



ISIS displaces 2100 families in the Eastern countryside of Aleppo

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Introduction

After intense clashes between ISIS and Kurdish forces, ISIS took over many towns and villages in Koubani area, located in eastern Aleppo countryside, which was followed by ISIS perpetrating wide violations against civilian in these villages including killing, displacing, kidnapping, and violating public and private properties which caused large waves of displacing and an ongoing humanitarian disaster since the beginning of July, 2014.

The following URL shows the location of Koubani





Details

ISIS has been massing huge forces since the beginning of July in Jarabls – eastern Aleppo countryside and in Ash-Shoyok town, which is under the control of ISIS, to attack the Kurdish villages located in Aleppo countryside and near Ein Al-Arab city (Koubani), one of the largest Kurd-populated cities in the area which also houses IDPs.

After Intense between ISIS and PKK on one side and PYD's YPG forces on the other side that lasted for days, Kurdish forces have withdrawn and ISIS took over the following villages:

Kharb Ato, Zoor Maghar, Az-Zayarah, Al-Baydeyah, Jabna, Jarookha (Jarekh Ali), Beindar, Ta'alak, Kendar, Abdkooy, At-Tabbash, Al-Mlawwah, and Sawsak.

Clashes and ISIS's control forced the civilians to flee to the Turkish borders or Ain Arab city or the surrounding villages as they are afraid of any reprisal acts by ISIS such as killing, arrest, or treat civilians cruelly. These village have become empty of any residents since it turned into a permanent line of clashes since last February after ISIS took over Tal Abyad located in the east of Koubani "Ein Al-Arab".

Most of these villages are located in Koubani "Ain Al-Arab" countryside 35 to the east of Koubani "Ain Al-Arab" city and overlooks Jrabouls city, under the control of ISIS, which represents a strategic importance.

In Eastern Koubani countryside, specifically Afdka, Malouh Al-Qmar, Abe Surra, and Kourak villages the intent clashes are still going on between ISIS and Kuridsh forces. Tens were killed in these clashes off the two sides and military vehicles were destroyed too. As a result, many civilians have been forced to displace because of this clashes since February while ISIS tried to progress further in western Koubani counbtryside "Ain Al-Arab" so it attacked on 11 July, 2014 Jul Ughli and Al-Jubna villages as it started indiscriminately shell the two villages and then it raided the two villages with tanks and armored vehicles to displace the residents to Koubani city and the near Turkish borders. The faction managed to take over the villages after the Kurdish forces' withdrawal.





After ISIS took had taken over the aforementioned villages he started a campaign to search houses and confiscate cars, and agricultural vehicles, sheep, and cows in the village. In addition, ISIS burned some houses under the pretext that it belonged to PYD. All these crimes forced at least 1800 Syrian families to flee and put them under great risks.

SNHR talked with a person who is in charge of aiding the displaced from Koubani countryside Mr. “Juan Al-Brazi” and he told us about the most notable difficulties: “Since the beginning of this month, a lot of displacing waves happened in some of the villages in Eastern and Western Koubani countryside such as Bouran, Zumghar, Kharb Attou, Az-Zyara, Al-Byadaiya, Jubna, and Jaroukha after ISIS took over these villages. Some of the families fled away to the near villages that are safer while others went to the border crossing with Turkey and the displaced from western Koubani countryside went to Koubani city. ”

“I went with a relief team to eastern Koubani countryside to distribute aids and see how the displaced are living there. We brought about 10,000 food baskets about a week ago. First we entered Al-Jubna village before it was taken over by ISIS today. We also visited Daghmdash village in Eastern Koubani that had more than 150 displaced family from Al-Bayyadiaya and Zour Maghar villages and then distributed aids in Khour Khouriya village which had about 30 family from Zour Maghar.”





“Most of the displaced didn’t have identification papers and when we asked them, they told us that they went out with only the clothes they were wearing as they were afraid of ISIS. Thank goodness that families really helping the displaced families that came to them as they housed them, gave them food despite the food shortage. We’ve only two families that lived in tents but things are expected to get worse given that the residents are poor due to the siege that has been imposed for more than a year. Also, ISIS is progressing more and more in Koubani countryside and it is only 15 Km away from these safe villages.”

“I was really touched when a 70-year-old man from the displaced came to me crying and saying: I have nothing left. ISIS took my sheep, my land, and my tractor and forced me out of my home.”

“We don’t have accurate statistics about the numbers of the displaced. However, there are more than 2100 family that have been displaced since the beginning of this month. We fear that many will be forced to displace in case ISIS progressed even further.”

SNHR was able to document ISIS’s violations in this area through interviewing displaced and activists from Koubani countryside in addition to the pictures and vide footages that were sent to the network e-mail and via Skype as no one of our researchers was able to visit these areas.

On 5 July, 2014 ISIS executed eight men from different villages after it accused them of working for PYD as it captured them after raiding western Koubani countryside specifically Zour Maghar, Az-Zayra, and Al-Bayyadiya villages.

The victims are:

Hajem Sam’ou, Zour Maghar village
Shaikh Mayel, Zour Maghar village
Bahaa Ad-Din Kouran, Az-Zayyara village
Ibrahim Ramqalwi, Az-Zayyara village
Jazaer Al-Jaza’rie, Al-Bayyadiya
Mustafa Shaikh Ibrahim
Marwan Al-Jaza’rie
Ahmad Shaikh Ibrahim





Mohammad Soufi Mohammad,
One of the most notable kidnapping cases by ISIS was recently kidnapping 125 Kurdish students who were heading to Koubani on Thursday night 29 May, 2014. The students were coming back from Aleppo after finishing their middle school exams. They were arrested at an ISIS military checkpoint on Minbij-Koubani “Ein Al-Arab” road. ISIS didn’t do anything to the female students as it arrested only male students.

The students’ ages range from 12 to 16 year old. Twenty of them were released recently in an exchange deal with PYD forces that, in return, released three ISIS fighters. The negotiations are still going on to release the rest of them.



ISIS also killed Mohammad Soufi Mohammad, from Aleppo countryside – Kaykan village to the east of Koubani. He was an English teacher who lived in Koubani. He was killed by ISIS fighters near Job Al-Faraj village after they stopped the bus that he was riding along with some women while they were heading to Turkey. They stabbed him, beheaded him, and disfigured his body on 23 May, 2014.

Attachments and Appendixes

[Photos showing ISIS personnel use of heavy arms in shelling Kobanê countryside villages](#)



Photos of displaced people in Kobanê countryside





Conclusion

Forcing residents to leave their homes and displacing them under the threat of weapon to gain lands and expanding is classified as a war crime. Furthermore, executing residents without fair trials is also considered a war crime. ISIS should respect and maintain the basic Human Rights in the areas it controls.

Recommendations:

The Security Council

UN Security Council should effectively impose an Arms embargo against ISIS, and prosecute all those involved in these crimes .The opposition should cooperate by all possible means to stop the flow of men and weapons to ISIS and all similar organizations. Anyone provides such organizations with money or arms should be regarded as a war criminal and must be trialed for war crimes.

UN Security Council is the responsible for protecting civilians in Syria from ISIS and the Syrian regime crimes and insuring the return of stability and peace by stopping the daily bloodbath.

To the Domestic Countries:

Domestic countries should work on draining the sources of ISIS and cooperating seriously to cut off weapon and money supply to ISIS. On the other side, they should increase their humanitarian aids to the displaced people in Eastern Aleppo countryside.

