



## **Statement on the Sixth Anniversary of the al-Shiatat Massacre**

The Syrian Emergency Task Force remembers the sixth anniversary of the al-Shiatat Massacre in Deir Ezzor, Syria. Beginning on August 9th and lasting 6 bloody days, the massacre remains one of the deadliest in the history of the Syrian Revolution. More than 1,000 members of the al-Shiatat tribe, including women and children, were slaughtered at the hands of ISIS.

ISIS carried out this execution and mass displacement to dispel and punish any residents who opposed their control of Deir Ezzor. They targeted the ethnic tribe al-Shiatat “to disintegrate the tribal community because they rejected extremism” says Omar Abu Layla, SETF Director for Northeast Syria. “Daesh[ISIS] killed hundreds of [civilians] for just being members of the al-Shiatat tribe” he says, and “their bodies filled streets and houses”. Soon after, ISIS established mass graves in the towns of Abu Hamam, Granjui, and al-Kishkiyah.

“The people of Deir Ezzor have suffered under the crimes of the Assad Regime and have been the biggest victims of ISIS . The world must never forget this terrible massacre and continue to work with the Syrian people to achieve justice and peace in Deir Ezzor and all of Syria” - Omar Abu Layla, SETF Director for Northeast Syria

Please join us in commemorating this tragedy in honor of the innocent victims. We honor the innocent men, women, and children who have been victims of ISIS and Assad’s merciless brutality. We urge the international community to stand with these victims.