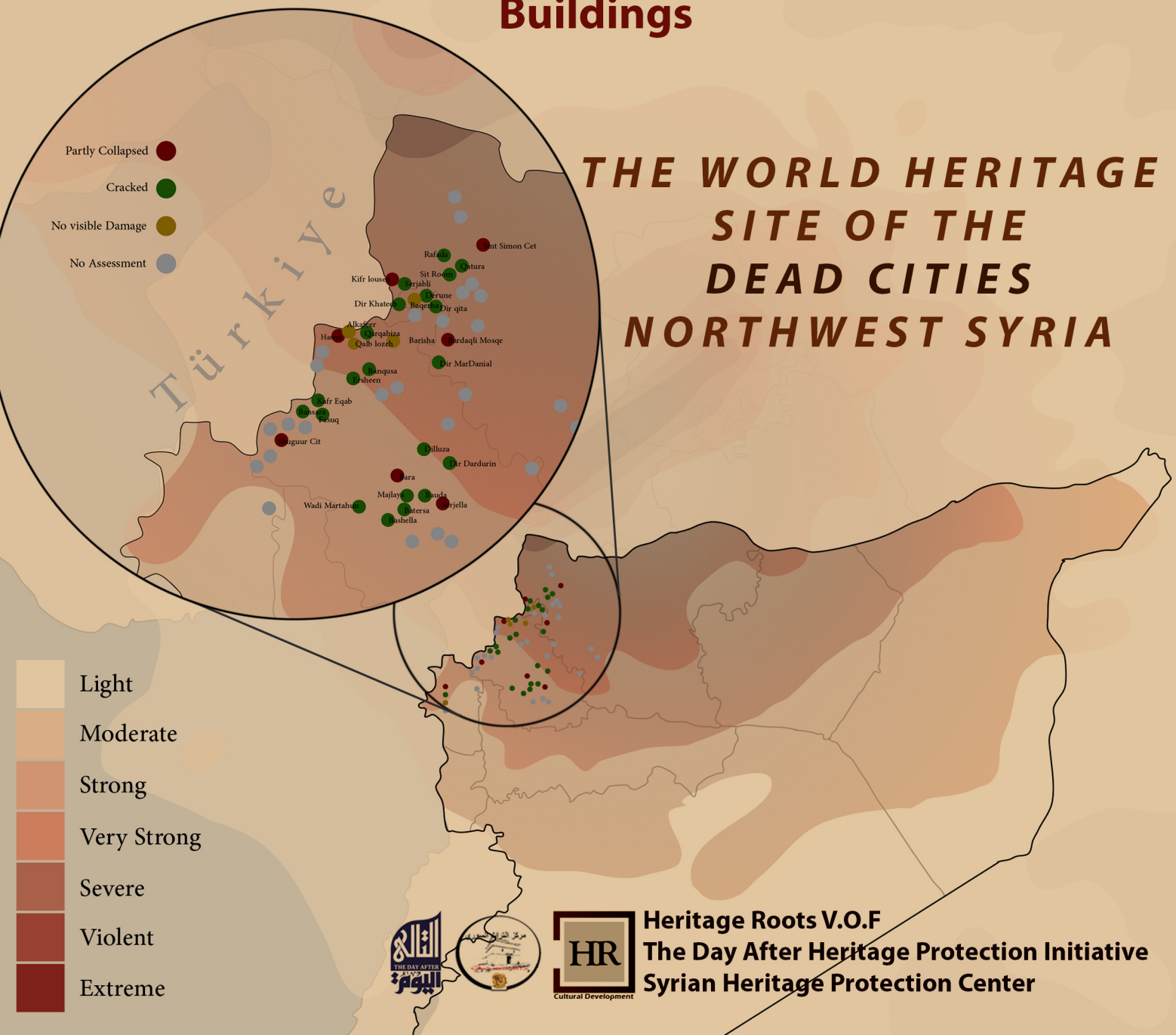


# The Impact of the Devastating Earthquake in Syria and Turkey on the Archaeological Sites and Historical Buildings

**THE WORLD HERITAGE  
SITE OF THE  
DEAD CITIES  
NORTHWEST SYRIA**



**Heritage Roots V.O.F**

**The Day After Heritage Protection Initiative**

**Preliminary report**

# **The Impact of the Devastating Earthquake in Syria and Turkey on the Archaeological Sites and Historical Buildings in the Dead Cities Area in Northwest Syria**

