منظمة انتصاف
لحقوق المرأة والطفل
Entesaf Organization
for Woman and Child Rights



Blood on the Pavement of Living

A human rights report documenting the crime of the Saudi aggression warplanes bombing the Central Market of Taiz- Mafraq Mawiyah, Mawiyah District- Taiz Governorate, Sep 27, 2026.

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 suffers from an aggressive war waged by the Saudi-led aggression, which has deliberately violated human rights and committed the most heinous crimes against civilians without regard for human or moral values. These atrocities have left numerous civilian martyrs and wounded, the majority of whom are women and children, amidst deliberate targeting of residential neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, mosques, and vital infrastructure. This aggression is an extension of the Saudi-Emirates-American coalition aggression that began on March 26, 2015, and continues to this day. The Saudi aggression has persisted in its massacres against civilians, which is vividly evident in the crime committed against civilians and their properties at the Central Market of Taiz in Mafraq Mawiyah, Taiz Governorate.

The Central Market of Taiz in Mafraq Mawiyah was not merely a space for trading goods; it was a lifeline and a sanctuary where families, overburdened by the hardships of war, sought a livelihood to sustain their children. However, the warplanes of the Saudi aggression turned this place in mere moments into a site where civilian bodies were charred, and the blood of shoppers mingled with their goods, leaving dozens of dead and wounded—including children whose dreams were amputated before their limbs—in a scene that shames humanity.

This heinous crime cannot be read as an isolated incident or a passing mistake; rather, it is a new link in a long, continuous chain of deliberate and systematic targeting of civilians in Yemen. For years, popular markets, wedding halls, funeral gatherings, and schools have been turned into direct and permissible targets for the coalition's warplanes. The massacre at Mafraq Mawiyah recalls the very same brutality witnessed in the massacres of Al-Sheikh market, Mustaba'a, Dahyan, and others, confirming to the entire world that targeting civilian objects has become a fixed strategy aimed at breaking the will of the Yemeni people, amid a shameful international silence that has emboldened the killer to continue committing massacres without fear of prosecution or punishment.

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

Executive summary

This report documents the crime committed by the Saudi aggression warplanes against the civilians and their properties in the Central Market of Taiz, which left behind a number of civilian victims including women and children. Throughout this report, we covered the details of the incident and eyewitness testimonies, as well as the legal framework of the crime under international law and conventions.

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. It also relies on international legal texts, treaties and conventions to outline the legal framework of the crime committed against the civilians in the Central Market of Taiz.

A brief overview of Mafraq Mawiyah and Mawiyah District

Mafraq Mawiyah: It is a vital intersection and road located in the eastern part of Taiz Governorate, near Al-Hawban area. It serves as a main transit point connecting Taiz city to Mawiyah District and neighboring areas.

Mawiyah District: One of the districts of Taiz Governorate, with a population of 129,765 according to the 2004 Yemen census. The district is located in the eastern part of Taiz Governorate.



Mawiyah District

Details of the massacre of the aggression coalition on Beir Aslah area

At 11:37 AM on Monday, September 27, 2026, a Saudi F-15 warplane took off from Khamis Mushait Air Base, targeting civilians, homes, shops, vehicles, and motorcycles with several airstrikes. The attack directly struck the Central Market of Taiz in Mafraq Mawiyah, Mawiyah District, Taiz Governorate—a market densely crowded with vendors and shoppers. The airstrikes resulted in dozens of civilian casualties, including both killed and injured, among them children. The strikes also caused massive destruction to shops, warehouses, commercial goods, and citizens' private property, prompting local residents to rush to the scene to rescue survivors and recover the victims.

Targeting a crowded market in broad daylight during peak shopping hours recalls the previous crimes committed by the coalition aggression over 12 years, during which popular markets across Yemen were systematically targeted. Throughout the years of aggression, 718 markets have been bombed, leaving thousands of civilian martyrs and wounded.

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: more than 7 civilians
Injured: more than 43 civilians including 5 children
















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Ansar Allah Media Center
16-04-1448
27-09-2026
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The Aggression Continues Its Lies and Misinformation:

The Saudi aggression, through its deceptive media channels such as Al Arabiya and the channels of its mercenaries, claimed to have launched five airstrikes on positions belonging to what it called the "Houthis" east of Taiz, targeting alleged weapons depots in Mafraq Mawiyah. However, reality proves otherwise: the warplanes did not target weapons depots as claimed by the aggression, but rather struck a popular market and food storage facilities in a civilian site far removed from any military locations.

These allegations and lies can be refuted and disproved through the following undeniable evidence and facts:

1. **Site Reality and Victims (Field Testimony):**

- **The Physiological Identity of the Victims: The fall of 7 martyrs and 43 wounded—including 5 children, street vendors, and civilian shoppers—exposes the falsity of the claim that a military target existed. The victims are ordinary citizens who were seeking their daily livelihood.**
- **The Nature of the Destroyed Goods: Live scenes and photographs taken from the crime scene clearly showed rubble consisting of foodstuffs, vegetables, and consumer goods belonging to commercial shops, rather than the remains of military equipment or weapons depots.**

2. **Absence of Secondary Explosions:**

- **The Missing Physical Evidence: It is known militarily and informationally that when any weapons or ammunition warehouse is targeted, the airstrike is followed by a series of successive and continuous "secondary explosions" resulting from scattered projectiles and the ignition of explosive materials—which never occurred at all in Mafraq Mawiyah Market.**
- **Documentation of the Airstrikes: The bombing was carried out via two direct and targeted airstrikes that caused total destruction to the shops, and the explosion ceased immediately after the airstrike ended, which proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that the targeted objects were purely civilian facilities containing no explosive materials.**

