A photograph of a man in a military helmet and vest, holding a camera, with a blurred background of a vehicle and smoke.

Journalist and Photographer

OSAMA JUMAA

1997-2016

His life and work

The background image is a composite. In the foreground, on the left, is a man wearing a military helmet and a tactical vest. The vest has a patch that says 'PRESS' and another that says 'IMAGESLINE'. He is holding a large telephoto lens. In the background, there is a hazy, reddish-orange scene showing several people, some of whom appear to be being rescued or carried. The overall tone is somber and documentary.

Journalist and Photographer

OSAMA JUMAA

1997–2016

Osama Jumaa

Syrian Journalist and Photographer

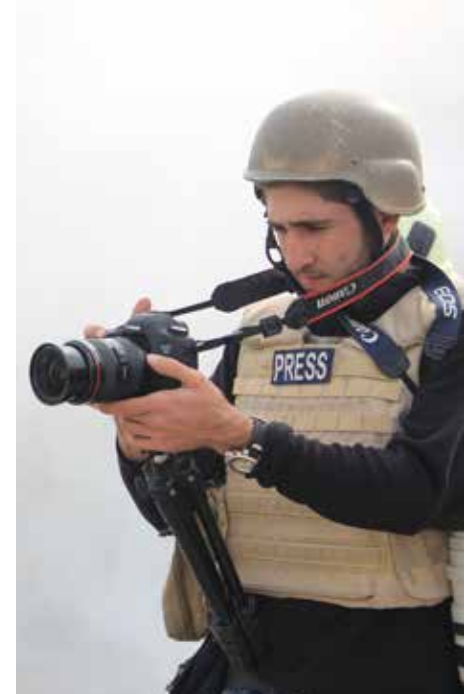
On June 5th 2016 Osama Jumaa was killed after being hit by artillery fire launched by the Syrian government in the district of Al-Mashad in Aleppo. Osama had gone to that neighbourhood to film the rescue of people trapped under the rubble following the bombardments. Just as the ambulance in which Osama was travelling reached

the site, the vehicle was hit by artillery fire and Osama was injured. As the driver and paramedic, Abdul Aziz Sharha, attempted to rescue Osama, they were both hit by artillery fire and Osama and the driver lost their lives. Osama was an extremely brave, independent, impartial young journalist, with deep integrity and great humanity.

Osama was twenty years old when he lost his life. He was born in Aleppo, Syria, although his family soon left Aleppo to live in the village of Taqd, to the west of Aleppo. His father was a school teacher before the Syria crisis. Journalist and film maker Medyan Dairieh knew Osama's family since the inception of the Syrian revolution and was hosted by them often for long periods whenever he went to Syria to cover the situation there. Osama's entire family has always been extremely hospitable and kind to Medyan.



Osama had always shown a great interest and passion for Medyan's cameras, and since he was quite young Osama had expressed to Medyan his desire to learn how to use them. While Medyan was staying with his family, Osama began gaining the first basic understanding of photography.





Osama trained in Turkey in journalism, photography, as well as in the production of documentaries with Images Live. Osama was also trained on the ground in Syria by Medyan Dairieh. The teaching had focused greatly on the necessity of impartiality, independence, and integrity of the journalist in reporting news. It also

emphasised the duty of journalists to show all parties involved in the conflict, while at the same time to remain objective and not to embrace any particular view. Osama had absorbed with extreme ease these principles of journalism.



Unlike many other young Syrians during the Syrian conflict, Osama had not joined any of the warring factions nor any party or organisation in Syria, thus maintaining an unbiased approach to the conflict that was reflected in his impartiality and great professionalism as a journalist. Osama's dream was to study photography and filmmaking in a Turkish university and arrangements were being made for him to do so.



During his training, Osama was also instructed in depth on the issue of safety. Osama died of serious injuries to his head, and his abdomen. He was also injured in his leg and arm. It is unknown why Osama was not wearing the helmet and body armour in the ambulance. One of Osama's uncles insisted on retrieving Osama's body, in spite of the extreme danger of the operation, which involved facing artillery fire and airstrikes in the al-Castello road.

Osama had reported about the al-Castello road a few days before losing his life. The road had been nicknamed 'the road to death' due to the heavy bombardments and artillery the road had recently seen. Sadly, Osama's body has now travelled along the road.

