

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

Country/ entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Agreement between Harakat Ahraru al-Sham and Hayat Tahrir al-Sham in al-Ghab Plain
Date	9 Jan 2019
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/local conflict (Syrian Conflicts (1948 -) (1976 - 2005) (2011 -))
Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Syrian Local Agreements
Parties	Hayat Tahrir al-Sham Harakat Ahraru al-Sham
Third parties	-
Description	Short agreement that provides for the dissolving of Harakat aḥrāru a-Shām and the administrative and military arrangements that follow.

Agreement document [SY_190109_Agreement between Harakat Ahraru a-Sham and Hay at Tahrir al-Sham in al-Ghab Plain.pdf](#)  | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [SY_190109_Agreement between Harakat Ahraru a-Sham and Hay at Tahrir al-Sham in al-Ghab Plain_AR.pdf](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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. Yet, it seems that both signing parties (especially Hayat Tahrir al-Sham) 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. The agreement is related to multiple local level processes in Idlib governorate in late-2018 and early-2019 between opposition groups. Also, the two signing parties agreed on prisoners exchanges in this same locale the day before this agreement was signed.

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. Finally, the agreement should be understood in the context of an “intra-religious insurgent groups” conflict where several factions that all oppose Bashar al-Assad engaged in fighting and took some distance from their initial raison d’être in the context of the Syrian civil war.

Name of Locale al-Ghab area and mountain Shashabo

Nature Of Locale Region

GPS Lat/Long (DD) 35.546858, 36.405168

Participant type Local armed group

Mediator, facilitator or similar No mention of mediator or similar

Local issues

Ritual/ prayer and process (including use of scripture)	Page 1, In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful
Grievance List	Although the agreement does not refer to specific causes of the conflict, sources confirm that it was brokered following clashes between the two signing parties in al-Ghab area the day before the agreement was agreed on. Hayat Tahrir al-Sham launched an offensive against Al-Jabhat al-Wataniya lil-Tahrir in Al-Ghab Plain region in northwestern Hama. According to reports, Hayat Tahrir al-Sham captured Al-Ankawi and Al-Amqiya, as well as Al-Zaqum, Al-Daqmaq, Qalidin, and Al-Hamidiyah.
Cattle rustling/ banditry	No specific mention.
Social cover	No specific mention.
