, and (2) Crime Base Matrix.

The Conflict Narrative is a comprehensive account of all recorded and pertinent crimes documented on a daily basis. The Crime Base Matrix is a spreadsheet that pulls data from the conflict narrative and highlights each specific incident by date, location, brief description, and responsible party. It then provides the relevant source of potential legal liability under the Rome Statute, Geneva Conventions, and Syrian Penal Code. Locations are listed by Syrian governorate, as well as by district and subdistrict, if available. The responsible parties fall into one of six categories: Rebels, which signifies the Free Syrian Army and all known affiliated groups; Regime, which includes all facets of the Syrian government; Shabiha; the Islamic State (“ISIS”); Other, which incorporates unaffiliated groups fighting on all sides; and Unknown.

Only *the most credible incidents*, those that, at a minimum, specified dates or loca-

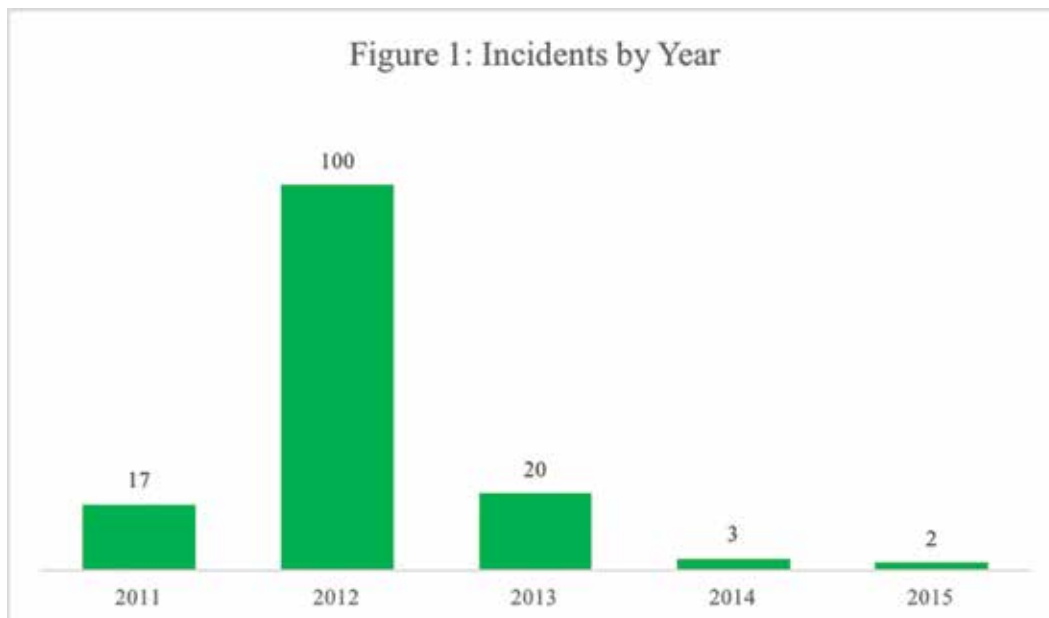
1 See *infra* notes 24, 25.

2 See *infra* note 24.

3 See *infra* Rape in the Syrian Conflict

4 This snapshot analysis relied heavily on the documentation of sexual violence by the Women Under Siege initiative, which is a project of the Women’s Media Center. Their work can be found at <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/main>.

tions, were included in the Conflict Narrative and Crime Base Matrix. When a reported rape did not explicitly indicate a number of victims, this project assumed the lowest possible number as to avoid overinflating the analysis. For example, if “women and children” were reportedly raped, this snapshot analysis assumed two women and two children were raped, as a total of four represents the minimum number of victims. Additionally, incidents involving the victimization of men were not included, nor were those not amounting to rape as defined by international law.⁵ This snapshot analysis’s findings are drawn from a sample of 142 incidents documented in the Conflict Narrative and Crime Base Matrix, which span from March 2011 to January 2015. While this is a relatively small sample, it underscores the challenges associated with sexual violence reporting. Furthermore, the available data drastically decreased after 2013, as shown in Table 1, which illustrates why there are no incidents analyzed after early 2015.⁶ Nevertheless, *this snapshot analysis represents an ongoing project, which will be updated as more incidents are reported.*



This snapshot analysis, like all SAP products, bases its choice of law on the statutes and crimes most likely to apply in a future local, regional, or international prosecution. There is no way to determine the future jurisdiction or makeup of such a tribunal; however, the Rome Statute, Geneva Conventions, and Syrian Penal Code, represent a broad selection of available laws from which to apply criminal liability. While this is not a perfect framework, it is grounded in the history of international criminal justice. For instance, although Syria is not party to the Rome Statute, and future prosecution will not likely fall under the International Criminal Court’s jurisdiction, a hybrid court could have jurisdic-

⁵ Hence, only forced acts involving penetration were included, not those amounting to only sexual assault.

⁶ This also explains why ISIS, a major perpetrator of rape, is hardly mentioned given their rise to prominence in late 2014. See *infra* note 57 and accompanying text.

tion.⁷ Such tribunals, like the Special Court for Sierra Leone or the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, often utilize existing definitions of crimes from a mix of international legal precedent, international criminal law, and domestic law.⁸ Hence, *the SAP model ensures legal analysis to fit any number of future criminal actions to bring about transitional justice for the people of Syria.*

Rape in International Criminal Law

The history of rape in the context of international conflicts dates as far back as the Bible. The law permitted warriors to take captured women as wives by force, if necessary, as the fruits of conquest.⁹ Nonetheless, historically there were several national codes of conduct that prohibited rape in war, beginning around 546 CE.¹⁰ Of the modern military instructions on the conduct of war, the U.S. Civil War's Lieber Code of 1863 was one of the first to explicitly prohibit rape in war.¹¹

National standards of conduct were far more progressive towards rape than the available international law.¹² As of the mid-20th century, no source of international law mentioned rape as prohibited wartime conduct. Rather, the law implicitly banned rape out of a traditional respect for family honor.¹³ Following World War II, rape first received international acknowledgement as a specific crime of war.

The international military tribunals in Nuremberg and Tokyo failed to list rape as a crime in their respective charters.¹⁴ The Tokyo Tribunal, however, did prosecute rape, but as a war crime under different legal terminology.¹⁵ Furthermore, rape was first prose-

7 The Chautauqua Blueprint is the leading draft statute for such a hybrid tribunal. See generally *The Chautauqua Blueprint for a Statute for a Syrian Extraordinary Tribunal to Prosecute Atrocity Crimes* (2013), <http://insct.syr.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Chautauqua-Blueprint1.pdf>.

8 See generally Teresa Doherty, *Jurisprudential Developments Relating to Sexual Violence: The Legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone*, in *SEXUAL VIOLENCE AS AN INTERNATIONAL CRIME: INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES* 157, 157-72 (Anne-Marie de Brouwer et al. eds., 2013); Silke Studzinsky, *Victims of Sexual and Gender-Based Crimes Before the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia: Challenges of Rights to Participation and Protection*, in *SEXUAL VIOLENCE AS AN INTERNATIONAL CRIME: INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES* 173, 173-86 (Anne-Marie de Brouwer et al. eds., 2013).

9 ALONA HAGAY-FREY, *SEX AND GENDER CRIMES IN THE NEW INTERNATIONAL LAW: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE* 60 (2011) (citing *Deuteronomy* 21:10-14).

10 *Id.* at 60-61 (describing Totila the Ostrogoth's military order banning rape during the siege of Rome, Richard II of England's Articles of War of 1385 CE, and the Treaty of Amity and Commerce of 1785 between the U.S. and Prussia).

11 Lynn Lawry et al., *Evidence-Based Documentation of Gender-Based Violence*, in *SEXUAL VIOLENCE AS AN INTERNATIONAL CRIME: INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES* 243, 244 (Anne-Marie de Brouwer et al. eds., 2013); see Theodor Meron, Editorial Comment, *Rape as a Crime Under International Humanitarian Law*, 87 AM. J. INT'L L. 424, 425 (1993).

12 See generally Kelly Askin, *Treatment of Sexual Violence in Armed Conflicts: A Historical Perspective and the Way Forward*, in *SEXUAL VIOLENCE AS AN INTERNATIONAL CRIME: INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES* 15, 25-27 (Anne-Marie de Brouwer et al. eds., 2013).

13 Lawry et al., *supra* note 11, at 244 (referring to the Fourth Hague Convention of 1907); Meron, *supra* note 11, at 425 ("Article 46 of the Hague Regulations can be considered to cover rape, but in practice it has *seldom* been so interpreted.") (emphasis added). Article 46 states: "Family honour and rights . . . must be respected." Convention Respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land, and its Annex: Regulation Concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land art. 46, Oct. 18, 1907, 36 Stat. 2277, 187 Consol. T.S. 227.

14 RAPE AND INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW 12-13 (Irene Piccolo ed., 2013). Although rape was not mentioned by name, evidence of sexual violence was introduced to prosecute "inhumane acts," which was a category of crimes under the list of crimes against humanity in the tribunal's statute. *Id.*

15 *Id.* at 13; Diane Luping, *Investigation and Prosecution of Sexual and Gender-Based Crimes Before the International Criminal Court*, 17 AM. U. J. GENDER SOC. POL'Y & L. 431, 461 (2009) (explaining rape was prosecuted as "other inhuman acts, ill-treatment, and failure to respect family honor and rights," as opposed to its own crime).

cuted as a crime against humanity in the subsequent military tribunals of war criminals after Nuremberg and Tokyo.¹⁶ Nevertheless, the resulting Fourth Geneva Convention and Additional Protocols did not capitalize on this success.

While the Geneva Conventions do prohibit rape, a violation of the rape provision, by itself, does not carry international criminal liability.¹⁷ Only crimes listed as “grave breaches” are entitled to universal criminal jurisdiction.¹⁸ Notwithstanding these shortfalls, rape as an international crime eventually gained the recognition it deserved, though it took another fifty years.

In 1993 and 1994, the International Criminal Tribunals for Yugoslavia (“ICTY”) and Rwanda (“ICTR”), respectively, were established. These tribunals produced significant jurisprudence that would shape the future of the crime of rape in international criminal law. The ICTR case *Prosecutor v. Akayesu* not only resulted in the first ever conviction for genocide, but it also held that acts of rape could constitute genocide.¹⁹ Furthermore, the *Akayesu* court recognized rape as a form of torture and therefore a crime against humanity, as well as a violation of personal dignity.²⁰ Then, *Prosecutor v. Furundžija*, a product of the ICTY, tried rape as a war crime under Common Article 3.²¹ These two cases demonstrated that rape could be a violation of Common Article 3 as a form of torture, an outrage on personal dignity, an inhumane act, willfully causing great suffering, or cruel treatment.²²

The Special Court for Sierra Leone (“SCSL”) used gender crimes as a cornerstone to all its indictments to include rape. Other gender-based crimes charged were sexual slavery and a new crime against humanity, forced marriage in time of armed conflict. The nine trials from the SCSL and their appellate reviews have now established through considered jurisprudence that gender crimes and rape are clearly violations of international law and will be prosecuted in future trials.²³

16 Meron, *supra* note 11, at 426.

17 *Id.*; see Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War arts. 27, 147, Aug. 12, 1949, 6 U.S.T. 3516, 75 U.N.T.S. 287 [hereinafter Fourth Geneva Convention]; HAGAY-FREY, *supra* note 9, at 121.

18 Antonio Cassese, *On the Current Trends Towards Criminal Prosecution and Punishment of Breaches of International Humanitarian Law*, 9 EUR. J. INT’L L. 2, 5 (1998). Crimes constituting “grave breaches” are listed in article 147, and include such crimes as torture, inhuman treatment, and willful killing. Fourth Geneva Convention, *supra* note 17, art. 147.

19 Lawry et al., *supra* note 11, at 245.

20 *Id.* at 245-46.

21 Phillip Weiner, *The Evolving Jurisprudence of the Crime of Rape in International Criminal Law*, 54 B.C. L. REV. 1207, 1210 (2013); see HAGAY-FREY, *supra* note 9, at 113.

22 Luping, *supra* note 15, at 461.

23 Interview with David M. Crane, founding Chief Prosecutor, Special Court for Sierra Leone 2002-2005, in Syracuse, N.Y. (Mar. 2016). Crane drafted the indictments, prosecuted, and set the strategy of gender crimes being the cornerstone of those indictments. *Id.*

Finally, in 2002, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court came into force. For the first time, rape was formally recognized as both a crime against humanity and war crime in international and non-international armed conflict—not as simply an outrage on personal dignity.²⁴

Rape in the Syrian Conflict

Kindled by the 2011 detainment and alleged torture of schoolchildren in Dar'a and the subsequent protests, the situation in Syria raged into a full-blown conflict that has since claimed over 250,000 lives.²⁵ Yet, in addition to the lives lost, there are millions of others affected by the conflict,²⁶ and *somewhere within these millions, there is an indeterminate number of victims of sexual violence and rape.*

Sexualized violence is a prominent facet of the Syrian conflict.²⁷ Sexualized violence and its threat, including rape, are used to terrorize men, women, and children.²⁸ Rape has also served as one of the primary motivators for families to flee the country.²⁹ *The threat of rape is so grave that many families prematurely arrange their daughters' marriages to shelter them from rape.*³⁰ Despite the lack of reliable statistics, the rate of rape in Syria is recognized as being nothing short of widespread and systematic, particularly as perpetrated by the Syrian government.³¹ Rape is also a weapon of many other parties to the conflict: namely, ISIS.³²

Globally, sexual violence is only reported approximately 40% of the time.³³ The absence of rape statistics stems from several factors, which make documenting sexual assaults especially difficult. *Social, cultural, security-related, and legal issues are among*

24 Richard J. Goldstone, *Prosecuting Rape as a War Crime*, 34 CASE W. RES. J. INT'L L. 277, 285 (2002).

25 JOHN MCHUGO, SYRIA: A HISTORY OF THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS 221 (2015); *Syria: The Story of the Conflict*, BBC (Oct. 9, 2015), <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-26116868>.

26 See *About the Crisis*, U.N. OFF. FOR COORDINATION HUMANITARIAN AFF. (2015), <http://www.unocha.org/syrian-arab-republic/syria-country-profile/about-crisis>.

27 Rep. of the Indep. Int'l Comm'n of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, ¶ 95, U.N. Doc A/HRC/24/46 (Aug. 16, 2013).

28 *Id.*

29 See Alexandra Brosnan & Melissa Winkler, *Syria: A Regional Crisis*, INT'L RESCUE COMMISSION 6 (2013), <http://www.rescue.org/sites/default/files/resource-file/IRCReportMidEast20130114.pdf>; see also Arlene S. Kanter & Roula Jneid, *The Plight of Syrian Women Refugees: An Urgent Call for Action 3-5* (June 2, 2015) (unpublished manuscript) (on file with author) (discussing the additional difficulties confronting women refugees with disabilities).

30 *Id.* at 7 (explaining that the conflict has forced many Syrian families to take extreme measures to avoid the stigma and “dishonor” that accompanies rape).

31 MADRE ET AL., *SEEKING ACCOUNTABILITY AND DEMANDING CHANGE: A REPORT ON WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN SYRIA BEFORE AND DURING THE CONFLICT* 6 (2014), <http://www.law.cuny.edu/academics/clinics/iwhr/publications/Seeking-Accountability-and-Demanding-Change-A-Report-on-Womens-Human-Rights-Violations-in-Syria-Before-and-During-the-Conflict.pdf> (“[T]he UN Independent Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (the Commission) has consistently reiterated that the pattern and practice of sexual violence carried out in the conflict meets the standards for constituting crimes against humanity and war crimes. In March 2013, the UN Secretary General reiterated the Commission's find that acts of sexual violence are part of a widespread and systematic attack . . .”).

32 See e.g. Aki Peritz & Tara Maller, *The Islamic State of Sexual Violence*, FOREIGN POL'Y (Sept. 16, 2014), <http://foreignpolicy.com/2014/09/16/the-islamic-state-of-sexual-violence/>; Rukmini Callimachi, *ISIS Enshrines a Theology of Rape*, N.Y. TIMES (Aug. 13, 2015), http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/14/world/middleeast/isis-enshrines-a-theology-of-rape.html?smprod=nytcore-iphone&smid=nytcore-iphone-share&_r=0 (discussing the Islamic State's abduction of over 5,000 Yazidis in Iraq and Syria and the prolific sex trade within their territories).

33 This statistic is based on a study of twenty-four countries. Tia Palermo et al., *Tip of the Iceberg: Reporting and Gender-Based Violence in Developing Countries*, 179 AM. J. EPIDEMIOLOGY 602, 604 (2013).

*the many barriers to reporting that victims face worldwide.*³⁴

First, social ramifications present numerous obstacles such as the fear of stigma, shame, abandonment, and exclusion.³⁵ The threat of social stigma, particularly in conservative, religious areas like Syria, encourages a cultural silence that exacerbates the problem of sexual violence underreporting.³⁶ As in other countries and cultures, these issues are heightened when rape can also bring about dishonor to the victim's family.³⁷ As a result, many survivors of sexual assault are forced into marriages to save the family honor.³⁸

Second, it can be dangerous for survivors to come forward with their stories.³⁹ The threat of retribution from a partner, family member, the community, or the government, often forces survivors to remain silent.⁴⁰ In the Syrian context, survivors wishing to speak out face not only these threats of retribution, but also the threat of honor killings.⁴¹

Finally, legal issues also inhibit victims from reporting sexual violence. The lack of legal remedies, a discriminatory legal system, and complacent investigative authorities are some of the many factors that discourage victims from telling their stories and seeking justice.⁴² These problems are especially prevalent in Syria, where the ongoing conflict diminished the country's legal capacities, and claimed the lives of many human rights attorneys.⁴³ Given this situation, it is no surprise that most incidents of sexual violence go unreported.

The Legal Framework

A legal framework sets the stage for transitional justice, and more importantly, it may grant the victims of war a means of seeking accountability. By August 2012, most international organizations classified the situation in Syria as a non-international armed conflict.⁴⁴ This classification is a legal threshold. Once a conflict crosses the line of severity enabling this legal status, all parties to the conflict are then required to respect international hu-

34 See Chen Reis, *Ethical, Safety and Methodological Issues Related to Collection and Use of Data on Sexual Violence in Conflict*, in *SEXUAL VIOLENCE AS AN INTERNATIONAL CRIME: INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES* 187, 194 (Anne-Marie de Brouwer et al. eds., 2013).

35 *Id.* at 195.

36 See Jeanne Sulzer, *Violence Against Women in Syria: Breaking the Silence*, INT'L FED'N FOR HUM. RTS. 7 (2013), https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/syria_sexual_violence-web.pdf.

37 Brosnan & Winkler, *supra* note 29, at 7.

38 *Id.*

39 Reis, *supra* note 34, at 195.

40 See *id.*; Brosnan & Winkler, *supra* note 29, at 7.

41 Brosnan & Winkler, *supra* note 29, at 7. Honor killings were criminalized in 2009, however the penalty is minor compared to other crimes involving killing. Syria: *No Exceptions for 'Honor Killings'*, HUM. RTS. WATCH (July 28, 2009), <https://www.hrw.org/news/2009/07/28/syria-no-exceptions-honor-killings>.

42 Reis, *supra* note 34, at 195.

43 Lauren Wolfe, *Will There Ever Be Justice for Syria's Rape Survivors?*, NATION (May 14, 2014), <http://www.thenation.com/article/will-there-ever-be-justice-syrias-rape-survivors/>.

44 See Rule of Law in Armed Conflicts Project, *Syria – Applicable International Law*, GENEVA ACAD. INT'L HUMANITARIAN L. & HUM. RTS., http://www.geneva-academy.ch/RULAC/applicable_international_law.php?id_state=211 (last updated July 13, 2012); Rep. of the Indep. Int'l Comm'n of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, ¶ 143, U.N. Doc A/HRC/21/50 (Aug. 16, 2012); Syria: *ICRC and Syrian Arab Red Crescent Maintain Aid Effort Amid Increased Fighting*, INT'L COMMITTEE RED CROSS (July 17, 2012), <https://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/update/2012/syria-update-2012-07-17.htm>.

manitarian and international human rights laws.⁴⁵ In other words, violations of these laws can henceforth trigger international criminal liability.⁴⁶

From a criminal liability standpoint, the ongoing rapes occurring in the Syrian conflict are a violation of numerous international and domestic criminal laws.⁴⁷ Within the international humanitarian laws most relevant to the conflict, rape violates provisions of the Rome Statute and the Geneva Conventions. Furthermore, rape is a violation of Syrian penal law. According to the Rome Statute, rape is a war crime under article 8(2)(e)(vi), and a crime against humanity under article 7(1)(g).⁴⁸ Additionally, rape is a violation of Common Article 3(1)(c) of the Geneva Conventions and article 4(2)(e) of the second Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions.⁴⁹ Moreover, the Syrian Penal Code criminalizes rape in article 489.⁵⁰ Finally, consistent with legal precedent, rape can also be a war crime and a crime against humanity as a form of several other crimes: torture, imprisonment, cruel treatment, and other inhumane acts.⁵¹

An Analysis of the Incidents of Rape in the Syrian Conflict

Despite the lack of reliable and verified statistics, this snapshot analysis of 142 reported incidents of rape *paints a small picture of what is happening on a daily basis, and no doubt, on a much larger scale*. Overall, these 142 incidents produced at least 483 victims across the country, which pales in comparison to estimates ranging from 6,000 to 50,000 victims.⁵² In terms of analyzing the sample by perpetrator, the results highlight that the Regime is most responsible for the vast majority of rapes during the sample period.

