7 years of jihad in Syria

special edition

al-haqiqah
Dear brothers and sisters,

In this blessed month of Ramadan, we present a special edition of al-Haqiqa Magazine. Seven years, we have been waging Jihad in Syria against the taghut of Damascus. Alhamdulillah. Seventeen years, we have been waging Jihad in Afghanistan against the crusader coalition. Alhamdulillah.

Seven years ago a lion of Jihad was killed by the infidels. May Allah bless his soul and may He accept him in Jannah. Our battle has been long, our losses have been high and sometimes - dear readers - you might have thought that we seemed to have no chance and everything was lost. But do not be afraid: we are still here.

For many decades, the Mujahideen have battled the forces of evil successfully. Not only in Afghanistan and Syria, but also in other parts of the world such as Yemen, Mali, Somalia, Myanmar. Shielding the Ummah with their steadfastness, their sacrifices and their bravery, the Mujahideen withstood many enemy armies. Armies with overwhelming amounts of soldiers and armies with superior technical abilities: but only the thought of fighting the Mujahideen, brought (and brings) fear into the hearts of their personnel.

Especially during Ramadan, the Mujahideen - these lions of Jihad - seem even more fierce. The Prophet ﷺ and his companions fought one of the most important battles against the mushriken during Ramadan and in later years many more glorious victories were achieved during this blessed ninth month. Just naming a few:
- The Battle of Badr on the 17th of Ramadan 2 H;
- The Conquest of Mecca on the 20th of Ramadan 8 H;
- The Battle of ‘Umuriyah (Anatolia) on the 7th of Ramadan 223 H;
- The Battle of ‘Ain Jaloot on the 25th of Ramadan 658 H.
- The Conquest of Antaakiyah (Antioch) on the 12th of Ramadan 666 H.

So dear brothers and sisters, your Mujahid brothers have claimed many victories and sacrificed a lot during Ramadan. If they can do good deeds, so can you. The virtue of this great month was put in words by our beloved Messenger of Allah ﷺ:

“When the month of Ramadan starts, the gates of Paradise are opened, and the gates of hell are closed, and the devils are chained.”

- [Narrated by Abu Huraira, Sahih Bukhari]

He accept him in Jannah. Our battle has been long, our losses have been high and sometimes - dear readers - you might have thought that we seemed to have no chance and everything was lost. But do not be afraid: we are still here.

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Keep faith and please remember us in your Du’a!

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**Editor’s note**

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullah wa barakatuh

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A world war, is a large-scale war involving many of the countries of the world or many of the most powerful and populous ones.

The above is the Wikipedia definition of a World War. The conflict in Syria, which has been going on for seven years now, is always described as a civil war. But when you look to the participants it tells you something else: powerful players like the Russians, the Turks, the Iranians and the Jews are all involved, not to mention the crusader coalition led by the US and the evil forces of the taghut himself.

The war crimes committed by all of these countries against the Syrian people are numerous and horrific. Below we present some gruesome facts and figures. These are dazzling numbers and one might forget that these cold figures represent the lives of real breathing human beings: old, young, parents, children, all of them Muslims like you and me. It is hard to blame someone who hesitates to believe these facts, we can hardly believe it ourselves. But this is the truth of a seven year long proxy war of the mushriken against innocent brothers and sisters who - let us not forget - only tried to get rid of an oppressor.

Fortunately, we also have some good news. Allah ﷽ has blessed the Mujahideen with many small and large victories. They have liberated large parts of Syria where people can live freely. The Mujahideen have withstood many attacks on their positions, but thanks the guidance of Allah ﷽, they still hold their ground against superior numbers. And make no mistake: the Mujahideen have struck the enemies of Islam hard and mercilessly. The numbers of downed enemy air planes and destroyed enemy armed vehicles are astonishing and speak for themselves. Alhamdulillah.

