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# MARXIST LENINIST COMMUNIST PARTY TURKEY/KURDISTAN



# MLKP



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#### **INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN**

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RUHAT AŞKARA (Tırej Alişer) SEDAT AKYÜZ (Zeynel Seyid Rıza) ERDAL DEMIRHAN
(Özgür Avaroni)

Martyrs enlighten our path and they are the ones saying the last word:

Afrin shall not be passed, the Rojava Revolution shall not be defeated!



Afrin has been resisting for honor and freedom with a wholehearted struggle against the fascist colonialist Turkish state and its bloody gangs for days. Afrin has been making history against the second biggest army of the NATO. SDF, YPG-YPJ, MLKP and revolutionary forces from Turkey have been upholding the flag of honor and freedom shoulder to shoulder against this contemptible attack. They have been greeted with the heroic resistance of fighters and peoples of Afrin who are defending the revolution in the lands of Rojava where they have been trying to infiltrate for days with coward and abject attacks based on high war technique.

Erdoğan and his gangs are massacring civilians and children in Afrin, ruining Afrin and its villages with war planes and cannonballs. The peoples of Afrin and defense forces of the revolution are resisting and fighting with a determination deserved to be called "the resistance of the age" against this massacrist terror waged with an aggression worse than ISIS. They clamp down on the fascist invading forces not even in a single front and become the flag of honor and hope against the invaders.

The fighters are walking on death by saying "Afrin shall not be passed" to defend Afrin and the Rojava revolution, they are hitting heavy blows to the fascist Turkish army and its gangs. Marching at the forefront together with the trench comrades against the fascist occupation, our fighters are defeating death with an heroic stance honoring everyone left behind and waving the flag of immortality. Ruhat Askara, Erdal **Demirhan** and **Sedat Akyüz**, who were in the Afrin resistance since its beginning, waved the flag of immortality on different dates. The fascist invaders could only stop the heroes of Afrin resistance with howitzers and planes. Alongside with our martyrs, our numerous wounded comrades bandaged their wounds and also continued fighting even without taking one step back.

Taking place in the units and the emplacements inflicting casualties to the enemies at the Jandaris, Rajo and Badina, our fighters carried out actions in the villages of Kudê, Omera, Kevirê Ker, Dimilya, Dirbelet, Deva, Heci Iskender, Akcele, Hamamê, Baflore, Til Slore, Ebu Kaebo, Heciler, Hemilka and Kefer Sefre, and positioned at the resistance trenches. In the Jandaris area only, 11 military vehicles, 2 motors in total were given a blow by the units in which our forces also took place and 125 invaders were exterminated in these actions. At the fronts in which our immortal fighters Ruhat, Erdal and Sedat took place, the invaders received heavy losses with many of their dead and wounded, thus the enemy was forced to flee. During this period, one of the internationalist fighters, Haukur Hilmarsson from

Iceland, who acted together with our party forces, fell as martyr and another international comrade was also heavily wounded.

During this period, our trench comrades from BÖG, TKEP/L, MLSPB and internationalists who took place in the same resistance also had martyrs and wounded, our fight of flame was flared up with our martyrs. Alongside the SDF, YPG, YPJ and Asayiş forces, the resistance barricades built up by the laborers, who are defending their own honor, freedom and land, did not give passage to the fascist occupation with "the resistance of the age".

The Afrin insurgents continue to give glorious replies on the 50<sup>th</sup> days to the ones dreaming of Afrin in 3-5 days. The peoples of Afrin, Rojava and North Syria are defending their lands under heavy bombardment and Afrin is writing history.

In this history writing, one of ours leading the way is comrade Tirêj Alîşêr (Ruhat Aşkara). With the name Tirêj Alîşêr he took in Rojava, Ruhat Aşkara was "the smiling face of our sacrifice troop". Becoming immortal as fighting against the fascist Turkish state on the Kevirê Ker hill in Rajo on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2018, our comrade Tirêj was in the Afrin resistance since the beginning. Doing as team commander in the unit he took place, comrade Tirêj attacked to the enemy in a distance of a grenade in the clash in which he martyred, he and his trench comrades forced the horde of gang to flee leaving their casualties and wounded behind. The fascist enemy could only manage to stop them with cannonball strikes. Two trench comrades who were trying to bring their bodies back fell as martyrs, while our unit commander was wounded.

One of the young rebels of the Gezi uprising, comrade Ruhat (Tirêj) embraced the inevitability of the armed struggle against fascism, turned his face to our party and its free areas and became an impassioned fighter. He, expressed his dream of becoming a MLKP/FESK fighter on every chance both while he was in Turkey and while he was in free areas where he had come for training and he worked very hard to become a fighter with this quality. With effort, will and a strong engagement, he managed to make this dream come true. He became one of the frontiers of a big resistance war against the invasion attack of the fascist Turkish state and its gangs together with his comrades. His life was bright and sincere like his smile. He became immortal as fighting against fascist colonialism with the gun in his hand, as he wished.

