

Blast hits minibus carrying oil workers in eastern Syria, killing at least 20



Damascus, February 22 (RHC)-- Nearly two dozen people have lost their lives and a number of others sustained injuries when a powerful bomb explosion struck a minibus carrying workers employed in a major oil facility in Syria's eastern province of Dayr al-Zawr.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said a car rigged with explosives was detonated remotely in the town of al-Shuhayl, close to an oil field, which serves as a base for the so-called Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF).

The Britain-based group added that six members of the Kurdish-led SDF were also killed as they escorted the workers. Over a dozen people, mostly civilians, are killed in twin explosions in the militant-held northwestern Syrian city of Idlib.

Activists with relatives in the area said many of the young men in the blown-up minibus had come from work in the nearby al-Omar field. Video footage published on social media networks purportedly showed bodies lying on the ground following the attack.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack yet, but it bears the hallmark of attacks carried out by the Daesh Takfiri terror group.

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