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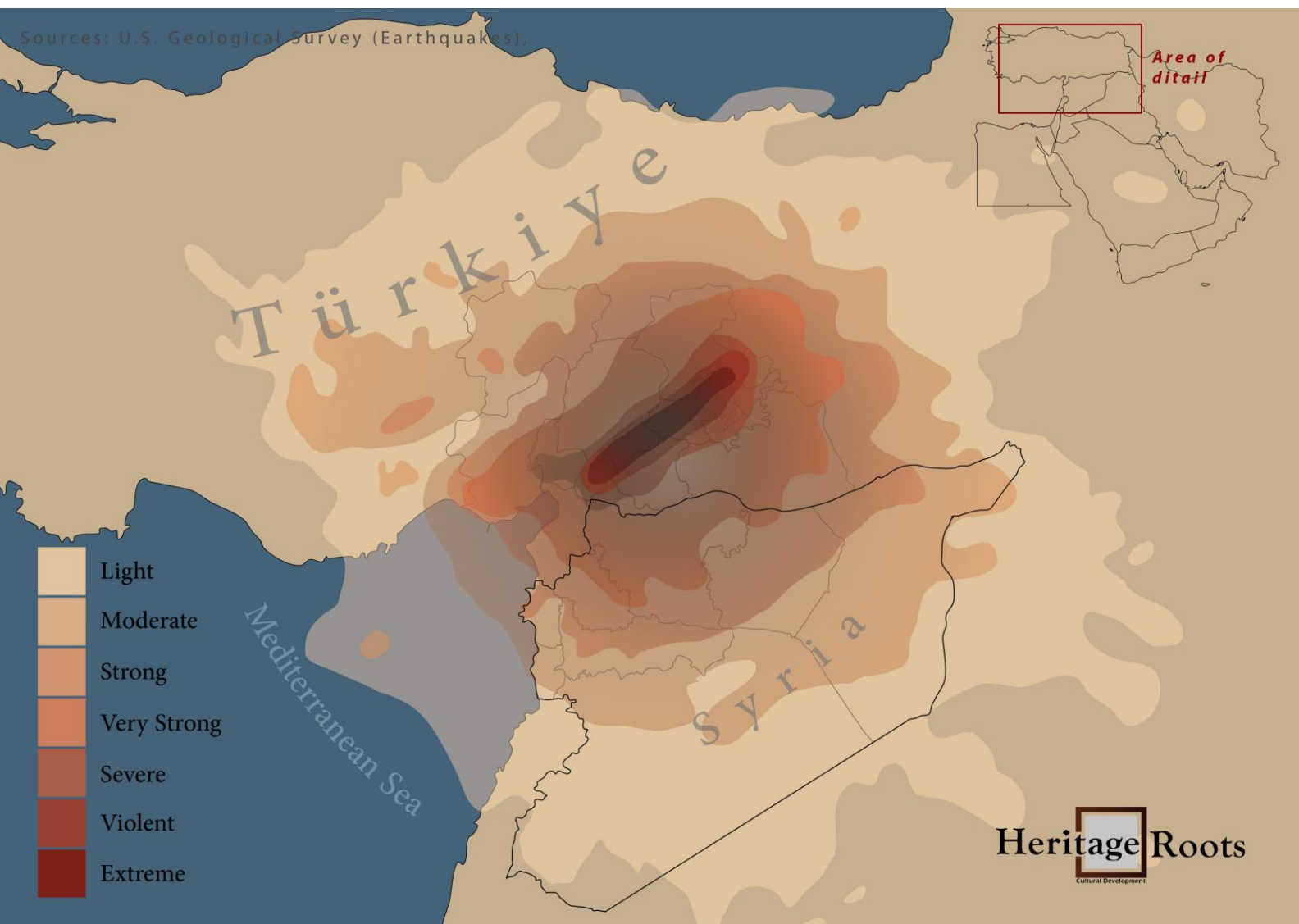
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## Preface

Throughout its history, Syria has been exposed to dozens of earthquakes, including the earthquake that struck the coastal cities in 1822 AD with a magnitude of 7.5 on the Richter scale, as well as several earthquakes that hit Antioch between the years 458 and 526, 528 and 859 AD. Each time an earthquake occurred, archaeological sites and historic buildings were damaged. However, the most severe of these earthquakes was the Turkey earthquake on February 6th, 2023 AD, which measured 7.8 on the Richter scale and caused extensive damage and numerous casualties. Archaeological sites were also affected by the earthquake.