As for Erdal Demirhan with the party name Özgür Avaroni who spent the last 24 years of his 39 years of life as a party member, he was a toiling comrade for revolution and socialism, taking duties at different

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ranks of our party. He experienced prisons, passed through torture. He was a representative of the resistance line. He witnessed all the processes peculiar to human, successes, deficiencies, hope, passion, he witnessed in a way rebuilding himself. He grounded on unifying his mind and emotions with his party during all these processes. Hence, when he turned his face to the free areas to strengthen his revolutionariness and to regenerate himself, his mind was clear and his praxis was looking ahead day by day. Comrade Özgür was saying:

"We cannot be a reply to the sharp and tough process which the class struggle is going through by positioning like we used to do. Today, the revolution is closer than ever before. Conditions of revolutionary situation and the struggle against the coup of the Palace put forth the need of organizing and positioning accordingly. Who is going to do this? So, only if each revolutionary individual faces with his/her individual position with this respect, this could be achieved. As a person, I have to start from myself to act accordingly. Many things can be counted as undone or unachieved. But, the one who will do it and achieve it is us/me. Right here, the martyrdom of comrade Berçem and Ekin is a guiding spirit. I am getting strength from their determination of asking account from fascism with their life-giving resistances, from their will and belief of organizing revolution. The resistances of Kurdish people in Cizre, Nusaybin, Sur and Silopi; the sacrificing stances of Mehmet Tunç's walking to death by saying 'We did not kneel, you don't kneel either. Our people, remember us' are the things flaring up my anger. The cry of martyrs and peoples uprising in the Gezi for freedom against fascism is wrapping around my whole body. I am walking on the footprints of the comrades who fell martyrs in Rojava and in Dersim. It is incumbent on me to ask for account of the comrades who fell martyrs in Suruç, of our peoples and laborers who were massacred in Ankara. I swear thousands of times that I will fight on a life-giving line to carry out their desires, values, beliefs and ideals, their revolution dreams. I will continue my struggle as a professional revolutionary on the line of devoted revolutionariness."

Our comrade Özgür did exactly what he said. During his journey from free areas to Afrin, he developed and grew this line in himself day by day. Since the beginning, he was one of the frontiers of the resistance and struggle at the mountain trenches, at the poor village homes, under the olive trees when he became immortal together with his comrade Zeynel Seyid Rıza due to a war plane bombardment.

Sedat Akyüz with the party name Zeynel Seyid Rıza, was born in Antep in 1972, and a member of an

Alevite family. He was a party laborer who ranked among the antifascist democratic struggle in Antep for a long time. When he came to the free areas during the period which the city wars had started in Kurdistan, he said 'I want to make upsurges in my life as a revolutionary', he took military training with his young comrades for this reason. He joined the wars waged against the politic islamist fascist ISIS gangs in Cizire canton, and took his place in the moves of Siluk and later ones. When he left behind his wife and two children who he wishes the most that they stay committed to the revolutionary values, he was saying that 'this fight of mine is also for them to live freely and equally'. When he volunteered for joining the Afrin resistance, he emphasized his demand with the words 'Now we are in a harsh and difficult period of defending and developing the Rojava revolution. With this consciousness and responsibility, it is an honor and happiness for me to fight at the forefront against the fascist TR'. He immediately ran to the fronts when he passed to Afrin, became a source of joy in the emplacements he was in, performed a practice uplifting the mood singing Alevite folk poems with his beautiful voice. Comrade Zeynel wounded once under heavy howitzer attacks. He wrapped his wound and remained on his tasks. On the day of 2<sup>nd</sup> of March, together with Özgür Avaroni and a group of YPG fighters, after they fought off the fascist invading hordes, he walked to immortality due to barrel bombing from war planes.

The Afrin resistance is the resistance of big humanity. We are saluting the revolution heroes immortalized in this resistance and leave the last word to martyr Tirêj: "We promise to our martyr comrades again. We will uphold this fight they fell martyrs for its sake, in Dersim, in Amanos, in North Sea region, in Aegan region, in Istanbul, in Izmir, in Amed and many other places and we will join them to the caravan of immortals by fighting deservedly to them. We promised revolution to the martyrs!"

Their promise is our promise, their dreams and memories are our guide.

Comrades Ruhat, Erdal and Sedat are immortal! Şehid Namirin!

Bijî Şoreşa Rojava Bijî Berxwedana Efrînê!

Marxist Leninist Communist Party Rojava



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#### Registration information of our martyrs:

Party name: Boran Özgür

Name used in Rojava: Tîrêj Alîşêr Name and surname: Ruhat Aşkara

Mother's name: Gulê Father's name: Mehmet

Place of birth: Istanbul-Gaziosmanpaşa Date of birth: November 20, 1996 Date of party membership: August 2013 Date of arrival to Rojava: July 2015 Date of martyrdom: January 27, 2018

Place of martyrdom: Afrin-Rajo-Kevirê Ker Hill



Party name:Özgür Avaroni

Name and surname: Erdal Demirhan

Mother's name: Güller Father's name: Ibrahim

Date of birth: September 9, 1979

Place of birth: Yozgat

Date of arrival to Rojava: February 14, 2016

Date of martyrdom: March 2, 2018



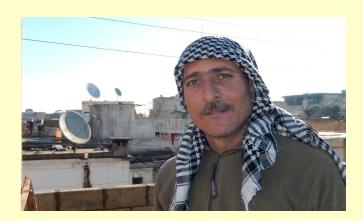
Party name: Zeynel Seyid Rıza Name and surname: Sedat Akyüz

Mother's name: Fatma Father's name: Hüseyin Date of birth: August 22, 1972

Place of birth: Antep

Date of arrival to Rojava: November 4, 2015

Date of martyrdom: March 2, 2018





The 8<sup>th</sup> of March is a melody of freedom for billions of women all over the world. It is the day which represents the women's struggle for freedom and

equality and is a historical achievement of the communist women's movement dedicated to all the laboring women in the world. It is the day for uprising



against the system of male dominance, of barbarism and war. In factories, schools, on the streets in resistances, at homes, in prisons, in the mountains, women are the representatives of a free future and they continue fighting. The international women's strike and the general social awakening against male violence and sexual oppression are the first signals of a beginning of women uprisings.

