

ASOR Cultural Heritage Initiatives (CHI): Planning for Safeguarding Heritage Sites in Syria and Iraq¹

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Weekly Report 123-124 — December 16-31, 2016

Michael D. Danti, Allison Cuneo, Susan Penacho, Marina Gabriel, Kyra Kaercher, Jamie O'Connell

Executive Summary

During the reporting period, SARG and pro-regime forces recaptured and cleared the remaining opposition-held neighborhoods in the city of Aleppo. New video footage and photographs from recently recaptured areas show the scale of destruction to the Old City of Aleppo. Russian and SARG aerial bombardment continued over opposition-held areas in Rif Dimashq, Hama, and Aleppo Governorates, inflicting heavy damage on infrastructure and cultural heritage sites. A reported SARG airstrike damaged a water spring in Wadi Barada, blocking clear water supplies to Damascus and the surrounding areas. In Homs Governorate, ISIL militants continue to hold the ancient site of Palmyra, and damage to the area remains unknown. In Raqqa Governorate, US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces captured several ISIL-held villages in their push toward toward the ISIL-held city of Raqqa.

Iraqi Security Forces continued to advance into ISIL-held neighborhoods in Mosul's East Bank, while operations have yet to begin in the city's West Bank. As areas are recaptured in Mosul, ASOR CHI is learning more about ISIL intentional destruction to heritage sites, as well as how heritage site buildings were often repurposed by the group. ISIL seized larger heritage sites, such as churches, and repurposed those sites as courts and storage sites.

Key Points

- Newly released video shows the reuse of a church in Mosul, Ninawa Governorate ([ASOR CHI Incident Report IHI 16-0033 Update](#)).
- Reports state that aerial bombardment struck al-Rahman Mosque in Bassema, Rif Dimashq Governorate ([ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0185](#)).
- ISIL militants recaptured Palmyra, Homs Governorate. New damage to the site remains unknown ([ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0186](#)).
- Reported SARG airstrikes damaged Ain al Fijah Springs, Rif Dimashq Governorate ([ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0187](#)).
- Reported SARG airstrikes damaged a mosque in Halfaya, Hama Governorate ([ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0188](#)).
- Ongoing aerial bombardment and shelling damages six heritage sites in Rif Dimashq Governorate ([ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0189](#)).

¹ This report is based on research conducted by the "Cultural Preservation Initiative: Planning for Safeguarding Heritage Sites in Syria and Iraq." Weekly reports reflect reporting from a variety of sources and may contain unverified material. As such, they should be treated as preliminary and subject to change.

- Reported Russian airstrikes damage mosque in al-Jeenia, Aleppo Governorate (**ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0190**).
- New photographs were released by various sources showing damage to multiple sites in the Old City of Aleppo (**ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**).
- DGAM reports damage to sites in Tayyibat al-Imam and Muhradah, Hama Governorate (**ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0193**).

Heritage Timeline

- December 30, 2016 **DGAM published an article titled “The conclusion of the training program on conservation and Restoration for Built heritage at Homs, funded by Prince Claus fund with support of UNESCO Beirut.”**
<http://dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2175>
- *Al Hayat* published an article titled “الحفاظ على تراث سورية بصون مستقبليها” (**Preservation of Syria’s heritage preserves its future**)” (by Amr al-Azm). ASOR CHI Co-Investigator and Founder of The Day After Project (TDA) Amr al-Azm authors an article on the importance of preserving Syrian cultural heritage.
<http://www.alhayat.com/Articles/19331662>
- December 29, 2016 *Archaeology News Network* published an article titled “**Buildings and Temple Dated To 3,000 BC Unearthed At Tel Zurghul In Iraq.**” An Italian archaeological team from Sapienza and Perugia Universities complete their excavation at the ancient site of Nigin.
<https://archaeologynewsnetwork.blogspot.it/2016/12/buildings-and-temple-dated-to-3000-bc.html>
- December 28, 2016 **DGAM published an article titled “Urgent international appeal: to save the eye Dewar Bridge from Archaeological from collapse and destruction due to the Turkish government project.”**
<http://dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=177&id=2168>
- **British Council** published an article titled “**Ground survey, documentation and protection.**” The University of Manchester and the State Board for Antiquities and Heritage in Iraq will work on a project to “survey and document the pre-Islamic Alexandrian city of Charax, as well as 14 other sites” in Basra Governorate with the support of £329,780 from the British Council.
<https://www.britishcouncil.org/arts/culture-development/cultural-protection-fund/projects/ground-survey>
- December 27, 2016 *Art Media Agency* published an article titled “**The trafficking of cultural goods.**” Current legal protections, including international agreements, of cultural heritage and archaeological sites are detailed.
<http://en.artmediaagency.com/120695/the-trafficking-of-cultural-goods/>

- *Art Media Agency* published an article titled “**Culture in conflict zones.**” An interview with Édouard Planche, a UNESCO expert on “treaties for the protection of cultural heritage.”
<http://en.artmediaagency.com/120698/culture-in-conflict-zones/>
- December 22, 2016
- **Centre for Global Heritage and Development** at the University of Leiden published an article titled “**Focus Raqqa project receives funding.**” The Prince Claus Fund awarded financial support to the ‘Focus Raqqa project,’ a partnership project between Dr. Olivier Nieuwenhuys of the Freie Universitat Berlin and DGAM that will attempt to digitally reconstruct the inventory of the Raqqa Museum that was looted. The project will begin Spring 2017.
<http://www.globalheritage.nl/news/focus-raqqa-project-receives-funding>
 - *ARCA* published an article titled “**A house dismantled - Beit Ghazaleh the house of the Ġazaleh, غزة.**” The condition of Beit Ghazaleh is discussed. **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**
<http://art-crime.blogspot.co.uk/2016/12/a-house-dismantled-beit-ghazaleh-house.html>
 - **DGAM** published an article titled “**Photos of Damage of Traditional Art Museum, Dar Ghazaleh, and Jdaideh in old Aleppo.**” **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**
<http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2159>
- December 21, 2016
- *BBC* published a series of interactive photos titled “**Aleppo: Before and after images.**” Interactive photos show the extent of damage to sites in the Old City of Aleppo. **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-38396747>
 - **UNHCR** published an article titled “**UNHCR first visit to the ancient parts of the war torn city of Aleppo**” (by Qusay Alazroni). Observations by a UNHCR team during a visit to the Old City of Aleppo are described. **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**
<http://www.unhcr.org/sy/714-syria-unhcr-first-visit-to-the-ancient-parts-of-the-war-torn-city-of-aleppo.html>
 - *The Weekly Standard* published an article titled “**House Task Force Urges ‘Continued Vigilance’ to Combat Terror Financing**” (by J.P. Carroll). A new report by the Financial Services Committee suggests additional work must be carried out to combat terror financing.
<http://www.weeklystandard.com/house-task-force-urges-continued-vigilance-to-combat-terror-financing/article/2005974>

- **DGAM** published an article titled “**Colloquium of new visions and proposals for the resilience of the Syrian heritage, was not normal event.**”
<http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2157>
 - *Nature Middle East* published an article titled “**The view from space of a country’s disappearing culture**” (by Meredith Brand). How satellite imagery has become critical in documenting damage to cultural heritage sites in war-torn areas. ASOR CHI staff members Michael Danti, Allison Cuneo, and Susan Penacho are interviewed.
<https://www.natureasia.com/en/nmiddleeast/article/10.1038/nmiddleeast.2016.223>
 - *The Atlantic* published an article titled “**Aleppo Before the War**” (by Alan Taylor). A series of 25 photographs of heritage sites in Syria are shared, including some that compare the sites before and after damage has occurred. **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**
<https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2016/12/aleppo-before-the-war/511424/>
 - *The Guardian* published a series of photographs titled “**Destruction of Aleppo: then and now - in pictures**” (by Joanna Ruck). **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/21/aleppo-syria-war-destruction-then-and-now-in-pictures>
- December 20, 2016
- **DGAM** published an article titled “**Photos of Damages in Shaizar citadel, Tebet Al_iman Museum at Hamma Governorate.**” **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0193**
<http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2153>
 - **DGAM** published an article titled “**Photos of Damage of Qater Aghasi, Mosque of Atroush and Altounbugha, and Jub Alkuba within of Aleppo.**” **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**
<http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2155>
 - **DGAM** published an article titled “**Photos of Damage of Bab Al_Hadid, Bab Al_Naser, and Al_Jabri School within Old Aleppo.**” **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**
<http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2151>
 - *Museum Association* published an article titled “**The Basra Museum in Iraq gets funding to complete three galleries**” (by Nicola Sullivan). A new museum is established in Basra inside a former palace of Saddam Hussein.
<http://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/20122016-the-basra-museum-in-iraq-gets-funding-to-complete-three-galleries>

- *Cultural Heritage Blogpost* published an article titled “**Antiquities Forfeiture Under USA PATRIOT Act Marks Milestone in Cultural Heritage Law.**” New legislation intends to require the forfeiture of “cultural property accumulated” by ISIL.
<http://culturalheritagelawyer.blogspot.com/2016/12/antiquities-forfeiture-under-usa.html>

Press Release: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/press-release/file/918536/download>

December 19, 2016

Columbia News published an interview titled “**Professor Zainab Bahrani Helps Preserve Cultural Heritage in Iraq.**” Professor Bahrani leads the ‘Mapping Mesopotamian Monuments’ project, an “ongoing topographical survey that maps the standing historical monuments and architecture...from Iraqi Kurdistan and Southeastern Anatolia (Turkey) to Southern Iraq.”
<http://news.columbia.edu/culturalheritage>

- *ARCA* published an article titled “**Who saves the culture of Mesopotamia and the Levant - Part I.**” A report on the finding of 400 preserved religious texts at the Mar Behnam and Mart Sarah Monastery that were hidden under the ISIL occupation. <http://art-crime.blogspot.co.uk/2016/12/who-saves-culture-of-levant-part-i.html>

- *NBC News* published a video titled “**Aleppo Drone Footage Reveals Full Extent of Destruction.**” Drone footage shows damaged areas of the Old City of Aleppo. **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191**
<http://www.nbcnews.com/video/aleppo-drone-footage-reveals-full-extent-of-destruction-836507203721>

- *DGAM* published an article titled “**Pictures, the damage in the iron gate, Bab al-Nasr and Al Jabri School in Old Aleppo.**” **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0191.**
<http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=239&id=2150>

December 18, 2016

The Washington Post published a report titled “**In Aleppo’s war-ravaged Old City, visitors pose with selfie sticks**” (by Adam Taylor). Civilians have begun returning to areas of Old Aleppo as tourists, taking photographs in front of many damaged cultural heritage sites.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/12/18/in-aleppos-war-ravaged-old-city-visitors-pose-with-selfie-sticks>

- The Guardian* published an article titled “**Aleppo: Elegy for a doomed city whose history spans centuries**” (by Hassan Hassan). The author described his last visit to Aleppo prior to the breakout of the Syrian civil war.
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/18/aleppo-elegy-for-doomed-city-syria-assad>
- December 17, 2016 *The Hill* published a report titled “**New leads on looted Middle Eastern Antiquities**” (by Alex Joffe). Attempts to determine sponsors behind looting in the Middle East.
<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/foreign-policy/310831-new-leads-on-looted-middle-eastern-antiquities>
- December 16, 2016 *The Guardian* published a report titled “**Despite landmines, snakes and dodgy gin, Iraq is an archaeological paradise**” (by Mary Shepperson). Detail of ongoing archaeological excavations in Iraq.
<https://www.theguardian.com/science/blog/2016/dec/16/despite-landmines-snakes-and-dodgy-gin-iraq-is-an-archaeological-paradise>
- Montreal Gazette* published an article titled “**Paris’ Grand Palais celebrates UNESCO heritage site of Palmyra in ‘Eternal Sites’ exhibit**” (by Thomas Adamson). A new exhibit featuring 360-degree projections of Palmyra opened at the Grand Palais, Paris.
<http://www.montrealgazette.com/travel/paris+grand+palais+celebrates+unesco+heritage+site+palmyra/12538583/story.html>
- The Washington Post* published an article titled “**How will Aleppo and Mosul survive today’s wars? Their shared ancient history offers some clues**” (by Ishaan Tharoor). A history of conflict in the two cities is detailed.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/12/16/aleppo-and-mosul-are-bound-together-by-history-now-they-are-part-of-a-21st-century-tragedy/>

Military and Political Context

The main theaters of military operations during the reporting period in Syria were:

1. Aleppo Governorate:
 - On December 16, the first convoy of Syrians to exit opposition-held areas of Aleppo city came under fire by reported pro-regime Shia militias. Pro-regime forces demanded that evacuations from Aleppo cease until evacuations from two villages in Idlib Governorate, that have been under siege by opposition forces, were allowed to occur.²

² <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-allies-idUSKBN1470R3> ; www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-un-idUSKBN1470ME ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-rebels-idUSKBN1460LX> ; <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east>

- On December 19, members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) voted to send UN observers to Aleppo in order to monitor evacuation from opposition-held areas of the city.³
- On December 20, the Syrian army warned opposition forces remaining in Aleppo to exit, stating that they would soon enter the last opposition-held areas in the city. The call was broadcast from a loudspeaker. According to reports, only half of the civilians intending to leave opposition-held areas of the city have been evacuated.⁴
- On December 22, the last Syrian opposition forces were evacuated from Aleppo city.⁵
- On December 23, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad announced that the Syrian regime had regained complete control over the city of Aleppo. The announcement followed the conclusion of evacuations from opposition-held areas of the city.⁶
- On December 24, residents and opposition forces reported an increase in Russian and SARG airstrikes in western and southern areas of Aleppo Governorate including the towns of al-Atareb, Khan al-Asal, Hreitan, and Anadan.⁷
- On December 25, Turkey sent additional military troops to support the Syrian opposition forces of the Euphrates Shield Brigade as well as other Turkish troops already participating in the fight to recapture the strategic city of al-Bab. Turkey later called on the US-led Coalition to back their efforts by providing airstrikes.⁸
- December 27, Russian Ministry of Defense accused opposition-forces of being responsible for an uncovered mass grave in Aleppo.⁹
- On December 30, the Turkish military announced that Russian jets had struck ISIL targets around the city of al-Bab. This is the first reported instance of Russian support for Turkish operations in Syria.¹⁰
- On December 31, the UNSC unanimously backed the Russian-Turkish efforts to organize peace talks between SARG and opposition forces in Syria. The meetings, which will be mediated by Russia, Iran, and Turkey, are set to occur in Kazakhstan.¹¹

[38339300 ; http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/12/aleppo-evacuation-suspended-people-shot-dead-161216165505740.html](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/12/aleppo-evacuation-suspended-people-shot-dead-161216165505740.html) ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-idUSKBN1451JG>

³ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-38358177> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-un-idUSKBN1470ME> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-un-idUSKBN1460UN> ; <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/12/security-council-backs-sending-observers-aleppo-161219141355061.html> ; <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/19/world/middleeast/aleppo-evacuations-syria.html>

⁴ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-38378229> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-army-idUSKBN1490SX> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-idUSKBN1491H7>

⁵ <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/syria-situation-report-december-22-2016.html>

⁶ <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/22/world/middleeast/aleppo-syria-evacuation.html> ; <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-38408548> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-aleppo-idUSKBN14C11P> ; <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/syria-situation-report-december-22-2016.html>

⁷ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-russia-idUSKBN14D0JA>

⁸ <http://aranews.net/2016/12/turkey-sends-military-reinforcements-to-syria-as-fight-for-al-bab-rages/> ; <http://aranews.net/2016/12/turkey-seeks-us-support-battle-syrias-al-bab/> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-turkey-syria-idUSKBN14D07D>

⁹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkajhcrmz9E>

¹⁰ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-turkey-idUSKBN14J0FS> ; <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/syria-situation-report-december-22-2016.html>

¹¹ <http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-mideast-crisis-syria-russia-astana-idUKKBN14F0M9>

2. Raqqa Governorate:

- On December 19, Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) captured several ISIL-held villages to the west and northwest of the ISIL-held city of Raqqa.¹²
- On December 23, Syrian Kurdish YPG forces clashed with Syrian opposition forces outside of the town of Ain Issa.¹³
- On December 27, SDF forces recaptured the town of Jaabar from ISIL militants located in western Raqqa Governorate. SDF forces advanced towards Raqqa, reaching to within a few miles of a major dam near the Euphrates River, 30 miles west of the city.¹⁴
- On December 28, a spokesman for the US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) reported that a US-backed Coalition airstrike had killed an ISIL military commander in Raqqa.¹⁵
- On December 29, a US-led Coalition spokesman announced the death of ISIL war committee member Abu Jandal al-Kuwaiti, who was killed in combat near the al-Tabqa Dam.¹⁶

3. Rif Dimashq Governorate:

- On December 2, nearly 2,000 Syrian opposition forces and their families left the city of al-Tal following a deal with the Syrian regime. The town is now under the control of the regime.¹⁷
- On December 7, Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) launched several surface missiles, originating from the Golan Heights, at an arms depot within the Mezze Military Airbase near Damascus.¹⁸
- On December 23, pro-regime forces reportedly “bombed” the water pumping station in Wadi Barada leading to a disruption of clean water supplies to the surrounding area including Damascus.¹⁹
- On December 24-31, pro-regime forces “launched operations to tighten the siege of the opposition-held Wadi Barada.”²⁰
- During the reporting period, 4 million people in Damascus lost access to safe drinking water after springs of Wadi Barada and Ain al-Fija were deliberately attacked by unknown forces.²¹

4. Idlib Governorate:

- On December 5, suspected Russian airstrikes struck several areas in Idlib Governorate, killing at least 73 people in the towns of Kafr Nabl, Maarat al-Numan, al-Naqir, and al-Tamanah.²²

¹² <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-raqqa-idUSKBN1480ZE>

¹³ <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/syria-situation-report-december-22-2016.html>

¹⁴ <http://aranews.net/2016/12/kurdish-led-sdf-forces-expel-isis-from-key-town-west-raqqa-kill-over-50-jihadists/>; <http://aranews.net/2016/12/scores-isis-militants-taken-captive-syrian-democratic-forces/>; <http://www.reuters.com/article/mideast-crisis-syria-euphrates-idINKBN14G0NW>

¹⁵ <http://aranews.net/2016/12/isis-commander-raqqa-killed-us-airstrike/>

¹⁶ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-islamic-state-idUSKBN14I0MM>

¹⁷ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-al-tal-idUSKBN13R27A>

¹⁸ <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2016/12/syria-situation-report-december-2-8-2016.html>

¹⁹ <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/syria-situation-report-december-22-2016.html>

²⁰ <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/syria-situation-report-december-22-2016.html>

²¹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-damascus-idUSKBN14I1N5>

²² <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/12/warplanes-pound-syria-idlib-21-civilians-killed-161204131717922.html>

- On December 18, armed men burned five buses that were intended to evacuate Syrians from inside the two opposition-besieged villages of Kefraya and Foah.²³
 - On December 20, Syrian civilians from two predominantly-Shia villages near the city of Idlib were evacuated and taken to SARG-held areas of Aleppo Governorate. The villages have been under siege by opposition forces “for years.”²⁴
 - On December 24, residents and opposition forces in Idlib Governorate reported an increase in Russian airstrikes over the towns of Binnish, Saraqib, and Jisr al-Shoughour.²⁵
5. Homs Governorate:
- On December 28, ISIL militants captured strategic hills near the SARG-held town of al-Qaryatain. ISIL militants also captured the so-called ‘Black Hills,’ that overlook the eastern parts of the city of Homs.²⁶
6. Damascus Governorate:
- On December 16, a suicide bombing occurred at a police station in the neighborhood of al-Midan. According to reports, the suicide bomber was a young girl.²⁷
 - On December 28, at least two mortar rounds struck the Russian embassy compound in Damascus. Neither mortar round exploded.²⁸
7. Tartus Governorate:
- On December 24, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed an authorization allowing for “the expansion and modernization” of the Russian naval base in Tartus City.²⁹

Other Key Points:

- During the reporting period, the US-led coalition conducted airstrikes in the areas of Abu Kamal, Ayn Issa, Deir ez-Zor, Manbij, Palmyra, Raqqa, Shadaddi, and Tanf.³⁰
- On December 19, the foreign and defense ministers from Russia, Iran, and Turkey met in Moscow for talks on the ongoing conflict in Syria and the status of the city of Aleppo.³¹
- On December 22, the US army commander in Europe accused Russia of using Syria as a “live-fire training opportunity,” in which Russia deployed ‘unnecessary heavy weapons’. On the same day, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu stated that “162 types of modern armaments had been tested during the campaign in Syria.”³²
- On December 23, the Constituent Assembly of the Democratic Federation of Northern Syria (DFNS) approved a ‘social contract’ for “the autonomous administration in Northern Syria” and announced preparations for elections.³³

²³ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-38358177> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-idUSKBN14511G> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-idlib-idUSKBN1470GY>

²⁴ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-army-idUSKBN1490SX>

²⁵ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-russia-idUSKBN14D0JA>

²⁶ <http://aranews.net/2016/12/islamic-state-gains-more-ground-in-syrias-homs/>

²⁷ <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2016/Dec-16/385632-explosion-in-damascus-casualties-reported-monitor.ashx>

²⁸ https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle-east/the-latest-activists-at-least-20-killed-in-syria-airstrike/2016/12/28/5e47ceb8-ccdc-11e6-85cd-e66532e35a44_story.html

²⁹ <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/syria-situation-report-december-22-2016.html>

³⁰ See: “US DOD News Release Military Strikes Hit ISIL in Syria, Iraq”. *Combined Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve*. News Release No: [1033036](#), [1033093](#), [1033216](#), [1034493](#), [1035431](#), [1036500](#), [1037898](#), [1038075](#), [1038256](#), [1038685](#), [1039251](#), [1037942](#), [1037339](#), [1039815](#), [1040193](#), [1040212](#)

³¹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-turkey-russia-idUSKBN1480ZO>

³² <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38402506>

³³ <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/syria-situation-report-december-22-2016.html>

- On December 25, a Russian military plane carrying 92 people including 60 from Russia's 'Red Army Choir' en-route to the Syrian Hmeimeem Air Base crashed into the Black Sea shortly after take-off. Terrorism is not suspected in the accident.³⁴
- On December 29, Syrian Kurdish groups and their allies announced a "social contract draft" that includes a plan for a system of federal government in areas captured by the group in northern Syria.³⁵
- On December 29, a ceasefire in Syria officially came into effect. Not included in the ceasefire are YPG forces, groups affiliated with the former al-Nusra Front, and ISIL. However, opposition forces have stated that Jabhat Fateh al-Sham, formerly known as al-Nusra Front, was included in the deal.³⁶
- On December 31, Syrian opposition forces announced that they would consider the Turkish-Russian brokered ceasefire "null and void" due to ongoing SARG and pro-regime violations.³⁷

The main theaters of military operations during the reporting period in Iraq were:

1. Ninawa Governorate:
 - On December 22, three suicide car bombings struck the area of Gogjali, east of the city of Mosul, killing at least 23 people including Iraqi and tribal forces, and wounding at least 40 more.³⁸
 - On December 27, Mosul Eye reported that airstrikes had disabled the last bridge in the city of Mosul to connect the east and west sides of the city.³⁹
 - On December 29, Iraqi forces began their second phase of the offensive to recapture the ISIL-held city of Mosul.⁴⁰
 - On December 30, clashes occurred between Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and ISIL militants in the southeastern district of Palestine in Mosul.⁴¹
2. Al Anbar Governorate:
 - On December 22, a car bombing targeted a convoy carrying the mayor of the town of Khalidiyah, east of the city of Ramadi. The attack wounded five people.⁴²
3. Baghdad Governorate:
 - On December 21, an ISIL car bombing struck the southwestern Baghdad district of 'Fourth Police', killing one person and wounding four others.⁴³

³⁴ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-russia-airplane-idUSKBN14E02Y> ; <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/syria-situation-report-december-22-2016.html>

³⁵ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-kurds-idUSKBN14I1BE> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-constitution-idUSKBN14H0X3>

³⁶ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-government-idUSKBN14I1PP> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-rebels-idUSKBN14I169> ; <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/12/vladimir-putin-agreement-reached-syria-ceasefire-161229113349938.html>

³⁷ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-rebels-idUSKBN14K07K> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-idUSKBN14K0M5>

³⁸ <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/iraq-situation-report-december-21-2016.html>

³⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/MosulEye/posts/1110671145721053>

⁴⁰ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-mosul-idUSKBN14I0BV> ; <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/iraq-situation-report-december-21-2016.html>

⁴¹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-mosul-idUSKBN14I14I>

⁴² <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/iraq-situation-report-december-21-2016.html>

⁴³ <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/iraq-situation-report-december-21-2016.html>

- On December 31, two bombings struck a market in the Sinak neighborhood, killing at least 25 people. ISIL claimed responsibility for the attack. Another attack in Shuala, northwestern Baghdad, killed seven people.⁴⁴
4. Erbil Governorate:
- On December 27, a twin bombing at the offices of the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan (PDKI) in Koy Sanjaq, east of Erbil, killed five Peshmerga fighters and an Iraqi Kurdish policeman. One day later, the party accused Iran of carrying out the attack.⁴⁵

Other Key Points:

- During the reporting period, the US-led coalition conducted airstrikes in the areas of Bashir, Beiji, Haditha, Huwayjah, Kisik, Mosul, Qaim, Qayyarah, Rawah, Sinjar, and Tal Afar.⁴⁶
- On December 20, Human Rights Watch (HRW) released a report warning that ISIL militants were attacking civilians in eastern Mosul.⁴⁷
- On December 27, HRW reported that ISIL militants had “summarily executed at least 13 people,” including children, following an attempted uprising in the villages of al-Hud and al-Lazzagah, south of the city of Mosul. The executions happened in October 2016 as ISF continued operations to push ISIL from the area.⁴⁸

Other significant political and military events during the reporting period:

- On December 18, a suicide bomber targeted Libyan forces loyal to the country’s “eastern government in Benghazi” in the district of Ganfouda, killing seven people. ISIL later claimed responsibility for the attack.⁴⁹
- On December 18, a suicide bomber targeted a military base in the city of Aden, Yemen. The attack, which killed at least 49 soldiers, was later claimed by ISIL.⁵⁰
- On December 19, a gunman shouting “Don’t forget Aleppo” shot and killed the Russian ambassador to Turkey at an art gallery in Ankara.⁵¹
- On December 20, ISIL claimed responsibility for a December 18 shootout between unidentified gunmen and Jordanian police in the southern city of Karak. The shootout killed at least nine people.⁵²

⁴⁴ <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/31/world/middleeast/isis-bombings-baghdad.html> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-blasts-idUSKBN14K06L> ; <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2017/01/iraq-situation-report-december-21-2016.html>

⁴⁵ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iran-kurds-idUSKBN1492QG>

⁴⁶ See: “US DOD News Release Military Strikes Hit ISIL in Syria, Iraq”. *Combined Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve*. News Release No: [1033036](#), [1033093](#), [1033216](#), [1034493](#), [1035431](#), [1036500](#), [1037898](#), [1038075](#), [1038256](#), [1038685](#), [1039251](#), [1037942](#), [1037339](#), [1039815](#), [1040193](#), [1040212](#)

⁴⁷ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/12/20/iraq-isis-attacking-civilians-mosul-retreat>

⁴⁸ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/12/27/iraq-isis-executed-civilians-village-uprising>

⁴⁹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-libya-security-benghazi-idUSKBN1470QS>

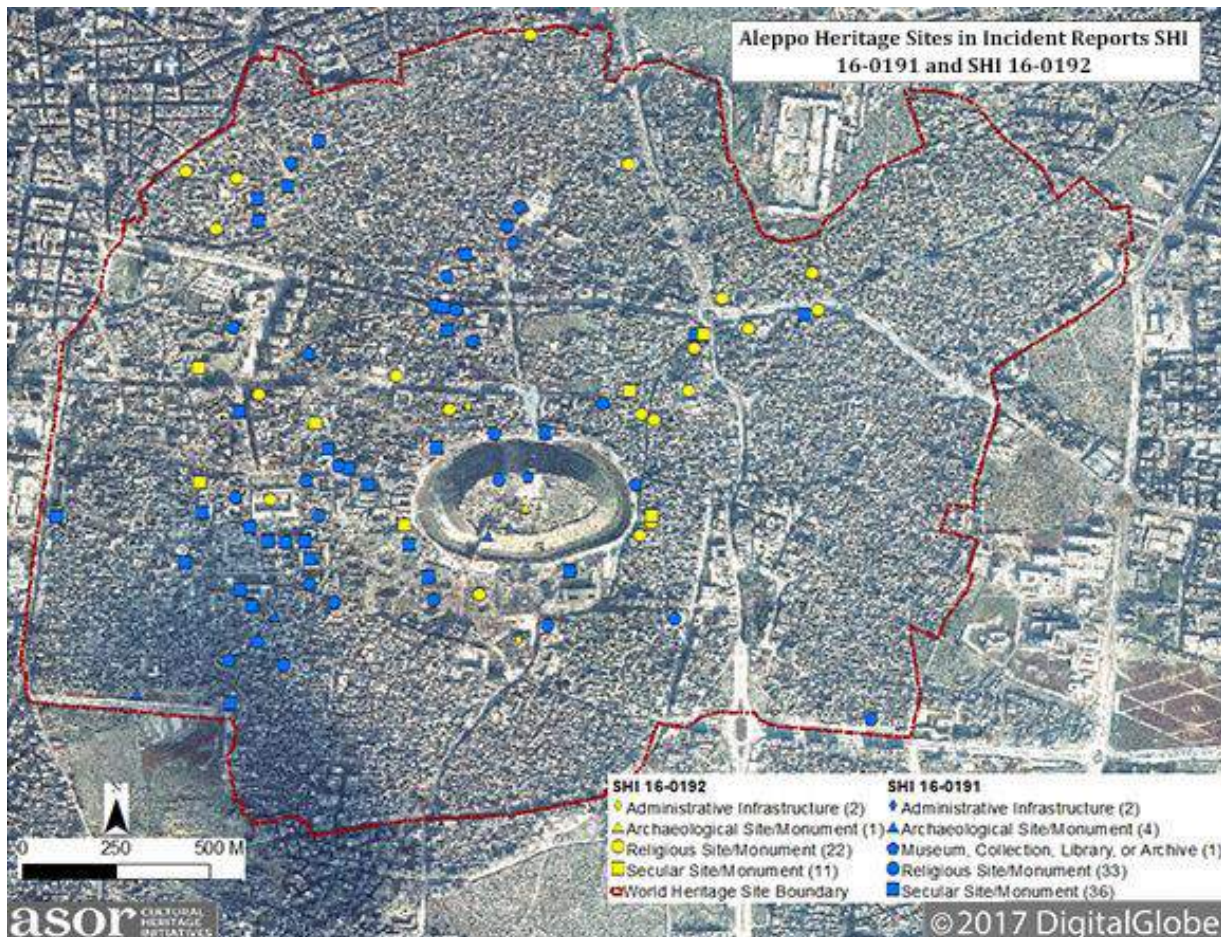
⁵⁰ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-yemen-security-idUSKBN147053>

⁵¹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-russia-diplomacy-idUSKBN1481RE> ; <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38369962> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-russia-diplomat-idUSKBN1490MK>

⁵² <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-jordan-claim-idUSKBN1491GN> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-jordan-clashes-idUSKBN1491UP> ; <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-jordan-idUSKBN1481DG>

Satellite Imagery and Geospatial Analysis

Since the cessation of hostilities in the city of Aleppo, many reports of damaged heritage have been disseminated. In this report and [ASOR CHI Weekly Report 121-122](#), ASOR CHI has included photos of damage to 113 heritage properties. Analysis of when, how, and the severity of the damage is still ongoing. However, it is clear that much of the cultural heritage in Aleppo has been adversely affected by the conflict. [ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0192](#) in [Weekly Report 121-122](#) and [SHI 16-0191](#) in [Weekly Report 123-124](#) contain recent photographs of heritage sites in Aleppo but much of the damage appears to be from previous incidents, especially in terms of the large-scale bombing damage. These photographs show the extent of damage stretched across the Old City of Aleppo. The map below shows all the heritage sites included in the incident reports listed above.



