

THE İMRALI POST

YOU HEARD HIS NAME. LEARN HIS STORY. DEMAND HIS FREEDOM.

Issue № 122 / 11 October 2024 ★ Contact: imralipost@freeocalan.org

Contents

Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan.....	2
‘Freedom Shall Prevail’ promoted in London.....	2
KCK: The global Freedom Campaign needs to develop until it reaches its goal.....	5
Former Prime Minister of Italy: US said ‘You must give Öcalan to Turkey’.....	8
Activists from Paris take over Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan Vigil in Strasbourg.....	11
Prisons.....	12
Prisoner with lung cancer had his sentence postponed.....	12
Imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Narges Mohammadi denied treatment.....	12
Journalist Sarunaz Ahmad imprisoned in Iran on strike for 28 days.....	13
Condition of prisoner Mizgin Acar getting worse.....	13
Military aggression and occupation.....	14
Military operation in Van countryside.....	14
YPJ announces the death of commander Jinda Cudi in Turkish drone attack.....	14
More than 17,500 people from Lebanon take refuge in the Autonomous Administration areas.....	16
SDF dismantles two ISIS cells in Raqqa and Deir ez-Zor.....	17
HPG reports 76 Turkish air strikes in three days.....	17
YPJ Commander: The 9 October conspiracy will be defeated through joint resistance.....	18
Turkish soldiers kill one young man and injure another at Çilaxa border.....	21
YPJ: The conspiracy and occupation will not achieve their goal.....	22
DAANES: Liberation of occupied territories and the return IDPs remain an unyielding goal.....	23
KCK: Those responsible for the massacres will be brought to justice.....	24
Turkish attack kills 2 children and wounds 3 others in Manbij.....	26
HPG: 5 Turkish soldiers killed, one excavator destroyed.....	26
TEV-DEM announces the death of 3 members in Turkish attack, calls for action against Turkish crimes.....	27
Femicide.....	28
Saturday Mothers acquitted in ‘950th week’ case.....	28
MKG announces its September report.....	29
MKG celebrates Kurdish Women Journalists Day.....	30
ROJIN: Kurdish women journalists open the window of truth to society.....	31
Women protest femicides in Mardin.....	32
Ecocide.....	33
Mining company in Dicle is destroying life and nature.....	33
Turkish state destroys forests in Şırnak countryside.....	33
Human Rights Violations.....	34
Unlawful raid on Kurdish association in Berlin.....	34
Hüseyin Yılmaz: Raid of Nav Berlin is an extension of Turkish oppressive policies.....	34

MKM denounces detentions of artists Helim Ömerî and Azad Bedran.....	35
Co-Mayor and 4 other women detained in Kurtalan, Siirt.....	35
Police raid DEM Party Iğdır Provincial Organization building.....	36
Eight people including DEM Party provincial co-chair detained in Iğdır.....	36
Journalist Pelin Özkaptan sentenced to 1 year and 6 months in prison.....	37
Xwebûn Newspaper Editor-in-Chief sentenced to 1 year and 3 months in prison.....	37
Musician Engin Cengiz taken into custody.....	38
Journalist Serhildan Andan detained in Amed.....	38
Interview.....	39
Andok: Conspirators fail to prevent Öcalan from reaching millions.....	39
Kalkan: A new Middle East is being shaped according to energy routes and economic corridors created	45
Besê Hozat: No matter what the conspirators did, they could not achieve their goal.....	51
Hozat: Success of international campaign for Öcalan will determine the fate of Kurds and Middle East	56
Bese Hozat: The struggle and resistance frustrated the international conspiracy.....	59
Bese Hozat: International campaign reaffirmed Öcalan as a universal leader.....	63
Hozat: Israel's war on Gaza and Lebanon should not be evaluated as limited to those two areas.....	66
Kalkan analyzes how conspiracy against Öcalan is intertwined with Third World War.....	72
Opinion.....	75
Bayık: The solution is in Abdullah Öcalan's Paradigm.....	75
Bayık: The solution is in the Democratic Confederal system.....	79
Bayık: When Öcalan is physically liberated, the Kurdish question will be solved.....	82

— ★ —

Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan

‘Freedom Shall Prevail’ promoted in London

ANF | LONDON | 5 OCTOBER 2024

As part of the global Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan Days, a promotion meeting was held in London presenting the graphic novel ‘Freedom Shall Prevail: The Struggle of Abdullah Öcalan and the Kurdish People’.

The promotion meeting organised by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Kurdish People's Assembly in Britain and the Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan Movement Committee at the Kurdish Community Centre (KCC) building was well attended. Scottish writer Sean Michael Wilson, the award-winning author of the graphic novel, and Reimar Heider from the International Initiative for the Freedom of Abdullah Öcalan attended the launch meeting.

Seyit Suruç, Co-Chair of the Kurdish People's Assembly in Britain, made the opening speech of the event, which started with a minute of silence in memory of the martyrs of the Kurdistan revolution. Drawing attention to the importance of the global campaign 'Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan, a Political Solution to the Kurdish Question', Suruç said: "The captivity of Leader Öcalan is the captivity of the Kurdish people. The freedom of the leader means the freedom of the Kurdish and Middle Eastern peoples."

The graphic novel brings the new generation together with the Leader

The project editor of the book, Reimar Heider from the International Initiative for the Freedom of Abdullah Öcalan, pointed out that the new generation especially has difficulty with reading books and said, "We have tried to develop a more practical solution. We have created this graphic novel book which develops an easy and understandable reading."

Noting that Kurdish People's Leader Abdullah Öcalan's influence on the Rojava revolution had a positive effect, Reimer said, "Unfortunately, Leader Öcalan did not have a direct connection with the new generation. In the '90s, the Leader could address Kurds and the world directly on television. This graphic novel especially brings the new generation together with the Leader."

Sean Michael Wilson, the author of the book, made a presentation on the process of the book. Wilson stated that the Democratic Confederalism paradigm is important for him and said: "I spent my childhood in Belfast. My interest in Kurdistan and Rojava is related to my childhood experiences. I can empathise between the times when the police-military pointed a gun at my face and what is happening in Kurdistan today. And Democratic Confederalism is a good example for society to get rid of this disease of capitalism and to heal."

An important tool in terms of reaching the new generation

Remarking that he has written 45 graphic novels to date, including names such as Noam Chomsky and Jeremy Corbyn, Wilson said that the formation process of the book began when he met his Kurdish friend Estella Schmid at an event in Britain. Explaining the process of the book's formation and the techniques they used, Wilson said he was happy that there was great interest in the book, especially in Kurdistan. He stated that the book consists of two parts. The first part is about Abdullah Öcalan's childhood, and the second part is about Rojava and the Democratic Confederalism paradigm: "The new generation does not read many books. Comic books are used more. And this is an important tool in terms of reaching this new generation... This book was important in terms of showing the struggle in written and graphic novel form. In this book you can visually go back to Öcalan's childhood. The life experience of the leader during his childhood, his childhood among different peoples and his experience here turns into a paradigm and philosophy, and this is how the paradigm of Democratic Confederalism is shaped. And you will see that this experience has become vital in the paradigm of democratic confederalism."

Stating that they could not include all the stages of Democratic Confederalism in the book, Wilson said, "Estella, one of the living main characters of the book, makes a simple sentence at the end of the book. She says 'democratic organisation' for all of us. This means that in Kurdistan, in Ireland, wherever we are, developing democracy locally and from below is the essence of Democratic Confederalism."

Wilson's speech was followed by a question-and-answer session. The participants thanked Michael Wilson.

‘I am a student of this book’

Stating that the process of the book's creation was a studentship for him, Wilson said: “With this book, I got to know and read Abdullah Öcalan, the leader of the Kurdish people. I learnt about Abdullah Öcalan's enormous ideas. A graphic novel means being a student to learn about some struggles. I learnt many things from the leader of the Kurdish people. Being a writer is being a student. I am a student of this book.” Citing Noam Chomsky's remark ‘We need leaders with good ideas’, Wilson said: “Abdullah Öcalan is not just a good leader. Abdullah Öcalan is a good leader with good ideas.”