Women shout "this life is ours, we want to live free!" and let humanity arise. This year 8th of March stands under the banner of defending women's revolution all over the world. This year the 8th of March calls the women all over the world to take their place not only to fight for her own freedom, but also to defend the achievements of women's revolution such as the Rojava revolution. The Rojava Revolution has materially guaranteed women's freedom. In Rojava, women defend their own existences in an organized manner. The women's revolution in Rojava with all its incomparably progressive developments, innumerable types of autonomous organizations and means, such as the quota system to guarantee women's participation or the equal representation in all areas of life, the self defense forces of women, 'women's houses' in communities, several laws against violence and inequality become a source of power and hope for all women in the world. It contents possibilities which will pave the way for women's uprisings in the whole region.

All the gains of the women in Rojava, their self sacrifice and resistance, their participation in the revolution have become an example of women's revolution and leads to important developments of our gender consciousness.

The occupation war of fascist Erdoğan and his regime against Afrin isn't just a colonialist attack against the achievements of the Kurdish nation for a political status. It is also an attack of a fascist, male dominant and women suppressing dictatorship, which tries to defeat the women's revolution in Rojava. Therefore, this year defending Afrin, defending Rojava means defending women's revolution. This is one of the most urgent tasks of communist, revolutionary and progressive women of out time.

Let the women's revolution win in Afrin and all over the world!

Long live the 8th of March!

# International Freedom Battalion commemorates Internationalist Haukur Hilmarsson

Comrade Haukur Hilmarsson was a responsible and successful revolutionary in the ranks of Rojava's defense. When he first reached Rojava, he was educated militarily and ideologically at our party's **Ş**ehit Serkan Tabur (Battalion) before he participated in the International Freedom Battalion, where he took responsibilities fast and fought at different fronts.

In the statement of the IFB, they stated that:

"Our comrade Haukur Hilmarsson (nom de guerre Sahin Hosseini) has become immortal. A dedicated anarchist militant he heard the Anti-Fascist call of the YPG and International Freedom Battalion and traveled immediately to join the fight in Manbij. Unable to reach Rojava and deported from Iraq back to his native Iceland, he did not give up. Returning to the region he quickly gained honor and respect in the



bloody battles of Raqqa, where he was a team commander of our tabur, the IFB. He was popular and trusted by all comrades, and was chosen as a representative on the committee of the tabur. Ready to leave after the defeat of ISIS in their capital, he returned once again to the fray to confront the invading colonial fascist forces if Turkey and their jihadi allies. It was in this fight he fell a martyr, in Afrin. In death we say he has become immortal. For we will never forget his struggle, his name, and his example - and we shall never give up his fight.

The martyrs are immortal! Sehid Namirin! *International Freedom Battalion*"



# The Afrin Resistance Marches to Victory with Internationalist Martyrs!

The International Freedom Battalion released a statement over the deaths of three comrades,

Samuel Prada Leon, Oliver Francois Jean Le Clainche and Sjoerd Heeger.



Spanish Samuel Prada Leon (Baran Galicia) and French Oliver François Jean Le Clainche (Kendal Breizh), and Dutch Sjoerd Heeger (Baran Sason), internationalist fighters who have participated in the defense of the Rojava revolution and who had been fighting in the Afrin fronts for a while have been immortalized in Afrin and Deyr-Ez-Zor. Comrades Baran and Kendal were martyred on February 10 in Afrin as they resisted the invasion attacks of the AKP fascism. Comrade Baran Sason became immortal on February 12 in Deyr-Ez-Zor, fighting ISIS fascism. With their internationalist awareness and hearts filled with hope, they fought against ISIS regression and against Erdoğan and his gangs in Afrin just the same. They were the most beautiful response to the unifying character of internationalism, against international regressive ideologies that wanted to smother the

Our internationalist struggle has grown at all points in history with the labor and daring of comrades like Samuel, Oliver and Sjoerd. They followed on the footsteps of **Ivana Hoffman**, **Reece Harding** and **Michael Israel**. They learned from the struggles of **Halil Aksakal**, **Alper Çakas** and **Muzaffer Kandemir**. They fought to defend the revolution of the oppressed against the fascist colonialist invasion and went down in history with their dignity.

