Harmoon Observatory

Harmoon Observatory aims at monitoring the course of events related to the conflict in, and over Syria, from all sides and for all parties, in order to create a clear perception of what is happening on the various political, military, economic and social levels. As well as to figure out the different opinions of all acting parties and their activities and influence, through reports produced on the ground close to the events, where information about the Syrian issue is gathered and summarized in monthly reports.

The main objective is to monitor the development of the Syrian issue in order to create up-to-date knowledge that helps researchers and informs decision-makers of the latest updates.

Harmon Center for Contemporary Studies

Harmon Center is an independent nonprofit research institution, focusing on the production of political, societal and intellectual studies and research related particularly to the Syrian issue, and the possible outcomes of ongoing conflict in Syria. The center is concerned with bolstering civil society and democratic awareness. Harmon Center also works on Arab issues and related conflicts, as well as Arab regional and international relations.

The Center undertakes practical projects and activities, promotes initiatives for building Syria’s future on the foundations and values of democracy, freedom, equality, human rights, and equal citizenship rights. Harmon Center strives to be a platform for constructive dialogue and an arena for exchanging ideas.
Harmoon Observatory

July 2021 report submitted at the end of the month
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Executive summary for the month of July 2021

• No effort was made to reach a political solution, and nothing new resulted from the meeting of Astana Process guarantor states. Bashar al-Assad carried on with his escalating rhetoric against the opposition while formal elections were rejected by the international community. Russia’s political support for the Syrian regime took a step forward, by Russia deliberately extending the opening of crossings for aid delivery for a period of only 6 months. Also, there was a remarkable visit of the Chinese Foreign Minister to Damascus.

• The Jordanian monarch called for acceptance of the Syrian regime’s survival and for dialogue with it, whereas the European Union firmly refused to restore the regime and to support the reconstruction process, and the US administration imposed new sanctions on individuals and entities affiliated with the regime.

• The siege crisis of Daraa Al-Balad amplified, while the Russian forces continued mobilizing to bombard the areas controlled by the Syrian opposition, in Houran and northern Syria. On a parallel note, the Islamic State (ISIS) kept attacking the East, amidst intermittent confrontations between the SDF forces and the “National Army” factions. Bombings, assassinations, violations, and arrests made by the regime and the SDF persisted, thus causing casualties.

• A remarkable turning point has emerged when the Syrian air defense systems, supervised by Russia, were allowed to confront Israel’s military attacks in Syria.

• The pace of immigration and asylum requests among Syrians increased, especially in regime-controlled areas, despite the increase in incitement campaigns against Syrians in Turkey and Denmark’s refusal to extend the residency of hundreds of Syrians.

• The economic policies of the Syrian regime have caused an increase in the living conditions of citizens, due to the increase in prices and the lack of services, despite the stability of the exchange rate of the Syrian pound. However, the market activity and the performance of local councils improved in areas controlled by the Syrian opposition factions in northern Syria.

• Due to the exacerbation of extreme poverty, the Observatory recorded the increasing inability of Syrians to provide for their families’ daily needs, the exacerbation of the phenom-
enon of beggary and the increase in theft and drug trafficking crimes.

• Decline in the interest of the media and international research and studies centers on the Syrian issue, as compared to previous years.
Monitoring report for the month of July 2021
First: political report

United nations:

• The UN Security Council unanimously approved Resolution 2585 regarding the renewal, for a period of six months, of the humanitarian aid delivery mechanism to Syria through “Bab al-Hawa” crossing, after vigorous international negotiations and discussions during the past months. The resolution was adopted without a Russian veto.

• The UN Security Council held a closed session during which it listened to the UN Special Envoy for Syria Geir Pedersen, about the opportunities to trigger the political situation, and it is the first session since the meeting of the 15 member states over the issuance of Resolution 2585 that extended the mandate of the cross-border humanitarian aid delivery mechanism to Millions of Syrians in the northwest of the country.

• The United Nations Human Rights Council called for the establishment of an appropriate mechanism to achieve justice and reconciliation in Syria, and to compensate the victims, stressing the need to hold those responsible for violations accountable.

• The annual statistical report for the year 2020, on United Nations’ expenditures, revealed that United Nations agencies spent $14.9 million last year on housing services at the “Four Seasons” Hotel in the Syrian capital, Damascus, which raises the total international spending at the hotel since 2014 to 70.1 million dollars.

United States:

• The acting US envoy for the international coalition against ISIS and the acting counter-terrorism coordinator at the US State Department, John Godfrey, renewed the US position on classifying “Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham” as a terrorist organization, in response to calls for a dialogue with the organization.

• A senior official said at the US States Department about the Syrian issue: “Iranian forces, including the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps and Hezbollah, and other proxy forces
backed by Iran, threaten regional stability as well as the security of our allies and partners, including Israel.»

- US President Joe Biden is under great pressure from the Republican Party, to respond to the attacks targeting US forces in Syria and Iraq.

- In a decision, a US federal court in Washington held “Syria and Iran” responsible in a case related to an attack that killed an Israeli couple in the occupied West Bank, in October 2015.

- The US Embassy in Damascus called, through its official Twitter account, for an immediate and transparent investigation into the death of a detainee under torture in the prisons of the “Syrian Democratic Forces / SDF».

- The US Treasury continued imposing sanctions on individuals and entities affiliated with the Syrian regime, as it issued on July 28 a list of sanctions on eight prisons run by the Syrian regime’s intelligence services, and on five senior security officials in the regime’s institutions that manage these prisons, in addition to the “Ahrar Al-Sharqiya” faction, affiliated with the Syrian National Army.

**European Union**

- The European Union issued a statement regarding the siege on Daraa al-Balad, since last June 24, after a letter from 9 members of the European Parliament, in which they expressed their concerns about the conditions of thousands of civilians.

- The German judiciary has formally charged the former Syrian doctor at the military hospital in Homs, Alaa Musa, with torturing and killing opponents of Bashar al-Assad’s regime, paving the way for his trial, knowing that Musa has been detained since June 19, in the state of Hessen Satet.

- The Swiss newspaper, SonntagsZeitung, revealed that Germany exported chemical materials to Syria, which were used in the production of chemical weapons, and that these materials were obtained through an order submitted by the MPI Pharmaceutical Company in Syria to a Swiss company in Basel owned by German Printag (1).

- The German “Deutsche Welle” network revealed new details about the prominent Syrian

(1) Deutsche Welle [https://2u.pw/ hvt1z]
human rights activist and human rights activist Razan Zaitouneh, whose disappearance in late 2013 with her colleagues constituted one of the most notable mysteries of the Syrian war to date. The network has collected evidence in six countries, in order to track down potential perpetrators and solve the mystery. Dozens of people who had close knowledge of the case provided testimonies in order to track down possible perpetrators\(^2\).