Signing the book, Wilson said that the Kurdish people and their leader taught him a lot and said, “Thank you for teaching me so much.”

The meeting continued with a cultural programme entitled ‘Let's unite around the ideas of Leader Öcalan’.

Participants of the event then danced to songs written for Kurdish People's Leader Abdullah Öcalan and the Kurdish freedom struggle.

Background

Freedom Shall Prevail is the first graphic novel exploring the life and struggle of Abdullah Öcalan, affectionately known as “Apo.”

Highly regarded around the world, Öcalan led the Kurdish freedom struggle as the head of the PKK from its foundation in 1978 until his abduction by the Turkish state in 1999. He has, so far, spent twenty-five years in captivity. In this graphic novel we learn, in his own words, what Öcalan's childhood was like in the partially Kurdish areas of Eastern Turkey and how his political awareness and commitment grew as a student in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Through the personal struggle of Öcalan we also see the terrible devastation that Kurdish people have suffered and learn about the tumultuous and dramatic history of the relationship between the Kurds and the Turkish state.

The book also dives into the theories developed by Öcalan that continue to influence the ongoing struggle today. Expanding on these, the second part of the book gives us a wider consideration of the issues and policies around women's freedom, democratic confederalism and paints an inspiring picture of one of the most impressive attempts to build a genuinely grassroots democratic system anywhere in the world. The struggle going on in the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria, also known as Rojava, is one that is directly combatting gender and racial discrimination and the abuses of the capitalist economic system—in truly interconnected ways.

The wonderfully illustrated graphic novel is a collaboration between award-winning Scottish writer Sean Michael Wilson and Kurdish artist Keko, with backing and research help from the Peace in Kurdistan Campaign and the International Initiative “Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan—Peace in Kurdistan,” groups with long-term and impassioned commitment to the cause of Öcalan and the Kurdish people's freedom.

KCK: The global Freedom Campaign needs to develop until it reaches its goal

ANF | BEHDINAN | 6 OCTOBER 2024

The Presidential Council of the Kurdistan Communities Union (KCK) released a statement about the global freedom campaign that was launched last year and is committed to the physical freedom of the Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Öcalan, and the democratic solution to the Kurdish question.

The KCK statement calling on Kurdish youth and Kurdish women to grow their organization and strengthen their actions in order to ensure the health, safety, and physical freedom of Abdullah Öcalan reads as follows:

“26 years have passed since the beginning of the international conspiracy, the attack on Rêber Apo (Leader Abdullah Öcalan), which was an attack on the Kurdish people and their struggle for a free existence. We condemn and curse the October 9th conspiracy once again with all our hatred and state that we will never submit to any conspiratorial approach.

We once again commemorate our heroic martyrs who protected Rêber Apo like a firewall, using the slogan “You cannot darken our sun!” by commemorating the comrades Halit Oral (a Kurdish political prisoner who set himself on fire in Maraş Prison on the first anniversary of the international conspiracy against Abdullah Öcalan, which began on October 9, 1998), Selamet Mentesh (a Kurdish political prisoner who set herself on fire in the prison of Midyat on October 23, 1998, as a reaction to the international conspiracy) and Aynur Artan (a Kurdish political prisoner who set herself on fire in the prison of Midyat on October 23, 1998, as a reaction to the international conspiracy). We bow to their memories with respect and gratitude.

We salute Rêber Apo, who has resisted the conditions of İmralı captivity and the system of absolute isolation and torture with high willpower and extraordinary intellectual power during the 26 years since the international conspiracy.

When the international capitalist hegemonic powers, led by the USA, were preparing to enter the 21st century with their so-called Greater Middle East Project, they saw Rêber Apo and the Kurdish freedom struggle led by the PKK as the biggest obstacle to their capitalist modernist and imperialist interests. Because they had already recognized that the Kurdish freedom movement led by Rêber Apo had the potential to influence the entire Middle East. Kurdistan was divided among the four main countries of the Middle East, and the Kurdish freedom struggle led by the PKK had succeeded in drawing the Kurds in all four parts into an important stance of struggle. Kurds in the four parts of Kurdistan and abroad, armed with the consciousness of freedom, did not want to spend another century without a leader and without status, and on this basis, they embraced Rêber Apo and the freedom struggle without hesitation. They were showing all kinds of support and were gradually becoming the biggest dynamic force of change and transformation in the Middle East in favor of democracy and freedom values. The aim of the international conspiracy was to eliminate this new free Kurdish will. For this purpose, they set up the international conspiracy in a very dirty collaboration. They did not hesitate to make all kinds of concessions among themselves for its

realization. Because they calculated that if the Kurdish freedom struggle was smashed, they could more easily take over the Middle East and redesign it as they wished.

While the international conspiracy of October 9th had these regional aims, its main aim for the Kurds was to leave them without identity, leadership, and status in the new century. They aimed to make the Kurdish people lose another century just because they did not submit to the capitalist hegemonic world system and did not give up and surrender their will to struggle against the genocidal colonialist Turkish Republic's policy of annihilation and denial. However, thanks to the new and unique understanding of resistance, intellectual creativity, and productivity shown by Rêber Apo, the indomitable will to struggle of the Kurdistan freedom guerrilla, and our patriotic people, who have taken responsibility for the cause at a very high level, these dirty aims of the international conspiracy were frustrated. In the 26 years that have passed since the beginning, a more conscious and organized popular reality, a more professional guerrilla, and a matured level of political consciousness and practicalization of the essence of the party have emerged. The national and social values of the Kurdish people have been further enhanced during these 26 years of struggle and have succeeded in achieving a democratic organizational perspective.

However, the comprehensive aims of the failed conspiracy are being updated in various forms by the conspiratorial forces and are being carried out in different ways and methods. The current form of the international conspiracy is in an effort to sustain itself in many areas. Keeping Rêber Apo as a "hostage" and under torture in solitary confinement in the Imrali isolation center is the current dimension of the conspiracy. By keeping the doors of Imrali closed, on the one hand the Kurds are being deprived of their leader; on the other hand, solutions to historical problems such as the Kurdish question, which is the biggest and main question of Turkey, are being prevented from being solved, and Turkey is being prevented from entering a democratization process.

Rêber Apo's cause is the cause of the century, and its solution will be the solution of the century. The solution to such a historical case that has left its mark on a century is not possible without a revolutionary struggle. However, the political and legal grounds opened by the revolutionary struggle must also be utilized strongly. As our people and the democratic public opinion have been following, according to the existing international law, the conditions necessary for the physical freedom of Rêber Apo have now emerged. The sentence imposed on our leader has now expired according to international law. The most recent meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Council of Europe (CoE) was forced to admit this fact, but in order to stall the Kurds in practice, they have developed a "delaying policy." This policy of delay by the CoE is unacceptable.

While these developments are taking place in terms of international law, the anti-Kurdish fascist AKP-MHP regime is engaged in a major legal conspiracy against Rêber Apo. It is trying to develop a state of lawlessness by imposing disciplinary penalties on Rêber Apo without any justifiable basis. It weaves this a little more tightly every day, just like a spider weaving its web. It aims to prolong the "hostage" situation and the conditions of captivity on Rêber Apo indefinitely with the unfounded disciplinary penalties that it has linked to automatism. In order to prevent any objection to these so-called disciplinary penalties, Rêber Apo's lawyers are not even notified. In this way, the fascist Turkish regime aims to legally nullify the "violation" verdict of the ECHR on the "aggravated life imprisonment" sentence that it has specially developed for Rêber Apo. Along with the ongoing absolute isolation, we all need to see this conspiratorial reality imposed in legal terms and develop all kinds of struggles to prevent it.