Facts & Figures

March 18th: Criminal forces from the taghut open fire on unarmed and peaceful protesters in Damascus. Several people are killed and as a result demonstrations spread across the country. ►

July: Protests now spread to the city of Aleppo. Assad orders his soldiers to shoot the demonstrators. The Syrian people are starting to pick up their arms to fight back. ►

October 4th: Russia vetos a toothless UN resolution that calls for an immediate halt to the crackdown of the anti-Assad protests. This is the first time Russia protects its puppet: many times will follow in the coming years. ►
2012

**January 23rd:** Al Qaeda linked group Jabhat al Nusra announces its formation.

**February:** The sadistic forces of the taghat bomb large cities like Homs killing many women, children and elderly.

**August 20th:** The US president makes himself look utterly ridiculous with his ‘red line’ speech. He states that the use of chemical weapons in Syria would be followed by a US intervention in Syria.

**October 12th:** Jabhat al Nusra and Chechen Mujahideen attack an air defence base to protect the Syrian people from bombings. They destroy buildings and sabotage radar installations and air-to-ground missiles.
**March 19th:** Assad uses sarin nerve gas against his own people. It is not the first time, but in this case over 25 civilians are killed in the city of Khan al-Asal. The attack is followed by lots of hollow words (but no actions) from world leaders and the UN.

**April 8th:** The fake caliph, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, deliberately announces the merger of Jabhat al-Nusra into Daesh. By spreading this lie, he deliberately weakens the Jihad in Syria: less steadfast brothers are lured into his trap.

**August 21st:** Assad, encouraged by the indifference of the world, orders an even bigger chemical weapons attack. Hundreds of people are killed in Eastern Ghouta suburbs of Damascus.

“We were not evacuated, it was a deportation…”

“We had only bread and olives. Nothing more.”
“We took shelter in the underground basements to save our lives...”

KILLINGS

Civilians killed by:
(Total since start of conflict)

- Syrian regime: 190,723
- International coalition: 945
- Russian forces: 4,102
- Other parties: 7,422
- Total: 203,192

Civilians killed in 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total # of Civilians</th>
<th># of Children</th>
<th># of Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syrian regime</td>
<td>4,148</td>
<td>754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International coalition</td>
<td>1,759</td>
<td>521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian forces</td>
<td>1,436</td>
<td>439</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other parties</td>
<td>1,440</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8,763</td>
<td>2,017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2014

- April 10th: A barrel bomb attack from the sadistic forces of the taghut kills at least 88 people in Aleppo. The regime has been using this gruesome method since 2012, but this is the biggest amount of victims up to that moment.
- July 16th: The taghut Assad is sworn in to serve his third seven-year term as president of Syria. No one knows who elected him: certainly not the Syrian people!
- August 26th: Jabhat al Nusra retakes the Syria border crossing with Israel-occupied Golan at Quneitra, with shells dropping across the border.
- September 22nd: The first attacks of the crusader coalition, supposedly created to stop Daesh, are aimed at Al Qaeda in Syria instead.
Use of barrel bombs by Syrian regime

Use of chemical weapons by Syrian regime

“The situation in Eastern Ghout was terrible: the continuous barbaric bombardments, the barrel bombs and the rocket launchers from the criminal regime.”

March 28th: The city of Idlib, one of the major cities in Syria, is captured by Jaish al-Fatah: a joint command center of Sunni Islamist Syrian rebel factions participating in the Syrian war formed in March 2015.

May 19th: Various groups join forces and form the coalition, Jaish al-Fatah. They seize the town of Mastouma and the town’s army base in the Idlib province.

June: The criminal forces of the taghut begin their siege of the city Madaya which will lead to dozens of people dying including little children from starvation a year later.

September: The Russian army comes to the rescue of its puppet again: they set up a forward operating base in Latakia.
We had to flee from the regime and the brutal military campaign. I do not know if I’ll ever be able to return to my house.

Internally displaced people in Syria

6,1M

Internally displaced children in Syria

2,8M

Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries

- Turkey: 60%
- Lebanon: 12.7%
- Jordan: 19.5%
- Iraq: 4.8%
- North Africa: 6.8%
- Egypt: 2.3%

2016

July: The leadership of Jabhat al Nusra shocks many by announcing their breakup from Al Qaeda and the formation of Jabhat Fatah al Sham.