Cultural Heritage sites covered in incident reports [SHI 16-0191](#) in [Weekly Report 121-122](#) and [SHI 16-0192](#) in this report (ASOR CHI/DigitalGlobe NextView License; December 24, 2016)

The city of Aleppo poses challenges for analysis due to the length and intensity of the combat within the World Heritage Site Boundaries. Damage continued intensively for over two years, layering multiple incidents of damage on top of one another. For instance, the area around the Citadel has been under heavy combat since the start of the conflict. Below is a set of three DigitalGlobe satellite images showing the progression of damage to this area, from prior to the conflict (February 2, 2012), during the conflict (August 18, 2015), and after the cessation of hostilities (December 24, 2016). The most prominent and extensive damage is located south of the Citadel and is due to a

series of tunnel bombs exploded between July and September 2014 (see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 14-0004** in **Weekly Report 1**; **SHI 14-0054** in **Weekly Report 9**). Additional bomb craters are visible in the December image (highlighted in yellow) to the south as well as on the top of the Citadel (see **SHI 16-0124** in **Weekly Report 105-106**). Satellite imagery only shows damage due to large explosives. On-the-ground photographs remain necessary to illustrate the other damage due to gunfire and smaller weaponry.



Citadel area pre-conflict (DigitalGlobe NextView License; February 2, 2012)



Red circles highlight bomb craters (DigitalGlobe NextView License; August 18, 2015)



Yellow highlight new bomb craters since August 18, 2015 (DigitalGlobe NextView License; December 24, 2016)

Incident Reports: Syria

SHI 16-0185

Report Date: December 22, 2016

Site Name: al-Rahman Mosque (مسجد الرحمن)

Date of Incident: December 22, 2016

Location: Bassema, Rif Dimashq, Syria

Site Description: Mosque in Bassema

Site Date: Unknown

Incident Summary: Video footage shows damage to mosque.

Incident Source and Description: On December 22, 2016 Qasioun News Agency released video footage of what the report states is 'napalm bombing' damage to al-Rahman Mosque.⁵³ ASOR CHI can not independently confirm the presence of napalm.

Pattern: Military activity: explosives.

Monitoring Recommendations and Mitigation Measures: ASOR CHI will continue to monitor damage to al-Rahman Mosque, as well as the condition of other heritage sites located in regions subject to ongoing aerial bombardment campaigns and intense military activity.

Sources:

Online Reporting:

Qasioun News Agency: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hDtFKaBCXX4>

⁵³ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hDtFKaBCXX4>



Video still shows what appears to be fire damage to al-Rahman Mosque (Qasioun News Agency; December 22, 2016)



Video still shows what appears to be fire damage to al-Rahman Mosque (Qasioun News Agency; December 22, 2016)

SHI 16-0186

Report Date: December 28, 2016

Site Name: Palmyra

Date of Incident: December 8-11, 2016

Location: Palmyra, Homs Governorate, Syria

Site Description: From UNESCO:

First mentioned in the archives of Mari in the 2nd millennium BC, Palmyra was an established caravan oasis when it came under Roman control in the mid-first century AD as part of the Roman province of Syria. It grew steadily in importance as a city on the trade route linking Persia, India and China with the Roman Empire, marking the crossroads of several civilisations in the ancient world. A grand, colonnaded street of 1100 metres' length forms the monumental axis of the city, which together with secondary colonnaded cross streets links the major public monuments including the Temple of Ba'al, Diocletian's Camp, the Agora, Theatre, other temples and urban quarters. Architectural ornament including unique examples of funerary sculpture unites the forms of Greco-roman art with indigenous elements and Persian influences in a strongly original style. Outside the city's walls are remains of a Roman aqueduct and immense necropolises.⁵⁴

An oasis in the Syrian Desert, north-east of Damascus, Palmyra contains the monumental ruins of a great city that was one of the most important cultural centres of the ancient world. From the 1st to the 2nd century, the art and architecture of Palmyra, standing at the crossroads of several civilizations, married Graeco-Roman techniques with local traditions and Persian influences.

Site Date: Primarily Hellenistic (Palmyrene), Roman, and Islamic

Incident Summary: New footage and reports state ISIL has retaken Palmyra.

Incident Source and Description: On December 11, 2016, Syrian Arab News Association reported that ISIL entered Palmyra following clashes with the Syrian Army. They further stated that ISIL transported a large number of people and vehicles from Raqqa and Deir ez-Zor to Palmyra.⁵⁵ The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights also reported that ISIL took control of Palmyra, the airport, and the ancient city, after clashes that started December 8th, 2016. The Syrian Army and Russian Forces intensified their airstrikes on Palmyra, and these airstrikes are continuing through publication.⁵⁶ No photographs, videos, or reports have shown new damage to the ancient city of Palmyra up to publication.

For more information on the damage to the ancient site of Palmyra by warfare, please see: **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 15-0086 in Weekly Report 41; SHI 15-0086 UPDATE in Weekly Report 42-43; SHI 16-0016 in Weekly Report 77-78; SHI 16-0026 in Weekly Report 79-80; SHI 16-0035 in Weekly Report 83-84.**

⁵⁴ <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/23>

⁵⁵ <http://sana.sy/en/?p=95867>

⁵⁶ <http://www.syriahr.com/en/?p=57186>

Pattern: Military activity: occupation/militarization.

Monitoring Recommendations and Mitigation Measures: ASOR CHI will continue to monitor damage to Palmyra, as well as the condition of other heritage sites located in regions subject to ongoing aerial bombardment campaigns and intense military activity.

Sources:

Online Reporting:

Abwathabit Algharib:

December 12: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ntnVM0Q5ew>

December 11: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5AWqqIICAg>

CNN: <http://www.cnn.com/2016/12/12/middleeast/palmyra-syria-isis-russia/>

Palmyra Coordination Committee:

<https://www.facebook.com/revo.palmyra3/videos/620146258110317/>

Publisher Channel Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aR0djKzmnJM>

SANA: <http://sana.sy/en/?p=95867>

SOHR:

December 17, 2017: <http://www.syriahr.com/en/?p=56791> ;

December 11, 2017: <http://www.syriahr.com/en/?p=57186>

Scholarly:

Ball, Warwick. 2007. *Syria: A historical and architectural guide*. Second edition. Northampton, Massachusetts: Interlink.

Burns, Ross. 2009. *The monuments of Syria: A guide*. 3rd ed. London: I. B. Tauris.

Carter, Terry, Lara Dunston, and Amelia Thomas. 2008. *Syria & Lebanon*. 3rd ed. Oakland, California: Lonely Planet.

Darke, Diana. 2010. *Syria*. 2nd ed. Guilford, Connecticut: Bradt Travel Guides Ltd.

Directorate-General of Antiquities and Museums. 2014. *State Party Report: State of Conservation of the Syrian Cultural Heritage Sites*.

———. 2015. *State Party Report: On the State of Conservation of The Syrian Cultural Heritage Sites*.

UNITAR. 2014. Satellite-Based Damage Assessment to Cultural Heritage Sites in Syria.

<http://www.unitar.org/unosat/tbc>

United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization - World Heritage Centre. 2015.
State of Conservation (SOC) Site of Palmyra (Syrian Arab Republic) - 2014. UNESCO-World Heritage
Centre. <http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc/2913>.

SHI 16-0186

Report Date: December 28, 2016

Site Name: Ain al-Fijah Spring (مبنى عين الفيحة)

Date of Incident: December 27, 2016

Location: Ain al-Fijah (عين الفيحة), Rif Dimashq Governorate, Syria

Site Description: According to Arch Net Ain al-Fijah is:

“A small town about 25 km/15 miles from Damascus that grew up around the Ayn el-Fijah Springs. Along with the Barada Springs, it is the source of the Barada River that runs through Damascus. A Roman temple at the source was built in the 1st century. The park around the source is a leisure spot for the residents of Damascus and its environs, and was historically accessible by train.⁵⁷”

The Ain al-Fijah Spring, along with the Barada Spring, supplies water to Damascus and the surrounding countryside.⁵⁸

Site Date: Ain al-Fijah - Early 1900s CE

Incident Summary: Reported SARG bombardment severely damages Ain al-Fijah.

Incident Source and Description: On December 27, 2016 the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) reported that ongoing SARG aerial bombardment and shelling since December 23 had destroyed the pumping facility of Ain al-Fijah, rendering it inoperable.⁵⁹ Opposition forces accused ongoing SARG aerial bombardment as the cause for the damage at Ain al-Fijah Spring.

Pattern: Military activity: explosives - airstrike.

Monitoring Recommendations and Mitigation Measures: ASOR CHI will continue to monitor damage to the Ain al-Fijah Spring, as well as the condition of other heritage sites located in regions subject to ongoing aerial bombardment campaigns and intense military activity.

Sources:

Online Reporting:

ArchNet: <https://archnet.org/authorities/6294>

Boston Review: <http://bostonreview.net/world/syria-water-alisa-reznick>

Daily Press News: <http://www.dp-news.com/en/detail.aspx?articleid=27017>

Damascus Now (دمشق الآن):

⁵⁷ <https://archnet.org/authorities/6294>

⁵⁸ <http://www.dp-news.com/en/detail.aspx?articleid=27017>

⁵⁹ <http://sn4hr.org/blog/2016/12/27/destruction-pumping-facility-ein-al-feja-wadi-barada-area-damascus-suburbs-due-aerial-artillery-government-shelling-since-december-23/>

December 27, 2016: <https://www.facebook.com/Damascus.Now1/posts/926612154136682> ; <https://www.facebook.com/Damascus.Now1/posts/926506140813950>

Damascus 28, 2016: <https://www.facebook.com/dimashq.now/posts/1109491432509801>

Discover Syria (اكتشف سورية): <https://www.facebook.com/dsyria/posts/10154821347654289>

DOAM: <https://twitter.com/doamuslims/status/814094591511015424>

Orient News Agency: http://www.orient-news.net/en/news_show/129551/Damascus-without-drinking-water-rainwater-used-instead

SNHR:

<http://sn4hr.org/blog/2016/12/27/destruction-pumping-facility-ein-al-feja-wadi-barada-area-damascus-suburbs-due-aerial-artillery-government-shelling-since-december-23/>

Syrian Revolution Network:

December 27, 2016: <https://www.facebook.com/Syrian.Revolution/videos/10158203534955727/>

January 3, 2017: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HK_5lsFUIvE



Damage to Ain al-Fijah Spring (Dimashq al-An; December 27, 2016)



Damage to Ain al-Fijah Spring (Discover Syria; December 27, 2016)



Damage to Ain al-Fijah Spring (Discover Syria; December 27, 2016)



Damage to Ain al-Fijah Spring (Discover Syria; December 27, 2016)



Damage to Ain al-Fijah Spring (Dimashq al-An; December 28, 2016)



Damage to Ain al-Fijah Spring (Dimashq al-An; December 28, 2016)

SHI 16-0188

Report Date: December 30, 2016

Site Name: Halfaya al-Kabir Mosque

Date of Incident: December 30, 2016

Location: Halfaya, Hama Governorate, Syria

Site Description: Mosque in Halfaya

Site Date: Unknown.

Incident Summary: SARG airstrike damages mosque in Halfaya.

Incident Source and Description: On December 30, 2016 the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) reported that SARG warplanes fired missiles on Halfaya al-Kabir Mosque in Halfaya, causing severe damage.⁶⁰ The interior of the mosque shows slight damage. There were no images of damage to the exterior at time of publication.

Pattern: Military activity: explosives - airstrike.

Monitoring Recommendations and Mitigation Measures: ASOR CHI will continue to monitor damage to Halfaya al-Kabir Mosque, as well as the condition of other heritage sites located in regions subject to ongoing aerial bombardment campaigns and intense military activity.

Sources:

Online Reporting:

SNHR:

<http://sn4hr.org/blog/2016/12/30/syrian-regime-forces-targeted-halfaya-al-kabir-mosque-halfaya-city-hama-governorate-december-30/>

⁶⁰ <http://sn4hr.org/blog/2016/12/30/syrian-regime-forces-targeted-halfaya-al-kabir-mosque-halfaya-city-hama-governorate-december-30/>



Damage to Halfaya al-Kabir Mosque (SNHR: December 30, 2016)

SHI 16-0189

Report Date: December 30, 2016

Site Name:

- Harasta Olive Oil Mill
- Church of Mary (كنيسة السيدة مريم)
- al-Kabir Mosque (جامع الكبير)
- Om Habiba Mosque (مسجد أم حبيبة)
- al-Khoulani Mosque (مسجد الخولاني)
- al-Husseiniya Village Mosque

Date of Incident: December 24-29, 2016

Location:

- Harasta Olive Oil Mill - Harasta, Rif Dimashq Governorate, Syria
- Church of Mary - Harasta, Rif Dimashq Governorate, Syria
- al-Kabir Mosque - Bakin, Rif Dimashq Governorate, Syria
- Om Habiba Mosque - Duma, Rif Dimashq Governorate, Syria
- al-Khoulani Mosque - Hamouriya, Rif Dimashq Governorate, Syria
- Husseiniya Mosque - Wadi Barada, Rif Dimashq Governorate, Syria

Site Description: Heritage Sites in Rif Dimashq Governorate.

- Harasta Olive Oil Mill - Built in the 1600 CE in the city of Harasta, the old olive oil mill used to service Harasta and its surrounding areas. The oil mill was shut down in 2012 following SARG advancement on the city. The mill has been shut since 2016, due to a Russian airstrike that destroyed some of the sites rooftop and walls.

Site Date:

- Harasta Olive Oil Mill - Established circa 1600 CE
- Church of Mary - Built 1994 CE

Incident Summary: Ongoing aerial bombardment and shelling damages six heritage sites in Rif Dimashq Governorate.

Incident Source and Description:

- **Harasta Olive Oil Mill** - On December 24, 2016 Orient News published a video detailing damage to the Harasta Olive Oil Mill due to ongoing Russian airstrikes.⁶¹ According to the report the most recent strike in December 2016, destroyed the site “completely” and rendered it inoperable.⁶²
- **Church of Mary** - On December 26, 2016 Step News Agency published a video showing damage to the Church of Mary in Harasta.⁶³ The church has slight damage including graffiti on the walls, missing windows, and broken/missing pictures on the walls.

⁶¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-Z5kdTEoHw> ; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CO-hGmkZyo0>

⁶² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-Z5kdTEoHw>

⁶³ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AoBhY0sPi28>

- **al-Kabir Mosque** - On December 27, 2016 Baladi News published a video showing light weaponry damage to al-Kabir Mosque in Bakin. According to the video description, the damage is a result of ongoing shooting by pro-regime militias.
- **Om Habiba Mosque** - On December 29, 2016 the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) reported that SARG airstrikes struck Om Habiba Mosque, causing damage.⁶⁴ The photograph shows rubble in the mosque, possibly from a partially collapsed roof.
- **al-Khoulani Mosque** - On December 21, 2016 SNHR reported that SARG shelling struck and damaged al-Khoulani Mosque in Hamouriya.⁶⁵ A photograph shows rubble in the mosque.
- **al-Husseiniya Village Mosque** - On December 26, 2016 Step News Agency reported that SARG helicopter shelling damaged al-Husainiya Mosque in the village of Wadi Barada.⁶⁶ Video footage showed the complete destruction of the top of the minaret.⁶⁷

Pattern: Military activity: explosives - airstrike; gunfire/light weaponry.

Monitoring Recommendations and Mitigation Measures: ASOR CHI will continue to monitor damage to cultural heritage sites in Rif Dimashq Governorate, as well as the condition of other heritage sites located in regions subject to ongoing aerial bombardment campaigns and intense military activity.

Sources:

Online Reporting:

Baladi News: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpC-e2bXTmU>

Bisan Ilan Kurumu: <http://www.bik.gov.tr/suriyeliler-savasa-inat-zeytin-agaclarina-sahip-cikiyor/>

Orient News English:

December 24, 2017: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-Z5kdTEoHw> ; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CO-hGmkZyo0>

The Peninsula Qatar: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CO-hGmkZyo0>

SNHR:

December 21, 2016: <http://sn4hr.org/blog/2016/12/21/government-forces-targeted-al-khoulani-mosque-hamouriya-city-damascus-suburbs-december-21/>

December 29, 2016: <http://sn4hr.org/blog/2016/12/29/syrian-regime-forces-targeted-om-habiba-mosque-douma-city-damascus-suburbs-december-29/>

January 3, 2016: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFBi9TFxd1w>

Step News Agency:

December 26, 2016: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8I4WSO8r2Q> ; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AoBhY0sPi28>

⁶⁴ <http://sn4hr.org/blog/2016/12/29/syrian-regime-forces-targeted-om-habiba-mosque-douma-city-damascus-suburbs-december-29/>

⁶⁵ <http://sn4hr.org/blog/2016/12/21/government-forces-targeted-al-khoulani-mosque-hamouriya-city-damascus-suburbs-december-21/>

⁶⁶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8I4WSO8r2Q>

⁶⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFBi9TFxd1w>

Harasta Olive Oil Mill



Extensive damage seen at Harasta Olive Oil Mill (Bisan Ilan Kurumu; November 22; 2016)



Extensive damage seen at Harasta Olive Oil Mill (Bisan Ilan Kurumu; November 22; 2016)



Extensive damage seen at Harasta Olive Oil Mill (Bisan Ilan Kurumu; November 22; 2016)



Extensive damage seen at Harasta Olive Oil Mill (Bisan Ilan Kurumu; November 22; 2016)



Extensive damage seen at Harasta Olive Oil Mill (Bisan Ilan Kurumu; November 22; 2016)



Extensive damage seen at Harasta Olive Oil Mill (Bisan Ilan Kurumu; November 22; 2016)



Video still shows damage to Harasta Olive Oil Mill (Orient News; December 24, 2016)



Video still shows damage to Harasta Olive Oil Mill (Orient News; December 24, 2016)



Video still shows damage to Harasta Olive Oil Mill (Orient News; December 24, 2016)

Church of Mary (كنيسة السيدة مريم)



Video still of light damage to the Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still showing vandalism at the Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to the Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to the Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to the Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to the Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to the Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to the Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to the Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to Church of Mary (Step News Agency; December 26, 2016)

al-Kabir Mosque (جامع الكبير)



Video still of damage to al-Kabir Mosque (Baladi News; December 27, 2016)



Video still of damage to al-Kabir Mosque (Baladi News; December 27, 2016)



Video still of damage to al-Kabir Mosque (Baladi News; December 27, 2016)

Om Habiba Mosque (مسجد أم حبيبة)



Damage to the interior of Om Habiba Mosque (SNHR; December 29, 2016)

al-Khoulani Mosque (مسجد الخولاني)



Damage to al-Khoulani Mosque (SNHR: December 21, 2016)

al-Husseiniya Village Mosque



Video still of damage to al-Husseiniya Village Mosque (Step News Agency: December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to the minaret at al-Husseiniya Village Mosque (Step News Agency: December 26, 2016)



Video still of damage to the minaret at al-Husseiniya Village Mosque (Step News Agency: December 26, 2016)

SHI 16-0190

Report Date: December 30, 2016

Site Name: Unnamed Mosque

Date of Incident: December 27, 2016

Location: al-Jeenia, Aleppo Governorate, Syria

Site Description: Modern, likely unfinished, mosque in al-Jeenia.

Site Date: Modern mosque, exact date of construction unknown. Video footage released in July 2014 shows local workers at the construction site of the mosque.⁶⁸

Incident Summary: Airstrikes strike mosque in al-Jeenia, causing damage.

Incident Source and Description: On December 27, 2016 the Syrian Civil Defense (SCD) (aka White Helmets) - Aleppo reported that airstrikes struck and damaged a mosque in the town of al-Jeenia.⁶⁹ Video footage released by the SCD showed damage to the exterior of the mosque including a hole in the mosque's dome. Although the SCD did not name the origin of the airstrikes, a local twitter account reported Russian airstrikes on the same day.⁷⁰ On August 12, 2016 the same mosque was closed for prayer due to ongoing clashes in the area.

Pattern: Military activity: explosives - airstrike.

Monitoring Recommendations and Mitigation Measures: ASOR CHI will continue to monitor damage to sites in al-Jeenia, as well as the condition of other heritage sites located in regions subject to ongoing aerial bombardment campaigns and intense military activity.

Sources:

Online Reporting:

Al Jena: <https://twitter.com/aljena224/status/813806661831983104>

SCD - Aleppo:

December 27, 2016: https://twitter.com/scd_aleppo/status/813787592957235201 ; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fRzbBXey8is>

⁶⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipRQ0mMdkl0>

⁶⁹ https://twitter.com/scd_aleppo/status/813787592957235201

⁷⁰ <https://twitter.com/aljena224/status/813806661831983104>



A video still shows damage to an unnamed mosque in al-Jeenia (SCD; December 27, 2016)



A video still shows a whole in the dome of the unnamed mosque in al-Jeenia (SCD; December 27, 2016)



A video still shows damage to the dome of an unnamed mosque in al-Jeenia (SCD; December 27, 2016)



A video still shows damage to the dome of an unnamed mosque in al-Jeenia (SCD; December 27, 2016)

SHI 16-0191

Report Date: December 31, 2016

Site Name:

Religious Sites

- al-Arbaeen Mosque (مسجد الأربعين)
- al-Hamwi Mosque (جامع الحموي)
- al-Karimiya Mosque (جامع الكريمة)
- al-Maidani Mosque (جامع الميداني)
- al-Mustadamiya Mosque (جامع المستدامية)
- al-Shibani Church and School (كنيسة الشيباني)
- al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa (جامع و مدرسة السلطانية)
- al-Tarsusi Mosque (مسجد الطرسوسي)
- al-Zahrawi School (جامع الزهراوي)
- al-Zaki Mosque (جامع الزكي)
- Assma Bent Abo Bakr School (مدرسة أسماء بنت أبي بكر)
- Bandara Synagogue (كنيس البندره)
- Banqusa Mosque (جامع بانقوسا)
- Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (البيمارستان الارغوني الكامل) (Museum of Medicine and Science)
- Bimaristan Nur al-Din (Maristan al-Nuri) (البيمارستان النوري)
- Dabbagha al-'Atiqa Mosque (Aldbagh Mosque) (جامع الدباغ)
- Hajj Musa Amiri Mosque (جامع حاج موسى الأميري)
- Jabri School (مدرسة الجابري)
- Madrasa al-Sharafiya (مدرسة الشرفية)
- Madrasa Halawiya (المدرسة الحلاوية)
- Madrasa Khusruwiye (مدرسة خسروي)
- Madrasa Turuntaiya (مدرسة تورنتيا)
- Mosque and Madrasa Uthmaniya (جامع و مدرسة العثمانية)
- Matbakh al-Ajami (Palace of Majd al-Din ibn ad Daya) (المطبخ العجمي)
- Mosque Adliyah (جامع العدلية)
- Mosque Outroush (Mosque Altroush) (جامع الأطروش)
- Mosque Altunbugha (جامع الطنبغا)
- Mosque Sanklar (جامع سنكلر)
- Mosque Suq Attarin (جامع سوق العطارين)
- Noor al-Dein Mosque (جامع نور الدين)
- Omari Mosque (جامع العمري)
- Qarleq Mosque (جامع قارلق)
- Rumi Mosque (جامع الرومي)
- Saffahiya Mosque
- Sayedna Hamza Mosque (مسجد سيدنا حمزة)
- Sharaf Mosque (جامع شرف)
- Takkiya Nasimi (Hospice Nasimi) (تكية النسيمي)
- Umayyad Mosque (جامع الأموي)
- Yassou'iyat at Turab Ghuraba (Museum of Educational Heritage (متحف التراث التربوي))

Archaeological Sites

- Aleppo Citadel (قلعة حلب)
- Aleppo Citadel Museum (متحف قلعة حلب)
- al-Kabir Mosque (Grand Mosque of Citadel) (جامع الكبير)
- Mamluk Throne Hall (top floor of Ayyubid Gate-Tower) (قاعة العرش المملوكي)
- Aala Tower and Walls (أسوار و برج آلا)

Historical Sites

- Bab Antakya (باب أنطاكيا)
- Bab al-Hadid (باب الحديد)
- Bab al-Nasr (باب الناصر)
- Bab Qinnasrin (باب قنسرين)
- Beit Ajaqbash (متحف التقاليد الشعبية) (Museum of Traditional Art; Folklore Museum)
- Beit Ghazaleh (بيت غزالة) (Folklore Museum)
- Coral Julia Dumna Hotel (فندق كورال جوليا دومنا)
- Carlton Hotel (فندق كارلتون القلعة)
- Dar al-Iftaa (Awqaf Directorate) (مديرية الأوقاف)
- Dar Qatar Agassi (School of Seif al-Dawla) (دار قطر آغاسي)
- Hammam al-Nahasin (حمام النحاسين)
- Hammam Bab al-Ahmar (حمام باب الاحمر)
- Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri (حمام يلبغا)
- Hotel Zamaria (Beit Zamaria) (فندق زمريا)
- Old Arab Houses (بيوت العربي القديم)

Markets and Khans

- Khan al-Nahasin (خان النحاسين)
- Khan al-Oulabiya (خان العلية)
- Khan al-Qadi (خان القاضي)
- Khan al-Qassabiya (خان القصابية)
- Khan al-Shouneh (خان الشونة)
- Khan Hajj Musa al-Amiri (خان حاج موسى الأمير)
- Khan Uch Khan
- Khan Wazir (خان الوزير)
- Suq al-Joukh (سوق الجوخ)
- Suq al-Samak (سوق السمك)
- Suq al-Saqtayah (سوق السقطية)
- Suq al-Suweiqah (سوق السويقة)
- Suq al-Zaher (سوق الظاهر)

Government Buildings and Industry

- Musabnat al-Zanabili (مصنبة الزنابيلي)
- Musabnat al-Jabili (مصنبة الجبيلي)
- Old Customs Building (مبنى الهجرة والجوازات)
- Police Station at Bab al-Hadid (قسم الشرطة الأثري في منطقة باب الحديد)

Date of Incident: 2014 - December 7, 2016

Location: Old City Aleppo, Aleppo Governorate, Syria

Site Description:

Religious Sites

- **al-Maidani Mosque** - According to DGAM, "Situated between al-Almaji and Turab al-Ghurabaa, it was constructed by Hussein ibn Muhammad al-Halabi, also known as ibn al-Maidany. The minaret of the mosque was erected above an external base but was knocked down by Muhammad ibn Khalil, known as ibn Qanbar, and instead it was constructed towards the southern door. It is a beautiful octagonal Mamluk minaret, which resembles that of al-Mehmendar mosque. In addition, a tomb and a shrine dedicated to a wali, i.e. Muslim saint, named Sheikh Abdul."⁷¹ According to Gaube and Wirth, "With the old minaret and secondarily used old window grilles, the founder Husain b. Muhammad al-Galabi is 1536 died. Moreover Portal found an inscription of 1722."⁷²
- **al-Mustadamiya Mosque** - The mosque was built before 1450 CE by Jamal al-Din Yusuf ibn Nafs, the same builder as Hammam al-Bayyada. The builder and his son are reportedly buried in a tomb in the mosque.⁷³
- **al-Shibani Church and School** - According to DGAM, "Work on the construction of al-Shibani complex began in 1853 and was interrupted several times till it was completed and opened in 1879. It contains a college called 'the Holy Land College', which has played a significant role in the graduation of many prominent politicians and writers within the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century."⁷⁴
- **al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa** - This mosque and madrasa lies immediately south of the Citadel's main entrance. It contains the tomb of Sultan Malik al-Zaher. According to Burns, "Across the road and a little to the left as you look from the entrance of the citadel lies the Madrasa Sultaniye completed in 1223–1225 by Governor (Sultan) al-Aziz, a son of Sultan al-Zaher Ghazi, the project having begun under his father. The mihrab of the prayer room is particularly commended. To the left lies a modest room which contained the cenotaphs of Sultan al-Zaher Ghazi and his family."⁷⁵
- **al-Tarsusi Mosque** - A placard on the mosque states that the site was founded by Mohammed bin Abdul Samad al-Tarsousi during the reign of Nour al-Din Mahmoud bin Emad al-Din Zinky. The mosque is in the neighborhood of Bab Qinnasrin (CHI # 60) in the Old City of Aleppo. The mosque is located to the left once inside Bab Qinnasrin, opposite the Madrasa al-Karameya School and the old mosque.⁷⁶ The tomb of Ahmed bin Zainal Abidin (d. 1584 CE) is believed to be located inside the mosque. The mosque was restored in the Ottoman Era.⁷⁷ According to a placard on the mosque, in 2008 restorations were completed under the guidance of Engineer Tamer al-Hija and as a result of a cooperation between the Aleppo Endowment, DGAM, and the Aleppo Old City Council. The project was funded by philanthropist Ziyad Saad al-Din al-Za'aleem.⁷⁸

⁷¹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=246>

⁷² Gaube and Wirth 1984: 396

⁷³ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_mosquee_Mustadamiya.htm

⁷⁴ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=289>

⁷⁵ Burns 2009: 47

⁷⁶ <http://www.esyria.sy/ealeppo/index.php?p=stories&category=ruins&filename=201106191105011>

⁷⁷ <http://www.esyria.sy/ealeppo/index.php?p=stories&category=ruins&filename=201106191105011>

⁷⁸ https://www.facebook.com/abboudy.bsata/media_set?set=a.1293376510723831.1073741844.100001544847299

- **al-Zaki Mosque** - Mosque in the Old City of Aleppo, located in an area north of Bab al-Nasr and adjacent to Khan Ujkan.⁷⁹ According to a placard, al-Zaki Mosque was built Prince Ali bin Saeed al-Zeni during the era of King Nasser al-Din Mohammed Bin Qalawoon. The mosque was named after Sheikh Omar bin al-Sheikh Mohammed Bin al-Zaki (aka Ibn Khalifa).⁸⁰
- **Bandara Synagogue** - According to Burns, "The building, deserted since the 1950s, has recently been partly restored. The building is of exceptional interest. It dates in part from the 12th century but a synagogue probably stood in this site from the fifth century."⁸¹ It was reconstructed in 1997. According to a commemorative plaque located within the synagogue, the reconstruction was carried out under the supervision of Mr. Yousef Gagati and Mr. Khirdir Khabarati.⁸²
- **Banqusa Mosque** - According to DGAM, "It belongs to the Mamluk period and was built by Khas Bek al-Khawaja, who died before its completion, to be finished later by philanthropists. It has western and northern doors. Its tall, unornamented minaret is located near the northern door. To the east of its mihrab niche is a closed cabinet attached to a round stone with a diameter of a half dira'."⁸³
- **Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (Museum of Medicine and Science)** - According to Ross Burns, "The Maristan Arghun al-Kamili [was] converted from a house to an asylum in 1354 by the Mamluk governor, Arghun al-Kamili. The entry is through a tall, honeycombed portal (probably surviving from the Ayyubid house on this site) leading through a vestibule to the central courtyard. Diagonally across is a tall vaulted passage leading to a confined octagonal courtyard designed to house the dangerously insane. A central fountain is surrounded by twelve cells, still used to house chained inmates at the beginning of the last century. Two other small courtyards lie north and south, each provided with a central water basin. The southern courtyard has room for iwans north and south of the central open space. Sauvaget considered this the best preserved Muslim hospital in Syria or Egypt."⁸⁴ The building also houses the Museum of Medicine and Science.
- **Bimaristan Nur al-Din** - A hospital built by Nur al-Din, near an intramural water project. The site has been previously damaged by earthquakes and "rebuilt several times."⁸⁵ According to Allen, "only the portal and a bit of masonry on the street facade" survived from the original building.⁸⁶

⁷⁹ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_mosquee_Zaki.htm

⁸⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1286720984722717&set=a.1286670878061061.1073741840.100001544847299>

⁸¹ Burns 2009: 55

⁸² <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1284281478300001&set=a.1284273291634153.1073741839.100001544847299>

⁸³ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=252>

⁸⁴ Burns 2009: 46

⁸⁵ <https://archnet.org/authorities/3497/sites/4229> ; <http://www.sonic.net/~tallen/palmtree/ayyarch/ch2.htm#alep.bimn>

⁸⁶ <http://www.sonic.net/~tallen/palmtree/ayyarch/ch2.htm#alep.bimn>

- **Dabbagha al-Atiqa Mosque** - This mosque is located to the southeast of Sabe' Bahrat Square and to the south of the buildings on Abdel Mun'em Riyad Street. It is an old mosque with a high square minaret made of large blocks of stone. It has two entrance portals, one leading to the prayer hall and the other to the courtyard. On the north-eastern side are tombs, one of which dates from 1404 CE. An inscription indicates that the mosque was built by one Ibn al-Ajami. Its style suggests the building is Ayyubid. The domes of the prayer hall and the other rooms have been reconstructed by the Department of Antiquities. The minaret is either Ayyubid, or early Mamluk.⁸⁷
- **Madrasa al-Sharafiya** - According to DGAM, "According to historical sources, it is the first madrasa built in Aleppo, located east of the Umayyad Mosque, in al-Niswan souk. Its construction goes back to the thirteenth century AD, in the late Ayyubid period. It was built by Sharaf Eddin Abdul Rahman ibn al-Ajami. It is characterized by its magnificent ornamentation and beautiful muqarnas."⁸⁸
- **Madrasa Halawiya** - According to DGAM, the Madrasa "is located in front of the western entrance of the Great Mosque and used to be a church dedicated to Saint Helen, constructed in the fifth century AD, renovated under Emperor Justinian and remained as such until the crusades conquered Aleppo and wreaked havoc in the city. Consequently, judge Abu al-Hassan ibn Muhammad al-Khashab converted the building into a mosque, called al-Sarrajin mosque. It was converted into a madrasa during the reign of sultan Nur al-Din Zangi."⁸⁹
- **Madrasa Khusruwiye** - This madrasa and mosque faces the south side of the citadel. It was completed in 1547 CE. According to Ross Burns, "initiated in 1537 by Khusruv Pasha, governor of Aleppo. Perhaps constructed under the supervision of the famous Turkish architect, Sinan, then at the beginning of his remarkable career this is the first of the Ottoman-style monuments built in Aleppo. Note that the portico, covered by five domes, is wider than the prayer hall. The minaret is distinctly Turkish in style."⁹⁰ Gaube and Wirth describe the complex in some detail, "From the mosque, madrasa, and other buildings existing complex was at the beginning of this century strongly disintegrated, and its big Waqf was almost completely lost. Inscription of 1546." (Translated from German).
- **Madrasa Turuntaiya** - According to DGAM "Located in al-Turantaiyah district, Bab al-Nairab, with thick and large walls, almost as impregnable fortresses, the building is currently used as a mosque, called al-Turantaiyah."⁹¹
- **Madrasa Uthmaniya and Mosque** - According to Burns, "The Madrasa al-Othmaniya is located in the northern Bab al-Nasr district of Aleppo's old city. It was established by Ottoman Pasha Al-Duraki in 1730 and was originally named Madrasa Rida'iyah. The madrasa, which includes a mosque, boasts one of the tallest minarets in Aleppo, built in the traditional Ottoman pencil-shaped style. It is centered on a large courtyard with small garden plots. Two iwans and a prayer hall covered with domes grace the northern and southern sides of the courtyard. This madrasa was an active institution for religious studies in the eighteenth century with the forty-two cells that line the eastern and western sides of the large courtyard. The northern part of the madrasa was demolished in the mid-twentieth century during the construction of the east-west axis, Shar'i al-Sijn (Prison Street)."⁹² The site includes a cemetery.

