

The Democratic Society Movement, TEV-DEM



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Turkish army and gangs know no bounds in immorality in Afrin

The Turkish state and their allied gang groups continue their invasion attacks against Afrin with new immoral practices every day. In their attacks against the city, 800 civilians (93 of them women) have been wounded, while 228 civilians (28 of them women) have been martyred to date. The Turkish soldiers and their gangs started to loot the people's properties after they entered the city. There have been immoral and inhumane attacks against peoples all at the same time.

According to a report by Hawar News Agency, the Turkish state and their gangs have raped, abducted or murdered at least 28 women from Afrin in the last month. Despite these practices, the invaders are attempting to use the name of Islam in the city. They aim to implement ISIS ideology, and the Turkish soldiers are now forcing the women in Afrin to cover up and wear long dresses.

ABDUCTED FOR BEING A P.E. TEACHER

A source from the Selûrê village in Jindirese stated that a village woman who refused to comply with the orders of the Turkish soldiers and the gangs was raped and tortured. Another source said a woman named Zozan Beşîr Silêman who was returning to Afrin from the Kefer Sefrê village of Jindirese was abducted. Zozan's family said their daughter was abducted because she is a P.E. teacher.

MISCARRIED DUE TO TORTURE

Turkish soldiers and their gangs also abducted a 21-year-old woman named Xedîce Riyad from the Shiye district. Xedîce was pregnant and lost her baby due to the torture she was subjected to. Xedîce is still held prisoner by the gangs. In the Korka village of Mabata, the body of a 30-year-old woman was discovered. The body showed signs of torture and could not be identified.

FATE OF ABDUCTED WOMEN UNKNOWN

In Mabata's Şîtka village, the Turkish soldiers and their gangs raped two women and abducted 13 others. The gangs and the soldiers also abducted three women from the Ibêdan village of Bilbilê, while 3 girls were abducted by the gangs in a village of Mabata. The fate of the abducted women and girls is unknown as of now.

Turkish soldiers also abducted a woman named Emîne Elî from the Meydankê district and two women named Leman and Mewlîde from the Ashrafiya neighborhood.

Kongreya Star Afrin Coordination Member Fatma Lekto stated that the Turkish state and their allies have left many children without mothers with their barbaric attacks. Lekto protested the silence by human rights organizations in the face of what happened and demanded an immediate end to the immorality.¹

¹ <https://anfenglish.com/rojawa/turkish-army-and-gangs-know-no-bounds-in-immorality-in-afrin-26604>

Campaign to document Turkey's violations and crimes in Afrin

Aiming to document Turkey's crimes and violations which were practiced against Afrin's people, al-Shahba and Afrin Councils started to launch a campaign to document those violations and send them to international and rights organizations to put an end to those violations and crimes.

In this regard, Hawar news agency conducted an interview with the spokesman of Tal Qirah Council of al-Shaba canton, Haider Rashid, who participated in this campaign. He said: "In front of the eyes of all international countries and humanitarian organizations, the attacks of the Turkish army and its mercenaries have caused great destruction and damage to civilian property in Afrin, in addition to massacres and violations against the people, we hold all those countries who have been silent responsible for this destruction and these violations. "

Haider stressed that as the Councils of al-Shahba and Afrin, they launched a campaign to document these violations by forming committees that will visit all residents of Afrin living in al-Shahba canton to collect statistics about the property that was stolen, looted and destroyed by the Turkish army and its mercenaries; to document and send them to international organizations in order to put an end to the Turkish aggression in Afrin.²

Turkish forces kidnap 5 more people from Afrin

Turkish invasion forces have kidnapped 5 more people from Afrin and taken them to an unknown location.

According to reports, Turkish soldiers kidnapped 5 people in Afrin today. According to information provided by a source from within the city, women and children are among those abducted.



² <http://hawarnews.com/en/haber/campaign-to-document-turkish-occupations-violations-crimes-against-afrins-people-h1331.html>

While a Kurdish woman by the name of Xedîce was abducted in Ashrafiyah neighborhood, names of the other victims are; 16 years old Ebdulrehman Misto from Kaxirê village of Mabata, Hikmet Heyder Remedan from the village of Hajiko, Reşîd Mustefa and his son Berazî Reşîd from Mashala village of Shera.

The Turkish state forces are systematically committing war crimes in Afrin region together with gang groups affiliated to them.³

Body of Êzidî man murdered in Afrin found

The corpse of an Ezidi resident of Afrin, Umer Memo, who had been missing for three days, was found. The man had gunshot wounds on his body.

