

Hama Massacre 1982

Introduction:

The 1982 Hama massacre is one of the bloodiest events in modern Syrian history. The massacre occurred in February 1982 when Syrian regime forces led by President Hafez al-Assad suppressed an armed uprising in the city of Hama.



Background:

The conflicts in Hama began in 1964, when civilians rose up against the rule of the Baath Party, and the unrest has continued over the last two decades.

In 1979, an armed group known as the "Fighting Vanguard" attacked the artillery school in Aleppo, killing a large number of Alawite officers.

In 1980, an assassination attempt was made on Syrian President Hafez al-Assad, and the government accused the Muslim Brotherhood of involvement.

Events:

Military operations began on February 2nd, 1982, with government forces shelling the city using heavy artillery and tanks.

The operations continued for about a month, with forces carrying out mass executions and widespread arrests. The aim of this operation was to eliminate the armed opposition and send a strong message to the rest of the Syrian cities that were witnessing protests against the regime.



Victims of Hafiz Assad regime's massacre in Hama, February 2nd, 1982.

The massacre:

In February 1982, President Hafez al-Assad decided to eliminate the opposition in Hama, and launched a strategic operation to suppress the uprising of the Muslim Brotherhood.

The siege and bombardment lasted for 27 days, destroying a third of the city's neighborhoods and killing about 40,000 people, including many civilians.

The events led to the displacement of tens of thousands of the city's residents, and the destruction of more than 75% of the city.



Hama city after Assad's forces bombed it on February 2nd, 1982.

Results:

The massacre resulted the deaths of tens of thousands of civilians, and large parts of the city were destroyed.

The massacre left a deep mark on the memory of the Syrian people and increased the state of fear and oppression in the country. The 1982 Hama massacre is a painful example of the use of military force against civilians.

Today, for the first time, the people of Hama can commemorate this horrific massacre, after the liberation of Syria

in December 2024, in the squares of Hama.



People of Hama commemorate 1983 massacre on February 2nd, 2024.

The 43rd anniversary of the massacre comes as a reminder of the need of justice and ensure that such events are not repeated. In this context, the role of the **Youth Political Movement** emerges as a voice of hope and change to build a strong and inclusive Syrian state. We seek reform, justice, and respect for human rights.

