

## Syrian army defections reported on the rise

Contributed by Administrator  
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Syrians living in a small town in the centre of the country claim an armoured column of government tanks fired heavy machine guns on them because dozens of soldiers had defected.

Witnesses say soldiers began changing sides three months ago in Rastan which is about 20 kilometres north of Homs.

Activists report an increasing number of army desertions since the fall of the Gaddafi regime in Libya.

Pictures posted on the internet purport to show residents in Homs calling for President Assad to be executed.  
{youtube}eHsusc9mWLY{/youtube}