45 See generally U.N. Human Rights Office of the High Comm'r [OHCHR], *International Legal Protection of Human Rights in Armed Conflicts*, U.N. Doc. HR/PUB/11/01 (2011).

46 *Id.*

47 As mentioned, rape in non-international armed conflict is also contradictory to several international human rights laws. Notably, Syria is a party to two such laws and is liable for violations thereof: the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women ("CEDAW"), and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. See generally Kathleen Cavanaugh, *Narrating Law*, in *ISLAMIC LAW AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW* 17, 37-42 (Anver M. Emon et al. eds., 2012).

48 Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, July 17, 1998, 2187 U.N.T.S. 90 [hereinafter Rome Statute].

49 Fourth Geneva Convention; Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), June 8, 1977, 1125 U.N.T.S. 609 [hereinafter AP II].

50 PENAL CODE (Syria) (translation on file with the SAP).

51 See generally *Prosecutor v. Kunarac*, Case No. IT-96-23/1, Judgement (Int'l Crim. Trib. for the Former Yugoslavia June 12, 2002); *Prosecutor v. Mucić et al.*, Case No. IT-96-21-T, Judgement (Int'l Crim. Trib. for the Former Yugoslavia Nov. 16, 1998); *Prosecutor v. Semanza*, ICTR-97-20-T, Judgement and Sentence (May 15, 2003). For example, torture is a violation of the Rome Statute under articles 8(2)(c)(i) and 7(1)(f). Additionally, it is a violation of the Geneva Conventions Common Article 3(1)(a), AP II articles 4(1) and 4(2)(a), and Syrian Penal Code article 540. See *infra* Appendix I.

52 See Allison Jackson, *6,000 Cases of Women Raped During Syrian Conflict, Human Rights Group Says*, GLOBAL POST (Nov. 26, 2013, 9:48 AM), <http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/regions/middle-east/syria/131126/6000-women-raped-during-syrian-conflict>; Annick Cojean, *Syria's Silent War Crime: Systematic Mass Rape*, WORLD CRUNCH (Mar. 11, 2014), <http://www.worldcrunch.com/syria-crisis/syria-039-s-silent-war-crime-systematic-mass-rape/human-rights-prison-torture-assad-free-syrian-army/c13s15245/#.UyNJ1V68ypw>; see also *Thousands of Women Raped in War: Activists*, DAILY STAR (June 7, 2014, 12:05 AM), <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2014/Jun-07/259228-thousands-of-women-raped-in-war-activists.ashx#axzz33ZDqLXE>.

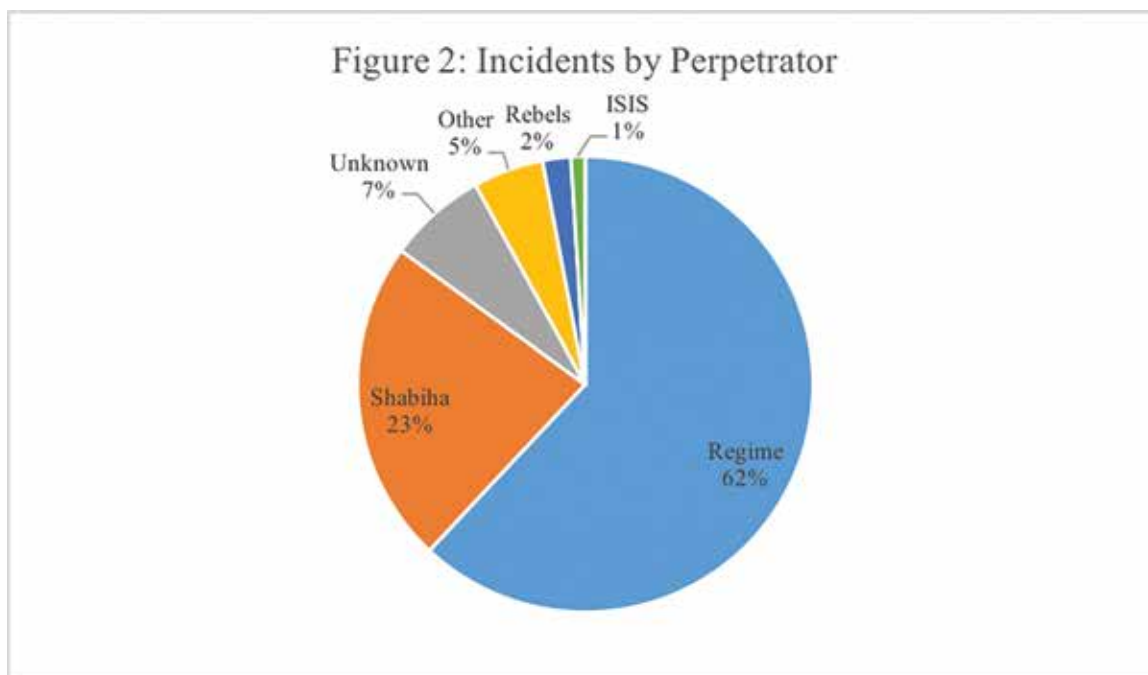


Figure 2 shows that the regime is responsible for 89 separate incidents, or approximately 62% of the total number of incidents. In line with this finding, Shabiha, the regime's well-known affiliate,⁵³ is responsible for the second most incidents: 33, or 23%. It should be noted, however, that the samples indicated at least two known instances when Shabiha worked in tandem with members of the Regime to commit rapes.⁵⁴ One such instance occurred when roughly twenty-five Regime security forces and Shabiha members entered the house of a man named Yousef during a military operation in Dar'a on June 25, 2011.⁵⁵ The men handcuffed Yousef while three others grabbed his wife, tore off her clothes, and raped her in front of him.⁵⁶

Unknown assailants accounted for 10 incidents, or 7%. Others, comprised of groups like Hezbollah, the Awlad Al-Berrie group, and Al-Qaeda in Iraq, perpetrated 7 incidents, or 5%. Finally, 4 incidents, or 2%, are attributed to the opposition Rebel group, and ISIS was responsible for one incident.⁵⁷

⁵³ See *Syria Unrest: Who are the Shabiha?*, BBC (May 29, 2012), <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-14482968>.

⁵⁴ See *infra* Appendix III. In these situations, responsibility was attributed to both actors for the purposes of this analysis.

⁵⁵ *Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention*, HUM. RTS. WATCH (June 15, 2012), <http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention>.

⁵⁶ *Id.*

⁵⁷ While this appears low, specific data fitting this snapshot analysis's methodology was not readily available for rapes perpetrated by ISIS. Much of the reportedly widespread sexual violence is occurring in Iraq and among refugees of the Syrian conflict, which is outside of this snapshot analysis's scope. For further information see *Iraq: ISIS Escapees Describe Systematic Rape*, HUM. RTS. WATCH (April 14, 2015), <https://www.hrw.org/news/2015/04/14/iraq-isis-escapees-describe-systematic-rape>.

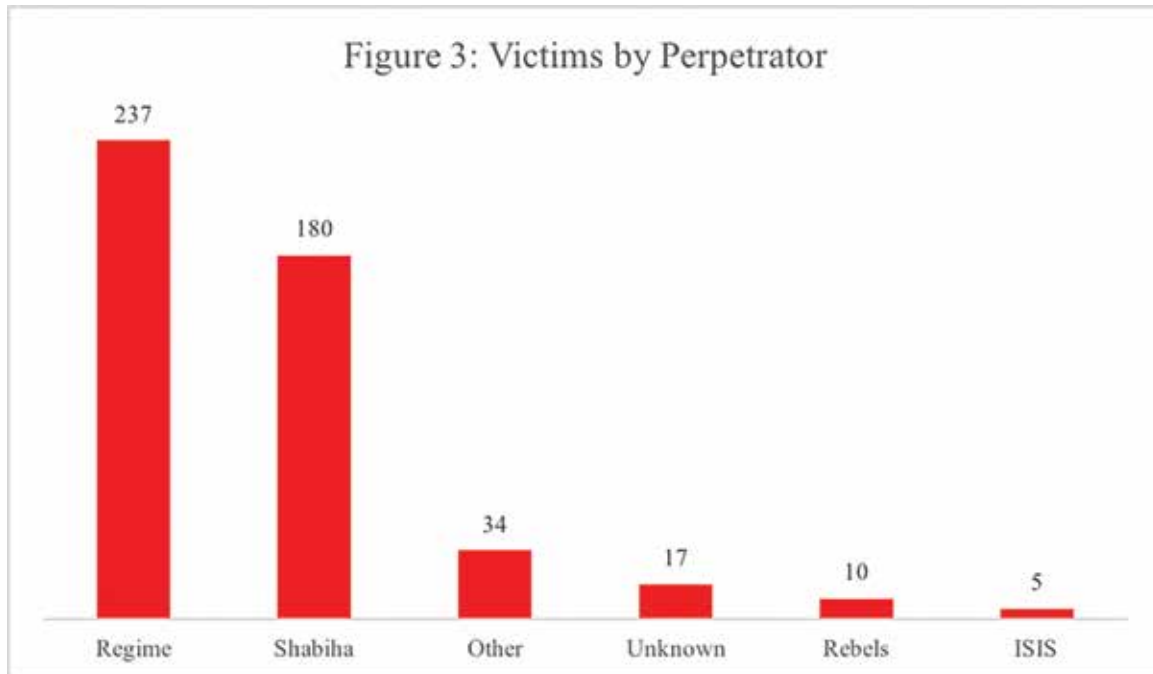


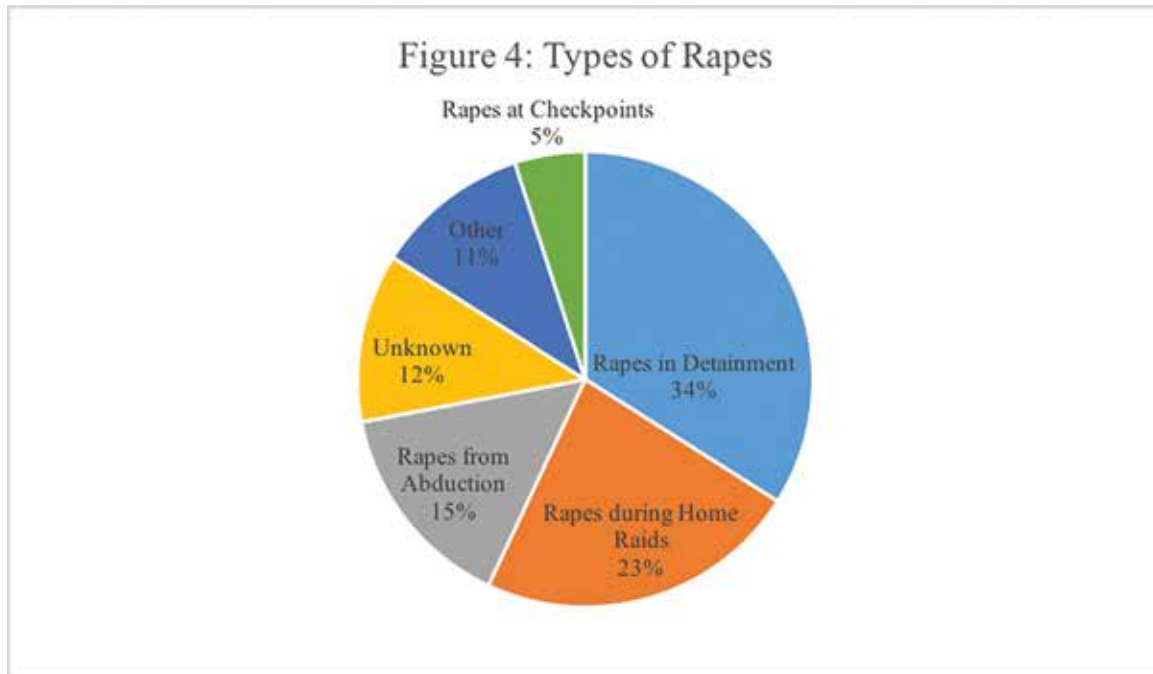
Figure 3 illustrates the number of victims per perpetrator, and these results mirror that of the preceding analysis. However, the statistics here signify that most individual incidents involved multiple victims. Rapes committed by the Regime produced 237 victims during nearly four years. Shabiha was responsible for the second most victims: 180. Yet, Shabiha also produced the most victims for a single incident: 42. On January 16, 2013, Shabiha members entered the small town of Al-Huswayieh, near Al-Qusayr, Hims, carrying hatchets and bottles of liquor.⁵⁸ They began slaughtering people in the early morning and then robbed people of their money, mobile phones, and jewelry.⁵⁹ If a woman had nothing of value to offer, Shabiha members stripped and raped her.⁶⁰ By the end of the day, witnesses said that 42 women and girls were raped in the midst of this massacre.⁶¹ Rapes by Other actors claimed the third most victims at 34, followed by 17 from the Unknown category. Finally, the Rebels and ISIS had the lowest number of reported victims with 10 and 5, respectively.

⁵⁸ *Witnesses Say Shabiha Forces Raped 42 Women and Girls in Al Huswayieh*, WOMEN UNDER SIEGE (Jan. 16, 2013), <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/151>.

⁵⁹ *Id.*

⁶⁰ *Id.*

⁶¹ *Id.*



The incidents also demonstrate the variety of situations where rape occurs. These situations consisted of many random acts, as well as some that could be evidence of a widespread and systematic pattern. Figure 4 illustrates the breakdown of these situations, or the types of rapes. The most prominent type was those perpetrated while the victim was detained or imprisoned. Rape in detention or during imprisonment is distinctively tied to the Regime and Shabiha, who operate and maintain formal detention centers and prisons throughout the country. This type of rape indicates the detention was of an official character administered by officers of the Syrian government or its agents. These rapes accounted for 34%, or 48 of the total incidents. For example, a woman named Amal reported that Regime security forces officers raped her while in detention at two distinct Military Security branches: the Tartus branch in October 2012, and then the Palestine branch in Dimashq in November 2012.⁶² Amal's story is, unfortunately, not uncommon considering the Regime was most responsible for rapes in detention. However, Shabiha, which established "ad-hoc" detention centers throughout the country, was also responsible for several rapes of detained victims. One example of such detention centers is the Sports City athletic complex in al Ladhqiyyah.⁶³ This complex is reportedly a Shabiha base and "ad hoc" detention center where numerous women have been detained, raped, and ransomed for money.⁶⁴

⁶² *Syria: Detention and Abuse of Female Activists*, HUM. RTS. WATCH (June 24, 2013), <http://www.hrw.org/news/2013/06/24/syria-detention-and-abuse-female-activists>.

⁶³ *Activist Says Shabiha Use Latakia Sports City as Base for Torture and Rape*, WOMEN UNDER SIEGE (Dec. 1, 2011), <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/219>.

⁶⁴ See *id.*; *Activist Says Friend Witnessed Rape of Woman in Latakia Sports City*, WOMEN UNDER SIEGE (Nov. 1, 2012), <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/242>; *Activist Relays Story of Repeated Rape of Woman at Latakia Sports City*, WOMEN UNDER SIEGE (Feb. 1, 2013), <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/239>.

Rapes during home raids accounted for the second most commonly reported type and consisted of 33 incidents, or 23%. One instance of these types of rapes involved the brutal gang rape of a woman at her parents' home in Hims on May 6, 2011.⁶⁵ There, the woman was with only her young son, while the rest of her family attended her cousin's funeral.⁶⁶ Soon after the family left, the woman heard heavy shooting outside and then a knock at the door.⁶⁷ Thinking her family was returning from the funeral, the woman opened the door and five armed men, dressed in black entered.⁶⁸ The men demanded to know if she had any weapons, but the woman replied, "My brother, by Allah, we do not. We are poor, simple family on the door of Allah. By Allah, we have nothing."⁶⁹ Despite her continued pleas of innocence, the men searched the house, breaking everything in sight.⁷⁰ As they finished, one of the men grabbed the hijab off the woman's head, and the others tore of her clothes.⁷¹ They then burned her with lit cigarettes and raped her, repeatedly.⁷²

Rapes resulting from abductions of the victims were the third-most prominent category, occurring in 22 of the incidents, or 15%. Abductions are differentiated from detainment in that the commission of the crime did not occur while the victim was in police or military custody. This is not to say that police or military actors were not responsible, but it suggests the acts were not of an official character. Furthermore, non-governmental forces, which did not have the facilities or resources to detain the victim for an extended time beyond the crime, also perpetrated these types of rapes. One such incident that suggests that some of these rapes were not of an official character was reported to have occurred in Hims around April 2012.⁷³ There, a woman was abducted by ten Shabiha members and then placed in a van, blindfolded, and transported to a place that looked "like a storage room."⁷⁴ In this room, the woman was held for ten days and frequently raped, along with several other women, while men, at times, shouted, "You want freedom? This is your freedom."⁷⁵

65 *Homs Woman Shares Details of Her Alleged Rape*, WOMEN UNDER SIEGE (May 6, 2011), <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/22>.

66 *Id.*

67 *Id.*

68 *Id.*

69 *Id.*

70 *Homs Woman Shares Details of Her Alleged Rape*, *supra* note 65.

71 *Id.*

72 *Id.*

73 Rep. of the Indep. Int'l Comm'n of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, annex IX, ¶ 23, U.N. Doc A/HRC/21/50 (Aug. 16, 2012).

74 *Id.*

75 *Id.*

The Unknown type consisted of 17 incidents, or 12%. Other rapes accounted for 15 incidents, or 11%. These types of rapes occurred in various situations that did not suggest a pattern or common theme.⁷⁶ Finally, seven rapes occurred at government checkpoints, which represent 5% of the incidents. Another unfortunate incident that highlights this type of rape involved a family traveling through Rif Dimashq.⁷⁷ When the family reached a government checkpoint, Shabiha members demanded a “tax” to pass through.⁷⁸ Yet, instead of accepting money, the guards brutally raped the family’s young daughter in front of her father, mother, and teenage brother.⁷⁹

Concluding Perspective and Thoughts

Rape has become an all too common means of war in the Syrian conflict. Despite its clear prohibition in numerous international laws, as well as Syrian domestic law, rape is a weapon employed by all parties to the conflict. Of this snapshot analysis’s many findings, *the most important is that the number of rapes is undoubtedly much higher than as described.* This snapshot analysis relied upon a very limited amount of data and nonetheless discovered 142 incidents. Next, *it is clear the Regime and its Shabiha militia are utilizing rape as a tool of terror vastly more than the Rebels and other parties.* Furthermore, the analysis demonstrates that at the very least, detention rapes perpetrated by the Regime and Shabiha are occurring in a likely widespread and systematic fashion. The alarming frequency and similarities between these types of rapes suggests a campaign of terror against civilians, and demands further inquiry. However, rape is a difficult crime to document and gather evidence of, particularly in armed conflict. With no end in sight for the conflict, all that can be done is to continue documenting these atrocities in hope of a future justice mechanism for the Syrian people. The Conflict Narrative at Appendix II highlights the horror of rape in Syria. *It can never be forgotten that the numbers only are just that, numbers. It is the women and girls of Syria, individually, that are paying the price every tragic day. The Conflict Narrative underscores this point.*

76 These types of rapes consist of rapes during protests, public rapes, and other nondescript accounts of rape.

77 Sarab Al-Jjakli, *Rape in Syria*, SARABIAN (Apr. 3, 2013), <https://sarabiany.wordpress.com/2013/04/03/rape-in-syria/>.

78 *Id.*

79 *Id.*

Appendix I: Relevant Laws

Rome Statute

Article 7(1)(e) Crime Against Humanity of Imprisonment or Other Severe Deprivation of Physical Liberty

1. The perpetrator imprisoned one or more persons or otherwise severely deprived one or more persons of physical liberty.
2. The gravity of the conduct was such that it was in violation of fundamental rules of international law.
3. The perpetrator was aware of the factual circumstances that established the gravity of the conduct.
4. The conduct was committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population.
5. The perpetrator knew that the conduct was part of or intended the conduct to be part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population.