## Internationalists Continue to Increase Hope in the Afrin Trenches!

In the wave of lies from "we will take Afrin in 3 hours", to "3 days", to "we can't give an exact date", our resistance has continued for 30 days. The people of Afrin increase their honorable resistance every day against the AKP fascism and Al Nusra/ISIS derivatives with their fearless and daring stance. The union of the Northern Syrian peoples in this resistance, and the fight of SDF, YPG, YPJ and internationalist fighters respond to the invasion attempt by the second largest army in NATO with this resistance of the age. As fighters of the International Freedom Battalion, we increase our will to fight shoulder to shoulder with the self-defense forces of the peoples in the region in the fight against ISIS in

Afrin today. Internationalist fighters who have become immortal in Afrin and Deyr-Ez-Zor will continue to be by our side in this struggle.

We the Internationalist Freedom Battalion fighters act today in Afrin with the same will that knows how to pay a price and how to demand a price in Stalingrad, Vietnam, Kobanê and in every inch of liberated land in Rojava and Northern Syria. We take our place on the battle fronts with this consciousness. There is a harsh and unequal war, we are fighting an enemy without honor. But we have not the tiniest doubt that we will prevail. In all fronts, in all positions, we crack down on the colonialist, invading gangs. Our veterans and our martyrs light our way in this struggle.

Our response to Erdoğan's and his gangs' inhuman invasion and massacre attacks will be resistance and the victory of our peoples. The stance of **Avesta Xabur** and all martyrs who became immortal in a self-sacrifice will be our bar to clear in all our actions throughout our resistance. The courage of comrades Baran, Kendal and Baran Sason will continue to light the path of our internationalist struggle.

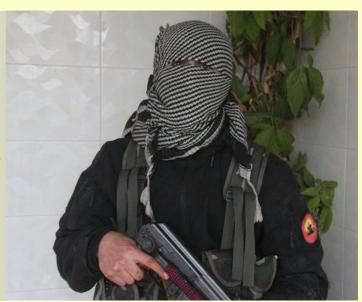
We remember with respect our comrades who defend our revolution and the gains of our revolution with their lives and fly the flag of internationalism in Afrin. We offer our condolences to our brothers and sisters in arms in YPG International, the families of our martyrs and our peoples.

Internationalist Martyrs are Immortal! Long Live Our Afrin Resistance! Long Live Our Internationalist Struggle! Victory Belongs to People Who Resist!



# Afrin Has Already Gained A Victory

Here are some outlines from the interview with Sinan, one of the MLKP fighter in the International Freedom Battalion fighting in Mabata front of Afrin resistance:



At the beginning of the invasion attack, the fascist Turkish state and its gangs had entered to the territories of Afrin at certain points by using an intensive technique such as air strikes and artillery shootings. But this remained limited with a narrow area. In the frontier that we hold, the Mabata front, they have managed to move forward only a 4 km long line so far. Despite all kinds of techniques, flock of gangs and heavy bombardments they have been carrying for days, they only invaded a few villages in this region. Apart from those, we cannot talk about any of their particular military existence here.

When the invading Turkish state and its gangs get stuck, they head for the air strikes more in order to speed up their move. But they cannot carry through this much. However, we can foresee that they will continue to try every possible way to move forward, keep on bombing the civilian population with a manner that has no place in the morality of war.

Their claim "we're in Afrin in 3 days" has crushed to the wall of resistance. They got stuck and this makes them more aggressive and reckless. However, the warriors and the people in the region bent on protecting their land. All the warriors and peoples here are acting with great devotion. We are in the middle of the war, the village that we stand locates in the border line. The enemy is about 1.5 km away, we are able to see their preparations in the village they are in. But they can not see us here. They use unmanned aerial vehicles and drones for the surveillance. 7/24 except when it rains, they carry on the air surveillance and do air strikes based on those. The howitzers as well, do their attacks according to the coordinates they get from those drones. Roughly saying, these howitzer attacks happened 500 times just on the village and its environment that we are in. But against those, the daily life continues here in this village. The people of this region are positioned themselves as the part of this resistance. This situation, that the daily life keeps going on in the villages, makes Turkey and its gangs

burst with anger. That's why, in order to change this situation, in order to scare the villagers, they use those intense howitzers attacks. However the resistance is somehow re-producing itself here. Our peoples, who made the Rojava revolution happen, are that much determined to protect this revolution.

For Rojava, we are quite decided to do everything we can. The International Freedom Battalion is not an external force supporting the resistance, but is a part of the Rojava revolution. In every front, we shed our blood and still do. Each frontier has our labor, our dreams and desires. The revolution is our revolution and we belong to the revolution.

The operations happened against ISIS so far, were politically against the AKP-ISIS cooperation and even also against the coalition of regional reactionary cooperating states. The tactics of the struggle to clean the lands of North Syria and Rojava from ISIS were different. But, the form of the war here is much particular.

Here we are not only in the defense, but also giving a struggle to get back the territories that the enemy invaded. The process is going on like this; they attack, we defend and after that we go for liberating the invaded villages and hills back from them. Our forces are well decided and insisted on sweeping the invaders out from our lands. With the operations that we did recently, we took some invaded hills and villages back from them. With our tactical actions and operations, we keep on forcing them to retreat.

What we do here is defending equality, freedom and justice. We're fighting not only for the peoples of this land, but for the all peoples of the world. As a spring of equality and freedom, the Rojava revolution lightens the whole world. It has very significant ideological and political contributions for the world. All the warriors here are defending this revolution at the expense of their martyrdom. And the peoples of the world must be part of this resistance.



