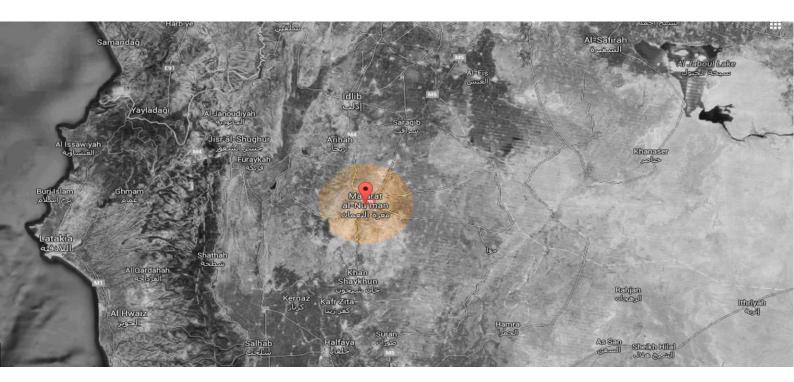


The Day After Heritage Protection Initiative

Site Monitors Project

Damage Report Ma'arra Museum Regime Airstrike May 9, 2016.



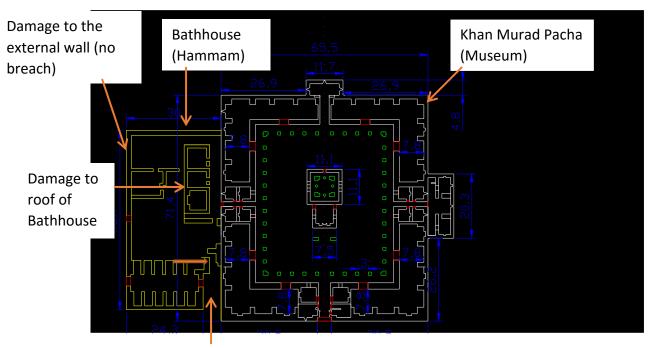
On Monday May 9th, 2016 at noon, the Museum of Ma'arra Al-Nu'man was struck for the second time by the Syrian regime air force with two rockets. The attack targeted the museum also know as Khan Murad Basha which was built in the 16th century during the Ottoman era (1564) and served as a Caravanserai, restaurant, and rest area for travelers.

The Khan occupies an area of 1.7 acres and is divided into 4 wings topped with domes. The wings are connected to service facilities: The central courtyard included a mosque and a restaurant, whereas the west wing housed a market place, a bathhouse, a bakery, grains storage area, and a water station that supplies the whole facility.



The damage caused by this most recent airstrike is severe especially in the bathhouse area and in the fourth ward on the west side of the building. The Day After Heritage Protection Initiative (TDA-HPI) site monitors team in conjunction with the Cultural Heritage Preservation Center (from Ma'arra) conducted an onsite assessment of the damage and documented it along with recommended urgent repairs stabilize the damaged areas and prevent further deterioration.

- 1- A breach in the western wall of the building in the fourth wing. The resulting rubble landed inside on the mosaics that the TDA Site Monitors team had previously sandbagged for protection. This measure was effective in preserving the mosaics, the most important of which is that of "Hercules".
- 2- Damage to the northwestern wall separating the Khan/museum from the bathhouse, which caused part of the exterior wall to collapse into the narrow corridor separating the two buildings.
- 3- The bathhouse roof including the dome and cupolas sustained severe damages.



Narrow corridor/between Bathouse and Khan (Museum). Damage cause



a breach/opening in the external wall of the museum.



Damage causing a breach in the wall (inside)







Damage causing a breach in the wall (outside)



Rubble collapse over the mosaic of Hercules. The mosaic appears to be undamaged due to the protection provided by the sandbags.





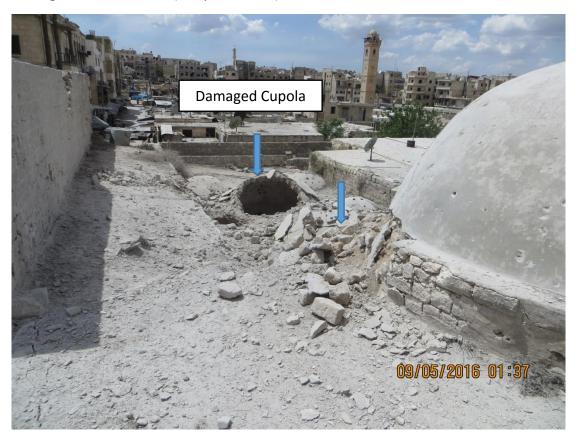


Rubble collapse over mosaic





Damage to external wall (see plan above)



Roof of the Bathhouse (Hammam)





Damage to the main dome on the Bathhouse (Hammam) roof

Reported by:

Eng. Abdul Rahman Alyehia (Syrian Heritage Centre)

Site Monitors Project Coordinator

Dr. Amr Al-Azm





