

Warning of Imminent Hama Countryside Massacre

 en.etilaf.org/press/warning-of-imminent-hama-countryside-massacre

May 17, 2013

Media Note
Syrian Coalition
Istanbul, Turkey
May 17, 2013

Assad forces are currently imposing a siege and communications blackout on the towns of Halfaya and Aqrab, near the Hama countryside. Civilians in those areas are now cut off from contact with the outside world, and lives are in extreme danger.

The Syrian Coalition calls on nations from around the world and international organizations to mobilize rapidly in order to rescue women, children and civilians from the military forces that have been bombarding Halfaya and Aqrab for nine days in preparation for the coming assault on the inhabitants.

The Syrian Coalition is afraid that Assad forces will take advantage of the global community's continued silence and the Arab world's inaction in order to commit another grisly massacre in Halfaya and the surrounding villages.

Women and children from Halfaya are currently attempting to flee Assad's Shabiha militias using fishing boats via the Orontes River. They have no choice but to attempt this dangerous escape, as their hopes of being rescued and protected by international organizations and human rights agencies wither.

The Syrian Coalition renews its call for the international community to mobilize quickly by means of a Security Council resolution condemning the regime's crimes. This would pave the way for effective steps to help rescue civilians under siege throughout Syria.

We ask for Mercy for our martyrs, health for our wounded, and freedom for our detainees.

Long live Syria and its people, free and with honor.

