



A Gateway of Death

A human rights report documenting the coalition's artillery shelling crime at the gateway of Almansour wedding halls complex on Airport Rd – Al-Hawak directorate- Hodeidah governorate Jan 1, 2021.

Intisaf for woman and child rights

a human rights organization seeks to protect women and children by supporting and defending their issues, raising community awareness of them and rehabilitating them psychologically and morally.

- 1. Raise community awareness of the rights of women and children as guaranteed by Islamic law and contained in international conventions and charters.**
- 2. Support women and children's issues legally and socially in order to ensure a decent family life for them, as they are the basic cell of society.**
- 3. Monitor all violations and abuses against women and children in war and peace, whether by governmental individuals and bodies or non-governmental groups or hostile countries, and announce them to public opinion .**
- 4. Prepare and producing human rights reports on cases of women and children's violations.**
- 5. Protect women and children from ill-treatment in family and society, combating all forms of violence against them and protect them from abuse during the investigation .**
- 6. Provide the necessary psychological support to women and children who are exposed to violations in war and peace.**
- 7. Stop child begging and labor**
- 8. Improve women and enhance their participation in society.**

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Introduction

Yemen is suffering from a war of aggression by the coalition of aggression [1], where it deliberately violated the rights of civilians and committed the most heinous crimes against women and children without any consideration for humanitarian and moral values. During which thousands were killed or wounded, and deliberately targeted civilian neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, mosques and vital facilities. Since the beginning of the aggression on March 26, 2015, the aggressive coalition continued committing massacres against civilians of women and children, which is obviously indicated in the crime committed against the civilians on Airport Rd in Al-Hawak directorate-Hodeidah governorate. The coalition of aggression caused a number of victims were killed or injured, without distinguishing between a clear civilian target and legitimate military objectives. The airstrikes left tragedies that the families of the victims will never forget for years.

[1]the aggressive coalition led by Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Executive summary

The report (**A Gateway of Death**) documents the crime committed against civilians by the aggressive coalition aircrafts in Airport Rd- Al-Hawak district-Hodeidah, which left behind a number of civilian victims. We talked during this report about the details of the crime and witness' statements. We also talked about the legal framework of the crime according to international laws and charters.

Methodology

This report is based on the organization's statistics regarding the details of the crime and the number of victims, as well as on interviews conducted with witnesses. International legal texts, treaties and conventions were referred to in order to clarify the legal framework of the crime committed against the civilians in Airport Rd_ Al-Hawak directorate.

A brief overview of Al-Hawak directorate

Al-Hawak Directorate: it is one of the directorates in Hodeidah governorates, with a population of 155,369 according to the 2004 census.



Al-Hawak district

Details of the massacre of the aggressive coalition on Almansour wedding halls complex

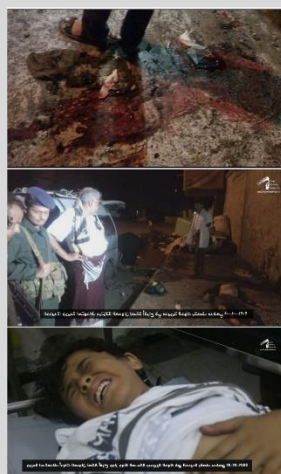
The aggression committed a heinous crime against the civilians on Friday Jan 1, 2021, where the coalition targeted the gateway of Almansour halls complex with mortar shells on Airport Rd -Al-Hawak district. This targeting caused a number of fatalities, both, dead and wounded. They were standing at the gate, waiting for their wives who were inside the hall. In an instant, the joy just a few meters away from the gate turned into a scene of mourning and immense grief. The shelling also left behind a massive damage. The residents rushed to rescue and pull the injured from the rubble.

There are no armed manifestations, military checkpoints, weapons stores, cantonment or even one of the active battlefronts around the area, which confirms that this is a complete and obvious crime. The innocent civilians who are not related to the war were targeted in this crime. They were also not in a suspicious location, a military gathering near them, or a place to plan and provide any support to the military fronts.

The targeting toll of victims is as follows:

Killed: 3 civilians including 2 children

Wounded: 7 civilians



Domestic condemnation

Civil society organizations, including Entesaf for woman and child rights, condemned the crime committed against the civilians who were waiting for their families at the gate of Almansour wedding halls complex on Airport Rd in Al-Hawak directorate- Hodeidah governorate. It also denounced the shameful international silence and violation of international and humanitarian laws and charters, the laws of war and other heavenly customs and canons that are being cast aside, which include rules and principles aimed to mainly provide protection to children and women.

