

President of Syria
Bashar al-Assad
Damascus
Syria

21st February, 2017

Your Excellency

We are writing to you about Amnesty International's findings that there have been thousands of extrajudicial executions at Saydnaya Military Prison over the last six years, as well as systematic torture and other inhuman treatment (including deprivation of food, water, medicine and medical care) in government-run detention facilities across Syria.

Syria acceded to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in 2004 and is, therefore, in violation of this convention for the reported cases of torture and inhuman treatment.

Your response so far (in an interview with Yahoo News) has been to dismiss Amnesty's report. You acknowledged that executions had taken place in Syria, but did not give any figures for them, either at Saydnaya Military Prison or in total throughout Syria.

We call on you to grant access without delay to independent international monitors to inspect Saydnaya Military Prison and other places of detention in Syria. Amnesty International's report documents serious and systematic human rights abuses which amount to crimes against humanity. It is important to establish where the truth lies and to stop any further abuses occurring.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of our appeal.

Yours sincerely