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2019

Taiz..Systematic Bombing

From 22 Mar 2015
to 31 Jul 2019



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Introduction

Since the incursion launched by the Houthi militias in late March 2015 until today, Taiz (Southwest Yemen) is experiencing the most violent bombardment, using the various types of heavy weapons, against the densely populated civilian neighborhoods estimated of three million inhabitants, which has resulted in hundreds of civilian victims, dead et wounded, mostly children.

As a result of this bombardment, Taiz "the third largest city of Yemen", has received the highest number of civilian victims in Yemen. The Houthi militias, surrounding the city since more than four years, has focused on targeting all living in the province through bombing, sniping, planting mines, explosive charges, displacement, kidnapping, mass arrests, and other means of intimidation and killing to bring the governorate to knees and under control.

Taiz is considered as one of most affected cities in this war. If this war is stopped and this unfair siege surrounding it is broken, the violations in Yemen will be greatly reduced.

Taiz is systematically targeted by the Houthi, who appears to avenge himself on this province, which represented a huge revolutionary base; In the period of national liberation, which was launched in the sixties of the last century in two parallel tracks; one ended with the overthrow of the backward sectarian Zaydi regime in the north of Yemen, and the second one ended with obtaining the independence from the British colonialism in the south.

It is noted that the majority of intensive and systematic bombardment is launched by the Houthi militias against the non-armed densely populated neighborhoods, free of manifestations or gatherings of the resistance or the government army, which confirms the intent and insistence of militias to kill civilians, taking advantage of the dubious international silence towards their war crimes, punished the law, committed against the humanity.

In their random and intense bombardment, the Houthi militias were used various types of short- and medium-range missiles such as mortars, Katyusha rockets, heavy and long-range missiles such as Scuds, homemade rockets and anti-aircrafts.

The Houthi militias have no embarrassment to justify bombing civilians, especially children while they are in their schools or near their homes to play, describing them in many declarations or media reports that they belongs to Daesh, al-Qaeda, Janjaweed, etc.

Sweden's recent consultations on Yemen have resulted in a resolution to open humanitarian corridors to the city of Taiz, but this resolution is like other resolutions and agreements that the Houthi militias resist and refuse to apply it.

Figures and Statistics



**The Information and Rehabilitation Center for Human Rights has documented that the Houthi Militias were committed about 73 bloody massacres as a result of bombardment using a various heavy and medium weapons as of late March 2015 until 31 July 2019, which killed 135 civilians, including 43 children and 17 women, and injured 278 civilians, including 101 children and 23 women.

**The Houthi militias were committed 8 bloody massacres during the period from the 1st January to July 31, 2019 through the direct and targeted bombardment of non-armed residential neighborhoods, which killed 22 civilians, including 12 children and a woman, and injured 42 civilians, including 14 children and two women.