- Greek Foreign Minister Nikos Dendias affirmed that his country does not want Syria to become a “failed state,” pointing out that Athens decided to send a diplomat to Damascus to “contribute to normalizing the situation, but he will not present his credentials to the Syrian regime.”
- A Dutch court sentenced a Syrian refugee to 20 years in prison for committing “war crimes,” after he was accused of killing a regime soldier during the Syrian War. He was found to have been a member of “Jabhat Al-Nusra”, which at some point was affiliated with al-Qaeda in Syria.
- The European Union launched a media platform to “confront the misinformation campaign” launched by the “Syrian regime and its allies”, in which they claim that European countries have begun “normalization” with Damascus, and that sanctions are responsible for the suffering of the Syrians.
- The French Supreme Court of Appeal announced the postponement of its verdict on the accusations attributed to the “Lafarge” cement company, of “complicity in crimes against humanity” as part of its activities in Syria, until the seventh of September.

**Turkey**

- Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that Turkish forces are present in Libya, Azerbaijan, Syria and the eastern Mediterranean, stressing that they will continue their presence.
- Turkish Defense Minister Hulusi Akar visited, with a number of army commanders, the military units stationed near the Syrian border, and the headquarters of the Second Army, which commands the military units deployed in northern Syria.
- Turkish Interior Minister Suleiman Soylu made a surprise visit to the cities of “Afrin and

\(^2\) Deutsche Welle [https://2u.pw/qw2mh](https://2u.pw/qw2mh)
A’zaz” in northern Syria, on the first day of Eid al-Adha, and congratulated the security forces operating in the two regions on the occasion of Eid.

- A number of volunteers from the “White Helmets” Syrian Civil Defense Organization participated in the firefighting and evacuation operations, and the preparation of temporary housing for those fleeing the fires, in the Turkish state of Antalya.

- A meeting was held at the Al-Alouk Wells station building, in the eastern countryside of Ras al-Ain, which brought together Russian and Turkish officers, during which they discussed the implementation of an agreement between the two sides that would lead to the pumping of drinking water to the Autonomous Administration areas, and the access to electricity service for areas under the influence of the Syrian and Turkish National Army.

- The head of the Republican People’s Party, the largest opposition party in Turkey, Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, repeated his statements about working to return the Syrians in Turkey to their country. Similar pledges were issued by the nationalist Good Party, an ally of the Republican People’s Party, and the party demanded that the process of returning Syrian refugees to their country urgently begins. Turkish Member of Parliament Ümit Özdağ, who is known for his hostility to the Syrians, also floated the idea of voting to either grant Turkish citizenship to resident Syrians or deport them, claiming that Turkey hosts 5.3 million Syrians.

- The mayor of Bolu, Tango Özcan, of the Republican People’s Party, said that he will raise the price of water 10 times for foreigners, in order to push them to leave, which prompted the “Official Association for Refugee Rights in Turkey” to file an official lawsuit against Özcan, due to decisions and statements she described as racism against Syrian refugees and foreigners in the city.

Russia:

- “Alexander Lavrentiev”, the envoy of Russian President Vladimir Putin, met with Bashar al-Assad in Damascus, and discussed with him the developments of the political solution, the Astana process, the constitutional committee, and bilateral relations.

- Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov called on the Syrian Kurds to show interest in dialogue with the Syrian regime and not to give in to attempts to impose separatist tendencies on them, as put by him.
• A Russian company acquired a new investment project in Lattakia Governorate, in the field of tap water purification, in light of the increasing economic activity of the Russian occupation through long-term investment contracts.

• The Russian Defense Ministry said that the Russian Foreign Minister, Sergey Lavrov, discussed with the UN Special Envoy for Syria, Geir Pedersen, about activating international efforts to settle the Syrian crisis politically, stressing the necessity of the Constitutional Committee continuing its work.

China:

• The month of July witnessed a remarkable event: the visit of Chinese Foreign Minister “Wang Yi” to Damascus, on July 17, 2021. The visit comes after illegal elections organized by al-Assad. It contradicts Security Council resolutions, and comes as a blessing for al-Assad’s stay in power and to highlight China’s support for his regime. China - through its foreign minister - confirmed its support for al-Assad’s survival and its opposition to regime change. Observers explained that China came to intervene in the conflict as a party, through its powerful investment and commercial arm, but the visit carried more political connotations than tangible results.

Iran:

• The Observatory team witnessed the escalation of Iran’s activity on Syrian soil, in its various forms, especially the land purchase activity by pro-Iranian militias in Deir Ez-Zor governorate.

• The Iranian Civil Aviation Organization organized a joint meeting with officials in the civil aviation organization of the Syrian regime, to hold discussions on cooperation in the field of air transport, as Iran is trying to dominate the sector completely.

• The Speaker of the Iranian Shura Council, Muhammad Baqir Qalifa, revealed, during a visit to Damascus, what he described as a “comprehensive agreement for cooperation between Iran and Syria” that is currently being drafted, in the context of Iranian intervention and its race with Russia to dominate Syria, politically, economically and militarily.

• The Iranian opposition held the “Annual Conference of the Iranian Resistance for a Free Iran
“2021”, for three days, with the participation of Iranians and supporters of the opposition from more than 105 countries, and in the presence of thousands of members of the People’s Khalk Mojahedin (MEK) in Albania.

**Arab countries**

- Jordanian King Abdullah II Ibn Al-Hussein said that the Syrian regime will remain, expressing his understanding of the anger and fear of many countries about what happened to the Syrian people, stressing that maintaining the situation means the persistence of violence that the Syrian people pay for.

- The Jordanian authorities closed the border crossings with Syria for a few days, after clashes broke out between the regime forces and the opposition factions in Daraa.

- Saudi Arabia prevented the entry of Syrian trucks loaded with vegetables and fruits, after allowing them to cross into Jordan.

**The regime:**

- Bashar al-Assad was sworn after his fictitious victory in sham elections, which the international community refused to recognize as legitimate. In his oath-taking speech at the People’s Palace, instead of the People’s Assembly, he repeatedly described opponents of his regime as “mercenaries” and “agents”, and attacked what he described as the Turkish occupation, and the American one, while overlooking the dominance of his Russian and Iranian allies over the country. He also considered that the only solution to the crisis in Syria is the control of his regime forces over the areas outside his control.

- A website loyal to the Syrian regime quoted an “official source” as saying that a draft decision had been prepared to abolish the “Youth of the Revolution and the Vanguard of the Baath Organization” union, without revealing the motives for this decision.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Syrian regime attacked the “Self-Management”, in a statement, after a delegation from the latter met with French President Macron, considering that it puts itself in the category of “powers conspiring against Syria.”