Rêber Apo overcame the torturous conditions of imprisonment in Imrali with the power of his free thought and developed a new paradigm of a democratic, ecological society based on the free women and presented it to the Kurdish people as well as to all oppressed and exploited peoples of the Middle East and the world. This new world of ideas and thought, which Rêber Apo lives and reveals in his own person, is almost a program of salvation for all the peoples of the Middle East and the world, especially the Kurds and the peoples of Kurdistan. This tremendous level of thought, which he revealed in a state of captivity and under the torture of absolute isolation, is being embraced by the peoples of the world, the democratic humanity. A very valuable and very meaningful friendship and brotherhood relationship with the peoples of the Middle East as well as with various peoples in Europe and many other parts of the world is developing. The relationship of democratic peace and brotherhood that Rêber Apo wants to develop between peoples, beliefs, and cultures, the relationship of democratic modernity is beginning to produce new values for humanity, for democracy, and for freedom. It is beginning to be accepted as the only way out of the social and vital crises caused by the statist, power-oriented system that the capitalist ideology has built itself as nation-state and industrialism. As this reality emerges, the level of global embrace of Rêber Apo and the demand for his freedom develop in parallel.

The global campaign under the name of 'Freedom for Abdullah Ocalan, a Political Solution to the Kurdish Question,' which was initiated last year under the leadership of our international friends and gradually joined by leading intellectuals, writers, academics, artists, lawyers, feminists, ecologists, anti-capitalists, anarchists, and laborers on a global scale, and finally by Nobel laureates, has reached an important level. Once again, we salute all those who are participating in and supporting these efforts for the physical freedom of the Rêber Apo, all our friends, and their valuable struggles. With the conspiracy entering a new year, we express our belief and expectation that this global work for the freedom of Rêber Apo will be carried to a new stage.

Rêber Apo's thesis of women's liberation illuminates the path of Kurdish women more and more in the 21st century. The struggle waged by Kurdish women who set out with his theses on women's liberation is bringing about very serious developments in Kurdistan and the Middle East. The high level of will of Kurdish women in the political, military, and social spheres is transforming into a serious awakening and consciousness in all parts of Kurdistan, as well as among the women of the neighboring peoples with whom they live together and intertwined. This is emerging as an unstoppable development. No state power is enough to suppress this conscious, enlightened, and questioning will of women's freedom. At the current stage, the women's freedom stance that has emerged in all four parts of Kurdistan and abroad, and the level of ideological paradigmatic nutrition of this stance from Rêber Apo, continues to play a pioneering role in terms of frustrating the international conspiracy.

The Kurdistan freedom guerrilla, taking its basic ideological, philosophical, and organizational nourishment from Rêber Apo, has been the most fundamental force that has prevented the international conspiracy from succeeding in the past 26 years, thanks to its determined struggle and sharp will. Our guerrilla force has an unbreakable bond with Rêber Apo and sees him as its main moral center. Thanks to this strong morale and consciousness it receives from Rêber Apo, it continues to show its strength and will to resist under all circumstances.

In order to break the absolute isolation of Rêber Apo, to bring freedom closer, to frustrate the total war plans of the Kurdish enemy AKP-MHP fascist regime against the Kurds, and on this basis to defeat the conspiracy in its new year, we call on our people living in all parts of Kurdistan and abroad, together with

their friends, to carry out the struggle at the highest level until the main goal is achieved. On this basis, we particularly call on Kurdish youth and Kurdish women to grow their organization and strengthen their actions in order to ensure the health, safety, and physical freedom of our leader, Rêber Apo.”

— ★ —

Former Prime Minister of Italy: US said 'You must give Öcalan to Turkey'

ANF | 7 OCTOBER 2024

No news has been received for 43 months from Kurdish People's Leader Abdullah Öcalan, who has been held in İmralı Island Prison under severe isolation conditions for more than 25 years. Abdullah Öcalan is being held under conditions of absolute incommunicado and torture, and his right to see his lawyers and family members is being usurped.

Abdullah Öcalan was last visited by his lawyers in 2019, while his last family visit was in 2020. In March 2021, a wave of international protests enabled a telephone conversation between Öcalan and his brother, but it was interrupted after a few minutes for unknown reasons. Since then, there has been no sign of life from Öcalan and his three fellow prisoners in İmralı Island Prison, Ömer Hayri Konar, Hamili Yıldırım and Veysi Aktaş. Requests for visits from the Istanbul-based Asrın Law Office, which represents the four İmralı prisoners, have all been rejected by the Turkish judiciary, and requests for information remain unanswered. As a legal cover, extended disciplinary penalties are imposed in the prison system every six months. International initiatives to lift the isolation on İmralı are also ignored in Ankara.

Massimo D'Alema, who was the Prime Minister of Italy during the international conspiracy against Abdullah Öcalan in 1999, spoke to Erem Kansoy from Medya Haber TV. Massimo D'Alema stated that then US President Bill Clinton personally called him and asked him to extradite Öcalan to Turkey.

'The US has always supported the Turkish government'

D'Alema said: “The situation in which it was impossible for us to resist was when US President Clinton called me and said, “You must give Öcalan to Turkey’. Yes, President Clinton said this to me, and we said ‘no’. Believe me, it is not easy to be allied with the US and say ‘no’ to them. It is absolutely not easy. When America said, ‘You have to do this’, there were many people in Italy, newspapers, political leaders, many people who said, ‘Yes, we have to fulfil the American demand’. The US, of course, has always supported the Turkish government. We are Italy, but we are an ally of the United States, we are part of NATO together with Turkey. It was not easy for us to resist the pressure and say ‘no’ to the United States.”

D'Alema argued that the ‘International Conference on a Democratic Solution to the Kurdish Question’, proposed by Öcalan when in Rome, had no grounds to be organised due to US support for Turkey.

'Öcalan is committed to a peaceful resolution of the conflict'

“Right, I know that Öcalan is committed to a peaceful resolution of the conflict,” D'Alema said, “but on the other hand, the Turkish government was not ready to accept this process. And we should not forget that the Turkish government was supported by the United States. Whilst I appreciate Öcalan's intentions and his idea, there was no ground for it in the given conjuncture.”

'The inhuman treatment of Mr Öcalan is absolutely unacceptable'

Massimo D'Alema said that the isolation in İmralı is unacceptable both from a human rights and political point of view, “Of course, from our point of view, this inhuman treatment of Mr Öcalan is absolutely unacceptable. Because we respect human rights, including those of people in prison. It is also politically unacceptable. I would like to emphasise this important point that Öcalan can play a key role for a peaceful solution between the Kurdish people and the Turkish government.”

'Erdoğan should immediately release Öcalan'

The former Italian prime minister also called for the immediate release of the Kurdish leader, saying: “Erdoğan should immediately release Öcalan in order to achieve a solution to the Kurdish question that includes Öcalan and respects the rights of the Kurdish people. I have never understood Turkey's nationalist mentality. The Kurdish question cannot be solved in this way. It can be solved by granting the Kurds their rights. This is my opinion both 25 years ago and today.”

The extended part of D'Alema's interview will be published on Thursday evening.

Background

On August 28, 1998, Öcalan declared a ceasefire and proposed a democratic solution to the Kurdish question in a live broadcast on MEDTV via a telephone connection. During the program, he also answered questions from 25 journalists representing international media organizations and Turkey's mainstream news outlets. This program generated significant attention and received extensive coverage in the Turkish media. However, the PKK's ceasefire, set to begin on International Peace Day on September 1, and Öcalan's proposal for a peaceful resolution did not receive a favorable response.

Following this TV program, Turkey began pressuring Syria not to harbor Öcalan on its territory. On September 15, 1998, the Turkish Chief of the General Staff, General Atilla Ateş, appeared at the Syrian border with a crowd of flag-bearing citizens, wearing combat uniforms, rolling up his sleeves, and pointing towards Syria, stating, “Our patience is running out. We have no designs on anyone's land, and no country will be allowed to have designs on our land. Our neighbor Syria must understand this very well.”