Osama's Reports



Breaking news: Al-Castello road, 'the road to death' in Aleppo, Syria



Aleppo, Syria. 2 June 2016. A child cries after losing his family members in a surface to surface missile attack in the Al-Ameria area of Aleppo. The Syrian Civil Defense is trying to rescue two of his younger siblings, who are trapped under the rubble and it is not known whether they are still alive.

Today is the third day of intense shelling in northern Syria. The number of casualties keeps rising as the Syrian Civil Defense and other rescuers continue to pull out victims from the rubble.

Government fighter jets have continued the shelling of the Al-Castello road, a strategic link between Aleppo and its countryside. As a result it is extremely dangerous to travel along that road, which has been recently called 'the road to death'. With the Al-Castello road being constantly targeted it is extremely dangerous to travel in and out of Aleppo. This in turn hinders the flight of refugees from Aleppo and makes the city of Aleppo and its million and a half inhabitants practically besieged.

*Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
Report: Tina Lozio/Images Live*

Breaking news: Bombardments of Aleppo continue for a second day

Aleppo, Syria. 31 May, 2016. Syrian regime forces jets have bombarded the district of Al-Sukkari in Aleppo four times. The airstrikes have led to ten people being injured.

Government fighter jets have also shelled the Al-Castello road, a strategic link between Aleppo and its countryside. As a result the road has remained closed for many hours today.

Idlib has also been subjected to heavy government forces airstrikes last night with at least 23 civilians killed as a result. While the UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights has blamed Russia for the airstrikes in Idlib, the Russian Defence Ministry has so far denied any involvement in the Idlib attacks.

Idlib is controlled by a coalition of rebel groups, which include the An-Nusra Front and Ahrar As-Sham. Alliances between the An-Nusra Front and other military factions in Syria have hindered the implementation of the truce in different parts of Syria according to the US. While Russia has been criticised for targeting non-jihadist rebels rather than just focusing on fighting An-Nusra and the Islamic State group, Moscow has called for other rebel groups to withdraw from areas controlled by Al-Nusra and break off from the jihadist groups.

According to the UN, more than 250,000 people have been killed in Syria since the protests erupted in 2011 and turned into a complex civil war.



*Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
Report: Tina Lozio/Images Live*



Breaking news: More than twenty killed in bombardments in Aleppo

Aleppo, Syria. 30 May, 2016. Syrian regime forces have bombarded the districts in Aleppo. The neighbourhood of Al-Sukkari in Aleppo has been attacked. The attack resulted in the death of one child and six civilians.

Since this morning, nearly twenty civilians in the Aleppo districts of Al-Shakur, Al-Almeria, Alkhalsa and Al-Haidarya have been killed with more than forty injured. Civil Defense workers have been looking for and rescuing the injured and removing the corpses from the debris.

Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
Report: Anna Rogers/Images Live



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
Report: Tina Lozio/Images Live

A number of civilians are killed during Russian airstrikes in Aleppo, Syria

Aleppo, Syria. 11, March 2016. A man cries in despair after his wife, son, daughter, mother-in-law, and neighbours are killed during Russian airstrikes in the Tabbarat al Madi neighbourhood of Aleppo. The man's five-year-old daughter is injured during the airstrikes.

More than ten people have also been killed and a number of people injured by Russian airstrikes in the Aleppo neighbourhood of al-Saliheen.

During the last two weeks Images Live has filmed in the Idlib area, in places such as Jisr as-Shugur and Maarat

An-Numan to check whether the ceasefire was respected. The areas have been subjected to Russian airstrikes on a daily basis leaving behind a number of civilians killed and injured. In one single night Jisr As-Shughur was hit by 60 rockets.

Indeed, 90% of the inhabitants of Jisr As-Shughur have left the town because of the Russian airstrikes, while only 10% are still in the town. The Civil Defense has been struggling to access the hit areas, while the outskirts of the town cannot be reached because of the intensity of the airstrikes.

Images Live has spent days in these areas and followed the Syria Civil Defense, thus seeing the Russian forces

violating the ceasefire and the impact of these actions on civilians. While areas around Idlib have been subjected to airstrikes almost daily, over the last two weeks, even though in a lesser intensity than previously, airstrikes in Aleppo have actually resumed in the last few days.

As for clashes between the regime forces and the opposition, Images Live has not witnessed clashes in general, but has only come across three injured militant fighters. The lack of major hostilities and clashes has been confirmed by the fact that when Images Live visited hospitals the casualties were civilians and caused by airstrikes.

