



# Weekly Report

## SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Samir Kassam

**DECEMBER 9 –  
DECEMBER 15,  
2013**

- 1** Chemical Weapons Report
- 2** Armed Conflict
- 3** Humanitarian Aid

---

*“The United Nations Mission collected clear and convincing evidence that chemical weapons were used against civilians, including children, on a relatively large scale in the Ghouta area of Damascus on 21 August 2013”*

*Source: UN (in English)*

---

### ***Chemical Weapons Report***

- The United Nations has confirmed the use of chemical weapons on several occasions in Syria in a much-anticipated report released earlier this week.
- Inspectors were investigating seven alleged cases of use of chemical weapons and through the collection of blood and urine samples, confirmed five instances in which Sarin gas was used.
- The report states that the weapons were used in the cities of Khan al Asal, Jobar, Saraqueb and Ashrafiah Sahnaya as well as Damascus on August 21<sup>st</sup> 2011.
- Source: United Nations (in English)

<https://unoda-web.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/report.pdf>

### ***Armed Conflict***

- Syrian government air forces have dropped ‘barrels of explosives’ on rebel stronghold areas of Aleppo.
- The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported 22 casualties as a result of the attack, 14 of whom were children. In addition to the dropping of bombs, helicopter attacks have also been reported throughout Aleppo.
- Source: BBC News (in English)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-25390447>

### ***Humanitarian Aid***

- Humanitarian aid from the United Nations has begun to reach Syrian civilians with airlifts from Iraq providing food, winter supplies and medical kits.
- The airlifts will continue over the next 12 days and will be able to provide enough food for the remainder of December to 6000 Syrian families

- Source: Reuters

<http://ca.reuters.com/article/topNews/idCABRE9BE0AR20131215>