Article 7(1)(f) Crime Against Humanity of Torture

1. The perpetrator inflicted severe physical or mental pain or suffering upon one or more persons.
2. Such person or persons were in the custody or under the control of the perpetrator.
3. Such pain or suffering did not arise only from, and was not inherent in or incidental to, lawful sanctions.
4. The conduct was committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population.
5. The perpetrator knew that the conduct was part of or intended the conduct to be part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population.

Article 7(1)(g)-1 Crime Against Humanity of Rape

1. The perpetrator invaded the body of a person by conduct resulting in penetration, however slight, of any part of the body of the victim or of the perpetrator with a sexual organ, or of the anal or genital opening of the victim with any object or any other part of the body.
2. The invasion was committed by force, or by threat of force or coercion, such as that caused by fear of violence, duress, detention, psychological oppression or abuse of power, against such person or another person, or by taking advantage of a coercive environment, or the invasion was committed against a person incapable of giving genuine consent.
3. The conduct was committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population.
4. The perpetrator knew that the conduct was part of or intended the conduct to be part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population.

Article 7(1)(k) Crime Against Humanity of Other Inhumane Acts

1. The perpetrator inflicted great suffering, or serious injury to body or to mental or physical health, by means of an inhumane act.
2. Such act was of a character similar to any other act referred to in article 7, paragraph 1, of the Statute.
3. The perpetrator was aware of the factual circumstances that established the character of the act.
4. The conduct was committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population.
5. The perpetrator knew that the conduct was part of or intended the conduct to be part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population.

Article 8(2)(c)(i)-4 War Crime of Torture

1. The perpetrator inflicted severe physical or mental pain or suffering upon one or more persons.
2. The perpetrator inflicted the pain or suffering for such purposes as: obtaining information or a confession, punishment, intimidation or coercion or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind.
3. Such person or persons were either hors de combat, or were civilians, medical personnel or religious personnel taking no active part in the hostilities.
4. The perpetrator was aware of the factual circumstances that established this status.
5. The conduct took place in the context of and was associated with an armed conflict not of an international character.
6. The perpetrator was aware of factual circumstances that established the existence of an armed conflict.

Article 8(2)(e)(vi)-1 War Crime of Rape

1. The perpetrator invaded the body of a person by conduct resulting in penetration, however slight, of any part of the body of the victim or of the perpetrator with a sexual organ, or of the anal or genital opening of the victim with any object or any other part of the body.
2. The invasion was committed by force, or by threat of force or coercion, such as that caused by fear of violence, duress, detention, psychological oppression or abuse of power, against such person or another person, or by taking advantage of a coercive environment, or the invasion was committed against a person incapable of giving genuine consent.
3. The conduct took place in the context of and was associated with an armed conflict not of an international character.
4. The perpetrator was aware of factual circumstances that established the existence of an armed conflict.

Geneva Conventions

Article 3

In the case of armed conflict not of an international character occurring in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties, each Party to the conflict shall be bound to apply, as a minimum, the following provisions:

1. Persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed ‘ hors de combat ‘ by sickness, wounds, detention, or any other cause, shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction founded on race, colour, religion or faith, sex, birth or wealth, or any other similar criteria. To this end, the following acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to the above-mentioned persons:

(a) violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture;

.

(c) outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment;

(d) the passing of sentences and the carrying out of executions without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court, affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples.

Additional Protocol II

Article 4

1. All persons who do not take a direct part or who have ceased to take part in hostilities, whether or not their liberty has been restricted, are entitled to respect for their person, honour and convictions and religious practices. They shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction. It is prohibited to order that there shall be no survivors.
2. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the following acts against the persons referred to in paragraph 1 are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever:

.

(e) outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment, rape, enforced prostitution and any form of indecent assault;

Syrian Penal Code

Article 357

Any functionaries, who, outside the cases contemplated by the law, had stopped or detained any person, shall be punished with forced labor for a term.

Article 489

1. Anyone who, through violence or threats, had forced a person into the act of sex outside marriage, shall be punished by forced labor for a term of five years at least.
2. The penalty shall not be less than seven years if the victim had not reached the age of fifteen years of age.

Article 540

1. Anyone who had intentionally struck, caused injury, or committed any other wrong, if it had not resulted in a malady or a personal incapacity from working for more than ten days, shall, upon the complaint of the wronged party, be punished by an imprisonment of six months at most or . . . a fine of five to twenty five Livres, or one of these penalties alone.
2. Dismissal [of the action] by the plaintiff extinguishes public action. It should have the same effect upon the penalty as remission to the civil part.

Appendix II: Conflict Narrative

31 March 2011

A woman from Dar'a reported that her children were expelled from a school in Dimashq in retaliation for an uprising that occurred in her hometown.⁸⁰ When she complained to the principal of the school regarding the expulsion, she was abducted, and subsequently held for 6 months in a detention center in Dimashq. She was held with 2 other women in a cell and subjected to daily rape; the perpetrators would chant, "We Alawites will destroy you."⁸¹ The woman reported that resistance to rape would result in electrical shocks.⁸²

5 April 2011

A woman named Basma reported to Al-Hayat newspaper that security forces and Shabiha militia attacked a town in Dar'a.⁸³ She reported that tanks shelled the village and women and children were raped.⁸⁴

80 WORLD CRUNCH, "Syria's Silent War Crime: Systematic Mass Rape," 11 Mar. 2014, available at: <http://www.worldcrunch.com/syria-crisis/syria-039-s-silent-war-crime-systematic-mass-rape/human-rights-prison-torture-as-sad-free-syrian-army/c13s15245/#.U15Ad8cwl4q>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

81 *Id.*

82 *Id.*

83 AL HAYAT, "Syrian Women Refugees In Jordan: We Were Forced To Watch The Rape Of Daughters," 3 June 2012, available at: <http://alhayat.com/Details/407807>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

84 *Id.*

29 April 2011

A woman named Alma reported that she was raped repeatedly while in detention for 30 days in the Harasta detention center in Dimashq.⁸⁵ She reported that she and another woman were blindfolded and gang-raped while a man, referred to as the “Boss,” sat in front of them and gave orders to the men, telling them exactly what to do and say to the women.⁸⁶ Alma reported the perpetrators said, “Here is the freedom you wanted,” as they raped her.⁸⁷

6 May 2011

A widowed mother reported 5 Syrian soldiers gang-raped her in Hims.⁸⁸ Her parents had gone to a funeral and she was home alone with her son. The soldiers knocked on the door and asked her if she had weapons. She answered they did not; the soldiers threatened to kill her son, removed her hijab and clothing, burned her with cigarettes, and then raped her.⁸⁹

13 May 2011

A male activist, known by the pseudonym Rami al-Jundi, was arrested and taken to al Ladhiqiyah Military Intelligence branch.⁹⁰ He reported that he was tortured under the command of Muhsen Haydar, a captain, and was forced to watch Haydar and 2 other soldiers rape a woman.⁹¹ He reported that Haydar said, “Is this how you Sunnis are? Do you not get jealous? Watch now, this is what will happen to your mother and sister and everyone who comes out against Bashar al-Assad.”⁹²

12 June 2011

4 Syrian soldiers defected to Turkey. According to an article in the Jerusalem Post, the soldiers reported a “cleansing” in Ar-Rastan, Hims.⁹³ The soldiers reported they were instructed to fire indiscriminately on civilians and to rape Syrian women in front of their husbands.⁹⁴

85 AL ARABIYA NEWS, “Syrians In Amman Hospital Tell Al Arabiya Of Regime Torture,” 6 June 2013, available at: <http://english.alarabiya.net/en/perspective/features/2013/06/06/Syrians-in-Amman-hospital-tell-Al-Arabiya-of-regime-torture-.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

86 *Id.*

87 *Id.*

88 WOMEN UNDER SIEGE [hereinafter WUS], “Homs Woman Shares Details of Her Alleged Rape,” 6 May 2011, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/22>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

89 *Id.*

90 WUS, “Activist Says He Was Forced to Witness Rape at Al Ladhiqiyah Military Branch,” 13 May 2011, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/241>, last visited: 9 June 2014.

91 *Id.*

92 *Id.*

93 THE JERUSALEM POST, “Army Deserters Claim Syrian Soldiers ‘Raped Women In Front Of Their Husbands,’ Said Soldiers Were Ordered To Shoot At Unarmed Civilians,” 12 June 2011, available at: <http://www.jpost.com/Video-Articles/Video/Syrian-army-defectors-tell-of-rape-indiscriminate-murder>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

94 *Id.*

17 June 2011

A Time article described several incidents of rape in Syria. Refugees in Turkish refugee camps reported that soldiers abducted women originally from Jisr al-Shughour, Idlib, “enslaved them in the sugar refinery, raped them, and forced them to remain naked and serve them tea and coffee.”⁹⁵ The article also reported that other women were gang-raped by soldiers and their breasts were cut off.⁹⁶ The article also reported a second-hand account of rape. A camp doctor said that he knew of a family from a village near Jisr al-Shughour whose 4 teenage daughters were all raped by Syrian soldiers.⁹⁷

23 June 2011

A female refugee from Talkalakh reported stories to the BBC of rapes of relatives in Banyas and Talbiseh, Hims.⁹⁸ She alleged that Syrian soldiers committed the rapes.⁹⁹

25 June 2011

A man reported that Syrian soldiers raped his wife and forced him to watch.¹⁰⁰ He reported that 25 security forces and Shabiha raided his home in Dar’a; after they completed the raid, he reported that 7 of the men raped his wife while 3 of them handcuffed him and surrounded him.¹⁰¹

1 October 2011

A Syrian citizen-journalist tweeted a document entitled “An Eyewitness Testimony Regarding Torture and Rape in Al Ladhqiya Prisons.”¹⁰² The document describes male prisoners who were forced to watch security forces raping a young woman.¹⁰³ Prisoners, including the woman’s husband, were brought in to watch rape of the woman, who was naked and tied to a bed. A captain, an assistant officer, and 3 guards were also in the room.¹⁰⁴

4 October 2011

A Syrian security forces volunteer reported to the Free Syrian Army in an interview that his mission from the Military Security branch was to “kidnap girls . . . the girls who wear hijab.”¹⁰⁵ He continued: “Every patrol unit that brings the girls, for example, rape them. . . . If another patrol unit comes then they have the girls shower and rape them

95 TIME, “Stories of Mass Rape: Sifting Through Rumor and Taboo in Syria,” Women Under Siege,” 20 June 2011, available at: <http://content.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,2078622,00.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2015.

96 *Id.*

97 *Id.*

98 BBC NEWS, “Syrian Refugees Tell of Rape, Murder And Destruction,” 23 June 2011, available at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/newsnight/9521198.stm>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

99 *Id.*

100 HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH [hereinafter HRW], “Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention,” 15 June 2012, available at: <http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

101 *Id.*

102 WUS, “Al Ladhqiya Prisoner Says He Was Forced To Watch Woman’s Rape,” 1 Oct. 2011, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/33>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

103 *Id.*

104 *Id.*

105 YOUTUBE, “Homs: Shabiha Hasan Rajab Releases Information on Young Girls Being Kidnapped,” 4 Oct. 2011, available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UU6KuUaKsTY>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

again.”¹⁰⁶ The kidnapped girls were from Al-Wa’er, Al-Insha’aat, Al-Ghouta, and Hamra in Hims; after being kidnapped, the girls were taken to the branch and raped.¹⁰⁷

16 October 2011

A detained Air Force private described the events after peaceful protests in the Sakba, Kafarbatna, and Jisreen suburbs of Dimashq.¹⁰⁸ The private said that he and fellow soldiers took some of the female protestors to the district branch; the women were then raped “with participation of the head of the office.”¹⁰⁹ A specific incident was also reported. A restaurant in the Abu Rummaneh district was raided and 2 young girls and a young man were arrested and taken to the Military Security branch in Umayyad Square.¹¹⁰ The head of the branch raped the women; the interviewee alleged that Mueen Alkassem was head of the branch.¹¹¹

1 November 2011

A defected member of the Syrian Military Security Raid unit reported seeing video of the rape of 2 women in Hims.¹¹² The women were dragged from their homes by their hair and into vehicles, where they were taken to the same room.¹¹³ The 5 men in the video held the women down, ripped their clothes off, and raped them.¹¹⁴ The defected member of the security force knew all 5 of the men, but refused to give their names.¹¹⁵

Additionally, the Syrian Emergency Task Force reported that 2 women, 28 and 33 years old, were kidnapped and taken to the Military Intelligence unit in Bab al-Dreib, Hims.¹¹⁶ 1 woman claimed she was gang-raped multiple times, at the order of commanding officers such as captains, a major, and others.¹¹⁷

1 December 2011

A media spokesman, Omar al-Jeblawi, reported that women and girls have been held and raped in a sports center in al Ladhiqiyah.¹¹⁸ He reported that he knew of 2 women who were being held in the sports center.¹¹⁹ He reported that women were being held for ransom: “One of the fear tactics is that they tell women, ‘If your family doesn’t call

106 *Id.*

107 *Id.*

108 WUS, “Air Force Private Alleges Rape of Women and Girls in Dimashq,” 16 Oct. 2011, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/15>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

109 *Id.*

110 *Id.*

111 *Id.*

112 HRW, “Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention,” 15 June 2012, available at: <http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

113 *Id.*

114 *Id.*

115 *Id.*

116 WUS, “Two Women Describe Gang-Rape at Military Intelligence Unit in Bab al-Dreib, Hims,” 1 Nov. 2011, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/211>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

117 *Id.*

118 WUS, “Activist Says Shabiha Use Latakia Sports City as a Base for Torture and Rape,” 1 Dec. 2011, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/219>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

119 *Id.*

tonight we will kill or rape you,' he said. 'And they call the family and say it's over if you don't give us money.'"¹²⁰ He also reported that most kidnappings in Al Ladhqiyyah are of women and girls.¹²¹

Additionally, a Syrian refugee named Nour reported to the Toronto Star that in December 2011 she was detained for 60 days at Palestine Military Security branch (branch 235) in Dimashq.¹²² She told the Star that she was stripped and chained to bars in a cell, which she shared with 3 other women.¹²³ She said that she was raped daily by men in uniform and in civilian clothes, and that the guards used rats as an instrument of rape.¹²⁴ 2 of the women imprisoned with her reportedly died in the cell.¹²⁵

1 January 2012

A teenage girl, Zaynab, from the Al-Khalidiya neighborhood of Hims, reported to a photographer in London that 3 of her friends were kidnapped from school by Regime forces.¹²⁶ The girls were then raped and killed.¹²⁷ Afterward, her father asked her to stop going to school because the risk of attack was too great.¹²⁸

1 February 2012

According to a Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network report documenting sexual assault in Syria, a pro-government armed group kidnapped a woman named Lina in Al-Ghouta, Hims.¹²⁹ She was reportedly held in a house in Hims for a month, where she was beaten, burned with cigarettes, and raped by multiple men.¹³⁰ A psychologist who treated her stated that she suffers from post-traumatic stress and underwent an abortion due to unwanted pregnancy from the rapes.¹³¹

Furthermore, a woman named Sabeen reported to Vanity Fair that she was raped in a state security prison in Dimashq.¹³² She said that she was detained at the Dimashq Airport on her way to Egypt for a women's conference. She reported that she was physically abused, then forced to the ground. Someone said "rape" and she was raped.¹³³

Finally, a defected soldier reported to the U.N. Commission of Inquiry that he was

¹²⁰ *Id.*

¹²¹ *Id.*

¹²² TORONTO STAR, "Syrian women who fled to Jordan tell of horrific rapes back home," 6 Apr. 2013, available at: http://www.thestar.com/news/world/2013/04/06/syrian_women_who_fled_to_jordan_tell_of_horrific_rapes_back_home.html, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

¹²³ *Id.*

¹²⁴ *Id.*

¹²⁵ *Id.*

¹²⁶ WUS, "16-Year-Old Girl Describes Abduction, Rape, and Murder of Friends," 1 Jan. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/96>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

¹²⁷ *Id.*

¹²⁸ *Id.*

¹²⁹ EURO-MEDITERRANEAN HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK [hereinafter EURO-MED], "Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict," 25 Nov. 2013, available at: <http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

¹³⁰ *Id.*

¹³¹ *Id.*

¹³² VANITY FAIR, "Syria's Unspoken Crimes," 29 July 2013, available at: <http://www.vanityfair.com/news/2013/07/rape-syria-happening-every-day0>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

¹³³ *Id.*

active in Hims in February 2012. He said that his orders were to shoot anything that moved, capture and tie up the men, and force the men to watch the military sexually assault their wives.¹³⁴

18 February 2012

A defected sergeant, “Ghassan,” from Brigade 18, Battalion 627, told Human Rights Watch about an alleged rape at a military camp outside of Al-Zabadani, Rif Dimashq.¹³⁵ He reported that he believed Shabiha or Intelligence forces brought the girl to the camp in a gray van; the men gave her to the captain, who then took her inside of an armored vehicle.¹³⁶ He reported that she went into the vehicle around 2:30 a.m. and was kept in there with the captain until about 4:30 AM; after the alleged assault, she was picked up by 7 men in a black van.¹³⁷

29 February 2012

A defected sergeant, “Ahmed,” from Division 10, Brigade 85, Battalion 37, reported to Human Rights Watch that members of the riot police (Hafiz al-Nizam) raided a house in Al-Zabadani and kidnapped a girl to be raped.¹³⁸ He said that she was taken offsite to a commander.¹³⁹

1 March 2012

An aid worker, “Farah,” reported that she assisted female rape victims at field hospitals in Hayy Ashera, Karm al-Zeitoun, and Nazheen, Hims.¹⁴⁰ She said that she administered stiches and aspirin, and helped stop bleeding.¹⁴¹ Specifically, she treated 5 rape victims in Hayy Ashera.¹⁴²

Additionally, a neighbor, “Mansour” from Baba Amr, Hims, reported that Shabiha raped his neighbor in her home, then publicly killed her in the street, along with her 5 children.¹⁴³ A man, “Khalid” from Baba Amr, Hims, reported the rape of his female relative.¹⁴⁴ He said that his relative and her husband and children moved in with a neighbor after their house was shelled.¹⁴⁵ Later, members of the Army came to the house and

134 U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL [hereinafter HRC], “Report of the Independent International Commission of

Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic,” 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HR-Council/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

135 HRW, “Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention,” 15 June 2012, available at: <http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

136 *Id.*

137 *Id.*

138 *Id.*

139 *Id.*

140 HRW, “Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention,” 15 June 2012, available at: <http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

141 *Id.*

142 *Id.*

143 *Id.*

144 *Id.*

145 HRW, “Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention,” 15 June 2012, available at: <http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

arrested the men; the women and children remained in the house.¹⁴⁶ Approximately 15 minutes after the men were arrested, members of the Army dressed in civilian clothes came to the house; the woman was taken to a separate room and beaten and raped by 1 of the men.¹⁴⁷ She alleged that the man threatened to kill her children if she did not “give in”; after the rape, she “fled Baba Amr for al Qusayr.”¹⁴⁸ Her husband is still reportedly detained.¹⁴⁹

“Selma,” from Karm al-Zeitoun, Hims, reported the rape of her neighbor’s daughters.¹⁵⁰ She said that Shabiha members came to her apartment building, and she heard them knock on her neighbor’s door.¹⁵¹ The mother and the girls resisted. The oldest daughter was shot in the head, and multiple Shabiha members raped the younger daughters, ages 16, 18, and 12, while “Selma” reported hearing the men say, “Come on, enough, my turn.”¹⁵² “Selma” went to the neighbor’s apartment after the attack and said that she saw the 12-year-old daughter “lying on the ground, blood to her knees.”¹⁵³

A mass rape was also reported in Hims.¹⁵⁴ Huda, a mother of five, stated that after shelling the Bab al Sabaa neighborhood, the Syrian Army paraded about “10 to 15 women” in front of tanks as human shields.¹⁵⁵ The women were stripped, then raped, and subsequently killed.¹⁵⁶ Huda said that she and 3 of her daughters escaped with the assistance of the opposition; her other 2 daughters remain in Hims.¹⁵⁷

Furthermore, a 9-year-old girl was raped in Hims.¹⁵⁸ The report indicates that a government soldier raped the girl in front of her family by in the Baba Amr district of central Hims.¹⁵⁹ Also in Baba Amr, a man reported that his 40 to 50 men in military dress raided his house in late February/early March 2012.¹⁶⁰ He stated that the men forced his wife and 2 daughters, aged 11 and 14, to the ground and began gang-raping them, while he was forced to watch.¹⁶¹ He claimed after his wife and daughters were raped 3 times each, the soldiers forced him out of his chair and then raped him, forcing his wife and daughters to watch.¹⁶²

146 *Id.*

147 *Id.*

148 *Id.*

149 *Id.*

150 HRW, “Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention,” 15 June 2012, available at: <http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

151 *Id.*

152 *Id.*

153 *Id.*

154 TORONTO STAR, “Syrian women who fled to Jordan tell of horrific rapes back home,” 6 Apr. 2013, available at: http://www.thestar.com/news/world/2013/04/06/syrian_women_who_fled_to_jordan_tell_of_horrific_rapes_back_home.html, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

