

**Peace Agreement Access Tool PA-X <https://pax.peaceagreements.org/>**

Country/ entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	HTS declaration
Date	23 Jul 2017
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/local conflict ( Syrian Conflicts (1948 - ) (1976 - 2005) (2011 - ) )
Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Syrian Local Agreements
Parties	The first party: Hayat Tahrir al-Sham represented by brother Abu Obeida al- 'Askari he second party: Ahrar al-Sham movement represented by brother Muhammad Fareed
Third parties	The first witness Sheikh Ahmed Al Khaled The second witness Safwan al-Hasan The third witness Sheikh Ibrahim al- 'Awadh Abu Suleiman
Description	-

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Agreement document (original language) [SY\\_170723\\_HTS\\_Declaration.pdf](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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## Local agreement properties

Process type	Informal but persistent process
Rationale	-> Local issues only; no external support mechanism; culture of signing There is no formally established mechanism to support the negotiation between Salafi armed groups. Moreover, this agreement cannot be linked to the national peace process. Indeed, both groups have a Salafist ideology; they oppose the rule of Bashar al-Assad in Syria and reject the idea of a national negotiation to solve the conflict. The text mentions that the agreement solves "the internal fighting between the brothers" of HTS and HAS. Yet, it seems that both signing parties choose to solve daily pragmatic issues related to their armed struggle through agreements. Although one cannot speak of a "culture" of signing peace agreements, the parties are involved (in a non-proactive and non-conscious way) in a persistent practice of signing local agreements in Idlib governorate in July 2017.
Is there a documented link to a national peace process?	No
Link to national process: articulated rationale	No link to the national peace process in Syria is mentioned in the agreement, neither it can be inferred from further research. First, the agreement does not involve local governance actors; and the signing parties themselves are not official state representative. Second, all parties to the agreement reject the national peace process, as it would maintain Bashar al-Assad and the Syrian government in power. Yet, the agreement is related to multiple local level processes in Idlib governorate in July 2017.
Name of Locale	Mount Shashabo
Nature Of Locale	Region
GPS Lat/ Long (DD)	35.562845, 36.444781
Participant type	Local armed group Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder
Mediator, facilitator or similar	Mediator or similar referred to
Mediator (references)	The agreement was signed in the presence of the elders of Mount Shashabo represented by: - Sheikh Ahmed al-Khaled Abu Majed - Safwan Ismaeel al-Hasan - Amr Muhammad al-Jasem - Abdul Fattah al-Ahmad - Mahmoud al-Obeid al-Alewi - Nuri Hasan al-Othman

Type of mediator/facilitator/similar Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder

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## Local issues

Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture) Page 1, In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful Page 1, Done and praise to Allah [...]

Grievance List The agreement addresses the local grievances that arose from the clashes between Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and Ahrar al-Sham in Mount Shashabo. It seems that the handover of Ahrar al-Sham's headquarters to the civil population was a main point of contention.

Cattle rustling/banditry No specific mention.

Social cover No specific mention.

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