



Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations

Heavy Bombing Surrounding Idlib Hospital in Syria Results in Shutdown of Area Hospitals and Scarce Medical Care

June 1, 2016, Edinburg, Texas - Heavy aerial bombing in public areas of Idlib and near the public hospital (Al Watani) resulted in the shutdown of many hospitals in the area. Medical staff were unable to get to work due to fear of dangerous conditions leaving thousands of patients without access to medical care; the most vulnerable were children and patients with serious illnesses/ conditions.

At least 23 have been killed and over 300 have been wounded by this attack. Many of the victims are seeking care at UOSSM's largest hospital, Bab Alhawa Hospital, for medical treatment. The hospital has been flooded with trauma injuries as a result of the attacks. Dr. Ahmad Al Dbis, Trauma and Hospital Director of northern Syria, said, "Three children died lying in the emergency room at Bab Alhawa Hospital, we are not equipped to treat so many life-threatening injuries at once."



Five vehicles from the Ambulance Service of Sham were also completely destroyed and three others were damaged in the attacks.



"It is unfortunate to have this happen just a few days after the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, it is a clear violation of International Humanitarian Law to target innocent civilians in public crowded areas." Dr. Khaula Sawah, CEO of UOSSM USA said. Dr. Sawah also added, "We must act and petition governments to take all measures to protect medical staff and

facilities, it is their right by International Humanitarian Law and must be enforced."

UOSSM USA is an independent, federally tax-exempt, non-profit 501(C)3 charitable, medical relief organization that provides humanitarian and medical assistance to people and communities affected by crisis, regardless of nationality, ethnicity, gender, religion, or political affiliation. UOSSM USA coordinates efforts with medical professionals in the US and abroad to deliver support and raise awareness of the humanitarian medical situation in crisis areas. Since 2012, UOSSM has been providing emergency medical relief and healthcare services to the Syrian people affected by the crisis, working primarily from inside Syria and Turkey.

UOSSM work in Syria:

- FULLY operates Bab Alhawa Hospital; Major Referral hospital in Northern Syria / serves +14,000 patients and conducts +1,300 surgeries per month
- Partially supported 120 hospitals and 200 medical points with \$13M in medications and consumables sufficient to operate 130,000 surgeries
- + 825,000 patients treated at our 9 primary health care centers and 9 mobile clinics with over 1,000,000 consultations
- + 2,872 newborns delivered at the Burnas Maternity Hospital and other UOSSM specialized maternity centers
- + 128,000 people benefitted from our mental health care and psycho-social support centers
- + 9,000 medical staff have been trained and qualified at UOSSM's Bab AlHawa and other UOSSM training centers

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Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations UOSSM is a federation of humanitarian medical aid and relief, non-for-profit, non-governmental, member organizations. Founded in January 2012 in France, with the vision to work under a unified strategic framework, to increase the effectiveness of the humanitarian response in areas of crisis; aiming at providing medical aid and support to affected people and communities, regardless of nationality, ethnicity, gender, religion or political affiliation.

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