155 *Id.*

156 *Id.*

157 *Id.*

158 EURO-MED, “Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict,” 25 Nov. 2013, available at: <http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

159 *Id.*

160 HRC, “Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic,” 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

161 *Id.*

162 *Id.*

A woman from Hims reported that she was abducted from a checkpoint and subsequently held in detention at the Palestine branch in Dimashq along with 3 other women.¹⁶³ She reported that the women were raped daily while other women were forced to watch; she described it as a “rotation.”¹⁶⁴ She also said that rats and mice were used during sexual assaults; during one assault, she recalled overhearing the men say, “Is it good enough for you?”¹⁶⁵

A soldier reported that he defected after he was ordered to surround a house in Ar-Rastan, Hims, while Shabiha forces went inside.¹⁶⁶ He heard women inside “screaming and shouting to be left alone and that they would prefer to be killed than raped.”¹⁶⁷ 2 residents of Karm al-Zeitoun, Hims, reported they knew of both Shabiha forces and members of the Syrian Army entering homes and raping women.¹⁶⁸ 1 of the residents reported witnessing soldiers rape and subsequently execute a 16-year-old girl.¹⁶⁹

Additionally, an activist reported the repeated rape and sexual humiliation of her cellmate while in detention in the Military Intelligence branch in Dimashq.¹⁷⁰ While detained, the woman, a 33-year-old doctoral student in physics, told the activist of repeated sexual torture, including electric shock to her breasts, genitals, and tongue, as well as repeated rape by a high-ranking military official.¹⁷¹ The doctoral student became pregnant as a result of the repeated rapes; during her fourth month of pregnancy, she was struck in the abdomen multiple times, resulting in a miscarriage.¹⁷²

A woman from the Zaatari refugee camp reported that before fleeing Inkhil, Dar’a, Shabiha raped her friend, age 23 or 24, and she became pregnant as a result.¹⁷³ The woman said that after her assault, her friend’s husband divorced her and she was afraid to tell her family about the rape.¹⁷⁴

163 BBC NEWS, “Syria ex-detainees allege ordeals of rape and sex abuse,” 25 Sept. 2012, available at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-19718075>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

164 *Id.*

165 *Id.*

166 HRC, “Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic,” 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

167 *Id.*

168 *Id.*

169 *Id.*

170 WUS, “Activist Accounts Repeated Rape, Pregnancy, and Sexualized Torture Fellow Detainee,” 1 Mar. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/224>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

171 *Id.*

172 *Id.*

173 WUS, “Refugee Says Shabiha Raped and Impregnated Her Friend,” 1 Mar. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/204>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

174 *Id.*

Finally, a 21-year-old online activist named Hiba from Jableh, al Ladhiqiyah, was abducted and held for a month.¹⁷⁵ She was reportedly paying her Internet bill when she was forced into the back seat of a white station wagon marked “police.”¹⁷⁶ She said that multiple people raped her repeatedly for a month, and afterwards, her parents received a call to pick her up in Rif Hamah, where they found her on the side of a highway.¹⁷⁷

4 March 2012

Sheik Rashid Al-Zahrani interviewed a nurse from the Al-Bir Hospital; the interview took place at a refugee camp in Turkey.¹⁷⁸ The nurse stated that she recalled two girls coming to her in the ICU of the hospital saying, “Please give us injections so that we can die.”¹⁷⁹ She reported that their bodies were “severely injured from rape.”¹⁸⁰

9 March 2012

In a BBC interview with a Dimashq-based female activist, the activist reported that she knew of several instances of the rape of both young girls and boys in Hims.¹⁸¹ She stated that the soldiers were looking for “virgin women,” some of whom were as young as 12 years old, and were raped repeatedly on the same day.¹⁸² A Hims resident reportedly called Safa, a Yemeni station, to report a rape that occurred in Baba Amr, Hims.¹⁸³ He said that Syrian Army forces gathered multiple women and girls at Dera’i Hall, an event center on Hawlani Street in Baba Amr, and raped them.¹⁸⁴ Survivors of the attack stated that a 14-year-old girl had convulsions after being raped repeatedly, and 2 young girls were killed because “they had nervous breakdowns after being sexually abused.”¹⁸⁵

In addition, a woman in Dimashq reported the rape of a friend’s brother-in-law’s wife.¹⁸⁶ The activist said that Syrian Regime forces detained her friend’s brother-in-law.¹⁸⁷ They then brought his wife in and multiple men raped her while her husband was forced to watch.¹⁸⁸ If he turned his head away, they hit him on the head with a gun.¹⁸⁹

Finally, a woman in the Occupied Palestinian Territories reported to Dunia al-Watan, a

175 WUS, “Online Activist from Jableh Kidnapped and Raped for a Month in Reef Hama,” 1 Mar. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/225>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

176 *Id.*

177 *Id.*

178 YOUTUBE, “Syria nurse striking Sheikh Rashid Al-Zahrani,” 4 Mar. 2012, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=EaQClznpO78&fb_source=message, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

179 *Id.*

180 *Id.*

181 BBC NEWS, “Syrian soldiers accused of ‘extreme brutality’ by activist,” 9 Mar. 2012, available at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-17311569>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

182 *Id.*

183 YOUTUBE, “Hadi Al-Abdullah Where are you, Muslims cries and groans very, very influential,” 9 Mar. 2012, available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzftYGFLUyc&feature=youtu.be>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

184 *Id.*

185 *Id.*

186 BBC NEWS, “Syrian soldiers accused of ‘extreme brutality’ by activist,” 9 Mar. 2012, available at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-17311569>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

187 *Id.*

188 *Id.*

189 *Id.*

news outlet, that 5 soldiers raped her.¹⁹⁰ She said that she was hiding in her neighbor's basement with her daughters while her son and husband remained at their home; she heard shots fired at her house and ran back to her husband and son.¹⁹¹ She begged the soldiers to leave them alone, but the soldiers told her, "If you want us to forgive you, then you must let us five do what we want with you, in front of a mirror, in front of your husband and son."¹⁹² She refused and the soldiers took out a knife to kill her son, after which she begged them to do what they wanted but not to kill her son.¹⁹³ In response, the soldiers ripped off her clothes and took turns raping her.¹⁹⁴

12 March 2012

A doctor from Karm al-Zeitoun, Hims, reported that he documented 16 cases of women who died as a result of rape.¹⁹⁵ He reported the deaths of 4 girls under the age of 14 as well as the death of a pregnant woman.¹⁹⁶ Furthermore, one medical worker stated, "I saw two females who were raped, one was around 12 or 13 years old. She was covered in blood and her underclothes were off."¹⁹⁷

16 March 2012

Al Jazeera reported that a young woman was arrested during a protest in an unspecified city.¹⁹⁸ She was beaten "on the verge of a breakdown" and raped, "which is the most terrible nightmare a young female could suffer."¹⁹⁹

1 April 2012

A woman from Hims reported to the U.N. Commission of Inquiry that she was kidnapped and raped; she did not specify which party was responsible, but indicated that she was freed later as part of a prisoner exchange between Shabiha and the Free Syrian Army.²⁰⁰ The woman, whose husband is a member of an armed anti-government group, said that men in black abducted her and other women and put them in a van, blindfolded

190 DUNIA AL-WATAN, "Lady Syria: Assad soldiers killed my husband and my son in front of me and then raped her in succession," 1 Mar. 2012, available at: <http://www.alwatanvoice.com/arabic/news/2012/03/01/254203.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

191 *Id.*

192 *Id.*

193 *Id.*

194 *Id.*

195 YOUTUBE, "Arabic Dr. Hassan of Homs Mjaaaaaaazer appalling in the olive grove and deaths as a result of rape," 12 March 2012, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=byA9oqcmeqQ, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

196 *Id.*

197 REUTERS, "West and Russia split over Syria, massacre in Homs", 12 March 2012, available at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/03/12/us-syria-idUSBRE8280G820120312> last visited: 3 July 2014.

198 AL JAZEERA, "Rape victims in Syria," 16 March 2012, available at: <http://www.aljazeera.net/humanrights/pages/0e7bdef2-281b-46af-ba82-f404f8091e7d>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

199 *Id.*

200 HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

them, and took them to “what looked like a storage room.”²⁰¹ She was held for 10 days and raped repeatedly both vaginally and anally.²⁰²

2 April 2012

A defected Syrian master sergeant, Rolat Azad, reported that he and his fellow soldiers tortured and raped 5 to 10 people a day in Idlib.²⁰³ He also said that soldiers brought women and girls to “a closed room on the army base and called soldiers to rape them,” and that the women were “often killed following rape.”²⁰⁴ Additionally, Moussa al-Kurdi, a physician and chairman of the Arab Institute for Clinical Excellence, reported to Al Jazeera that he received a report “3 days ago via Skype” of the rape of 2 young girls, ages 10 and 14, in southern Syria.²⁰⁵ Al-Kurdi alleged that the girls were pregnant because of the rape and that they were part of a group of about 210 refugee children who were staying in a hotel paid for by a charity.²⁰⁶

3 April 2012

A captured Syrian Army sergeant, identified as Muhammad Khaled Ashami from the 63rd Brigade, stated that he participated in attacks on protestors in Taftanaz, Idlib.²⁰⁷ He reported that protestors who were not killed were detained at the airport.²⁰⁸ He said that he raped 2 women at the airport and named Colonel Ali Assatfali and Lieutenant Colonel Ali Abboud as participants in the rapes.²⁰⁹

7 April 2012

A man from Kassara village in Deir Ba'alba, Hims, reported that the Syrian Army attacked his village.²¹⁰ After the shelling, he reported that Iranian pro-Regime forces “with long beards and wearing yellow ribbons” raped the women in the village and forced the men to watch.²¹¹

9 April 2012

A Syrian security checkpoint officer, now living in a refugee camp in Kurdistan, reported to NPR that he recalled an event where a family was stopped at a checkpoint.²¹² He

201 *Id.*

202 *Id.*

203 WUS, “Former Sergeant Reports Raping and Killing Women and Girls in Idlib,” 2 Apr. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/31>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

204 *Id.*

205 YOUTUBE, “Syrian Doctors Speaks of Horrors Faced by Civilians,” 1 Apr. 2012, available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sYttYiOXkVw&feature=youtu.be>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

206 *Id.*

207 WUS, “Army Sergeant Says He Raped Women at Taftanaz Airport,” 3 Apr. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/32>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

208 *Id.*

209 *Id.*

210 WUS, “Man Alleges Iranian Pro-Regime Forces Raped Women in Hims Massacre,” 7 Apr. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/34>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

211 *Id.*

212 NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO, “Defectors Offer Insider’s View of Syrian Army,” 9 Apr. 2012, available at: <http://www.npr.org/2012/04/09/150257045/defected-soldiers-offer-insiders-view-of-syrian-army>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

said that security forces took the father out of the car for interrogation then entered the car with the wife and daughter; the next day, the officers who entered the car “bragged that they’d raped the women.”²¹³

20 April 2012

An unidentified woman posted a video on Facebook of herself speaking about being raped.²¹⁴ In the video, the woman described the event: She reported going to a civilian protest, but then leaving after shots were fired.²¹⁵ After returning home, 4 or 5 men with Lebanese accents came to her home.²¹⁶ She said that 1 of the men locked her children in a back room, while 3 men took turns raping her.²¹⁷ She also reported that the men did not seem to be Syrian: “The men are not from our country. They are beasts. They are the men of [Hezbollah leader Hassan] Nasrallah. May God take revenge on them.”²¹⁸

25 April 2012

A Syrian woman who now lives in Washington D.C. reported to the Telegraph that she has been helping coordinate gynecological care for a group of Syrian women and girls between the ages of 11 and 46 who are rape victims.²¹⁹ She said that 11 women were transported to Halab in order to receive abortions.²²⁰ Some women also sought hymen reconstruction surgery.²²¹ The same Telegraph article also reported that the Shabiha gang-raped a young girl in front of her father.²²² The man was allegedly strapped to a chair and forced to watch as 3 Shabiha members raped his daughter.²²³

1 May 2012

An activist, “Leila,” who works with an organization that provides women who have been sexually assaulted with support services, reported that her organization “supported a family of [3] women, including two teenage girls, ages 14 and 21, after 10 [S]habiha gang raped them in Hims during a home raid.”²²⁴ Leila indicated that her organization helped the family relocate within Syria and that they were providing treatment to the 14-year-old victim for an unspecified sexually transmitted infection that she contracted as a result of the rape.²²⁵

213 *Id.*

214 WUS, “Woman Describes Her Own Rape on Facebook Video,” 20 Apr. 2012, available at: <https://womenunder-siegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/44>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

215 *Id.*

216 *Id.*

217 *Id.*

218 *Id.*

219 THE TELEGRAPH, “Assad’s Thugs Are Raping and Impregnating Women in Syria,” 27 Apr. 2012, available at: <http://henryjacksonsociety.org/2012/04/27/assads-thugs-are-rapeing-and-impregnating-women-in-syria/>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

220 *Id.*

221 *Id.*

222 *Id.*

223 *Id.*

224 HRW, “Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention,” 15 June 2012, available at: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

225 *Id.*

Furthermore, a man from Hims reported to the U.N. Commission of Inquiry that his wife was raped in Hims.²²⁶ The man said that their home was shelled, and when his wife went to check on the house, 5 men, including a lieutenant, stopped her and “each of them proceeded to rape her.”²²⁷

Additionally, Yassar Kanawati, a psychiatrist who treated Syrian refugees in Amman, Jordan, reported to Women Under Siege that she had met with 3 rape victims from the same family.²²⁸ Kanawati said that the women described how Syrian Army soldiers “came to their house in Hims, tied up the father and the brother, and raped the three women in front of them.”²²⁹ The women alleged that the soldiers burned their vaginas with cigarettes and said, “You want freedom? This is your freedom.”²³⁰ The psychiatrist reported that there was a newborn in the room and that the attack happened about 9 months before the interview.²³¹ When 1 of the women was asked if the baby was a product of the rape, she shut down and changed the subject.²³²

9 May 2012

A soldier, who identified himself as Yousef Stayfeh, reported that he raped women in the Dimashq suburbs of Kuffer Butna, Orbeen, Hamouria, and Zamalka.²³³ He claimed that Captain Emad Al Ahmed, Captain Mohamed Hafur, and Major Fadi Mahmoud ordered him to rape and invade homes.²³⁴ He also accused Ismael Aloosh as his partner in committing the rapes.²³⁵

27 May 2012

A former Syrian soldier, “Mohammad,” described his assignments as a member of the Public Order brigade in Halab.²³⁶ He reported that one of his jobs was to stop university students from protesting; he said that police detained 7 women and drove them to Al-Saliheen police station, where Syrian Army soldiers were given orders by a brigadier general to rape the women.²³⁷ “Mohammad” and 3 other men raped 2 of the women, but the other 5 were not raped.²³⁸

226 HRC, “Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic,” 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

227 *Id.*

228 WUS, “Psychiatrist Tells WMC’s Women Under Siege of Rape of Sisters and Baby Possibly Born of Rape,” 1 May 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/175>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

229 *Id.*

230 *Id.*

231 *Id.*

232 *Id.*

233 WUS, “Alleged Former Soldier Claims He Raped Women in Dimashq,” 9 May 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/47>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

234 *Id.*

235 *Id.*

236 YOUTUBE, “Confessions of a Soldier About the Systematic Rape Policy of the Regime,” 27 May 2012 available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HyRbkc5CnY8&feature=youtu.be>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

237 *Id.*

238 *Id.*

29 May 2012

Fathima, a woman from Hims, reported that her 17-year-old cousin, Hamed, was raped and killed.²³⁹

31 May 2012

A woman reported that she was arrested in late May in Dar'a and taken to a Military Intelligence office, where female agents interrogated her.²⁴⁰ She claimed that the female agents removed her clothing and beat her; she also claimed that she witnessed the gang-rape of a friend who was imprisoned for attending protests in Dar'a.²⁴¹

1 June 2012

A woman, "Maysa," reported to Human Rights Watch that she was beaten, threatened with torture, and raped on two separate occasions.²⁴² She reported that she was detained for 140 days at the Air Force Intelligence branch in Mezzeh, Dimashq, and that a security officer raped her.²⁴³ She also said that a different security officer raped her while in solitary confinement in July 2012.²⁴⁴

Additionally, a woman named Kholod from Hims reported to the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network that a security officer confessed to her that he raped women during the May raids on Baba Amr and Karm al-Zeitoun, Hims.²⁴⁵ She said that he confessed to the holding 17 women as prisoners: "During my detention, political security officer AM told me that he was holding 17 women prisoners in our home in Bab al-Dreb neighborhood (...) He said that they were abducted during raids he carried out and that he raped all of them. . . . When I asked about the crime they had committed, he said he wanted to rape them and humiliate their families. He also said he allowed his men to gang rape a woman and to videotape the 'party' . . . , so that he would send the video to her uncle, a well-known cleric and member of the opposition."²⁴⁶

Furthermore, the U.N. Commission of Inquiry interviewed men in Al-Heffe, al Ladhqiya.²⁴⁷ The men reported that they had witnessed Shabiha and Regime forces sexually assault women in their town.²⁴⁸ The men witnessed sexual assaults on women by Intel-

239 THE TELEGRAPH, "Syria Using Rape as Weapon Against Opposition Women and Men," 29 May 2012, available at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/syria/9296135/Syria-using-rape-as-weapon-against-opposition-women-and-men.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

240 HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

241 *Id.*

242 HRW, "Syria: Detention and Abuse of Female Activists," 24 June 2013, available at: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2013/06/24/syria-detention-and-abuse-female-activists>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

243 *Id.*

244 *Id.*

245 EURO-MED, "Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict," 25 Nov. 2013, available at: <http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

246 *Id.*

247 HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

248 *Id.*

ligence agents, women in residences after Shabiha raids, and public rapes in the Shier neighborhood of Al-Heffe.²⁴⁹

Finally, a woman from al Ladhiqiyah, Kenda, was abducted from Majdal Kikhia village.²⁵⁰ Kenda was married and pregnant when she was abducted and taken to a Military Security branch at the Haron roundabout in al Ladhiqiyah.²⁵¹ She was held overnight and raped, then released the next day after signing a paper declaring her husband a “terrorist.”²⁵² Her sister said that when she returned home, she was bleeding and had a miscarriage due to the trauma.²⁵³

4 June 2012

A woman, Assma, reported to Al-Hayat newspaper that 4 Syrian soldiers publicly raped her in Al-Khalideya, Hims.²⁵⁴ Also, a woman, Amal, reported that she witnessed the Shabiha rape and stab her daughters Aisha, Dua’a, and Ruqeyya to death in Baba Amr, Hims.²⁵⁵ She said that the Shabiha stripped the girls and raped them; they yelled, “You want freedom? This is the best brand of freedom.”²⁵⁶

5 June 2012

A woman reported that Shabiha forces broke into her home and forced her to undress at gunpoint.²⁵⁷ After she undressed, they dragged her into the street and raped her.²⁵⁸

6 June 2012

Two sisters, ages 12 and 14, were reportedly beaten and gang-raped in front of their mother and brothers by Shabiha and Regime forces.²⁵⁹ A 17-year-old girl was reportedly abducted after a home raid.²⁶⁰ She was “subsequently moved from one apartment to another for 15 days.”²⁶¹ The apartments were guarded, and each had a woman that was “responsible for five to 10 girls in the apartment.”²⁶² The girls in the apartments were

249 *Id.*

250 EURO-MED, “Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict,” 25 Nov. 2013, available at: <http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

251 *Id.*

252 *Id.*

253 *Id.*

254 AL-HAYAT, “Syrian Refugees in Jordan: We Were Forced to Watch the Rape of Daughters,” 4 June 2012, available at: <http://www.alhayat.com/Details/407807>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

255 AL-HAYAT, “Syrian Refugees in Jordan: We Were Forced to Watch the Rape of Daughters,” 4 June 2012, available at: <http://www.alhayat.com/Details/407807>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

256 *Id.*

257 HRC, “Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic,” 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

258 *Id.*

259 WUS, “Ex-Pats Report Teen Sisters Gang-Raped,” 6 June 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/58>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

260 WUS, “Teen Reports Sexual Enslavement and Torture by Shabiha Forces,” 6 June 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/59>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

261 *Id.*

262 *Id.*

injected “with a substance in their thighs, after which they became unable to move, and the [S]habiha would rape them.”²⁶³ The 17-year-old girl said that during one assault, she was undressed, tied, and then burned with a hot iron; she then fainted and awoke in the Palestine Military Security branch in Dimashq.²⁶⁴ A 15-year-old girl reported that she was kidnapped and detained in an apartment for 10 days.²⁶⁵ While detained, she was raped with mice and then transferred to the Palestine branch in Dimashq.²⁶⁶

