

## **The Massacre of Druze in A- Sweida, South Syria:**

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The new Syrian regime as of December 8, 2024, headed by president Ahmed Hussein Al-Sharaa, launched an attack on south Syria, designated to impose his rule on the autonomous Druze territory. As his forces are former Jihadists, while there are tensions between Bedouin tribes & Druze, brutal massacre, humiliation of Druze high clerics, and various atrocities, were carried out by para military governmental groups & tribal elements. The following editorial will elaborate on the Druze politically, specifically on their current massacre, based on local Media & New Media monitoring of formal & private profiles, as many of them are of Jihadi nature (and thus, proves their expertise in promoting & branding their agenda to global audience). Israeli Druze are equal civilian serving in the IDF (Israeli military), and thus, there were calls for Israel to prevent the massacre of their brothers and families, in Syria. Prime-Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu & Minister of Defense, Israel Katz, supported the Druze not only by proclamations, but also, operatively as the Syrian defense ministry & presidential palace were attacked. Syrian president A-Sharaa, responded diplomatically, calling for unity of Syria, yet, he did not relate to the atrocities against the Druze. Druze leader Joumblatt, responded following three days. The analysis will conclude by an epilogue, calling for a federal Syria on which all religious and sects can live safe from atrocities, free from any persecution.

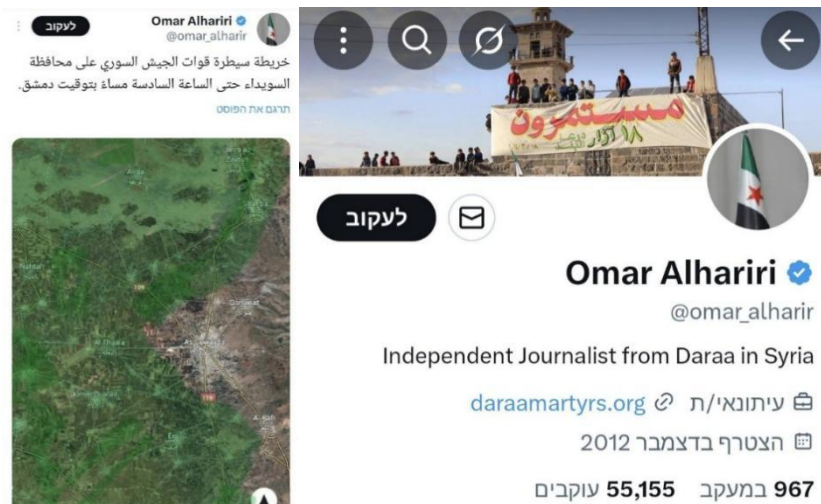
### **Introduction**

The Druze religion as a separate sect in Islam, was established in Egypt by Isma'īlī theologians, towards the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> & the beginning of the 11<sup>th</sup> century. Their number today is estimated as more than 1,000,000, centered in Middle-Eastern communities: Syria (Jabal Druze) south of the country, as well as central cities as Damascus; Lebanon, where their political leader Walid Joumblatt is residing, and Israel where they are honorable citizens serving in the Israeli Military IDF (Druze religious sect, Britannica).

Following the revolution in Syria (December 8, 2024), bringing to an end decade of Al-Baath regime, culminating with the Alawite rule of Assad family, president Bashar Al-Assad departed from the country. Ahmed Hussein Al-Sharaa (known for his title Al-Julani, due to his origin from the Golan Heights), headed a new Sunni religious regime based on principles of Sharia law (contradicting the secular characters of the former regime). Following 15 years of civil-war, Syria is torn between semi-autonomous north, south and eastern parts of the country, while president Al-Sharaa, establishes his regime. The turbulence of instability caused waves of revenge by Jihadi Sunni elements in the government, against coastal Alawites, threatening Christians, as a new offensive against the autonomous Druze south of Syria, began towards mid-July. Iranian involvement in the civil-war, via its Shiite proxies as Lebanese Hezbollah, Iraqi Hashd Al-Shaabi, Afghan militias, etc.', enhanced the level of hate and revenge towards Shiites, as other minorities, whom are to blame of Sunni former oppression.

### The Massacre of South Syria Druze

The following analysis is based on preliminary sources in Arabic, as twitter pages, private (which may be criticized as biased), or of reliable nature. Prior to July 14<sup>th</sup>, Syrian governmental forces of president Ahmed Hussein Al-Sharaa, launched an attack towards a Druze enclave in south Syria, of A-Sweida (in a proximity to the center of the Druze community known as Jabal Druze), ever decreasing their autonomy (according to a map of an independent journalist from Daraa in the governorate, Omar Alhariri, July 14, 2025 at 18:19),



The news of Druze being massacred intensified throughout the following day, July 15<sup>th</sup> 2025, as a profile named "Fatma Farhi of Daughter of Afghanistan" referred in a tweet from July 15, 16:19, to "cleansing" significant parts of A-Sweida from "Israeli Supported" Druze units, as hundreds of policemen of the Syrian interior office arrived to maintain order (Fatma Farhi of Daughter of Afghanistan, July 15, 2025 at 16:19).