The organization also blamed the coalition of aggression for all crimes and violations against innocent civilians, and called on the international community, UN organizations and human rights and humanitarian bodies to assume their legal and humanitarian responsibilities towards the violations and heinous massacres that occur against the safe civilians of the Yemeni people. It also called on all the free and honorable people of the world to take effective and positive actions to stop the aggression and protect civilians of women and children. In addition to, the organization called on the United Nations and the UN Security Council to do their duty and assume their responsibilities regarding these crimes and work to stop them, lift the siege and form an independent international commission to investigate all crimes committed against the Yemeni people and discipline all those who prove their involvement in these crimes.

Witnesses' statements

The testimonies of some of those who were present at the scene of the airstrike were heard, and all of their testimonies held the so-called coalition responsible for this crime and that it was the planes of the aggressive coalition that carried out this crime.

Alaa Jahaf, an official from the Health and Population Office operations in Hodeidah, testified: "As the new year began, the coalition forces carried out an attack on Almansour wedding hall on Airport Street. Three civilians were killed and seven others were injured in the attack.

Dr. Abu Bakr Hussein, from the Al-Sahel Medical Complex, stated : "The hospital received patients with severe trauma to the brain, abdomen, and skeletal system. The patients were in very poor condition. Although some are being moved to surgery, we lack many necessary medications because of the siege and the aggression against our country."

One of the wounded, identified as (N. A. M.), an employee at Almansour Hall Complex, stated: "I work at Almansour Hall.

Suddenly, I passed out and lost consciousness; I didn't know what was happening. I went into a coma, and now I am suffering from severe pain in my head."

_Another wounded individual, identified as (A. D. A. S.), stated: "I was standing near the gate of the wedding hall when suddenly an explosion went off right in front of me. The attack occurred just after the bride and groom had entered the hall."

_Mansour Hazza, a prominent local figure, stated: "A wedding was being held in the women's hall, and there were men at the gate waiting for their families. When the shell struck, the women inside were terrified. Shrapnel flew everywhere, killing three citizens whose bodies were torn into pieces."

_A media professional, identified as (M. M.), stated: "The hall was crowded with a women's wedding. Thank God the mortar shells struck the gate; by God's grace, they did not hit the main hall, otherwise, hundreds of women would have been killed. As it stands, the attack resulted in the death of three people and the wounding of seven others".

_Mohammed Ayash Qahim, the Governor of Hodeidah, stated: "What happened today is a deeply painful tragedy; innocent lives were torn to pieces. Regrettably, we have not seen any condemnation from the 'sponsors of peace' or the United Nations regarding the incidents of the past two years. We are astonished by this absolute silence. We call upon the world to hear the cries of the innocent, as we find no one speaking out against these crimes."

Description of the violation according to international humanitarian law

The targeting of the wedding halls complex gate by the coalition of aggression's mortar represents a definite and complete war crime. Whereas the targeted area is far from military camps, military zones, or battlefronts and located in a civilian area. In addition to, there were civilians standing in front of the gate, and there were women inside the hall. This represents a clear and explicit violation of international humanitarian and war laws, which stipulate that war parties must at all times distinguish between military and civilian targets and refrain from launching attacks that are expected to cause harm to civilians. This crime is considered one of the most heinous crimes against children as many of them were killed because of this attack.

Articles (47, 27) of the Fourth Geneva Convention, Article (46) of the regulation of the fourth Hague Convention and Article (48) of Additional Protocol 1 also affirm that "the parties of the conflict shall endeavor to distinguish between the civilian population and combatants, and between civilian and military objects."

Victims' names

Names of killed victims in the crime of targeting the gate of Almansour wedding halls complex in Al-Hawak district- Hodeidah Jan 1,2021

	Name	Gender	Age
1	Abdulrahman Hameed Mohammed Almatari	Child	13
2	Salim Abdulhakim Ahmed Salim Alhutami	Child	15
3	Mahmoud Moammed Abdullah Ali Ismael	Male	40

Names of wounded victims in the crime of targeting the gate of Almansour wedding halls complex in Al-Hawak district- Hodeidah Jan 1,2021

	Name	Gender	Age
1	Naseem Ahmed Mohammed	Male	
2	Abdulaziz Dawood Ahmed Saad	Male	

Recommendation

- 1- Work to stop the unjust aggression on Yemen on land and human.**
- 2- We demand international organization, headed by the united nations, to pressurize the countries of the coalition of aggression to stop crimes committed against civilians, especially women and children.**
- 3- We demand the United Nations to cancel its decision to remove the aggression coalition from the list of killing and maiming children, as they continue committing terrible massacres against women and children since the beginning of aggression till this day.**
- 4- We call on all human rights, legal and media organizations and bodies to monitor and document all violations and crimes committed against civilians, especially women and children, and expose them to international public opinion in preparation for bringing the perpetrators to justice.**
- 5- We demand to format an independent fact-finding committee to investigate this crime and all the crimes and violations that have occurred since the beginning of the aggression on March 26, 2015 and submit the leadership of the coalition of aggression and the perpetrators of crimes and massacres to courts.**



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