Subsequently, on October 1, President Demirel warned Syria, stating that their patience had run out. Deputy Prime Minister Mesut Yılmaz and President Demirel made strong statements from the Syrian border in Hatay.

Thus, on October 9, 1998, the plane carrying Öcalan was compelled to depart Syria, where he had been residing for 19 years. His departure came at the request of the Syrian government, as Turkey amassed troops along its Syrian border, threatening its southern neighbor with an invasion of Damascus unless Öcalan was deported.

Once expelled from Syria on 9 October 1998, Abdullah Öcalan decided to make his way to Europe rather than to the PKK's strongholds in the Kurdish mountains of Northern Iraq or North-Western Iran.

Abdullah Öcalan's first destination was Greece, from where he immediately had to continue to Moscow. Neither of the countries were prepared to effectively grant him political asylum. On 13 November 1998, Abdullah Öcalan entered Italy, where he was allocated temporary accommodation in a Roman suburb until 17 January. The Italian authorities turned down a Turkish request for extradition on grounds that Mr. Öcalan would face the death penalty upon his return to Turkey. At the same time, the German Federal authorities decided to defer an arrest warrant against Abdullah Öcalan that had been issued in 1990 on grounds of a legally adventurous construct. The two countries' prime ministers conferred on possible venues for an international conference on a political solution to the Kurdish question with European involvement.

Öcalan repeatedly made clear that he was prepared to stand trial before an international court himself under the sole condition that Turkey be tried, too. But his hopes and demands were not met. The Turkish government and media apparatus had unleashed an ever-mounting campaign of chauvinist outrage against Italy for harbouring Öcalan, "the baby killer and murderer of 30,000 people." The campaign amounted to a boycott of Italian products and generated stark anti-Italian sentiments amongst the Turkish populace.

At the same time, and less parochially, the USA silently used diplomatic channels to dissuade European governments from supporting any political initiative for a peaceful resolution of the Kurdish conflict. Germany's move to defer the arrest warrant then turned out to be a green light for the Italian government's final decision to pressure Abdullah Öcalan into leaving the country for an uncertain destination notwithstanding his outstanding asylum application. All European countries refused to grant him leave to enter. Via Moscow, Athens and Corfu the Kurdish leader was finally flown to the Greek Embassy at Nairobi, Kenya, in what became increasingly obvious as a deliberate conspiracy to manoeuvre him into a position where he could be handed over to the Turkish authorities as soon as safeguards of European law were effectively by-passed.

When Öcalan was finally forced off the premises of the Greek Embassy at Nairobi on 15 February 1999, the private plane of a Turkish businessman (who, most notably, was extradited from the USA to Turkey on serious charges of off-shore banking and tax crimes in summer 2001) had already been waiting on the tarmac of Nairobi airport for a couple of days.

In his application to the European Court of Human Rights, Mr. Öcalan gave an account of the last sequence of events surrounding his abduction:

"Black persons in a jeep kidnapped me by force. Staying in the embassy or going with them could have resulted in my being killed all the same. They drove the car right up to the door of the plane. Later, we entered a non-public area of the airport. My consciousness failed me. Most probably, they used some drugs

on me. I can confirm that I was not in possession of my willpower at that stage. I can confirm that I felt numb.

As soon as I got on the plane, someone hurled on me. They were Turkish. All those standing around the plane were armed and from their appearance I think they were either US Americans or Israelis. No Turks were there until we got to the plane. Turks were only on the plane itself."

— ★ —

Activists from Paris take over Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan Vigil in Strasbourg

ANF | STRASBOURG | 8 OCTOBER 2024

The Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan Vigil has been held in Strasbourg since 25 June 2012, with the aim of ending the isolation, torture and genocide system implemented against Kurdish People's Leader Abdullah Öcalan and ensuring his physical freedom.

Süleyman Küre, Ali Dağ, Kamil Akkale and Abdullah Öcalan, who came from Paris, took over the vigil on its 642nd week.

Ali Dağ said: "As Kurds, we must support this action to achieve freedom for the Kurdish People's Leader Abdullah Öcalan."

Süleyman Küre said: "Our Leader has been kept in isolation for 26 years, and we have not heard from him for 4 years. For this reason, the people of Kurdistan are always on the streets. From the mothers of martyrs to the mothers of prisoners, to the Saturday Mothers, our people resist the enemy's tanks 24 hours a day. Kurds living in Europe should also support the vigil."

Zülfü Bingöl drew attention to the fact that the Kurds have never accepted the international conspiracy, and spoke about the period when Abdullah Öcalan was in Rome. "The Turkish Republic is in a coma today, as it was in 1998. The problem is with the Turkish state. If the Turkish state releases our Leader and works for a solution to the Kurdish question, all Turkey will find relief. As long as our Leader is in jail, the Kurdish people cannot be expected to remain silent. We will continue our struggle until we receive news from our Leader and secure his freedom. We have been persistently holding this vigil here for over 12 years to express our loyalty to our Leader and to seek a solution to the Kurdish question. We will continue our actions until we achieve this goal. Therefore, as Kurdish people, we must strongly support this action. We must not miss this historical opportunity. We must unite in our struggle."

— ★ —

Prisons

Prisoner with lung cancer had his sentence postponed

ANF | BATMAN | 5 OCTOBER 2024

Nurettin Dayan (34) has stage 4 lung cancer and is being held in the Beşiri T Type Closed Prison in Batman (Êlih). His sentence was postponed after a report stating that he "cannot stay in prison" was issued.

Dayan's lawyers applied to the Batman Execution Judgeship for a postponement of the sentence, and requested a report from the Health Board at the Dicle University Faculty of Medicine regarding Dayan's condition.

The report stated that he "cannot stay in prison". The report was then sent to the Istanbul Forensic Medicine Institute (ATK), which confirmed the incompatibility with prison and stated that the sentence should be postponed for 6 months.

The Batman Execution Judgeship, in accordance with the ATK report, decided to postpone Dayan's sentence for 6 months.



Imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Narges Mohammadi denied treatment

ANF | 5 OCTOBER 2024

The family of women's rights activist and political prisoner Narges Mohammadi made a statement regarding her health condition.

"According to the written decision of the cardiologist, Narges is supposed to have her medical check-ups within this month. However, the prison administration does not allow Narges to go to the hospital," the family said.

According to the statement, doctors say that Narges Mohammadi needs urgent surgery.

The family called on human rights organisations to fulfil their duties.

The Iranian state-run Evin Prison has refused Narges Mohammadi's request to go to hospital three times in the past month.



Journalist Sarunaz Ahmad imprisoned in Iran on strike for 28 days

ANF | 5 OCTOBER 2024

Journalist and children's rights activist Sarunaz Ahmad, an ill prisoner, is being held in Evin Prison in Tehran, Iran. She has been refusing to take medication for 28 days because she has not been given a medical check-up permit.

Human rights defenders stated that Sarunaz Ahmad has stopped taking her anxiety medication and refused the prison's health services.

It was also reported that Sarunaz Ahmad collapsed during the attack on the women's ward in Evin Prison and was hospitalised.

Children's rights activist and journalist Sarunaz Ahmad was detained in November 2022 during the 'Jin, Jiyan, Azadi' (Woman, Life, Freedom) demonstrations with her husband, Kamyar Fekur. Sarunaz Ahmad was sentenced to 3 years and 6 months in prison by the Tehran Revolutionary Court on charges of 'propaganda against the state' and 'assembly and conspiracy to undermine national security'.



Condition of prisoner Mizgin Acar getting worse

ANF | MARDIN | 8 OCTOBER 2024

Political prisoner Mizgin Acar allegedly attempted suicide in Mardin E Type Closed Prison on the night of 1 October.

Acar, who was brought to Mardin Type E Closed Prison as part of the hearing of the case against her, allegedly attempted suicide on the night of October 1. Acar was taken to Mardin Training and Research Hospital and taken to intensive care, where her treatment is continuing. The condition of Acar is said to be critical.