December: The war of attrition involving the city of Aleppo ends (for now) with the evacuation of the civilians. Rather than staying and having to live under the taghut’s oppression, they choose for evacuation to the liberated areas around Idlib.

December 23rd: A fake delegation representing some minor Syrian fighting groups sell their soul to the devil by starting ‘peace talks’ with the taghut’s regime, Russia, Turkey and Iran. Needless to say: It is a pointless showcase and it leads to nothing.
Medicines? There were no medicines. People who got wounded fell sick because of a severe shortage. Some even died...

**February 27th:** Al Qaeda-veteran and Mujahid Abu Khayr al Masri (may Allah accept him) is martyred in Syria after a cowardly drone strike.

**March 21st:** Hayat Tahrir al Sham (formerly known as Jabat Fateh al Sham and Jabhat al Nusra) launches an offensive on Hama Governorate. The aim of the operation is Hama city.

**May:** At the fake peace talks in Astana, Russia and Turkey announce their support for the creation of ‘safe zones’. These zones will be controlled by their armies (actually meaning that they intend to seize large parts of Syria).

**November 13th:** The Russian air force, backing their puppet, commits one of its numerous war crimes by attacking public market of the town of Atarib, killing at least 84 civilians and injuring 150.
Until now...

353,900 Dead

56,900 Missing

2018

February 27th: Glad tidings. New Al Qaeda related group, Tanzim Hurras al-Din, is established.

April 7th: Regime helicopters drop barrel bombs filled with toxic gas on heavily populated areas of Eastern Ghout. At least 500 people are affected by the attack.

April 26th: Tanzim Hurras al-Din launches an offensive against the forces of the taghut in the countryside of the northern Hama Governorate.
B

ack in the day I used to follow the events in Sham before I made Hijrah. I watched how the people of Sunnah were being oppressed in Syria and I was infuriated that the world stood by and did nothing. I was also affected by my father - may Allah reward him for raising me up in the straight path - who used to cry when I was sleeping in the Masjid. I immediately felt peace in my heart and was rested, Subhan’Allah. The same day I met one of the brothers in Makkah. We had a debate, an argument regarding the origins turned into an advantage: I was short of funds. Also I could not ask anyone to help me in order to avoid unnecessary attention. And furthermore, I was concerned about the well-being of my wife, because she was six months pregnant. On the other hand, I was still committed to make Hijrah and would make Du’ā regularly to Allah to open for us a way to get to the Land of Sham.

But more time passed and during Ramadan of the following year, while I was walking through the Harām in Makkah, I felt depressed. My whole body filled with sadness which was apparent from the outside. All I could do was to make Du’ā and when I decided to open the Qur’an my eyes fell upon the Verse: “And be patient [O Muhammad], for the decision of your Lord, for indeed, you are in Our eyes.” [At-Tur 52:48] I immediately felt peace in my heart and was rested, Subhan’Allah. The same day I met one of the brothers in Makkah. We had a debate, an argument regarding the issue in the Deen, and he was trying to advise me. Afterwards, we started to get to know one another and he invited me over to open the Qur’an my eyes fell upon the Verse: “And be patient [O Muhammad], for the decision of your Lord, for indeed, you are in Our eyes.” [At-Tur 52:48].

And finally, after some time with consistent Du’ā and having tawakkul in Allah, He made for me a way to get hold of some money and I immediately made my way to Turkey. While I was there, I purchased some military items which would come in handy for me and my earlier hunch to lie about my earlier hunch to lie about my origin turned into an advantage: we were released to go back to Syria. Alhamdullilah.

So finally, after undergoing lots of trials and tribulations on the way, I managed to reach the lands of Sham. Alhamdullilah. I remain thankful to Allah for giving me the opportunity to fight Jihad fee sabiliLlah in Syria. I ask Allah to keep me steadfast and accept my Hijrah and grant me Shahadah in His Cause. InshAllah He will give me the opportunity to meet my son. In Jannah. Ameen.
1. Dhikr

Dhikr refers to the remembrance of Allah Almighty. Contrary to the regular prayers, Dhikr is not time-specific: one can do it anytime and anywhere. Moreover, when it comes to Dhikr, there are numerous types prescribed in Islam and each and everyone of them carries a different significance and specialty. One of the most rewarding Dhikrs you might try to do during the fasting in Ramadan is explained by our beloved Prophet ﷺ.

