



# Weekly Report

## SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Samir Kassam

NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>

- 1 Armed Conflict
- 2 Human Rights Abuses
- 3 Refugees

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*“Seven or eight men with explosive belts surrounded my sister. Some said: ‘Knife her’. Some said: ‘shoot her’. They tore down her banner that said ‘Christians and Muslims are one’, and told her she was an infidel”*  
Syrian activist on the condition of anonymity.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-24926584>

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### Armed Conflict

- Violence continues to rage between Rebel factions and forces loyal to President Bashir Al-Assad in major cities. Syrian forces have gone on the offensive against rebel groups and territory along a major highway stretching from Damascus to the coast, which is needed to transport chemical weapons in accordance with the international agreement signed.

Source: Reuters (in English)

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/11/16/us-syria-crisis-road-idUSBRE9AF06920131116>

- Bomb and mortar attacks in Central Damascus have killed three, wounding seven this week.

Source: BBC (in English)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-24945626>

### Human Rights Abuses

- Activists in Raqqa protesting increased control of the Syrian city by jihadist and rebel group the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIS) have been forced to flee the city. Many activists have been jailed, beaten, kidnapped and had property attacked. The city, full of displaced Syrian families, has been under strict ISIS control allowing it to become popular for recruits and advancement of the Islamist groups cause.

Source: BBC (in English)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-24926584>

### Refugees

- As conflict escalates and fighting intensifies in the Qalamoun region (North-East Syria), thousands of Syrians are forced to flee into Lebanon as refugees.

Source: Reuters (in English)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5g57v2bZnzxOPybiRRMpEBdyBK4Dw?docId=c1183da1-9cdc-46c9-baec-aa2795a56c9f>