The UN hopes that the reduction of violence due to the ceasefire in Syria will help to restart peace talks that collapsed in the previous month, and to put an end to the nearly five-year civil war.

While the Russians put emphasis on the violation of the ceasefire in Syria by militants, the American secretary Kerry argues that the two-week-old ceasefire in Syria is 'largely holding'. Although the US recognises that breaches have been carried out by the Syrian government through attacks on civilians and opposition forces, those violations should not derail the UN-mediated peace talks.

Bombardment of refugee camp in Syria a day after truce extension

Kamouna, Syria. 5 May, 2016. A mother cries as she looks at the remains of her family tent with the shoes of one of her children in her hands. Her family were killed in the refugee camp aircraft attack. She lost her husband and four of her children. Three other children were badly injured. The air attack, where at least 70 people are reported to have been killed, was in rebel-held northern Syria. This is close to the Turkish border near Sarmada in Idlib. It has not been confirmed whether the attack was by Syrian or Russian warplanes, but activists, civilians and aircraft surveillance said to Images Live that the bombardment was by the Russians. The attack came just a day after the temporary truce agreed between Syrian military and non-jihadi rebel forces was instigated around Aleppo.



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
Report: Anna Rogers/Images Live

Statements about Osama





Director-General deplores death of journalist Osama Jumaa in Syria

The Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, today denounced the killing of journalist Osama Jumaa in the city of Aleppo on 5 June.

"I condemn the killing of Osama Jumaa," the Director-General said. "I call on all parties in the conflict to respect the Geneva Conventions on the civilian status of journalists and their right to exercise their profession."

Jumaa was killed when artillery fire hit an ambulance in which he was being treated for injuries sustained while

covering the bombing of a residential neighbourhood of Aleppo. Jumaa had been working for Images Live, a British photo agency.

The Director-General of UNESCO issues statements on the killing of media workers in line with Resolution 29 adopted by UNESCO Member States at the Organization's General Conference of 1997, entitled "Condemnation of Violence against Journalists."

Reporters Without Borders

Reporters without Borders (RSF) is saddened to learn of 19-year-old Syrian press photographer Osama Jumaa's death in the northern city of Aleppo on 5 June and deplores the fact that the violence of the conflict in Syria makes it impossible for journalists to work safely.



The Centre has called for the United Nations and UNESCO to open an investigation about the death of journalist Osama Jumaa and to punish those responsible for his death, which must be considered an extremely serious war crime. The Arab Centre for the Freedom of the Press and the Media has called for the Federation of Arab Journalists, to set up the day Osama was killed as 'the Arab Press Day', and to celebrate the day every year.

Osama Jumaa passed away as a result of air raids on the city of Aleppo, while he was inside the ambulance, which was used to save the wounded and injured in AL-Mashad and AL-Zubdya neighbourhoods in the city of Aleppo after the town had witnessed heavy shelling in the morning.

Arab Centre for the Freedom of the Press

The Arab Centre for the Freedom of the Press mourns the death of Syrian journalist Osama Jumaa, who has passed away as a result of air strikes on the Syrian city of Aleppo. The Arab Centre for the Freedom of the Press has said in a statement that Osama Jumaa was one of the most important journalists to have devoted himself to professional work, and to have dedicated his life to provide the truth in many places and in serious journalistic tasks. Osama's most recent coverage was that of the Syrian Revolution, as well as the tragedy suffered by the Syrian people.



The Arab Union of Photographers:

The Arab Union of Photographers denounces the crime carried out against the Syrian photographer and journalist Osama Jumaa who died while undertaking his sacred duty during his coverage of the events in his country. The Union of Arab Photographers upholds its denunciation and condemnation of all such acts to which photographers and journalists are exposed to in Syria and in all the Arab countries; but the Union maintain hope that all the concerned authorities will provide all the necessary conditions for the protection of 'the messengers of the image and of the word' as well as the defence of their lives, since they stand as the symbol of free, honest, and committed journalism.



Tina Lozio of International Photo Media/Images Live:

"It is a real tragedy that we have lost a journalist of such deep integrity, impartiality and dedication. Osama was clearly a real precious gem, shining light on all people around him both in the professional and personal spheres. The tragic loss of Osama won't be felt only by his family, friends, IPM/Images Live, and Osama's news readers. Syria itself has lost a very capable, honest and reliable citizen, who should have played a fundamental role in the rebuilding of the country once the conflict had ended."