- The “Syrian Network for Human Rights” said that the Syrian regime released 81 people,
according to Amnesty Decree No. 13 issued in May 2021, while it has arrested at least 176 people since its issuance, noting that despite all the amnesty decrees, there are still about 131,000 detainees/missing people, related to the popular movement opposing the Syrian regime.

- The regime security authorities arrested 5 people from the areas under its control, on charges of dealing with suspicious networks, according to what was announced by the Syrian regime’s Ministry of Interior.

- The security authorities have arrested a large number of managers, engineers, technicians and heads of departments working in companies affiliated with the Syrian regime’s Ministry of Oil, due to accusations of corruption in the contracts of oil companies.

**Syrian opposition:**

- “Salem Al-Maslat,” the elected head of the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces, said, in the 57th session, that he is open to all political forces, under the slogan “Unity of Action of the Syrian People,” in a press conference in Istanbul, during the meetings of the coalition’s general body, The day after he was elected his tenth president, to succeed Nasr Hariri.

- A member of the “Syrian Negotiating Committee” denied agreeing on a date to hold a new scheduling of the meetings of the “Syrian Constitutional Committee,” after the Russian President’s envoy to Syria, Alexander Lavrentiev, announced that the next regular meeting of the “Committee” might be held in the summer of 2021.
Second: Military and Security report

Russia

• Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu announced that during the Syrian events, the Russian military tested more than 320 types of various weapons. A statement that comes as a new and official evidence that Russia is using the bodies of Syrians, their cities and villages to test its destructive weapons.

• "Save the Children" organization condemned the killing of children in Idlib by the bombing of the regime forces and Russia.

• The Russian Ministry of Defense confirmed the return of the joint Russian-Turkish military patrols to their tours on international roads in Aleppo Governorate, after the joint patrols in Idlib and Aleppo stopped since August of the year 2020.

• The port of Tartus witnessed a military parade on the occasion of the 325th anniversary of the establishment of the Russian Navy, with the participation of Russian and Syrian naval forces, in the presence of General Ali Ayoub, Minister of Defense of the Syrian regime.

• The Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor expressed its deep concern over the death of the young man, “Jaafar Suleiman Al-Kafri”, from the village of Al-Muta’iyah in southern Syria, shortly after his release from the prison of the Fifth Division of the Russian forces. The Euro-Med Monitor called on the Syrian Ministry of Defense to open an immediate investigation into the death of “Al-Kafri” under torture, to hold all those involved in the incident accountable, and to immediately release the detainees from the village of Al-Muta’iya, and to stop all forms of torture and violations against detainees inside prisons(3).

Iran and its militias:

• Militias backed by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps have installed a radar in the farms area on the outskirts of Al-Mayadinciry in Deirez-Zor.

(3) Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor https://2u.pw/6JIC8
• The Iraqi “Abu al-Fadl al-Abbas” militia, backed by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, handed over a military site in the Al-Shibli area near the city of Al-Mayadin to the Lebanese “Hezbollah” militia.

• The Afghan Shiite “Fatimiyoun” militia held a graduation ceremony for about 60 of its new fighters, in a camp for it in the farms area in Deirez-Zor countryside.

• Brigadier General of the Iranian “Revolutionary Guard Corps” Seyed Ahmed Qureshi, one of the leaders of the “Fatimiyoun” militia, and two other members were killed by a landmine explosion in the eastern countryside of Homs.

• The military commander of the Lebanese “Hezbollah” militia, Imad Al-Amin, and another member were killed in Israeli raids targeting Iranian sites in the city of Al-Safira, south of Aleppo.

• Militias loyal to Iran bombed the vicinity of Al-Omar oil field base, where the international coalition forces are stationed, in the countryside of Deir Ez-Zor. No damage noted.

**Turkey:**

• Two Turkish soldiers were killed near the city of al-Bab, northeast of Aleppo, after a Turkish armored vehicle was hit by an anti-armor missile fired by the “Syrian Democratic Forces / SDF” fighters.

• Protesters demonstrated in Jabal al-Zawiya in Idlib countryside, in front of Turkish military points, and burned tires, calling for the Turkish army to assume its responsibilities towards the “Russian bombing of the Syrian regime” that has been going on for a month.

• Turkish bases bombarded with artillery the positions of the Kurdish People’s Protection Units (YPG) in Tal Rifaat and the northern countryside of Aleppo.

**Israel:**

• The frequency of the Israeli army’s attacks on sites in Syria decreased in July. The regime’s air defenses, supervised by Russian experts, responded to Israeli missiles.

• Israeli air strikes targeted sites of the Syrian regime forces and Iranian militias in the defense
factories in the Al-Safira area, south of Aleppo, on July 20.

- Israeli air strikes bombed sites of the regime forces and the Lebanese “Hezbollah” militia, in the city of “Al-Quaysir” in the Homs countryside, on July 22. Again, a missile fired by the regime forces found its way to the Lebanese side, where a video recording showed the remains of a missile landing in a Lebanese town.

- Israeli media websites said that the Central Court in the city of Nazareth (in the northern occupied territories) sentenced an Israeli woman who crossed the border into Syria last January to 8 months. The woman was later released under an exchange.

**The regime**

- The Syrian regime forces and the Russian forces have continued to bombard many areas in Idlib and its surroundings, since the beginning of June. The shelling was concentrated in Jabal Al-Zawiya, and the villages of Balyoun, Balshon, Iblin, Einlarouz, Al Mozarah, Al Bara, Shanans, Marian, Ihsem, Al Foua, and Bdama in Idlib, and the village of Zayzoun in Al-Ghab Plain.

- Gunmen killed the assistant in the Military Security, “AyoubAyoub”, in the city of Rastan, north of Homs.

- The leader of the al-Quds Brigade militia loyal to the Syrian regime, “Khalaf al-Assaf”, from the village of Umm al-Amad, was killed along with two militia fighters when a mine exploded in his car near the city of Palmyra. (ISIS) claimed the responsibility for the operation.

- Five members of the Syrian regime forces were killed, and 8 others were wounded, in an attack launched by the fighters of the Islamic State (ISIS) in the Rasafa area near Raqqa.

- Nasr Al-Hariri, the former head of the National Coalition, revealed sealed documents proving the Syrian regime’s involvement (with the help of medical staff) in the killing of 5,210 people, including children, in a hospital in Homs.

- The Observatory recorded the following observations regarding the security and military events in July:

  1. There is no significant change in the geographical distribution of security events inside Syria for the month of July 2021, except for the rise of Daraa Governorate to the fore-
front of the governorates in which violence and clashes were recorded.