The presence of profiles as noted on the above affiliated with Jihadi orientation (according to their titles & substances as the "daughter of Afghanistan"), is significant. Hadi Al-Naimi, tweeted already at the night prior to July 14<sup>th</sup> (July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 23:24), of a "Takfir" (note a nickname to non-Muslims designated to offend the Druze) militias massacring Sunni communities in a field (enclosing unclear pictures), in order to justify the beginning of a massacre of the Druze. One can not authenticate this, as the following will elaborate on atrocities against the Druze sect in Syria.



Brave Druze individuals, as the cleric on the following tweet by Rida Saad (July 15, 2025 at 16:17), proclaimed while baring arms & the national Druze flag "They will never enter and the mountain will not crack as long as I am alive". He also cursed "each traitor" according to the tweet. Saad, summarized the text by hoping every Druze leader in the world would listen to him.



Jihadists, operating on behalf of the government degraded religiously and humiliated the Druze. As they shaved them in public. Sheikh Marhaj Shahin, aged more than 80 years old, was documented being shaved brutally by Jihadists (Swieda24, July 16, 2025 at 01:14; Syrian Observer of Human Rights, July 16, 2025 at 02:01). There were rumors of his death from this brutality, which were denied later on. The website Swieda24, reported mass killings of Druze in Walaa & Al-Tha'ala villages, as it was difficult to determine the number of victims and their burial sites, due to a massive deportation of the noted villages (Swieda24, July 16, 2025 at 01:14).



The web had proven a significant presence of Jihadi profiles, as the twitter page of "Media Man Mohammad Jamal", defining himself as a media outlet in the Syrian republic, while adding to his profile the sentence "Defender of Umayyad House" (Referring to the Muslim dynasty and thus, noting his Jihadi orientation). His tweet presented a coverage of him alongside troops of president Al-Sharaa's, relaxing, noting the sentence "from the heart of A-Sweida all is well, thank God", attaching an icon shaped as a green heart. This misinformation was designated to promote a formal presidency branding of Syrian forces entering A-Sweida and south Syria in order to keep peace and stability.



Throughout the following days, reports were public of a Druze counter attack against Bedouin tribes (who were accused of massacring them as well as the Jihadi authorities), in order to regain control of A-Sweida from the noted tribes (Syrian Observer of Human Rights, July 19, 2025 at 20:03).



Yet, a pro Yemenite Houthi page of Rashid Maarouf, defining himself as the "field photographer" of the national Yemeni military (Houthis), and a political analyst, noted that tribal forces are gaining a decisive military victory, as they encircle the last three remaining neighborhoods of A-Sweida on which there are still Druze forces (Rashid Maarouf personal twitter page, July 19, 2025 at 21:18). One has to note, that the Houthis proclaimed support of Syrian forces who battle the Druze (Brgadir General Yahya Saree, Houthi Yemen's Military Spokesperson, personal twitter page, July 19, 2025).



### Significant Political Responses

The initial response by the Druze Lebanese political leader, Walid Joumblatt, in his personal twitter page, was only following three days, as he retweeted an interview for France 24 in Arabic. One has to note that on July 13, as reports of violence from south Syria began to arrive, he tweeted an artistic report of pictures or sites as his personal twitter page is characterized by (Walid Joumblatt's personal twitter page, July 13 & 16, 2025; France 24 Arabic YouTube page, July 16, 2025).



Prime-Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, called for Druze who crossed the border fence from Israel into Syria, in order to provide help for their brothers, to return, as Israel will not abandon the Druze (Netanyahu calls on Druze to return after crossing into Syria, i24NEWS, July 16, 2025). Israeli Minister of Defense, Israel Katz, warned Syria that Israel will strike Syrian forces enroute to A-Sweida (Katz warns Israel will continue strikes on Syrian forces unless they withdraw from Druze city, Times of Israel, July 16, 2025). Their call became operative as the Syrian defense ministry & presidential palace were attacked (Israel strikes Syria's defense ministry in third day of attacks, the Guardian, July 16, 2025).

Syrian president Al-Sharaa, issued a personal proclamation on July 17, following 04:00 in the early morning, following promos in the national "Al Ikhbariah" news channel, as the anchor read his text prior to the broadcast, as president Al-Sharaa called for unity of Syria, yet, he did not relate to the atrocities against the Druze (Alikhbariah, YouTube live stream, July 17, 2025 at 04:20).



الإخبارية السورية - البث المباشر | - Alikhbariah  
Live Stream

16K צפיות התחיל לפני יומיים #أخبار\_سوريا ... עוד

## Epilogue

**As the fighting still continuing one has to monitor the situation and hope for an honorable solution for Syria, which may be of a federative nature, where each sect and religion is safe from atrocities, free of any persecution!**