Journalist Osama Jumaa has been killed in Aleppo

London, UK, 5th June 2016. Osama Jumaa has been killed after being hit by bombardments caused by artillery fire launched by the Syrian government in the district of Al-Mashad in Aleppo. Osama had gone to that neighbourhood to film the rescue of people trapped under the rubble following the bombardments. Just as the ambulance in which Osama was travelling had reached the site, the vehicle was hit by artillery fire and Osama was injured. As the driver, himself a paramedic, attempted to rescue Osama, they were both hit by artillery fire and both Osama and the driver lost their life. We announce the news with our deepest sorrow. Osama was an extremely brave, independent, impartial young journalist with deep integrity and great humanity. Osama had trained in Turkey in journalism and photography with Images Live. Medyan Dairieh had known Osama's family from the inception of the Syrian revolution and was hosted by them whenever he went to Syria to cover the situation there. Osama's entire family has always been extremely hospitable and kind to Medyan. Unlike many other Syrian youngsters and young men

during the Syrian Revolution, Osama has kept himself separate from all the warring factions maintaining an impartial approach to the conflict that was reflected in his impartiality and great professionalism as a journalist. Osama trained in Turkey in journalism, photography, as well as in the production of documentaries with Images Live. Osama was also trained on the ground in Syria by Medyan Dairieh. The teaching had focused greatly on the necessity of impartiality, independence, and integrity of the journalist in reporting the news. It also emphasized the duty of journalists to show all the parties involved in the conflict, while at the same time to remain objective and not to embrace any particular view. Osama had absorbed with extreme ease these principles of journalism. Unlike many other young Syrians during the Syrian conflict, Osama had not joined any of the warring factions nor any party or organization in Syria, thus maintaining an unbiased approach to the conflict that was reflected in his impartiality and great professionalism as a journalist.





Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
Rebels during heavy fighting in the countryside of Aleppo stopping the advancing of the Syrian army supported by Russian airstrikes.

Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
More than twenty killed in bombardments in Aleppo.



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live

Young refugee searching through the remains of his school tent. The air attack where at least 70 people are reported to have been killed was in rebel-held northern Syria. This is close to the Turkish border near Sarmada in Idlib. It has not been confirmed whether the attack was by Syrian or Russian warplanes, but activists, civilians and aircraft surveillance said to Images Live that the bombardment was by the Russians. The attack came just a day after the temporary truce agreed between Syrian military and non-jihadi rebel forces was instigated.



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
More than twenty killed in bombardments in Aleppo.