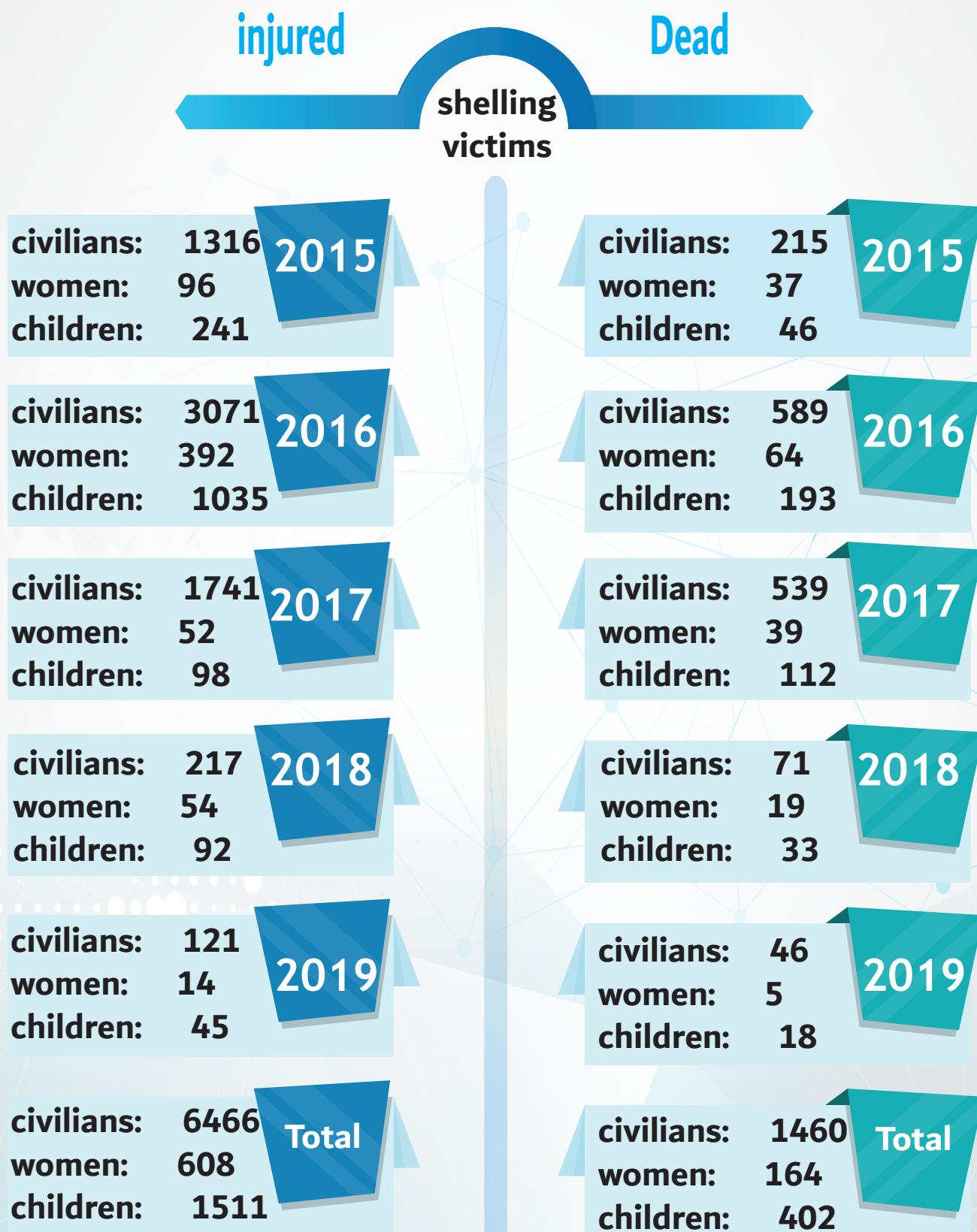
**The continuous bombardment of residential neighborhoods on a daily basis during the period from the 1st January to July 31, 2019 was killed about 46 civilians, including 18 children and 5 women, and injured 121 civilians, including 45 children and 14 women.

**The Information and Rehabilitation Center for Human Rights has documented that about 1,460 civilians, including 402 children and 164 women were killed, and about 6466, including 1511 children and 608 women were injured, as a result of the bombardment during the period from 22 March 2014 until 31 July 2019.

**The center has also documented the destruction of 776 public properties during the period from 22 March 2014 to 31 July 2019; 528 ones were partially destroyed and 248 ones were completely destroyed. It has also documented that 2677 private properties were damaged, 2055 ones were partially destroyed and 622 ones were completely destroyed.