"Whoever says, when he enters the marketplace: ‘La ilaha illallah wahdahu la sharika lahu, lahul-mulk wa lahul-hamdu, yuhyi wa yumitu, wa Huwa hayyun la yamutu, bi yadihil-khairu kulluhu, wa Huwa ala kulli shay'in Qadir (None has the right to be worshipped but Allah alone, with no partner, to Him belongs all sovereignty and to Him is the praise. He gives life and gives death, and He is Ever-Living and does not die. In His Hand is all goodness and He is Able to do all things),’ Allah will record for him one million good deeds, and will erase from him one million bad deeds, and will build for him a house in Paradise." - [Sunan Ibn Majah Book 12, Hadith 2320]

This hadith makes it clear that reciting this particular Dhikr helps you to receive a million good deeds and at the same time remove a million bad deeds. It also comes with a raise of a million levels of spirituality. Who could have thought that performing such a simple Dhikr throughout the month of Ramadan came with such a huge reward?

2. Be charitable

Being charitable and giving Zakat is another deed that offers a huge reward during the month of Ramadan. Regarding charity in the month of Ramadan, our Prophet ﷺ said: “The best charity is that given in Ramadan.” - [Jami’ at-Tirmidhi 663]

Therefore, if you want forgiveness for your sins, purify the wealth you have collected and increase it by receiving Barakah from Allah Almighty, then be as charitable as possible in the month of Ramadan.

3. Provide food

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said in this regard:

"Whoever provides the food for a fasting person to break his fast with, then for him is the same reward as his (the fasting person’s), without anything being diminished from the reward of the fasting person." - [Jami’ at-Tirmidhi 807]

This hadith makes it clear that providing food for a fasting person to break the fast is beneficial for both: the one who offers food receives the reward of the fasting person, whereas the one who is invited for the dinner keeps the reward to himself as well.

4. Pray at night

It was narrated that Abu Huairah said:

"The Messenger of Allah said: ‘He who prays the night of Laylat al-Qadr in prayer (Qiyam) out of faith and in the hope of reward, he will be forgiven his previous sins.’" - [Sunan an-Nasa’i 2207]

Laylat al-Qadr or Night of Power is the most important night of the last ten days of Ramadan. During this night the first verses of the Qur’an were revealed to the Messenger of Allah ﷺ. You have to remember that during this night the blessings and mercy of Allah ﷺ are abundant, supplications are accepted and sins are forgiven.

5. Continue fasting

If you continue fasting during the first six days of Shawwal (after the obligatory fast of Ramadan) this will bring you a huge reward. Whoever fasts these six days will have recorded for him a reward as if he had fasted a whole year, as was reported in a sahih hadith from the Prophet ﷺ. Abu Ayub (may Allah ﷺ be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

"Whoever spends Ramadan, then follows it with six from Shawwal, then that is (equal in reward) to fasting everyday." - [Jami’ at-Tirmidhi 759]

Any special deed performed during Ramadan will bring you a greater reward than when they are offered during ordinary days.
Ramadan inspirations

Ramadan comes while they are commemorating the battle of Badr al-Kubra which changed history and which was truly the battle that forever marked the distinction between belief and unbelief. One of the results was that the pillars of Islam in the state of Medina were strengthened, and from there they proceeded with the great Fath, the conquering of Mecca. And through this they succeeded in its foundation by ensuring the unification of Mecca and Medina under the flag of "There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah" and by ending idolization and polytheism.

Written by him most in need of Allah ﷺ, Abu Adam.

Badr took place in the second year of the Hijrah on Ramadan 17, between the state of the belief under leadership from the blessed prophets, peace and blessing be upon them, and the state of unbelief represented by Quraysh and its allies, led by Amr b. Hisham, Hisham al-Mahzumi al-Quraishi. The indications of this eternal battle are many, the lessons learned from it are blessed, the inspirations numerous. Below, with Allah’s help, I shall describe a number of indications of this key battle.