2. The number of security incidents recorded during the current month of July, increased to (619) compared to 417 last June, and more than 45% of them are concentrated in the governorates of Idlib in the north, and Daraa in the south of Syria.

3. Idlib is still at the forefront of the provinces in which security incidents were recorded during the current month, and Daraa rose to the second place as a result of new attacks by the regime forces.

4. Security incidents increased in Aleppo governorate compared to the previous month, knowing that the number of casualties was much lower in July 2021.

5. There is a relative escalation of violence in Hama governorate, where 69 cases of artillery shelling were recorded within the governorate, knowing that the total number of victims was two.

6. Central Syria and the Syrian coast maintained their level of security events during the month.

7. There is an increase of nearly 50% in security incidents during the month of July 2021 compared to the previous month.

8. There is a clear increase in the number of shootings recorded during the current month (171 cases) compared to 52 cases in the previous month.

9. Artillery shelling is still the most recorded military operation throughout the month.

10. There is a relative decrease in the number of demonstrations that were recorded during the monitoring month, and they are completely concentrated in the governorates of Idlib and Daraa.
Daraa’s security situation:

- On the morning of Thursday, July 29, the regime forces bombed intense shelling, with mortars, tanks and anti-aircraft guns, on the neighborhoods of Daraa al-Balad, Tariq al-Sad and Daraa camp, followed by storming attempts by groups affiliated with the Fourth Division and the “Arab National Guard” militia supported by the Revolutionary Guard Corps. The Iranian regime was repelled by the opposition factions on three axes towards Daraa al-Balad, and the advancing groups incurred losses in lives and equipment.

- It was noted that the Russians did not participate in the siege, bombing and aviation, and that the Russian side prevented the regime’s aviation from participating, as part of its efforts to play the role of mediator, which may reflect one of the differences in its policy with the Iranian side.

- The regime continued to bring in reinforcements from various regions and direct them to the southern region. During the campaign, intensive reconnaissance aircraft flew in the city of Daraa and its countryside.

- The attacks on the neighborhoods of Daraa al-Balad resulted in dozens of civilian deaths and injuries. There was a lack of first aid materials, after the closure of the only medical point in Daraa al-Balad as a result of its targeting by snipers of the Fourth Division.

- The regime forces targeted residential houses in the town of al-Yadouda in the western countryside of Daraa, with “elephant” missiles, which led to a massacre in which a woman and four children were killed, in addition to a number of wounded. As a result, a massive displacement occurred in the town due to the intensity of the bombing.

- In response to the attacks of the regime forces on Daraa al-Balad, the fighters of the opposition factions and the people of Daraa launched, in a battle they called “the Battle of Dignity,” attacks on the regime’s security and military checkpoints in several areas of Houran, including the checkpoints of Saida, and points of Umm al-Mayathen, al-Nuaima, Tal Al-Samin, Al-Harak, Tafas, Al-Muzayrib, Tel Shehab, Tasil, Al-Taybeh, Al-Shajara, Jassem, Zayzoun, Giza, Inkhil, Nimr, Nawa, Al-Maliha Al-Sharqiah, and Al-Bakkar. The attack resulted in the capture of dozens of officers and members of the regime’s army and security forces.

- A group of people from the town of Sidon (east of Daraa) blocked the international highway (Damascus - Amman) with fire, in front of the regime’s military groups coming to the province.
• Members of the Eighth Brigade of the Russian-backed Fifth Division, following a dispute with one of their commanders, continued their violations in the town of Al-Muta’ia, south of Daraa. They stormed several houses, burned and blew up some of them, and launched a campaign of arrests among the town’s youth, then released some of them after torturing them, which led to the death of one of them.

• Turkey, Britain, France, the United States, the United Nations and international organizations have condemned the siege imposed by the Syrian regime forces on the Daraa al-Balad area, which has continued since last June 24, in an attempt to force the residents and fighters of the opposition factions to surrender their light weapons, and to accept the installation of military points by the military security in their areas. The aforementioned countries demanded the urgent lifting of the siege and the entry of basic humanitarian supplies.
Jihadist Factions:

• An ammunition and weapons depot exploded in the village of Maarata Al-Shalf in Idlib, which is an area of military influence for Hay’atTahrir Al-Sham. The faction members rushed to cordon off the place. There were no reports of human or material losses in the explosion.

• The “Al-Ram” military checkpoint affiliated to Hay’atTahrir Al-Sham, near the village of Maarat Sarrin in Idlib, was attacked by unknown armed elements, which resulted in two casualties.

• Members of “Hay’atTahrir al-Sham” attacked a military operations room belonging to the “Al-Sham Legion” faction, which is affiliated with the Syrian National Army, and arrested two officers from the room, and confiscated some military equipment from the site near the contact lines with the regime forces in Idlib countryside.

Autonomous Administration (QSD)

• The Kurdish People’s Protection Units (YPG) militia of the “Syrian Democratic Forces / SDF” intensified its bombardment of the positions of the Syrian opposition and the Turkish army in the north of Syria, and repeated its artillery and missile shelling on residential neighborhoods in the town of Al-Sukaria in the eastern countryside of Aleppo, and on the city of Afrin, which resulted in the killing and wounding of a number of civilians, including children and women.

• The Autonomous Administration announced, in a statement, that it welcomed the invitation of Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov for a national dialogue, but it blamed the regime for the failure of this dialogue.

• Member of the Presidency of the Kurdish National Council and Secretary of the Kurdistan Yekiti Party, Suleiman Osu, called on the American side and the leader of the Syrian Democratic Forces, Mazloum Abdi, to assume their responsibilities regarding the continuous violations of the Democratic Union Party in northeastern Syria.

• The Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria denounced the UN Security Council resolution extending the delivery mechanism for bringing humanitarian aid into Syria across the border, considering that it does not take into account the humanitarian situation in Syria, and does not deal with it equally.
• Security forces affiliated with the “Syrian Democratic Forces / SDF” arrested activist Issam al-Ajeel in the village of Muhaimda, west of Deir Ez-Zor, on July 17, and took him to an unknown destination. Al-Ajeel is the director of the Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development Organization, a civil society organization working in Northern Syria in environmental and development projects.

• A Middle East witness report quoted families in northeastern Syria saying that their sons were tortured to death in the prisons of the “Syrian Democratic Forces.” Two families in northeastern Syria received news of the death of their sons while they were being held by the “Syrian Democratic Forces.”

• The “Autonomous-Administration”, in the regions of northern and eastern Syria, issued a decision to impose taxes on the salaries, compensation and rewards of its employees, with the exception of 3 categories, including the intelligence service of the “Syrian Democratic Forces / SDF”.