⁸⁷ Hadjar 2003: 60.

⁸⁸ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=159>

⁸⁹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=251>

⁹⁰ Burns 2009: 47

⁹¹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=267>

⁹² Burns 2009: 42-43

- **Matbakh al-Ajami** - According to Burns, "The Matbakh al-Ajami [is] a Zengid (12th century) palace which formerly housed a small museum of folklore...The façade was reconstructed when the street was widened in 1950. The rebuilt entrance incorporates a doorway rescued from another palace, of the Ottoman, Othman Pasha. The doorway may be Ottoman or Mamluk but consciously imitates the Ayyubid love for fantastic interlaced decoration. The muqarnas of the north iwan is particularly notable."⁹³
- **Mosque Adliyah** - According to DGAM "Located in al-Saffahiyah quarter in Bizzeah, it was the first mosque built in Aleppo copying the Ottoman style by Ottoman governor Muhammad Pasha in 1555 AD. Its haram sanctuary is a one-dome-roofed square hall. In addition, it has a towering cylindrical minaret."⁹⁴
- **Mosque Otrush** - According to Burns, "Immediately south of the post-war Justice Ministry complex behind the baths is an intersection, to the left of which stands the al-Otrush Mosque, a small funerary mosque commissioned to serve as his mausoleum by Emir Aq-Bogha al-Otrushi in 1403 (and completed by his successor, Emir Damir Dash). The tall entrance portal is richly decorated. Under the minaret, left of the portal, the inscription reads: *'This is the work of God's slave, the famed Aq-Bogha al Zahiri. God grant him mercy.'* The façade is one of the finest of any Mameluke building in Aleppo. From the courtyard inside, a corridor to the north west gives access to the burial chamber, a small square room covered with a dome resting on four honey-combed corners. The prayer hall is divided into five broken-vaulted segments supported by a row of four columns."⁹⁵
- **Mosque Altunbugha** - A mosque built by Governor Ala al-Din Altinbugha al-Nasiri along the rampart wall on the east side of Old City of Aleppo.⁹⁶
- **Qarleq Mosque** - According to DGAM, the mosque is located in Qarleq district. The mosque belongs to the Mamluk period, built by Emir of Aleppo Seif Eddin ibn Baktmir in 1396 AD.
- **Rumi Mosque** - The al-Rumi Mosque is located in the Saffahiya District northeast of Bab Qinnasrin and was formerly known as the Mankali Bagha Mosque after Seif al-Din Mankali Bagha al-Shamsi, the Mamluk governor of Aleppo who funded its construction.⁹⁷ The architecture of the mosque is notable for its round minaret, which is a rare feature in Aleppo. According to Gaube and Wirth, the mosque was built 1367, restored in 1521, and restored again in 1853.⁹⁸
- **Saffahiya Mosque** - Located southwest of the Citadel in the district of Saffahiya. Originally built as a school, it was later converted to a mosque.⁹⁹
- **Sharaf Mosque** - A mosque likely dating from the early Mamluk period, and possibly named after a family who built it. The courtyard and a tomb located within the mosque are dated 1393 CE. A fountain was built on the facade of the site in 1491 CE. Restorations occurred at the mosque between 1500 - 1516 CE.¹⁰⁰

⁹³ Burns 2009: 44

⁹⁴ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=143>

⁹⁵ Burns 1992: 39

⁹⁶ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_mosquee_Altinbugha.htm

⁹⁷ <http://archnet.org/sites/1815/publications/1289>

⁹⁸ Gaube and Wirth 1984

⁹⁹ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_madrassa_Saffahiya.htm

¹⁰⁰ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_mosquee_Sharaf.htm

- **al-Umayyad Mosque** - According to DGAM, “Built in 715 AD by Umayyad caliph Walid ibn Abdul Malik, it is home to the remains of Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist. The present design of the mosque goes back to the reign of Nur al-Din Zangi who restored and expanded it in 1158 AD. In 1260 AD, it was razed by the Mongols. However, it was repaired. Its minaret is a typical sample of the Syrian architecture in the Islamic period. The minaret was erected by Seljuq sultan Tutush I with four differently shaped façades.”¹⁰¹
- **Yassou'iya at Turab Ghuraba** - Jesuit College located in the Bab al-Nasr District of Old City of Aleppo. The college, houses the Museum of Educational Heritage built under the patronage of the Minister of Education, Doctor Salah al-Rashad.¹⁰²

Archaeological Sites

- **Aleppo Citadel** - According to DGAM, “The citadel was built on a partly artificial hill, rising around 50 meters above the city. It dates back to the first millennium BC, and the majority of the construction as it stands today belongs to the 13th century. It was subsequently occupied by many invaders and was heavily damaged in the earthquake of 1822.”¹⁰³
- **Aleppo Citadel Museum** - The Aleppo Citadel Museum is an archaeological museum located within the Citadel. It occupies the Ibrahim Pasha military barracks building, built in 1834 CE by the Egyptian governor Ibrahim Pasha. The barracks were converted into a museum in 1994. The museum consists of three halls, with artifacts from each stage of occupation of the Citadel including Hittite, Roman, and Islamic periods.¹⁰⁴
- **al-Kabir Mosque** - One of two mosques on the Citadel of Aleppo, al-Kabir Mosque stands on the site of what was once a Byzantine church dating to the reign of the Emperor Justinian (mid-6th century CE).¹⁰⁵ These churches remained until they were converted into mosques during the Mirdasid dynasty, which ruled Aleppo from 1024 until 1080 CE.¹⁰⁶ al-Kabir and Ibrahim Mosques were renovated multiple times, including under the Seljuk Zengid ruler Nur ad-Din (ca. mid-12th century) and the Ayyubid emir az-Zahir Ghazi (1213 CE).¹⁰⁷ The current structure dates almost entirely from 1213 CE.¹⁰⁸ The mosque has a well-preserved square-shaped Ayyubid minaret which at one point doubled as a military watchtower.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰¹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=292>

¹⁰² <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1286685208059628&set=a.1286670878061061.1073741840.100001544847299>

¹⁰³ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=131>

¹⁰⁴ <http://archnet.org/system/publications/contents/5216/original/DPC1953.pdf?1384788868>

¹⁰⁵ Hadjar: 5

¹⁰⁶ Gonnella, pp. 12–13

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.* pp. 14–19

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.* 40

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.* 18

- **Mamluk Throne Hall** - Mamluk governor Jakam Saif ad-Din built the Throne Hall on top of the Citadel's older Ayyubid Bridge Tower (ca. 1190-1212 CE). This addition dates to ca. 1406-1417 CE. The Throne Hall underwent a number of restorations and alterations. It was restored under Sultan Ashraf Qaitbay (ca. 1468-1496 CE). By the early 16th century CE, the Throne Hall's elaborate wooden roof had collapsed. It was replaced by the last Mamluk sultan, Qanswah al-Ghuri (ca. 1501-1516 CE), with a new roof consisting of nine stone cupolas.¹¹⁰ This roof remained (in an increasingly deteriorated state) until the 1960s, when a new phase of restoration and renovation began on the Citadel. The Throne Hall was partially removed and rebuilt. It was completely recovered with a wooden roof, part of which was taken from the 18th century CE al-'Aidi house in Damascus.¹¹¹ The original layout and some of the original structure of the Throne Hall remains, but its decoration is almost entirely modern.¹¹²

Historical Sites

- **Bab Antakya** - According to Burns, "Bab Antaki or Antioch Gate consists of two great hexagonal bastions with a jagged entrance path and is a reconstruction by the Ayyubid governor, al-Nasr Yusuf II (r 1242-60) grandson of Ghazi, on an 11th century base. It was further reconstructed in the 15th century. Through the earlier gateway on this spot the Arab armies entered Aleppo in 637."¹¹³
- **Bab al-Hadid** - According to DGAM, "It used to be called Bab al-Qanat (water canal) as Hilan Canal runs through it. It was also called Bab Banqusa and was built by al-Zahir Ghazi. It was called Bab al-Hadid since it contains al-Haddadin souk as well as agricultural equipment. It was rebuilt by Sultan Qansuh al-Ghawri in 1510 AD as indicated by some writings to the left of the entrance. The door also contains three round ranks reading "Victor Qansuh al-Ghawri is our source of pride, sultan al-Ashraf. Blessed his victory."¹¹⁴
- **Bab al-Nasr** - According to DGAM "It was built in the Ayyubid period, in the first ten years of the thirteenth century AD."¹¹⁵
- **Bab Qinnasrin** - According to Yasser Tabbaa: "Bab Qinnasrin was originally built by Sayf al-Dawla [the Hamdanid founder of the emirate of Aleppo] but was completely rebuilt in 1256 by Al-Nasir Yusuf II who renewed the southwestern part of the city wall between the Qinnasrin and Antakiya gates. The architecture of Bab Qinnasrin was formed by two massive towers of unequal heights. The western tower, eighteen meters high, was used for defense while the eastern one, twenty-six meters high, formed the entrance. The Ayyubid portal in the form of a tall arch leads to a tripartite hall with a cross vaulted middle chamber. The chamber opens into another cross-vaulted chamber that is connected to the western side of the gate by a corridor that extends to the wall behind the western tower. Passing through two more chambers, one enters the city. The plan's sequence of rooms form an enclosed square with an open court in the middle that has a water well, cisterns, and flour and oil mills. The gate also holds the Shrine of Khalil al-Tayyar. The western side has been completely demolished."¹¹⁶

¹¹⁰ Gonnella 2008: 21-24

¹¹¹ Hadjar 2000: 14

¹¹² Gonnella 2008: 30, 49, 50

¹¹³ Burns 2009: 44

¹¹⁴ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=149>

¹¹⁵ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=317>

¹¹⁶ Tabbaa 1997: 21

- **Beit Ajaqbash/Museum of Traditional Art** - According to DGAM “Located in Jdeide Quarter, Beit Ajaqbash was built by Qarah Ali in the eighteenth century and then was taken over by Ajiqbash, a Turk whom it was named after. After the Directorate-General of Antiquities and Museum became in charge of it, they renovated it and converted it into the Museum of Folk Traditions of Aleppo.”¹¹⁷
- **Beit Ghazaleh** - According to DGAM it was “built in the seventeenth century, this house is characterized with its plant ornamented façades positioned above the windows as artistic portraits. Beit Ghazale is marked, in comparison to other houses in Aleppo, with its beautiful bathhouse located in the western part of the house, as well as the decorations of the façades of the first floor using alternating white and black building blocks. As for the ceilings of the rooms, they have a number of wooden portraits containing geometric and plant ornaments.”¹¹⁸
- **Carlton Hotel** - Formally the State Hospital, the Carlton Hotel building was built in 1890 and called Ghouraba Hospital. It was later converted into a nursing school, and then into the hotel in 2010.¹¹⁹
- **Dar al-Iftaa** - The Dar al-Iftaa housed the Awqaf Directorate, the Religious Endowments Directorate.
- **Dar Qatar Agassi (School of Saif al-Dawla)** - Building includes the Buildings Department of DGAM, and the Directorate of the Old City.¹²⁰
- **Hammam al-Nahasin** - According to DGAM “Located at Bab Antakeya, it was formerly called Hammam al-Sitt as indicated by the list of ancient bathhouses mentioned in the thirteenth century AD.”¹²¹
- **Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri** - According to Ross Burns, the baths are: “the grandest baths in Syria, which since 1985 have been reconstructed and revived for their original purpose by the tourism authorities, having been rescued from service as a felt factory. The *hammam* was built in the 14th century. The restoration has been done in a sober style and the two domed warm rooms achieve a striking impact.”¹²² Gaube and Wirth provide the following description, “Mamlukisches Bad, vor 1488 errichtet. Es handelt sich um das bei Ibn aš-Šihna erwähnte Bad an-Nasiri, dessen alten Namen auch Gazzi nennt.” (“Mamlukisches baths, built before the 1488 CE. It is mentioned in the Ibn al-Sihna Bad to-Nasiri, whose old name is also called Gazzi.”).¹²³
- **Hotel Zamaria (Beit Zamaria)**- According to DGAM, “A traditional Arab house featuring Islamic art and Ottoman architectural masterpieces, it is located in the Ancient City of Aleppo, near the old souks and the Citadel of Aleppo. Nowadays, the house is turned into a hotel containing a courtyard, an iwan, cafeterias and specially designed and decorated halls to entertain the guests.”¹²⁴

¹¹⁷ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=151>

¹¹⁸ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=281>

¹¹⁹ Hadjar 87

¹²⁰ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2143>

¹²¹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=265>

¹²² Burns 1992: 39

¹²³ Gaube and Wirth 1984: No. 339, p. 382

¹²⁴ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=163>

Markets and Khans

- **Khan al-Nahasin** - According to DGAM, "It is also known as Khan al-Atshan and Khan Auge Khan, meaning three khans. It consists of three khans that are liked. It was built by deputy Mamluk sultan Khair Bek, the last Mamluk ruler (920Hijri/1515AD)."¹²⁵ This building also includes the House of Adolphe Poche a museum under the supervision of the Belgian Consulate.¹²⁶
- **Khan al-Qadi** - According to Burns, "This is a rare example of a reasonably intact khan of the Mamluk era. It was built in 1450 by the qadi (chief judge) of Aleppo and distinctly follows the plain Ayyubid style."¹²⁷
- **Khan al-Shouneh** - According to DGAM, "It is located north of al-Khasrafia Mosque and was part of its waqf. It was built in 1546, and in the nineteenth century it was converted to Khan al-Shouneh, which is currently owned by the Military Housing Est., under the supervision of the Ministry of Tourism. Originally, it consisted of two souks, northern and western. It was reconstructed together with al-Khusruwiyah madrasa in 1882 after the terrible earthquake. It has become a market for handicrafts since 1990."¹²⁸
- **Khan uch Khan** - The Khan Uch Khan is the oldest Khan outside the old city walls of Aleppo. At the end of the Mamluk era, it was reconstructed by the Sultan Qansoh al-Ghuri.
- **Khan Wazir** - According to DGAM, the Khan was "built during the Ottoman rule in 1683, it is one of the most celebrated khans in Aleppo. It is located between the Citadel of Aleppo and the Great Mosque and characterized with its ornamented interior and exterior façades, beautiful large doors and richly decorated windows."¹²⁹
- **Suq al-Joukh** - According to DGAM, the Suq "contains 40 stores that trade in textiles. It is also characterized by its large size and organization."¹³⁰
- **Suq al-Samak** - Ancient suq located in the Old City of Aleppo, also known as the Fish Suq.
- **Suq al-Saqtayah** - According to DGAM, "It is a three-part long souk trading in foodstuffs, pastries (ingredients of sweets), vegetables and fruit."¹³¹
- **Suq al-Suweiqah** - According to DGAM, "It is located in the Ancient City of Aleppo between al-Farafira district and the Great Mosque, dating back to the fifth century Byzantine era. It consists of two long alleys: Suweiqat Hatem, located on the southern side near the Great Mosque, and Suweiqat Ali, named after a tomb belonging to a man living in the area called Ali."¹³²

Government Buildings and Industry

- **Musabnat al-Zanabili** - Olive Oil soap factory within the Old City of Aleppo.
- **Musabnat al-Jabili** - Olive Oil soap factory within the Old City of Aleppo.
- **Old Customs Building** - According to DGAM, "The building is a typical sample of the late Ottoman architecture. Its façades are distinguished for their beautiful inscriptions and decorations. It overlooks the northern side of the citadel and has an area of 450 square meters."¹³³
- **Police Station at Bab al-Hadid** - Police station located next to Bab al-Hadid.

¹²⁵ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=282>

¹²⁶ Burns 2009: 43

¹²⁷ Burns 2009: 46

¹²⁸ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=254>

¹²⁹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=201>

¹³⁰ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=279>

¹³¹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=260>

¹³² <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=297>

¹³³ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/damages/eplace.php?placeid=160>

Site Date:

Religious Sites

- al-Maidani Mosque - Probably built in the 16th century CE and restored/modified around 1722 CE.
- al-Mustadamiya Mosque - Prior to 1450 CE.¹³⁴
- al-Sultaniya Mosque and Madrasa - 1223-1225 CE.
- al-Tarsusi Mosque - According to worshippers, it is one of the oldest mosques in Aleppo and possibly dates back to the Zengid Era.¹³⁵
- al-Zahrawi School – Ottoman Period.
- al-Zaki Mosque – 1301 CE. Enlarged in 1425 CE by Emir Nasir al-Din al-Jahh. Parts of the mosque were restored, and possibly enlarged, a second time in 1513 CE.¹³⁶
- Bandara Synagogue - 12th century, reconstructed in 1997 CE.
- Banqusa Mosque - Mamluk Period.
- Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (Museum of Medicine and Science)- 1354 CE.
- Bimaristan Nur al-Din - 1148-55 CE.¹³⁷
- Dabbagha al-Atiqah Mosque - Ayyubid Period.
- Madrasa al-Sharafiya - 13th century CE during the late Ayyubid period.
- Madrasa Halawiya - Built in 5th century CE, converted to a mosque in 1123 CE.
- Madrasa Khusruwiya - 1547 CE.
- Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya - Founded as a school in 1241 CE and transformed into a mosque in 1383 CE. The minaret was likely added during the conversion to a mosque.¹³⁸ A plaque outside the mosque states that the building dates to the Mamluk Period.¹³⁹
- Madrasa Uthmaniya - 1730 CE.
- Matbakh al-Ajami - 12th century CE.
- Mosque Adliyah - 1555 CE.
- Mosque Outroush - 1403 CE.
- Mosque Altunbugha - 1318 CE.
- Qarleq Mosque - 1396 CE.
- Rumi Mosque - 1367 CE.
- Saffahiya Mosque - built from 1418-1420 CE and converted into a mosque in 1425.¹⁴⁰
- Sharaf Mosque - Mamluk Period. The courtyard and a tomb located within the mosque are dated 1393 CE. A fountain was built on the facade of the site in 1491 CE. Restorations occurred at the mosque between 1500 - 1516 CE.¹⁴¹
- Umayyad Mosque - 715 CE. Reconstructed 11th Century CE.

¹³⁴ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_mosquee_Mustadamiya.htm

¹³⁵ <http://www.esyria.sy/ealeppo/index.php?p=stories&category=ruins&filename=201106191105011>

¹³⁶ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_mosquee_Zaki.htm

¹³⁷ <http://www.sonic.net/~tallen/palmtree/ayyarch/ch2.htm#alep.bimn>

¹³⁸ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_madrasa_Turuntaiya_Kamaliya_Adimiya.htm

¹³⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1290321424362673&set=a.1290288781032604.1073741841.100001544847299>

¹⁴⁰ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_madrasa_Saffahiya.htm

¹⁴¹ http://monummamluk-syrie.org/Fiches/Alep/HLB_mosquee_Sharaf.htm

Archaeological Sites

- Aleppo Citadel - Early Bronze Age through Ottoman; Medieval to late Ottoman Period with modern additions and restorations.
- Aleppo Citadel Museum - Built 1834 CE, converted into museum in 1994 CE.
- al-Kabir Mosque - mid-11th century CE (renovated or rebuilt ca. 1179 CE and ca. 1213 CE).
- Mamluk Throne Hall - Ayyubid Period (1190-1212 CE), Mamluk addition ca. 1406 CE.
- Aala Tower and Walls - Mamluk Period

Historical Sites

- Bab Antakya - 9th to 15th century CE.
- Bab al-Hadid - 13th century CE.
- Bab al-Nasr - 13th Century CE.
- Bab Qinnasrin - 10th to 13th centuries CE.
- Beit Ajaqbash - Built in 18th century CE.
- Beit Ghazaleh - 1691 CE.
- Coral Julia Dumna Hotel - 2008 CE.
- Carlton Hotel - 1890 CE.
- Dar al-Iftaa - Based on the architecture, Ottoman or French Mandate Period.
- Dar Qatar Agassi (School of Saif al-Dawla) -Based on the architecture, Ottoman or French Mandate Period.
- Hammam al-Nahasin - 12th century CE.
- Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri - Mid-14th Century CE.
- Hotel Zamaria (Beit Zamaria) - Unknown
- Old Arab Houses - Based on the architecture, Ottoman or French Mandate Period.

Markets and Khans

- Khan al-Nahasin - Mamluk Period.
- Khan al-Oulabiya - Mamluk Period.
- Khan al-Qadi - 1450 CE.
- Khan al-Qassabiya - Mamluk Period.
- Khan al-Shouneh - 1546 CE.
- Khan uch Khan - Reconstructed ca. 1500 CE.
- Khan Wazir - 1683 CE.
- Suq al-Joukh - Mamluk Period.
- Suq al-Samak - Mamluk Period.
- Suq al-Saqtiyah - Mamluk Period.
- Suq al-Suweiqah - 5th century CE.
- Suq al-Zaher - Mamluk Period.

Government Buildings and Industry

- Old Customs Building - Ottoman Period.
- Police Station at Bab al-Hadid - Ottoman Period.

Incident Summary: New photographs were released by various sources showing damage to multiple sites in the Old City of Aleppo.

Incident Source and Description: On December 7, 2016 SARG and pro-regime forces captured Old City of Aleppo. Subsequent photographs, video and drone footage showed the extent of the damage to the area.

Religious Sites

- **al-Arbaeen Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show minimal damage to the interior of al-Arbaeen Mosque as well as a disturbed grave located in or near the mosque.
- **al-Hamwi Mosque** - New photographs released by DGAM in December 2016 show minimal damage to al-Hamwi Mosque.¹⁴²
- **al-Karimiya Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the mosque, including evidence of theft.
- **al-Maidani Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show extensive damage to the mosque, including collapse of much of the mosque's roof and minaret. The al-Maidani Mosque has been damaged on at least three prior occasions throughout the conflict by explosives. For more information on previous damage to al-Maidani mosque, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 14-0004** in **Weekly Report 1**, **SHI 14-0095** in **Weekly Report 8**, **SHI 16-0071** in **Weekly Report 93-94**.
- **al-Mustadamiya Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show light damage to al-Mustadamiya Mosque.
- **al-Shibani Church and School** - Photographs released in December 2016 show moderate explosives damage to the Shibani Church and School.
- **al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa** - Photographs released by DGAM and social media accounts in December 2016 show extensive damage to al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa.¹⁴³ According to DGAM video footage, the entirety of the mosque and madrasa has been damaged. al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa has been previously reported as being damaged by tunnel bombs. For more information on damage to al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa see, **ASOR CHI Incident Report 14-0004** in **Weekly Report 1**, **SHI 14-0024** in **Weekly Report 5**, **SHI 14-0097** in **Weekly Report 18**, **SHI 14-0097 UPDATE** in **Weekly Report 19**, **SHI 15-0084** in **Weekly Report 40**, **SHI 16-0018** in **Weekly Report 79-80**.
- **al-Tarsusi Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show moderate damage to al-Tarsusi Mosque including possible explosives damage to the dome.
- **al-Zahrawi School** - Photographs released by DGAM show damage to exterior walls of al-Zahrawi School.¹⁴⁴ For more information on previous damage to al-Zahrawi School, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 15-0085** in **Weekly Report 41**.
- **al-Zaki Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show moderate damage to al-Zaki Mosque, including the partial collapse of one wall.
- **Assma Bent Abo Bakr School** - Photographs released in December 2016 show minor damage to the exterior stonewall around the school.¹⁴⁵
- **Bandara Synagogue** - Photographs released in December 2016 show extensive damage to Bandara Synagogue.

¹⁴² <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2161>

¹⁴³ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2167> ; <https://www.facebook.com/aleppoarchaeology/posts/1269948823063636>

¹⁴⁴ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2163>

¹⁴⁵ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2163>

- **Banqusa Mosque** - DGAM released new photographs in December 2016 show damage to Banqusa Mosque.¹⁴⁶
- **Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (Museum of Medicine and Science)** - Photographs released in December 2016 show moderate damage, including what appears to be fire damage, to the site.¹⁴⁷
- **Bimaristan Nur al-Din** - Photographs released by DGAM in December 2016 show moderate damage to the site, including the presence of debris and evidence of explosives damage.¹⁴⁸
- **Dabbagha al-Atiqa Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show explosives damage to the mosque. For previous information on the damage present at Dabbagha al-Atiqa Mosque see, **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 15-0084 in Weekly Report 40.**
- **Hajj Musa Amiri Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the mosque, including the collapse of the dome and damage to the interior.
- **Jabri School** - Photographs released by DGAM in December 2016 show structural damage to Jabri School.¹⁴⁹
- **Madrassa al-Sharafiya** - Photographs released in December 2016 show significant damage and rubble surrounding an entrance to Madrasa al-Sharafiya.
- **Madrassa Halawiya** - Photographs released in December 2016 show moderate damage to Madrasa Halawiya. For more information on damage to Madrasa Halawiya, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 15-0084 in Weekly Report 40.**
- **Madrassa Khusruwiye** - Photographs released by DGAM in December 2016 show extensive damage to Madrasa Khusruwiye.¹⁵⁰ Tunnel bombings struck the site in 2014, causing extensive damage. For more information on previous damage to Madrasa Khusruwiye, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 14-0004 in Weekly Report 1; SHI 14-0054 in Weekly Report 9; SHI 16-0018 in Weekly Report 79-80.**
- **Madrassa Turuntaiya** - Photographs released in December 2016 show light damage to the facade of the mosque and school.¹⁵¹
- **Madrassa Uthmaniya** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the mosque and madrasa, as well as overgrowth inside the mosque's cemetery.
- **Matbakh al-Ajami** - Photographs released in December 2016 show severe damage to the dome and minor damage to the minaret. Photographs of the surrounding area show damage to the majority of the buildings.
- **Mosque Adliyah** - Photographs released in December 2016 show extensive damage to the mosque, including at least one collapsed dome. Some interior design remains intact.
- **Mosque Outroush** - Photographs released by DGAM in December 2016 show damage to the minaret, facade, and cracks in the dome of Mosque Outroush.¹⁵² The mosque has previously been damaged by tunnel bombs. For more information on damage to the Mosque Outroush see, **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 14-0004 in Weekly Report 1.**

¹⁴⁶ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2151>

¹⁴⁷ <http://dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2177>

¹⁴⁸ <http://dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2177>

¹⁴⁹ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2151>

¹⁵⁰ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2167>

¹⁵¹ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1290321424362673&set=a.1290288781032604.1073741841.100001544847299>

¹⁵² <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2155>

- **Mosque Altunbugha** - Photographs released by DGAM in December 2016 show minor damage to Mosque Altunbugha.¹⁵³
- **Mosque Sanklar** - Photographs released in December 2016 show explosives inside Sanklar Mosque.
- **Mosque Suq Attarin** - Photographs released in December 2016 show moderate damage to the interior of the mosque. There were no photographs at the time of publication detailing damage to the structure or exterior of the mosque.
- **Noor al-Dein Mosque** - Photographs released by DGAM in December 2016 show that the mosque has been reduced to rubble.¹⁵⁴
- **Omari Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the interior of the mosque as well as the minaret.
- **Qarleq Mosque** - Photographs released by DGAM in December 2016 show light damage to Qarleq Mosque.¹⁵⁵
- **Rumi Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show extensive damage to the structure of Rumi Mosque. Rumi Mosque was previously damaged by tunnel bombs and ongoing armed clashes. For more information on previous damage to Rumi Mosque, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 15-0050 in Weekly Report 32.**
- **Saffahiya Mosque** - Photographs show minimal damage to the exterior of Saffahiya Mosque.
- **Sayedna Hamza Mosque** - Photographs show light damage to one side of the mosque. On May 27, 2016 Aleppo News Network reported that shelling had struck the mosque during Friday prayers.¹⁵⁶
- **Sharaf Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show extensive damage to Sharaf Mosque.
- **Takkiya Nasimi (Hospice Nasimi)** - Photographs released in December 2016 show overgrowth and material damage to the site.
- **Umayyad Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show continued evidence of extensive damage at the mosque.¹⁵⁷
- **Yassou'iyah at Turab Ghuraba** - Photographs released in December 2016 show severe damage to the museum building and significant debris in the courtyard. Some of the upper stories have collapsed. APSA previously reported that the collections were relocated in 2013 after damage and looting, and the building was subsequently hit with airstrikes in 2014.¹⁵⁸

¹⁵³ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2155>

¹⁵⁴ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2163>

¹⁵⁵ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2163>

¹⁵⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/ALEPPO.NET.NEWS2/posts/1210791585599742>

¹⁵⁷ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2148>; <https://www.facebook.com/ShehabAgency.MainPage/photos/a.182662565109505.38264.179609608748134/1676823929026687/>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5n9nD1lUKg>; <https://www.facebook.com/aleppoarchaeology/videos/1261090393949479/>; <https://www.facebook.com/ShehabAgency.MainPage/photos/a.182662565109505.38264.179609608748134/1676824089026671/?type=3&theater>; <https://www.facebook.com/ShehabAgency.MainPage/photos/a.182662565109505.38264.179609608748134/1676824052360008/>; <https://www.facebook.com/100009714551392/videos/383755305291618/>; <https://www.facebook.com/100009714551392/videos/pcb.383749968625485/383749301958885/>

¹⁵⁸ <http://www.apsa2011.com/index.php/en/provinces/aleppo/museums/1086-aleppo-museum-of-education.html>

