Syria uses a ‘security solution’ to crush uprising: author

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Staff Reporter

Syria is drowning in a vicious civil war as its headstrong president, Bashar Assad, wilfully destroys the country in piecemeal fashion in a desperate bid to ensure his survival and that of his brutal, dictatorial Baathist regime.

The popular uprising in Syria – Israel’s most turbulent neighbour – broke out in March 2011 and has since turned increasingly violent.

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The revolt began as a peaceful protest, but due to the regime’s heavy-handed response, it degenerated into a life-and-death struggle.


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The revolt erupted in the periphery, in the flyblown southern town of Dara’a, and gradually spread to major urban centres such as Homs, Hama, Aleppo and Damascus, he notes.

In Dara’a, government agents arrested 15 schoolchildren who had courageously scrawled anti-regime graffiti on walls. They were thrown into prison and tortured. Protests broke out as parents demanded their immediate release.

In reaction to further demonstrations, police used live ammunition, worsening the situation. Instead of using kid gloves to defuse the tension, Wieland says, the regime,...