The Afrin resistance is not different than the Kobanê resistance. What has been happening so far shows the necessity of an uprising like it happened during the Kobanê resistance, which would light the flames of insurrection in Turkey and North Kurdistan to burn the colonialist Turkish state. A fascist state, which feels itself comfortable in Ankara, Istanbul or Adana, can move up to here more freely. For pushing the Turkish state back in the short run, the public response and the revolutionary vanguard actions should be strengthened in the metropolises of Turkey and North Kurdistan.

The Rojava revolution is strong enough to defend itself and prepared for it. But the Rojava revolution is not only consist of Rojava and Northern Syria. This revolution is also a frontier of Turkey, all parts of Kurdistan or Europe; the frontier of anyone that carries a heart beating on the side of hope and freedom. We take our strength from here and we think that this power should be more active now. The whole world must rise up to defend the Rojava revolution and to end the invasion of Afrin. Afrin is already a gained victory. We will win and defeat these fascist invaders!



We as the International Freedom Battalion defended the Rojava Revolution in the lunges of Qamışlo, Hol and Rakka. Today we are in Afrin. The attack on Afrin is a general declaration of war against the Rojava revolution. Before the attacks were led by DAIS against the Rojava revolution, now the Turkish state leads an open dirty war. Defending Afrin today means defending the revolution. Defending Afrin means defending the freedom struggle of humanity. Afrin is not just a part of Rojava. It is also a gateway of the world to freedom. It's defense is a sweeping response to all attacks against the peoples that AKP fascism has perpetrated in the Middle East until this day. The fascist Turkish state and its fascist Erdoğan regime knows no rules in the war. The AKP is trying to stabilize fascism in Turkey and in Bakur (North) Kurdistan. They see Afrin as one step to this aim. But Afrin is the common will of all oppressed. The struggle of the people against fascism will prevail. Afrin becomes the revelation of that.

For 20 days the people of Afrin are being bombed. The AKP is cheating the Turkish people. There is only one debacle. Despite dozens of bombs and buses, they have not been able to move forward. They suffered hundreds of losses. They are trying to collect the Salafist gangs, who used to fight within ISIS or as their allies, and send them into their dirty war. The whole world of AKP is built on lies and manipulation. It is the historical tradition of the fascist Turkish state to announce fake victories and create fake worlds. The reality is that the Turkish state will crash.

No technology, no plane, no bomb has prevented the fight of the oppressed until today and that will remain like this. Anyone who has a consciousness of history knows that. The struggle of the people against fascism has not started today. For years, this fight continues. No technology is stronger than the human, human will, human morale and human self-defense. Sooner or later, the fascist AKP state will see that and bear the consequences. The fire over Afrin not only hits Afrin. Tomorrow it will reach Ankara. It has the potential to become a wave against the AKP regime that demands accountability. The AKP regime is progressing towards its end with each attack. Afrin is preparing the moment to accelerate this end. In the revolutionary struggle Stalingrad, Kobanê and Vietnam do not end. There will always be a people's will everywhere, which will cause great resistance as long as there is an organized force of the oppressed people. Any kind of action that exposes the AKP regime and its fascist face is legitimate from today. We expect a big movement. The Turkish people should not sacrifice their young people to the banks of the AKP regime and its gangs, who do everything for more money. If the Turkish people will be honorable people, they have to stand side by the side with the oppressed Kurdish people. Otherwise, they will write a dirty history like the Germans who supported the Nazis. The Turkish people and the Turkish youth shouldn't participate in this war. Their gun barrels have to be directed against the real enemy, their gun barrels have to be directed against the AKP regime.



40 days have already passed since the beginning of the war of aggression against Afrin and its glorious resistance.



Baran Serhad from the MLKP/Rojava
Organization
evaluated the situation there and answered some crucial questions.

It was 40 days left behind since the start of invading attacks against Afrin. At what stage is the war now, how far have Turkish Armed Forces (Turkish Army, TAF) and Free Syrian Army (FSA) advanced so far?

We are in a war under very unequal conditions. On the one hand, there are the NATO's second biggest army with its military technique equivalent to billions of dollars and its flock of fighting gangs; on the other hand, there are the defense forces of the revolution and the oppressed fighting for honor and freedom. They are attacking to the resistance forces of Afrin and to our peoples with tens of war planes, Armed Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (SIHA), the cannons attacking day and night both from the border and inside, latest model tanks bought from Germany and an unlimited ammunition.

With those bombs both from air and land, they are trying to destroy hundreds of years of people's heritage, their poor houses, historical olive trees and beautiful geography of Afrin. With blood and destruction, they are trying to unmannalize Afrin and its surrounding. The revolutionary forces of Rojava and North Syria are fighting against a rat army which throws 600 howitzer balls to a village with 100 houses or more than 25 barrel bombs to a modest foothold in the Qestel hill. The invading fascist Erdoğan and its

gangs have only entered in some parts of the border villages of Afrin, which they claimed "to destroy in one week" by relying on their enormous power. And actually, those villages were already evacuated by Afrin resistance forces before in order to protect civilians from getting damage. There is currently a concentration of invading forces at the border. They can carry on their existence here only by jets and howitzers. On the days when the airplanes can not move, they get heavy blows from the resistance forces.