1. The motive for this battle was not to fight or to wage war, but to acquire the Quraysh caravan under leadership of Abu Sufyan that was returning from Sham. But Allah ﷺ wished something else for his faithful servants, namely larger spoils and an absolute victory, which fits fully within the Dawah and the spirit of Islam. Through this, acquiring a caravan has become preparation for Jihad for the sake of Allah ﷺ. Abu Sufyan saved his merchandise, while Quraysh and its supporters suffered a great defeat. A defeat which has become something significant and defining for the Dawah of Allah ﷺ. Abu Sufyan saved his merchandise, while Quraysh and its supporters suffered a great defeat. A defeat which has become something significant and defining for the Dawah of Allah ﷺ.

2. The basis of the Shura and its principles concern the conduct of the Prophet ﷺ to his Companions: when we read the blessed Prophet’s Sirah it becomes very clear to us that he ﷺ held to the principle of Shura. The battle of Badr is a very clear example of this. The Prophet ﷺ held on to this principle in all matters in which no revelation was revealed. It here concerns everything that is related to the day-to-day preparations of this battle. That is why there is a consensus among Muslims that Shura is an obligation when there is no clear text in the Qur’an or Sunnah. This important element as such becomes a base point for the construing of law within Islam which should be taken into account. However, if there is an issue which falls under the authority of the Qur’an or the Sunnah, regarding a specific issue, then we shall fully submit to Allah ﷺ and His Messenger ﷺ, and Shura has no place in such matter.

3. The intensive praying and beseeching Allah ﷺ for assistance: many of the sound Hadiths lead to the Prophet ﷺ assuring his Companions that they shall be victorious. The Sahih Hadith even show that the Prophet ﷺ would repeatedly refer to places on earth where the enemy would perish. And it happened just as the Prophet ﷺ predicted it would. In spite of his complete faith that the Muslims would be victorious, he ﷺ continued to pray and ask Allah ﷺ for help for several nights. This is not because he ﷺ had the slightest doubt in Allah’s promises, but he ﷺ did this purely to serve Allah ﷺ and to show that victory was granted only by Allah ﷺ and nobody else than Him ﷺ, even if you have all the conditions and causes to be victorious. Serving Allah ﷺ in being humble to Him ﷺ is the highest and most exalted victory.

4. Receiving assistance from the angels: the battle of Badr is wholly glory and victory for the faith of Islam against unbelief and its pillars. In this blessed battle, Allah ﷺ provided support to the Muslims by sending angels who participated in the battle (read Surat al-Anfal, verses 8 and 9). These verses prove undeniably that the support lent by the angels was not spiritual or immaterial, but tangible and visible, that the Muslims were assisted by thousands of angels. This support is the result of the complete faith in Allah ﷺ and the result of sincere prayer and a humble attitude towards Him ﷺ.

5. One of the lessons learned from the battle of Badr al-Kubra is that in times of Jihad, the leader or emir can use informants and spies or sources in conformity with Allah’s Sharia and the actions of His Prophet ﷺ. He can position himself among the enemy in order to obtain information about
their plans, situation, numbers, and resources. It is also permitted to use any means which could lead to this, on the condition that the use of these means or one of them cause no damage to a higher purpose other than staying aware of the enemy’s situation... in some situations we see the use of secrecy, deception, or leading others astray. These are all acceptable with Allah’s permission. The Sahih books of the Hadith make this very clear.

In addition to the above: the battle of Badr is a unique school for the genuine Islamic Jihad. It is the Muslims’ first experience of taking up arms in spite of their weakness in numbers and materials. To this I add that Badr also provided the first lesson in handling spoils and prisoners, and with this also how to handle the victory after weakness and with spoils according to one’s needs. Most important of all is that victory is in Allah’s hands, He 赹 gives it to those of His supporters He 赹 so chooses. The condition here is genuine belief, good preparation, and the complete faith in Allah 赹.
The US forces did not dare to break into our positions, despite the unprecedented massive bombing and terrible propaganda targeting this completely besieged small area. This is in addition to the forces of hypocrites, whom they prodded to fight us for 15 days non-stop. Every time the latter attacked us, we forced them out of our area while they carried their dead and wounded. Is there any clearer evidence of their cowardice, fear, and lies regarding their legends about their alleged power?