Archaeological Sites

- **Aleppo Citadel** - Photographs show overgrowth to areas around the Citadel. No new damage is noted.¹⁵⁹ For more information on previous damage to the Aleppo Citadel, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 14-0035 in Weekly Report 7; SHI 14-0076 in Weekly Report 14; SHI 15-0085 in Weekly Report 41; SHI 15-0087 in Weekly Report 41; SHI 15-0093 in Weekly Report 42-43; SHI 15-0100 in Weekly Report 49; SHI 15-0148 in Weekly Report 67-68; SHI 16-0018 in Weekly Report 79-80; SHI 16-0124 in Weekly Report 105-106; SHI 16-0182 in Monthly Report December 2016.**
- **Aleppo Citadel Museum** - Photographs show collapse of the western part of the Citadel Museum.¹⁶⁰ This area was previously damaged by an alleged SARG detonation of the fortification wall. For more information on previous damage to the Aleppo Citadel Museum, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 15-0093 in Weekly Report 42-43; SHI 16-0018 in Weekly Report 79-80; SHI 16-0124 in Weekly Report 105-106.**
- **al-Kabir Mosque** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the interior of the mosque with the minaret is still standing.¹⁶¹ For more information on previous damage to al-Kabir Mosque, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0018 in Weekly Report 79-80.**
- **Mamluk Throne Hall** - Photographs show damage to the interior decorations of the Mamluk Throne Hall.¹⁶² Sandbags are stacked in the windows. For previous damage see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0018 in Weekly Report 79-80.**
- **Aala Tower and Walls** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the ancient city wall and towers due to an airstrike on August 28, 2016.¹⁶³ Some of the wall and tower have collapsed. For more information on previous damage to Aala Tower and Walls, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0139 in Weekly Report 109-110.**

Historical Sites

- **Bab Antakya** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to Bab Antakya due to smoke and fire and shrapnel or gunfire impacts.¹⁶⁴
- **Bab al-Hadid** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to Bab Hadid due to smoke and fire and shrapnel or gunfire impacts.¹⁶⁵ The exterior also has graffiti on the walls. For previous reports of damage to Bab al-Hadid, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 14-0087 in Weekly Report 16-17; SHI 16-0082 in this report.**
- **Bab al-Nasr** - Photographs released in December 2016 show extensive damage to Bab al-Nasr and surrounding area.¹⁶⁶
- **Bab Qinnasrin** - Photographs and video released in December 2016 show smoke damage to Bab Qinnasrin with part of the stonewall collapsed.¹⁶⁷

¹⁵⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=383749758625506&set=pcb.383749968625485&type=3&theater> ; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6059S7E8ZPg> ; <https://www.facebook.com/1573131452903917/videos/1783367205213673/>

¹⁶⁰ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2145>

¹⁶¹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2145>

¹⁶² https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1785918534958540&id=1573131452903917

¹⁶³ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2161>

¹⁶⁴ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2161>

¹⁶⁵ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2151>

¹⁶⁶ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2151>

¹⁶⁷ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2161>

- **Beit Ajaqbash** - Photographs released in December 2016 show severe damage to the building, including holes in the walls and ceilings, stacked sandbags inside the building, and debris scattered in the courtyard.¹⁶⁸ DGAM previously reported in 2014 that the museum had been subject to significant looting.¹⁶⁹
- **Beit Ghazaleh** - Photographs released in December 2016 show severe damage to Beit Ghazaleh with some walls collapsed.¹⁷⁰ For more information on previous damage to Beit Ghazaleh, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0135** in **Weekly Report 107-108**.
- **Coral Julia Dumna Hotel** - A photograph shows people walking in front of the Coral Julia Dumna Hotel, with the lower levels filled with debris.¹⁷¹ For more information on previous damage to Coral Julia Dumna Hotel, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 15-0085** in **Weekly Report 41**.
- **Carlton Hotel** - A photograph shows tourists walking within the crater and debris left from a bomb detonation on May 8, 2014.¹⁷² For more information on previous damage to the Carlton Hotel, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 15-0085** in **Weekly Report 41** and **SHI 16-0018** in **Weekly Report 79-80**.
- **Dar al-Iftaa** - Photographs released in December 2016 show a collapsed section of the building.¹⁷³ For additional photographs of damage, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 16-0182** in this report.
- **Dar Qatar Agassi (School of Saif al-Dawla)** - Photographs released in December 2016 show severe structural damage with parts of the roof missing, as well as damage to the facade of the buildings and missing walls. The walls show damage from bullets/shrapnel, and the courtyard is full of rubble.¹⁷⁴
- **Hammam al-Nahasin** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the interior of Hammam al-Nahasin with debris scattered around the floor.¹⁷⁵
- **Hammam Bab al-Ahmar** - Photographs released in December 2016 show severe damage to the Hammam with some collapsed portions.¹⁷⁶
- **Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri** - New photographs released in December 2016 show varying levels of damage to the site. For more information on previous damage to the hammam, see damage, see **ASOR CHI Incident Report SHI 14-0014** in **Weekly Report 1**; **SHI 14-0024** in **Weekly Report 5**; **SHI 14-0032** in **Weekly Report 7**; **SHI 15-0014** in **Weekly Report 25**.
- **Hotel Zamaria (Beit Zamaria)** - Photographs released in December 2016 show moderate to severe damage to Hotel Zamaria, including the possible militarization of the site.

¹⁶⁸ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2159> ; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUwlcFdJTv_o&feature=youtu.be ; <https://www.facebook.com/1573131452903917/videos/1783376741879386/>

¹⁶⁹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=1252>

¹⁷⁰ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2159> ; <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1539453469403847&set=pcb.1539453679403826> ; <https://www.facebook.com/1573131452903917/videos/1783378315212562/>

¹⁷¹ <http://news.trust.org/item/20161217180924-s9dba>

¹⁷² <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/2424248/tourists-pose-for-pictures-in-war-torn-aleppo-as-thousands-try-to-flee-the-shattered-syrian-city/>

¹⁷³ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2161>

¹⁷⁴ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2155>

¹⁷⁵ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2149> ; https://www.facebook.com/pg/dimashq.now/photos/?tab=album&album_id=110132446665983 ; <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/2452482/shocking-images-show-once-thriving-city-of-aleppo-has-been-destroyed-by-conflict-but-locals-still-manage-to-celebrate-their-first-christmas-in-four-years/>

¹⁷⁶ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2161>

- **Old Arab Houses** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damaged old houses in Old City of Aleppo.

Markets and Khans

- **Khan al-Nahasin** - Photographs released in December 2016 show debris built up in front of the entrance to Khan al-Nahasin.¹⁷⁷
- **Khan al-Oulabiya** - Photographs released in December 2016 show severe damage to the Khan al-Oulabiya.¹⁷⁸
- **Khan al-Qadi** - Photographs released in December 2016 show minor damage to the mashrabiyyah.
- **Khan al-Qassabiya** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the Khan al-Qassabiya including debris, broken metal roofs, and vegetation.
- **Khan al-Shouneh** - Photographs and video released in December 2016 show damage to the interior and exterior of the Khan al-Shouneh.¹⁷⁹
- **Khan Hajj Musa al-Amiri** - Photographs released in December 2016 shows debris in the courtyard of Khan Haj Musa and damage to the mashrabiyyah.¹⁸⁰
- **Khan uch Khan**- Photographs released in December 2016 show severe damage to the suq, with structural collapse.
- **Khan Wazir** - Photographs released in December 2016 show smoke damage to the Khan Wazir.
- **Suq al-Joukh** - Photographs released in December 2016 show minor damage to the suq, due to a fire.¹⁸¹
- **Suq al-Samak** - Photographs released in December 2016 show heavy damage caused by the ongoing conflict in Suq al-Samak.
- **Suq al-Saqtayah** - Photographs released in December 2016 show the collapse of a dome and part of the roof.¹⁸²
- **Suq al-Suweiq** - Photographs released in December 2016 show severe damage to the suq with debris filling shops and collapsed roofs.¹⁸³
- **Suq al-Zaher** - Photographs and a video released in December 2016 show severe damage to the entrance of Suq al-Zaher.¹⁸⁴ The suq was reported damaged by SNHR due to a barrel bomb dropped on August 20, 2014.¹⁸⁵

Government Buildings and Industry

- **Musabnat al-Zanabili** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the roof and debris within the courtyard.
- **Musabnat al-Jabili** - Photographs released in December 2016 show debris and damage to the interior and courtyard of the building.

¹⁷⁷ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2149> ; https://www.facebook.com/pg/dimashq.now/photos/?tab=album&album_id=110132446665983

¹⁷⁸ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2149>

¹⁷⁹ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2167>

¹⁸⁰ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2149>

¹⁸¹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2149>

¹⁸² <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2149>

¹⁸³ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2149>

¹⁸⁴ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2151>

¹⁸⁵ http://sn4hr.org/public_html/wp-content/pdf/english/mrakez_target_en.pdf

- **Old Customs Building** - Photographs released in December 2016 show the building's corner has collapsed.¹⁸⁶
- **Police Station at Bab al-Hadid** - Photographs released in December 2016 show damage to the interior, including a hole in the ceiling and debris on the ground. The exterior also has painted graffiti.¹⁸⁷

Pattern: Military activity: explosives, gunfire/light weaponry; reuse of ancient/historic structure; Vandalism; Theft.

Monitoring Recommendations and Mitigation Measures: ASOR CHI will attempt to gather further information on damage to the sites listed as damaged in this incident report, and will continue to monitor heritage sites in regions subject to ongoing aerial bombardment campaigns and intense military activity.

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¹⁸⁶ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2151>

¹⁸⁷ <http://dgam.gov.sy/?d=314&id=2151>

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al-Arbaeen Mosque (مسجد الاربعين)



Damage to the interior of al-Arbaeen Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Light damage seen to an entrance to al-Arbaeen Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)

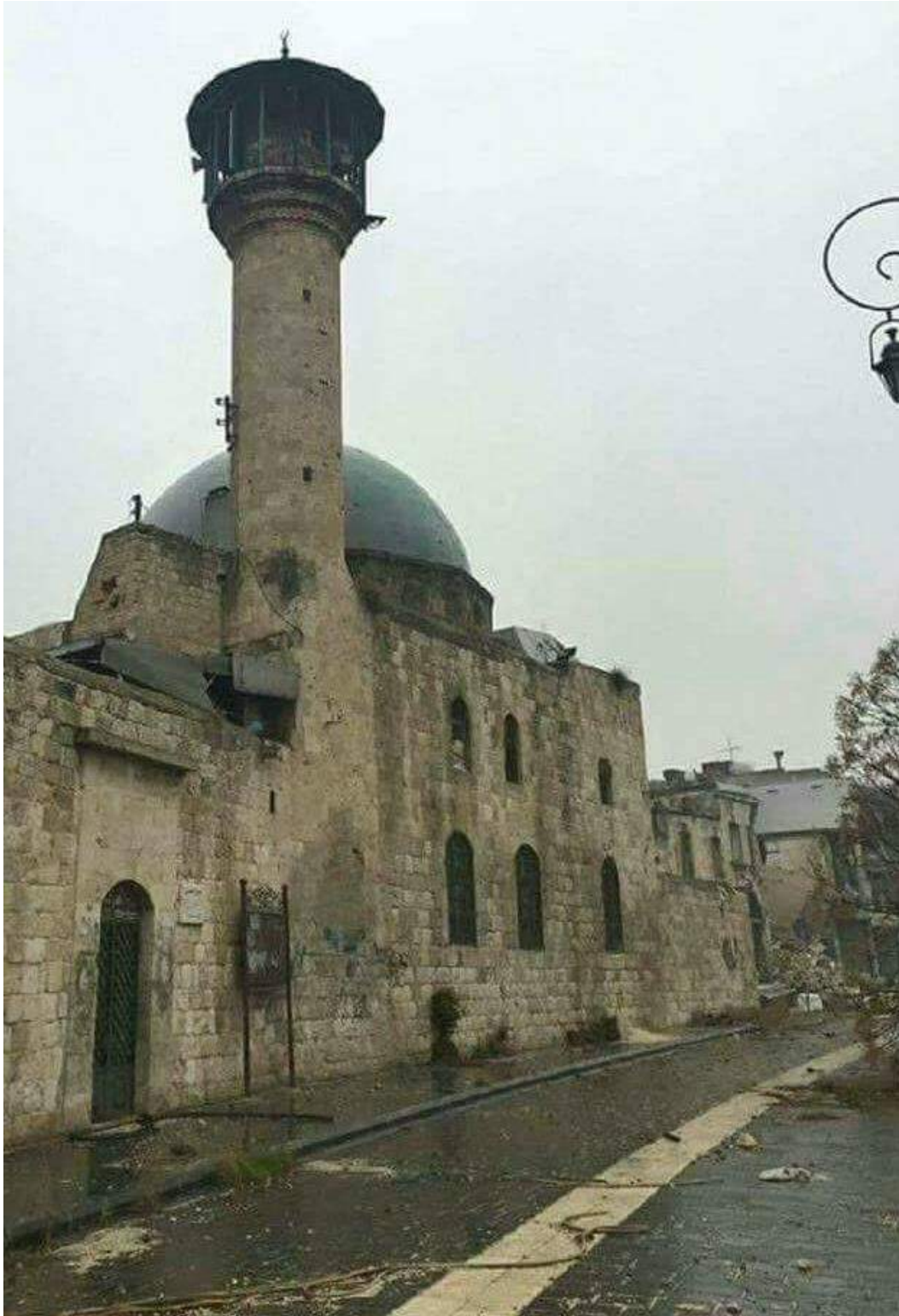


What is reported to be a disturbed grave at al-Arbaeen Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



What is reported to be a disturbed grave at al-Arbaeen Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

al-Hamwi Mosque

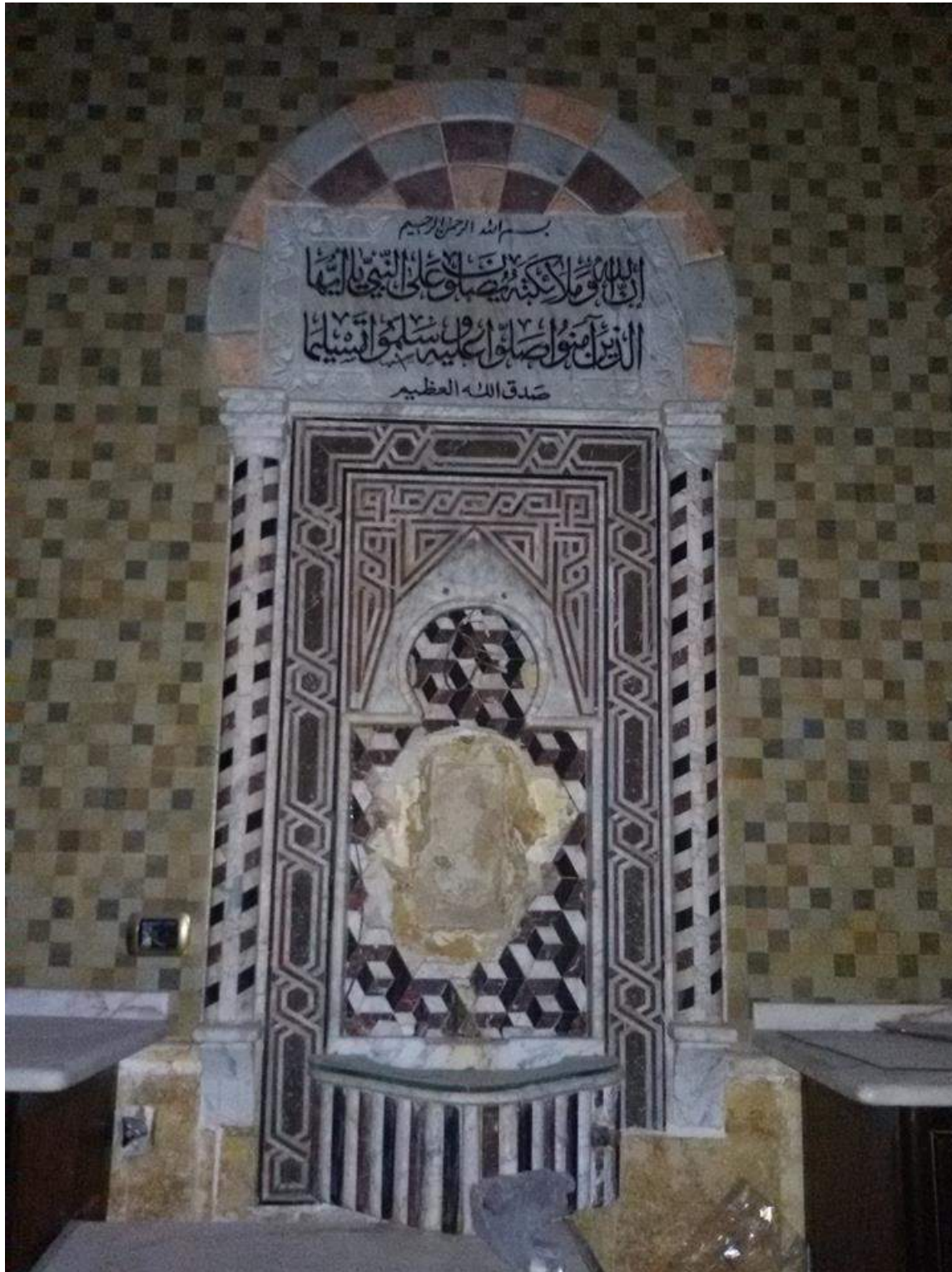


al-Hamwi Mosque with rubble seen in the foreground. (Aleppo Archaeology; December 17, 2016)



Al Hamwi Mosque showing minimal damage (DGAM; December 24, 2016)

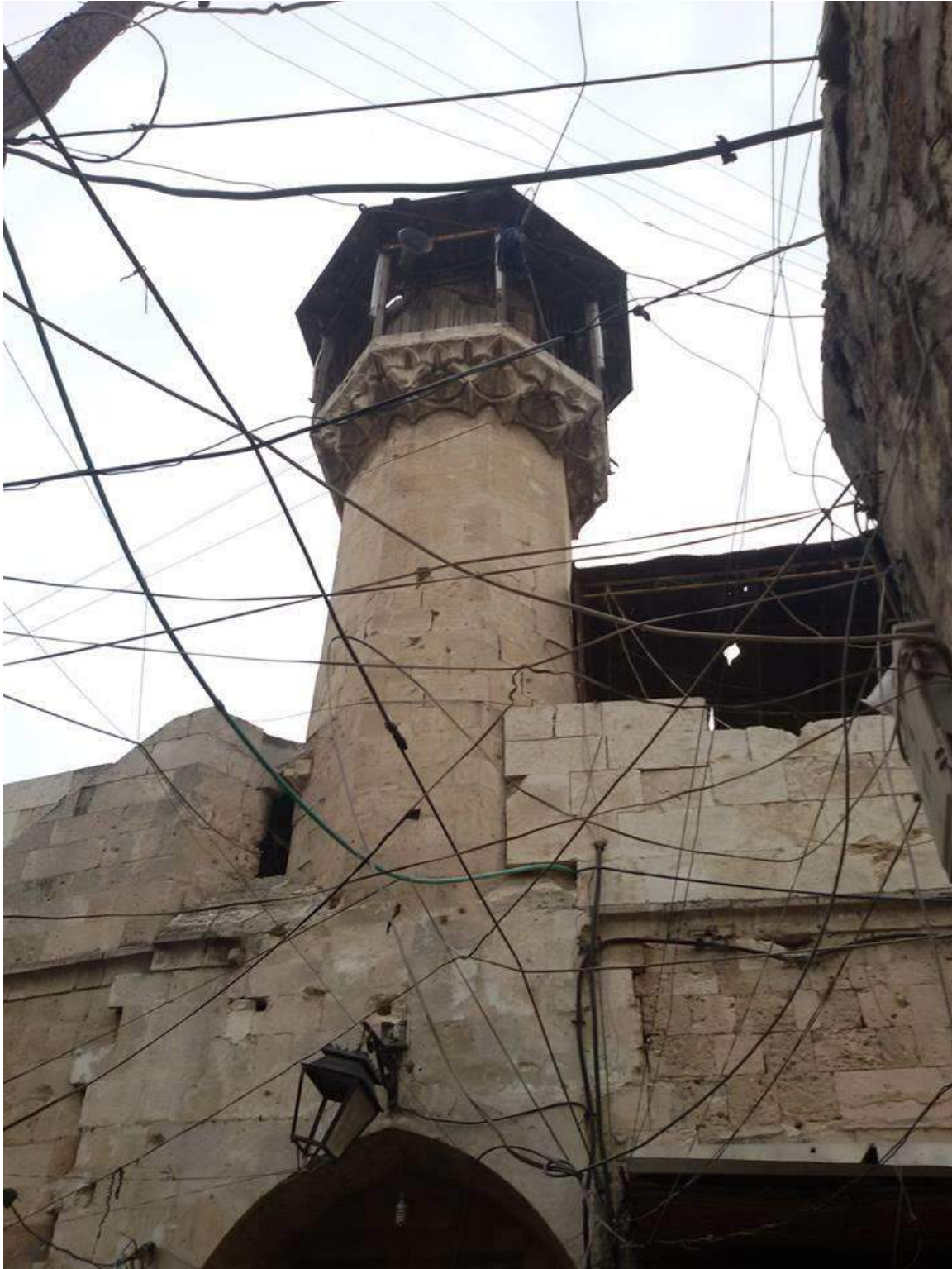
al-Karimiya Mosque



Evidence of theft inside al-Karamiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Minimal damage to al-Karamiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Light damage to the minaret and exterior of al-Karamiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Light damage to al-Karamiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Light damage to the interior of al-Karamiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)

al-Maidani Mosque



Extensive destruction of al-Maidani Mosque Minaret (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2017)



Extensive destruction of al-Maidani Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2017)



Extensive destruction inside al-Maidani Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2017)



The extensive destruction of al-Maidani Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2017)



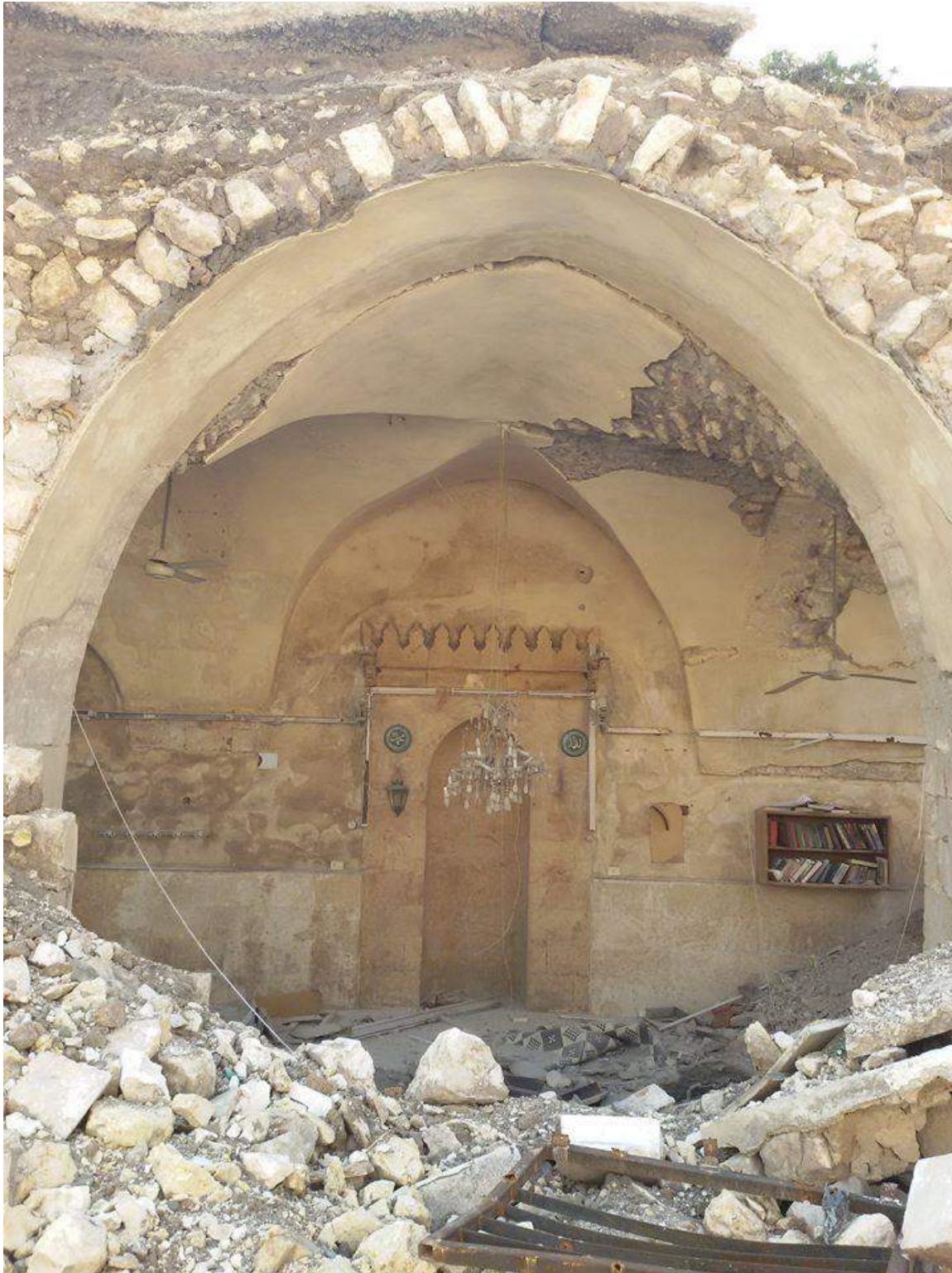
Extensive destruction of al-Maidani Mosque minaret (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2017)



The extensive destruction of al-Maidani Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2017)



Extensive damage, including a collapsed roof, at al-Maidani Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2017)



Extensive damage, including collapse of the structure, at al-Maidani Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2017)



Extensive damage and rubble at al-Maidani Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2017)



Extensive destruction of al-Maidani Mosque (DGAM; December 24, 2016)

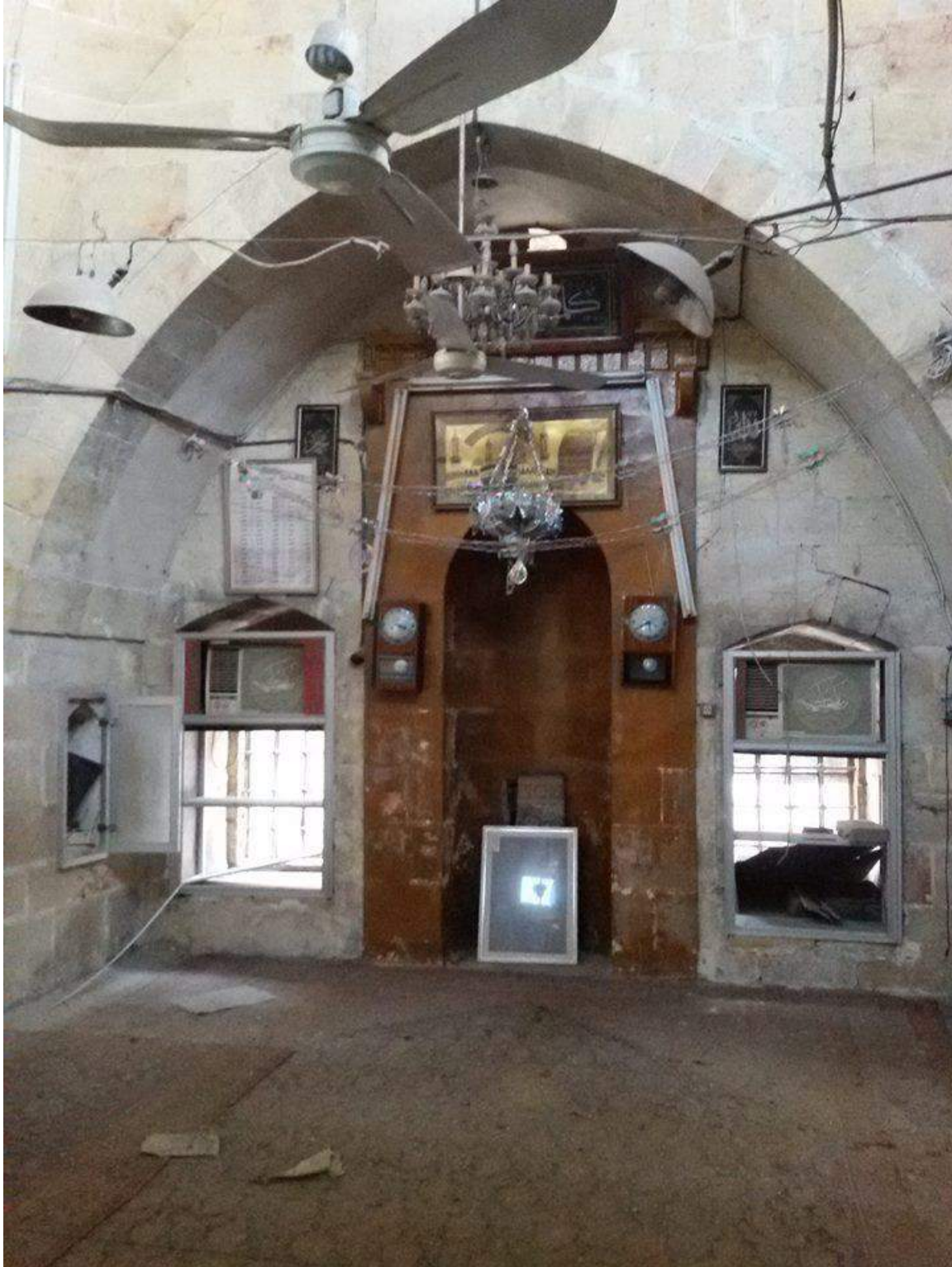


The extensive destruction of al-Maidani Mosque (DGAM; December 24, 2016)

al-Mustadamiya Mosque



Minimal damage to the exterior of al-Mustadamiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 20, 2016)



Minimal damage to the interior of al-Mustadamiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 20, 2016)



Minimal damage to the exterior of al-Mustadamiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 20, 2016)



Minimal damage to the interior and minbar of al-Mustadamiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 20, 2016)

al-Shibani Church and School



Explosives damage to al-Shibani Church and School (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Explosives and fire damage to al-Shibani Church and School (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Minor damage, including presence of rubble, at al-Shibani Church and School (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Explosives damage at al-Shibani Church and School (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)

al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa



Extensive damage to al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



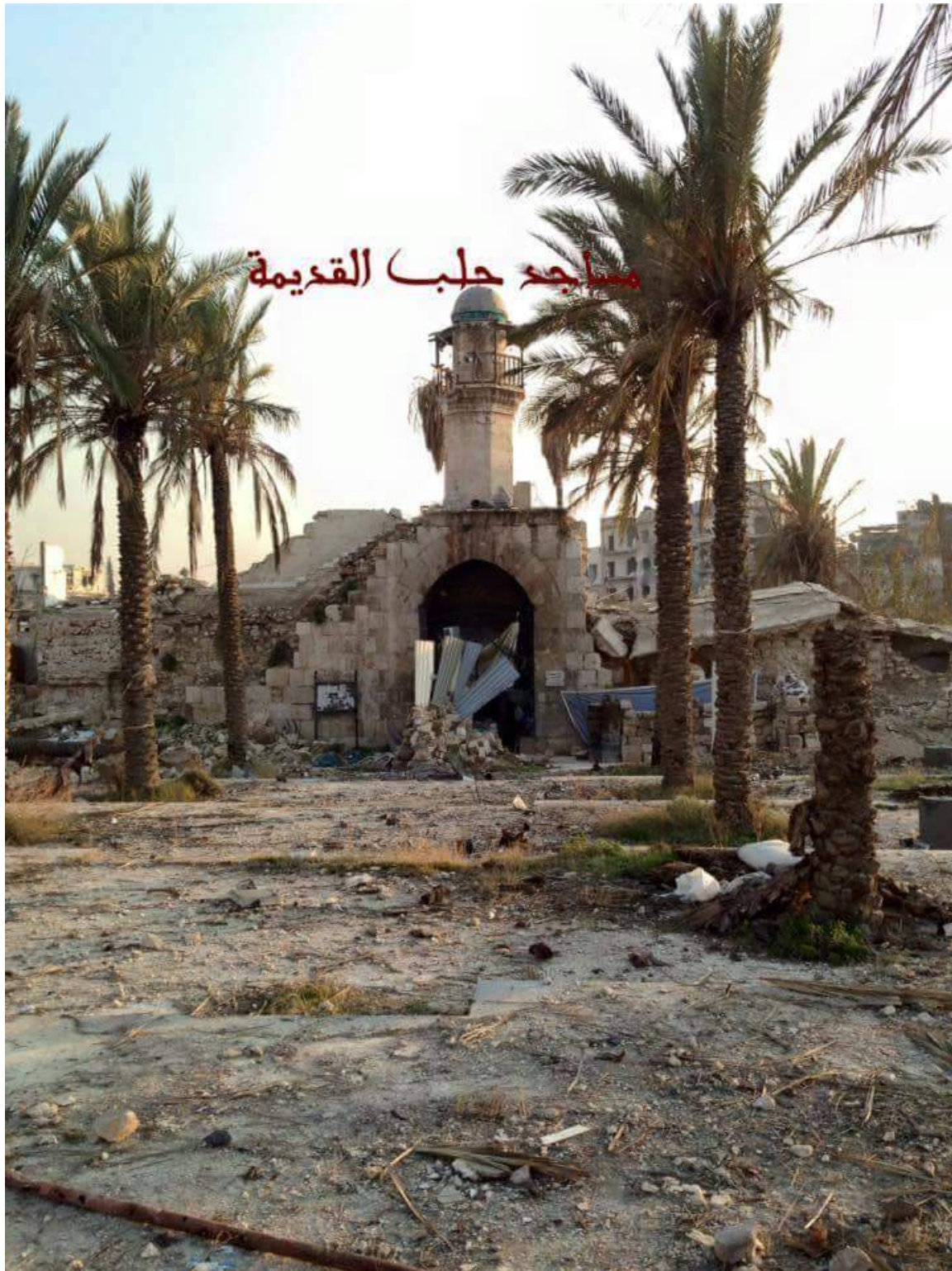
Extensive damage to al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Moderate damage to al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Moderate damage to al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Damage seen to al-Sultaniyah Mosque and Madrasa (Aleppo Archaeology; December 24, 2016)