7 June 2012

An activist, Um Zaher, reported to Al Jazeera that she is “aiding girls and women of all ages who have been sexually violated.”²⁶⁷ Um Zaher said that she was aiding a woman, “Noor,” who was abducted and raped.²⁶⁸ “Noor” and another woman were abducted from a checkpoint in Bab Draib, Hims, and taken to an apartment where there were already 15 other women.²⁶⁹ There was also a woman in the apartment that “was responsible for getting the women ready as ‘gifts’ for the security officers.”²⁷⁰ “Noor” was moved to the Palestine branch, where she was “beaten, tortured with electric shocks, and raped.”²⁷¹ She also reported that cats and rats were used in an “unspecified way” during rapes.²⁷²

11 June 2012

A woman, Alla, reported that she was arrested on her way home from work in the Baramkeh neighborhood in Dimashq.²⁷³ She was taken to Military Security branch 215 (Raids branch), where she was beaten, stripped, and forced to perform oral sex on the interrogator.²⁷⁴ In August 2012, she was transported to a Military Security branch in Hims, where an interrogator raped her, saying that it was time to redeem herself for her sins because she had done “injustice to the motherland.”²⁷⁵ Alla said that another interrogator raped her until she fainted.²⁷⁶ Alla met another woman, Khalwa, in prison who was raped by a prison guard and an interpreter and became pregnant because of the rapes.²⁷⁷

263 *Id.*

264 *Id.*

265 WUS, “Ex-Pats Describe Sexual Enslavement and Torture of 15-Year-Old Girl,” 6 June 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/60>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

266 *Id.*

267 AL JAZEERA, “Syrian Regime Raped Her: Her Story,” 7 June 2012, available at: <http://www.aljazeera.net/news/pages/2ef3e5f8-cb6d-4488-9420-7af432dc8516>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

268 *Id.*

269 *Id.*

270 *Id.*

271 AL JAZEERA, “Syrian Regime Raped Her: Her Story,” 7 June 2012, available at: <http://www.aljazeera.net/news/pages/2ef3e5f8-cb6d-4488-9420-7af432dc8516>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

272 *Id.*

273 SYRIA DEEPLY, “Twice Raped in Syrian Prisons,” 20 Jan. 2014, available at: <http://www.syriadeeply.org/articles/2014/01/4528/raped-syrian-prisons/#.UvJn3iQntB5>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

274 *Id.*

275 *Id.*

276 *Id.*

277 *Id.*

15 June 2012

A woman, “Nour,” reported to Human Rights Watch that she was detained for two and a half months at the Palestine branch in Dimashq.²⁷⁸ She said that she was detained at a checkpoint in Hims, and then subsequently taken to an apartment where there were already other women.²⁷⁹ After 2 or 3 days, she was taken to the Palestine branch, where multiple men raped her regularly.²⁸⁰ She described her treatment in the Palestine branch: “There were [3] other women in the cell when I arrived ... Throughout our time, the four of us there were permanently in one of four positions: They tied our handcuffed hands above our heads onto a chain coming out of the ceiling and chained our feet together with our feet flat on the floor. They tied us face up to a metal bed which just had two planks of wood on it—we were in an X position so our wrists and ankles were attached to the four corners of the bed frame. They put our entire hunched body into the hole of a big tire with our back bent forward. They tied us to a metal chair with no bottom or back to which they attached electrodes to electrocute us.”²⁸¹

19 June 2012

A former soldier from Al-Hasaka reported that he was forced to rape women in a sugar factory used by the Syrian Army in Idlib.²⁸² He said that a colonel from the Military Intelligence service selected him and 14 others for a “reward”—raping 3 women who had been drugged.²⁸³ The women were “chosen specifically because they hadn’t been arrested together with other relatives who might have asked after them.”²⁸⁴ The women were “taken away” after the rapes.²⁸⁵

21 June 2012

A human rights activist, Sema Nassar, reported the story of a woman who was gang-raped in Hims to Le Monde newspaper.²⁸⁶ The woman was 1 of 20 women who were gang-raped; the attack was filmed and allegedly sent to the woman’s uncle, who is “prominent sheik, television preacher and member of the opposition.”²⁸⁷

278 HRW, “Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention,” 15 June 2012, available at: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

279 *Id.*

280 *Id.*

281 WUS, “Syrian-American Tells UN of Cultural Reasons Why Rape in Syria May Be Underreported,” 30 July 2012, available at: <http://www.womenundersiegeproject.org/blog/entry/syrian-american-tells-UN-cultural-reasons-why-rape-in-syria-may-be-underrep>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

282 DER SPIEGEL, “Escalating Violence: Face to Face with Syria’s Apocalypse,” 19 June 2012, available at: <http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/spiegel-reporter-describes-increasing-brutality-in-syria-a-839503.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

283 *Id.*

284 *Id.*

285 *Id.*

286 WORLD CRUNCH, “Syria’s Silent War Crime: Systematic Mass Rape,” 11 Mar. 2014, available at: <http://www.worldcrunch.com/syria-crisis/syria-039-s-silent-war-crime-systematic-mass-rape/human-rights-prison-torture-as-sad-free-syrian-army/c13s15245/#.UzGuUI5CON1>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

287 *Id.*

23 June 2012

A member of the Shabiha, Ahmad Eido Eido, stated that he “would break into homes, order all men to go outside, take the money and jewelry we find, and rape women” under the orders of Lieutenant Colonel Samir and Asef and Sulayman.²⁸⁸ Eido also admitted to raping 7 women; some were reportedly raped in Al-Fawz, Idlib, and one was raped in Dimashq.²⁸⁹

1 July 2012

The Free Syrian Army captured 5 members of the Al-Berri family in Halab and interrogated them.²⁹⁰ 1 of the members told the U.N. Independent Commission of Inquiry that he raped “14 young women” at Halab University.²⁹¹ Additionally, Fatima, an activist who provided aid to displaced people in Dimashq, reported that she was arrested on the way home from work in the Baramke neighborhood in Dimashq and taken to branch 215.²⁹² At the time of her arrest, she was carrying papers and a flash drive containing information about the families she aided; she reportedly shredded the papers and broke the flash drive and swallowed the pieces to hide the evidence.²⁹³ At branch 215, she was forced to remove her clothes in an inspection room and a 60-year-old officer in an investigator’s room raped her.²⁹⁴ She recalled that he chained her to a bed and raped her; then he sent her to another investigator’s room, where she was chained to a chair and raped by another officer until she fainted.²⁹⁵

9 July 2012

A Syrian TV program broadcast confessions of 4 men who allegedly committed murder, rape, abduction, robbery, and smuggled weapons into Syria from Lebanon.²⁹⁶ 1 of the men, Haitham Mohammad al-Qassem, described joining a civilian detachment led by a man named Khalil.²⁹⁷ He said that the group abducted 2 women and raped them and attempted to rape 2 others, but they resisted.²⁹⁸ They killed the women who resisted and then dumped their bodies.²⁹⁹

288 BROWN MOSES BLOG, “FSA Video – Captured Shabiha Confesses to Robbery and Rape,” 23 June 2012, available at: <http://brown-moses.blogspot.com/2012/06/fsa-video-captured-shabiha-confesses-to.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016. It is unclear whether Asef and Sulayman are both also lieutenant colonels.

289 *Id.*

290 HRC, “Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic,” 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

291 *Id.*

292 WUS, “Woman, 20, Says She was Repeatedly Raped in Dimashq and Hims Detention Centers,” 1 July 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/264>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

293 *Id.*

294 *Id.*

295 *Id.*

296 WUS, “Man Tells Syrian TV He Abducted, Raped, and Killed Woman,” 9 July 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/93>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

297 *Id.*

298 *Id.*

299 *Id.*

14 July 2012

A story published in The Telegraph contained an alleged Shabiha member's confessions of rape and murder.³⁰⁰ The Shabiha member reported that he received a salary of 30,00 Syrian pounds a month to "act indiscriminately" and allegedly received a bonus of 10,000 Syrian pounds for every person he killed.³⁰¹ He described a rape that he had committed in Halab: "She was a student of Aleppo University. It was daytime and I was driving around the city with my boss. She was passing on the street. I said to my boss, 'What do you think about this girl? Is she not beautiful?' We grabbed her and put her in the car. We drove to an abandoned home and we both raped her. After we finished we killed her. She knew our faces and our neighbors, so she could not live."³⁰²

31 July 2012

A Free Syrian Army soldier testified to the U.N. Commission of Inquiry that he was a part of a group that captured 5 Alawite soldiers near Al-Haffa, al Ladhikiyah.³⁰³ He stated that the soldiers confessed to raping and killing civilians in Al-Haffa.³⁰⁴

2 August 2012

Aishi Zidan, a Finnish journalist, reported that a woman and her daughters told her about their neighbor, who committed suicide after being raped in prison.³⁰⁵ The victim, a 17 or 18-year-old girl, was arrested for joining a demonstration; she was held for 2 weeks in an unidentified detention center where she was repeatedly raped and tortured.³⁰⁶ After being released, she jumped off the balcony of her parents' house to her death.³⁰⁷

4 August 2012

Shabiha members in As Suwayda' reportedly raped an 8-year-old girl during the month of Ramadan.³⁰⁸ A woman, Khalilah Sabra, stated that she and 3 other women helped a group of Syrian women and girls across the Syrian border into Jordan; she works at the Muslim American Society Immigrant Justice Center.³⁰⁹ She said, "We were fortunate to assist 23 women and girls across the Syrian border. Most of these females had been beaten and raped. Age was not a factor. The eldest was over 50 and the youngest was

300 THE TELEGRAPH, "Confessions of an Assad 'Shabiha' Loyalist: How I Rape and Killed for £300 a Month," 14 July 2012, available at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/syria/9400570/Confessions-of-an-Assad-Shabiha-loyalist-how-I-raped-and-killed-for-300-a-month.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

301 *Id.*

302 *Id.*

303 HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

304 *Id.*

305 WUS, "Teen Reportedly Commits Suicide in Al Ladhikiyah after Being Raped in Detention," 2 Aug. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/102>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

306 *Id.*

307 *Id.*

308 WUS, "Shabiha Reportedly Rapes 8-Year-Old Near Al-Suwayda," 4 Aug. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/126>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

309 *Id.*

only 8 years old.”³¹⁰ Sabra said that when the organization picked a girl up to take her across the border: “There was still blood on her legs. She was found and brought to the border before having the opportunity of changing her torn clothes or washing the blood from the bottom portion of her body. It was impossible not to notice that she was still in pain and that her injuries remained raw. I asked her would she like a sheet. I changed my seat in the van we rode in on the way to Jordan and placed the white sheet across the little girl. I tried to hold back my tears as the sheet became stained from the blood dripping down her small legs. I not only saw her pain but I could see her sadness was heavier than any fear she might have.”³¹¹

6 August 2012

A defected Syrian military leader, General Anwar Saadeddine, reported that Brigadier General Manaf Tlass was dismissed after he failed to suppress a protest in Douma, Rif Dimashq.³¹² His assistant was then promoted, and he suppressed the demonstration with extreme violence: “200 people were killed, and about 20-25 women were raped in front of their families.”³¹³

13 August 2012

A Syrian Army Special Forces sergeant, Mohammed, reported to Ya Libnan that he defected after receiving orders to rape teenage girls in Hims.³¹⁴ He reported that the officers, who were mostly Alawite, would target the homes of opposition members, gather the girls and women, rape them, and then kill them so the victims could not identify the officers later.³¹⁵

16 August 2012

A young girl reported to Al-Arabiya that forces loyal to the Regime publicly gang-raped her.³¹⁶ She did not say where this attack occurred, but that the younger women were tied up in the town square by “30” men with “knives and firearms.”³¹⁷ She recalled that 10 men raped her and said, “You want freedom? This is freedom, freedom, freedom.”³¹⁸ She said the men wanted to cut her throat, but because she was so injured, they threw her into a garbage container.³¹⁹

310 *Id.*

311 *Id.*

312 WUS, “Former Syrian Army Officer Says 25 Women Raped in Douma,” 6 Aug. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/111>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

313 *Id.*

314 YALIBNAN, “Syrian Army Accused of Vicious, Systematic Rape,” 13 Aug. 2012, available at: <http://yalibnan.com/2012/08/13/syrian-army-accused-of-vicious-systematic-rape/>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016..

315 *Id.*

316 AL-ARABIYA, “Syrian Girl Tells Details of Rape by Assad’s Forces,” 16 Aug. 2012, available at: <http://www.alarabiya.net/articles/2012/08/16/232587.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

317 *Id.*

318 *Id.*

319 *Id.*

18 August 2012

The Syrian Army attacked Al-Hrak, Dar'a, from 18-25 August 2012.³²⁰ A female survivor of the attack recalled that Regime forces raped women and girls; she reported that 1 victim, a girl who was between 17 and 20, killed herself afterwards.³²¹

26 August 2012

A woman in Darayya, Dimashq, reported that members of the Syrian Army raped her during the last week of August 2012.³²² She said that the Syrian Army raided her apartment and 2 soldiers forced her into a room, where one of them stood guard and the other raped her.³²³ The soldier who stood guard also raped her.³²⁴ Additionally, a witness in Darayya reported an alleged rape of a 23-year-old woman from Al-Jaida.³²⁵ The woman allegedly argued with security officers, demanding that they give her money and jewelry back.³²⁶ The witness stated that the woman "went into a building and came out after half an hour crying, her clothes torn, and begged one of the officers not to let them take her in again. ... When another officer grabbed her by her hair, she screamed, 'They raped me,' and the first officer slapped her."³²⁷

1 September 2012

According to the U.N. Commission of Inquiry, Shabiha members abducted between 40 and 50 women and took them to a wedding hall in a Hims neighborhood.³²⁸ A witness reported that the Shabiha raped daughters in front of their mothers; he also said that he knew some of the victims but did not name them because he did not want to "shame" them.³²⁹

Also, a woman in her thirties was held in a private house in Idlib for a month, and then subsequently held for 7 months at a private house in Ghouta, Dimashq.³³⁰ She and 20 other women were held in a single room in a house, and "many officers" raped them daily.³³¹ The women were burned with cigarettes, and pregnancies as a result of rape were reported, but not confirmed.³³²

320 HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

321 *Id.*

322 WUS, "Woman Reports Being Raped by Syrian Army Members During Raid," 26 Aug. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/133>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

323 *Id.*

324 *Id.*

325 WUS, "Witness Says Military Officers Raped Woman in Darayaa," 26 Aug. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/132>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

326 *Id.*

327 *Id.*

328 HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

329 *Id.*

330 WUS, "Activist Says Woman Raped at Private Houses in Idlib and Dimashq for Eight Months," 1 Sept. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/217>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

331 *Id.*

332 *Id.*

21 September 2012

A woman and her daughter were arrested on the street and then detained at Mez-zeh Military Airport in Dimashq.³³³ The daughter's cell phone allegedly had an image of the resistance flag and a photo of a martyr; the women were "beaten, raped, and held in a crowded cell measuring 4 square meters with 17 other women and children for 20 days."³³⁴

27 September 2012

The Republican Guard allegedly raped a 28-year-old woman in an apartment building in Douma, Rif Dimashq.³³⁵ A witness said that a Republican Guard dragged this woman by the hair to a room and raped her: "When the victim came out of the room, there was blood everywhere. She had been brutally raped multiple times."³³⁶

1 October 2012

"Amal," a 19-year-old woman, reported that military officers raped her in two separate locations: in October 2012 at the Military Security branch in Tartus and in November 2012 at branch 235 in Dimashq.³³⁷

Additionally, a member of the Free Syrian Army reported to the U.N. Commission of Inquiry that Free Syrian Army soldiers had captured and executed an "Alawai soldier" who was "involved in the rape of a woman at a checkpoint."³³⁸ Members of the Free Syrian Army also said that they came upon a car in Halab that held 4 members from another unit, as well as a young boy who claimed he had been abducted.³³⁹ The interviewees said that they interrogated the 4 men and they confessed to raping a woman and a girl in Halab.³⁴⁰

Furthermore, a woman in Hims reported hearing a rape during a Shabiha invasion.³⁴¹ The woman said that she heard 6 or 7 Shabiha members enter her neighbor's home, and then heard her neighbor scream, "They're raping me. Someone help me."³⁴² She also reported hearing the neighbor's 14-year-old son screaming, "Stop raping my mother."³⁴³

333 WORLD CRUNCH, "Syria's Silent War Crime: Systematic Mass Rape," 11 Mar. 2014, available at: <http://www.worldcrunch.com/syria-crisis/syria-039-s-silent-war-crime-systematic-mass-rape/human-rights-prison-torture-as-sad-free-syrian-army/c13s15245/#.U15Ad8cwl4q>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

334 *Id.*

335 WUS, "Man Reports Republican Guards Raped Woman, Killed Men, in Douma Apartment Building," 27 Sept. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/119>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

336 *Id.*

337 HRW, "Syria: Detention and Abuse of Female Activists," 24 June 2013, available at: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2013/06/24/syria-detention-and-abuse-female-activists>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

338 HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

339 *Id.*

340 *Id.*

341 *Id.*

342 *Id.*

343 HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

Finally, an activist reported the story of a woman, Hanane, to Women Under Siege.³⁴⁴ Hanane was arrested and transported by 4 members of Shabiha to the Palestine branch in Dimashq; but, instead of taking her directly to the branch, the men stopped at a house in Tadamon, Dimashq, where they “raped her, hung her by her hands, and electrocuted her for 12 hours before finally delivering her to the Palestine Branch.”³⁴⁵ Hamane spent 4 months at the Palestine branch, and then was transferred to Adra prison for another 4 months.³⁴⁶

21 October 2012

A woman, Su’ad, reported to YNet that her husband had turned her in to the Mukhabarat intelligence service because she wanted to divorce him.³⁴⁷ She said that she aided wounded members of the Free Syrian Army, and that she had been raped, but did not give further details.³⁴⁸

1 November 2012

A 23-year-old woman from Hims reported to a doctor at the Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan that Shabiha forces raped her in her home during a home raid.³⁴⁹ She said that they broke into her home while she was there alone with her 3 daughters.³⁵⁰ She reportedly told the Shabiha no men were in the house, and they then raped her while her three daughters listened in the hall.³⁵¹ The doctor reported that she said, “I am responsible,” as well as that “most of the women and girls raped in that area were raped that day.”³⁵² According to the doctor, she suffers from depression and anxiety as a result of the attack.³⁵³

Additionally, an Amman-based doctor reported that he treated a 17-year-old victim of a gang-rape that occurred in Hims in November 2012.³⁵⁴ The victim sought medical attention about a month after the attack; the doctor said that the attack occurred during a Shabiha raid on her town in Hims.³⁵⁵ She does not remember how many men attacked her, but she said that she clearly remembers the face of the “most violent attacker.”³⁵⁶ Also, a psychiatrist, Yassar Kanawati, reported that she interviewed an 18-year-old ref-

344 WUS, “Activist Tells of Fellow Detainee’s Rape by Shabiha during Transport to Palestine Branch,” 1 Oct. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/223>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

345 *Id.*

346 *Id.*

347 BRANDEIS NOW, “A Visit to Syrian Refugees in Jordan is an Eye-Opener,” 21 Oct. 2012, available at: <http://www.brandeis.edu/now/2012/october/syria.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

348 *Id.*

349 WUS, “Homs Woman Tells Doctor She Blames Herself for Rape by Shabiha,” 1 Nov. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/192>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

350 *Id.*

351 *Id.*

352 *Id.*

353 *Id.*

354 WUS, “Girl Tells Doctor She was Gang-Raped by Shabiha in Hims,” 1 Nov. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/193>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

355 *Id.*

356 *Id.*

ugee who described how his mother, sisters, and fiancée were raped in front of him.³⁵⁷ The refugee is a former Free Syrian Army member from Hims; he described how his mother, sister, fiancée, and female neighbors were brought in front of him in detention and raped.³⁵⁸

Furthermore, an activist, “Rami al-Jundi,” reported that a friend of his witnessed Shabiha members rape a woman from Halab in the al Ladhiqiyah Sports City complex.³⁵⁹ The Shabiha members allegedly said, “We will humiliate your women. Let your [husband/brother, etc.] come pick you up off the ground. Not a Sunni will enter Al Ladhiqiyah without us doing this to his mother, sister, or wife.”³⁶⁰

8 November 2012

Pro-Regime militia members arrested Layal and brought her to a detention center she believed was Military Security branch 215 in Dimashq.³⁶¹ A male officer forced Layal to undress, searched her, molested her, and beat her feet with electric cable.³⁶² After 23 days in branch 215, she was transferred to branch 261 in Hims, where officers blindfolded her, tied her hands with wire, and hung her from the ceiling in the stress position known as “shabeh” for 3 hours.³⁶³ In branch 261, 2 different male officers forced Layal to perform oral sex on them on 2 separate occasions.³⁶⁴ On 9 January 2013, the Regime released Layal as part of a swap for Iranian detainees held by anti-Regime groups in Syria.³⁶⁵

