

The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Foreign Office
King Charles Street
London, SW1A 2AH

Cc: The Prime Minister, Mrs Theresa May

21st February, 2017

Dear Minister

SUBJECT: human rights atrocities in Syria

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. Amnesty's research shows that the murder, torture, enforced disappearance and killings carried out at Saydnaya since 2011 have been perpetrated as part of an attack against the civilian population that has been widespread, as well as systematic, and carried out in furtherance of state policy. This policy amounts to crimes against humanity.

You can see the full report in this link:

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde24/5415/2017/en/>

We call on you to put pressure on the Syrian Government directly to grant access without delay to independent international monitors to inspect Saydnaya Military Prison and other places of detention in Syria, to investigate these crimes. We also appeal to you to lobby for these atrocities to be addressed fully at the UN, so that international pressure can be brought to bear on the Syrian Government towards stopping these crimes, protecting Syrian citizens, redressing the wrongs as far as possible, and bringing to justice those responsible for them.

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

Yours sincerely