Area affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria - ©[Heritage-Roots](https://Heritage-Roots.com)



The Syrian Heritage Protection team, which specialized in documenting and evaluating the damage, conducted an initial inspection tour to monitor the damage to archaeological sites in the devastated area. They



visited most of the archaeological sites distributed across eight parks in northwest Syria, which is registered on the World Heritage List.

Detailed maps were produced based on the results received from the damage assessment team, include a color-coded explanation of the type and severity of damage that occurred to the archaeological sites, including:

- **Collapsed walls and/or ceilings**
- **Cracks in walls**
- **No noticeable damage**
- **Not assessed yet**

### **A- al-Zawia Mountain Park, (Al-Bara) which includes:**

Al-Bara sites (Dir Subat – abu Sufyan Castle – Pyramid tomb – the winepress – al-Husn church – the ground tomb – the Islamic Mosque – the byzantine bath )

#### **1- Al-Bara:**

An archaeological village, administratively belonging to the Ihsem sub-district and Ariha district, located between the folds of Mount Al-Zawiya in the Idlib Governorate, northwest Syria. The Romans named it Capro Bira and it contains many artifacts dating back to different eras. The village suffered some damage before the earthquake due to the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)), in addition to damage resulting from the earthquake, which are:

#### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.

- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.
- Damage resulting from breaking stones and using them in modern construction work.
- Building violations within the boundaries of the archaeological area.

Random digging was represented by the presence of excavations for unauthorized excavations, and some stones were broken and some were removed, leading to the destruction of some walls.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

Including the collapse of walls within the Abu Sufyan Castle, the collapse of walls in the Fortress Church, and the loosening of some stones in the Dir Subat (Subat Monastery).







## 2- Wadi Martahun

Wadi Martahun is an ancient Byzantine settlement located in the middle of the ruins of "Shansharah" and "Rabi'ah" to the south, the ruins of "Al-Bara" to the east, and the hill of "Nabi Yousef" to the northwest. It serves as a meeting point for these centers and its highlands overlook the valley from which it takes its name. The village suffered some damage prior to the earthquake due to the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)), in addition to the damage resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### Damage before the earthquake, which includes:

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### Damage resulting from the earthquake:

There were no significant or apparent damages.







### 3- Majlaya

It is located on the inner plateau on the border of the modern road that leads to Kafr Nabl, 2 km south of Al-Bara. The village was initially independent and was an important and densely populated settlement. Among the ruins, we find the basilicas dating back to the beginning of the fifth century, and in the north, there is a multi-sided church from the sixth century. In the south, there are rich funerary baths and structures. The village suffered some damage prior to the earthquake due to the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)), in addition to the damage resulting from the earthquake, which are:

#### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.
- Damage resulting from breaking stones and using them in modern construction work.

#### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



#### 4- Batersa

Batersa is located adjacent to Majlaya directly, and this site is famous for the location of the sculptor, which was partially carved into the rock. It is characterized by the sculpted designs on its interior walls, which were accurately documented by Duverger. This building provides information about specialized activities such as sculpting that were practiced by farmers during the season when they are not working in the fields. The village suffered some damage prior to the earthquake due to the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)), in addition to the damage resulting from the earthquake, which are:

##### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.



- Damage resulting from breaking stones and using them in modern construction work.

#### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



#### **5- Bshila**

This village is smaller than its neighboring village and has preserved high-quality ruins with carefully built walls. Its two sanctuaries' gateway has been excellently preserved. Outside the village, there is a series of water tanks, cisterns, and tombs. The village was partially damaged before the earthquake due to the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)), in addition to damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.
- Damage resulting from breaking stones and using them in modern construction work.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



## **6- Dilluzeh**

It is located south of Idlib and is /33/ km away from it. It is a rich historical site dating back to the Roman era, and it contains a church that dates back to the 5th century AD. The village was subjected to some damage before



the earthquake due to the Syrian war. In addition to the damage caused by the earthquake, which are:

**Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

**Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.





## 7- Serjeilla

Serjeilla is one of the most important and beautiful archaeological sites in the cities of the limestone massif. Its name is of Syriac origin, "Serge-ila," which means "the saddle of God" or "the light of God." Today it is uninhabited, but the remains of its buildings are wonderfully preserved, including its baths, which date back to the end of the fifth century AD, its square-shaped meeting hall, and its three-part church, which dates back to the fourth century AD. The village suffered some damage prior to the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)), and in addition to that, it has also suffered damage from the earthquake. , which are:

### Damage before the earthquake, which includes:

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### Damage resulting from the earthquake:

the collapse of walls within one of the buildings.