12 November 2012

The Syrian Arab News Agency reported that 2 rebels allegedly confessed to rape.³⁶⁶ 1 of the rebels, Bassam Ismael al-Hajj Ali, who belongs to the Halab-based al-Tawhid Brigade, said that he participated in “crimes of killing, kidnapping, looting, and rape.”³⁶⁷ There is no explicit reference to the other rebel, Walid Kanaan, participating in the crimes.³⁶⁸

357 WUS, “Young Man Tells Psychiatrist His Fiancée, Sisters, Mother Raped in Front of Him in Syrian Prison,” 1 Nov. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/177>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

358 *Id.*

359 WUS, “Activist Says Friend Witnessed Rape of Woman in Latakia Sports City,” 1 Nov. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/242>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

360 *Id.*

361 HRW, “We Are Still Here,” 2 July 2014, available at: <https://www.hrw.org/report/2014/07/02/we-are-still-here/women-front-lines-syrias-conflict>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

362 *Id.*

363 *Id.*

364 *Id.*

365 *Id.*

366 WUS, “Official Syrian News Agency Reports Two Rebels Confess to Rape,” 12 Nov. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/129>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

367 *Id.*

368 *Id.*

14 November 2012

A Syrian-American activist, Sarab al-Jijakli, reported that a Free Syrian Army soldier told him the story of a girl who was raped at a checkpoint in Rif Hamah.³⁶⁹ The girl was traveling through Hamah with her family; the family was stopped at a checkpoint by Shabiha members, and as a “tax” to pass, the girl was “savagely raped in front of her helpless father, mother, and teenage brother.”³⁷⁰ Allegedly, the brother snapped as a result of witnessing the rape, and later drove an explosive-filled car into the checkpoint.³⁷¹ There are reports of a suicide attack at a checkpoint in Hamah on 5 November 2012, but a connection between the alleged perpetrator and the suicide attack has not been established.³⁷²

15 November 2012

The Center for Civil Society and Democracy in Syria reported the rape of a female activist in detention.³⁷³ She had been detained 3 times at a criminal security facility in Halab; she was raped during her third detainment, which lasted 8 days.³⁷⁴

1 December 2012

Shabiha raped and tortured a 14-year-old girl in Idlib.³⁷⁵ The girl was kidnapped by 4 men and held in the basement of a private house for 8 days.³⁷⁶ During that period, the men raped, beat, and burned her with cigarettes; they also injected her with unknown substances.³⁷⁷ She was smuggled out of the house by a woman who served the men tea and coffee.³⁷⁸

Additionally, a Syrian man reported to the International Federation for Human Rights that he witnessed “‘elements’ of the [Free Syrian Army] abducting a ‘pretty girl known for her relations with a young man’.”³⁷⁹ The man reported that the soldiers raped and killed her, then they dumped her body in front of her house and told people that the Syrian Army had raped and killed her.³⁸⁰ Furthermore, a woman reported that she knew of 2 women who committed suicide after being raped by Regime forces.³⁸¹

369 SARABIAN, “Rape in Syria,” 3 Apr. 2013, available at: <https://sarabiany.wordpress.com/2013/04/03/rape-in-syria/>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

370 *Id.*

371 *Id.*

372 *Id.*

373 WUS, “Activist Raped during Third Detainment in Aleppo,” 15 Nov. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/232>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

374 *Id.*

375 WUS, “Multiple Sources Confirm Rape and Torture of 14-Year-Old Girl in Private House,” 1 Dec. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/212>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016..

376 *Id.*

377 *Id.*

378 *Id.*

379 INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS [hereinafter FIDH], “Violence Against Women in Syria: Breaking the Silence,” Apr. 2013, available at: https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/syria_sexual_violence-web.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016..

380 *Id.*

381 *Id.*

14 December 2012

A doctor, who works with Syria Bright Future, reported that a relative of his was raped and impregnated in Hims.³⁸²

18 December 2012

A former Syrian soldier reported to the Free Syrian News Agency that he and other soldiers were given sexual stimulants and ordered by their superiors to rape women in Hims.³⁸³ He issued the following statement: "I am Sergeant Maher Ahmad Muhammad, from the headquarters of the III Corps. I am from Tall Shenan village and I am an Alawite. We went into Baba Amr [Hims] in the third month. Orders to enter with force came from Brigadier General Issam Zahrudin, Brigadier General Nabil Elkhatib, and General Wajih Mahmoud. They wanted a cover for the Military Security forces and the Air Force Intelligence personnel. They gathered the civilians at a distance and Issam Zahrudin ordered us to shoot all of them. We shot them all. Then, they took us to different halls filled with women. Two hours earlier, they had given each of us two tablets of Zemax, a sexual stimulant, to swallow. They ordered us to rape the women. I raped three women. After the rapes we left the halls. I do not know what happened to those women. We went back to the first roadblock. We were supposed to head to Bab Siba but they changed their mind and we returned to the headquarters of the III Corps."³⁸⁴

A YouTube video also shows the coerced confession of a Shabiha member who participate in the gang-rape of a 15-year-old girl in Dayr az Zawr.³⁸⁵

21 December 2012

A Syrian refugee service organization reported that its members treated a woman who was raped by Regime forces.³⁸⁶ The organization said that the woman was detained in a private apartment for several days with 20 other women; the women were injected with a substance that "made them feel weak" and soldiers raped them.³⁸⁷ She was later taken to the Palestine branch.³⁸⁸

382 *Id.*

383 WUS, "Soldier Says Commanding Officers Order Rapes, Dispensed Sexual Stimulants," 18 Dec. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/140>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

384 *Id.*

385 WUS, "Shabiha Member Describes Dayr al-Zawr Gang Rape," 18 Dec. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/141>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

386 FIDH, "Violence Against Women in Syria: Breaking the Silence," Apr. 2013, available at: https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/syria_sexual_violence-web.pdf, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

387 *Id.*

388 *Id.*

22 December 2012

Syria Online TV posted a video of a confession of rape by a member of an opposition group known as “Abdulhadi’s Gang.”³⁸⁹ The member making the confession is identified as Abdulhai al-Akkari.³⁹⁰ He described how he and Sheikh Zakariyyah al-Dakka joined on-going Talbiseh, Hims, protests, where they “shot at protestors from behind so they could blame security forces and to “stir up trouble” with Turkey.³⁹¹ He also described how he and his group kidnapped 5 girls from different neighborhoods and took them to a farm where they raped and killed them.³⁹² The location of the farm is not specified.

23 December 2012

A video depicted a member of the Shabiha confessing to raping 4 women.³⁹³ The Shabiha member, identified as Mahmoud Slaibi, stated that he was stationed at the first roadblock on Nisreen Street in Tadamon, Dimashq.³⁹⁴ He confessed that he and 4 of his friends raped 4 married women in the Zubair Bin Al-Awam Mosque.³⁹⁵

Additionally, the Majmoo’at Asad Allah, an opposition group from the Free Dimashq Brigade and the Saad Bin Ubadah Battalion, captured members of the Regime forces and filmed alleged confessions of rape and murder.³⁹⁶ 1 of the interviewees, a police officer from the Ministry of Interior Muhammad Abdullah Dawoud, reported that Brigadier General Talal Alaisami gave orders to “break into homes, take valuables, and rape women” in Al-Hrak and Inkhil, Dar’a.”³⁹⁷

25 December 2012

An Alawite woman reported sexual torture of girls near the summer home of Rami Maklouf, Bashar al-Assad’s cousin.³⁹⁸ She said that a guard told her 4 girls were being held prisoner in the house so people could “vent their anger” toward them.³⁹⁹ She asked to see the girls, and she reported seeing 4 girls, aged 16, 17, 18, and 20; the girls were covered in blood and filth.⁴⁰⁰ The guard told her that once the girls were no longer of use and had “expired,” they would throw them out and get new ones.⁴⁰¹

389 WUS, “Member of Opposition Group Confesses to Rape on Syrian State TV,” 22 Dec. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/142>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

390 *Id.*

391 *Id.*

392 *Id.*

393 WUS, “Shabiha Member Says He Raped Four Women in a Dimashq Mosque,” 23 Dec. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/143>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

394 *Id.*

395 *Id.*

396 WUS, “Policeman Says He Raped Four Women in Al Hrak,” 23 Dec. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/144>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

397 *Id.*

398 WUS, “Alawite Woman Reports Regime Imprisonment and Sexualized Torture of Girls,” 25 Dec. 2012, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/146>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

399 *Id.*

400 *Id.*

401 *Id.*

1 January 2013

A rehabilitation center administrator in Turkey reported that a security guard at Idlib University raped a 20-year-old student; the security guard was allegedly provided to the school by the Syrian Army.⁴⁰² The student was smuggled out of Syria to a rehabilitation center in Turkey; a gynecological exam indicated that she was 40 days pregnant.⁴⁰³ The pregnancy was aborted and the student eventually returned to Syria.⁴⁰⁴

Furthermore, the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network reported the rape of a 19-year-old woman, Aida, in both Tartus and Palestine Military Security branches.⁴⁰⁵ She was reportedly gang-raped by 3 men in Tartus; after the rape, she said that she could not stand, and the prison doctor gave her an injection so that she could stand in front of a judge.⁴⁰⁶ She also said that members of the security unit at the Palestine branch raped her until she fainted.⁴⁰⁷ The officers later moved her to a Military Police hospital in Dimashq and called her parents to tell them she was dead.⁴⁰⁸

6 January 2013

The Iranian news agency FARS reported “armed rebels in Syria attacked and raped [2] women and [4] children.”⁴⁰⁹ The women and children were allegedly raped on a farm in Qaminas near the outskirts of Idlib.⁴¹⁰

9 January 2013

Khetam Bneyan, a Syrian activist and law student, reported that her prison mate, identified as Um Tim, was raped in detention.⁴¹¹ Bneyan said that a Syrian Army captain raped Um Tim daily because her husband worked for the Free Syrian Army.⁴¹² The captain would force Um Tim onto a bed and tie her arms and legs.⁴¹³

14 January 2013

A woman reported to the International Rescue Committee that she heard the rape of her neighbor in Dar’a.⁴¹⁴

402 WUS, “Hospital Administrator Recounts Rape and Aborted Pregnancy of Student Activist from Idlib,” 1 Jan. 2013, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/233>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

403 *Id.*

404 *Id.*

405 EURO-MED, “Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict,” 25 Nov. 2013, available at: <http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

406 *Id.*

407 *Id.*

408 *Id.*

409 FARS NEWS, “Syrian Rebels Rape 2 Women, 4 Children in Reef Idlib,” 6 Jan. 2013, available at: <http://www.thefreelibrary.com/Syrian+Rebels+Rape+2+Women,+4+Children+in+Reef+Idlib.-a0314026033>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

410 *Id.*

411 WOMEN’S E-NEWS, “After Prison in Syria I Cannot Ever Forget,” 6 Feb. 2013, available at: <http://womensenews.org/2013/02/after-prison-in-syria-i-cannot-ever-forget-0/#.UT7hBM2Xkf8>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

412 *Id.*

413 *Id.*

414 INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE, “Syria: A Regional Crisis,” Jan. 2013, available at: <http://www.rescue.org/sites/default/files/resource-file/IRCReportMidEast20130114.pdf>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

16 January 2013

Witnesses reported Shabiha forces invaded Al-Huswayieh, Hims, and raped 42 women and girls.⁴¹⁵ Witnesses stated that the Shabiha came into the town at 7 a.m.; they took money, phones, and jewelry, and if a woman did not have money or jewelry, “they would strip and rape her.”⁴¹⁶ 1 witness said that 42 women and girls were raped in front of people and others were used as human shields; the witness described the event as a “massacre and a crime with no precedent.”⁴¹⁷

17 January 2013

A woman reported that she had witnessed the rape of a 16-year-old girl while in detention.⁴¹⁸

1 February 2013

An activist, “Rami al-Jundi,” reported that his cellmate in the al Ladhiqiyah Political branch told him about a woman who was raped in the al Ladhiqiyah Sports City.⁴¹⁹ The woman was arrested, along with her 4-year-old son, at a checkpoint; after being arrested, she was raped anally daily for 3 months.⁴²⁰

Also, the Syrian Emergency Task Force in Turkey reported that Shabiha forces raped 24 women in Baba Amr, Hims.⁴²¹ The women sought refuge at a shelter to avoid being captured in the raid; instead, they were held there and gang-raped for 2 days.⁴²²

13 February 2013

An activist, Samrah al-Hadi, reported that she heard about young girl who was raped in Rif Dimashq.⁴²³ The girl, 13 or 14 years old, and her family were traveling through Rif Dimashq.⁴²⁴ When they reached a checkpoint, something provoked her father and he may have spoken rudely to the checkpoint agents.⁴²⁵ As a result, the agents pulled the girl out of the car and took her away; when they came back, the girl was crying.⁴²⁶

415 YOUTUBE, “The Atrocities of the Regime in the Massacre in Homs and Rape of 42 Women,” 18 Jan. 2013, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=OnAPkDnHvxA, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

416 *Id.*

417 *Id.*

418 YOUTUBE, “SYRIA: A Women Freed from Assad’s Prisons Gives Her Testimony About What’s Happening There,” 17 Jan. 2013, available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZ1dKchBDCE&feature=youtu.be>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

419 WUS, “Activist Relays Story of Repeated Rape of Woman at Al Ladhiqiyah Sports City,” 1 Feb. 2013, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/239>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

420 *Id.*

421 WUS, “Two Dozen Women Allegedly Raped over Two Days in Baba Amr Shelter,” 1 Feb. 2013, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/210>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

422 *Id.*

423 WUS, “Activists Describe Sexualized Violence and Its Consequences in Souria Alghad TV Segment,” 13 Feb. 2013, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/153>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

424 *Id.*

425 *Id.*

426 *Id.*

28 February 2013

The Syrian Arab News Agency aired a video of an al-Qaeda-affiliated individual, Has-sam Ali Bakkour, confessing to “abduction, rape, and slaughter.”⁴²⁷ Bakkour said that he was “instructed to abduct [4] women from Baba Amr.”⁴²⁸ He, along with 4 gunmen, allegedly abducted the women, blindfolded them, left them in a basement overnight, and raped and killed them.⁴²⁹

6 April 2013

A woman told Dr. Hala al Ghawi that soldiers gang-raped her in her home while her husband was demonstrating in Hims.⁴³⁰ Al Ghawi said that the next day, the woman denied the rape and said she was scared that if her husband or brothers found out, her husband would divorce her and her brothers would kill her after the divorce.⁴³¹

26 April 2013

Omar al-Jeblawi, a spokesman for the Revolutionaries of Jableh, reported that Shabiha members raped and impregnated his cousin, age 27 or 28.⁴³² He said that before the May 3 massacre in Baniyas, his cousin was going to Tartus when she was stopped at a checkpoint near Baniyas.⁴³³ Men in civilian clothes took her to a cabin nearby and raped her for an hour; after the attack, they left her on the side of the highway and a friend picked her up.⁴³⁴ Her cousin said that she drank castor oil to induce a miscarriage and later miscarried due to the stress of witnessing relatives killed during the massacre.⁴³⁵

6 May 2013

A social worker, Sawsan Abdullah, who works with the Syrian-American Medical Society, reported that Syrian army soldiers raped, beat, and shot a 13-year-old girl from Hims in the back.⁴³⁶ The girl and her family were fleeing Hims when they were stopped at a checkpoint, where soldiers allegedly took her out of the car and attacked her.⁴³⁷ She had surgery to remove the bullet from her back and is now paralyzed.⁴³⁸

427 BEFORE IT'S NEWS, “Syria News 28.2.2013, Abduction, Rape and Slaughter Acts,” 28 Feb. 2013, available at: <http://beforeitsnews.com/politics/2013/02/syria-news-28-2-2013-abduction-rape-and-slaughter-acts-terrorist-conf-2497776.html>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

428 *Id.*

429 *Id.*

430 TORONTO STAR, “Syrian Women Who Fled to Jordan Tell of Horrific Rapes Back Home,” 6 Apr. 2013, available at: http://www.thestar.com/news/world/2013/04/06/syrian_women_who_fled_to_jordan_tell_of_horrific_rapes_back_home.html, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

431 *Id.*

432 WUS, “Activist Says Shabiha Raped and Impregnated His Cousin Near Baniyas,” 26 Apr. 2013, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/221>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

433 *Id.*

434 *Id.*

435 *Id.*

436 WUS, “Amman Clinic Treating Girl, 13, Allegedly Raped by Army Then Shot,” 6 May 2013, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/205>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

437 *Id.*

438 *Id.*

2 June 2013

A woman was arrested, raped, tortured, and left in the middle of Mid-Circulatory Road in Jobar, Dimashq.⁴³⁹ Several Free Syrian Army members tried to help her, but Regime snipers shot them.⁴⁴⁰ The woman died after 10 hours in the street.⁴⁴¹

3 June 2013

Al-Arabiya described how Syrian Army forces raped and tortured a 19-year-old woman, “Amal,” after she was arrested.⁴⁴² During her 100-day imprisonment, she was raped “many times” and then reportedly transferred 5 times, including a transfer to Adra prison.⁴⁴³

13 June 2013

Raiefa Sammei, a member of the Executive Office for the Local Coordination Committee in Idlib, reported that a woman from Idlib sent her a Facebook message that her 22-year-old daughter was raped.⁴⁴⁴ Instead of documentation, the mother wanted the activist to help her procure the hymen restoration surgery so that her daughter would have marriage prospects; she said in her message that she did not want her daughter documented because of the scandal.⁴⁴⁵

17 June 2013

A Syrian activist reported a story that she heard from a cellmate in the Military Intelligence branch in Dimashq.⁴⁴⁶ The activist said that her cellmate shared a cell with 2 Free Syrian Army wives who had been raped by 2 Shabiha members.⁴⁴⁷ Shabiha members arrested the 2 couples, and while on a bus to a detention facility, they “beat and restrained the husbands while they attacked their wives, one of whom was pregnant.”⁴⁴⁸ The women were forced to perform oral sex on the Shabiha members and they raped the woman who was not pregnant.⁴⁴⁹

439 YOUTUBE, “Hearing is in No Way Equal to Witnessing,” 2 June 2013, available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=foaQ5RdoY5Y&feature=youtu.be>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

440 *Id.*

441 *Id.*

442 WUS, “Woman Tells Al-Arabiya She Was Repeatedly Raped in Dimashq Prisons,” 3 June 2013, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/209>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

443 *Id.*

444 WUS, “Woman Sends Facebook Message to Activist Saying Her Daughter Was Raped,” 13 June 2013, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/218>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

445 *Id.*

446 WUS, “Activist Relays Story of Double Rape of FSA Wives,” 17 June 2013, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/234>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

447 *Id.*

448 *Id.*

449 *Id.*

1 October 2013

A reporter witnessed a Free Syrian Army interrogation of a Shabiha member in Ma'arret An-Nu'man, Idlib.⁴⁵⁰ The Shabiha member, "Mustafa," confessed that he raped a woman whose husband refused to give the Shabiha free fuel, a pharmacist who refused to fill a prescription for sedatives for the Shabiha when she found out the prescription was forged, and his brother's wife to "get her to persuade her husband to join the irregular militia."⁴⁵¹ He denied responsibility for the attacks because "he was under the influence of drugs given to the fighters of the irregular militia without their knowledge."⁴⁵²

11 November 2013

A Dimashq-based human rights lawyer, Anwar al-Bunni, reported that he has a client who became pregnant as a result of rape in detention.⁴⁵³

21 January 2014

The Syrian Observer reported that a woman named Saud was arrested at the Wadi ad-Dahad checkpoint in Idlib because for "being from a neighborhood which had rebelled against the [R]egime."⁴⁵⁴ She and her son were arrested and taken into a room where soldiers began to bite her and yelled sectarian abuse at them.⁴⁵⁵ She said that the commander of the checkpoint, Abu Naif, watched the torture and gave orders.⁴⁵⁶ They were held at the checkpoint for 5 days, during which she was injected with a substance that made her lose consciousness and multiple men raped her.⁴⁵⁷ She also recalled that the attacks were filmed.⁴⁵⁸

15 March 2014

The Local Coordination Committees in al-Mahatta, Dar'a, reported that Regime forces kidnapped 18 women near an Al-Jamuu hill checkpoint.⁴⁵⁹ The women were kept for days without food at the checkpoint and were repeatedly raped; the women were transferred to a Military Security branch in Dar'a and other checkpoints at Hamida al-Taher, Al-Sikke, and Al-Hamra Institute.⁴⁶⁰ They were raped at each location.⁴⁶¹ The women were also

450 ASIA TIMES, "Interrogating an Assad Militiaman," 1 Oct. 2013, available at: http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle_East/MID-02-011013.html, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

451 *Id.*

452 *Id.*

453 REUTERS, "Syrian Women Suffer Inside Their Country and Out," 11 Nov. 2013, available at: <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-arab-women-syria-idUSBRE9AB00L20131112>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

454 WUS, "Woman Describes Multiple Rapes at Idlib Checkpoint," 21 Jan. 2014, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/254>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

455 *Id.*

456 *Id.*

457 *Id.*

458 *Id.*

459 WUS, "Woman Says She Was Among 18 Women Drugged and Repeatedly Raped by Government Forces," 15 Mar. 2014, available at: <https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/265>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

460 *Id.*

461 *Id.*

taken to Al-Hamed Mall in Busra Square where they were also raped.⁴⁶² Women who resisted were given sedatives and hallucinogenic drugs, including Zolam.⁴⁶³

10 November 2014

A USA Today reporter interviewed a female Syrian Rebel Sniper. The woman said that she was repeatedly gang-raped and tortured while in prison.⁴⁶⁴ The woman reported that lit cigarettes were ground into her arms.⁴⁶⁵

10 January 2015

Lebanon's Daily Star reported that a video posted online shows a man who fought with the Iraqi Shiite Abu al-Fadl Abbas militia confessing to participating in 6 rapes.⁴⁶⁶

22 January 2015

The Daily Telegraph reported on an interview of 4 Yazidi women who were held captive, raped, and tortured by ISIS jihadists Khaled Sharrouf and Mohamed Elomar.⁴⁶⁷ Sharrouf and Elomar bought women and girls from a slave yard and detained them in a house in Ar Raqqa, where Sharrouf lived with his wife and children on one floor and Elomar on another.⁴⁶⁸ The Yazidi women said that Sharrouf taught his children how to threaten and torture the Yazidi girls.⁴⁶⁹ The women also said that Elomar raped and held the constant threat of rape over them throughout their captivity.⁴⁷⁰

462 *Id.*

463 *Id.*

464 USA TODAY, "Voices: Why We Should Care About Syria," 10 Nov. 2014, available at: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2014/11/10/why-we-should-care-about-syria/18557065/>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

465 *Id.*

466 THE DAILY STAR, "Islamist Extrajudicial Killing Videos Surface in Syria," 15 Jan. 2015, available at: <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2015/Jan-15/284155-islamist-extrajudicial-killing-videos-surface-in-syria.ashx>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

467 THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, "Aussie Khaled Sharrouf Teaches Sons To Torture Girls After He Rapes Them," 23 Jan. 2015, available at: <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/aussie-khaled-sharrouf-teaches-sons-to-torture-girls-after-he-rapes-them/story-fni0cx12-1227193884267>, last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.

