

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

Country/ entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Agreement between Tahrir al-Sham and the elders of several villages 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	Tahrir al-Sham Elders of the villages of al-Hawash, al-Hawija, al-Hawiz, al-Hurriyyah, al-Hamra, Bab al-Taqaq, and Shariyyah
Third parties	-
Description	Three-point agreement providing for the administrative affiliation of villages to the Salvation government, neutralization and demilitarization of the villages

Agreement document [SY_190109_Agreement between Tahrir al-Sham and the elders of villages in al-Ghab Plain_EN.pdf](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [SY_190109_Agreement between Tahrir al-Sham and the elders of villages 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. Yet, it seems that 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, at least one of the parties is 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 and local elders.

Is there a documented link to a national peace process?

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, a key party to the agreement rejects the national peace process, as it would maintain Bashar al-Assad and the Syrian government in power. Finally, the agreement complements another agreements signed on the same day between Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and Ahrar al-Sham in the same area. As such, these agreements 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 Plain

Nature Of Locale Region

GPS Lat/Long (DD) 35.557691, 36.346081

Participant type Local armed group
Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations

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	No specific mention.
Cattle rustling/ banditry	No specific mention.
Social cover	Page 1, Third: Exempting members of Ahrar al-Sham from any rights of the Hayat