• The “Syrian Democratic Forces / SDF” announced that they had repelled an attack by unidentified drones in the Al-Omar field, without causing any damage.

• Local sources in the city of Al-Hasakah said that a father killed his minor daughter (under the age of sixteen) by suffocation, under the pretext of “washing out shame”, on the grounds that she was raped by her cousin. The crime was the second of its kind in the city in less than a week under Honor killings.

• The leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party - Syria, Bashar Amin, said: “The detainees in the prisons of the Autonomous Administration, Amir Hamid and Fuad Ibrahim, were killed under torture in their prisons.” He said that more than 50 people were killed under torture.

• Marhash al-Kafash al-Shwaish, from the village of al-Jarthi al-Gharbi, east of Deirez-Zor, was killed under torture in the prisons of the SDF militia.

• Militants of the Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD) launched a raid and arrest campaign against cadres of parties from the Kurdish National Council, and arrested Muhammad Salih Ahmad Shallal, Muhammad Daham, Izz al-Din Zain al-Abidin Mahmoud, and the journalist Barzan Liani.
National Army Factions:

- Violent clashes erupted between the Ahrar al-Sharqiya factions and the 9th Division of the Syrian National Army, in the town of Rajo in the countryside of Afrin, and the clashes stopped after the military police intervened.

- A security force from the Syrian National Army launched a security operation called (The Falcon’s Claw – 1/ “Makhaleb Al-Sakr-1”), which resulted in the arrest of members of a drug trafficking gang, in Sheikh Al-Hadid district, near Afrin, northwest of Aleppo.

- The Syrian National Army made a prisoner exchange with the Syrian regime, at the Abu Al-Zandin crossing in the countryside of Al-Bab city in the eastern countryside of Aleppo, in the presence of representatives of the United Nations and the International Red Cross.

- Russian warplanes have bombed a civil defense center in Sahel al-Rouj in the western countryside of Idlib.

- Violent clashes took place in the “Maidanki” area in the countryside of Afrin, between the “Elite Army” and “Suqur Al-Shamal” factions, and there were casualties on both sides.

- Eight civilians, including a father and his three children, were killed in artillery shelling by the Syrian regime forces on the villages of Jabal Al-Zawiya.

- A mass grave containing 35 unidentified bodies was found in the city of Afrin. The media center of the “Kurdish People’s Protection Units” issued a statement revealing the identities of its fighters who were buried in the cemetery.

- A child was killed by Turkish gendarmerie snipers, on the border strip between Turkey and Syria, in the Idlib region.

- The detonation of car bombs continued in northern Syria, as a motorcycle bomb exploded in the center of the city of Jarabulus, northeast of Aleppo, on Sunday, July 11, and an explosive device was detonated in a car, on Saturday, July 17, in the city of Al-Bab, north of Aleppo. Also an explosive device was planted in a car owned by Al-Jazeera correspondent “Qusay Al-Ahmad” in the city of Afrin.
Victims and violations:

- The Harmoon Observatory recorded the killing of 126 Syrians, including 113 civilians, in July, among them 44 children, 13 women, 5 victims of torture, two medical personnel and a media volunteer in the Civil Defense.

The regime forces and Russia killed the largest number of victims, as their number reached 41 civilians, including 26 children and 8 women, and two medical cadres and a media volunteer in the Civil Defense, by bombing various areas of Idlib and its countryside, while the regime forces and its militias killed 34 people, including 22 civilians, among them 9 children and a woman, and 4 detainees under torture. Nine of the victims died due to the explosion of booby-traps and explosive devices, and remnants of the battles, including shells and mines, including 6 children.

The “Syrian Democratic Forces” militia also deliberately killed 9 people, including 8 civilians, among them 2 children. Five civilians, one of them a woman, were killed by armed gangs, one civilian was killed by the Syrian National Army, and a child was shot dead in the clashes between one of the militants and a faction of the Syrian.
The Observatory recorded the following observations regarding the death toll for the month of July:

1. A relative decrease in the total number of civilian victims in Syria, from 123 in June to 113 civilians in July 2021, and a decrease in the number of victims of torture, from 11 in June to 4 in July 2021.

2. The shooting and artillery shelling are still the biggest cause of casualties.
3. The frequency of kidnappings and killings, carried out by unknown civilians, continues at a similar rate to last June.

4. An increase in the number of casualties in the governorates of Daraa, Idlib and Deir Ez-Zor, and a significant decrease in the number of victims in the governorates of Aleppo and Al-Hasakah.

5. The geographical distribution of civilian casualties shows the largest number of them in Daraa, Deir Ez-Zor and Idlib, during the current month. The number of victims of Raqqa is close to the number of its victims last June, and the number of victims of Aleppo and Hasakah declined to become among the green areas on the security risk index.

6. The high number of child victims was noted during the current month of July, 44 children, compared to 27 child victims in the month of June.

7. There is a noticeable decline in the percentage of the SDF as the party responsible for the victims in July (7%), while it was 26% last month.

8. The proportion of the Syrian regime and its Russian ally, as responsible for inflicting victims in general throughout Syria, doubled, as their combined ratio reached 58% in July, compared to 25% last month.
Humanitarian aid

• Syria topped the list of countries in the world in the number of people threatened by hunger, according to the report of the anti-poverty organization “Oxfam”, which was published on Friday (July 9, 2021); the number of Syrians threatened with starvation inside Syria reached 12.4 million, or 60% of the population.

• Bashar al-Assad, in a speech after being sworn in for a fourth presidential term, blamed the deterioration of Syrian economy and the lack of investment flowing into the country on the presence of between $40 billion and $60 billion of Syrian funds frozen in troubled Lebanese banks.

• The United Nations continued to send humanitarian aid convoys to northern Syria, through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing, and July recorded a decrease in the number of UN aid trucks, which was estimated to be about 1,000 trucks per month.

• The Qatar Red Crescent organized a campaign to provide clean drinking water, through water tanks, for the benefit of 13,898 displaced beneficiaries in northern Syria, to protect them from diseases and epidemics.

• The Turkish Relief and Humanitarian Aid Agency, İHH, carried out an aid campaign, during which it provided 180,000 sacrifices, in different regions of northern Syria, within the framework of the humanitarian activities for the year 2021.

• A report by the “Response Coordinators” team working in northern Syria showed an increase in the rate of humanitarian response to the needs of the displaced, by the supporting parties in various sectors in July, compared to last June. It reached 43% in the food security and livelihoods sector, Health and nutrition 22%, non-food items 39%, shelter 38%, education 24%, protection 22%. The response rate in the water sector decreased to 24%, down from 26% last month.

