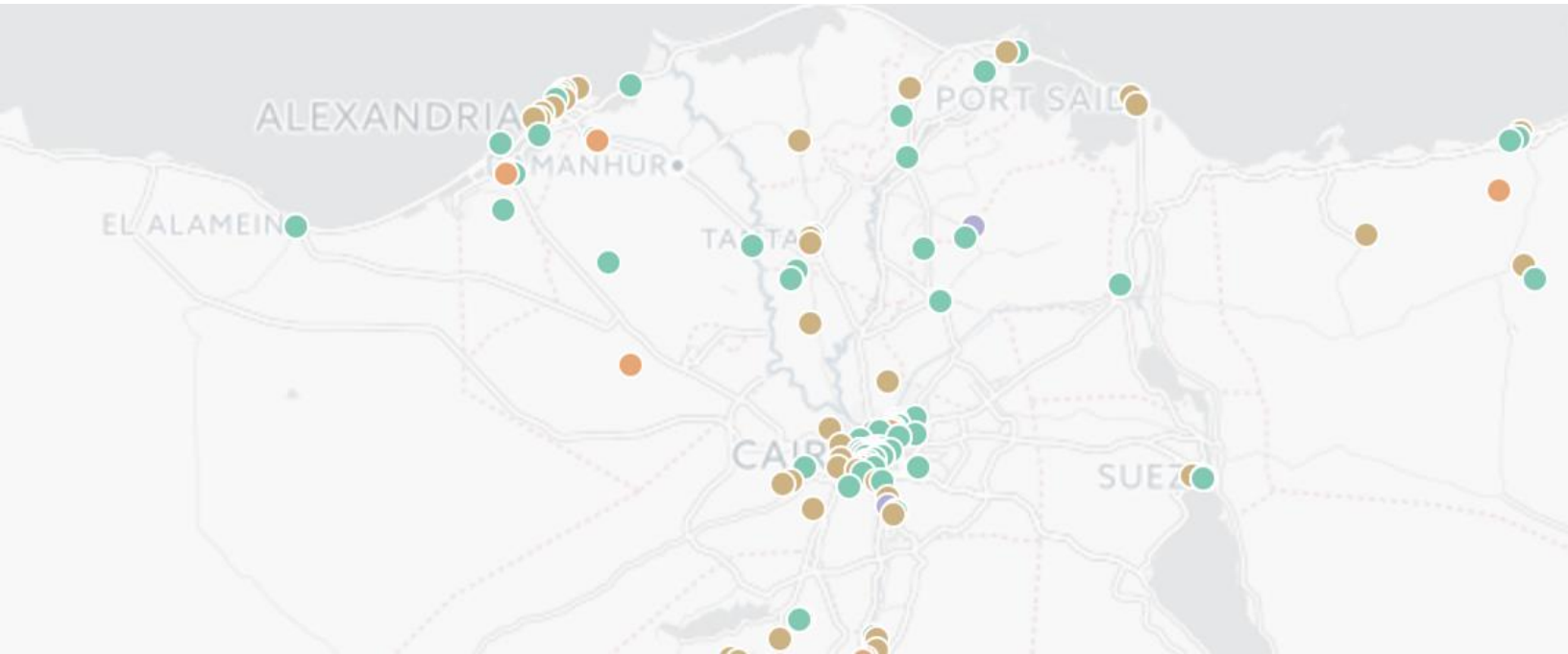

ESHHAD QUARTERLY TREND REPORT

April–June 2017

Eshhad: Center for the Protection of Minorities

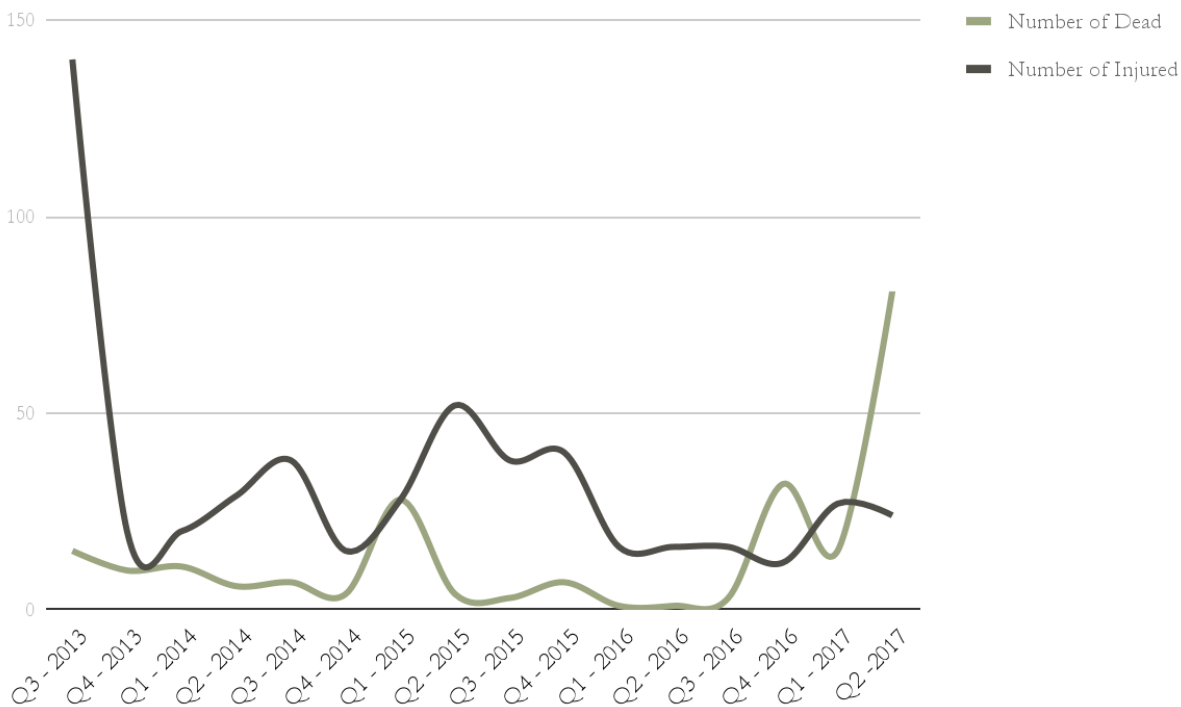


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Eshhad documented **24 incidents** in the second quarter of 2017. Of the **24 incidents** documented, **21 incidents** were against Christians, **one incident** targeted a Shi'a Muslim, and **two incidents** involved both Sunni Muslims and Christians.¹

This quarter, **81 people** were killed in sectarian violence compared to **15 deaths** the previous quarter. This is the highest recorded number of deaths during any quarter since Eshhad began documenting (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Total Dead and Injured Since August 2013



In the second quarter of 2017, **seven incidents** of the documented **24 incidents** occurred in Minya. Overall, Minya and Assiut rank as the two provinces to have witnessed the most sectarian incidents since Eshhad started documenting in August 2013 (Figures 2 and 3). Although Assiut remains the location with the second highest number of incidents overall, this quarter Eshhad documented **zero incidents** in the province. In the past two quarters, Cairo and Alexandria have both risen in ranking on the list of provinces with the most sectarian incidents, with Cairo likely to bypass Assiut in coming months if the trend continues.

¹ For more information on Christians and other non-majority religious groups in Egypt, refer to Eshhad's issue briefs located on our website at <http://eshhad.org/issue-briefs>.

