

Massacres in Syria: An Urgent Appeal to Our Fellow Americans

We, Syrian Americans, unite in asking our fellow Americans to join us in condemning Syria's militant regime of Bashar al-Assad and in calling upon the international community to protect Syrian civilians, who are being punished for peacefully demanding their rights to freedom and democracy.

Assad's forces have been targeting civilians on the streets and in schools, homes, and hospitals. Reports indicate that over 7,000 people have been killed, 1,000 in the past two weeks alone with at least 450 from the city of Homs. On February 4th, Russia vetoed the U.S.-backed UN Security Council resolution that supported a peaceful transition to a democratic Syria. Furthermore, the Russian and Iranian governments continue to arm the Syrian military.

Why Syria matters?

- Our nation is invested in protecting the stability of the region, which necessitates the stability of Syria.
- Hezbollah, Iran, and Russia are strong allies of the Assad regime, and it is in our best interest to restrict their activity in the region.
- In the global village we live in today, humanitarian crises affect us all.

The people of Syria need our collective support today. **Call** the U.S. State Department and your representatives in Congress and Senate, urging them to support the coalition of Syrian American organizations in demanding:

1. The international alliance, **Friends of Syria**, to provide real solutions – including stemming the flow of weapons from Russia – to ensure protection of Syrian civilians.
2. Conscientious members of the international community – including the United States, European Union, Gulf States, and Turkey – to provide immediate non-offensive assistance via **humanitarian corridors** to besieged areas of Syria. The Syrian people are in critical need of food, medical supplies, and material relief to alleviate the growing humanitarian crisis.
3. International recognition of the Syrian people's **right to defend** themselves against the Assad regime's continued aggression.

Additionally, please give to ShamRelief.org, a 501(c)(3) organization, to make a contribution towards easing Syria's suffering.

Signed,

A coalition of Syrian Americans

[United for a Free Syria - Syrian Expatriates Organization - Syrian Emergency Task Force - Syrian American Council - Syrian Americans for Democracy - Coalition for a Free Syria].