• The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) stated that about 50 thousand families in Raqqa, Deir Ez-Zor and northern Aleppo are threatened with losing their source of liveli-
hood, due to the low level of the Euphrates River.

• The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) issued a statement on the impact of the recent cessation of the “Allouk” water station, pointing out that one million people were affected, including camp residents in the region of north and east of Syria.

• The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) called for an end to the continuous disturbances in the Allouk water station, located in northeastern Syria, and stressed that the interruptions in basic services for citizens in Syria are on the rise.

• The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in coordination with the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, held a donors’ meeting, with the aim of strengthening the livelihoods of Syrians under temporary protection and host communities.

Living conditions in areas under the control of the Turkish-backed National Army:

• A’zaz Local City Council, north of Aleppo, announced a plan to establish an industrial zone with an area of 85,000 square meters, containing prefabricated facilities for workshops and factories, and equipped with infrastructure and guard services, with the aim of revitalizing economic life and containing unemployment.

• The local council of A’zaz city re-pumped drinking water, after establishing a new collection policy and opening a permanent collection centre. The council set the collection value at 25 Turkish liras per house, per month.

• The opening of the border crossings in northern Syria, during the Eid period, to Syrian visitors residing in Turkey, contributed to the revitalization of markets and the circulation of goods and commodities. The number of visitors to Syria to spend the Eid al-Adha holiday between 5-18/7/2021, via the Jarablus border crossing, reached 17,617 visitors, 45,032 visitors entered from the Bab al-Hawa crossing, and 22,463 visitors through the Bab al-Salama crossing.

• The “Syrian National Army” reopened the “Awn al-Dadat” crossing, with the areas controlled by the “Syrian Democratic Forces” (SDF), after it was closed for a year.
• The people of Al-Bab area and its countryside called on the Turkish side to find a permanent solution to the problem of securing the access of water irrigation to the area, after emergency solutions proved to be unsuccessful over the years, as more than 320,000 people in the city face a severe shortage of drinking water, due to the low level of most of the water wells feeding the area and the drying up of some of them. Activists in the city stated that it costs 240 Turkish liras, or 27 dollars, for a family of 6 members to meet the water needs during a month, while the average monthly salary is 750 Turkish liras.

• The Aleppo Health Directorate of the Syrian Interim Government continued its COVID-19 vaccination campaign for health personnel, civil defence personnel, humanitarian organizations, and people with chronic diseases.

• 540 cases of COVID-19 were recorded in northern Syria, including 223 in the camps.

• The General Company for Bakeries in the General Establishment for Grains of the Syrian Interim Government announced that “the company’s production during the first half of this year amounted to 5,616,000 bundles of bread, through its bakeries located in the liberated areas.”

• Atma Charitable Hospital, north of Idlib, has stopped working until further notice, after a group of gunmen attacked its cadres, and destroyed and damaged the hospital’s property, in retaliation for the death of one of their relatives, after he underwent a surgical operation in the hospital.

Monitor the regime economy

• The areas under the control of the regime witnessed an unprecedented rise in the prices of gasoline, diesel, bread, most foodstuffs and transportation wages, in conjunction with the increase in salaries approved by the regime in early July.

• Bashar al-Assad issued, on July 11, Legislative Decree No. (19) for the year 2021 to add 50 percent to the salaries and fixed wages in force, for both civil and military workers. Decree No. 20 of 2021 also granted military and civilian pensioners an increase of 40% of the retirement pension.

• According to the salary scale published by pro-regime pages, the salary of a newly appointed employee with a doctorate degree was 86,243 Syrian pounds, equivalent to about 26
dollars, while the salary of an employee with a master’s degree reached 82,838 Syrian pounds, while diploma holders get a salary of 80,573 Syrian Pounds, and university graduates 79,875 Syrian Pounds. As for holders of institute certificates their salary amounted to about 77,325 Syrian Pounds.

- On July 6, the regime’s Ministry of Internal Trade raised the price of a litre of octane 95 gasoline to 3000 Syrian pounds. This is the fourth increase this year.

- The regime government raised the price of a litre of diesel “for all public and private sectors, including bakeries and private sector bakeries, to 500 pounds,” after it was set at 180 pounds for most sectors, and 135 pounds for bakeries, an increase of more than 170 percent.

- The price of gasoline on the black market in Aleppo has risen to 4 thousand Syrian pounds per litre, due to the insufficient allocation of subsidized gasoline for cars and machinery.

- The increase in the price of diesel exacerbated the transportation crisis and increased congestion in the areas under the control of the Syrian regime, and the wages of internal transportation (service taxis) increased in most governorates, reaching about 250-300 Syrian pounds in Damascus.

- The director of the regime’s “Damascus Fuel” branch stated that there was no specific date to start distributing diesel. He justified this by logistical difficulties in entering data, and revealed a study to determine the first batch of diesel allocations with a reduction of up to 50%.

- Three Iranian oil tankers docked in the port of “Banias” in Tartus governorate, carrying about 1.7 million barrels, to supply the Syrian regime with oil, in light of a continuous fuel crisis that its areas of control have been suffering for years.

- The price of a domestic gas cylinder in Aleppo governorate has risen to 4,200 pounds in the city, and 4,500 pounds in the countryside. The price of an industrial gas cylinder was set at 9800 liras in the city, and 10,000 liras in the countryside.

- The price of a bundle of bread (about 1100 grams) rose to 200 pounds.

- The Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection issued Resolution No. 205, according to which it determined the new mechanism for allocating bread to citizens, which is based on dividing families into segments according to the number of individuals in them,
and one person gets one bundle every 3 days (the bundle is 7 loaves), and the family of two people gets two bundles of bread every 3 days, and families whose number ranges between 4 and 6 people, have two bundles of bread a day.

- The Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection approved a new mechanism for what it called the bread distribution plan (localizing the place of receiving bread) via the electronic card, in the governorates of Hama, Lattakia and Tartus in principle. According to the new mechanism, the place of receiving the bread will be determined at a point of sale (a hall or outlet for the Syrian Trade Establishment, cooperative societies or bakeries) for each electronic card.

- Prime Minister Hussein Arnous stated that the reason for raising the prices of subsidized materials, especially bread and diesel fuel, is to ensure the continuation of their insurance.

- The price of a kilo of sugar through the smart card has increased to 1,000 pounds, after it was 500 pounds, and a kilo of rice to 1,000 pounds, down from 600 pounds.

- The prices of vegetables and fruits increased in most areas under the control of the Syrian regime, in parallel with their continued exportation abroad, as the prices of vegetables and fruits in Damascus during the Eid period recorded: tomatoes 800 pounds, cucumbers 1000 pounds, red eggplant 800 pounds, black eggplants 1000 pounds, potatoes 700 Syrian pounds, onions 450 pounds, garlic 800 pounds, apples between 600 and 1300 pounds, bananas 6500 pounds, cherries 8000 pounds.

