

Press Release | For Immediate Release

PHOSPHORUS BOMBS IN NORTHWEST SYRIA THE NUMBER OF DEAD AND WOUNDED GROWS

Ad Dana, where the Still I Rise school is located, was also hit.

The shelling is still ongoing.

OCT 07th, 2023 - Shelling continues in North West Syria with ongoing bombings carried out by pro- Assad regime forces: in the last three days at least 37 people died and 109 are wounded, including many women and children. Ad Dana, where Still I Rise's school is located, was also hit: the organization's staff and students are unharmed so far.

According to <u>Al Jazeera</u>, <u>EHA News</u>, confirmed by the local Still I Rise's staff as well, cluster bombs and white phosphorus bombs were dropped overnight, the former banned internationally by the UN Convention on Cluster Munitions (2008), and the latter prohibited against civilians by the United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW, 1980).

These are the worst attacks since 2020: in addition to deaths and injuries, massive displacement is occurring from people moving away from affected towns and villages as attacks are spreading into ever larger areas.

"I am originally from Aleppo and the future is bleak for me and my family because those days I lived through in Aleppo, and I still have nightmares about, are coming back," said Abdulkafi Alhamdo, Program Manager of Still I Rise. "The horror, fear and death will return soon and this time there is no place to escape. We are in the last outpost of Syria as the borders are closed and hell comes from the sky. We hope that any foreseeable attacks will be stopped before they happen. Otherwise the massacres will be inevitable and terrible".