



Turkish Air Military Operation

19 – 20 November 2022

The Outcome of the Turkish Air Military Operation in the Regions of Northeast Syria and the Northern Countryside of Aleppo

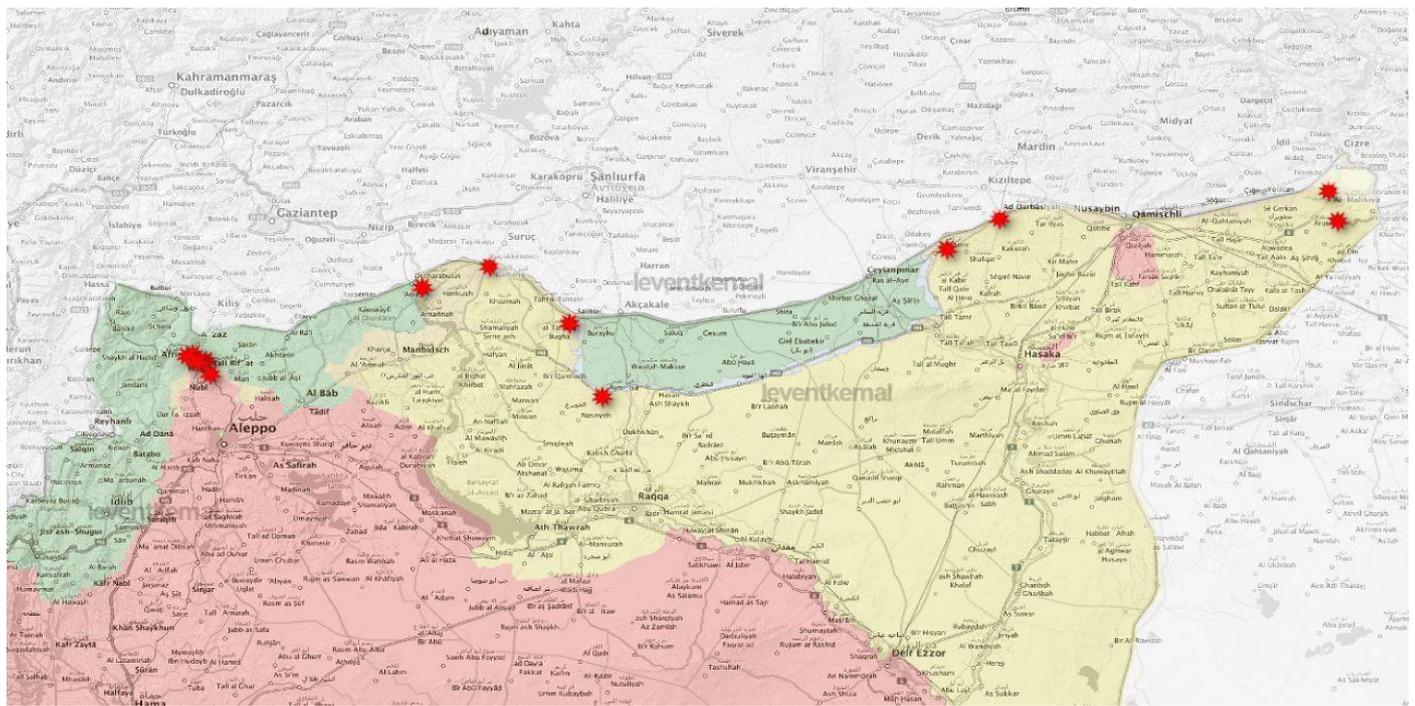
21 November 2022

Introduction

On 19 November 2022, at 22:45, Turkish aircrafts launched 25 raids on the regions of northeast Syria, where 50 warplanes and 20 drones participated in the operation. They took off from Amed Airport (Diyarbakir) and targeted areas in Syria and the Kurdistan region of Iraq.

The Turkish military operation, which is called Claw-Sword, lasted for 12 continuous hours, in which the infrastructure and service institutions were targeted in the cities of northeast Syria, in addition to the loss of civilians' lives and the wounding of dozens. In addition, Turkish planes targeted a hospital under construction in the city of Kobani.