- Member of the Committee of Dealers and Exporters of Vegetables and Fruits in Damascus, Osama Quziz, revealed that export is the main reason for the high prices of fruits in the markets, explaining that one-third of the amount of vegetables and fruits that reach the Al-Hal market goes for export.

- The General Foundation for Feed raised the prices of fodder materials, bringing the price of one ton of yellow corn to one million and 50 thousand pounds, or 16%, and the price of a ton of ready-made milk (capsule - grits) increased to 910 thousand pounds, or 60%.

- The General Customs Directorate announced that it has collected 80 billion Syrian pounds from “smuggling cases,” since the beginning of this year, an increase of 62 billion Syrian pounds over the total smuggling cases investigated, last year.

- The Ministry of Electricity stated that the per capita share of electricity decreased from 2378 (kWh) per year in 2011 to 895 (kWh) per capita in 2016, and in 2020 it reached 1190
(kWh) per capita annually.

- The acute shortage of drinking water has worsened in most of the Syrian regime-controlled areas, especially in Damascus, As-Suwayda and Al-Hasakah, which prompted the citizens to draw drinking water from tanks, which cost between 10 and 30 thousand SP, per shift, with a capacity of 25 barrels.

- The price of a bottle of mineral water with a capacity of half a liter reached 300 Syrian pounds in retail, and the price of a liter of water in cafes and five-star restaurants amounted to 3500 Syrian pounds.

- A source at Nassib crossing revealed that the crossing’s revenues, during the past two months, amounted to about 17 billion Syrian pounds, according to what was reported by the local newspaper, Al-Watan, without mentioning the source.

- Al-Watan newspaper quoted a special source at the Al-Bukamal border crossing with Iraq, that the revenues of Al-Bukamal crossing during the first half of this year exceeded 646 million pounds, compared to 381 million pounds, revenues achieved by the crossing in the first half of last year (2020), an increase of about 41%.

- The General Organization for Maritime Training and Qualification achieved, during the first half of this year, revenues of 904 million SYP, with an implementation rate of 88% of the plan for the year 2021, and expenditures amounted to about 137 million SYP, or 15.25% of the revenues.

- Real estate prices and rents increased in Tartus governorate, with the rent of some apartments exceeding 350 thousand SYP per month, and the rent of some shops 600 thousand, and others whose wages amounted to one and a half million, per month.

- The Syrian Real Estate Bank raised the limit of its loans, to buy or construct a ready-made property or on the structure, from 15 million to 50 million SP, and a loan to complete an already built property in its entirety, from 10 million pounds to 25 million SP.

- Pistachio production in the regime-controlled areas decreased this year by 30%, compared to the previous season 2020. The Director of the Pistachio Office in the Ministry of Agriculture “Jihad Al-Mohammed” stated that production this season is estimated at 45.5 tons, and the area planted with pistachios is 58495 hectares, with about 9 million and 579 thousand

(4) Al-Watan Newspaper [https://alwatan.sy/archives/266817]
trees, of which more than 4.8 million fruitful trees are irrigated and rain-fed.

- The regime’s government received 150,000 doses of the anti-Coronavirus vaccine, Sino pharm, provided by China, through the Chinese Red Cross Society.

- The Syrian regime began preparing for the amendment of Income Tax Law No. 24 of 2003, with the announcement of opening the door for discussion to those interested, in preparation for issuing a series of decisions and procedures aimed at supplementing the regime’s treasury.

- The regime-controlled areas witnessed the implementation of an unofficially announced decision to implement the electricity rationing system, after raising fuel prices, by about 45 minutes as a maximum, in exchange for 6 hours cut.

- The Syrian regime’s decision to postpone the “Damascus International Fair” raised many questions, about the undeclared reasons for the postponement for the second year in a row, such as the lack of readiness of the exhibition, the poor transport movement in Damascus, in addition to the regime’s desire to avoid the series of scandals that the exhibition witnessed in its last edition in 2019.

**Drug industry and trade:**

- Jordanian forces thwarted several attempts to infiltrate and smuggle drugs from Syria to Jordan. On July 5, the Jordanian authorities seized 497 palms of hashish, 61 thousand Captagon pills, 4 kg of the narcotic crystal, and a number of weapons. On July 21, 1.3 million Captagon pills and 210 hashish palms were also seized. On July 30, the Jordanian army seized 362,000 Captagon pills and 273 hashish. All confiscations took place after thwarting infiltration and smuggling attempts from Syrian territory to Jordan.

- A report by The Economist, Syria has become a narco-state, talked about the regime’s involvement in the illegal drug industry since the 1990s in Lebanon and its cultivation in the Bekaa Valley. However, the massive production of drugs inside Syria did not start until after the outbreak of war in 2011, with the help and supervision of the Lebanese Hezbollah militia.

- A media investigation by (Daraa 24) website revealed an increase in drug manufacturing

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(5) The Economist [https://2u.pw/2BdaR](https://2u.pw/2BdaR)
and smuggling activity in areas in Houran under the direct supervision of the Lebanese Hezbollah militia.

• A journalistic investigation by (Daraa 24) website about the increase in drug manufacturing and smuggling activity in areas in Houran under the direct supervision of the Lebanese Hezbollah militia and security forces in the Syrian regime. “They are received by a Syrian officer in the Fourth Division with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel named Muhammad Issa, then on the Damascus highway, through fuel trucks, passenger buses, and sometimes military vehicles. These vehicles are never searched at military checkpoints from the Lebanese border, arriving at the village of Karim in the Lajat area, where it is received by Khaled Al-Sabti, nicknamed Abu Walid”.

• The report confirmed the existence of a drug-pressure and storage factory in a school located in the village of “Jadal” in the Lajat area, where the raw materials are converted into powder ready for export, and in front of the factory “the school” is a checkpoint for the State Security Branch, in coordination with the Lebanese Hezbollah. The person in charge of the compressing and temporary storage center at the Jadal School is called “Safi al-Khalaf,” a former leader in local factions in South Syria(6).

Fourth: Displacement and asylum

- The displacement of hundreds of families from the areas of Jabal al-Zawiya, south of Idlib, continued, as a result of the continued bombing of the regime forces and the Russian forces, which increased the frequency of targeting residential neighborhoods and agricultural lands in the area.

- The desire to emigrate from Syria increases among Syrian youth residing in regime-controlled areas, where the Hermoon Observatory recorded an increase in the frequency of migration trips by boat, from the Syrian coast areas towards Cyprus and Greece, and the migration of a number of them towards opposition-controlled areas.