Military aggression and occupation

Military operation in Van countryside

ANF | VAN | 4 OCTOBER 2024

Almost a dozen regions in the province of Van have been declared ‘Temporary Special Security Zone’. The background to the measure is a new military operation by the Turkish army, which was launched on Friday. According to the governor's office, the order will initially be in place for two weeks.

At least eleven villages in the district of Başkale, which is located in the southeast of Van, have been converted into temporary special security areas. These are higher mountain areas that border the neighbouring province of Hakkari. In addition, a ban on entry is in force in some villages outside the area of operations.

The creation of ‘special security zones’ is part of a larger development in which military zones are being established in various parts of Northern Kurdistan. As a result, entire areas are cut off from the outside world and are subject to the control and arbitrariness of the military. These measures are placing a significant burden on the Kurdish rural population and increasing the pressure on residents to leave the affected areas.



YPJ announces the death of commander Jinda Cudi in Turkish drone attack

ANF | 5 OCTOBER 2024

The General Command of Women's Protection Units (YPJ) announced that Jînda Cûdî, one of their commanders, was martyred in the UAV attack carried out by the occupying Turkish state on the Qamişlo-Amudê road on 3 October 2024.

The YPJ statement on Saturday includes the following:

“Despite all ideological genocidal attacks, the Women's Revolution in Rojava insists on development and building a free life with great resistance. Therefore, the fascist Turkish state continues its attacks on the region using all dirty methods. In these attacks, the Turkish occupation state specifically targets the women of the revolution. The targeting of the leaders and fighters of the Women's Protection Units today by drones belonging to the occupying Turkish state once again exposes international shame.

Our comrade and leader Jinda Cudi was targeted by a drone belonging to the occupying Turkish state on the road between Amuda and Qamishlo. As a result of this ongoing attack by the Turkish occupying state, the leader Jinda Cudi and our comrade Saleh Khalil joined the ranks of the martyrs.

Our comrade Khazal Belka, known as Jinda Cudi, was born in 1985 in the city of Şırnak, in a family with a high national culture. In the history of the struggle for the freedom of Kurdistan, Botan is considered a central basis for organizing the Kurdistan Freedom Movement. Our people in Botan have resisted aghas, emirs, the Ottoman rule, and the Turkish republic, and have always made resistance one of the foundations of the struggle. Over the years, this spirit of resistance among our people, especially in the 1990s, reached its peak and created figures like Berivan (Beşnevş Akal). In the personality of Jinda Cudi, this revolutionary spirit turned into a sustainable culture. The leader Jinda hails from Botan, where many of its heroic sons fought in the ranks of freedom and sacrificed their lives for the freedom of their people.

In 1989, during the formation of the Kurdistan Freedom Movement's army, the noble family of the leader Jinda participated in organizing the army against the Turkish occupation, under the leadership of the great leader Mahsum Korkmaz (Agid). The family of the leader Jinda became one of our noblest and most diligent families in the history of the struggle for freedom. Through their participation and struggle, Jinda's family demonstrated the true meaning of the fight for Kurdistan's freedom, and that paying the price ultimately brings freedom and victory. Jinda's father, Youssef Belge, joined the ranks of the martyrs in 1998 while working within the Kurdistan Freedom Movement. This marked the beginning of a new journey for the Belka family in joining the ranks of the Kurdistan Freedom Movement. Two of Jinda's brothers, Firas and Rizgar, also joined the ranks of the martyrs in Botan at different times.

Building on the legacy of resistance, Jinda participated in youth activities in Northern Kurdistan during the 1990s. As a devoted follower of the values of the freedom struggle, Jinda joined the ranks of the Kurdistan Freedom Movement from Botan in 2003 to actively participate in the struggle for freedom. She began her struggle for the freedom of her people in the mountains of Kurdistan. In the free mountains, as a woman from Botan, she gained great experience within the ranks of the guerrilla war.

When the revolution in Rojava began based on the call of leader Apo, Jinda headed to the lands of Rojava Kurdistan. Among the ranks of the Women's Protection Units, she became one of those brave women. In the steps toward liberation, Jinda took her place at the forefront of the battlefronts. Leader Jinda fought against ISIS mercenaries in battles such as Jazaa, Rabia, Mabrouka, Tel Kocher, Serekaniye, the Martyr Rubar line, and Al-Hol. During the hardest times of the war, Jinda fulfilled her military duties as a woman fighting for freedom. Despite being wounded, she did not stop fighting and continued her struggle in all resistance fronts without differentiating between revolutionary tasks. With her sacrifices and courage in protecting the homeland and organizing national work for democracy, she set a powerful example.

Our comrade Jinda Cudi was targeted by Turkish fascist drones on September 3, 2024, and joined the ranks of the martyrs.

The Turkish fascism targets the fighters and leaders of the Women's Protection Units, who have made great efforts in the fight against ISIS, using these unreasonable methods. In this way, they highlight the truth about the Turkish genocide. Today, our resistance is resistance for living with dignity. We have managed to create a revolution as an alternative life for the beloved youth of the homeland. Of course, we will always defend our revolution with great determination, just as on the first day. We are a force of revenge, and the

Turkish occupation should know well that we will never leave our revenge unfulfilled, and the blood of our comrades will not be shed in vain. We will hold Turkish fascism accountable for every invasion attempt.

As the Women's Protection Units, we extend our deepest condolences to the dear family of leader Jinda Cudi, to our resilient people in Botan, and to our entire national people. We promise our comrades and leaders that we will fulfill their dreams and ideals of freedom. The Rojava Revolution was built on the legacy of figures like leader Jinda Cudi, and it will continue to raise the level of struggle to protect the achievements of the revolution."

The identify information of the fallen YPJ Commander is as follows:

Codename: Jinda Judy

Name and surname: Khazal Belka

Mother's name: Bahya

Father's name: Youssef

Place and date of martyrdom: Amuda – Qamishlo / 03-10-2024

— ★ —

More than 17,500 people from Lebanon take refuge in the Autonomous Administration areas

ANF | 6 OCTOBER 2024

The Crisis Desk of the Democratic Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria said in a statement on Sunday that 17,558 people entered the region from Lebanon due to the war between Israel and Hezbollah.

According to the statement, 6,114 of these people are men, 5,587 are women, 5,800 are children and 46 of them are Lebanese. In addition, 11 bodies were transported to the region.

While those coming from Lebanon are hosted by their relatives to a significant extent, those who do not have relatives are hosted in the resettlement centre.

According to reports, the Lebanese representative of the Autonomous Administration has set up monitoring delegations for those who want to return to Northern and Eastern Syria due to the war.

The representative office co-operates in particular with the Newroz Cultural Association in Beirut to facilitate the return and meet the needs of those who want to return.

In parallel, the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria has set up a crisis desk to welcome the returnees from Lebanon and provide for their needs.

The humanitarian organisation Heyva Sor a Kurd (Kurdish Red Crescent) has set up tents in several cities for the people coming from Lebanon.



SDF dismantles two ISIS cells in Raqqa and Deir ez-Zor

ANF | 6 OCTOBER 2024

In two separate security operations conducted on October 2 and 3, the military operations teams (TOL) of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) successfully dismantled two ISIS terrorist cells operating in the eastern countryside of Deir ez-Zor and Raqqa.

The first operation, conducted with the support of international coalition forces, targeted “Ghazi Al-Farhan,” a terrorist from the town of “Khasham” in Deir ez-Zor. Al-Farhan was actively involved in establishing extremist courses for ISIS members, indoctrinating them with extremist ideology, and encouraging them to commit terrorist acts.

The second operation targeted an ISIS cell operating in the village of “Al-Hamrat” in Raqqa. The SDF captured two terrorists, “Manhal Ibrahim Al-Hamoud” and “Madin Ibrahim Al-Hamoud,” both from the city of Homs. “These terrorists were responsible for receiving and distributing weapons, explosives, and military supplies to ISIS cells for use in attacks against SDF forces, civilians, and public facilities,” said the SDF Media Centre in a statement about the operation.