Figure 2: Total Incidents Since August 2013

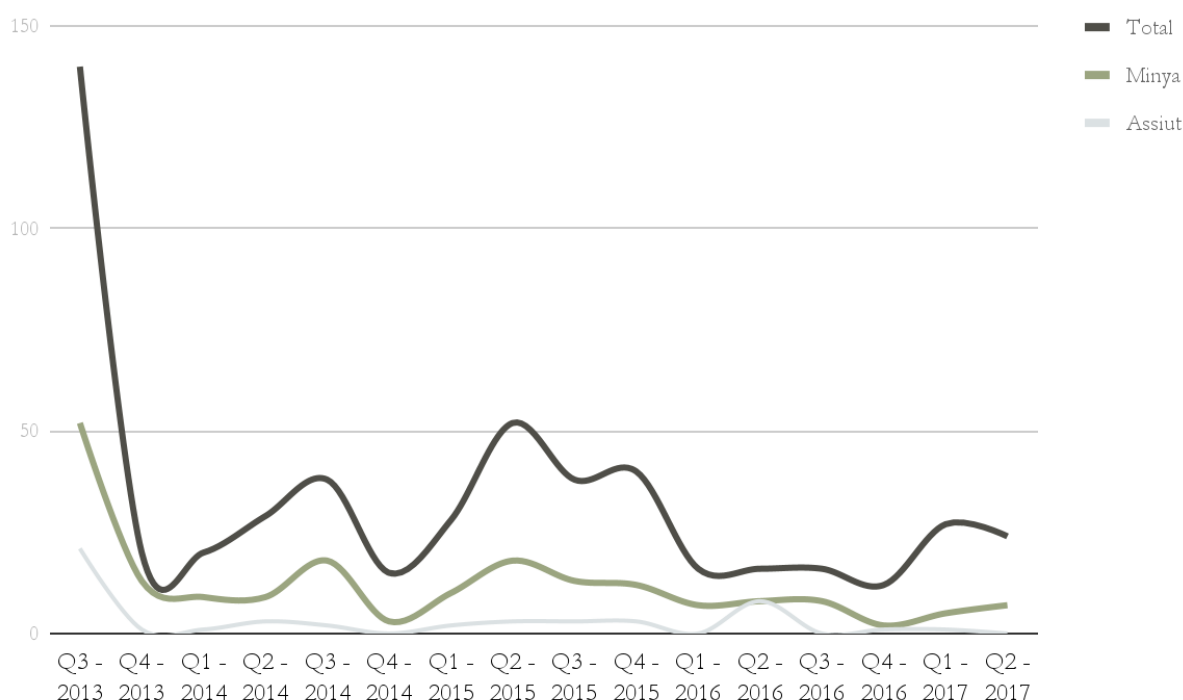


Figure 3: Provinces with the Most Sectarian Incidents (Total Since August 2013)

Ranking	Incident Location (Province)	Total Incidents Through Q2 2017
1	Minya	194
2	Assiut	43
3	Cairo	42
4	Beni Suef	28
5	Sohag	24

During the second quarter of 2017, there were no changes in the ranking of the districts with the most sectarian incidents, though each district did experience additional incidents (Figure 4). Cairo and Alexandria remain ranked on this list after having risen onto it in the first quarter of this year.

Figure 4: Districts with the Most Sectarian Incidents (Total Since August 2013)

Ranking	Incident Location (District)	Total Incidents Through Q2 2017
1	Minya, Minya	60
2	Samalout, Minya	52
3	Cairo	42
4	Malawi, Minya	24
5	Alexandria	20

Three of this quarter's incidents were **abductions or disappearances**, bringing the total to 97 since August 2013—still the most prevalent incident type to be recorded overall. According to Figure 5, looting/destruction of property and arson/burning are the second and third most frequent incident types, a consistent trend overall.

Consistent with the spike in deaths in 2017, as first seen in the first quarter of this year, Eshhad documented **three bombings, one beheading, three shootings, and two stabbings** this quarter.

Figure 5: Top Incident Types since August 2013

Ranking	Incident Type	Total Through Q2 2017	Q2 2017
1	Abductions/Disappearances	97	3
2	Looting/Destruction of Property	71	0
3	Arson/Burning	70	1
4	Shooting	41	3
5	Assault	29	2

Non-state actors carry out a vast majority of sectarian incidents in Egypt: of the **534 total incidents** recorded since August 2013, state actors directly carried out **75 of the incidents (14 percent)** and non-state actors carried out **459 incidents (86 percent)**.

Figure 6: Number of Incidents Committed by State and Non-State Actors

	Total Through Q2 2017	Q2 2017
Non-State Actors	459 (86%)	21 (87%)
State Actors	75 (14%)	3 (13 %)
Total	534	24

This quarter, of the **21 incidents** perpetrated by non-state actors, **seven incidents**, compared to **10** last quarter, were claimed by two different branches of Islamic State, the Islamic State in Egypt and Wilayat Sinai.

Figure 7: Incidents Perpetrated by the Islamic State in Egypt and Wilayat Sinai in the Second Quarter of 2017

4/9/17	29 Dead in Bombing at St. George's Cathedral in Tanta, Claimed by ISIS	Islamic State in Egypt
4/9/17	18 Killed in Bombing at St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral, Claimed by ISIS	Islamic State in Egypt
4/12/17	Bomb Discovered and Dismantled at Church in Shubra	Islamic State in Egypt
4/19/17	Checkpoint Leading to St. Catherine's Monastery in South Sinai Attacked by ISIS	Wilayat Sinai
5/5/17	Islamic State Warns Egypt's Muslims to Avoid Christian Gatherings	Islamic State in Egypt
5/6/17	Christian Barber Killed Upon Returning to Arish	Wilayat Sinai
5/26/17	Bus Heading to St. Samuel's Monastery Attacked in Minya by ISIS, 28 Dead	Islamic State in Egypt

Note: The fact that victims of sectarianism in Egypt are predominantly Christian is a consistent and unsurprising trend. Christian denominations make up the majority of religious minorities in Egypt, and many smaller minority groups are not always vocal or public when incidents do occur, which leads to significant under-reporting and lack of data. Although it is known that Egypt's minorities are all discriminated against or persecuted in a variety of ways, incidents against Christians dominate the statistics: Between August 2013 and the second quarter of 2017, *of the recorded incidents*, **92 percent** of the victims targeted self-identify as Christians.