مسجد الطرسوسي (al-Tarsusi Mosque)



The exterior of al-Tarsusi Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Damage in the courtyard of al-Tarsusi Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Minimal damage to one side of al-Tarsusi Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Possible explosives damage to the dome of al-Tarsusi Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)

al-Zahrawi School

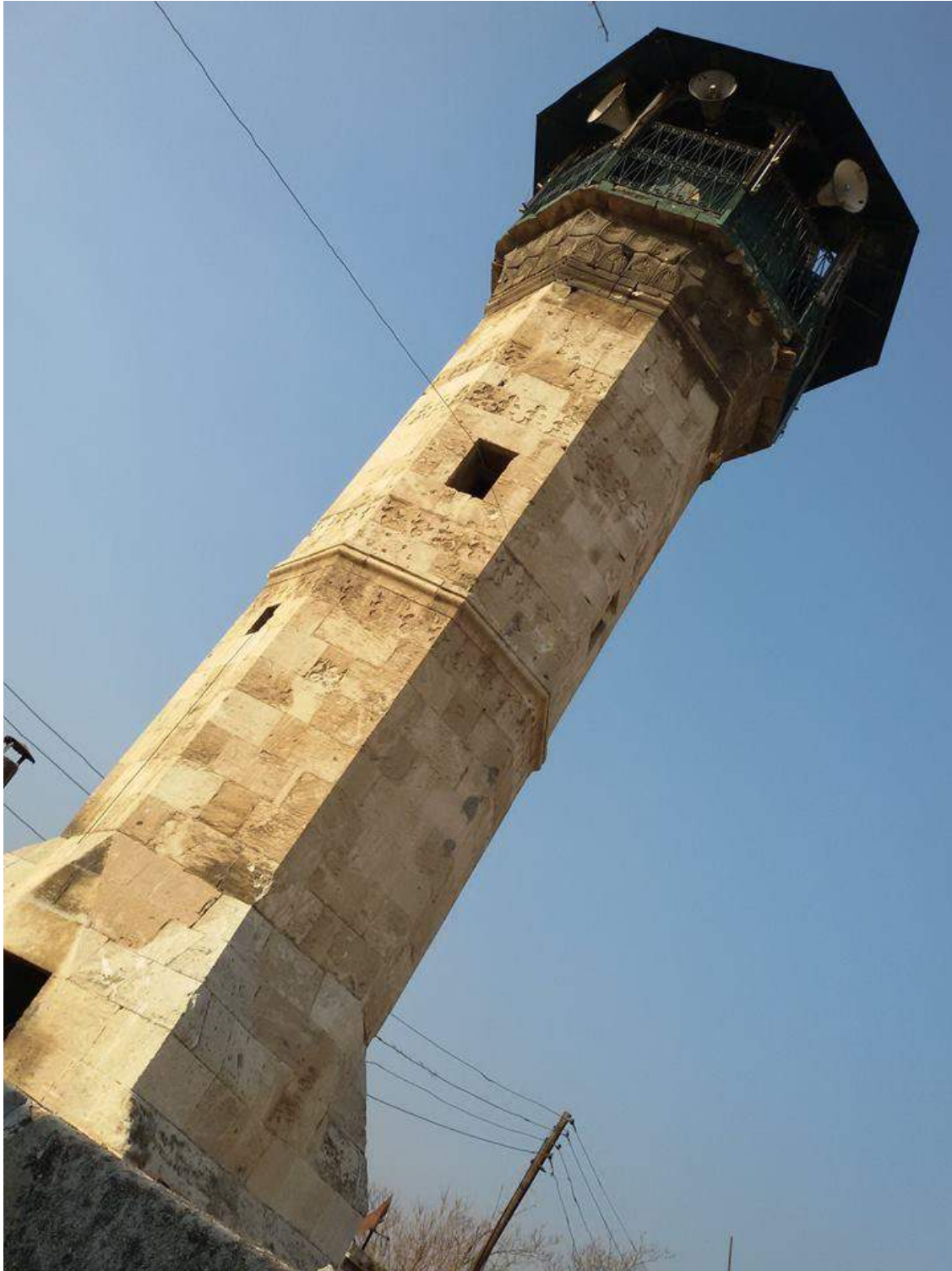


Collapse of the exterior wall of al-Zahrawi School (DGAM; December 25, 2016)



Damage to the exterior wall of al-Zahrawi School (DGAM; December 25, 2016)

al-Zaki Mosque (جامع الزكي)



al-Zaki Mosque minaret showing minimal damage (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Placard detailing the history of al-Zaki Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Light damage seen to the dome of al-Zaki Mosque and partial view of collapsed facade of outer wall (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

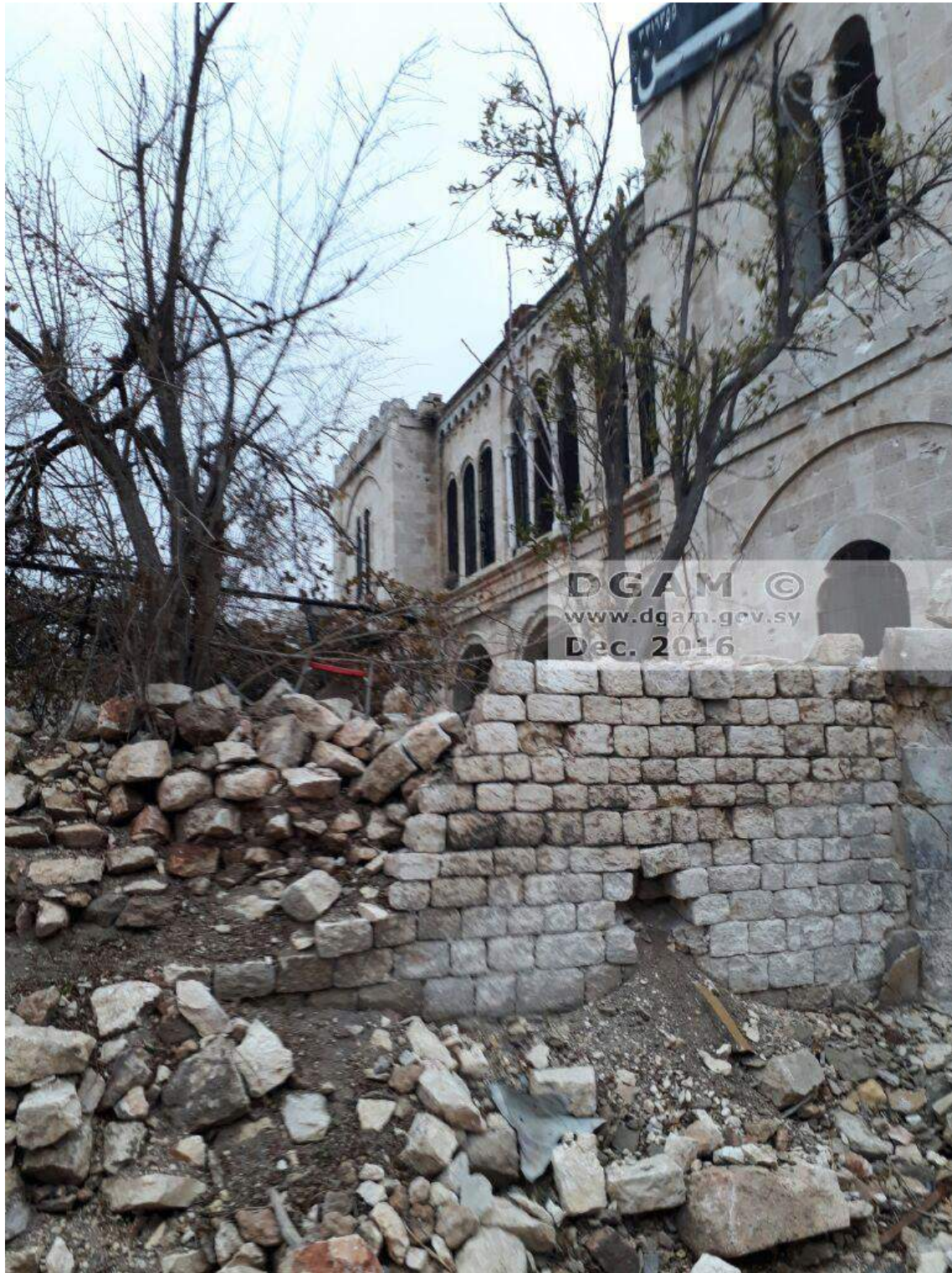


The collapsed facade of outer wall at al-Zaki Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Light damage to inscription at al-Zaki Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

Assma Bent Abo Bakr School



Minor damage to the exterior wall around Assma Bent Abo Bakr School (DGAM; December 25, 2016)



Exterior damage seen to Assma Bent Abo Bakr School (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

Bandara Synagogue (كنيس البندره)



Trash and debris surrounding Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



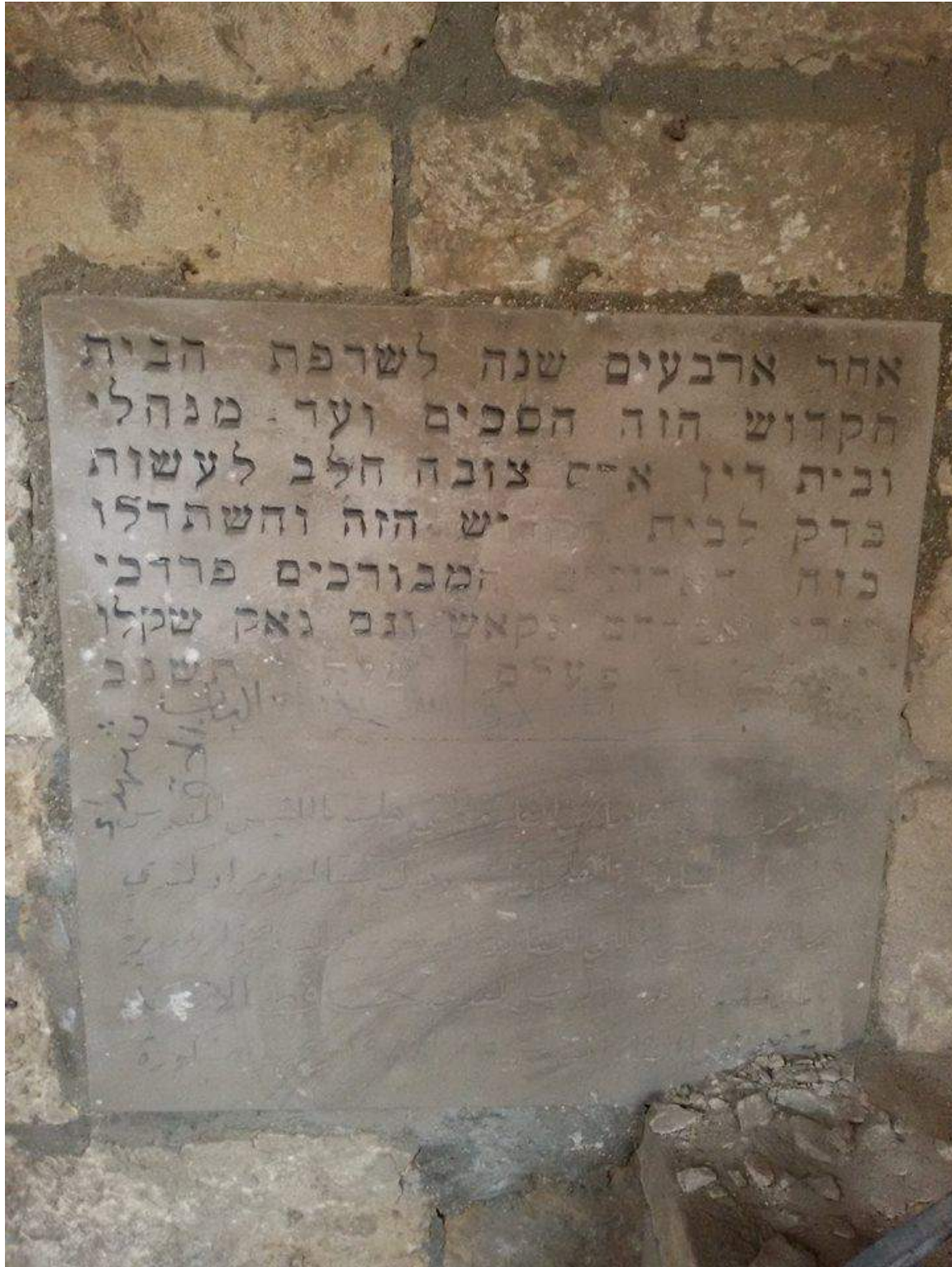
Detail of damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Detail of damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



A fallen religious piece at Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Broken religious objects at Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to and overgrowth of vegetation at Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



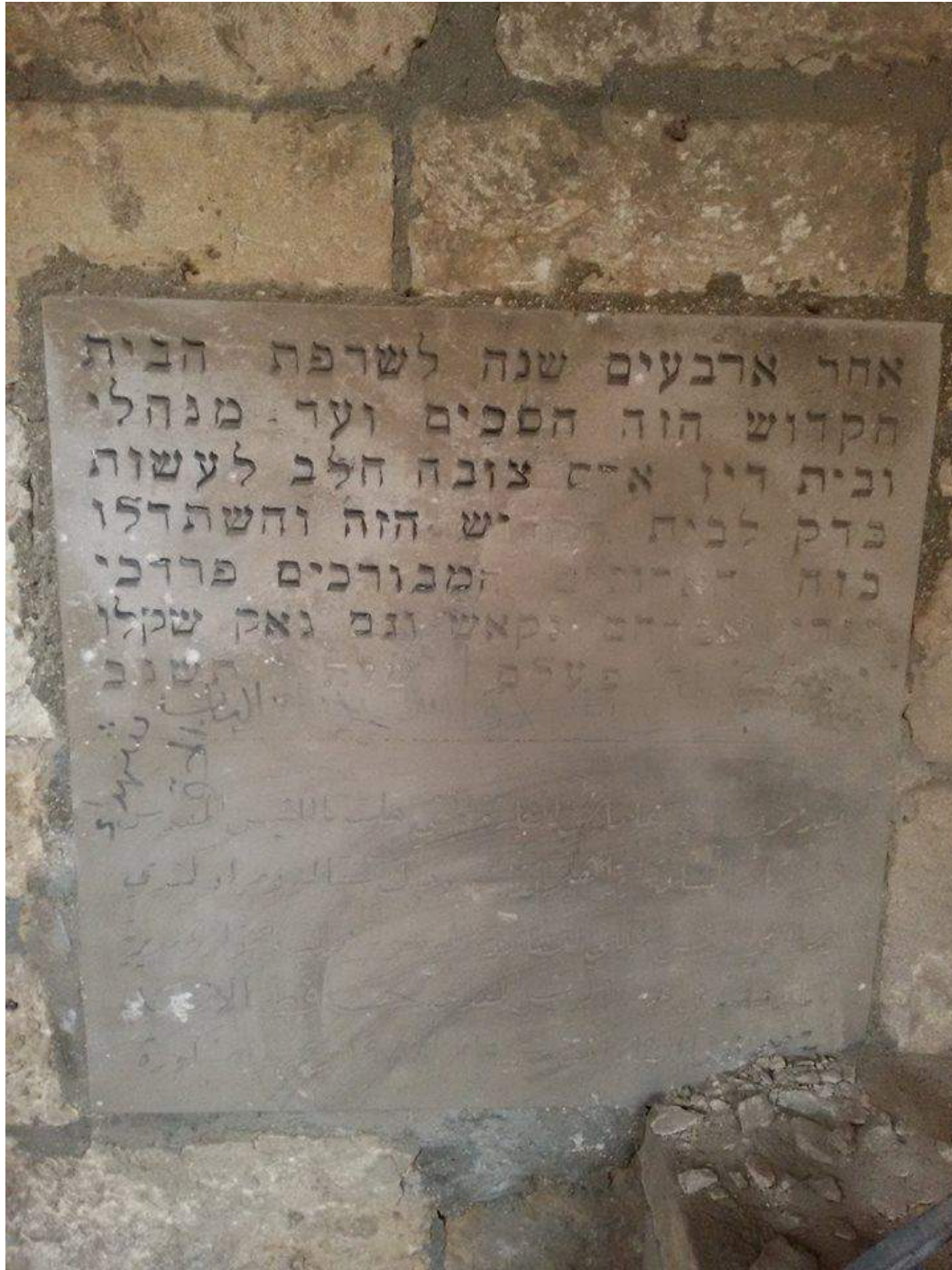
Damage to and overgrowth of vegetation at Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage, including broken religious pieces and overgrowth of vegetation, at Bandarā Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Overgrowth of vegetation at Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to religious objects at Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Commemorative plaque, undamaged, at Bandara Synagogue (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

Banqusa Mosque



Damage to Banqusa Mosque (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage to Banqusa Mosque (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage and rubble present at Banqusa Mosque (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (Museum of Medicine and Science)



Moderate damage, including graffiti, to Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Moderate damage, including graffiti, to Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Damage and refuse present at Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Damage and refuse present at Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Moderate damage and overgrowth of vegetation at Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Damage and overgrowth of vegetation at Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Damage, including possible fire damage, at Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Damage and debris present at Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Structural damage to ceiling of Bimaristan Arghun al-Kamili (DGAM; December 31, 2016)

Bimaristan Nur al-Din (Maristan al-Nuri)



Possible explosives damage to Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Some debris at Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Minor damage to Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Moderate damage at Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Minor damage to Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Moderate damage and debris present at Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Damage and debris at Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Damage and debris seen at Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Damage and debris at Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)



Damage to Bimaristan Nur al-Din (DGAM; December 31, 2016)

Mosque Dabbagha al-'Atiqa



Damage to Mosque Dabbagha al-'Atiqa (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to Mosque Dabbagha al-'Atiqah and visible damage to the minaret (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

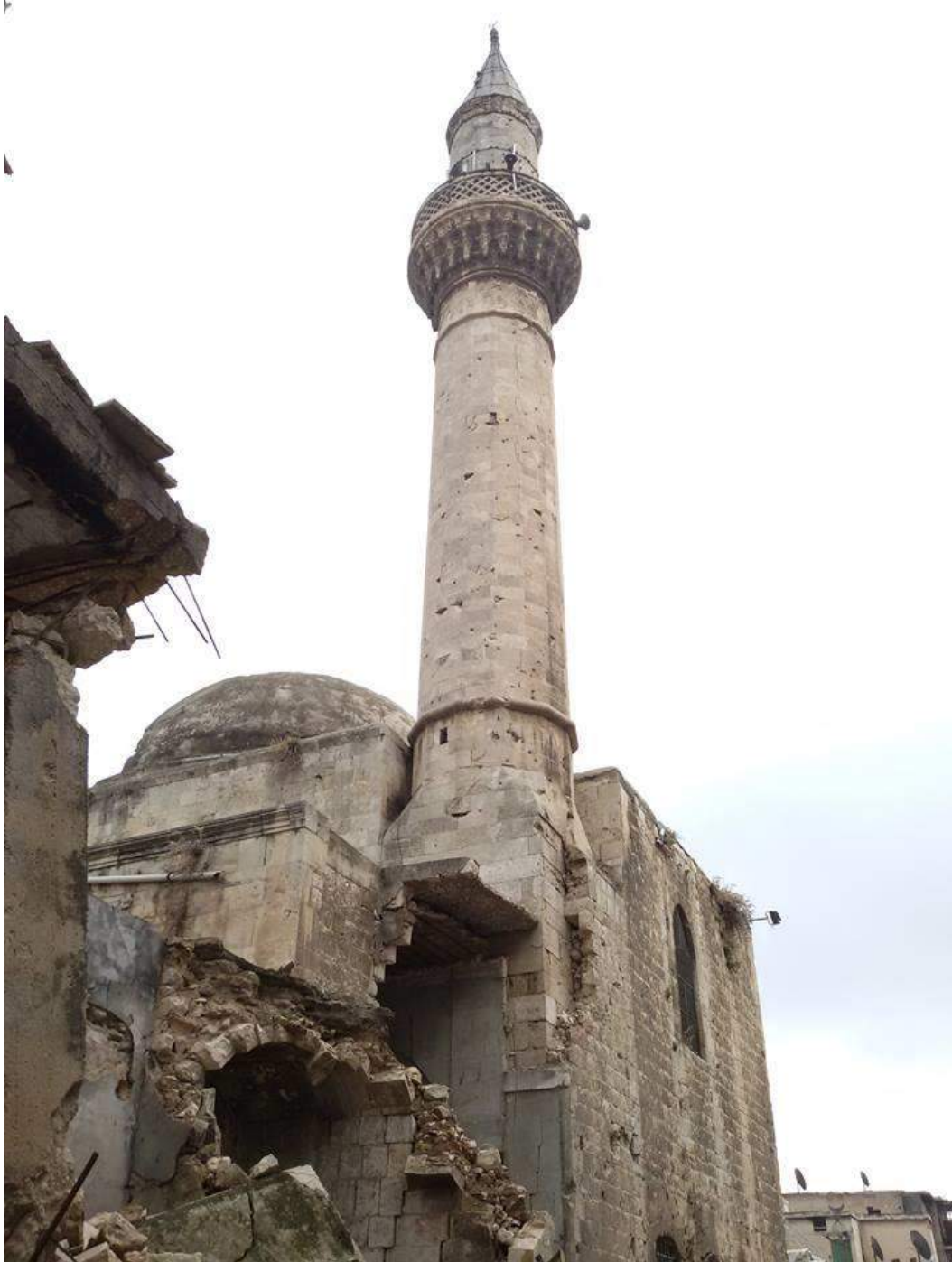


Damage to the mihrab at Dabbagha al-'Atiqa Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Detail of damage to Mosque Dabbagha al-'Atiqa (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

Hajj Musa Amiri Mosque



Extensive damage seen to Hajj Musa al-Amiri Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



The collapse of the dome at Hajj Musa al-Amiri Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage seen to the interior of Hajj Musa al-Amiri Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to the interior of Hajj Musa al-Amiri Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

Jabri School



Structural damage to Jabri School (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Structural damage to Jabri School (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Madrasa al-Sharafiya



Extensive damage to Madrasa al-Sharafiya (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

Madrasa Halawiya



Damage to Madrasa Halawiya (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to Madrasa Halawiya (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

Madrasa Khusruwiye



Extensive damage to Madrasa Khusruwiye (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Extensive damage to Madrasa Khusruwiye (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Extensive damage to Madrasa Khusruwiye (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Extensive damage to Madrasa Khusruwiye (DGAM; December 28, 2016)

Madrasa Turuntaiya



Light damage to the west portal of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



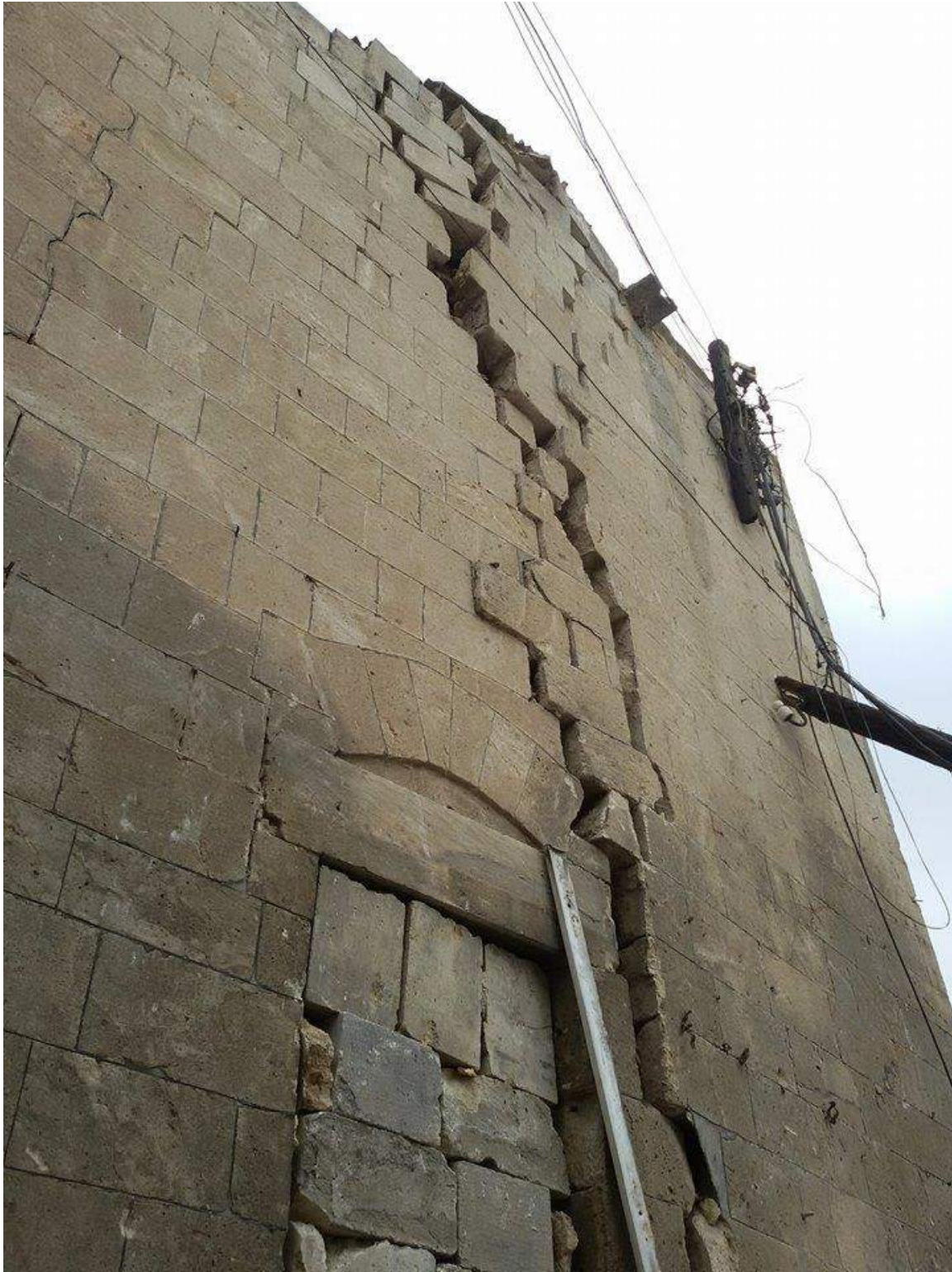
Light damage to the west portal of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



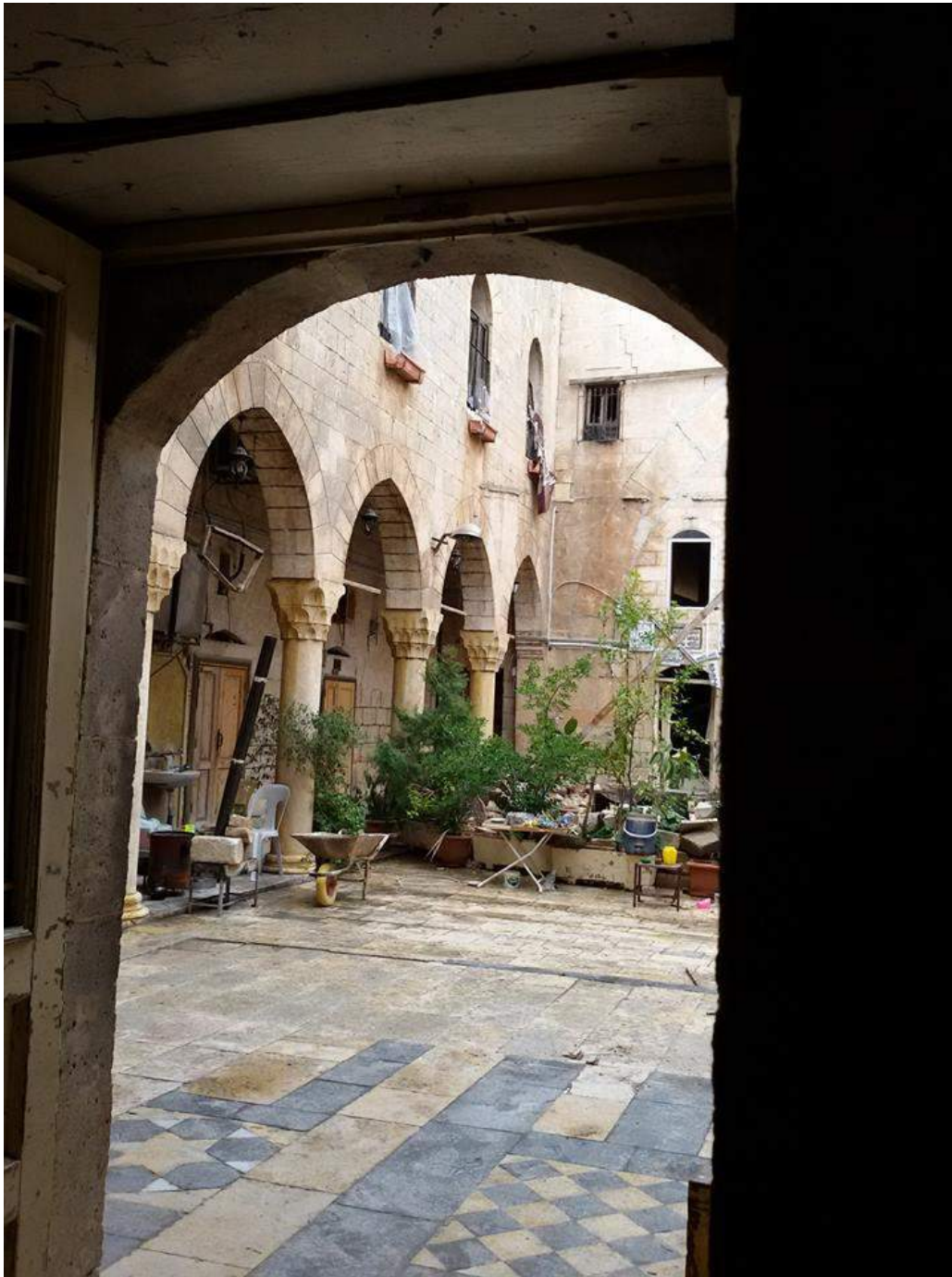
The south portal, largely undamaged, at Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



A crack in the facade of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



Damage and articles inside the courtyard of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



Damage and articles inside the courtyard of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



