

Deadly Explosion at Syrian Mosque, Secterian Conflicts and Security Issues in Syria

Role: Security Auditor

Audience: European External Action Services (EEAS), Syrian Security Authorities

Summary

According to the local files, at least 8 fatalities and over 18 injured when an explosion struck an Alawite mosque in Syria's Homs. The Syrian Arab News Agency reported that the attack targeted the Imam Ali bin Abi Talib Mosque in the Wadi al-Dahab neighbourhood of Homs during friday prayers. The most people part of Wadi al-Dahab neighbourhood is Alawite. Saraya Sansar al-Sunnah, a Sunni extremist group, has said it carried out the attack in colabration with another anonymous group, using explosives planted at the site. This policy brief aims to find solution for Islam secterian conflicts and also security problems in Syria. The main research question is "How these Islamic sect problems and security issues in Syria can be solved" . It argues that increasing the security measures and establishment protecting efforts for Alawite neighbourhoods. ¹

KEY POINTS

- 1. An explosion has killed at least eight people and injured 18 others during Friday prayers.**
- 2. The attack likely aims to stir up sectarian tensions in the religiously diverse city of Homs.**
- 3. This attack shows the country's fragile security situation a year after the fall of Bashar al-Assad.**



1- Deadly Explosion at Mosque

According to the Health Ministry, an explosion killed at least 8 people and also 18 people wounded during Friday prayers inside The Imam Ali bin Abi Talib mosque. Officials believe that an explosive was exploded inside the building, Sana reports, citing a security source. While authorities are searching for the perpetrators, jihadist group Saraya Ansar al-Sunnah said it was behind the explosion. Saraya Ansar al-Sunnah, a Sunni extremist group, has said it carried out the attack in collaboration with another unidentified group. This situation shows that the fragile security condition severe serious gaps in mixed demographic areas like Homs. ²



2- Secterian Conflicts in Homs

Saraya Sansar al-Sunnah is the group also known as an ultra-conservative Sunni Muslim Syrian community. Their strong connection to Sunnism, further more insentifies secterian conflicts. The Supreme Alawite Islamic Council accused the Damascus authorities of responsibility, and said continued attacks risk driving the country toward collapse.³ For these events, Syrian Security Authorities should establish enchanced protection for Alawite terrorities.

3- Security Issues after Assad Regime

Close to a year after Bashar al-Assad's fall, Syria's new president made remarkable progress but Syria faces governance, economical and security problems. In 2025 security interventions went wrong. Alawites and even Israel drew because of these agencies.⁴ After Assad's fall, The European Union moved fast and lifted economic sanctions on Syria to support recovery and reconstruction. The European Union is already providing €620 million for recovery and strengthening institutions. ⁵

Recommendations

Increasing Security Measures for Alawite Regions

Following the attack on Mosque that located in a neighbourhood with a large Alawite population. Syrian Security Authorities should urgently increase their security precautions to protect residents in Alawite areas. They should establish more security checkpoints and patrols around Alawite regions.

Strengthening Security in Syria by Using EU Recovery Funds

The European External Action Services should ensure recovery and reconstruction funds is especially directed to strengthening local police capacity and improving security efforts in Syria

FOOTNOTES

1- Al Jazeera (2025) "Explosion at mosque in Syria's Homs kills three: Report",

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/12/26/explosion-at-mosque-in-syrias-homs-kills-three-report>

2- BBC News (2025) "Syria mosque explosion: Deadly blast hits Homs during Friday prayers "

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx25387dj8no>

3- Reuters (2025) "Explosion at mosque in Syria's Homs kills three, says local official "

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/explosion-mosque-syrias-homs-kills-three-says-local-official-2025-12-26/>

4- International Crisis Group (2025) "Restoring Security in Post-Assad Syria: Lessons from the Coast and Suweida "

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/rpt/middle-east-north-africa/syria/253-restoring-security-post-assad-syria-lessons-coast-and-suweida>

5- European External Action Services – EEAS (2025) "Syria: Joint press conference by High Representative/Vice-President Kaja Kallas and Minister of Foreign Affairs"

https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/syria-joint-press-conference-high-representativevice-president-kaja-kallas-and-minister-foreign_en

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