



## Afrin Under Occupation (255): Wide-range Demographic Change, Civilian Casualties, Deportation and Enforced Disappearance, Militia Internal Fighting



Throughout compulsory displacement of hundreds of thousands of Afrin's indigenous people and the re-settlement of half a million people there, including families of militants and recruits from other Syrian governorates, the deportation of tens of thousands of Syrian refugees from Turkey to it and confiscating the properties of the indigenous people, in addition to building model settlement villages for their housing, are main factors in manipulating a **wide-range demographic change** against the Kurds and their historical region. The factors, refute the strange statement of US State Department spokesman Matthew Miller, who has recently said: "*Washington rejects the notion of Turkey having any intention to manipulate the demography in Afrin, north of Aleppo.*"

### Hereunder facts about the prevailing conditions:

#### = Civilian Casualties:

Due to the exchange of fire between the Turkish army and its mercenaries on the one hand, and the Syrian army and its allies on the other hand, serious material damage and casualties inflicted civilians and led to the killing and injuring of people on both sides of the contact line.

- **Nadira Wilo Mustafa**, 40 years old, **Muhammad Ramadan Aliwi**, 10 years old, from Kaloteh were injured on 31/07/2023 when the Turkish artillery targeted the two neighboring villages, "Kondi Muzn and Kaloteh" - Mount Lilon. They are still being treated in the hospital.

- In the afternoon of 04/08/2023, the Syrian army targeted a number of passengers in a van at Mount Sheikh Aqil - the road connecting the villages of "Fafertin and Barjaka" - Mount Liloun. In the evening, the army targeted the crane that was operating to transport the van. As a result, the citizen "**Alo Suleiman Suleiman**, 25 years old, from "Burj Suleiman" and two of the settlers, whose names we could not know, were killed. In addition to that, eight villagers from "Kabashin, Burj Haidar, Burj Suleiman" were injured. Among the injured we could know the van driver, Muhammad Adnan Suleiman, Majid Ahmed Suleiman and Kamal Suleiman Suleiman, whose wounds were minor. Four of the injured, however, were transferred to Turkey due to their critical injuries.

#### = Arbitrary Arrests:

- On 22/07/2023, the young man, **Ismail Lawand Alo**, aged 27, from the village of "Hassih / Merkan" - Mapta / Maabatli was arrested, when the Turkish security forces handed him over to the militias of the "Syrian National Army" that controls Bab al-Salamah / Azaz crossing. He was forcibly disappeared without any contact with his family. The young man, who had been living in Turkey for nine years, was forcibly deported as a part of the campaigns targeting Syrian refugees. Ismail's wife has remained in Istanbul without any breadwinner. It's good to know that the young man has no relationship with the former Self-Administration.

**= Chaos and Lawlessness:**

Due to a dispute over the looted items and deals, the leader of the "Al-Muntasir Billah Division" militia- **Muhammad Fateh Hamsho, nicknamed Abu Al-Nasr**, from the town of Al-Rai - Al-Bab region- was killed in the village of "Amra / Omar Ushaghi" – Rajo by live ammunition by members of the armed village checkpoint belonging to the same division

Mr. Miller's statement is condemned by all Kurds of Syria, as it completely contradicts the truth! It even encourages Turkey and its supporters to commit more violations and crimes against them, and expose their lives and regions to more dangers.

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**Kurdish Democratic Unity Party in Syria (Yekiti)**

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**Attachments:**

- The van targeted by the Syrian army on 04/08/2023.
- Martyr Alo Suleiman Suleiman.

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*\* Translated from Arabic by Europe's Organization of the Kurdish Democratic Unity Party in Syria (Yekiti)*