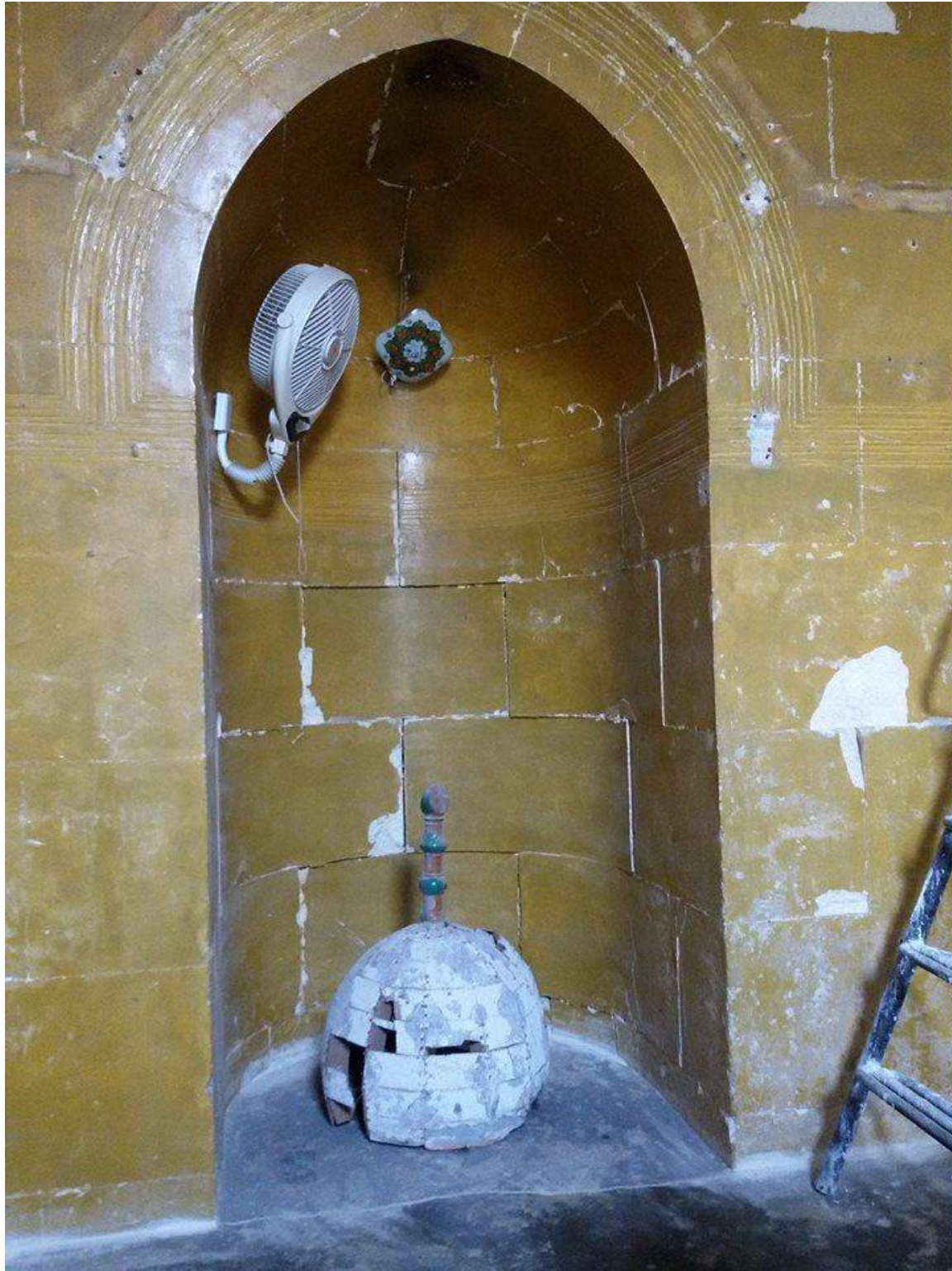
Cleanup efforts inside the Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



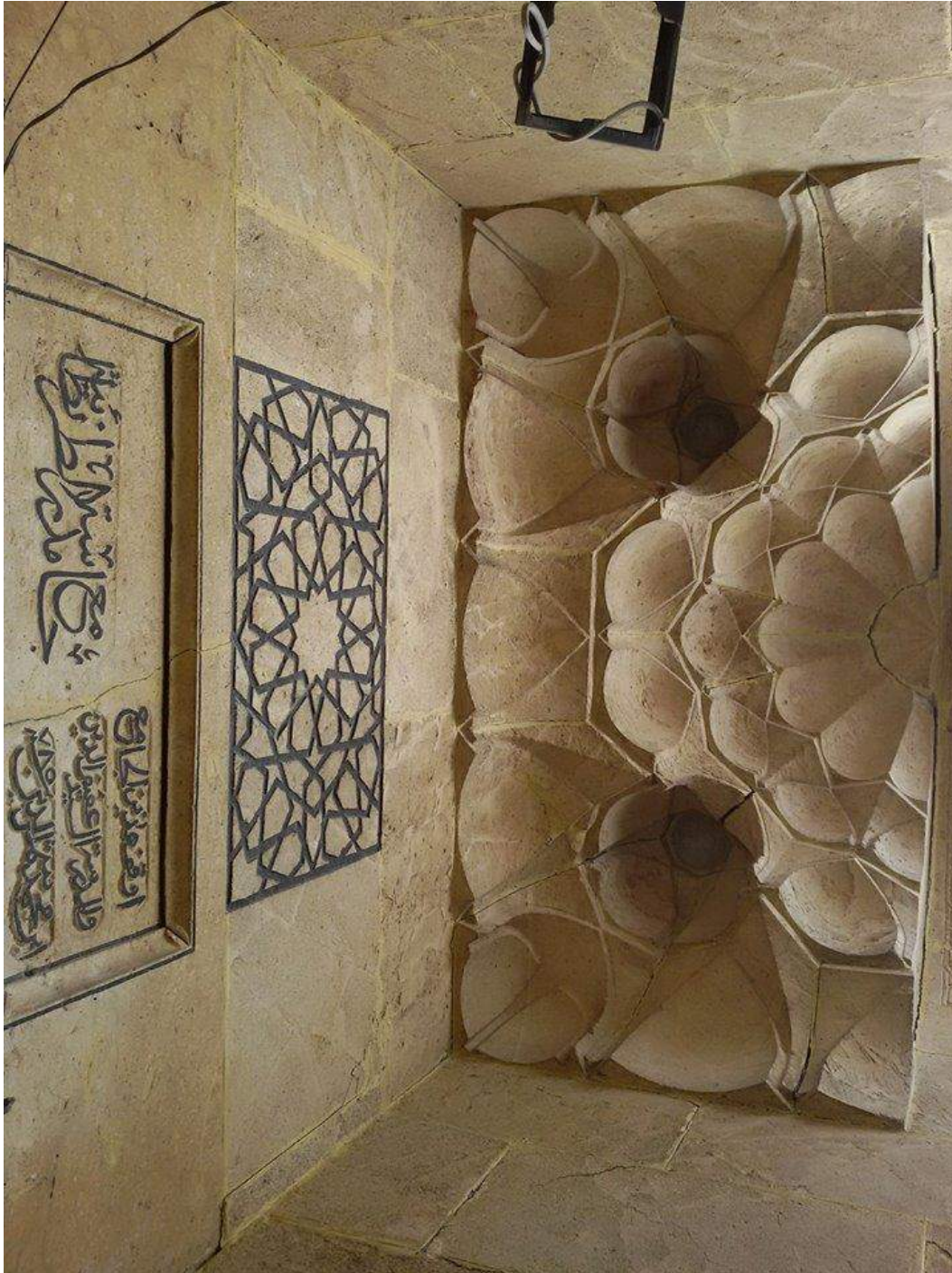
Another view of the interior courtyard of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



Another view of the interior courtyard of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



A damaged religious article inside Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



A view of a largely undamaged vault inside Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



Possible light damage to the dome of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



Light damage, with possible support beams, in the courtyard of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



An undamaged washroom inside Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Mosque and Madrasa Turuntaiya (Private Facebook Account; December 22, 2016)

Mosque and Madrasa Uthmaniya (جامع العثمانية)



Overgrowth inside the Uthmaniya Mosque cemetery (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to a gravesite inside the cemetery of Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Overgrowth inside the Uthmaniya Mosque cemetery (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to graves and overgrowth inside the Uthmaniya Mosque cemetery (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Overgrowth inside the Uthmaniya Mosque cemetery (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to a headstone inside Uthmaniya Mosque Cemetery (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage and the presence of trash inside al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



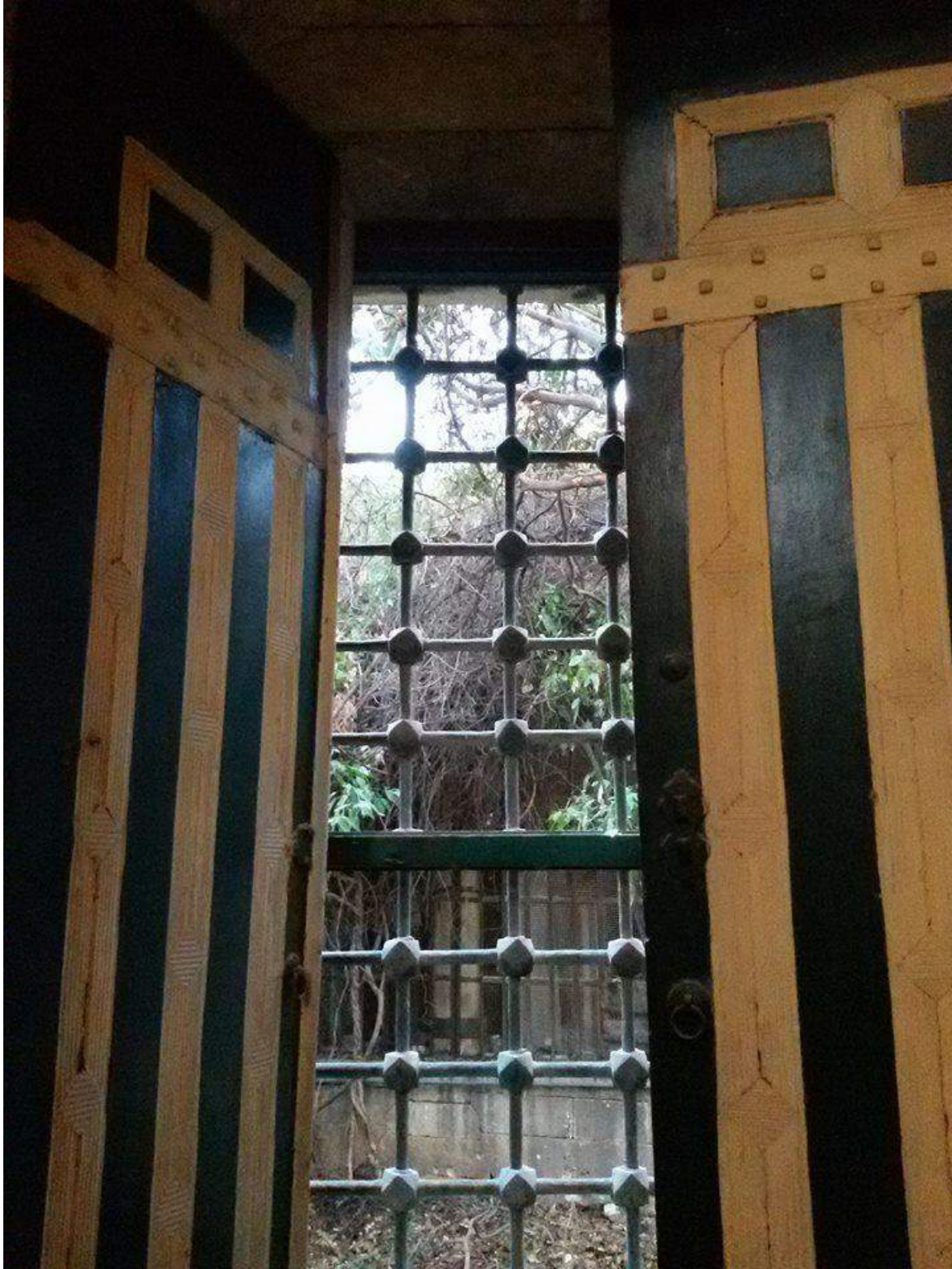
What appears to be a missing dome inside al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



The condition of al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



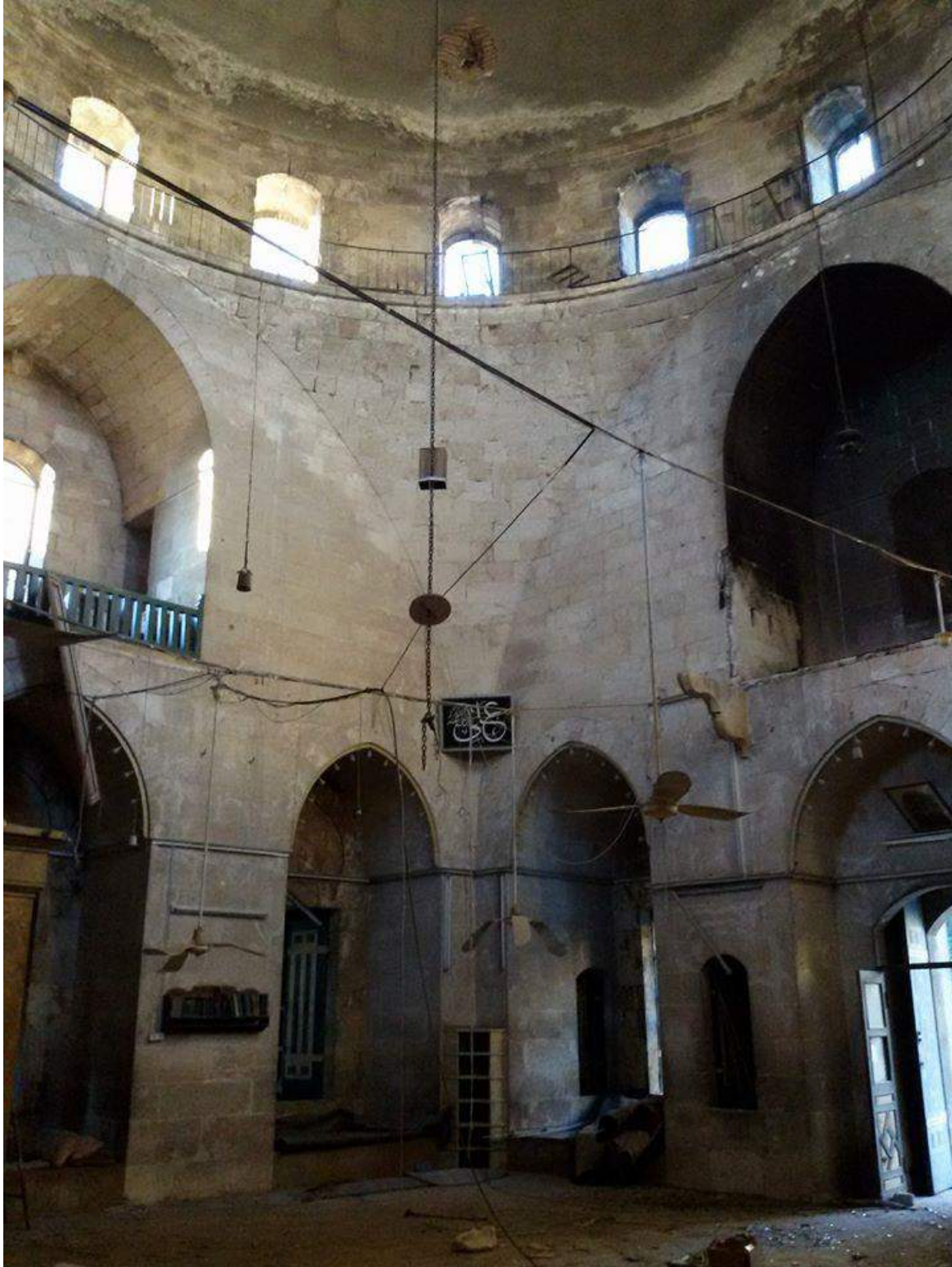
Overgrowth inside the Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



A view inside the courtyard or cemetery of al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to the interior of al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to the interior of al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



The largely undamaged mihrab and minbar of al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



The largely undamaged mihrab and minbar of al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to the courtyard of al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Broken doors seen at al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



An overview of the damage to al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



An overview of the damage to al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



A view of the Citadel from al-Uthmaniya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)

Matbakh al-Ajami



Damage to the area around the Matbakh al-Ajami (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

Adliyah Mosque



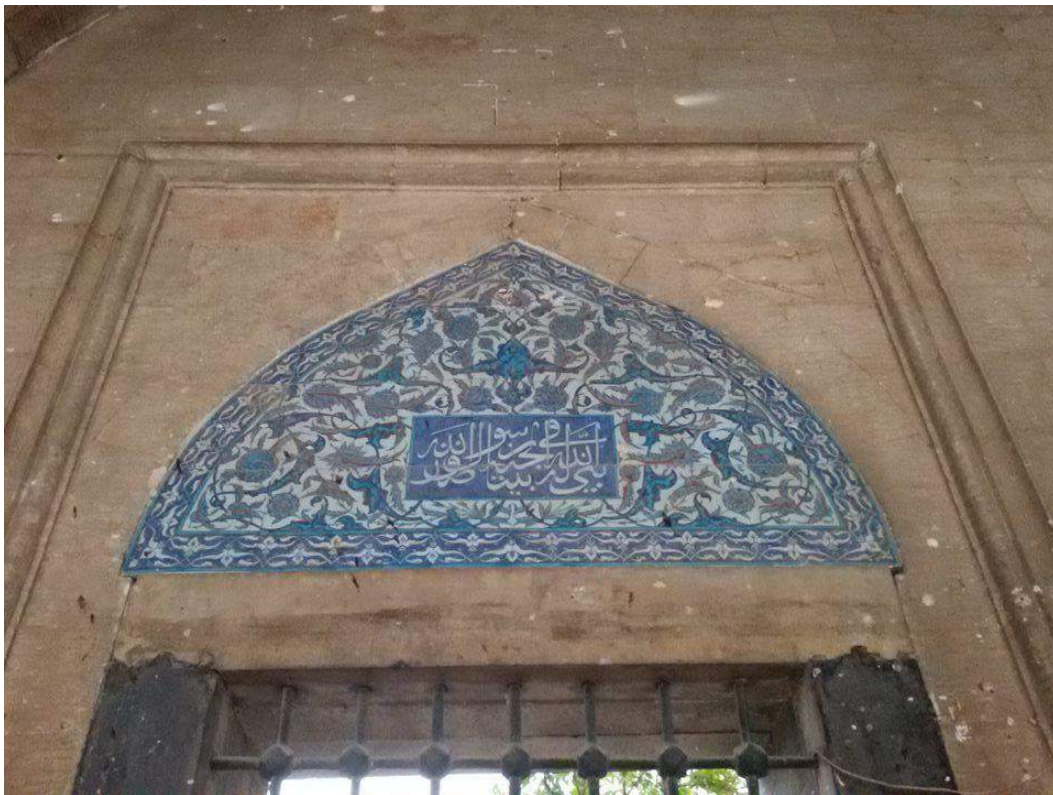
Damage, including a collapsed dome and damage to the courtyard of Adliyah Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Structural damage to the roof, dome, and debris in the courtyard of Adliyah Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage and debris at the courtyard of Adliyah Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Light damage to Adliyah Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to the dome of the Adliyah Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Detail remains intact inside the Adliyah Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Structural damage seen to Adliyah Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

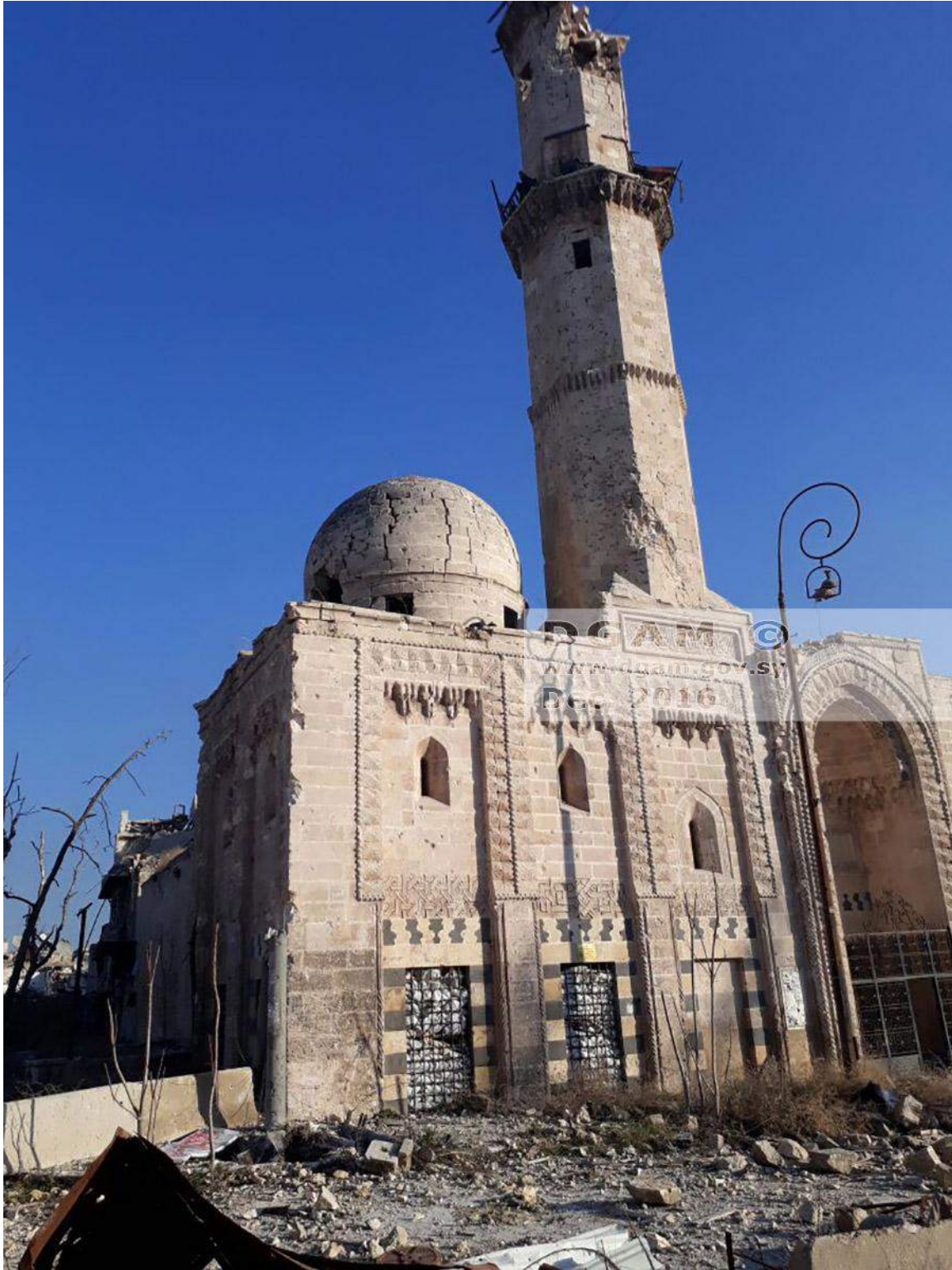


Structural damage to Adliyah Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage seen at Adliyah Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

Mosque Outroush



Damage to the exterior of Mosque Outroush, including damage to the minaret and dome, rubble or sandbags are piled up against windows in the mosque (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage seen to Mosque Ouroush (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Mosque Altunbugha



The minaret of Altunbugha Mosque (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Light damage seen to Altunbugha Mosque (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Mosque Sanklar (جامع سنكلر)



Explosives inside Sanklar Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Explosives inside Sanklar Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)

Mosque Suq Attarin



Damage to the interior of Mosque Suq Attarin (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

Noor al-Dein Mosque

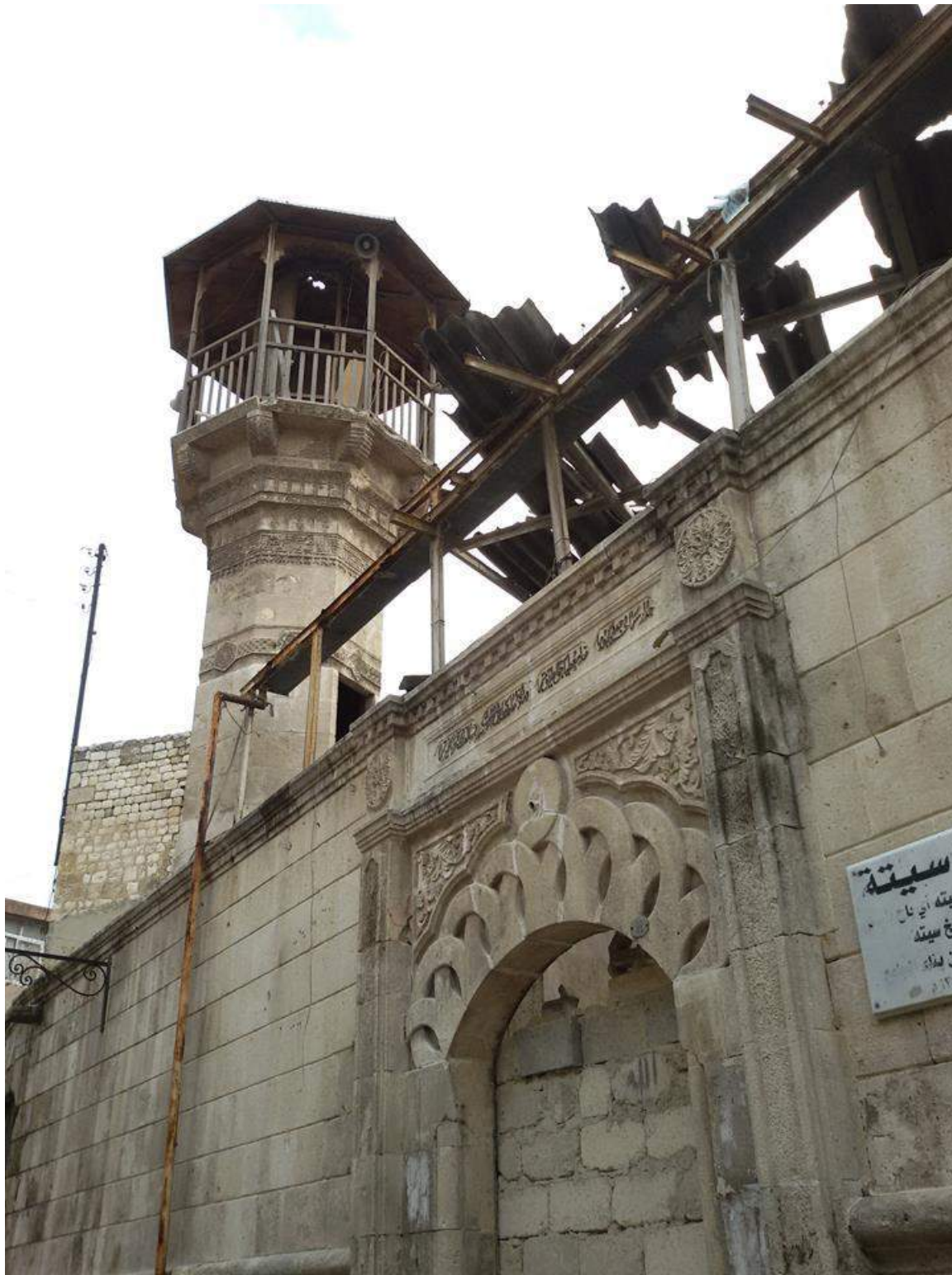


The destruction of Noor al-Dein Mosque (DGAM; December 25, 2016)



The destruction of Noor al-Dein Mosque (DGAM; December 25, 2016)

Omari Mosque



al-Omari Mosque, damage is seen to the roof and cinderblocks obstruct of an entrance is present. (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to the interior of al-Omari Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to the interior of al-Omari Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Detail of the interior of al-Omari Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to the interior of al-Omari Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Light damage to al-Omari Mosque, including overgrowth (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Light damage to al-Omari Mosque, including overgrowth (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



The entrance to al-Omari Mosque, showing overgrowth and damage in the courtyard as well as evidence of bullet holes in the facade (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

Qarleq Mosque



Light damage to Qarleq Mosque (DGAM; December 25, 2016)

Rumi Mosque



Extensive structural damage to Rumi Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

Saffahiya Mosque



Damage and overgrowth at Saffahiya Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 20, 2016)



Saffahiya Mosque, makeshift electrical wiring is seen (Private Facebook Account; December 20, 2016)

Sayedna Hamza Mosque



Light damage and graffiti present at Sayedna Hamza Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Light damage to Sayedna Hamza Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)

Sharaf Mosque (جامع شرف)

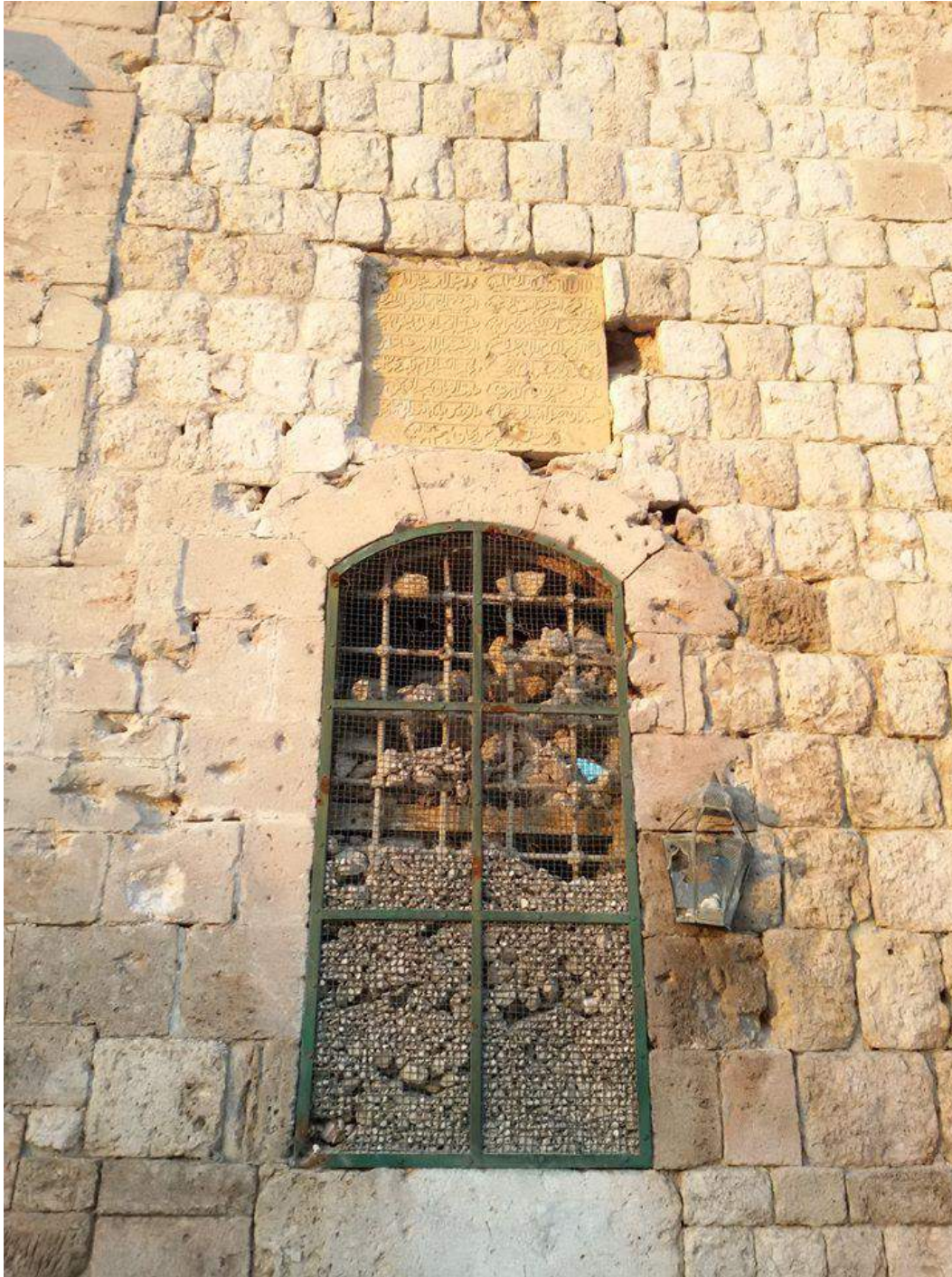


Extensive damage to Sharaf Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Extensive damage to Sharaf Mosque (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)

