

Press Release

## The Children and Women Are Still Paying the Price in Syria

(Translated)

Al-Jazeera English site published an article about the dreadfully tragic situation of the hospitals besieged in Halab (Aleppo) with the continuation of the air strikes and bombing upon it, mentioning the lack of necessary medical care for the pregnant women in addition to the newborns, exposing them to the risk of death.

After the passing of more than five years since the launch of the revolution in Syria, the suffering of the women and children continues unabated, indeed the suffering is continuously increasing. That is because they are the victims most of the time. This is in spite of all of the international laws that state the guaranteeing of their rights and the securing of all kinds of care and protection for them. However, because these international laws are passed by the major states that control the world and wreak havoc, desolation and destruction upon the earth, then these laws disappear like the dust that scatters in the wind before all that which the children of Syria and its women are exposed to in terms of torture, displacement, starvation and killing. These five years have been enough to demolish the country's health system. The doctors, hospitals and treatments are insufficient and incapable to absorb the patients, which then forces them to resort to unqualified medics on most occasions.

It is not hidden from anyone who follows or monitors what the pregnant women have been exposed to during pregnancy in a country that suffers from a severe shortage in respect to the minimal components of a health system, and indeed they are virtually non-existent in areas under the control of the opposition. Those inflicted with collective punishment without any regard given to the urgent humanitarian situation and particularly in Halab (Aleppo) and Idlib, where the explosive barrels and the airstrikes even reach the hospitals. The organisation "Doctors for Human Rights", whose headquarters are in the United States, confirmed that the forces of the Syrian regime are responsible for the killing of more than ٦٠٠ doctors and health professionals and that they are responsible for ٨٨% of the attacks upon hospitals. The report also documented ٢٣٣ deliberate or haphazard attacks against ١٨٣ medical facilities.

In addition to newborn infants being vulnerable to medical neglect and health care even whilst in hospitals which also suffer from a shortage of their medical staff and necessary medical supplies. That is also the situation where the hospitals and even the ground improvised makeshift centers that are unable to withstand the war-ridden situation. Most of their work is only first aid. The number of doctors prior to the war was close to two hundred and thirty thousand, and there were a hundred hospitals whilst the number of medical centres numbered three thousand. However, after the war, more than half of the doctors emigrated, more than ٦٠% of the hospitals were destroyed whilst around ١٥٠٠ medical centres went out of service due to the wild bombing, the imposition of a siege upon most of the areas in Syria and the prevention of the minimal basic necessities of life reaching them.

The women in Syria in particular are being exposed to various dangers and risks due to the conflicts and wars taking place around them. That is because of their special circumstances in the absence of a breadwinner and caretaker, in addition to their exploitation in all conditions. This is just the tip of the iceberg of what the honourable Muslim women in Syria are suffering from in the land of Jihad and sacrifice. The cost of liberation and gaining freedom from the oppression of the oppressors is extremely high. Its cost is in the lives of our children, the widowing of our women and the sacrifices of our elderly and men. So by no means can these disbelieving states be allowed to attain what they want and to realise their objectives. And what the steadfast have displayed within the land of Ash-Shaam is the best evidence that the Ummah of Islam has a great deal of goodness and a great power within it emanating from its Aqeedah (belief). It is what enables it to remain steadfast and resilient, to defeat the enemies, achieve the victory and to become firmly established by Allah's permission through the resumption of the Islamic life via the establishment of the rightly guided Khilafah (Caliphate) upon the methodology of the Prophethood, so that the might and honour returns to it once again, and that is not a difficult matter for Allah.

Women's Section in the Central Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir