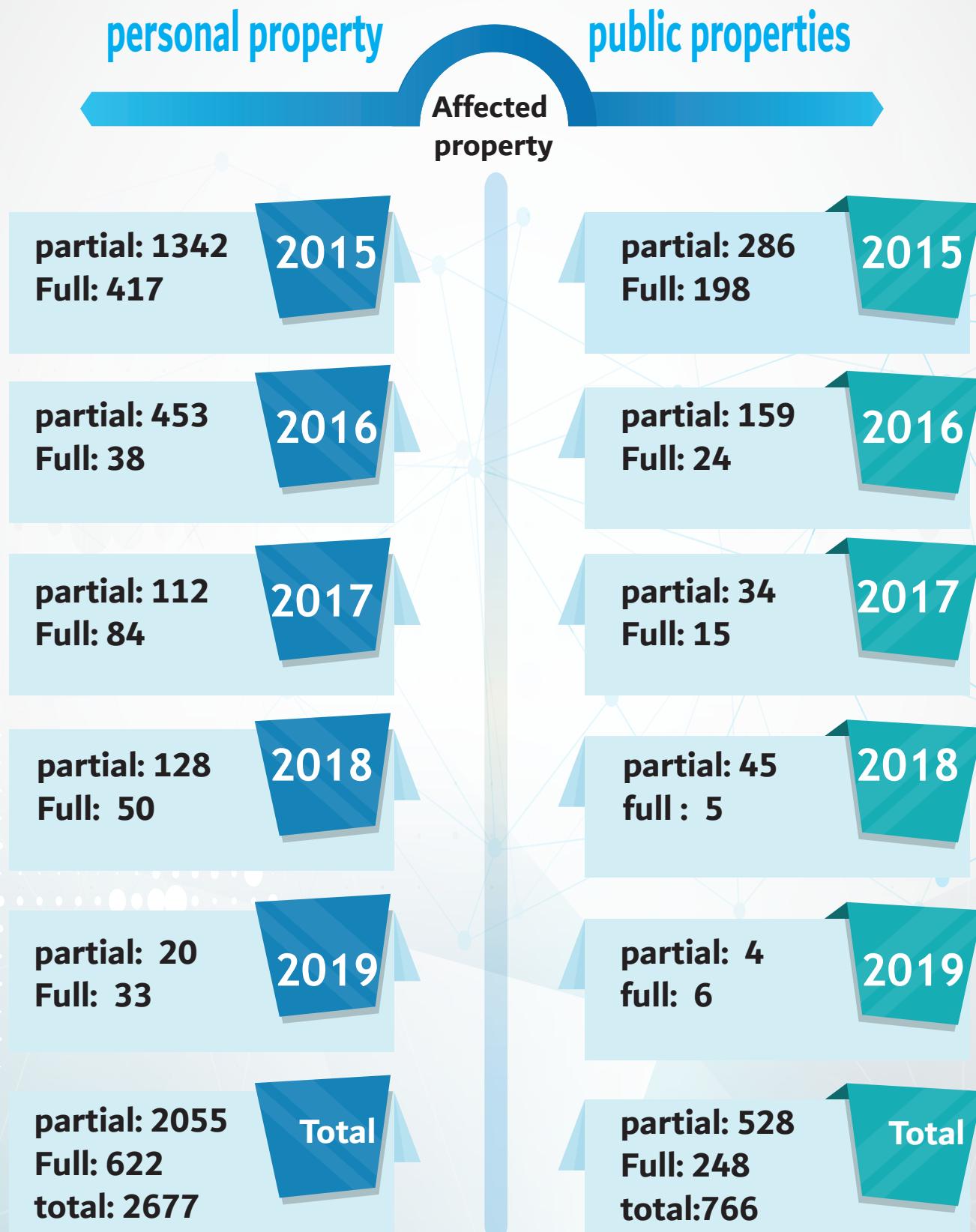
Figures and Statistics

Victims of indiscriminate shelling of Houthi militias from 22 March 2015 to 31 July 2019



Figures and Statistics

damaged Property by indiscriminate shelling of Houthi militias from 22 March 2015 to 31 July 2019



humanitarian stories

Farid Shawqi Al Dhamari (6 years old) was appeared in a video clip in 2015 sleeping on a hospital bed after being injured by shrapnel in the head on October 13, pleading with a quiet voice to doctors and tears flowing from his eyes, saying: (Don't bury me). "Farid was injured in the head and other parts of body following the bombardment launched by the Houthi against a residential neighborhood in Taiz city", witnesses said. This incident was widely diffused in the international media, especially after child's death few days after his injury.