## 8- Beyuda

One of the Christian villages located in Jabal al-Zawiya, southeast of Al-Bara village, two kilometers away from it, includes a group of houses and various tombs and also has a church belonging to the Al-Bara Parish. The village suffered some damage before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)), in addition to the damage caused by the earthquake. , which are:

### Damage before the earthquake, which includes:

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.
- Damage resulting from breaking stones and using them in modern construction work.

### Damage resulting from the earthquake:

There were no significant or apparent damages.





## **B- al-'Ala Mountain Park, (Qalb Lozeh) which includes:**

Sites ( Qalb Lozeh – al-Kafir – Qarqabizeh )

### **9- Qalb Lozeh**

It is located 50 km north of the city of Idlib and is a magnificent church considered the pearl of Jabal Al-A'la, representing the Church of the Holy Trinity dating back to the late fifth century AD. It consists of three aisles representing the story of Syrian architecture during the Byzantine era. The village suffered some damage before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)), in addition to the damage caused by the earthquake, which are:

#### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

#### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.











## 10- Al- Kafir

The site of Al-Kafir is located in Idlib province, in the northwest part of the province, and approximately 50 km away from the city. It is located within the highest mountain park (Qalb Loze Park), the sixth park, and this site is divided into two parts, east and west, within an isolated area between two distant mountain blocks from human settlements.

The most prominent feature of the site is the church located between the two parts, which has a single courtyard containing a bema and a semi-spherical apse with stone pillars from the outside. The village suffered some damage before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war (<https://tda-hpi.org/en/list/615/damage-reports> you can see previous reports), in addition to the damage caused by the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.



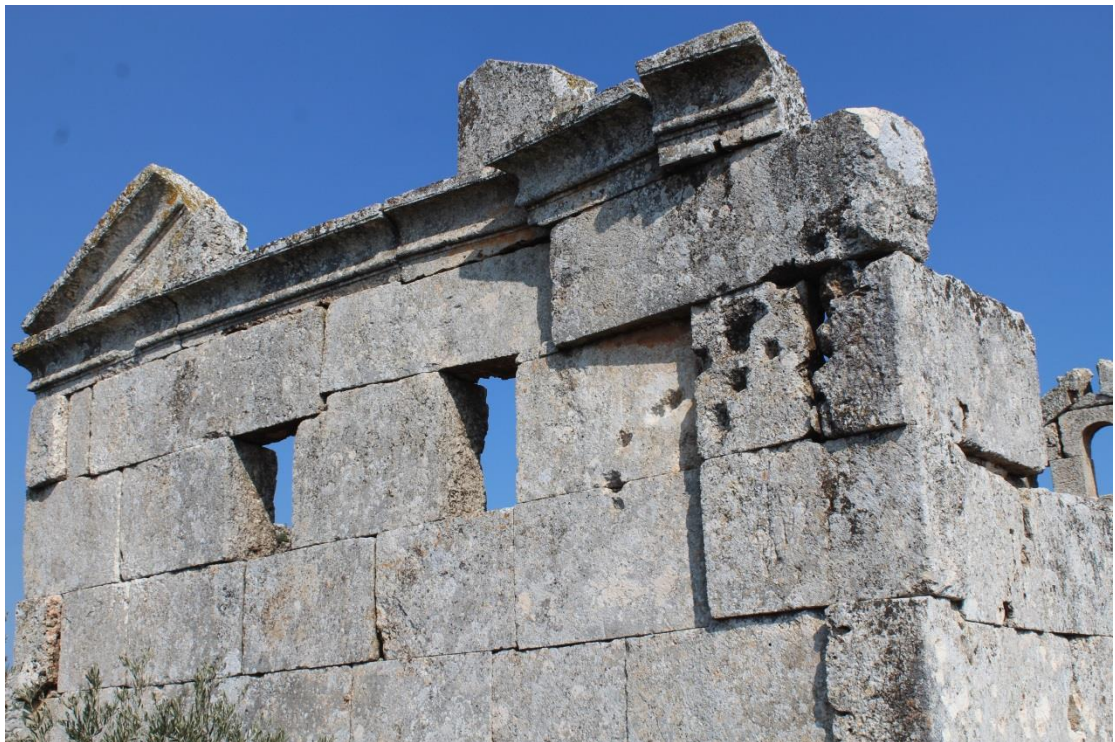
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.
- Damage resulting from breaking stones and using them in modern construction work.

**Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

A simple displacement in one of the walls













## 11- Qarqabizah

This village is located about 50 km away from the city of Idlib, and it contains a church and olive presses dating back to the mid-fourth century AD. The village suffered some damage before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, in addition to the damage caused by the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.
- Damage resulting from breaking stones and using them in modern construction work.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



## **C- Barisha Mountain Park, (Baqerha) which includes:**

Sites ( Baqerha – Deruneh – Dir qeta )

### **12-Baqirha**

An amazing urban system on the northern slope of Mount Barisha, about 35 km northwest of the city of Idlib. It was included in the World Heritage List in 2011.

It is one of the important archaeological villages that were established in the archaeological mass during the Roman and Byzantine eras. Many of its ancient buildings are in a good state of preservation, which helps to understand the nature of its architectural development during the Roman and Byzantine eras.

The Temple of Zos Pomos is the most important of its monuments, which was built in 161 AD and is surrounded by a dilapidated wall except for its huge door, in addition to two basilica churches. The village suffered some damage before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war and in addition to the damage resulting from the earthquake, which are:

#### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

#### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

Cracks in some walls and displacement of some stones











### 13- Dieruneh

The site dates back to the sixth century AD and is located northwest of Idlib, about 500 AD away from Baqirha. It was included in the World Heritage List in 2011 AD as one of the forgotten cities in northern Syria.

The name of the monastery is a diminutive of the word “monastery”, which differs from the church in terms of the architectural style. For some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war and in addition to damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

#### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

#### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.







## 14- Dir Qita

An abandoned city that flourished in the 5th century A.D. Among its buildings are /3/ churches, oil presses, and villas. The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)), and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.

## **D- Wastani Mountain Park, (Fasouq) which includes:**

Sites ( Fasouq – Kafr Oqab – Bansara )

## 15- Fasouq

It is an ancient village dating back to the first century AD. It contains some pagan relics dating back to the second century AD. There are two churches on the site dating back to the Byzantine period. The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, In addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.

- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.
- Damage resulting from breaking stones and using them in modern construction work.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



## **16- Bansara**

The “Bansara” site, which overlooks a steep valley and contains two adjacent churches, many cemeteries, rock-hewn caves, medium houses and presses, and most of its buildings are ruins. The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.



- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

#### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



### **17- Kafr Oqab**

The Kafr Aqab archaeological site is located in Al-Wastani Mountain, 26 km west of Idlib Governorate, and it reflects a wonderful cultural scene. The history of Kafr Aqab's construction dates back to the classical period that includes the site. and rock-hewn mills. During the past ten years, this site has been subjected to various systematic excavations and vandalism, starting from manual excavation and ending with the use of trucks, bulldozers, and modern metal detectors.

These operations led to the disappearance of the site by 90% to the extent that only the wall of the church at the southern end and two buildings at the western end were rehabilitated by displaced residents and lived in them. The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

**Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

**Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.







### **E- Simeon Mountain Park, which includes:**

Sites (Deir Sam'an - Sit al-Rum - Rafada - Qatoura - Kafr Lusin - Sarjbla)

### **18- Deir Sam'an**

Thalanisos Monastery is a monastery in Syria near the Syrian city of Aleppo. The Monastery of Simeon was named in relation to the Syrian saint and hermit - Simeon Al-Amoudi, who was born in 389 AD in Mount Simeon. An archaeological area includes the Monastery of Simeon and the Church of Simeon, which was built in 490 AD. It is considered one of the most magnificent Christian churches, which was at one time a fortified castle during the days of Salah al-Din, and still is. Simon Monastery, with its facilities and buildings, still exists today, and is visited by tourists and religious people from all over the world.