### What would you say about Syrian Democratic Forces' (SDF) level of resistance?

SDF and its components are waging a fight for a legitimate resistance and protection of freedom. Therefore, they can exhibit a strong moral resistance. Until now, SDF has fought against the bloody barbarism of ISIS and still does as in the Deyr-ez-Zor case. It has gained also a significant experience from these wars. But for the first time, there is a zonal defense being given against a regular army. The conditions are not equal at all, but with tactical mastery and maneuvers, with a strong consciousness of resistance, the invading forces are getting heavy losses. The SDF's dose not only take place as a military force in these resistance emplacements. The

whole population is resisting against this fascist barbarism and invasion. Afrin is resisting village by village, house by house. Behind each olive tree and each piece of rock, there lays a great battle of resistance. Along with cracking the foundations of Turkish colonialism, this war is getting to be an inspiration for millions of oppressed people. There is a reason why Erdoğan suits up a camouflage jacket and gives marching orders to the army. They are trouble and will face more difficulties. And our resistance in Afrin has already gained the victory. Even if they loot the villages, burn down all the





houses, we can say that they did lose and the resistance won.

#### What does the people Afrin think? how is their motivation, how do they join the resistance?

The people of Afrin give a tremendous lesson to the peoples of the world and also to the fascist Erdoğan and his gangs. They show that it is possible to resist by defying the destructive massacre attacks of the tanks, planes, and howitzers without hesitation despite the bombs falling on them. The practice of the peoples of Afrin and their leaders are not like those of Binali Yıldırım (Turkish prime minister) who ran away after seeing couple of tanks approaching, and hid inside a construction tunnel (his reaction on the day of coup attempt on July 15th, 2016), or like Erdoğan who keeps secret from even his closest ones where he goes. The peoples of Afrin are positioned in various emplacements of the resistance all together; warriors in the frontiers, transporters on the roads, commune laborers in the cities. Those who cannot go the frontiers organize the logistics and even children, with their own life meaning nothing than a resistance itself, dare to the enemy. Here, what we saw the other day: thousands of people heading towards Mabata, tens of thousands lined up behind the funeral of martyrs. They are all putting their bodies as a shield against those tanks, aircrafts and howitzers. Peoples of Afrin are resisting and this is such a heroic resistance to be a subject for poems, movies.

### Do only Kurdish people join the resistance? How are the approach and participation of other peoples?

Of course, Afrin resistance is not just the resistance of the Kurdish people. Within the frontiers, mobilization and solidarity actions, all the peoples of Afrin and religious communities take their parts. Arabs, Turkmens, Assyrians, Alevis, Ezidis and peoples from other nations and beliefs came together from both inside and outside the other cantons and integrated with the resistance. Despite being exposed to massacres, peoples do not leave their land.

### What is the situation in terms of internationalists, revolutionists and communists in Afrin resistance?

There is now happening the world's most legitimate and honorable act in Afrin. A great resistance is being shown against the fascist occupation attacks, against the enemies of freedom, honor, women and revolution. It is a resistance that anyone who claims to be a revolutionary, democratic, internationalist or communist should take place in. So, everyone is doing their job. What could be more natural than this revolutionaries internationalists, communists take place in both Afrin and all the solidarity actions outside? Internationalists, revolutionaries, and communists from all folks and communities are taking their place in the Afrin resistance fronts against this invasion attack. In this struggle, they pay a heavy cost with martyrs and wounded people, of course, they also make the invaders pay heavy costs. Everyone, who is a member of the Rojava revolution or a friend of it, takes place in this resistance and is a part of "the Resistance of the Age" as we say it with the words it deserves. Fighters from France to Spain, from Greece to Iceland, meet on the same front with the ones who come from Istanbul, Ankara or other parts of Anatolia and Kurdistan, and against the invasion attack, together with the people of Afrin, they advocate the revolution. The Internationalist Freedom Battalion has now taken its place in the Afrin fronts after the Cizre-Kobanê-Rakka moves. It is fighting here as well as trying to develop solidarity with Afrin resistance on the international platform. Communists continue to be a part of this process with both local and internationalist forces. And not just in Afrin. Communist fighters are also deployed in Deyr-ez-Zor, protecting their lands against the fascist ISIS gangs. They takes place in the organization of solidarity actions and they work in the mobilization of the people through the communes and institutions they work.

### What is the most needed for the people/resistance of Afrin today?

What the people of Afrin and its resistance need most is all kinds of actions and solidarities that will weaken the occupiers. There are different forms of this, of course. But it is for sure, even when there is so much silence inside, Erdoğan and the gangs are afraid. Because they hear the humming coming from underground. They keep the threshold as high as possible by arresting even those who tweet or share in the social media. They are trying to hide their unjust, dirty and bloody occupation war with intense chauvinism and fascist oppression. Because they know they will be condemned a million times in conscience, they do things depraying conscience, throw up poisonous words from the school, television, social media. They are pumping lies. They are trying to disprove an entire society. With this intensive terror, they seem to have managed to prevent the peoples of Turkey and North Kurdistan take to the streets as in the days of Kobanê for now. However, this situation is temporary. The honorable Kurdish and Turkish peoples know that it means collaboration to remain silent in this bloody occupation battle and they are accumulating. However, it should not be forgotten that accumulation that does not flow in the right time can also be corrupting.