468 *Id.*

469 *Id.*

470 *Id.*

Appendix III: Crime Base Matrix

Date	Location	Source	Description of Incident	Re-sponsible Party	Rome Statute	Geneva Conventions	Syrian Penal Code
31 Mar. 2011	Dar'a	WORLD CRUNCH, "Syria's Silent War Crime: Systematic Mass Rape," 11 March 2014, available at: http://www.worldcrunch.com/syria-crisis/syria-039-s-silent-war-crime-systematic-mass-rape/human-rights-prison-torture-assad-free-syrian-army/c13s15245/#.VbYrnaPD_cv , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was held for 6 months and raped daily in a detention center.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
5 Apr. 2011	Dar'a	AL HAYAT, "Syrian Women Refugees In Jordan: We Were Forced To Watch The Rape Of Daughters," 3 June 2012, available at: http://alhayat.com/Details/407807 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman, Basma, reported that women and children were raped in an attack on a town.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
29 Apr. 2011	Dimashq	AL ARABIYA NEWS, "Syrians In Amman Hospital Tell Al Arabiya Of Regime Torture," 6 June 2013, available at: http://english.alarabiya.net/en/perspective/features/2013/06/06/Syrians-in-Amman-hospital-tell-Al-Arabiya-of-regime-torture-.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman, Alma, was blindfolded and gang-raped in Harasta Detention Center.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
6 May 2011	Hims	WOMEN UNDER SIEGE [hereinafter WUS], "Homs Woman Shares Details of Her Alleged Rape," 6 May 2011, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowd-map.com/reports/view/22 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped by 5 Syrian soldiers in her home and burned with cigarettes.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

13 May 2011	Al Ladhqiyyah	WUS, "Activist Says He Was Forced to Witness Rape at Al Ladhqiyyah Military Branch," 13 May 2011, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowd-map.com/reports/view/241 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A male activist was forced to watch a captain and 2 soldiers rape a woman in the al Ladhqiyyah Military Intelligence branch.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2) (e)(vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
12 June 2011	Hims: Ar-Rastan	THE JERUSALEM POST, "Army Deserters Claim Syrian Soldiers "Raped Women In Front Of Their Husbands," Said Soldiers Were Ordered To Shoot At Unarmed Civilians," 12 June 2011, available at: http://www.jpost.com/Video-Articles/Video/Syrian-army-defectors-tell-of-rape-indiscriminate-murder , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Defected Syrian soldiers reported that they were ordered to rape Syrian women in front of their husbands.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
17 June 2011	Idlib: Jisr-al-Shughour	TIME, "Stories of Mass Rape: Sifting Through Rumor and Taboo in Syria," Women Under Siege," 20 June 2011, available at: http://content.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,2078622,00.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Soldiers abducted women from Jisr-al-Shughour and held them in a sugar factory, where the soldiers raped them and forced them to serve tea and coffee naked.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2) (e)(vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540;
23 June 2011	Hims: Baniyas, Talbiseh	BBC NEWS, "Syrian Refugees Tell of Rape, Murder And Destruction," 23 June 2011, available at: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/newsnight/9521198.stm , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Soldiers raped women.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

25 June 2011	Dar'a	HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH [herein-after HRW], "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A man reported that 7 Shabiha and Syrian military forces raped his wife while 3 of them held him down and made him watch.	Regime; Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Oct. 2011	Al Ladhiqiyah	WUS, "Al Ladhiqiyah Prisoner Says He Was Forced To Watch Woman's Rape," 1 Oct. 2011, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/33 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Male prisoners, including the woman's husband, were forced to watch security forces raping a woman.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c)(i); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(a); Art. 3(1)(c); Art. 3(1)(d); Art. 4(1); Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
4 Oct. 2011	Hims: Al-Wa'er, Al-Insha'aat, Al-Ghouta & Hamra	YOUTUBE, "Homs: Shabiha Hasan Rajab Releases Information on Young Girls Being Kidnapped," 4 Oct. 2011, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UU6KuUaKsTY , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Syrian army volunteer reported to FSA that his mission from the Military Security branch was to kidnap and rape girls.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(c); Art. 3(1)(d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

16 Oct. 2011	Dimashq: Sakba, Kafarbatna & Jisreen	WUS, "Air Force Private Alleges Rape of Women and Girls in Dimashq," 16 Oct. 2011, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/15 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Syrian Air Force private said that soldiers took female protestors from these neighborhoods to the Military Security branch, where they were raped.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
16 Oct. 2011	Dimashq: Abu Rummaneh	WUS, "Air Force Private Alleges Rape of Women and Girls in Dimashq," 16 Oct. 2011, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/15 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A restaurant was raided and 2 young girls were taken to Umayyad Square Military Security branch, where they were raped.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Nov. 2011	Hims	HRW, "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A defected security officer saw video depicting the rape of 2 women by 5 security personnel.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Nov. 2011	Hims: Bab al-Dreib	WUS, "Two Women Describe Gang-Rape at Military Intelligence Unit in Bab al-Dreib, Hims," 1 Nov. 2011, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/211 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	2 women were kidnapped and then gang-raped at Bab al-Dreib military intelligence unit.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi);	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Dec. 2011	Al Ladhqiya: Sport City	WUS, "Activist Says Shabiha Use Latakia Sports City as a Base for Torture and Rape," 1 Dec. 2011, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/219 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Women and girls were held and raped.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Dec. 2011	Dimashq	TORONTO STAR, "Syrian women who fled to Jordan tell of horrific rapes back home," 6 Apr. 2013, available at: http://www.thestar.com/news/world/2013/04/06/syrian_women_who_fled_to_jordan_tell_of_horrific_rapes_back_home.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Nour was held for 60 days and raped daily by men in civilian and military clothes: rats were also used.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Jan. 2012	Hims: Al-Khalidiya	WUS, "16-Year-Old Girl Describes Abduction, Rape, and Murder of Friends," 1 Jan. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/96 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	3 girls were kidnapped from school and raped; the girls were subsequently killed.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi);	G Art. 3(1)(c); Art. 3(1)(d); AP II Art. 4(2) (e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Feb. 2012	Hims: Al-Ghouta	EURO-MEDITERRANEAN HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK [hereinafter EURO-MED], "Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict," 25 Nov. 2013, available at: http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Lina was held for a month, where she was beaten, raped, and burned with cigarettes. She also had an abortion for an unwanted pregnancy.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Feb. 2012	Dimashq	VANITY FAIR, "Syria's Unspoken Crimes," 29 July 2013, available at: http://www.vanityfair.com/news/2013/07/rape-syria-happening-every-day0 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Sabeen was detained at the Dimashq Airport, then raped at a state security prison.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Feb. 2012	Hims	U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL [hereinafter HRC], "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A defected soldier stated his orders were to shoot anything that moved and rape the women.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
18 Feb. 2012	Dimashq: Al-Zabadani	HRW, "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A young woman was taken to a military camp, where she was taken into an armored vehicle and raped.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
29 Feb. 2012	Dimashq: Al-Zabadani	HRW, "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was kidnapped and taken to a commander to be raped.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Hims: Hayy Ashera	HRW, "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A medical aid worker treated 5 victims of rape at a field hospital.	Unknown	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Hims: Baba Amr	HRW, "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped in her home and then killed; her 5 children were also killed.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Hims: Baba Amr	HRW, "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A member of the Syrian army dressed in civilian clothes raped a woman.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Mar. 2012	Hims: Karm al-Zeitoun	HRW, "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Shabiha raped a woman's daughters, aged 16, 18, and 12.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Hims: Bab al Sabaa	TORONTO STAR, "Syrian women who fled to Jordan tell of horrific rapes back home," 6 Apr. 2013, available at: http://www.thestar.com/news/world/2013/04/06/syrian_women_who_fled_to_jordan_tell_of_horrific_rapes_back_home.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	The Syrian army used 10-15 women as human shields by stripping them and forcing them to walk naked in front of the tanks; the women were then raped and killed.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Hims: Baba Amr	EURO-MED, "Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict," 25 Nov. 2013, available at: http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Syrian soldier raped a 9-year-old girl in front of her family.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Hims: Baba Amr	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A man said that 40-50 men in military dress raided his home and gang-raped his wife and 2 daughters; he was also raped.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Mar. 2012	Dimashq	BBC NEWS, "Syria ex-detainees allege ordeals of rape and sex abuse," 25 Sept. 2012, available at: http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-19718075 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was held in the Palestine branch; she was raped daily and rats and mice were used in the assaults.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c)(i); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(a); Art. 3(1)(c); Art. 3(1)(d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Hims: Ar-Rastan	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A soldier defected after he heard Shabiha forces rape women in a home during a raid.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Hims: Karm al-Zeitoun	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Witnesses reported watching soldiers rape, then execute a 16-year-old girl.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Dimashq	WUS, "Activist Accounts Repeated Rape, Pregnancy, and Sexualized Torture Fellow Detainee," 1 Mar. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/224 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A doctoral student was held and subjected to rape, torture, and experienced a forced miscarriage after becoming pregnant.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c)(i); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(a); Art. 3(1)(c); Art. 3(1)(d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Mar. 2012	Dar'a: Inkhil	WUS, "Refugee Says Shabiha Raped and Impregnated Her Friend," 1 Mar. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/204 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman reported that her friend was raped and impregnated.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Mar. 2012	Hamah	WUS, "Online Activist from Jableh Kidnapped and Raped for a Month in Reef Hama," 1 Mar. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/225 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	21-year-old Hiba was abducted and held for a month, during which she was raped repeatedly.	Unknown	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
4 Mar. 2012	Hims: Al-Bir Hospital	YOUTUBE, "Syria nurse striking Sheikh Rashid Al-Zahrani," 4 Mar. 2012, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=EaQ-CIznp078&fb_source=message , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A nurse reported that two young girls asked for an injection to make them die because they had been raped.	Unknown	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
9 Mar. 2012	Hims	BBC NEWS, "Syrian soldiers accused of 'extreme brutality' by activist," 9 Mar. 2012, available at: http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-17311569 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	An activist reported that soldiers were looking for "virgin women" to rape and raped girls as young as 12.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
9 Mar. 2012	Hims: Baba Amr	YOUTUBE, "Hadi Al-Abdullah Where are you, Muslims cries and groans very, very influential," 9 Mar. 2012, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-zftYGFLUyc&feature=youtu.be , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Syrian army forces raped women at the Dera'i Hall; some of the women were as young as 14.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

9 Mar. 2012	Dimashq	BBC NEWS, "Syrian soldiers accused of 'extreme brutality' by activist," 9 Mar. 2012, available at: http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-17311569 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A detainee's wife was brought to the detention facility and then raped in front of him by multiple men.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
9 Mar. 2012	Idlib: Kurin	DUNIA AL-WATAN, "Lady Syria: Assad soldiers killed my husband and my son in front of me and then raped her in succession," 1 Mar. 2012, available at: http://www.alwatanvoice.com/arabic/news/2012/03/01/254203.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped by 5 soldiers after they fired shots in her home and attempted to kill her son with a knife.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
12 Mar. 2012	Hims	REUTERS, "West and Russia split over Syria, massacre in Homs", 12 March 2012, available at: http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/03/12/us-syria-idUSBRE8280G820120312 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	2 young females were raped in the aftermath of the massacre.	Unknown	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
12 Mar. 2012	Hims: Karm al-Zeitoun	YOUTUBE, "Arabic Dr. Hassan of Homs Mjaaaaaaazer appalling in the olive grove and deaths as a result of rape," 12 March 2012, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=byA9oqcmegQ , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A doctor reported that he documented 16 cases of women who had been raped and killed.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
16 Mar. 2012	Unknown	AL JAZEERA, "Rape victims in Syria," 16 March 2012, available at: http://www.aljazeera.net/humanrights/pages/0e7bdef2-281b-46af-ba82-f404f8091e7d , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A young woman was arrested at a protest, then beaten and raped.	Unknown	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Apr. 2012	Hims	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was abducted and held for 10 days, where she was raped vaginally and anally.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
2 Apr. 2012	Idlib	WUS, "Former Sergeant Reports Raping and Killing Women and Girls in Idlib," 2 Apr. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/31 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Former sergeant reported that his unit raped and tortured women and girls daily.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
2 Apr. 2012	Southern Syria	YOUTUBE, "Syrian Doctors Speaks of Horrors Faced by Civilians," 1 Apr. 2012, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sYt-tYiOXkVw&feature=youtu.be , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Doctor reported hearing of 2 girls, aged 10 and 14, who became pregnant as a result of rape.	Unknown	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
3 Apr. 2012	Idlib: Taftanaz Airport	WUS, "Army Sergeant Says He Raped Women at Taftanaz Airport," 3 Apr. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/32 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A captured soldier reported that he raped 2 women at the airport.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
7 Apr. 2012	Hims: Kassara, Deir Ba'alba	WUS, "Man Alleges Iranian Pro-Regime Forces Raped Women in Hims Massacre," 7 Apr. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/34 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Iranian pro-Regime forces stormed the village and raped women, forcing the men to watch.	Other	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

9 Apr. 2012	Unknown	NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO, "Defectors Offer Insider's View of Syrian Army," 9 Apr. 2012, available at: http://www.npr.org/2012/04/09/150257045/defected-soldiers-offer-insiders-view-of-syrian-army , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Security of-ficers raped the wife and daughter of a man they pulled from a car to interrogate.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
20 Apr. 2012	Unknown	WUS, "Woman Describes Her Own Rape on Facebook Video," 20 Apr. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowd-map.com/reports/view/44 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	3 men from Hezbollah raped a woman in her home.	Other	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
25 Apr. 2012	Hims	THE TELEGRAPH, "Assad's Thugs Are Raping and Impregnating Women in Syria," 27 Apr. 2012, available at: http://henryjacksonsociety.org/2012/04/27/assads-thugs-are-rape-and-impregnating-women-in-syria/ , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	3 Shabiha members forced a father to watch them rape his daughter.	Shabi-ha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 May 2012	Hims	HRW, "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: https://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	10 Shabiha gang-raped 2 girls, ages 14 and 21, during a home raid in Hims; 14-year-old girl received treatment for an unspecified STD.	Shabi-ha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 May 2012	Hims	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped by 5 men after returning to her home after it had been shelled.	Un-known	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

1 May 2012	Hims	WUS, "Psychiatrist Tells WMC's Women Under Siege of Rape of Sisters and Baby Possibly Born of Rape," 1 May 2012, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/175 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	3 women from the same family raped by Syrian soldiers in their own home; 1 may have become pregnant as a result of the rape.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
9 May 2012	Dimashq: Kuffer Butna, Orbeen, Hamouria & Zamalka	WUS, "Alleged Former Soldier Claims He Raped Women in Dimashq," 9 May 2012, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/47 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A soldier reported that he raped women throughout Dimashq.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
27 May 2012	Halab	YOUTUBE, "Confessions of a Soldier About the Systematic Rape Policy of the Regime," 27 May 2012 available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HyRbk-c5CnY8&feature=youtu.be , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	7 women were taken to Al-Shaliheen police station, where 4 men raped 2 of the women.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
29 May 2012	Hims: Baba Amr	THE TELEGRAPH, "Syria Using Rape as Weapon Against Opposition Women and Men," 29 May 2012, available at: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/syria/9296135/Syria-using-rape-as-weapon-against-opposition-women-and-men.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A 17-year-old woman was raped and killed in Hims.	Unknown	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
31 May 2012	Dar'a	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was gang-raped in a military intelligence office for attending a protest.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

1 June 2012	Dimashq: Mezze	HRW, "Syria: Detention and Abuse of Female Activists," 24 June 2013, available at: https://www.hrw.org/news/2013/06/24/syria-detention-and-abuse-female-activists , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Security officers repeatedly raped women held at the Investigation branch of Air Force Intelligence.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 June 2012	Hims: Bab al-Dreb	EURO-MED, "Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict," 25 Nov. 2013, available at: http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A security officer told a detainee that he had held 17 women at his home and that he raped them and allowed his men to gang-rape them and video tape the event.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 June 2012	Al Ladhiqi-yah: Al-Heffe	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Men witnessed the rape of women by Shabiha, military, and intelligence forces after home raids.	Regime; Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 June 2012	Al Ladhiqi-yah: Majdal Kikhia	EURO-MED, "Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict," 25 Nov. 2013, available at: http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman, Kenda, was abducted and raped at a Military Security branch at Haron round-about; she was pregnant and allegedly miscarried after being raped.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

4 June 2012	Hims: Al-Khalideya	AL-HAYAT, "Syrian Refugees in Jordan: We Were Forced to Watch the Rape of Daughters," 4 June 2012, available at: http://www.alhayat.com/Details/407807 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	4 soldiers publically raped a woman.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
4 June 2012	Hims: Baba Amr	AL-HAYAT, "Syrian Refugees in Jordan: We Were Forced to Watch the Rape of Daughters," 4 June 2012, available at: http://www.alhayat.com/Details/407807 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman, Amal, witnessed her three daughters be raped and killed.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
5 June 2012	Unknown	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session21/A-HRC-21-50_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Men broke into a woman's house and dragged her into the street, where one raped her.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
6 June 2012	Unknown	WUS, "Ex-Pats Report Teen Sisters Gang-Raped," 6 June 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/58 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	2 girls, aged 12 and 14, were beaten and gang-raped in front of their mother and brothers.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
6 June 2012	Dimashq	WUS, "Teen Reports Sexual Enslavement and Torture by Shabiha Forces," 6 June 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/59 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A 17-year-old girl was abducted and held for 15 days, where she was raped and injected with unknown substances; she was eventually transferred to the Palestine branch.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

6 June 2012	Dimashq	WUS, "Ex-Pats Describe Sexual Enslavement and Torture of 15-Year-Old Girl," 6 June 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/60 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A 15-year-old girl was abducted and held for 10 days, raped repeatedly, and transferred to the Palestine branch.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(c); Art. 3(1)(d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
7 June 2012	Dimashq; Hims: Bab Draib	AL JAZEERA, "Syrian Regime Raped Her: Her Story," 7 June 2012, available at: http://www.aljazeera.net/news/pages/2ef3e5f8-cb6d-4488-9420-7af432dc8516 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman, "Noor," was kidnapped from a checkpoint and taken to a guarded apartment; she was then taken to the Palestine branch, where she was beaten, raped, and tortured with electric shocks.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c)(i); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(a); Art. 3(1)(c); Art. 3(1)(d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
11 June 2012	Dimashq; Baramkeh; Hims	SYRIA DEEPLY, "Twice Raped in Syrian Prisons," 20 Jan. 2014, available at: http://www.syriadeeply.org/articles/2014/01/4528/raped-syrian-prisons/#.UvJn3iQntB5 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman, Alla, was abducted and taken to branch 215, where she was beaten, stripped, and forced to perform oral sex on an officer. Months later, she was then transferred to a Hims branch, where she was repeatedly raped.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c)(i); Art. 8(2)(e)(vi)	Art. 3(1)(a); Art. 3(1)(c); Art. 3(1)(d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