According to the statistics issued by the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), the military operation lasted 12 hours and the number of civilians who lost their lives until the preparation of this file reached 14 from the Syrian regime forces and 11 civilians, including a journalist, in addition to 4 wounded civilians, two members of the grain silo guards in Darbasiyah countryside, and 12 members of the Syrian regime forces.



Areas targeted by the Turkish warplanes and drones in northeast Syria

Derik

Turkish planes carried out an air strike on the village of Takl Bakl near Mount Qara Chok in the countryside of Derik, which led to the destruction of the power plant, in addition to the loss of civilians' lives. Moments after the people went to rescue the wounded and search for the dead and missing persons, a Turkish warplane targeted the people's gathering, according to eyewitnesses from the targeted area, and accordingly, 7 civilians lost their lives, in addition to the injury of three others.



The death toll of civilians who lost their lives in the Turkish attack reached 9 civilians, in addition to the reporter of Hawar News Agency, Essam Abdullah, who also lost his life. In addition, 8 other civilians were wounded during the Turkish raid on the Takl Bakl electric power station, which led to loss of electricity in the area.



Zarkan (Al-Darbasiyah)

Turkish warplanes targeted grain silos in the village of Dahr al-Arab, 20 km west of the city of Darbasiyah, resulting in the loss of two members of the grain silo guards, and the bombing caused severe damage to the grain silos.



Kobani

Turkish warplanes targeted the city of Kobani with more than 5 successive raids, followed by heavy artillery and mortar shells. The raids were on the following areas:

- Jarablus Road, Kobani Forest, west of Kobani.
- Kanya Kurdan, the village of Halenj in the western countryside of Kobani.
- Mishta Al Nour Hill.

The raids were renewed the next morning at 09:30am and resulted in the injury of STÊRK TV correspondent Muhammad Jarada, who was covering the attacks. In addition, members of the Syrian army lost their lives in these raids.

The Turkish bombing of the city of Kobani also targeted a children's hospital under construction.

In addition to the Turkish raids, artillery shelling by the Turkish army targeted the vicinity of the city of Tal Rifaat in northern Aleppo.



Conclusion

Table of current statistics of the Turkish bombing of northeast Syria

Participated in the Operation	50 Turkish warplanes and 20 drones.
Targeted Areas	11 locations in northeast Syria.
Civilian Casualties	11 deaths and 6 wounded.
Journalists	1 death and 1 wounded.
Members of the Syrian Regime Forces	14 deaths and 12 wounded.

The barbaric Turkish attack on the regions of northeast Syria is part of the foreign policies pursued by the Turkish state to export its domestic crises, which it suffers from, especially after the terrorist attack in the Taksim area in Istanbul, which was used as a pretext to justify its military operations, and an attempt to silence the Turkish domestic opposition. It was also clear that the Istanbul terrorist bombing was designed primarily to be used politically towards achieving Turkish agendas in the regions of northeast Syria. The Turkish state violates international conventions and crosses the borders of regional countries through its warplanes and drones, as it announced that it used the Syrian airspace in operations targeting northeast Syria for the first time since 2019.

The Turkish state launched its attacks because it is going through difficult stages in its internal and external policies and the economic situation in the country, in addition to the upcoming parliamentary and presidential elections in June 2023. Therefore, The Turkish state considers it necessary to attack northeast Syria and the unarmed civilians, who live in the area, alongside the Border Guard forces, who are members of the Syrian army.

In addition, the Turkish air operation came prior to the 19th round of the Astana Conference, which Turkey is seeking to attend with a new bargaining chip and new de-escalation plans. This suggests the intense barbaric bombing that Turkey carried out with the aim of breaking the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria, the Syrian Democratic Forces, as well as weakening the Syrian government. These Turkish attempts will ultimately be used domestically in favour of Erdogan and the Justice and Development Party in the next elections.

Note: the death toll might increase in the future because some wounded individuals are in critical conditions.

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