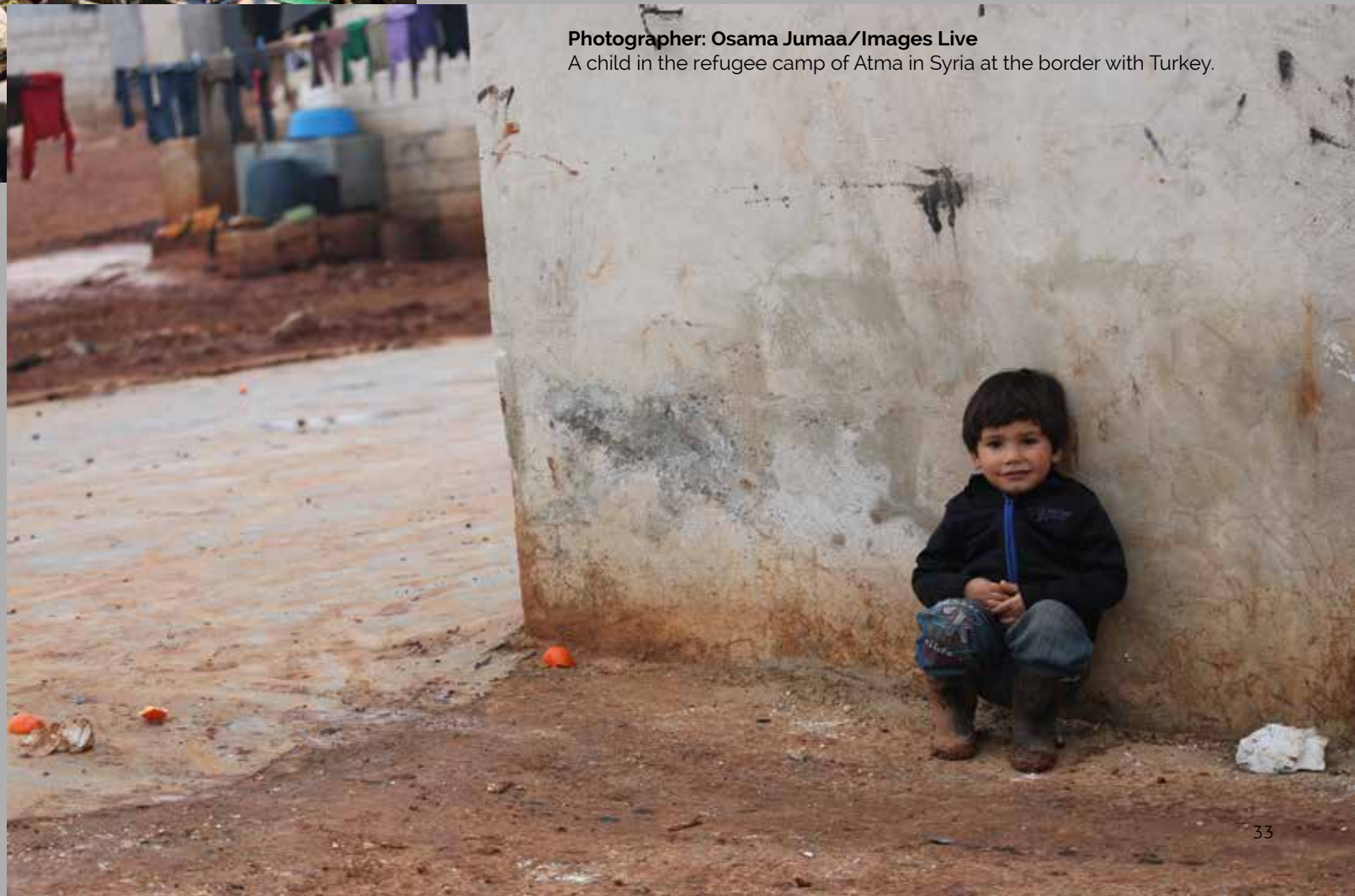


Children In The **WAR**



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live

Young refugee searching through the remains of his school tent. The air attack where at least 70 people are reported to have been killed was in rebel-held northern Syria. This is close to the Turkish border near Sarmada in Idlib. It has not been confirmed whether the attack was by Syrian or Russian warplanes, but activists, civilians and aircraft surveillance said to Images Live that the bombardment was by the Russians. The attack came just a day after the temporary truce agreed between Syrian military and non-jihadi rebel forces was instigated.



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live

A child in the refugee camp of Atma in Syria at the border with Turkey.



