

Syria Security Forces Kill More than 100 Protesters

The United States strongly condemned the Syrian government's brutal repression of demonstrations in the Middle Eastern nation. According to the AFP, more than 100 people were killed on Wednesday as security forces clashed with activists.

In particular, White House spokesman Jay Carney cited the violence and killings of civilians at the hands of security forces.

"We reject the use of violence under any circumstances. We are also deeply troubled by the arbitrary arrests of human rights activists and others.

"Those responsible for the violence must be held accountable. The United States stands for a set of universal rights, including the freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, and believes that governments must be responsive to the legitimate aspirations of their people.

"We call on the Syrian government to exercise restraint and respect the rights of its people and call on all citizens to exercise their rights peacefully."

The Alawite-controlled Baath party has ruled the nation of Syria for nearly five decades. Large protests there are demanding change.