The SDF underlined that they remain committed to eradicating the remnants of ISIS from north and eastern Syria, ensuring the security and safety of the region’s population.



HPG reports 76 Turkish air strikes in three days

ANF | BEHDINAN | 7 OCTOBER 2024

According to HPG, the Medya Defense Areas have been bombed 76 times by Turkish fighter jets and attack helicopters in the past three days, said the Press Center of the People's Defense Forces (HPG) in a statement on the war in South Kurdistan.

The Turkish army is using prohibited explosives against guerrilla tunnels, and resistance against the occupation attacks continues, according to the HPG.

The following information was provided on the guerrilla resistance and the details of the Turkish attacks:

Occupation soldier killed in Zap

In the western Zap region, fighters from the Free Women's Units (YJA Star) intervened twice on Thursday with heavy weapons against military road construction in the Girê Bahar area. After the construction machinery used was fired upon, the Turkish army stopped its activities.

In the Girê Bahar resistance area, a Turkish soldier was killed by a guerrilla on Thursday night. In the Girê Cûdî area, the construction of a Turkish position was stopped by targeted fire with heavy weapons.

In Heftanîn, guerrillas attacked the Silîp military post in the Cûdî area several times with heavy weapons. A rocket hit a shelter; the number of soldiers killed and injured could not be determined.

Attacks by the Turkish army

The Turkish army used prohibited explosives against tunnels in the Serê Metîna, Girê Amêdî, Girê Cûdî and Girê FM areas a total of 13 times between 3 and 5 October.

The Medya Defense Areas were bombed 30 times by fighter jets and 46 times by attack helicopters. The targets were areas in the Gare, Metîna, Zap, Qendîl and Xakurke regions.

— ★ —

YPJ Commander: The 9 October conspiracy will be defeated through joint resistance

ANF | 8 OCTOBER 2024

9 October marks the anniversary of Kurdish People's Leader Abdullah Öcalan's forced departure from Syria in 1998. Expelled from Syria, Abdullah Öcalan decided to make his way to Europe rather than to the PKK's strongholds in the Kurdish mountains of Northern Iraq or North-Western Iran. As all European countries refused to grant him leave or entry, the Kurdish leader was finally flown to the Greek Embassy at Nairobi, Kenya via Moscow, Athens and Corfu, in what became increasingly obvious as a deliberate conspiracy to manoeuvre him into a position where he could be handed over to the Turkish authorities as soon as safeguards of European law were effectively by-passed. On 15 February 1999, the Kurdish leader was arrested in Kenya and handed over to Turkey, where he has since been subjected to unlawful treatment in violation of international law. 9 October thus marks the beginning of what the Kurds call "the international conspiracy".

On the anniversary of the 9 October conspiracy, which is also the anniversary of the occupation attacks on Girê Spî and Serêkaniyê, the Women's Protection Units (YPJ) Commander Leyla Washokani shared her views.

Speaking to YPJ Media Center, Leyla Washokani condemned the 9 October conspiracy and those involved in it, stating that this conspiracy was deliberate and orchestrated against Leader Abdullah Öcalan, the Kurdish people, and the peoples of the region, but it will be defeated through joint resistance.

Regarding the forces that planned and orchestrated this conspiracy, Leyla Washokani said: "The conspiracy has entered its 26th year. This conspiracy, which began on October 9, 1998, is an international one, implemented by the United States, the European Union, and some regional countries. Certain independent Kurdish forces also played a role. Dark plans were devised for this century behind this conspiracy. As is well known, Turkey is a member of NATO and cannot act without NATO's orders. Even back then, it was clear that Turkey was not the one planning and leading this conspiracy. England gave Turkey the green light, and after that, Turkey pressured Syria, threatening Assad's regime that if Leader Öcalan did not leave, they would launch a military attack on Syria. There was a great deal of diplomatic movement between Washington, the Kurdish traitors, Israel, Ankara, and Egypt. It is also evident that this conspiracy was planned with very detailed calculations and deeply hidden goals."

Leyla Washokani pointed to Leader Öcalan's efforts to solve the problem in Europe and said: "When Leader Öcalan went to Europe, he immediately called for a legal and peaceful resolution to the Kurdish issue, but this request was deliberately rejected. The Turkish Republic was established as a fascist nation-state based on occupation, lies, looting, and genocide. Their enmity towards the existence of the Kurdish people is evident. European countries also understand Turkey's fascist nature and its enmity towards the Kurdish people, and they use this hostility as a weapon for their own benefit.

In the Middle East, Turkey acts as a spy and an extension of imperialist dominance. Their plans in the region are primarily executed through Turkey. Now, Turkey presents itself as being against Israel, but this is not true. The war in the region is coordinated by imperialist powers, with most of the countries executing it being subordinate nations like Turkey. To ensure that the Kurdish issue remains unresolved—so that Turkey remains under the control of dominant powers—they blocked the resolution process when Leader Öcalan went to Europe. And in other stages, whenever there was an opportunity for peaceful resolution, it was somehow thwarted and prevented. This does not serve their interests."

Regarding the continuation of the conspiracy until today, the YPJ Commander said that the conspiracy is linked to the Third World War:

"The international conspiracy that began on October 9, 1998, and led to the capture of Leader Öcalan on February 15, 1999, must be understood in detail. The October 9 conspiracy was not a random event; it was carefully executed. Many forces and states participated in it. To fully grasp the nature of the conspiracy, Leader Öcalan has led a wide-ranging struggle. To prevent the achievement of his goal, they have been fighting for 26 years. It can be said that the conspirators have not achieved their objective, but the conspiracies against Leader Öcalan, the freedom movement, and the Kurdish people's struggle continue to this day. The conspiracy continues today through isolation and attacks on freedom fighters. This conspiracy concerns all humanity. We must recognize that the October 9 conspiracy was one of the steps of the Third World War, and this truth has now become clear.

Today, there are wars and conflicts all over the world, and there is no peace in any country. The situation in the Middle East is extremely complicated. The proxy war, which lasted for ten years, has somewhat ended, and instead, the countries of the region are now facing each other directly. The terrorist Turkish

state has occupied parts of Syria and Iraq (including southern and western Kurdistan), and there is a likelihood of a broader war. The war between Israel, Hamas, and Hezbollah could involve Iran, and the humanitarian crisis is worsening. The political conflicts in Syria and Iraq remain unresolved. These are all additional aspects of the Third World War.”

On October 9, 2019, the Turkish state launched an invasion campaign against the cities of Serêkaniyê and Girê Spî. Regarding the Turkish occupation, the YPJ Commander said: “Since 2016, the Turkish state has occupied parts of Syria (Al-Bab and Jarabulus). After the occupation of Afrin, the enemy moved to Serêkaniyê and Girê Spî. This attack was carried out with the approval of dominant powers. No external force stopped them or questioned what they were doing or why they were doing it. The Turkish state slaughtered the residents of these areas with a brutal attack against humanity, looting their homes. Hundreds of civilians were martyred. Chemical weapons were also used.

The fighters of the YPJ and the People’s Protection Units (YPG) sacrificed themselves in the face of the occupation. Not a day goes by without a humanitarian tragedy occurring in the occupied areas. Turkey now speaks about the tragedy in Palestine, but the actions of Erdoğan and Netanyahu are no different. To this day, our people remain displaced, struggling to survive under harsh conditions. The properties of our people have been looted, historical sites have been destroyed, and ISIS gangs have taken control of these cities.”

Commenting on the fact that the occupation, looting, and displacement have caused an unprecedented tragedy, YPJ commander Leyla Washokani criticized the world’s silence on this matter and said: “Did they not see the suffering of the local population? Of course, they did. But the international powers are the ones producing this crisis. Continuing the international conspiracy against Leader Öcalan, the Turkish state attacked the cities of Rojava to break the will of the revolution. Erdoğan’s dream is to establish a new Ottoman Empire. The world has noticed this, but they are merely watching. But there is something they did not account for: resistance has become a culture. Maybe part of our land is occupied, but the mind and spirit of the people will not be occupied, and they will continue to fight for their freedom until the end.