In this context, the revolutionaries and the communists have very special duties. It is important to play a leading role in the mobilization of society and to develop ideological-political criticisms that will shake some reformist circles. In fact, pretending to be dead, hiding behind the demagogy of "but Kurds are negotiating with USA", sheltering to theories of "another situation, another condition" are not the things put forth by let alone big organizations, even



honorable individuals. See, everything is developing as the priest Niemöller said during Hitler fascism. It is turning against the ones remaining silent against the attacks since they are not Kurdish, communist, radical revolutionaries or militants and there is noone left for them to make noise.

Now is the time for pioneering attitudes. If invaders can carry out a move to Afrin so comfortably waving their arms, we must work harder than ever, communists in Turkey, patriotic and revolutionary forces should do more advanced things, primarily Peoples' United Revolutionary Movement (HBDH) components. We are aware of that those who arrested even the ones who tweet want to prevent bursting situations like people sitting in front of the war-torn convoy to stop them. Or we are aware of those who detain irrelevant people for the reason that they have a potential for action, and those who have desire to prevent bombs falling on Afrin and the destruction from coming to their homes. It is very clear that we are going through times necessary to become an icebreaker. Breaking the ice is hard and challenging, but only through that opened road, freedom can be reached.

There were intense meetings in the last few days. Talks with US Minister of Foreign Affairs Tillerson and German Prime Minister Merkel were held by Turkey. How do you evaluate all these negotiations with the imperialists? Did the Erdoğan's palace accept the demands of the imperialists?

Both themselves and their crooks are confessing that Erdoğan-Saray dictatorship couldn't make the USA accept their demands. America seems to have drawn a Minbic line. They maintain unconventional,interest-based relations with Merkel's Germany. Relations with Russia are complicated. However, the relations of Tayyip Erdogan's dictatorship with Putin's Russia seems to be one of the most concrete relations giving him chance to maneuver, but it is a relationship just like a fish on the bait. Erdoğan thinks he is swimming on his own, but the hand at the end of the bait is Russia. I think we will see more concrete results in the future.

can decide on its own. All the powers that have influence and power in the region, especially Russia, and including the United States, do not want the democratic federal system of Rojava and North Syria to develop and strengthen. Each one has different accounts, but all of them have a common stake, it is the continuation of existing system of capitalist exploitation and leaving no space for an alternative. Rojava and those living in northern Syria are pointing to an alternative revolutionary development. It is precisely because of this that they try every way and every form to weaken the revolution and its vanguards terms of military, economic, political, organizational and ideological. The Afrin War is also one of the attacks that distorts the system, delays construction, imposes compulsory alliances or back up. Russia was the one who opened the way for Turkey, but some of the EU states and the United States was in harmony with them by distracting their own people with the tale of "Turkey has a legitimate right to defend". They just did not agree on issues of borders which Turkey will remain within. Which, in the beginning, did not make much difference. Russia, wanted to expand the contradictions between US and Turkey. Those who supported this occupation directly or indirectly thought that the Turkish bourgeois state would take what they wanted in a short time. Maybe they wanted to test SDF's resistance capacity. They had tried this before against ISIS, both in Kobanê and in Minbic, but this time, the situation was different. There is the second largest army of NATO in front of revolutionary forces and they have no air support.

Invasion attack to Afrin is not something that Turkey

Afrin resistance was surprised everyone. It broke all the plans. And those plans will get worse. Moreover, in this process, in return of Afrin, move opportunities came into view which would strengthen the regime and therefore the hand of Russia and Iran. From Guta to Aleppo, from Homs to İdlib, they opened the way of retreating the attacks of the gangs supported by the Turkish government and Turkey were forced to give approval to it.

Therefore, everyone faced with the obligation to set

their position again. Of course, Tayyip Erdoğan's dictatorship also played a role its limitless ambition and unbalanced politics. For the fascist Turkish bourgeois dictatorship, which gets out of control and tries to become an actor again in the region with the politics of "all done and gone" style, these negotiations have been used to restrain Erdoğan a bit and to persuade the revolutionary and resistance forces to sickness by threatening them with death and sanitize. And Erdoğan is not very aware yet that he made a historical mistake for himself. Erdoğan went into





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such a hole that he will have to tie his neck to get out, but he is not aware. Even if Afrin is shattered into pieces, we can say that this process will be the beginning of the end of the Erdoğan's clic. Now, the wick of a process is burning, hard, bloody but full of possibilities.

#### What do you think about calling the Syrian army to Afrin?

Negotiations with the Assad regime, with Russia or Iran have always been done at different times and will be done from now on too. The current regime does not have a will of its own. Therefore, every negotiation with the regime means it is also done with Russia and Iran at the same time. Before and after the attack to Afrin, negotiations were held with both the regime and its protectors. They believed that, in the face of gigantic military power the Turkish state had built up, the revolutionary forces of Rojava and North Syria would be afraid, will step back, and accept almost all the demands of the Russian-regime-Iranian coalition. The declaration of the Tev-Dem administration about these negotiations has already been known. As mentioned there, the demands of Russia and Assad regime were not accepted in the talks. On top of that, Russia opened the road, the airspace. Then a war of aggression and massacre began.