11 June 2012	Hims	SYRIA DEEPLY, "Twice Raped in Syrian Prisons," 20 Jan. 2014, available at: http://www.syriadeeply.org/articles/2014/01/4528/raped-syrian-prisons/#.UvJn3iQntB5 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A prison guard and interpreter raped a woman, Khalwa, who became pregnant, as a result.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(a) (ii); Art. 7(1)(e)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
15 June 2012	Dimashq	HRW, "Syria: Sexual Assault in Detention," 15 June 2012, available at: https://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/15/syria-sexual-assault-detention , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman, Nour, was detained for 2.5 months at Palestine branch, where she was held in stress positions, shocked, and raped by multiple men.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
19 June 2012	Idlib	DER SPIEGEL, "Escalating Violence: Face to Face with Syria's Apocalypse," 19 June 2012, available at: http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/spiegel-reporter-describes-increasing-brutality-in-syria-a-839503.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A former soldier raped three women at a sugar factory.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
21 June 2012	Hims	WORLD CRUNCH, "Syria's Silent War Crime: Systematic Mass Rape," 11 Mar. 2014, available at: http://www.worldcrunch.com/syria-crisis/syria-039-s-silent-war-crime-systematic-mass-rape/human-rights-prison-torture-assad-free-syrian-army/c13s15245/#.UzGuUI5CON1 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Men gang-raped 20 women and filmed the attack.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

23 June 2012	Dimashq	BROWN MOSES BLOG, "FSA Video – Captured Shabiha Confesses to Robbery and Rape," 23 June 2012, available at: http://brown-moses.blogspot.com/2012/06/fsa-video-captured-shabiha-confesses-to.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Shabiha member, Ahmad Eido Eido, admitted to raping 7 women under orders from Lieutenant Colonel Samir and others.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 July 2012	Halab	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A member of the Awlad Al-Berri group confessed that he raped 14 women at Halab University.	Other	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 July 2012	Dimashq: Baramke	WUS, "Woman, 20, Says She was Repeatedly Raped in Dimashq and Hims Detention Centers," 1 July 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/264 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Fatima, was arrested and then taken to branch 215, where she was raped at least 3 times.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
9 July 2012	Unknown	WUS, "Man Tells Syrian TV He Abducted, Raped, and Killed Woman," 9 July 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/93 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A man, Haitham Mohammad al-Qassem, joined a civil detachment and admitted that he raped 2 women.	Other	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
14 July 2012	Halab	THE TELEGRAPH, "Confessions of an Assad 'Shabiha' Loyalist: How I Rape and Killed for £300 a Month," 14 July 2012, available at: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/syria/9400570/Confessions-of-an-Assad-Shabiha-loyalist-how-i-raped-and-killed-for-300-a-month.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Shabiha member raped a student from Halab University.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

31 July 2012	Al Ladhqi-yah: Al-Haffa	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A group of Alawite soldiers, captured by the FSA, confessed to raping and killing civilians.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
2 Aug. 2012	Unknown	WUS, "Teen Reportedly Commits Suicide in Al Ladhqiyyah after Being Raped in Detention," 2 Aug. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/102 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A teenage girl committed suicide after being detained and repeatedly raped and tortured for 2 weeks at an unknown detention facility.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
4 Aug. 2012	As Suwayda': Al-Koum	WUS, "Shabiha Reportedly Rapes 8-Year-Old Near Al-Suwayda," 4 Aug. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/126 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	An 8-year-old girl was one of 23 women raped by Shabiha.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
6 Aug. 2012	Rif Dimashq: Douma	WUS, "Former Syrian Army Officer Says 25 Women Raped in Douma," 6 Aug. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/111 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	25 women were raped in front of their families during a protest as a means of stopping the protest.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
13 Aug. 2012	Hims	YALIBNAN, "Syrian Army Accused of Vicious, Systematic Rape," 13 Aug. 2012, available at: http://yalibnan.com/2012/08/13/syrian-army-accused-of-vicious-systematic-rape/ , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A special forces sergeant, "Mohammad," defected after receiving orders to rape women and girls during raids.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

16 Aug. 2012	Unknown	AL-ARABIYA, "Syrian Girl Tells Details of Rape by Assad's Forces," 16 Aug. 2012, available at: http://www.alarabiya.net/articles/2012/08/16/232587.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A girl was gang-raped by about 30 men with "knives and firearms" in a town square.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
18 Aug. 2012	Dar'a: Al-Hrak	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Syrian army attacked and raped women and girls; one victim committed suicide after the attack.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
26 Aug. 2012	Dimashq: Darayya	WUS, "Woman Reports Being Raped by Syrian Army Members During Raid," 26 Aug. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/133 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Syrian soldiers raided a woman's apartment; 2 soldiers raped her.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
26 Aug. 2012	Dimashq: Darayya	WUS, "Witness Says Military Officers Raped Woman in Darayaa," 26 Aug. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/132 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Security officers raped a woman from Al-Jaida.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Sept. 2012	Hims	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Shabiha members abducted 40 to 50 women and raped them in a wedding hall.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Sept. 2012	Idlib; Dimashq; Ghouta	WUS, "Activist Says Woman Raped at Private Houses in Idlib and Dimashq for Eight Months," 1 Sept. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/217 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	"Many officers" raped a woman on a daily basis while she was held in private houses in Idlib and Dimashq.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
21 Sept. 2012	Dimashq	WORLD CRUNCH, "Syria's Silent War Crime: Systematic Mass Rape," 11 Mar. 2014, available at: http://www.worldcrunch.com/syria-crisis/syria-039-s-silent-war-crime-systematic-mass-rape/human-rights-prison-torture-assad-free-syrian-army/c13s15245/#.U15Ad8cw14q , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman and her daughter were detained, beaten, raped, and held for 20 days in the Mezzeh airport.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
27 Sept. 2012	Rif Dimashq; Douma	WUS, "Man Reports Republican Guards Raped Woman, Killed Men, in Douma Apartment Building," 27 Sept. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/119 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Republican Guard dragged a 28-year-old woman into a building and raped her.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Oct. 2012	Dimashq; Tartus	HRW, "Syria: Detention and Abuse of Female Activists," 24 June 2013, available at: https://www.hrw.org/news/2013/06/24/syria-detention-and-abuse-female-activists , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped in two separate detention facilities: the Military Security branch in Tartus and branch 235 in Dimashq.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Oct. 2012	Halab	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	FSA members confessed to raping a woman and a girl in Halab.	Rebels	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Oct. 2012	Hims	HRC, "Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic," 5 Feb. 2013, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	"6 or 7" Shabiha members raped a woman in her home.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Oct. 2012	Dimashq	WUS, "Activist Tells of Fellow Detainee's Rape by Shabiha during Transport to Palestine Branch," 1 Oct. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/223 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped and tortured inside a house before transport to the Palestine branch; she was then transferred to Adra detention facility for 4 months.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
21 Oct. 2012	Unknown	BRANDEIS NOW, "A Visit to Syrian Refugees in Jordan is an Eye-Opener," 21 Oct. 2012, available at: http://www.brandeis.edu/now/2012/october/syria.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped after her husband turned her in to the Mukhabarat intelligence service when she asked for a divorce.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Nov. 2012	Unknown	WUS, "Homs Woman Tells Doctor She Blames Herself for Rape by Shabiha," 1 Nov. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/192 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Shabiha forces raped a woman while they raided her home; her 3 daughters listened to the attack.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Nov. 2012	Hims	WUS, "Girl Tells Doctor She was Gang-Raped by Shabiha in Hims," 1 Nov. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/193 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Shabiha members gang-raped a girl when they raided her town.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Nov. 2012	Unknown	WUS, "Young Man Tells Psychiatrist His Fiancée, Sisters, Mother Raped in Front of Him in Syrian Prison," 1 Nov. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/177 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A man's fiancée, mother, and female neighbors were brought in and raped in front of him while he was in detention.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Nov. 2012	Al Ladhqiya: Sports City	WUS, "Activist Says Friend Witnessed Rape of Woman in Latakia Sports City," 1 Nov. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/242 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Shabiha raped a woman was raped in the Sports City complex.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
8 Nov. 2012	Dimashq; Hims	HRW, "We Are Still Here," 2 July 2014, available at: https://www.hrw.org/report/2014/07/02/we-are-still-here/women-front-lines-syrias-conflict , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Layal was arrested, tortured, and forced to perform oral sex on two different male officers on two separate occasions.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
12 Nov. 2012	Unknown	WUS, "Official Syrian News Agency Reports Two Rebels Confess to Rape," 12 Nov. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/129 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	2 rebels from the Al-Tawhid Brigade confessed to participating in crimes of "killing, kidnapping, looting, and rape."	Rebels	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

14 Nov. 2012	Rif Hamah	SARABIAN, "Rape in Syria," 3 Apr. 2013, available at: https://sarabiany.wordpress.com/2013/04/03/rape-in-syria/ , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Shabiha members raped a young girl in front of her mother, father, and brother at a checkpoint as a "tax" for the family to travel through Hamah.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
15 Nov. 2012	Halab	WUS, "Activist Raped during Third Detainment in Aleppo," 15 Nov. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/232 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped while detained at a criminal security facility.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Dec. 2012	Idlib	WUS, "Multiple Sources Confirm Rape and Torture of 14-Year-Old Girl in Private House," 1 Dec. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/212 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A 14-year-old girl was abducted and held in a private house for 8 days, during which she was beaten, tortured, injected with unknown substances, and raped.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Dec. 2012	Unknown	INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS [hereinafter FIDH], "Violence Against Women in Syria: Breaking the Silence," Apr. 2013, available at: https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/syria_sexual_violence-web.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	The FSA allegedly raped and killed a woman, dumped her body in front of her home, and blamed the Regime for the incident.	Rebels	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Dec. 2012	Unknown	FIDH, "Violence Against Women in Syria: Breaking the Silence," Apr. 2013, available at: https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/syria_sexual_violence-web.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Two women committed suicide after being raped by Regime forces.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
14 Dec. 2012	Hims	FIDH, "Violence Against Women in Syria: Breaking the Silence," Apr. 2013, available at: https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/syria_sexual_violence-web.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped and impregnated.	Unknown	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
18 Dec. 2012	Hims: Baba Amr	WUS, "Soldier Says Commanding Officers Order Rapes, Dispensed Sexual Stimulants," 18 Dec. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/140 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A former Syrian soldier confessed that he was given sexual stimulants to rape women; he reportedly raped 3 women.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
18 Dec. 2012	Dayr az Zawr	WUS, "Shabiha Member Describes Dayr al-Zawr Gang Rape," 18 Dec. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/141 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Shabiha member allegedly confessed to the gang-rape of a 15-year-old girl.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
21 Dec. 2012	Unknown	FIDH, "Violence Against Women in Syria: Breaking the Silence," Apr. 2013, available at: https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/syria_sexual_violence-web.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was detained in a private apartment in an unknown location, where she was raped and injected with an unknown substance; she was then transferred to Palestine branch.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

22 Dec. 2012	Hims: Talbisseh	WUS, "Member of Opposition Group Confesses to Rape on Syrian State TV," 22 Dec. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/142 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A member of the opposition group Abhulhadi al-Akkari confessed to raping and killing 5 women.	Other	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
23 Dec. 2012	Dimashq	WUS, "Shabiha Member Says He Raped Four Women in a Dimashq Mosque," 23 Dec. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/143 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Shabiha member confessed to raping 4 married women at the Zubair bin Al-Awam Mosque.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
23 Dec. 2012	Dar'a: Al-Hrak	WUS, "Policeman Says He Raped Four Women in Al Hrak," 23 Dec. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/144 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A police officer confessed he raped four women.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
25 Dec. 2012	Unknown	WUS, "Alawite Woman Reports Regime Imprisonment and Sexualized Torture of Girls," 25 Dec. 2012, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/146 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Girls were held and sexually tortured near the summer home of Bashar al-Assad's cousin.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Jan. 2013	Idlib	WUS, "Hospital Administrator Recounts Rape and Aborted Pregnancy of Student Activist from Idlib," 1 Jan. 2013, available at: https://womenundersiege-syria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/233 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Syrian military-provided security guard raped a 20-year-old Idlib University student; she became pregnant as a result of the rape and terminated the pregnancy.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Jan. 2013	Tartus; Dimashq	EURO-MED, "Violence Against Women, Bleeding Wound in the Syrian Conflict," 25 Nov. 2013, available at: http://euromedrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Doc-report-VAW-Syria1.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was gang-raped by 3 men in Tartus, then raped by members of the security unit in Palestine branch.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
6 Jan. 2013	Idlib: Qam- inas	FARS NEWS, "Syrian Rebels Rape 2 Women, 4 Children in Reef Idlib," 6 Jan. 2013, available at: http://www.thefreelibrary.com/Syrian+Rebels+Rape+2+Women,+4+Children+in+Reef+Idlib.-a0314026033 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Rebels raped 6 women and children on a farm.	Rebels	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
9 Jan. 2013	Unknown	WOMEN'S E-NEWS, "After Prison in Syria I Cannot Ever Forget," 6 Feb. 2013, available at: http://womensenews.org/2013/02/after-prison-in-syria-i-cannot-ever-forget-0/#.UT7hBM2Xkf8 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Multiple women were raped and tortured while detained in a government facility.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

14 Jan. 2013	Dar'a	INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE, "Syria: A Regional Crisis," Jan. 2013, available at: http://www.rescue.org/sites/default/files/resource-file/IRCReportMid-East20130114.pdf , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was raped.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
16 Jan. 2013	Hims: Al-Huswayieh	YOUTUBE, "The Atrocities of the Regime in the Massacre in Homs and Rape of 42 Women," 18 Jan. 2013, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=0nAPkDnHvxA , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Shabiha raped 42 women and girls publicly, and used some women as human shields.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
17 Jan. 2013	Hamah	YOUTUBE, "SYRIA: A Women Freed from Assad's Prisons Gives Her Testimony About What's Happening There," 17 Jan. 2013, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZ1dKchBDCE&feature=youtu.be , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A 16-year-old girl was raped in detention.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Feb. 2013	Al Ladhqiyyah: Sports City	WUS, "Activist Relays Story of Repeated Rape of Woman at Al Ladhqiyyah Sports City," 1 Feb. 2013, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/239 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was arrested along with her 4-year-old son and held in Sports City for 3 months, where she was repeatedly raped anally.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
1 Feb. 2013	Hims: Baba Amr	WUS, "Two Dozen Women Allegedly Raped over Two Days in Baba Amr Shelter," 1 Feb. 2013, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/210 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Shabiha forces raped 24 women when they took shelter to avoid being raped in a raid; they were gang-raped over a period of 2 days.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

13 Feb. 2013	Rif Dimashq	WUS, "Activists Describe Sexualized Violence and Its Consequences in Souria Alghad TV Segment," 13 Feb. 2013, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/153 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A young girl was raped at a checkpoint after a verbal altercation between her father and the checkpoint officer.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	GC Com. Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
28 Feb. 2013	Hims: Baba Amr	BEFORE IT'S NEWS, "Syria News 28.2.2013, Abduction, Rape and Slaughter Acts," 28 Feb. 2013, available at: http://beforeits-news.com/politics/2013/02/syria-news-28-2-2013-abduction-rape-and-slaughter-acts-terrorist-conf-2497776.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A member of Al-Qae-da in Iraq confessed to raping, and then killing, 4 women.	Other	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
6 Apr. 2013	Hims	TORONTO STAR, "Syrian Women Who Fled to Jordan Tell of Horrific Rapes Back Home," 6 Apr. 2013, available at: http://www.thestar.com/news/world/2013/04/06/syrian_women_who_fled_to_jordan_tell_of_horrific_rapes_back_home.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Soldiers gang-raped a woman in her home while her husband was demonstrating.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
26 Apr. 2013	Tartus: Baniyas	WUS, "Activist Says Shabiha Raped and Impregnated His Cousin Near Baniyas," 26 Apr. 2013, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/221 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was stopped at a checkpoint near Baniyas; she was raped for an hour and impregnated as a result of the rape; she later miscarried.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
6 May 2013	Hims	WUS, "Amman Clinic Treating Girl, 13, Allegedly Raped by Army Then Shot," 6 May 2013, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/205 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Soldiers raped, beat, and shot a young girl in the back at a checkpoint; she was paralyzed as a result.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540

2 June 2013	Dimashq	YOUTUBE, "Hearing is in No Way Equal to Witnessing," 2 June 2013, available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=foaQ5R-doY5Y&feature=youtu.be , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was beaten, raped, and left to die in the middle of the street.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
3 June 2013	Dimashq	WUS, "Woman Tells Al-Arabiya She Was Repeatedly Raped in Dimashq Prisons," 3 June 2013, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/209 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was detained and transferred among 5 prison facilities, including Adra, where she was raped multiple times.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
13 June 2013	Idlib	WUS, "Woman Sends Facebook Message to Activist Saying Her Daughter Was Raped," 13 June 2013, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/218 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman sent a Facebook message to an activist, claiming that her daughter had been raped.	Unknown	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
17 June 2013	Unknown	WUS, "Activist Relays Story of Double Rape of FSA Wives," 17 June 2013, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/234 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	2 FSA wives were raped on a bus to a detention facility while their husbands were forced to watch; 1 woman was pregnant and she was not vaginally raped, but she was sexually violated in other ways.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

1 Oct. 2013	Idlib	ASIA TIMES, "Interrogating an Assad Militiaman," 1 Oct. 2013, available at: http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle_East/MID-02-011013.html , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A Shabiha member confessed to the rape of a pharmacist who refused to fill a forged prescription, a woman whose husband refused to give him free fuel, and his sister-in-law to force his brother to join Shabiha.	Shabiha	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
11 Nov. 2013	Unknown	REUTERS, "Syrian Women Suffer Inside Their Country and Out," 11 Nov. 2013, available at: http://www.reuters.com/article/us-arab-women-syria-idUSBRE9AB00L20131112 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman became pregnant as a result of rape in detention.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
21 Jan. 2014	Idlib: Wadi ad-Dahab Checkpoint	WUS, "Woman Describes Multiple Rapes at Idlib Checkpoint," 21 Jan. 2014, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowd-map.com/reports/view/254 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman and her son were stopped at a checkpoint; she was injected with a substance and then raped; she and her son were held for 5 days	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540

15 Mar. 2014	Dar'a: Al-Jamuu Hill Checkpoint	WUS, "Woman Says She Was Among 18 Women Drugged and Repeatedly Raped by Government Forces," 15 Mar. 2014, available at: https://womenundersiegesyria.crowdmap.com/reports/view/265 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	Military forces kidnapped 18 women and took them to various checkpoints and detention facilities where the women were raped and given sedatives and hallucinogenic substances.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
10 Nov. 2014	Unknown	USA TODAY, "Voices: Why We Should Care About Syria," 10 Nov. 2014, available at: http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2014/11/10/why-we-should-care-about-syria/18557065/ , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A woman was repeatedly gang-raped and tortured while in prison.	Regime	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540
15 Jan. 2015	Halab	THE DAILY STAR, "Islamist Extrajudicial Killing Videos Surface in Syria," 15 Jan. 2015, available at: http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2015/Jan-15/284155-islamist-extrajudicial-killing-videos-surface-in-syria.ashx , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	A member of the Abu al-Fadl al-Abbas brigade confessed to having participated in half a dozen rapes.	Other	Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (c); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 489; Art. 540
22 Jan. 2015	Ar Raqqa	THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, "Aussie Khaled Sharrouf Teaches Sons To Torture Girls After He Rapes Them," 23 Jan. 2015, available at: http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/aussie-khaled-sharrouf-teaches-sons-to-torture-girls-after-he-rapes-them/story-fni0cx12-1227193884267 , last visited: 22 Feb. 2016.	ISIS held captive, tortured, and raped four Yazidi women.	ISIS	Art. 7(1)(e); Art. 7(1)(f); Art. 7(1)(g); Art. 7(1)(k); Art. 8(2)(c) (i); Art. 8(2)(e) (vi)	Art. 3(1) (a); Art. 3(1) (c); Art. 3(1) (d); AP II Art. 4(2)(a); AP II Art. 4(2)(e)	Art. 357; Art. 489; Art. 540 ;;

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