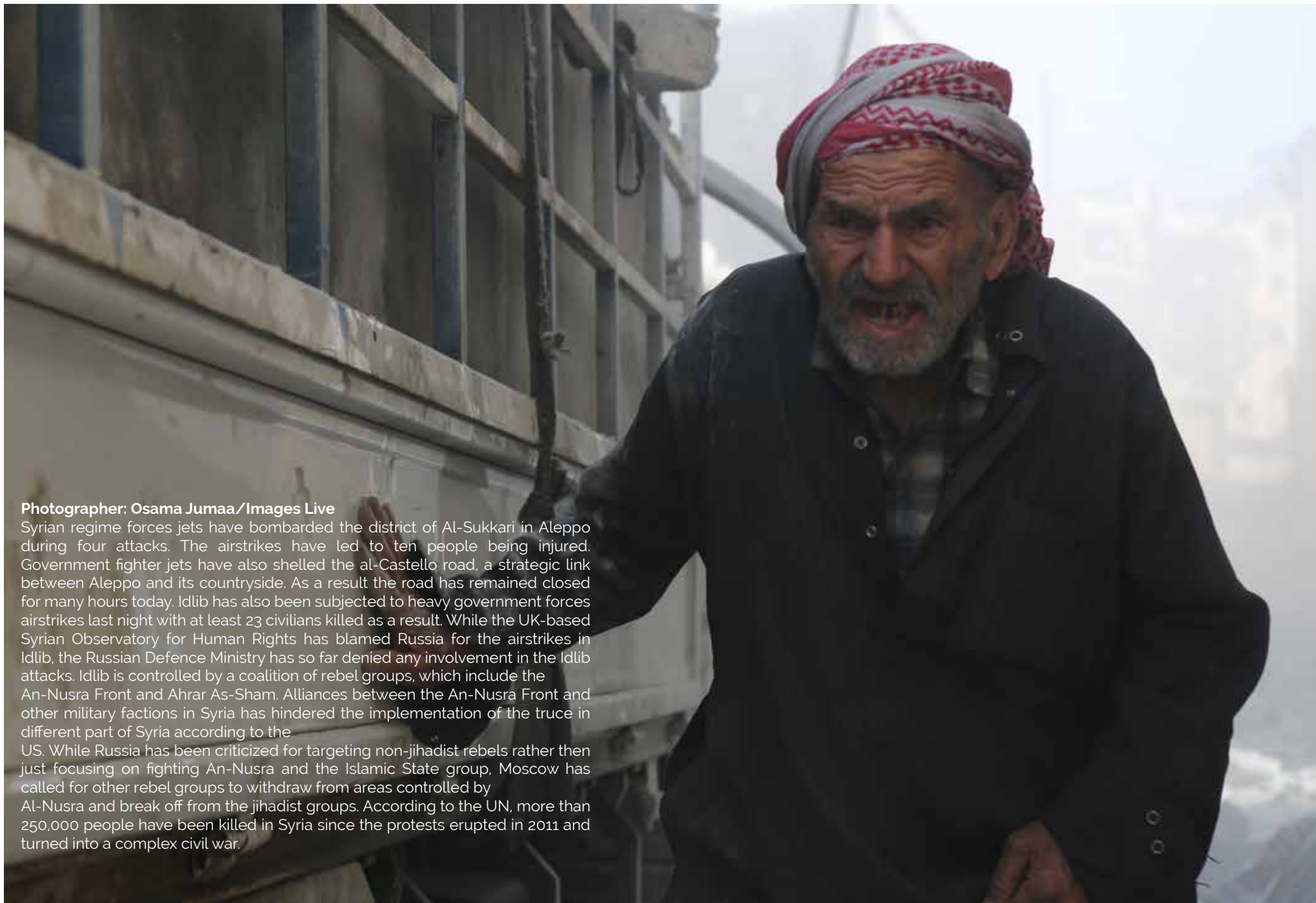
Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
Children eating bread in Aleppo.



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
Sunset in the northern countryside of Aleppo.



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live
Bombardment of Kamouna refugee camp in Syria a day after truce extension.



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live

Syrian regime forces jets have bombarded the district of Al-Sukkari in Aleppo during four attacks. The airstrikes have led to ten people being injured. Government fighter jets have also shelled the al-Castello road, a strategic link between Aleppo and its countryside. As a result the road has remained closed for many hours today. Idlib has also been subjected to heavy government forces airstrikes last night with at least 23 civilians killed as a result. While the UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights has blamed Russia for the airstrikes in Idlib, the Russian Defence Ministry has so far denied any involvement in the Idlib attacks. Idlib is controlled by a coalition of rebel groups, which include the An-Nusra Front and Ahrar As-Sham. Alliances between the An-Nusra Front and other military factions in Syria has hindered the implementation of the truce in different part of Syria according to the US. While Russia has been criticized for targeting non-jihadist rebels rather than just focusing on fighting An-Nusra and the Islamic State group, Moscow has called for other rebel groups to withdraw from areas controlled by AL-Nusra and break off from the jihadist groups. According to the UN, more than 250,000 people have been killed in Syria since the protests erupted in 2011 and turned into a complex civil war.



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live

Clashes between the Mujahedeen army (a faction of the Free Syrian Army) and the Syrian regime army are taking place in the AL-Rasheedeen district of Aleppo despite the ceasefire. Last night the regime forces shelled with rockets the neighbourhood of Al-Sukkari in Aleppo. The attack resulted in the death of twelve civilians and in the injury of more than twenty. Images Live has filmed the Civil Defense attending the bombed area after the attack, rescuing the injured and removing the corpses from the debris. During the last few days the regime jets have been attacking the Al-Castelo road in Aleppo with extremely heavy airstrikes. The al-Castelo road is a very strategic point since it is the only artery connecting the town of Aleppo to its countryside. The advancing of the Syrian army to the al-Castello road would lead Aleppo to be completely under siege. It is now expected that the al-Castelo road has been taken by the Syrian regime and that the road is semi-closed.