Daily bombardments continue in northeastern Syria. Leaders, revolutionaries, and patriots are being targeted by drones. Every day, there are martyrs and wounded along the border lines. They also threaten further invasion. There is also a role for traitors. In the west, some traitorous secret cells associated with the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) are playing the same role as the Barzani family in the south to prevent Erdoğan from falling, their hands stained with the blood of martyrs.”

Leyla Washokani stressed the importance of responding to the international conspiracy and said: “Certainly, condemning the conspiracy alone is not enough. Occupation and treachery cannot be defeated with mere insults. One must understand the enemy’s objective well. Why did the conspiracy happen? What was the goal? The leaders revealed the essence of the conspiracy in their defenses. In turn, they pointed to the national democratic system, the model of democracy, the environment, and women’s freedom. What does this mean for us, the people of northeastern Syria? Our leader was isolated from us due to international pressures and then captured. Our leadership has been resisting for 26 years. Every moment in Imrali is the most difficult of wars. Our current duties are, first, to fully defeat the conspiracy, we must rally all our forces for the physical freedom of Leader Öcalan. Of course, it is not just about marches and activities. At the same time, we must practice the leader’s ideas, meaning applying the national demo-

cratic system in all its aspects. The next issue is definitely the development of the revolutionary people's war. Because we are facing attacks as a region, Kurdistan and the Middle East are in the midst of the Third World War. We will also organize the revolutionary people's war in every area, just like the units in north-eastern Syria. This way, we will be able to stop the attacks, end the occupation, and completely destroy the torture system in Imrali. This is our duty and responsibility."

YPJ commander remembered the martyrs of "No One Can Darken Our Day," who became a ring of fire around Leader Öcalan, the martyrs of "The Resistance of Dignity," and all the freedom fighters, saying: "I bow in reverence to their memory, and I say that we will certainly keep the goals of our martyrs and heroes in our minds and hearts and follow in their footsteps until victory. Our real relationship with these heroes is reviving them in our struggle and waging a successful fight in their footsteps. As Leader Öcalan says: Our connection to the martyrs is certainly that we care for their work and take very strong steps."

The YPJ Commander concluded: "It is time for action. We need to unite our forces together and stand against the isolation of Leader Öcalan. To be worthy of the great work that Leader Öcalan, the martyrs, and our people have done, we will strengthen our struggle and become the revolutionaries of the moment. As revolutionaries, we promise the Kurdish people and all the people of the region that we will end the occupation. I also call on our people, especially women and youth, to participate with all their strength in the freedom revolution and be part of this unprecedented history."

— ★ —

Turkish soldiers kill one young man and injure another at Çilaxa border

ANF | 9 OCTOBER 2024

Turkish soldiers opened fire on 6 young people in the area between the villages of Batirzan and Derna Axê in the city of Çilaxa, in Cizîr Canton, which borders North Kurdistan.

As a result of the fire, one young person whose name could not be established was killed and another was wounded.

The wounded person, Elî Ebdunasir, was taken to Girkê Legê Hospital for treatment.

— ★ —

YPJ: The conspiracy and occupation will not achieve their goal

ANF | 9 OCTOBER 2024

The General Command of the Women's Protection Units (YPJ) released a statement on the 27th anniversary of the 9 October conspiracy, the 5th anniversary of the Turkish occupation attacks on Girê Spî and Serêkaniyê and the agreement against the Yazidi town of Shengal (Sinjar).

The statement by YPJ General Command includes the following:

“On the 27th anniversary of the international conspiracy and the 5th anniversary of the Turkish occupation's attacks on Girê Spî (Tal Abyad) and Serêkaniyê (Ras al-Ain), and the agreement on Shengal, we strongly condemn the malicious conspiracy and occupation, and we declare that we will never allow the conspiracy and occupation to achieve their goal.

Our leadership, our people, our women, and all the world's fighters for freedom have been resisting the international conspiracy with unprecedented perseverance for 27 years, ever since the removal of leader Apo (Abdullah Öcalan) from the Middle East. First, we remember all the martyrs who sacrificed their lives under the slogan “No one can block our sun,” the honorable martyrs of resistance, and all the martyrs of the revolution for freedom. We bow our heads with great respect before their memory. The people, the female fighters, comrades, and friends who continuously struggle against the conspiracy raise the banner of freedom, demanding the physical freedom of the leader in all fields of struggle, and we salute them with respect and love.

Since the beginning of the 20th century, the fascist powers of the nation-state have left the Kurdish people marginalized, without history, without culture, and without language. On this basis, they openly or secretly signed several agreements regarding the division of Kurdistan, such as the Sykes-Picot, Sèvres, and Lausanne treaties, and agreed on the genocide of the Kurdish people. They implemented policies of extermination, mass murder, conspiracy, assimilation, special warfare, and cultural genocide to annihilate the Kurdish people. As a result, the Kurdish people were deprived of their right to identity and existence and entered a state of losing their identity as a people.

The freedom movement, led by leader Apo, began a widespread struggle to revive the people who had been buried and whose identity was buried with them. From the very beginning, leader Apo analyzed the dangerous situation of the genocide against the Kurdish people. Contrary to it, he initiated a revolution of awakening and organization. As a result of his efforts for many years, the people, who had been deprived of existence, have been revived time and again.

In the past 26 years, leader Apo has been struggling moment by moment against the conspiracy and the conditions of imperial captivity. He fights at the highest levels, resists, and has built himself stronger, offering all measures and solutions for peace. Our leader thwarted all lines of this conspiracy with his stance, exposed the conspiratorial capitalist system with all its secrets, and is waging a strong ideological and political struggle against it.

Leader Apo shows unprecedented resistance and struggle under the harsh conditions he endures on the island of Imrali, which he describes as the “pit of death.” Imrali has become the center of the main battle. Capitalism aims to leave the peoples without hope, without ideology, without systems, without protection, so they can rule them like herds. But the people draw strength and inspiration from Apo’s philosophy. The conspiracy aimed to separate the leader from the people and the freedom movement, isolating and forgetting them, but our leader broke all the existing boundaries and obstacles, reaching the entire world with his determination and line of resistance. Therefore, freedom lovers everywhere fill the squares, demanding the physical freedom of leader Apo.

Day by day, the systemic crisis and chaos in the region grow more dangerous. In comparison to leader Apo’s ideas and views, finding solutions becomes more difficult. The imprisonment in Imrali has turned into extreme isolation, violating all international laws. Despite all requests from lawyers and family, as well as the activities of the Kurdish people and their friends, no information has been received from leader Apo for 36 months. Punishment under the guise of disciplining leadership seeks to prevent the right to hope, presenting it as a legitimate project to the public.

The forces of domination have launched the Greater Middle East project to redesign the region. Today, the third world war, centered around the Middle East and Kurdistan, is being waged in brutal, lawless ways. As part of the third world war, on October 9, 2019, with the approval of capitalist hegemonic forces, the fascist Turkish state launched a brutal attack on Kri Sipi and Sere Kaniye. In the face of these attacks, our people, fighters of the Women’s Protection Units (YPJ), and People’s Protection Units (YPG) defended their people and heroically sacrificed their lives. Hundreds of our Arab and Kurdish people were martyred as a result of the brutal bombing by the fascist Turkish regime and its mercenaries. In Kri Sipi and Sere Kaniye, which are currently under occupation, daily violations of rights, rape, kidnapping, and murder occur, as well as demographic changes, all of which constitute crimes against humanity.

Furthermore, on October 9, an agreement was reached against the will of the Yazidi people, putting our people in Shengal at risk of genocide repeatedly. However, our people in Shengal are aware of the objectives being pursued and are engaging in the necessary struggle.