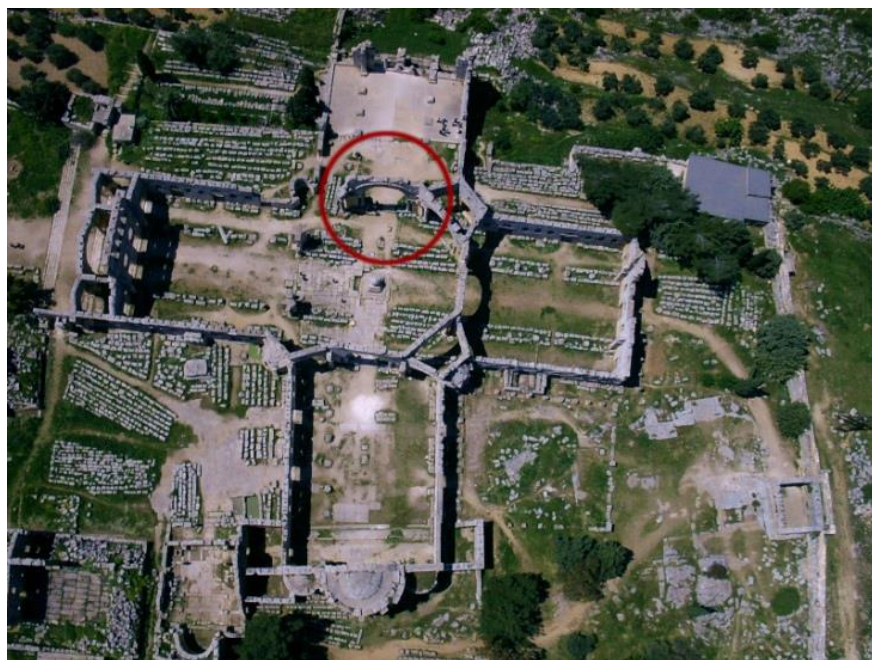
The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)) and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

**Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.

**Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

The collapse of the arch of the western basilica, which forms one of the octagonal ribs surrounding St. Simeon's column. the site was previously damaged as a result of a previous air strikes in 2016 (SIMAT damage report)





## 19- Tomb of "Izodotus" and the Church of "Sit al Rum"

The tomb of "Izodotus" consists of two columns connected from the top by a lintel, and they were built above a tomb carved in the rock underground, where a staircase descends to them.

Today, only some of the stones of the walls remain near the small church located to the north. The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war. In addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### Damage before the earthquake, which includes:

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### Damage resulting from the earthquake:

There were no significant or apparent damages.



## 20- Rafada

An ancient village located within the "Forgotten Villages" group, northwest of "Aleppo", and includes a group of ruins of residential houses dating back to the Roman era, many of which have preserved their general shape until today.

Regarding the name of the site: "Rafada" in Syriac means "steeler", "creeping" or "the liquid", and it is not known why the village was given this name. The traveler Butler described it as "the most beautiful of all the desolate little towns in this region of hills", while the traveler Chalenko as "the aristocratic village ... of the proud great owners". The village suffered some damage before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, In addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.







## 21- Qatura

It is located in the village of "Al-Qatura" in the northwestern countryside of the city of "Aleppo", an archaeological site characterized by its magnificent ruins, which include Roman cemeteries and civil and religious buildings.

"Al-Qatura" means "rock" in Syriac, and it may have been named in relation to the huge rock located to the west of the village on the road leading to the nearby archaeological village of "Zarzita", the second and third centuries AD, in addition to houses and villas, the village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



## 22- Kafr Lusin

The site of Kafr Lusin is located in the far north of the city of Idlib, in Jabal al-Halaqa, 5 km northwest of Dana. Not far from the border, 3 km from Bab al-Hawa, east of the village of Kafr Lusin, 500 m. The site dates back to the Byzantine period and contains many buildings, the most important of which is the ancient village tower. The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war. In addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

A collapse in one of the walls of the church





## 23- Serjable

Serjable is an archaeological site and its name is derived from the Syriac and means Prince of Kala. It is most likely that the name refers to the true meaning of the site where the fertile land is. It is located in the area near Bab al-Hawa in the mountainous hills, 5 km east-northeast of the Bab al-Hawa border crossing, 6 km away. Northwest from (Dana)

This site dates back to the Roman-Byzantine period, as indicated by the inscriptions found on some of its monuments. Serjable is considered one of the large cemeteries in the region, as it includes many and varied buildings. The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



## 24- Harem Castle

One of the most prominent features of the city of Harem is its majestic Islamic castle, at a height of nearly fifty meters above the level of the city's land within an artificial archaeological hill carved with rock, in an important strategic location that overlooks the fertile plains of "the depth" and controls the roads connecting between "Aleppo" and "Antakya". and "Bait al-Maqdis". The castle suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### Damage before the earthquake, which includes:

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention , which led to the collapse of some walls and the destruction of some foundations



### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

The collapse of parts of the front walls and the collapse of the ceiling in the inner section, as well as the collapse of some walls, which need urgent intervention.