To sum it up, the battle resulted in the complete failure of the international alliance of evil, with all its forces, [to overcome] a small number of Mujahideen — 300 Mujahideen hunkered down in trenches spread over an area of one square mile under a temperature of -10 degrees Celsius. The battle resulted in the injury of 6% of personnel — we hope God will accept them as martyrs — and the damage of two percent of the trenches, praise be to Allah.

If all the world forces of evil could not achieve their goals on one square mile of area against a small number of Mujahideen with very limited capabilities, how can these evil forces triumph over the Muslim world? This is Impossible, insh’Allah, If people adhere to their religion and insist on Jihad for its sake."

Seven years after the martyrdom of our beloved sheikh Osama Bin Laden (may Allah accept him) the Mujahideen indeed continue the Jihad. But now on a global scale. All over the world, peace-loving Muslims have left the safety of their homes and the warmth and proximity of their beloved ones to pick up their weapons to defend their Deen and to protect the Ummah. No longer do they accept the presence of the armies of Kuffar and the representatives of their own governments. No longer do they accept the rule of puppet governments that stooped to the stature of traitors of the Deen and the representatives of their own governments. No longer do they accept the acceptance of the humiliation of their faith. They are determined and persevering. So one day insh’Allah, the result of their efforts may be that their offspring lives freely in a true and united Islamic Caliphate.

Seven years after the martyrdom of our beloved sheikh (may Allah accept him) the armies of evil have been weighed in the balance and found wanting. After seventeen years in Afghanistan and seven years in Syria the infidel invaders have not been victorious in any theatre. With all their superior technology, with all their manpower and with all their airspace domination they are – like in Tora Bora – fighting an unjust war. They may win a battle, they may execute even more of our leaders (without a trial) and they may commit horrendous war crimes against women and children. However, in the long run they will not succeed.

During the month of March of this year the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has enjoined 309 American air strikes (which is more than the total sum of air strikes in Iraq and Syria in the same month) ravaging the pristine countryside of Afghanistan and murdering innocents civilians. Yet the Mujahideen stayed strong and in the following month, with the start of the Al Khandaq operations, they struck back: in the first three days only the brave Mujahideen carried out no less than 300 attacks. The infidel is losing morale and is covering away in high-fenced military bases.

Seven years the brave Syrian people have suffered injustice after injustice. The ruthless chemical attacks, this so-called red-line that would not be crossed, left children gasping for air and dismembered families. Shocking images filled the news feeds accompanied with hollow words of world leaders. And then – only a couple of days later and just like that – the outrage was gone and it was business as usual: media and politicians were no longer interested because the victims were Muslims only.

The mujahideen however do not forget. Quite the opposite: new groups are being formed and the troops of the taghut are fiercely attacked. Assad is desperately trying to find new soldiers for his beaten armies and he is begging his Russian and Iranian masters for greater commitment. At the same time, the Crusader coalition and the Jews hardly dare to put boots on the ground, because the Mujahideen are not mere human beings, they are Muslims who will never sacrifice their sons knowing it will be a bloodbath.

Seven years have passed, but the awareness of the Ummah only has grown. Seven years have passed, but new leaders have stood up to lead the Mujahideen. Seven years have passed, but still lots of brothers and sisters are missing Hijrah. Maybe it will take another seven years and maybe even more, but the Mujahideen will resist the kuffar and the mushrikeen again and again. We may face another Tora Bora, but insh’Allah we will regroup and be even more steadfast. We keep going no matter what, because in the end we trust – At-tawakkul to Allah – and if it is His will, we will be victorious. Like sheikh Osama bin Laden said: “Jihad will continue even if I am not around.”
Eid al-Fitr mubarak