An inhabitant of the village of Qîbarê in Afrin, Umer Memo (Ebû Henan) had been missing for three days until his dead body, with gunshot wounds, was found by villagers.



Residents of the village told the ANHA news agency that they had protested against the plundering and threats of the Turkish military and had therefore been threatened.⁴

Afrin: A landscape of unprecedented Arabization

A wave of Arabization started in the Kurdish city of Afrin in northwest Syria soon after its takeover by Arab rebel groups and Turkish forces, a process that continues to this day, according to evidence on the ground and statements from international organizations, including the United Nations.

Kurds made up 95 percent of Afrin's population before operation Olive Branch was launched

³ <https://anfenglish.com/rojava/turkish-invasion-forces-kidnap-5-more-people-from-afrin-26639>

⁴ <http://hawarnews.com/en/haber/yazidis-corpse-kidnapped-by-turkish-mercenaries-in-afrin-found-h1363.html>

by Turkish troops against the Kurdish Peoples Protection Units (YPG). Arab families from other parts of Syria have been since pouring into the city and replacing many Kurds who fled during the clashes.

Families from the province of Idlib were the first to turn up and settle in the surrounding villages. Idlib is under the control of extreme groups like the Tahrir al-Sham, which adopted its new name from the former al-Nusra Front to escape the UN terror list.

Before long people from Azaz, al-Bab and Jarablus came and settled in villages around Sharran and Rajo. Most have resettled in the Yezidi villages of Qastal Jindo and Baflon.

This Arab resettlement campaign in Afrin gained momentum after many families from East Ghouta were transported according to an agreement between the Syrian regime and the opposition under Russian auspices.

During the Turkish military operation with its Arab allies many Afrin residents fled to nearby regime-controlled towns for safety and vacating the city in the process. Their places were soon filled with opposition fighters and their families. The arrivals became a daily routine.

A source inside Afrin who did not want to be named told Rudaw that Arabs now make up at least 60 percent of the 200,000 people living in Afrin city...⁵

MEP Ward: There is a form of ethnic cleansing in Afrin

The delegation from UK has arrived Rojava on the 8th of May as part of the campaign “Women Rise Up For Afrin” of Kongreya Star, the umbrella organization of women of Rojava.

After visiting Kobanê and Cizîre cantons, PYD, Syrian Democratic Council, Jinwar the women’s village, Kongreya Star and culture-arts institutions as well as economy institutions, the delegation wanted to visit Shehba in order to observe the situation of the refugees from Afrin. Due to the closed roads they could not cross to Shehba. They visited a family which was settled in Kobanê.

A member of the delegation, Julia Ward, who is a left-wing parliamentarian commented on her observations and the occupational attacks of the Turkish state for ANF.

“BRITISH PARLIAMENT IS BUSY WITH UNHOLY ARMS TRADE DEALS”

Emphasizing the number of supporters of the Afrin resistance inside the parliament, Julia Ward said: “This is not the case in the British Parliament, currently we have a very right-wing conservative government. They are busy with making unholy trade deals with Mr. Erdogan to sell arms, military equipment and training.

This is because of Brexit. Because Theresa May needs to find trade partners as she will not have any trade within the EU. She is holding hands with president Trump who is an

⁵ <http://www.rudaw.net/english/middleeast/syria/14052018>

abomination and she is going to meet Mr. Erdogan who is another abomination. These trade deals are much about military hardware.

“BEING HERE IS VERY INSPIRING”

Julia Ward continues her words by saying it is very inspiring to be in Rojava and said: “Women are in the center of the resistance. I understand the concept of defense; defending your values, defending it in every way, defending it through education, through participation, through economic activities. And also the women who choose to fight.

I am a pacifist. It is quite challenging for me to meet women who are prepared to take up arms to fight. I see it, I have a great respect for the women who do this. Also women of my own country like Anna Campbell who came here to defend these values, too.”

“WE COULD OBSERVE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CONFLICT”

Expressing their willingness to visit the camps in Shehba, Julia Ward told her observations after visiting a family who fled from Afrin: “We met woman, her husband, sister and her mother. The woman had new born twins and another child, 3 years old. Her mother was very disabled and her husband had been injured. I directly met and talk with a refugee family from Afrin. I heard their situation, their distress, their fear.

