

The Information Centre of Afrin Resistance



A Daily News Bulletin From Afrin – No. 4

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Starting from Monday 29 January 2018, the Information Centre of Afrin Resistance provides a daily news bulletin from the invasion and resistance of the Afrin Canon.

Our Centre is located at the heart of the events. Hence, all our news is based on primary sources.

You can contact our Centre via the following address:

Twitter: @Icafrinresist

Email: I.C.aftrinresistance@gmail.com

Attack

During the occupation of Palmyra city in 2015, ISIS destroyed the Arc of Triumph, a major monument in the ancient city of Palmyra. A couple of years afterwards, the Turkish army in a similar way destroyed the ancient temple of Ain Dara. The temple with 3,000-year history had managed to survive to this day, despite all the wars occurring in this region. It did not, however, survive the Turkish invasion. Even though it is listed in the UNESCO's world heritage, no statement has yet been issued by the institution.



The Turkish army launched a continuous bombardment of Cindirêsê area and Hemam village.

Turkish army and its affiliated jihadist groups targeted the old Salah al-Din mosque in Cindirêsê area, destroying large parts of it, with the Holy Qurans remaining under the rubble, to be retrieved later by the people.

Turkish warplanes bombarded the village of Dekmadash of Sharra district.

Turkish warplanes bombarded Nabi Huri an archaeological site in Shera.

Turkish warplanes bombed the centre of Bilbilê region, the Gur Mount and Kevire Ker Hill.

In a bid to suppress internal opposition to the Efrîn invasion, the Turkish state have detained 311 social media users over their critical posts on the operation, accusing them of spreading "terrorist propaganda". Among the 208 users who face legal investigation is the Kurdish MP Osman Baydemir.

Response

The SDF declared they have shot down a Turkish drone in Bilbilê region.

The SDF destroyed a Turkish tank near the village of Maraneze of Şehba district.

Solidarity

A number of Kurdish parties and political organisations in Norway sent a letter to the Foreign Ministry and the Norwegian Parliament demanding a stop to the Turkish invasion of Efrîn and recognise the Democratic Federation of North Syria.

People in Silêmanî and Hewlêr in South Kurdistan took to the streets to protest against the Turkish invasion and to express solidarity with the Efrîn Resistance.

In a statement, the Network of Ancestral Healers of Community Feminism Iximulew-Guatemala conveyed their solidarity to the people of Efrîn. "Our sacred mother Berta Cáseres shall walk with you in the mountains, in the street and everywhere in the world to add power to your power and to demand justice."

Syriac Military Council (MFS) said they will send their fighters to Efrîn in support of the SDF.

A group of Kurdish women in London occupied the ruling Conservative Party (HQ) waving YPJ flags and demanding the UK to stop arms sale to Turkey.

Statement

The YPJ General Command released a statement about its fighter Avêsta Xabûr (Zuluh Hemo) who detonated the bombs she wrapped around her body, destroying a Turkish tank and killing several Turkish troops. The full text is as follow:

The invasion of Afrin by the occupying Turkish army has with all the suffering inflicted entering its ninth day. With this invasion, the occupying Turkish state wants to thwart our federalisation project, which promotes the sisterhood of peoples for the north of Syria, and to spread a wave of terror across the region.

The Turkish killing machine has mobilised and equipped thousands of gangs from the terrorist groups such as Al-Qaida, ISIS, Nosra Front, and the so-called Free Syrian Army, and unleashed them on our people. As a result, tens of civilians including women and children have been killed. Our people have put up a gallant resistance to this invasion in order to safeguard what our Revolution has accomplished.

On the 8th day of the invasion, January 27, the Turkish army and its affiliated Jihadists attacked the village of Hemam, of the Cindirêse district. Their attack was counteracted by our fighters. A YPJ fighter, Avêsta Xabûr, empowered by the will she inherited from her comrades such as Jînda, Newal and Silav and following on the path of Arîn Mîrkan and Rêvana Kobanê, attacked with her grenades a Turkish tank which was trying to entre Hemam village. As such she exploded her body and destroyed the tank.

A girl from Kurmênc Mountain, Avêsta Xabûr (Zalûx Hemo) was from a patriotic family from the village of Baliya of Bilbilê district. She was brought up with the philosophy of loving freedom and her homeland. With this action, she made good on her promise of defending her people and their achievement. She reached the point of martyrdom and joined the caravan of the martyrs.

For our units, Avêsta is a symbol of emancipated women. With the powerful belief and ideology she had equipped herself with, she became a selfless spirit, representing a profound military tactic and theory. Avêsta had felt the threat the terrorist groups pose on the world. For this reason, she decided to join the Anti-Terror Units, where she participated in tens of actions against the terrorist groups. Avêsta's was a strong response to the Turkish fascist state and its

affiliated Islamist groups, as well as the ongoing silent position taken by the international community.

We in the Command of Women's Defence Units promise our martyrs and our people that until the last drop of our blood we resist the Turkish invasion in order to achieve our legitimate right of enjoying a free and honoured life. Our fighters follow the path of Avêsta, Arîn û Rêvana and will turn Afrin into a grave for fascism, women's and humanity's enemies.

A Kurdish lawmaker from South Kurdistan, Omar Enaya, told ANHA News Agency that the Turkish invasion stands against the will of the Kurdish people. He also pointed out that the invasion is an attempt to restore the Ottoman Empire, but the people of Efrîn will put an end to it.

The Co-Chair of The Human Rights Organisation in the Cizîre Canton, Avin Jumma, said: "The Turkish bombardment of Efrîn has killed dozens of children and women, and aviation has committed the most abhorrent massacres against civilians in the midst of international silence by human rights organisations, which is incompatible with their humanitarian work."

After 10 days of resistance, the people of Efrîn say they are steadfast on holding on to their land and will not giving it up to the Turkish occupiers. An Efrîn inhabitant, Zarifa Ismail, told ANHA: "Why does Turkey target us and what does it want from us? We will not abandon our land and continue the march of resistance to the end."

Gen. Joseph Votel, the commander of the United States Central Command, told CNN International that US troops will not withdraw from Manbij, where they have been patrolling between the SDF and the Turkish affiliated Islamist groups.

Hêvî Mustafa, the Co-Chair of the Efrîn Canton, said: "People all over the world showing solidarity with our resistance is a sign of hope and sisterhood of the people. We need to stay together! We are resisting against terrorism and fascism. Silence of international institutions and states is a shame for them and dangerous for humanity."

Angela Reşo, Efrîn Health-Council, said: the Turkish army and its affiliated jihadist groups have until today killed 60 and wounded 153 civilians.