

# The Democratic Society Movement, TEV-DEM



## A Weekly News Bulletin From Rojava 18 July— 25 August

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## US delegation visits Kobane

A delegation comprised of International Coalition officials including Former US Ambassador to Bahrain William Robak has visited Kobane on Saturday.

The delegation visited the military hospital in the city and provided medical supplies as part of support for the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)...<sup>1</sup>



## Yazidi House opened in Serekaniye

A Yazidi House was opened in Serekaniye on Friday.

A ceremony which saw the participation of all society groups in Serekaniye marked the opening, which fell at a very sensitive time.

Speaking at the opening, Ziyad Rustem, one of the Yazidi House executives, voiced hope that the Yazidi House would be the center of solidarity for all the peoples in Serekaniye.

Zamad Rustam commemorated Zeki Sengali, who was martyred as a result of an assassination by the occupying Turkish state.

“Mam Zeki - said Rustem - made a great effort to organize the Yazidi community for many years”.

At the end of the ceremony, a statement was read on the attack of the occupying Turkish state against Shengal...<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> <https://anfenglishmobile.com/rojawa-northern-syria/us-delegation-visits-kobane-29064>

<sup>2</sup> <https://anfenglishmobile.com/rojawa-northern-syria/yazidi-house-opened-in-serekaniye-29049>

## **MSD condemns Shengal attacks**

The Syrian Democratic Council (MSD) issued a statement on the air strikes that the occupying Turkish state carried out on Shengal on 15 August.

"The Syrian Democratic Council strongly condemns this attack", said the statement adding that the bombing hit civilians marking the anniversary of the thousands slaughtered in the massacres of Shengal and Kocho in 2014, when DAESH mercenaries carried out some of the worst atrocities against the Yazidi people.

The MSD equally condemned the murder of member of the Shengal Yazidi Coordination Zeki Şengali. "This attack - said the statement - was carried out within the framework of Erdogan's inhuman policies".

The statement continued as follows:

"This attack demonstrates that Erdogan wants to destroy what has been achieved in the region by using the terrorist groups.

The 15 August attack is also a violation of the sovereign rights of Iraq and Southern Kurdistan. We call on all political organizations and forces in the region to clearly condemn these violations and to stand before the genocidal attacks against the Yazidi people.

Remaining silent in front of Erdogan's violations only causes these attacks to continue. The Yazidi people - concluded the statement - must be protected from the attacks of the Turkish state and their terrorist allies".<sup>3</sup>

## **Seven civilians kidnapped in Afrin**

Violations and abuses are carried out by the Turkish-supported mercenaries in Afrin on a daily basis.

The mercenaries have kidnapped seven more people in the village of Gobik in Mabata district.

According to local sources, four of the kidnapped people have been named as Selam Mustafa Ekaş, Eynat Mamo, Elî Seydo and Mihemed Nûrî İbrahim.

The sources also reported that the Turkish army and the mercenaries attacked the village of Heyat, in Mabata.

In the attack, they broke down doors and windows of the people's houses and started a dangerous fire in the centre of the village.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> <https://anfenglishmobile.com/rojava-northern-syria/msd-condemned-shengal-attacks-29048>

<sup>4</sup> <https://anfenglishmobile.com/rojava-northern-syria/seven-civilians-kidnapped-in-afrin-29051>

## **Concept of cooperative societies spread in Qamishlo**

21 Different associations, in Qamishlo city in al-Jazeera region, embody the concept of cooperative and participatory life, and create solidarity work among the society.

The development of the concept of cooperative associations was established on July 19, 2012, with the aim of developing the concept of cooperative associations. After that, committees were formed and centers were opened in all regions of northern Syria to develop the economy of the region. Associations in the city to build a community economy, and to develop new projects in a participatory way that serves all the people of Qamishlo.

The 21 cooperatives associations also aim to create job opportunities for people of all categories and components in all fields, and work to reduce the monopoly of prices and compete with the existing markets in the city so that everyone can secure all the needs and requirements of the day...<sup>5</sup>



## **YPG: our operations are published on our official website, others do not concern us**

The inhumane crimes committed by the occupying Turkish army and its terrorist allies in Afrin recently have been increasing. Especially in recent times, various armed groups operating under different names are conducting military operations in Afrin and promoting their actions on social media and websites. From the methods applied in these types of attacks it is understood that some of these groups have links to Turkish secret services. For these reasons, we confirm the right of the people of Afrin and our fighters of the People's Protection Units (YPG) to carry out military operations by legitimate means to expel the Turkish occupation and its mercenaries from our territory.