The people of Afrin and those who resisted against the occupation did not submit to the Turkish state and their gangs. But the unequal war continued with all its destructiveness. The main advantage of the Turkish state in this war comes from air, from the jets and explorer planes. Blocking this advantage could determine the fate of the war, but this imposed another mandatory tactic. It was said to the Assad regime that it could place its troops on the borders in the frame of "federative understanding". They put forth other obligations, but their obligations were not accepted. Eventually, the ongoing resistance increasingly

awakes sympathy in the Syrian people's hearts, which obliges the Assad regime to approve that some forces connected with the army could pass to Afrin.

It is not a usual preference for the Rojava revolution that the regime troops have come to the Afrin, which were freed from the Assad regime, even though only on the borders. The level of war mandates such a tactical maneuver. It is very important for the Afrin resistance to block the invading fascist Turkish army, especially the attacks made from the air. To deepen contradictions between the sovereign states, to benefit from here to protect and develop the revolution, in some cases, also bring tactical maneuvers together. With the latest tactical alliance made, if the Turkish army's air attacks can be prevented, the course of the war may change. The possibilities of striking the Turkish state and its gangs can be attained and, more importantly, the Turkish gangs can be cleared from the free Afrin mountains and their hills. This maneuver has not yet produced a result on this basis, but this process will continue and the correct tactics will remain decisive in the course of the war.

#### Do you have a call to the peoples of the world?

We are calling the peoples of the world to escalate the struggle shoulder to shoulder with the people of Afrin, who are fighting for honor and freedom, to come out to the streets to say "No Pasaran" once more and to come to the war trenches. We also greet the laborers of Kurdish, Turkish and other peoples in Europe who have filled the streets from the first day of the occupation attacks and supported the Afrin resistance, and the patriots, revolutionists and communists who have worked hard in these works. We would like to note that their manner has powered the Afrin resistance fronts.

Lastly, as the Afrinian insurgents quoted Yilmaz Güney's saying:

We will win, we will definitely win!

#### MLKP/FESK

(Marxist Leninist Communist Party / Armed Forces of the Poor and the Oppressed)

claimed the responsibility of the bomb attack

against the Riot Police Department in Bursa on the 3rd of February 2018.

Here's the full statement:

The denialist colonialism and the political-Islamic fascist dictatorship continue their attacks to invade Afrin and carry out a Kurdish genocide. Having an unlimited hostility against freedom, justice, equality of peoples, as well as against women breaking the slavery fetters and those who raise the human dignity high above, the fascist chef Erdoğan and the Palace government are willing to destroy Afrin and then strangle the Rojava revolution as a whole. With their mercenaries of Free Syrian Army (FSA) gangs, they

mobilize all their power including every technical means and unlimited methods of dirty war on the purpose to break the unified resistance of the Kurdish, Arab, Ezidi, Turkmen, Syrian and Caucasian peoples through mass massacres. In company with the fascist psychological war based on lies and with the most reptile support of the bourgeois media, they try to conceal the severe blows that the occupants get as well as the glory of the resistance from Turkish people.

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The goal of the fascist politic-islamist chef and its servant government is not only to invade Afrin, to defeat Rojava revolution and to carry out a Kurdish genocide. They are also dreaming to become an expansionist and invader power in the region; to expand their markets, capture the petrol valves and become the master of the Arab people. The danger is great, so the resistance must be great.

As a part of our party MLKP's efforts to spread the Afrin resistance to Turkey and North Kurdistan, we, the Armed Forces of the Poor and Oppressed (FESK) executed a bomb attack against the polices of the Riot Police Department in Bursa on the 3rd of February 2018. While it was obvious with the form, location and timing of the explosion that the attack targeted the police flocks being in a political and ideological integration with the dictator, the state officials have been giving efforts to hide the truth and lying as if the explosion happened in the "footbridge" that the civilians use. Their attempts to hide the truth and

deceive peoples are nothing other than the expression of their despair. The statement itself, which was aiming to display the attack as trivial by saying "a policeman injured while he was passing by", actually reveals the real situation clearly.

Since we couldn't detect the losses of the enemy in our action clearly, we can not present the complete information of the reality. We will continue to wave the red flag that Yeliz and Şirin raised up, stand arm in arm with Afrin's resistance and carry on being the part of the struggle to spread the resistance to Turkey and Northern Kurdistan.

We call the poor and oppressed from our Turkish and Kurdish peoples, from our Arab, Caucasian, Abkhaz, Georgian, Laz, Armenian, Assyrian, Bosnian, Greek and Roman national communities, to join the fight against the invader and genocidal attack on Afrin, to raise the honor of humanity and sisterhood/brotherhood of the peoples and refuse to part in this fascist and genocidal shame.

#### Comrade Fejza will live in our struggle!

Sulejman (Fejza) Fejzic died on 24<sup>th</sup> of February after a sudden heart attack at the age of 52. Comrade Fejza was a Bosnian war veteran (1992-1995) and a valuable member of Party of Labor Bosnia Herzegovina. He was known both as a war hero and also as a militant communist of the working class after the civil war. In 2014, Fejza, again, was one of the leading figures of the revolt in the country. He was fighting for the social rights of war veterans. Just before the da he died, he was preparing for another action for the veteran movement. He has recently joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference of ICOR as a delegate of his party and presented the ongoing struggles in his country.