On 21 October 2015 at four o'clock PM, the Houthi militias were launched a number of Katyusha rockets near girls' school in the old city, in the dome of Husseiniya, the middle of 26th of September Street near Al-Mahyoub commercial center, in the Al-Muttahideen clinic in Al-Dhabouaa district, in the middle of the of Al Gomaa Street behind the Arab Bank. A rocket was launched in Al Ekhwa district, which caused severe damage and bloody massacres, killing 15 civilians and injuring 81 civilians in addition destroying a number of civilians' houses and commercial shops.

In 2017, the Information Center was documented that the Houthi Militians were committed 9 bloody massacres just in six days (21-26 May) as a result of heavy and intense bombardment against eight residential neighborhoods in Taiz city, which was free of any military targets.

As a result of these massacres, 17 civilians were killed, including two women, four children and four media personnel. Thirty-seven civilians, including 6 women and 9 children, were injured in Al-Dhabwa, Al-Bab Al-Kabeer, Sala, Thabat, Al-Askari, Al Jamhouri, Al-Jahmaleya and Al-Muhafaza district (all of them are located on the eastern side of the city).

On April 25, 2019, two female studens were killed and three were injured following a direct and random bombardment launched by the armed Houthi militias while they were leaving Al-Shaheed Al-Hajri school in Al-Mudhaffar district, west of Taiz. On April 28, five children and their mother were killed and three others were injured in another massacre of Al Houthi militias that bombed the village of Mishrafa with a Katyusha rocket in Jabal Habashi directorate, west of Taiz. This rocket was fell on Abdullah Al Marady's house.

On June 30, 2019, the Houthi militias were launched an artillery shell against the residential neighborhoods of Dibba Basin in Hod Al-Ashraf, Sala district, which killed five civilians, including a child, and injured six others who were gathering to receive relief assistance

humanitarian stories

On July 27, 2019, the Houthi militias were committed the Al-Humayra neighborhood's massacre, in Sala district, which injured five children of the same family, namely:

Mohamed Talal Qasem – Serious injury.

Rahma Abdel Bary Mahmoud – Serious Injury.

Mahmoud Mohamed Mahmoud – injured.

Youssef Salah El Din Mahmoud- Injured.

Unknown person.

On July 28, 2019, three children were killed, a child and a civilian were injured by a bombardment of artillery shell launched by Al Houthi militias against Al Rawda district, in the north of the city. The dead and injured persons are:

Zakaria Khalid Saleh Hatem – aged year and half – killed.

Moussa Khalid Saleh Hatem- 13 years old- killed.

Khloud Khalid Saleh Hatem- 10 years old- killed.

Zikry Ali Hamid Abdullah – 5 years old- Injured.

Roshdy Khalid Hassan Saleh- 38 years old- Injured.



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Recommendations

We demand the Houthi militia to stop immediately the bombing of neighborhoods and residential villages crowded with civilians.

We appeal to the Human Rights Council to take the necessary measures to protect civilians from the systematic shelling by the Houthis and take the necessary measures to stop them.

We demand the Security Council to implement its resolutions regarding Yemen, the most important of which is resolution 2216, and to prosecute all those found guilty of violations against civilians; the direct bombardment of cities, neighborhoods and civilians.

We demand the Yemeni government to treat the wounded and provide medical care to them and to establish reintegration programs for the disabled as a result of the injuries.

Coordinate with donors and regional and international organizations to provide emergency relief assistance to the victims of the bombing and siege in Taiz.



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