Introduction:

Deir Sunbul is a village in the Idlib governorate that dates back to the Byzantine era. It is an important archaeological site (part of the Dead Cities) due to the unique diversity in its architecture.

Located about 32 Km south of Idlib City, Deir Sunbul in Jabal Zawiyah is home to many relatively intact tombs, palaces, residential buildings, a basilica church, olive presses, the tower, water wells and basins, and a collection of carvings on facades and door and window.

Recently the site sustained damage due to vandalism, in particular the building known as the palace. The event was recorded and widely reported on social media.
On 10/5/2017, site monitors of the Syrian Heritage Center visited the site and carefully documented the damage.

Site before sustaining damage

As documented by Syrian Heritage Center’s site monitors on 4/16/2015

Destroyed structure
Structure before the destruction (Southeast side)
Images of the site after the destruction as a result of vandalism

Destroyed structure

Destroyed structure
Damaged rocks

Destroyed structure
Structure completely destroyed
Reported by:
Eng. Abdul Rahman Alyehia (Syrian Heritage Centre)

**Site Monitors Project Coordinator**

Dr. Amr Al-Azm