## 25- al-Bardaqli Mosque

The ancient mosque located in the village of Bardaqli, north of Idlib governorate, close to the Bab al-Hawa area, in a fortified rocky area, about 35 km north of the city of Idlib, and about 2 km west of the city of Dana. The site was subjected to some damage before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, In addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, namely:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There was a collapse in the walls, as well as the stone arches were affected by the earthquake, which led to the displacement of some stones







## 26- Ershin

Ershin sits on a mountain elevation west of Harbnoush and north of Kfar Beni. To the southwest of the city of Maarat Misrin. It is an archaeological site dating back to the Roman-Byzantine period, with only a two-story villa left of its buildings. It dates back to the fifth century AD, and it has a basilica-style church, of which only its beautiful apse remains, dating back to the sixth century AD.

There are still remnants of existing walls, some capitals of columns, and decorations among the rubble of large stones that were subjected to a large wave of vandalism and bulldozing in search of hidden treasures. The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



### **27- Banqusa**

The Monastery of Banqusa, known as the Palace of the Girls, is one of the most important monuments in the site. Dir Banqusa dates back to the 4-5th century AD and is located on the top of the hill on the northwestern side of the site. It includes parts of the walls and foundations of a monastic chapel and the House of Martyrs carved out of rock.

It is An ancient city dating back to the Roman era, as evidenced by the antiquities found at the site and the writings and drawings they carried dating back to the time period in which it was established.

The history of the northern church dates back to the fourth century AD and is considered one of the first basilica churches in Syria. Only the southern façade and part of the northern and western façade and its apse remain from its features. The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

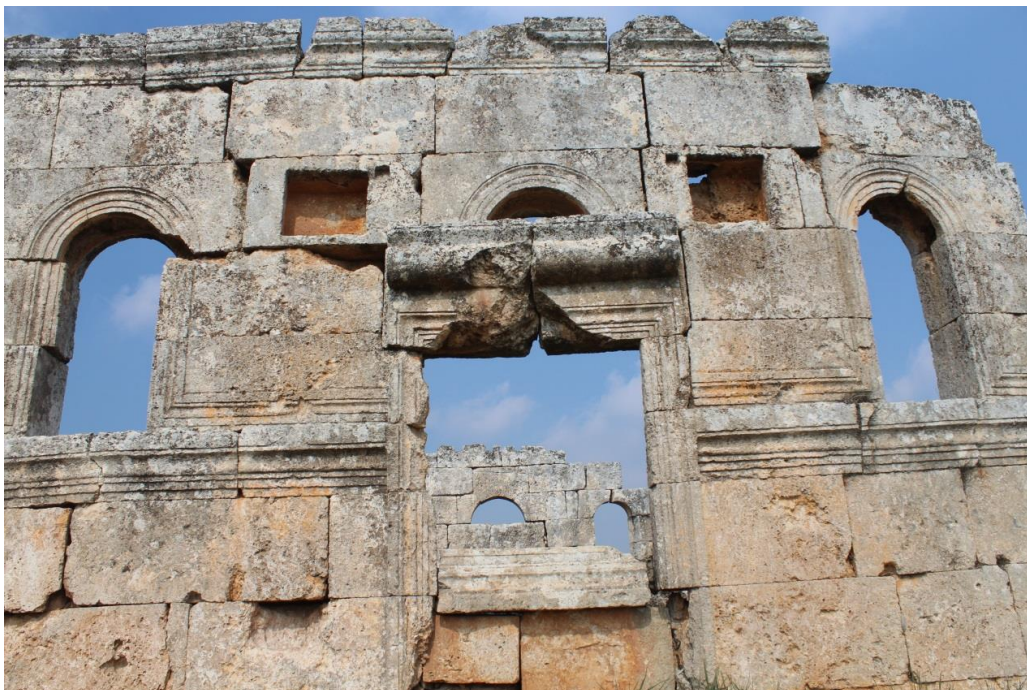
**Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**



- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.





## 28- Dir Mar Daniel

The Monastery of “Mar Daniel” is located to the northwest of the city of Sarmada and south of the Dana Plain, 40 km north of the city of Idlib, on a mountainside along the Harem-Aleppo road. The site surrounded by mountains, and still maintains its general shape to be the most beautiful monasteries in the region, and it is called “Al-Bureij”, a name derived mostly from its shape and location, which resembles a watchtower or relative to the hermit’s tower, which is one of the main parts of the monastery. The village suffered some damages Before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.



### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.



### **29- Dir Dardourin (Dardourin Monastery)**

This monastery is located with the remains of Roman burials and sarcophagi, in addition to some foundations of buildings, water cisterns carved into the rock, and olive presses scattered throughout the monastery in the northeast of the town of Kfaruma, in a 3 km distance.

