The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russian Air Strikes in Syria Kill Over 400 Civilians, Say Monitoring Groups

November 23, 2015



At least 100,000 people have fled Aleppo as a result of Russian air strikes.

More than 400 Syrian civilians have been killed by Russian air strikes since the air campaign began on Sept. 30, monitoring groups reported.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) reported on Friday that 403 civilians — including 69 women and 97 children — have been killed as a result of Russian air strikes.

Aerial bombardment carried out by Syrian President Bashar Assad's Syrian regime has resulted in the deaths of 6,889 civilians — including 969 women and 1,436 children — and the wounding of 35,000 civilians, the SOHR reported.

The Violations Documentation Center in Syria, an independent, non-profit NGO that tracks Syria's dead, wounded and missing persons, reported higher civilian casualty totals of 526 — including 71 women and 137 children — since Russia launched its Syrian air campaign, The Associated Press reported.

At least 100,000 people have fled Aleppo as a result of Russian air strikes, monitoring group the Syrian Network for Human Rights said, global news agency Al Jazeera reported Monday.

Russia launched an air campaign in Syria on Sept. 30, which has sharply increased in intensity following confirmation from Russia's Federal Security Services that a terrorist bomb was responsible for the Russian passenger plane crash in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula on Oct. 31.

The Russian air strikes have targeted not only the Islamic State, but also Syrian insurgents battling to overthrow Assad, including some Western-backed groups.

The Islamic State is a terrorist organization banned in Russia.

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