- A report issued by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed that the situation in Syria is not suitable for the return of refugees, due to the poor economic and security situation and the regime’s detention of civilians. The report indicated that the diplomatic missions of the Syrian regime abroad are spying on the Syrians, and may put pressure on them(7).

- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Syria claimed that the families of the town of “Qalaat al-Madiq” in the countryside of Hama began returning after years of displacement, and published a video of its team, on Sunday, July 11, which showed that the town was destroyed, with no signs of residents, while it seemed most of the shops had their doors smashed, and some of them were parked by regime tanks. Residents of Qalaat al-Madiq told the Observatory that the news is incorrect, and the residents of the Qalaat did not return to their homes that were demolished by the regime’s militias.

- A fire broke out in a camp for Syrian refugees in Sahel al-Taybeh, near the town of Brital, in the district of the Lebanese city of Baalbek, on the evening of Monday, July 12, and it devoured more than 20 tents for Syrian refugees, in addition to injuring three women who fainted as a result of inhaling smoke rising from the fire.

- A report by the German newspaper (Neue Osnabrücker Zeitung) stated that Syrian refugees received 3.4 billion euros out of 13 billion euros allocated to foreign unemployment benefits in the past year 2020.

• Police stopped on the A94 highway near the German-Austrian border a truck driven by a Syrian citizen, with 15 Syrians inside, including women and children.

• The Social Democratic Party candidate, Francesca Jaffee, SPD called in Berlin for the deportation of Syrian refugees who commit crimes in Germany.

• According to a statistic published by the German Federal Employment Agency, the majority of Syrian refugees in Germany depend on social assistance, with a rate of 65% of Syrians who are able to work, down from 70% last year. The Syrians are the largest groups of foreigners in Germany who benefit from aid, compared to Afghans, 43.7% of whom depend on aid, and Somalis, 37.1%. Note that Syrian doctors constitute the largest percentage of foreign doctors working in Germany.

• According to a statistic carried out by the German ZfTI Center, for the benefit of the municipality of Asin, two-thirds of the Syrians in the city do not currently have a job, although they would like to work. 13,000 Syrians live in the city of Essen in the state of North Rhine, and most of them arrived in 2015.

• Many young Syrian refugees in Germany established a volunteer team to provide assistance in the places hit by the floods in western Germany, where the number of volunteers in a short period amounted to more than 50 people. They started their voluntary work in helping to remove the rubble and clean up many of the affected places.

• The Ministry of the Interior of the German state of Berlin announced that the state government plans to receive 500 Syrian and Iraqi refugees residing in Lebanon until 2026.

• According to the “Situation Report on Migration and Refugees” issued by the European Union Commission, Germany leads the way in asylum applications submitted in the first six months of this year in the European Union, and 36% of asylum applicants in Germany are Syrians.

• The Swedish National Food Agency decided to withdraw products imported from Syria, because they contain harmful bacteria. The agency said in a statement on its official website: It will withdraw from the market products imported to Sweden from companies based in Damascus, including halawa, sesame seeds and tahini, due to the presence of salmonella bacteria inside them.

• A British judge issued a ruling ordering a British far-right activist to pay a fine of 100,000 British pounds to a Syrian refugee, after defaming him on social media.
• Austrian media celebrated the Syrian young man, “Mohammed Majid,” who helped the police arrest the killers of the 13-year-old girl, “Leonie”, in the Austrian capital, Vienna.

• The Danish authorities decided not to renew the residency permits of some Syrian refugees, and some of them have been transferred to detention centers pending their deportation.

• A Dutch court issued a 20-year prison sentence against a Syrian refugee, on charges of participating in the execution of an officer in the Syrian regime army in Deir Ez-Zor governorate in 2012.

• Nina Gregory, Executive Director of the European Asylum Support Office, revealed that last year Cyprus received 7,440 asylum-seekers from Syria, and that it granted subsidiary protection to 1,530 applicants, 93 percent of whom were Syrians, according to the Cyprus Mail website.

• On July 1, 2021, the Lithuanian border guards detained 150 illegal immigrants, including 51 Syrians.

• Nine Syrian refugees participated in the “Tokyo 2020” Olympics, as part of the refugee team.

• The Turkish Ministry of Defense announced that a boat carrying 45 Syrian refugees sank, 60 miles south of the Greek island of Karpathos, as it was heading to Italy.

• Istanbul Municipality signed with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Turkey a memorandum of understanding, aimed at cooperating to solve the refugee crisis.

• Adviser to the head of the ruling Justice and Development Party in Turkey, Yasin Aktay, considered in a press statement that the Syrian refugees have become part of Turkish society, and it is not possible to return them to their country.

• The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees concluded an agreement with the Qatari “Eid Charity” Association, to provide assistance to more than four thousand Syrian refugee families in Lebanon.
Fifth: Social conditions report

- The Harmoon Observatory recorded dozens of crimes in the areas controlled by the Syrian regime, especially in Aleppo, Damascus and Latakia, most of which are drug trafficking and theft of electrical wires.

- A newborn girl was found inside agricultural lands in Sarmada city in Idlib countryside.

Families of ISIS

- The International Committee of the Red Cross said, in a statement, that the “Syrian Democratic Forces / SDF”, which is dominated by Kurdish fighters, is holding hundreds of children in adult prisons in areas under its control in northeastern Syria, renewing its appeal to countries to return their nationals from al-Hol camp, and to commit to reunification families “according to international law”.

- The Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe called on member states to allow the return of their citizens detained in Syria because of their joining the Islamic State, in a move opposed by France and Britain in particular.

- Informed sources from Brussels revealed that Belgium has recovered a group of children and wives of ISIS fighters, including 10 children and 6 women, from Roj camp in northeastern Syria, pointing out that this is the largest re-organization by the Belgian authorities since the fall of ISIS in the year 2019.

- Kosovo regained its citizens from Syria, and this was announced after they arrived in the country safely.

- The “Northern Observatory for Human Rights” in Morocco said: Morocco is moving towards ending the suffering of its citizens who are in the camps in northeastern Syria, whose number is about 81 women, accompanied by 251 children, distributed among 64 women, 221 children in Al-Hol camp, 17 women and 30 children in Roj camp.

- Anna Kuznetsova, Commissioner for Children’s Rights at the Russian Presidency, announced the return of all Russian children who were confirmed to be in Roj camp, north-
eastern Syria, after the repatriation of 23 Russian children last month.

- The Kurdish Autonomous Administration demanded the international community to provide support to help it establish centers for the rehabilitation of children of ISIS families, after removing more than thirty boys from al-Hol camp in the eastern countryside of Hasakah.
www.harmoon.org