Takkiya Nasimi (Hospice Nasimi)



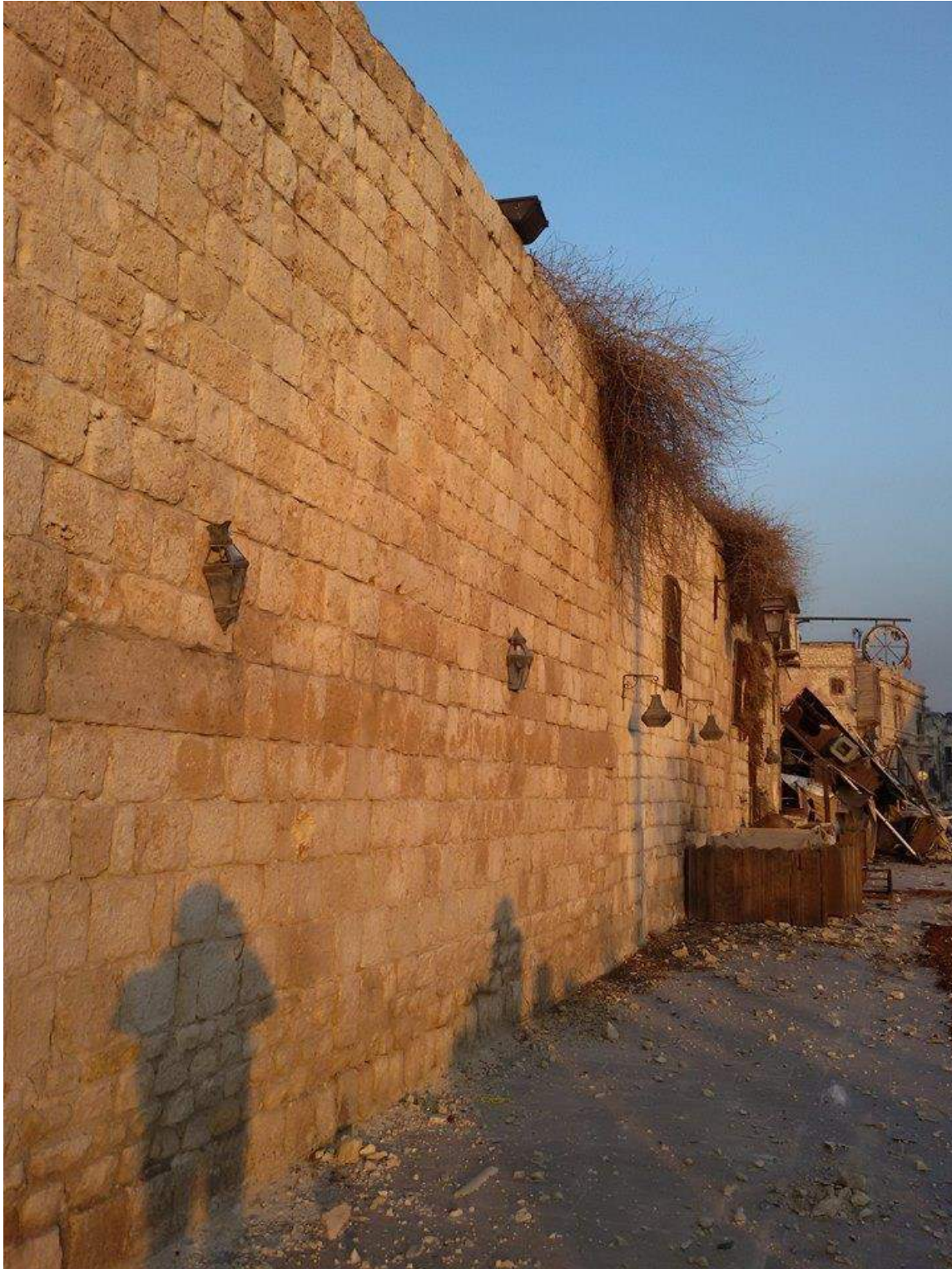
Possible evidence of damage, rubble inside Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Vegetation overgrowth at Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to the placarde and door of Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Overgrowth and moderate damage to Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Evidence of explosives damage and or tunneling/militarization of Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage seen outside Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Material damage at Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Light damage at Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Material damage seen at Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Material damage seen to Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Material damage to Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Material damage at Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Material damage to Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Material damage to Takkiya Nasimi (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

Umayyad Mosque



Damage seen inside the al-Umayyad Mosque (Aleppo Archaeology; December 18, 2016)



Remnants of an explosive inside the al-Umayyad Mosque (Aleppo Archaeology; December 16, 2016)



Mizwaleh (DGAM; December 16, 2016)



Rubble from the collapsed minaret of the Umayyad Mosque (DGAM; December 16, 2016)



Damage to the interior of the Umayyad Mosque (Dimashq al-Aan; December 19, 2016)

Yassou'iya at Turab Ghuraba



Severe damage to the Yassou'iya (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to the grounds of the Yassou'iya (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Severe damage to the interior and courtyard of the Yassou'iyah (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

Aleppo Citadel



The exterior of the Aleppo Citadel (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to the Gate Tower (Dimashq al-Aan; December 19, 2016)



Damage to the entrance of the Citadel (DGAM; December 16, 2016)



DGAM ©
www.dgam.gov.sy
Dec. 2016

Damage within the Citadel (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

Aleppo Citadel Museum

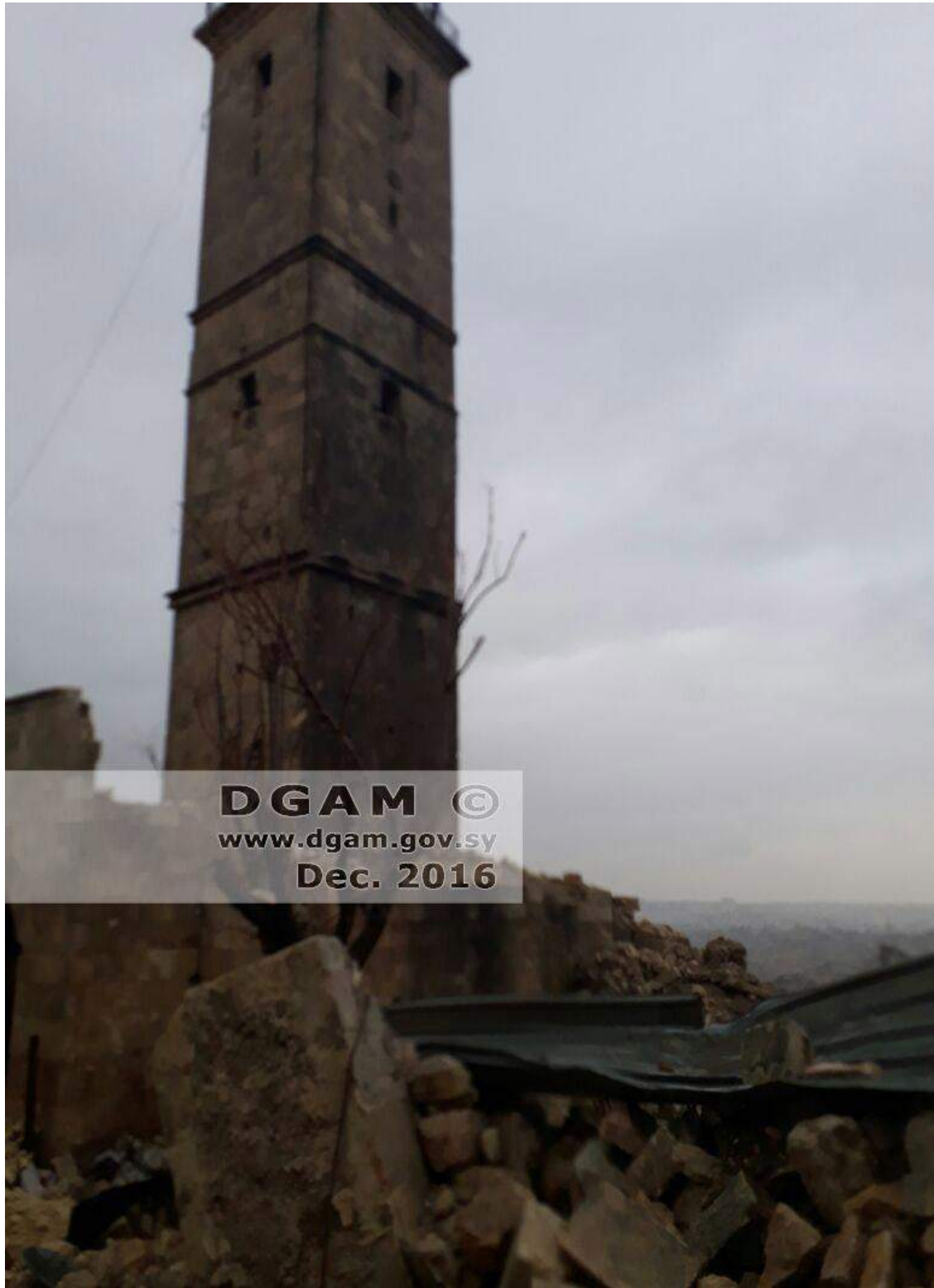


Collapse of the northwestern part of the museum of the citadel (DGAM; December 16, 2016)



Collapse of the northwestern part of the museum of the citadel (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

al-Kabir Mosque



Collapse just east of al-Kabir Minaret (DGAM; December 16, 2016)



Damage to the interior of al-Kabir Mosque (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

Mamluk Throne Hall



Damage to the interior of the Mamluk Throne Hall (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Damage to the interior of the Mamluk Throne Hall (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Damage to the interior of the Mamluk Throne Hall (DGAM; December 28, 2016)

Aala Tower and Walls



Damage to the ancient city wall and tower (DGAM; December 24, 2016)

Bab Antakya



DGAM ©
www.dgam.gov.sy
Dec. 2016

Smoke damage and shrapnel or gunfire damage to the Bab Antakya (DGAM; December 24, 2016)

Bab al-Hadid



Smoke and impact damage to Bab al-Hadid (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



DGAM ©
www.dgam.gov.sy
Dec. 2016

Smoke damage to the interior of Bab al-Hadid (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Impact damage and graffiti on the exterior of Bab al-Hadid (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Bab al-Nasr (باب النصر)



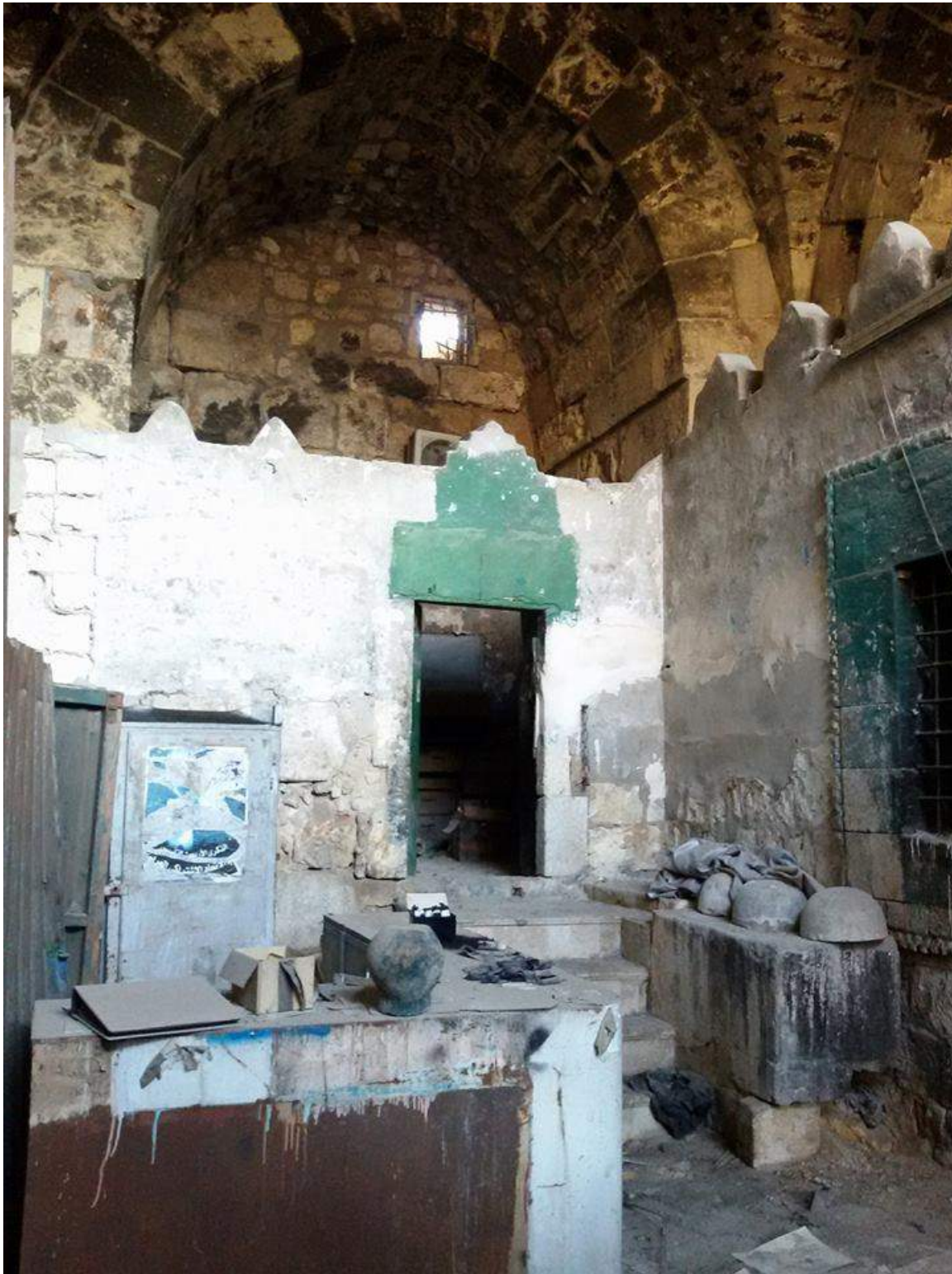
Fire and explosives damage to the Bab al-Nasr area (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to the Bab al-Nasr area (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to the Bab al-Nasr area (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to the Bab al-Nasr area, including military reuse of site (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)

Bab Qinnasrin



Smoke damage to the exterior of Bab Qinnasrin (DGAM; December 24, 2016)



Collapsed wall and smoke damage to the exterior of Bab Qinnasrin (DGAM; December 24, 2016)



Interior of the Bab Qinnasrin (DGAM; December 24, 2016)



Interior of the Bab Qinnasrin (DGAM; December 24, 2016)

Beit Ajaqbash



Damage to the Beit Ajaqbash (DGAM; December 22, 2016)



Severe damage to the Beit Ajaqbash and significant debris within the courtyard (DGAM; December 22, 2016)

Beit Ghazaleh



Severe damage to Beit Ghazaleh (DGAM; December 22, 2016)



Severe damage to Beit Ghazaleh (DGAM; December 22, 2016)



Severe damage to Beit Ghazaleh (DGAM; December 22, 2016)



Severe damage to Beit Ghazaleh (DGAM; December 22, 2016)

Coral Julia Dumna Hotel



Damage seen at Coral Julia Dumna Hotel (Reuters; December 17, 2016)

Carlton Hotel



Pro-regime forces stand with Syrian civilians on the rubble of the Carlton Hotel (Reuters; December 20, 2016)

Dar al-Iftaa



Damage to Dar al-Iftaa and sandbags blocking in the windows (DGAM; December 24, 2016)



Collapsed section of Dar al-Iftaa (DGAM; December 24, 2016)



Collapsed section of Dar al-Iftaa and debris scattered in the courtyard (DGAM; December 24, 2016)

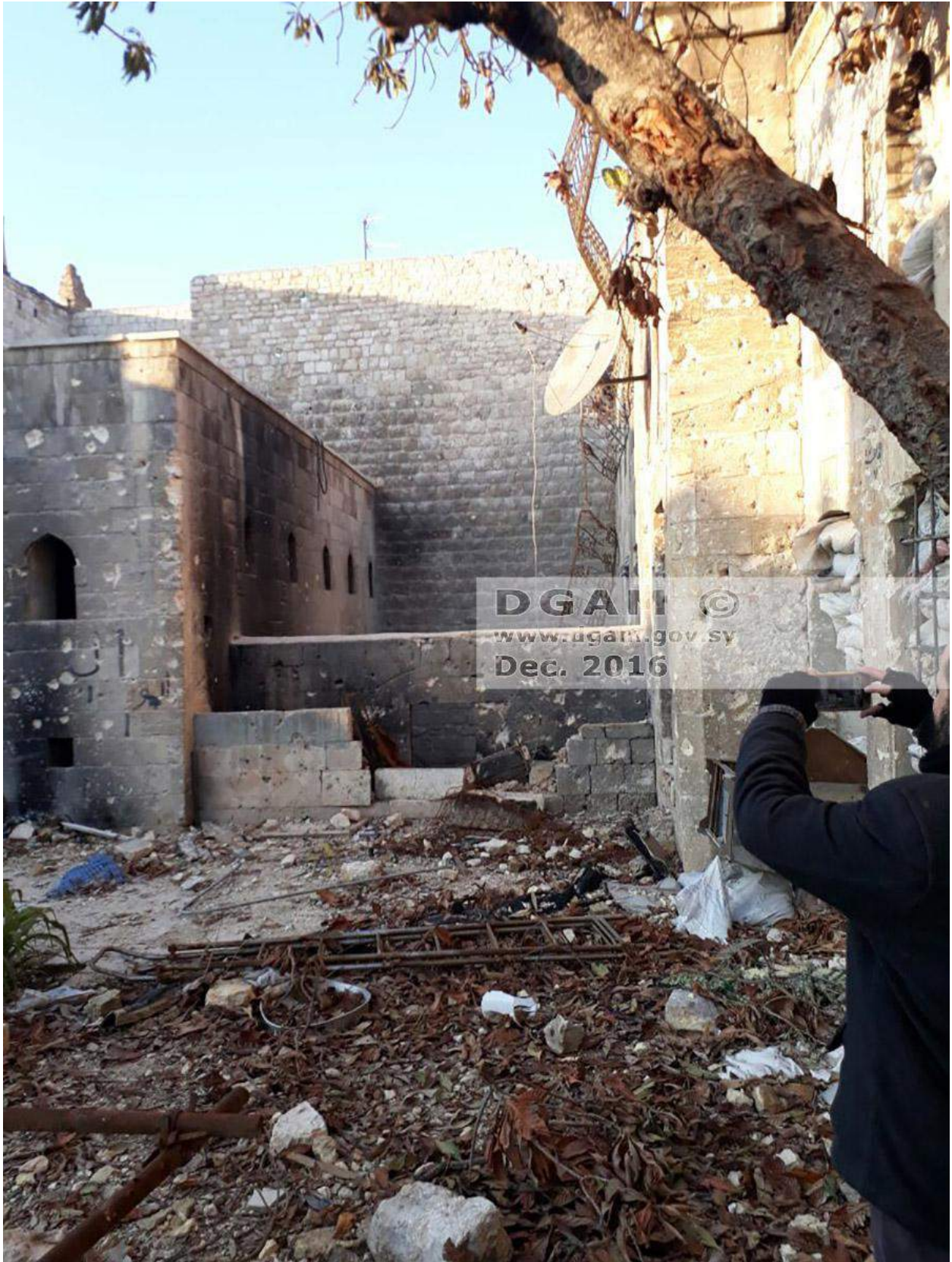
Dar Qatar Agassi (School of Saif al-Dawla)



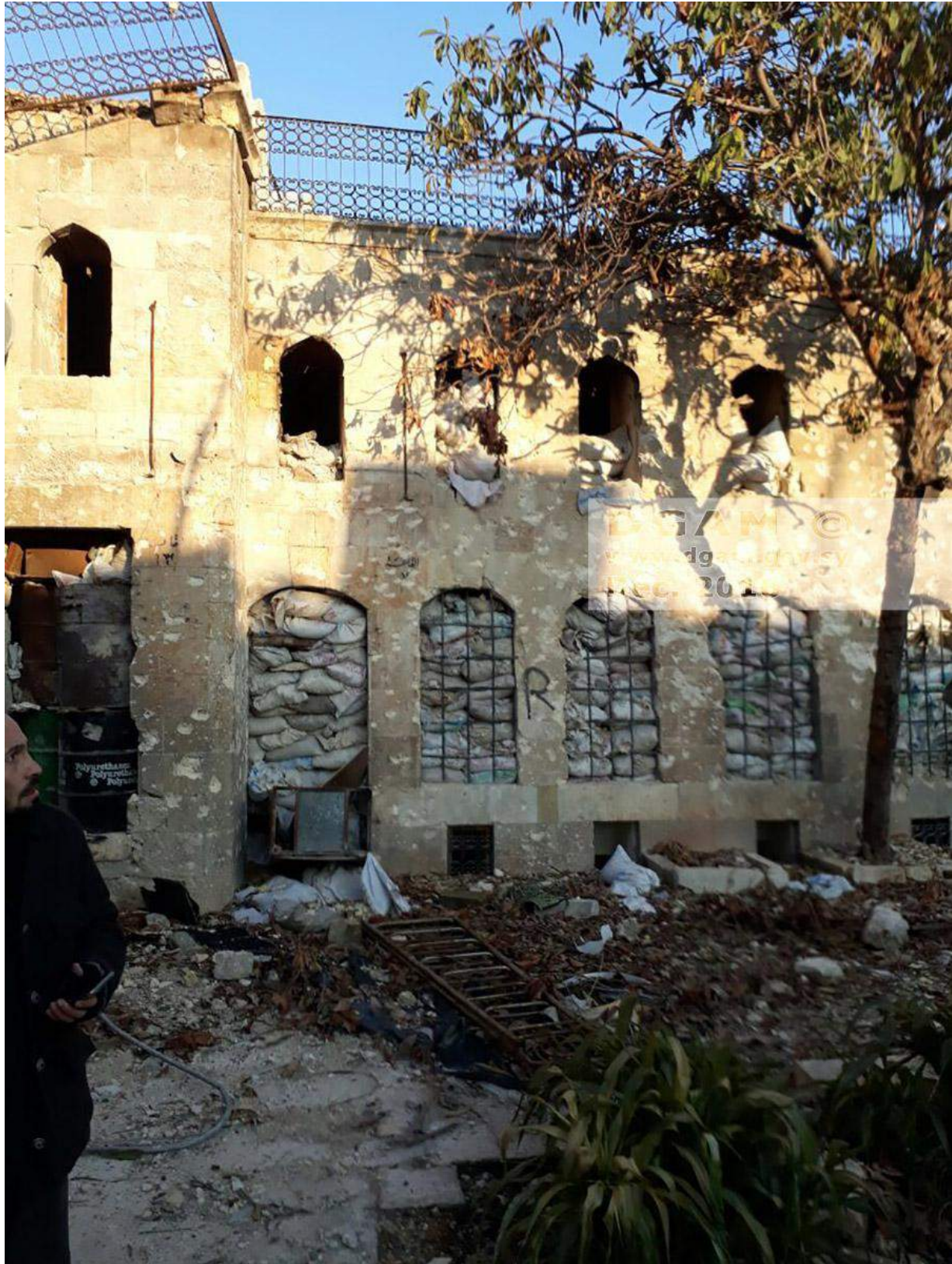
Damage to the exterior of Dar Qatar Agassi (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Dar Qatar Agassi (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Dar Qatar Agassi (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Dar Qatar Agassi (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Hammam al-Nahasin



Damage to the interior of Hammam al-Nahasin (DGAM; December 16, 2016)



Damage to the interior of Hammam al-Nahasin (Reuters; December 21, 2016)



Damage to the interior of Hammam al-Nahasin (Dimashq al-Aan; December 19, 2016)

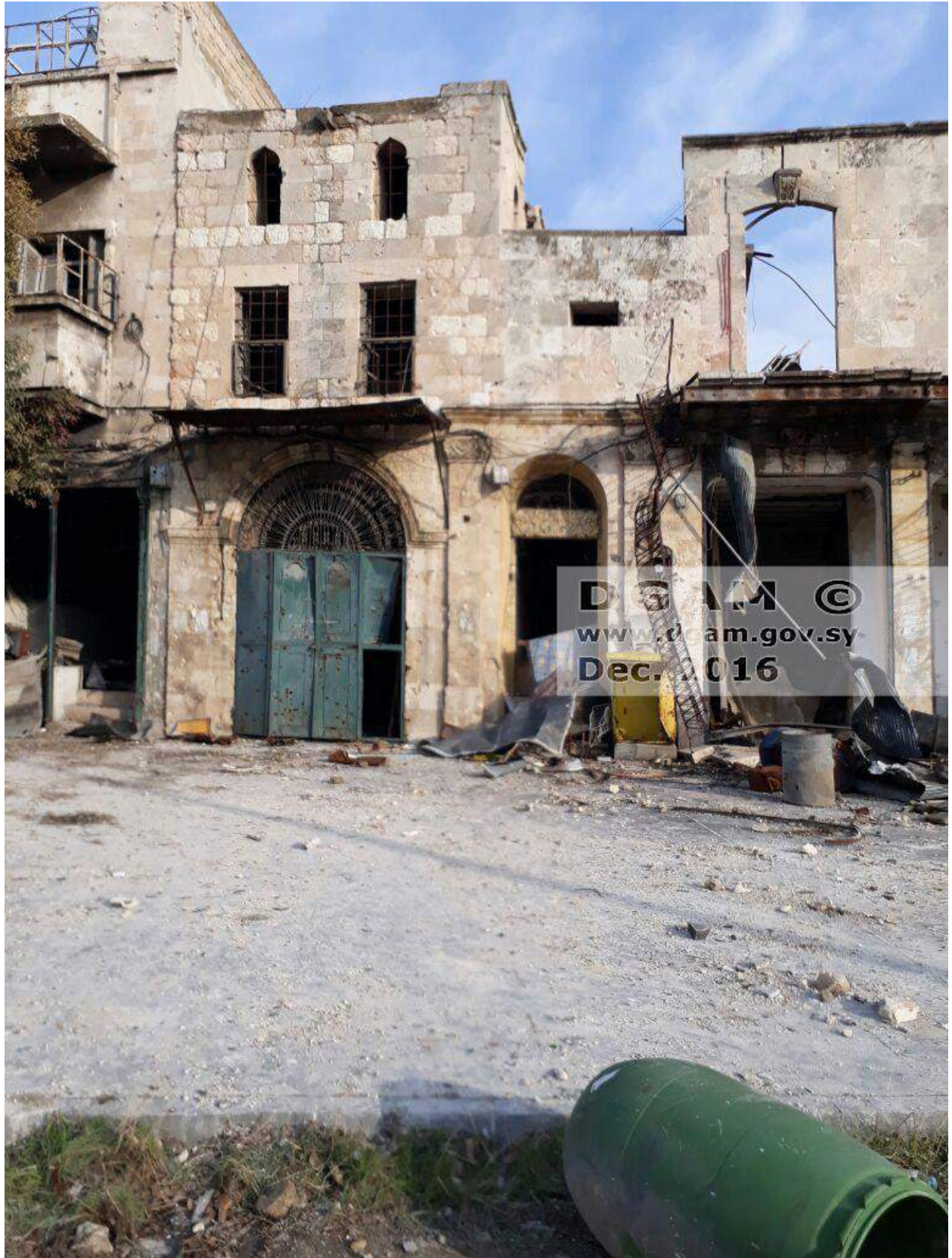
Hamam Bab al-Ahmar



Damage to the exterior of Hammam Bab al-Ahmar (DGAM; December 24, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Hammam Bab al-Ahmar (DGAM; December 24, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Hammam Bab al-Ahmar (DGAM; December 24, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Hammam Bab al-Ahmar (DGAM; December 24, 2016)

Hamмам Yalbugha al-Nasiri (حمام يلبغا)



Explosives damage to Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri (Private Facebook Account; December 26, 2016)



Damage to Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri (Private Facebook Account; December 26, 2016)



Light damage to Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri (Private Facebook Account; December 26, 2016)



Light damage, including growth of vegetation, to Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri (Private Facebook Account; December 26, 2016)



Medium damage to Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri (Private Facebook Account; December 26, 2016)



Damage to Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri (Private Facebook Account; December 26, 2016)



Damage to Hammam Yalbugha al-Nasiri (Private Facebook Account; December 26, 2016)

Hotel Zamaria (Beit Zamaria)



Extensive damage to Hotel Zamaria (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



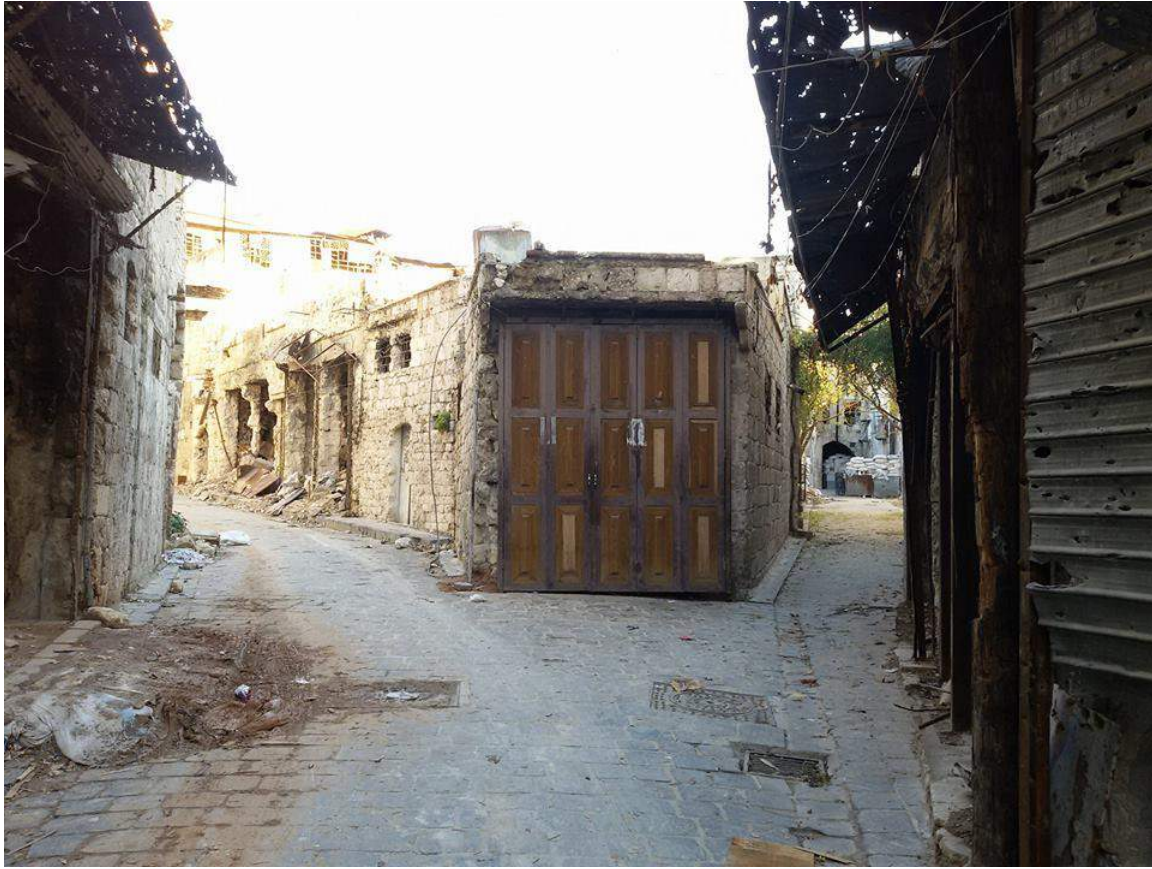
Minimal damage seen in this view of Hotel Zamaria, presence of sandbags in the far right window suggest militarization of the site (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Minimal damage seen in this view of Hotel Zamaria (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage and graffiti present at Hotel Zamaria (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



An exterior view of Hotel Zamaria (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