They have been given a temporary home in Kobanê but they had to leave our olive trees, we had to leave our animals. Here are people who had been self-sufficient by growing their own food, by looking after their animals, by having this extended family. There are thousands of people displaced by the Turkish military’s actions. The most important thing is we have met people who have been directly affected by the conflict.”

Julia Ward said she talks about the truth when she is in the parliament so that she will be able to report about the situation with the refugees on a personal level. She said: “What these people want is to return to their homes. We need to find a way for them to go back to their rightful homes. They cannot go back while the place is dangerous, when they may be subject to more violence. There has to be an effort to make Afrin safe for them.

What is really worrying is, we are hearing, that people are being brought into Afrin and given these homes. There is a demographic shift in the population, which is a form of ethnic cleansing. This kind of situation happened in other parts of the world and it creates a real problem in the long term. We have to recognize this in the international political scene. This creates an additional barrier in the question of how to overcome the situation. Afrin was a place of diversity, there were many different communities lived there in peace together. They did not have a problem with each other. There was a mutual tolerance and respect. To have a mono culture would be in Mr. Erdogan’s interest, and this is a real problem.”⁶

⁶ <https://anfenglish.com/features/mep-ward-there-is-a-form-of-ethnic-cleansing-in-afrin-26685>

Women in al-Tabqa get rid of slavery by training

The Syrian Women Academy in al-Tabqa ended on Wednesday its 3rd course which was held on behalf of the Martyr Rojbin Arab after 25 days of intensive training.

27 trainees from all institutions of the Democratic Civil Administration of al-Tabqa and members of the Internal Security Forces participated in the course.



During the training, members received intensive intellectual lessons on free life, the history of women, the Middle East, the special war and the democratic nation.

The training helps women understand the reality that the peoples of the Middle East are going through in general and women in particular and their suffering during the last 7 years as a result of the war.

On this occasion, the administrator of the Women's Council in al-Tabqa Solin Hassen congratulated the trainees for the success of this course and assured that the aim of these courses is to educate women intellectually and to be introduced to their role, personality, rights and history, and to be an active member in building a free and democratic society.⁷

Medical workers and rights defenders abducted in Afrin

The Turkish state and their allied gangs entered Afrin with their barbaric attacks and are resorting to practices like abduction, murder, rape and forced conversion as the city residents refuse to bow down to invaders.

⁷ <http://hawarnews.com/en/haber/women-in-al-tabqa-get-rid-of-slavery-by-training-h1459.html>

According to the city residents, Afrin Human Rights Organization Chairperson Lawyer Mihemed Cemil was abducted 2 months ago at a control point set up by Turkish soldiers.



There had been no information on his whereabouts for two months, and now it has come to light that Mihemed Cemil has been held in a prison in Ayn Hara by the Nurettin Zengi gangs. His relatives say Cemil has been subjected to inhuman torture and he is in a critical condition.

Sources in the city also say Ahrar al Sham gangs abducted Doctor Ebdo Tofan from his clinic and Pharmacist Ciwan Bilal from his home.⁸

16 citizens abducted, included 1 woman in Afrin

The Turkish army and its mercenaries have kidnapped 16 citizens, including a woman from the village of Qorta in Bilbile district, and taken to an unknown place.

A source from the Afrin Canton reported that the occupying Turkish army and its mercenaries abducted 16 citizens including a woman from the village of Qorta in Bilbile district and took them to an unknown place.

The source mentioned the names of the kidnapped citizens: Jamal Abdo Qoja, Menan Horo Rasho, Mustafa Ali Horo, Youssef Abd al-Kader Sido, Mohamed Abd al-Manan Koçer, Nouri Ezzat Suleiman, Aslan Abdel Mounan Koçer, Ahmed Rashid Horo, Bahri Horo Rashou, Manan Horo Rashou, Rashid Mohamed Ibrahim, Ibrahim Mohamed Sido, Abdel Rahman Mohamed Ibrahim, Mohamed Horik Horo, Mohamed Hussein Horo and his wife Almasa. Since the entry of the Turkish occupation army and its mercenaries into Afrin canton on March 18, the fate of hundreds of citizens remains unknown.⁹

⁸ <https://anfenglish.com/rojawa/medical-workers-and-rights-defenders-abducted-in-afrin-26715>

⁹ <http://hawarnews.com/en/haber/16-citizens-abducted-included-1-woman-in-afrin-h1485.html>