



## Taza stricken - Imminent danger

12 April 2016

### **A report about bombing of Taza with chemical weapons/**

From the date of the entry of terrorist s of ISIS (Daesh) to Iraq on June 10, 2014, and its control over some areas, implemented through the presence of serious human rights abuses, ranging from forced displacement, murder systematic on the basis of caste, religion and various violations against women , girls and children, with the destruction of infrastructure through mining, those terrorist used different methods of torture and mass executions for different classes of the Iraqi people.

Again they bombed town of Taza with the prohibited chemical weapons (Taza, located 220 km north of Baghdad / Kirkuk province, population exceeds 35,000 people, an area of 20 square kilometers) civilians were targeted.

Cases of death and various injuries were recorded, especially to the category of women and children, as a result of the increase in deaths as well as to lack of government& international attention needed, formation of a team of Iraqi civil society organizations has been done to visit Taza on Thursday, 24.03.2016 to seek truth and follow the reality of these violations and the resulting damage to the ground,

## **Following points were observed**

1-Taza was bombed on 03/08/2016 4.30 pm the evening of 41 missiles loaded with contaminated gases ( sulfur mustard ) fell in residential areas and on some agricultural fields

2-Preliminary examination confirms that the missiles are loaded with chemical weapons ( sulfur mustard ) internationally banned , Medical Center of Taza documented hundreds of cases of suffocation and rashes, especially among children.

3- as a result of indiscriminate firing of missiles have landed in different parts of Taza, so different parts of the stricken pollution in addition to material damage.

4- death of four children (three girls and a boy) as a result of chemical burns and severe choking , skin rashes and the failure of the kidneys due to the toxic gases, recording abortions 7 nearby regions of the accident as a result of severe suffocation for women, and the majority of people and their families don't have the ability to travel for treatment, and as a result of weakness medical capabilities available, which threatens to more deaths and worsen the humanitarian crisis gradually.

5- only palliative medicine currently available in Taza, lack of medicines or medical & chemical specialized staff.

6- Statistics preliminary confirm directly injuring dozens of chemical substances, and as a result of the absence of government attention 7 patients sent to Baghdad, 15 to Turkey, and in other cases, some patients treated at one's own expense in Iran, these dangerous situations in mostly women and children.

7- The court of Taza receives claims by the claimants, more than 2,500 recorded cases, and hundreds of these cases have initial effects of indicators chemicals and injury..

8-bombardment on Taza is not new, it has been previously targeted frequent attacks by missiles from areas close to the terrorist groups that are not just more than 4 square kilometers (village Bashir) with clear government silence..

9- In general noted absence of a clear plan or national committees governmental organizations concerned with such cases, and this is a great imbalance noticed in the performance of government departments which does not match the nature the circumstances in Iraq.

10- wounding dozens of girls in school as a result of the direct proximity of missiles fell, after three weeks of disruption.

when the Iraqi parliament announced that the Taza-stricken city in its meeting (Tuesday, 03/15/2016), but the government measures by all levels has done nothing or care commensurate with the nature of the serious damage to the region (there is no interest by Iraqi government or international sides parallels the size of the humanitarian disaster till the time of writing this report), and this is contrary to what came in the international community in general and Iraq in particular for the obligations that require these parties to provide full support for the ongoing work of these violations,,

The general situation in terms of Taza requires intervention nationally and internationally, where it was observed lack of government attention which doesn't recognize the imminent danger to life in Taza,

**, as NGOs We demand**

1- immediate formation of a medical team and a chemical specialists to visit , examine and treatment people of Taza

2- We demand , as soon as possible the government and international agencies to clean up the region from the effects of material remaining from 41 missile.

3- We urge the international community and international missions in Iraq and the European Union and we call for a redoubling of efforts in order to take measures to eliminate international terrorism depend on what came in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution (session 51 16.1.1997.(

4-violation records a dangerous precedent, which requires a direct and fast from specialists at the United Nations to visit Iraq and to recognize the type of intervention and how violations and damage caused to civilians, also we demand the Secretary-General of the United Nations to send specialized committees to regard this crime and other crimes of genocide for the mass

5- The protection of civilians and provide the necessary health services is a collective responsibility of all parties and deceleration and silence encourage the terrorist groups (Daesh) to carry out more violation and times, if we know that it has exercised all the violations, Taza was bombed previously many times, and the Iraqi government bears the responsibility to offer right of remedy and reparation for victims of Taza in accordance with the UN resolution, adopted by the General Assembly on December 16, 2005 and issued on 03.21.2006 (sixtieth session(

6-If things stay the way it is the continuation of the bombing, targeting and failure to observe the situation without international intervention puts the lives of citizens in danger due to severe neglect they are exposed to, as well as displays of peace and national security at risk, so we invite the Secretary General of the United Nations and the European Union to preview this profile to the UN Security Council..

It is an international legal basis of the United Nations has committed to and within the laws of the intervention and follow-up prohibition and criminalization of chemical weapons and to support countries that are exposed to terrorism, so we call the UN to implement its obligations, including

1-The General Assembly at the United Nations to take full measures as stated in its announcement (3318 (d -29) of 14 December / December 1974 on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict, and in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and the destruction of these weapons in 1972 and which became effectively in 1975

2-General Assembly resolution in 1978, which states (that hold convention prohibiting the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and their destruction of the tougher tasks in front of the international community pressing(

3-Geneva Conventions and the Hague Conventions in 1899 and 1907, the prohibition on the use of hazardous chemicals.

## **Stakeholders:**

### International:

- 11- The Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon
- 2-The UN Security Council - New York
- 3- General Assembly at the United Nations
- 4- Human Rights Council - Geneva UN
- 5- International missions and embassies and international organizations inside and outside Iraq
- 6- EU European and other missions

### National:

- 1-Iraqi Council of Representatives (parliament speaker Office and the Commission on Human Rights and the relevant committees(
- 2-The General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers Council

3- The Supreme Judiciary

4-Human Rights Commission.

5- Iraqi NGOs networks

6-Bar Association professional and professional unions

7- Media

**Visiting NGOS to Taza: prior report,, a final one with documents and other papers will be issued**

1-Sawa Organization for Human Rights

2-Dar es Salaam, Iraqi Center

3- Iraqi Human Rights Watch society

4- I am a civilian organization

Bent al-Rafidain) (5- Organization of Mesopotamia girl

6- Yana Foundation for Youth