As a YPG Press Office, we inform that all the operations of our units are being published in the form of press releases on our official website [www.ypgrojava.org](http://www.ypgrojava.org). Except of the mentioned ones, any other actions that are shared on social media in our name have no relation to us.<sup>6</sup>

## **Wrath of Olives conducted special op against gang commander**

The Wrath of Olives' Operations Room issued today a written statement revealing the operation carried out by their forces against a commander of al-Jabha al-Shamiya mercenaries.

The text of the statement:

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.hawarnews.com/en/haber/concept-of-cooperative-societies-spread-in-qamishlo-h3298.html>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.ypgrojava.org/To-our-people-and-the-public>

"Our units in the Wrath of Olives' Operations Room on 18/8/2018, carried out a special operation targeting a commander in al-Jabha al-Shamiya mercenaries called Mohammed Maho from Hiyani who is called Mohammed Hiyani, in the area between Shdud and Baroza where our units-after monitoring his movements-managed to kill him."<sup>7</sup>

## **TEV-DEM congratulated people on Eid al-Adha, asserted to liberate Afrin**

The Executive Body of TEV-DEM issued a written statement to the public opinion in which it congratulated all the Syrian and Kurdish people and the Islamic nation on Eid al-Adha.

The statement said:

"We extend our congratulations on the occasion of Eid al-Adha to all our people and to the families of the martyrs, as well as our wounded heroes and all the people of Syria and the Islamic nation. We hope that peace and stability will soon be achieved. We also assure that the Turkish occupation is a poisonous disgrace in the Syrian body, and we emphasize that terrorism must not have a foothold. We note that there are Turkish schemes that aim at saving terrorism in Syria.

We pledge our people in Afrin to perpetuate the march of resistance and that our return is our choice and the liberation of Afrin is an irreversible decision" ...<sup>8</sup>



## **Man subjected to vilest torture in gangs' prison**

X.M., who was abducted by the invading Turkish state's gangs in Afrin and held in the Rai Prison in the Azaz region for 65 days, said there were female and male prisoners from Afrin in the prison and that they were subjected to the vilest torture.

X.M. said the following on the day he was abducted by the Turkish state's gangs: "It is no longer possible to live in Afrin due to the atrocities committed by the invading Turkish state and their gangs, so along with 27 others, I decided to leave.

We didn't dare pass by the gangs' checkpoints, so we found another way out. But the patrolling gangs noticed and surrounded us, pointing their guns. Then they tied our hands behind our backs and put sacks over our heads so we wouldn't see where we were taken. They took us away in vehicles."

X.M. said they almost suffocated in the vehicle due to the sacks on their heads: "One of us was almost gone. He called on the gangs to remove the sacks but they just beat him up until we arrived at the prison."

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<sup>7</sup> <http://www.hawarnews.com/en/haber/wrath-of-olives-conducted-special-op-against-gang-commander-h3274.html>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.hawarnews.com/en/haber/tev-dem-congratulated-people-on-eid-adha-asserted-to-liberate-afrin-h3265.html>

X.M. continued: “The gangs took us off the vehicle violently and put us in a 3-meter cell. Then they removed the sacks, but our hands remained tied. There was only one blanket in the cell. Late at night they brought food. We asked them to untie us, but they just swore at us. Two days later, they took us somewhere else and untied us. Then another type of torture started.”

X.M. said the gangs interrogated him and that he was subjected to violent torture during the interrogation: “When they called my name, I got up and approached them. They blindfolded me and started kicking me on the ground. They tortured me with electricity, hoses and pieces of wood. I was weakened due to 12 days of torture.”

X.M. witnessed the vilest inhumane crimes: “One’s heart breaks in the face of such torture. The gangs tore out a civilian’s arm with pliers.”

X.M. added: “The gangs would blindfold prisoners and tortured them with hoses and cables until they passed out, but they didn’t stop then either. They beat up unconscious prisoners with hoses.” X.M. said he also heard women who were being tortured in the prison.

X.M. concluded with saying he was imprisoned without a crime for 65 days and subjected to all kinds of torture and insults. One day before he was released, X.M. was interrogated by a commander from the Turkish army and the next day, the gangs took him to an empty lot where they threatened to kill him.

They fired 30 shots by his ear and then left him there. X.M. managed to get to the Shehba canton, but the others are still in the prison.<sup>9</sup>



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<sup>9</sup> <https://anfenglishmobile.com/rojawa-northern-syria/subjected-to-vilest-torture-in-gangs-prison-29155>