3. **Conventional Media Contradiction and Confusion:**

- **Systematic Misinformation Strategy: This allegation brings to mind the same lies propagated by the Saudi aggression's media when it targeted Mustaba'a market in Hajjah, Dahyan student massacre in Saada, and the bombing of mourning halls and weddings; where the Saudi aggression begins by denying the crime or claiming it was a "legitimate military target," only to later be forced under human rights pressure to admit to "technical or collateral errors."**
- **Disregarding the Collective Mind: Attempting to portray every popular market or vital facility in Yemen as a "weapons depot" is an exposed method aimed at legitimizing collective punishment, and a pathetic attempt to fabricate "illusory victories" at the expense of innocent blood to cover up field and military failure.**

4. **Timing and Geographical Location:**

- **Targeting in Broad Daylight: The crime took place at precisely 11:37 AM, which is the peak time of human movement and activity in the commercial market. Choosing this specific timing reflects either a deliberate intent to raise the toll of civilian casualties or a complete disregard for their lives, and in both cases, the narrative of a "closed military site" falls apart.**

Domestic condemnation

Civil society organizations, including Entesaf for woman and child rights, condemned the crime committed against the civilians and their properties in Mafraq Mawiyah, Taiz 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.

_One of the witnesses, Sheikh Abdullah Al-Faqih, a member of the Association of Yemeni Scholars, spoke from the crime scene, saying: "The aggression's media misleads on all facts, not only in this crime where it targeted the market, but in all its crimes over 12 years. It has targeted mourning halls, weddings, schools, and hospitals, and it continues in this manner of misleading and lying. No matter how much it misleads and lies, what we witness today as an eyewitness is that the Central Market of Taiz was targeted, not a weapons depot or a military site as the aggression claims."

_One of the residents of Mafraq Mawiyah, Muneer Al-Faqih, spoke, saying: "The crime that occurred today is a fully-fledged crime. Targeting civilians, markets, and passersby is a fully-fledged crime. The Saudi enemy came to sate its malice by targeting civilians, and dozens of victims from various families in Mawiyah District have fallen in this crime. The entire society must stand against this aggression with all possible strength."

_Brigadier General Abdul Khaliq Al-Junaid, Director General of Al-Ta'iziyah District, also spoke, saying: "Today, the picture speaks for itself. You see this targeted commercial shop, its contents, and passing citizens. Everyone condemns these actions committed by the criminal Saudi regime, its persistence in killing our people in general and the people of Taiz in particular, and its insistence on targeting civilian objects, including commercial shops and pedestrians in the streets. Today, this aggression makes the Yemeni people look truly at these crimes and increases their determination and resolve to confront this aggression."

_One of the wounded spoke, saying: "The Saudi aggression warplanes struck us while we were inside a commercial warehouse, and we were loading food supplies at the time."

_Another wounded person also spoke, saying: "The Saudi aggression struck civilian citizens and commercial shops. I and my son were injured. We have no connection to military activities; we are merely workers and citizens working for our daily livelihood."

_One of the doctors spoke, saying: "The targeting and airstrikes by the aggression's warplanes resulted in the injury of 40 civilians, including 5 children, in addition to 7 martyrs. The wounded were distributed to a number of hospitals, and these crimes are what the Saudi aggression has been known for from 2015 until now."

_The owner of the shop and commercial warehouse also spoke, saying: "The targeted shop belongs to me, and the workers were loading food supplies onto the dyna (Pickup truck)."

Description of the violation according to international humanitarian low

First: Legal Classification of the Incident (War Crime)

The targeting of a densely populated commercial market in "Mafraq Mawiyah," Taiz Governorate, by warplanes constitutes a grave violation of the rules of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and amounts to a war crime under the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocol I, due to the breach of the following established principles:

1. **Violation of the Principle of Distinction**

Articles (48) and (51) of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions stipulate the obligation to distinguish at all times between civilians and combatants, as well as between civilian objects and military objectives.

The commercial market in Mafraq Mawiyah is a strictly civilian object that possesses no military character and whose targeting yields no legitimate military advantage, making the attack a deliberate strike against civilian infrastructure.

2. **Violation of the Principle of Proportionality**

Rules of International Humanitarian Law prohibit attacks that are expected to cause incidental loss of civilian life, injury to civilians, or damage to civilian objects that would be excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated (Article 57 of Additional Protocol I).

The attack resulted in a high number of civilian casualties, including martyrs and wounded, proving a blatant violation of the principle of proportionality and the use of excessive, unjustified force in a populated area.

Second: Gross Human Rights Violations

Beyond the violations of International Humanitarian Law, the attack constitutes a flagrant breach of International Human Rights Law standards, specifically:

The Right to Life and Bodily Integrity: The targeting of unarmed civilians constitutes a grave violation of the right to life, as guaranteed under Article (6) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).

The Right to Personal Liberty and Security: Stripping civilians of their fundamental right to go about their daily lives, access markets, and pursue their livelihoods in a safe and secure environment.

Third: International Criminal Responsibility and Redress

Individual and Institutional Liability: War crimes are not subject to any statute of limitations. Military leadership, command authorities, and perpetrators bear full criminal responsibility before international and national judicial bodies under the principle of universal jurisdiction.

Obligation to Provide Compensation and Reparations: The commission of this crime entails binding legal and international obligations to conduct transparent and impartial investigations, hold perpetrators accountable, and provide fair compensation and comprehensive redress to the victims and their families.

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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