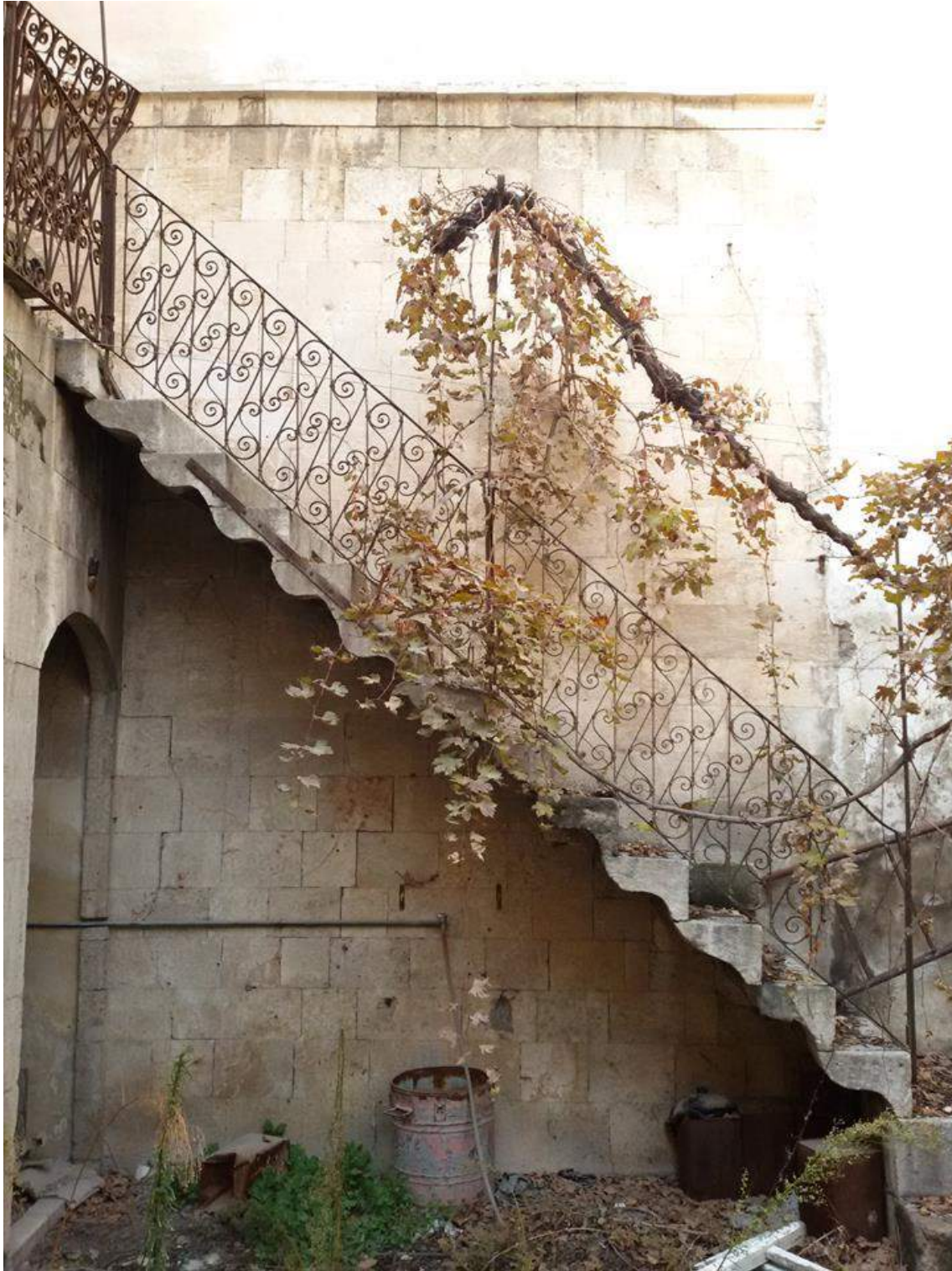
Old Arab Houses



Damage to Old Arab House in Aleppo (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to Old Arab House in Aleppo (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to Old Arab House in Aleppo (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to Old Arab House in Aleppo (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



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Damage to Old Arab House in Aleppo (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to Old Arab House in Aleppo (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

Khan al-Nahasin



Debris built up in front of the entrance to Khan al-Nahasin (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

Khan al-Oulabiya



Severe damage to Khan al-Oulabiya (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

Khan al-Qadi



Minor damage to Khan al-Qadi (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)

Khan al-Qassabiya



Damage to the shops in Khan al-Qassabiya (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Vegetation on the walls of Khan al-Qassabiya (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Damage to the metal roofs and upper walls in Khan al-Qassabiya (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)



Damage to the stairwell and courtyard in Khan al-Qassabiya (Private Facebook Account; December 24, 2016)

Khan al-Shouneh



Damage to the exterior of the Khan al-Shouneh (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of the Khan al-Shouneh (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Damage to the interior of the Khan al-Shouneh (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Damage to the interior of the Khan al-Shouneh (DGAM; December 28, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of the Khan al-Shouneh (DGAM; December 28, 2016)

Khan Hajj Musa al-Amiri



Damage to the Khan Hajj Musa and debris built up in the courtyard (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

Khan Uch Khan



Damage to the Khan Uch Khan (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to the shops of the Khan Uch Khan (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Khan Uch Khan (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to the Khan Uch Khan (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

Khan Wazir



Entrance to Khan al-Wazir (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Entrance to Khan al-Wazir (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Damage to the facade of Khan al-Wazir (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)



Smoke damage to Khan al-Wazir (Private Facebook Account; December 17, 2016)

Suq al-Joukh



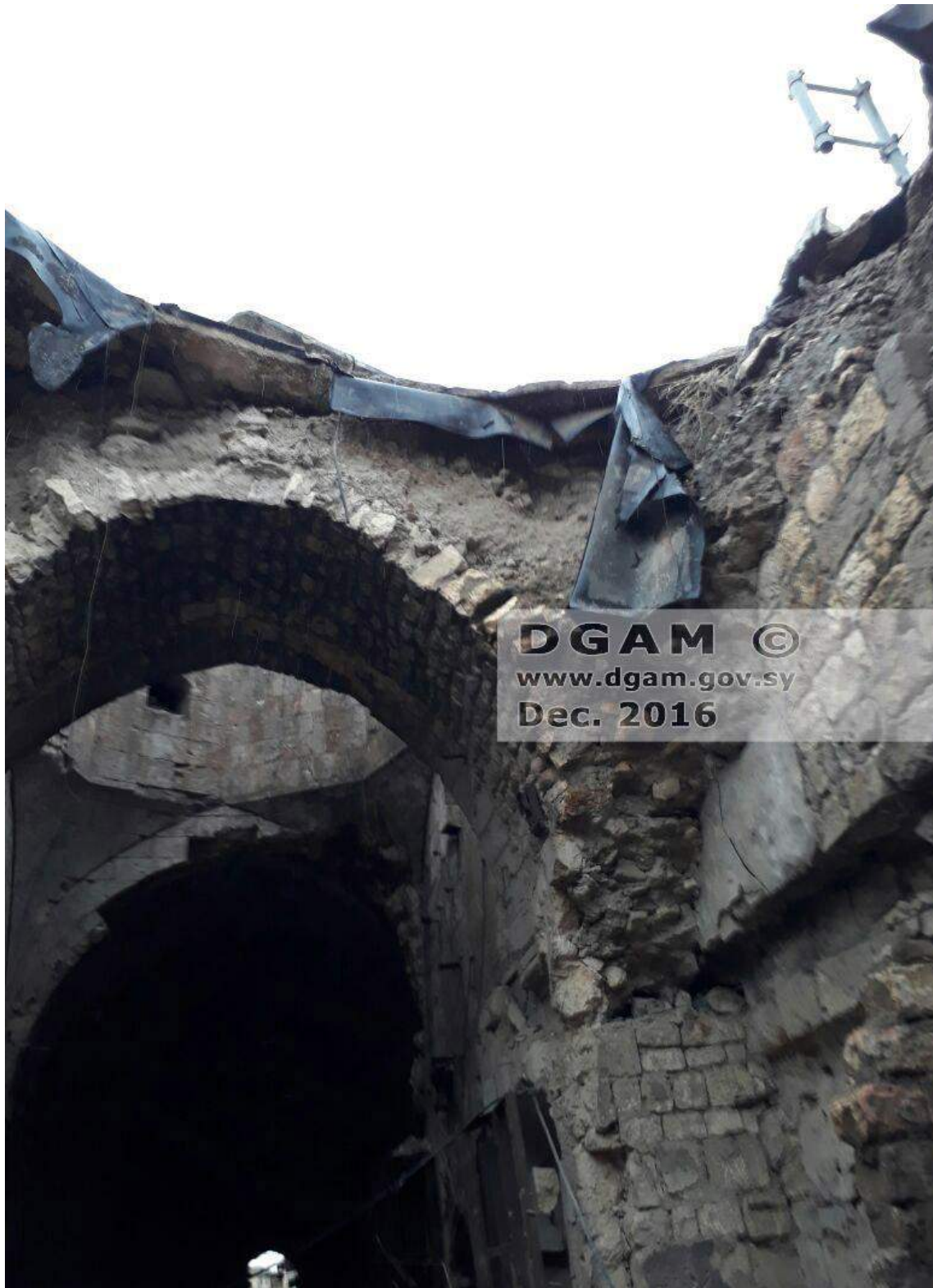
Fire damage to the interior of Suq al-Joukh (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

Suq al-Samak (سوق السمك)



Extensive damage to Suq al-Samak (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)

Suq al-Saqtiyah



Collapsed roof of Suq al-Saqtiyah (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

Suq al-Suweiqqa



Damage to the shops within Suq al-Suweiqqa (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

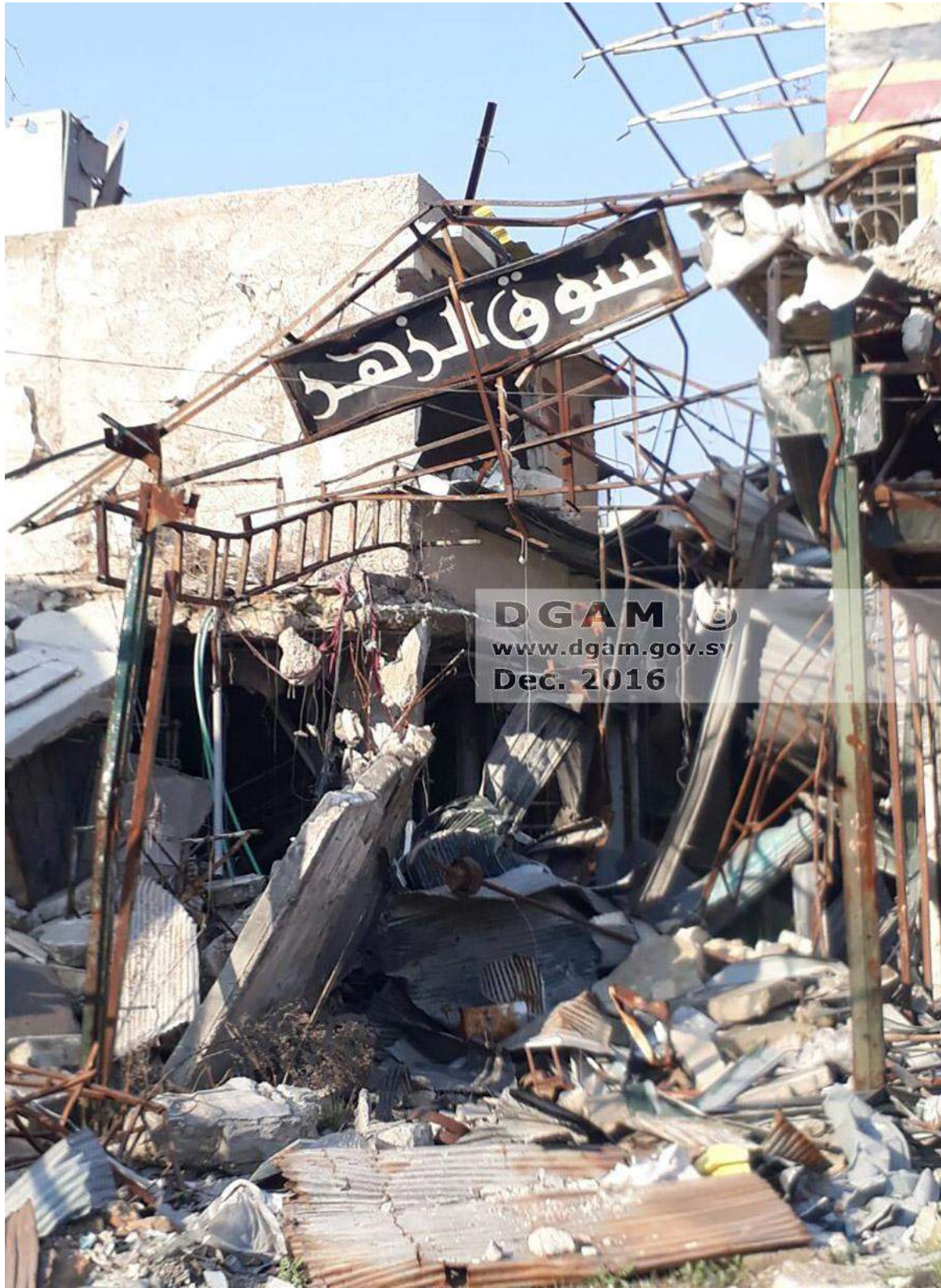


Collapsed part of the Suq al-Suweiqā (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

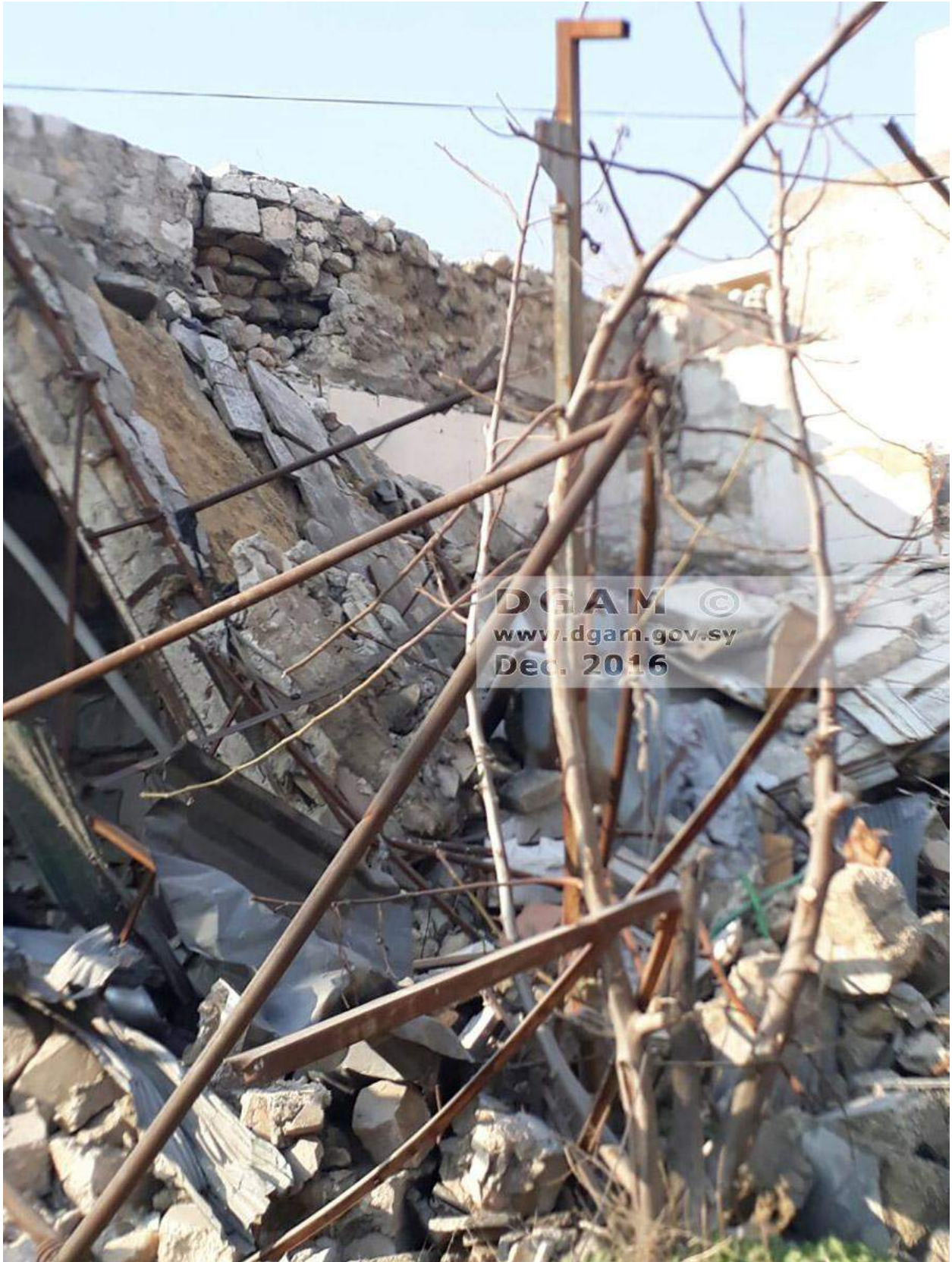


Collapsed roof and debris within the shops of the Suq al-Suweiqah (DGAM; December 16, 2016)

Suq al-Zaher



Severe damage to Suq al-Zaher (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Severe damage to Suq al-Zaher (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Musabinat al-Zanabli



Damage to the courtyard and domes of Musabinat al-Zanabli (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)



Damage to the roof of Musabinat al-Zanabli (Private Facebook Account; December 15, 2016)

Musabinat al-Jabili (مصينة الجيبين)



Damage to the interior of Musabinat al-Jabili (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to the exterior of Musabnat al-Jabili (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

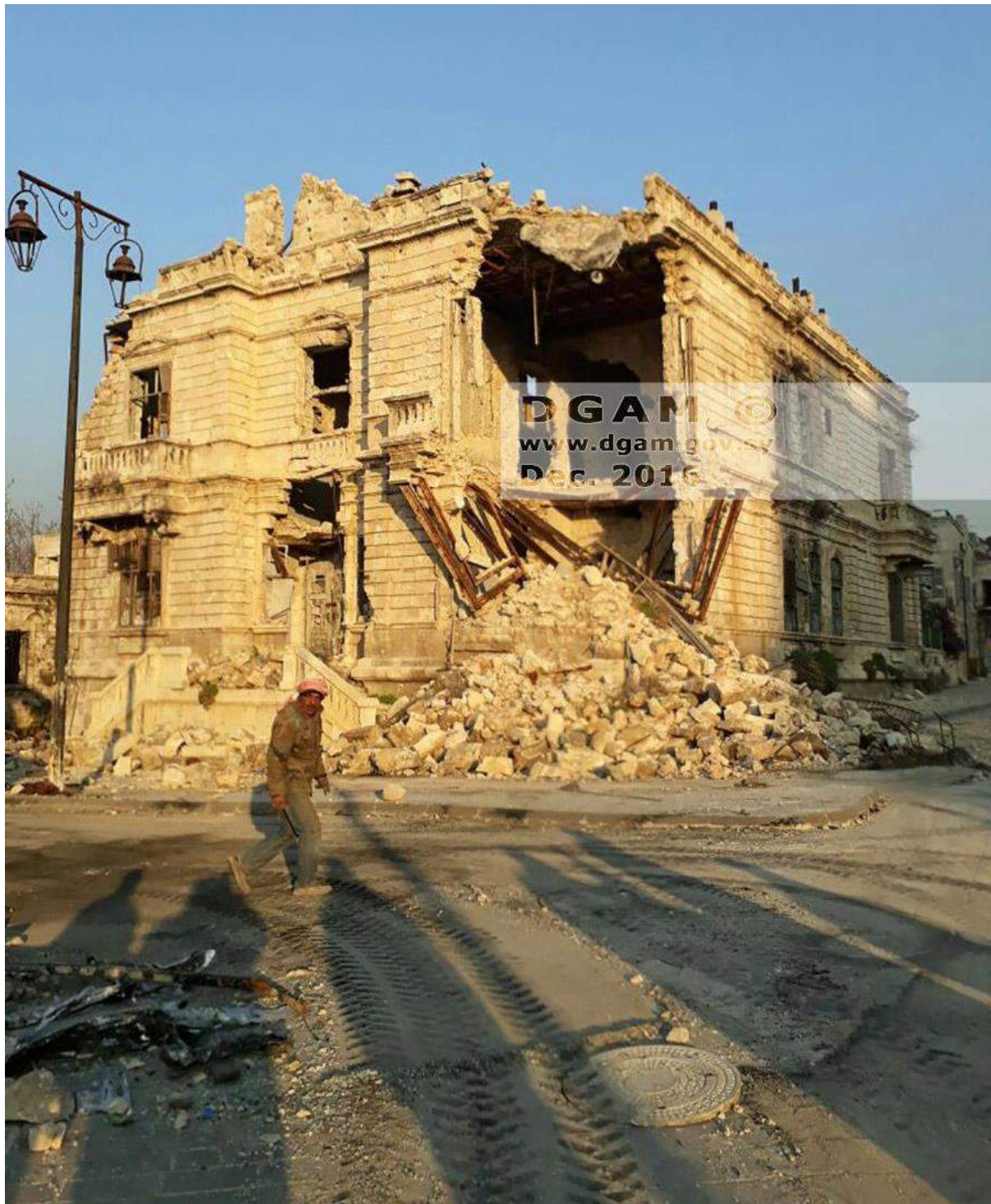


Damage to the interior hall of Musabnat al-Jabili (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)



Damage to an interior hall of Musabnat al-Jabili (Private Facebook Account; December 19, 2016)

Old Customs Building



The collapsed corner of the Old Customs Building (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Police Station at Bab al-Hadid



Exterior damage to the Police Station in Bab al-Hadid (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Interior damage to the Police Station in Bab al-Hadid (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

SHI 16-0193

Report Date: December 20, 2016

Site Name:

- Imam Ali Mosque (al-Meqam Mosque; مسجد الإمام; جامع المقام)
- al-Hazazeh Minaret
- Tayyibat al-Imam Museum (located inside Church of the Holy Martyrs)
- Shaizar Citadel

Date of Incident: Unknown

Location:

- Imam Ali Mosque and al-Hazazeh Minaret - Tayyibat al-Imam, Hama Governorate, Syria
- Tayyibat al-Imam Museum - Tayyibat al-Imam, Hama Governorate, Syria
- Shaizar Citadel - Muhradah, Hama Governorate, Syria

Site Description:

- al-Hazazeh Minaret - Minaret part of Imam Ali Mosque. The DGAM notes it as the most important part of the mosque.
- Tayyibat al-Imam Museum - Located inside the Church of the Holy Martyrs.
- Shaizar Citadel - Shaizar itself is an ancient site. Qalaat Shaizar was a defensive outpost of the Byzantine Empire in the 10th century AD, before being bought by the Munqidhites in AD 1081. Located at a vital river crossing, the castle was a critical strategic point throughout the crusades of the 12th century. Though the original castle was destroyed in an earthquake in 1157, construction on a new citadel began under the Ayyubid prince Nur al-Din Zangi in the late 12th century and continued into the 13th century.¹⁸⁸ The castle of Shaizar occupies an elongated ridge on the western bank of the Orontes River. Access to the castle is given through an imposing glacis and gate tower, followed by a series of galleries passing through the thick fortifications. The area on top of the plateau is covered in collapsed structures, dating from the recent occupation of the castle keep by local villagers in the first half of the 20th century; these structures have re-used older building components. The medieval castle is best preserved on the eastern side, with a curtain wall, towers, and fortified access. The site's palatial core is located at the southern edge of the plateau; epigraphic evidence allowed the buildings in this area to be attributed to various rulers, including the Mamluk sultan Nur al-Din (1157–1163) and the Ayyubid prince of Aleppo (1233). The in-situ inscription on the tower above the gate is attributed to the Mamluk sultan Qalawun and dates to 1290 AD.¹⁸⁹

In 2006, Qalaat Shaizar was added to the World Monuments Fund Watch List due to “general neglect, geological instability, and adverse exposure to winds and vegetation overgrowth.” Beginning in 2007, a team of WMF conservators worked at the site clearing vegetation, performing roof repairs, clearing and restoring damaged masonry, and installing tie-rods.¹⁹⁰

¹⁸⁸ <http://www.wmf.org/project/shayzar-castle>

¹⁸⁹ C. Tonghini and N. Montevicchi. 2006.

¹⁹⁰ <http://www.wmf.org/project/shayzar-castle>

Site Date:

- Imam Ali Mosque and al-Hazazeh Minaret - late 16th century CE.
- Tayyibat al-Imam Museum - Located inside the Church of the Holy Martyrs.
- Shaizar Citadel - Classical-Ayyubid Era.

Incident Summary: New damage occurs to heritage sites in Hama Governorate.

Incident Source and Description: On December 20, 2016 the DGAM released a series of photographs showing the destruction of the al-Hazazeh Minaret of the Maqam al-Imam Ali Mosque in Tayyibett al-Imam, the damage to the Shaizar Citadel in Muhradah, and the al-Iman Museum.¹⁹¹ According to the DGAM, the al-Hazazeh Minaret has been destroyed completely. The DGAM officials did not comment on the condition of the Maqam al-Imam Ali Mosque.

According to the DGAM, the majority of the Tibet al-Imam Museum has been damaged, including the museum's gabled roof and the collapse of some museum walls. According to the report, a mosaic panel in the museum was protected and remains in good condition.

According to DGAM, the Shaizar Citadel entrance had been damaged by a mortar shell, knocking out a stone and raising the risk of collapse of the structure. The DGAM also noted that a "historical inscription at the top of the entrance arch was damaged, which it caused to lose [a] big part of it... [and] some parts of the wall were lost above the pyramid block (i)n addition to fracturing in the sill of the nearby aperture."¹⁹² Due to the current closure of the citadel, DGAM officials were not able to assess any interior damage to the site.

Pattern: Military activity: explosives, gunfire/light weaponry.

Monitoring Recommendations and Mitigation Measures: ASOR CHI will continue to monitor damage to cultural heritage sites in Homs Governorate, as well as the condition of other heritage sites located in regions subject to ongoing aerial bombardment campaigns and intense military activity.

Sources:Online Reporting:

DGAM: <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2153>

World Monuments Fund: <http://www.wmf.org/project/shayzar-castle>

Scholarly:

C. Tonghini and N. Montevicchi. 2006. "The castle of Shayzar: the fortification of the access system." In H. Kennedy (ed.), *Muslim Military Architecture in Greater Syria: From the coming of Islam to the Ottoman Period*. History of Warfare Series Vol. 35. Leiden: Brill.

¹⁹¹ <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2153>

¹⁹² <http://www.dgam.gov.sy/index.php?d=314&id=2153>

al-Hazazeh Minaret



Damage to al-Hazazeh Minaret (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

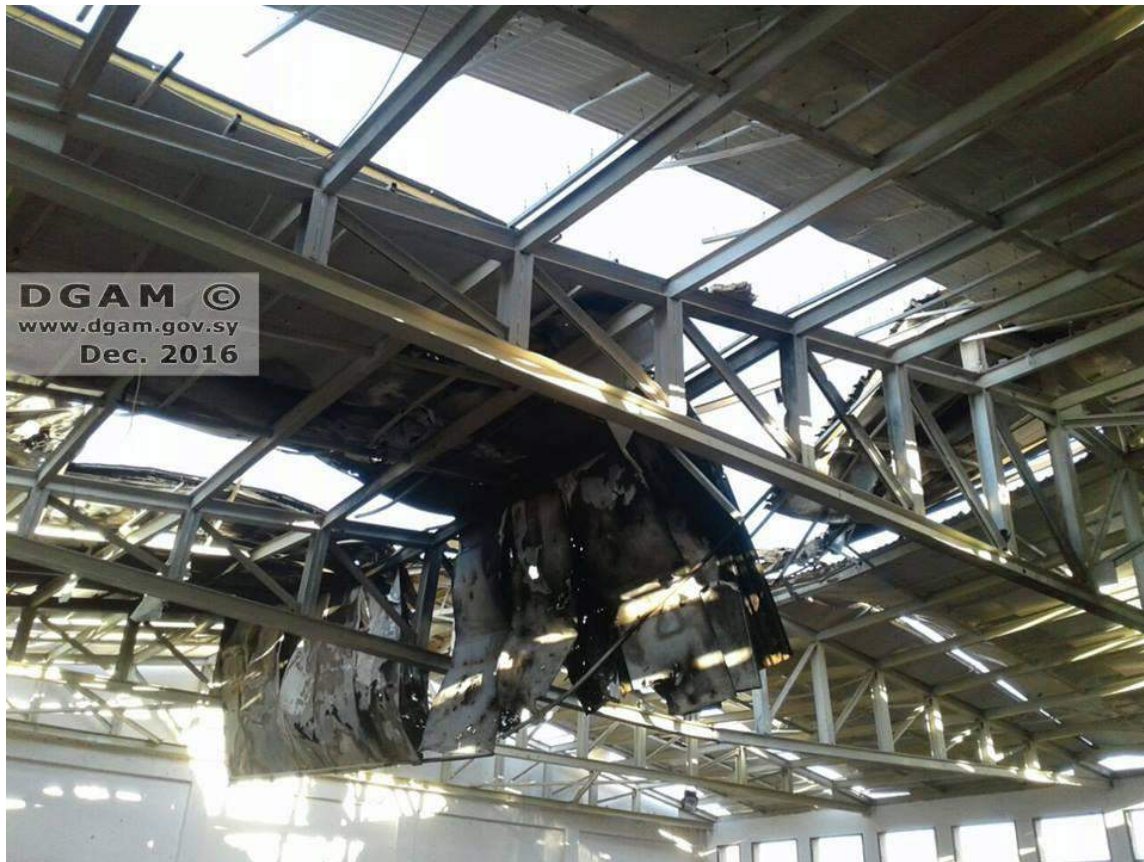
Tayyibat al-Imam Museum (located inside Church of the Holy Martyrs)



Damage to Tayyibet al-Imam Museum (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage to Tayyibet al-Imam Museum (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Extensive damage to Tayyibet al-Imam Museum (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Extensive damage to Tayyibet al-Imam Museum (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Extensive damage to Tayyibet al-Imam (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage to Tayyibet al-Imam (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Shaizar Citadel



Mortar damage to the Shaizar Citadel (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage to the Shaizar Citadel (DGAM; December 20, 2016)



Damage to the Shaizar Citadel (DGAM; December 20, 2016)

Incident Reports: Iraq

IHI 16-0033 UPDATE

Report Date: December 28, 2016

Site Name: Chaldean Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit (كنيسة روح القدس; Ark Church)

Date of Incident: Unknown

Location: Mosul, Ninawa Governorate, Iraq

Site Description: Chaldean Catholic Church in Mosul constructed to look like Noah's Ark.

Site Date: early 2000s CE.

Incident Summary: A newly released video shows the area around the church which was used by ISIL as an area to store goods confiscated from houses in the neighborhood.

Incident Source and Description: This Is Christian Iraq posted a video on December 20, 2016 showing the area surrounding the Chaldean Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit in Mosul. Next to the church, ISIL was storing household items that they confiscated from houses in the neighborhood.¹⁹³ The video shows the outside of the church, which shows little to no damage.¹⁹⁴ For more information on previous damage to this site, see **ASOR CHI Incident Reports IHI 16-0033 in Weekly Report 121-122.**

Pattern: Military activity: reuse of structure.

Monitoring Recommendations and Mitigation Measures: ASOR CHI will continue to monitor damage to the area around the Chaldean Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit, as well as the condition of other heritage sites located in regions subject to ongoing aerial bombardment campaigns and intense military activity.

Sources:

Online Reporting:

This is Christian Iraq:

<https://www.facebook.com/ThisIsChristianIraq/videos/1790190147896146/>

¹⁹³ <https://www.facebook.com/ThisIsChristianIraq/videos/1790190147896146/>

¹⁹⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/ThisIsChristianIraq/videos/1790190147896146/>

Posted by This is Christian Iraq
2,217 Views



Video still of household items next to the Chaldean Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit (This is Christian Iraq; December 20, 2016)

2,217 Views



Video still of the front of the Chaldean Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit, showing little to no damage (This is Christian Iraq; December 20, 2016)



Video still of the Chaldean Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit showing little to no damage (This is Christian Iraq; December 20, 2016)