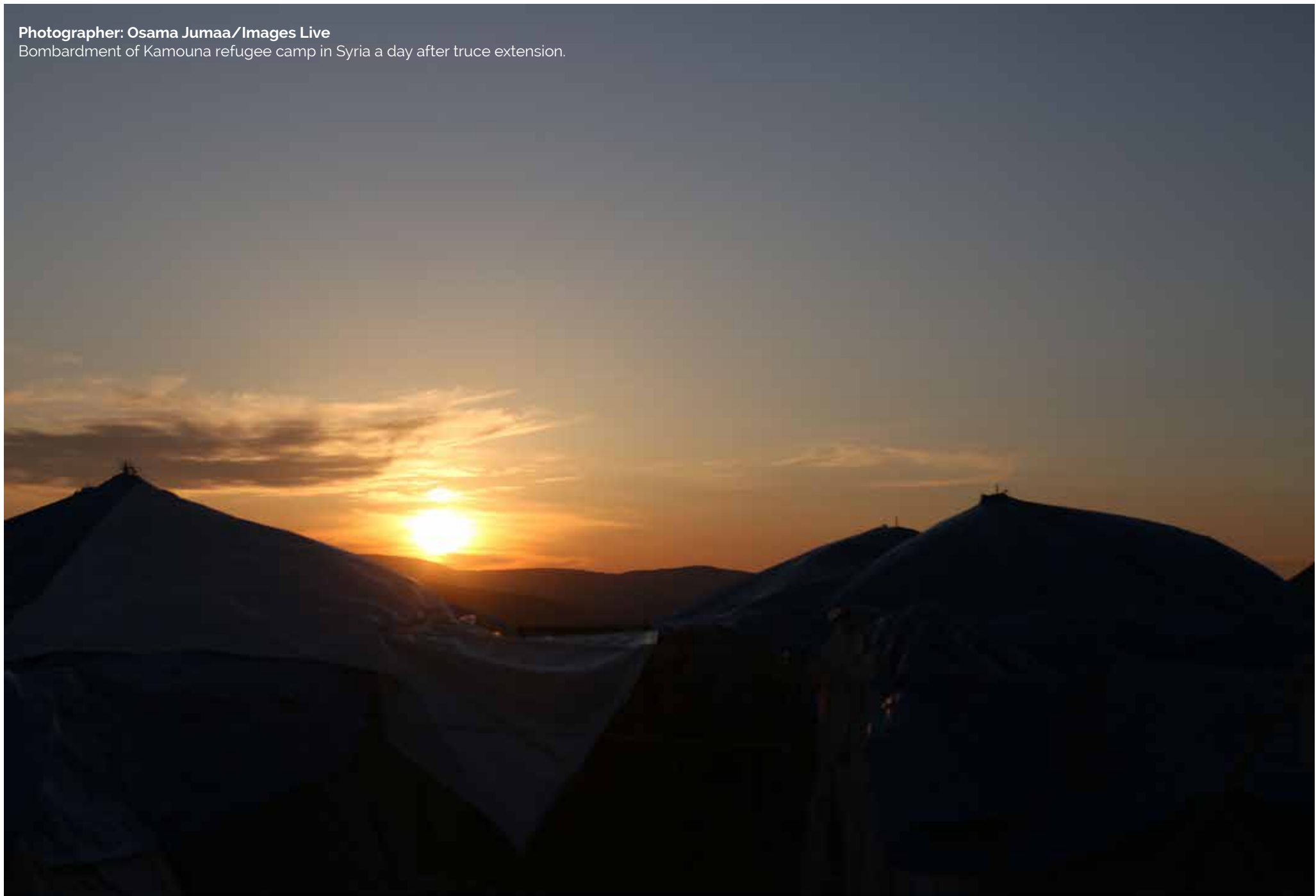
Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live

Bombardment of Kamouna refugee camp in Syria a day after truce extension.



Photographer: Osama Jumaa/Images Live

Bombardment of Kamouna refugee camp in Syria a day after truce extension.



When a journalist and photographer is free, impartial, independent, and brave, he certainly deserves the greatest appreciation and recognition for its excellence. This is the way Osama worked and what is left to us is to be inspired by him and to follow in his path.



©IPM and Images Live 2016
First published in 2016

Editor

Anna Samuels

Photographers

Basem Ayoubi

Louai Barakat

Design

Mahmut Erkal

Printed in

Teknografi Digital Marks Solition

IMAGESLIVE

International[®]
Photo Media

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the prior permission in writing of International Photo Media and Images Live.

IMAGESLIVE

International[®]
Photo Media



International Photo Media

www.photosmedia.net

www.imageslive.net