There were several monasteries spread between Apamea and Antioch, and the presidency of these monasteries belongs to the Bassus mentioned Dorn Monastery (i.e. Dardurin today). The village suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war, and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

#### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from agricultural land reclamation.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

There were no significant or apparent damages.

### **30- Al Shughour Castle**

Among the high mountains, between waters, springs, caves, and caves, and at an altitude of 378 meters above sea level, the castle of "Al-Shughur-Bakas" is located 10 kilometers northwest of the city of "Jisr Al-Shughour" and 60 km west of "Idlib". and about 65 km from Lattakia to the east. The castle suffered some damages before the earthquake as a result of the Syrian war ([you can see previous reports](#)) and in addition to the damages resulting from the earthquake, which are:

#### **Damage before the earthquake, which includes:**

- Random illegal excavations.
- Damage resulting from climate changes.
- Damage resulting from neglect and lack of intervention.

#### **Damage resulting from the earthquake:**

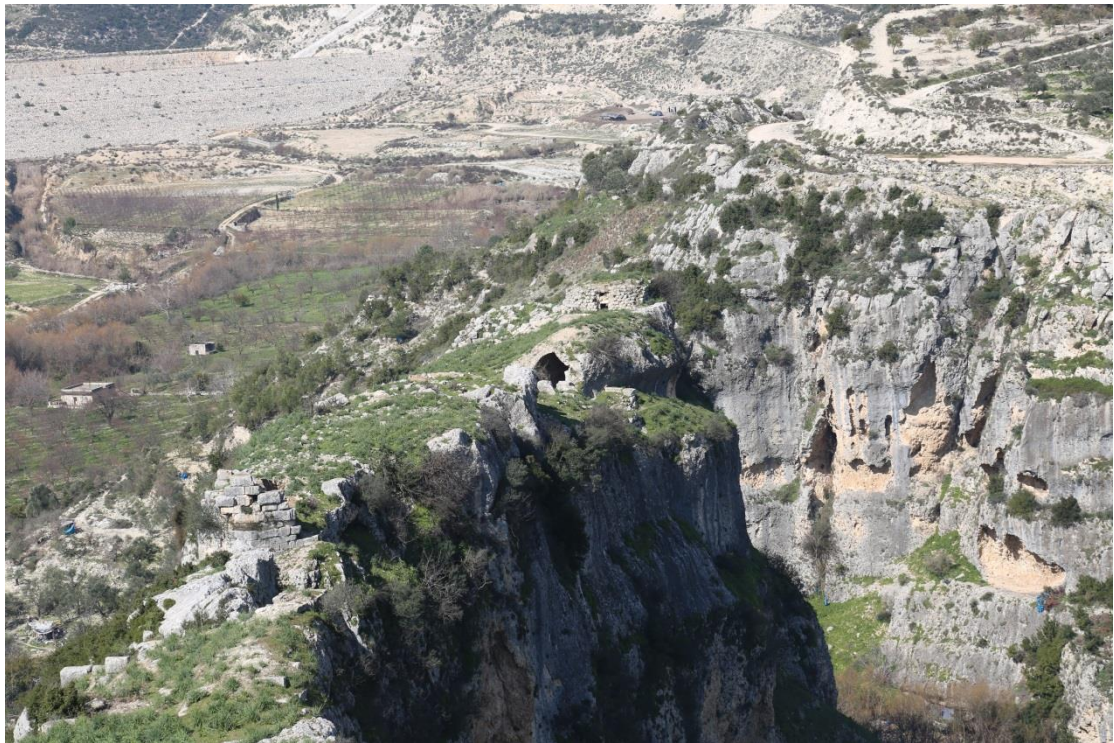
The collapse of some stones and the displacement of some walls, which resulted in cracks in walls













There are many villages and archaeological sites that contain many historical buildings in northwestern Syria, which need more time and resources to visit them and document the damage they suffered.

Some of the sites such as Mount Simeon Park (Brad), which includes: Brad, Kafr Nabo, Burj Haidar, Kalota, Kharab Shams and Park (Sinkhar), which includes: Sinkhar, villages of Batuta, Sheikh Suleiman, are within sight but they are unreachable to document the damages.

The documentation team will make frequent and periodic visits to document damages in important sites and provide more detailed reports on damage cases and emergency intervention methods that can be carried out to protect these sites and buildings from total collapse.

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