We, as the Women’s Protection Units (YPJ), continue our struggle based on the model of leader Apo to achieve the physical freedom of leader Apo, end the occupation, and ensure the protection of women’s values and the peoples of the region. We are committed to achieving success and freedom for the people. On this basis, we repeatedly salute the resistance and struggle of leader Apo, the freedom fighters, and the people of Kurdistan and the world for freedom, and we call on women and freedom-loving people to crown the campaign for the physical freedom of leader Apo with victory.”

DAANES: Liberation of occupied territories and the return IDPs remain an unyielding goal

ANF | 9 OCTOBER 2024

The Democratic Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria (DAANES) released a statement on the 5th anniversary of the start of the Turkish invasion of Serekaniye (Ras al-Ain) and Girê Spî (Tal Abyad) on 9 October 2019 and called for an end to the occupation of Syrian territories by Turkey. All types of weapons were used in air and ground attacks carried out by the Turkish army and jihadist mercenary troops, including internationally banned weapons, which ultimately led to the occupation of the two cities.

The invasion five years ago, like the occupation of Afrin in spring 2018, was the result of international agreements and collusion and attacked the system of self-government, targeting a people struggling for their dignity and freedom, DAANES emphasised. “This deal is directed against all Syrians and is an additional project to prevent a Syrian consensus and a clear orientation towards Syrian sovereignty. Since the beginning of the Syrian crisis, the people of our region have distanced themselves from any conflict that aims to seize power, but rather sought a historic democratic struggle through their various components to build their free and democratic will and decision.”

The DAANES stated that the liberation of Afrin, Serêkaniyê and Girê Spî and the return of the displaced population remains an unyielding goal. The autonomous administration noted that many valuable people were killed and injured in the defence of the region, commemorating the fallen heroes with gratitude and bowing with great respect to the war-wounded.

DAANES also reaffirmed the unity, solidarity and persistence of our people in the project of the democratic nation, which constitutes the basic and important framework for achieving sustainable victory and encircling all enemies' attempts to dominate, expand and impose projects.

“We call on all international forces working with Turkey and its mercenaries to reconsider their policies, and we call on all UN, human rights and humanitarian powers to work to form an independent commission to investigate the violations and practices of mercenaries in the occupied areas, and to bring those responsible to justice.

The continuation of the occupation by Turkey and its mercenaries means a continuation of the chaos and the direct support of all extremist forces, including ISIS. Therefore, ending the occupation is a prerequisite for stability and maintaining security, and it is a strategic decision that we will not deviate from. Based on the determination of our people and the march of our martyrs, we will achieve victory and defeat the occupation,” said DAANES.

KCK: Those responsible for the massacres will be brought to justice

ANF | BEHDINAN | 10 OCTOBER 2024

The Co-Presidency of the KCK Executive Council issued a statement to commemorate the victims of the so-called Ankara train station massacre.

On 10 October 2015, people were gathering for the 'Labor, Peace, and Democracy Rally' at the Ankara train station, when the brutal massacre took place.

The KCK said: "Today, we once again condemn this inhuman, brutal, and despicable massacre, which targeted the democratization of Turkey and the process of a democratic solution of the Kurdish question. This massacre has gone down in Turkish history as the largest mass murder. We honor those who lost their lives, and we commemorate all the martyrs of revolution and democracy with respect and gratitude, and we reiterate our promise to them.

We express our greetings and respect to the dear relatives of those who lost their lives and to those who were injured. It is our most fundamental historical responsibility to enlarge the *gövend* of peace, freedom, and brotherhood drawn by the tens of thousands who took to the squares that day and to realize the ideal of a free life of the peoples. With the united common struggle of the peoples, this ideal will surely be realized and come to life."

The KCK added: "The Ankara Train Station Massacre is the biggest in a series of attacks carried out by the AKP-MHP regime under the guise of ISIS. As with other massacres before, the attack in Ankara targeted the process of democratization of Turkey and the democratic solution of the Kurdish question, the unity of the peoples, and the desire for equal and common life. The ideas and solution methods developed by Rêber Apo [Abdullah Ocalan] have strengthened the socialist, democratic, and libertarian forces and created the grounds for the democratization of Turkey and the democratic solution to the Kurdish question, in particular by developing a democratic alliance between the Kurdish people and the peoples of Turkey. However, the AKP-MHP government, which has a fascist, racist, reactionary, genocidal, and expansionist mentality, in order to prevent this path towards the democratization of Turkey and the Middle East, has put into effect the genocidal concept that it had prepared in advance – so-called 'çöktürme planı'."

The KCK continued: "The Ankara Train Station Massacre took place on the basis of this genocidal concept. The AKP-MHP government's alliance with ISIS was also within this scope.

In the attacks and massacres carried out in Turkey, Kurdistan, and many parts of the Middle East, ISIS and ISIS-minded structures were used as striking forces by the AKP-MHP government. With this, the AKP-MHP government aimed to realize its reactionary, expansionist, genocidal neo-Ottoman dream. However, due to the defeat of ISIS against the united democratic struggle of the peoples, this plan of the AKP-MHP government did not work and failed. The defeat of the AKP-MHP government and the deep crisis it has entered into is a result of this situation.

The reactions of the fascist chief Tayyip Erdoğan and the AKP-MHP government to the developments in the Middle East and the perceptions they want to create are closely linked to this situation. After failing to achieve its expansionist neo-Ottoman goals with the ISIS plan and failing to become the dominant power in the Middle East, it has taken an attitude that deepens the problems between Israel, Iran, the Arabic peoples, and other states and peoples in the Middle East, provoking and spreading war. With the deepening and spread of war in the Middle East, it is trying to achieve the hegemonic and expansionist goals it could not achieve. As it tries to project, it is neither against the genocide of peoples nor against the massacres committed by Israel. The October 10 Train Station Massacre and the massacres carried out by the AKP-MHP government and the policy of war, genocide, and isolation that it conducts clearly prove this reality.

While condemning this despicable massacre once again on its ninth anniversary, we state that the historical account will be asked for all massacres and mass murderers, and that those responsible for the massacres will be brought to justice. On this basis, we call on all peoples, all democratic, socialist, and libertarian forces, to strengthen their unity on the basis of a united common struggle strategy and to further increase the struggle."



Turkish attack kills 2 children and wounds 3 others in Manbij

ANF | MANBIJ | 10 OCTOBER 2024

The occupying Turkish army and allied mercenaries attacked the village of Tehna Mezin in Manbij Canton on Thursday.

The attack claimed the lives of 9-year-old Casim Cuma El Casim and his 5-year-old brother Ebdo Cuma El Casim. Their cousins, 6-year-old Casim Mehmûd Al Casim, 8-year-old Ehmed Casim Al Casim and 10-year-old Muslim Al Casim were seriously injured.

The wounded children were rushed to Manbij Hospital.

Manbij is located 30 kilometres south of the Turkish border and occupies a key strategic position in Turkey's plans to expand its illegal occupation zone in northern Syria. The city, which is administered by the Democratic Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria (DAANES), is located on the important M4 highway, which runs through northern Syria like a lifeline and was a strategic supply route for ISIS. In addition to the Manbij Military Council, the Enîya Kurdan (Kurdish Front) and the Idlib Revolutionary Brigade are also responsible for the defence of the region.

Since Manbij was named by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan as the primary target for a new invasion of northern and eastern Syria in 2022, the war of attrition against the city has intensified. There are regular attacks by the Turkish army and allied jihadist militias as well as infiltration attempts, which are mainly directed against civilian settlement areas with the aim of displacing the population. The positions of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) are also repeatedly under attack. The international community ignores Turkey's crimes in its neighbouring country.



HPG: 5 Turkish soldiers killed, one excavator destroyed

ANF | **BEHDINAN** | 11 OCTOBER 2024

The Press Center of the People's Defense Forces (HPG) has issued a statement about the guerrilla resistance to the Turkish invasion of South Kurdistan and the Turkish army's attacks on the Medya Defense Areas over the past two days.

According to the statement, the resistance is concentrated on the western front of the Zap region. In the Girê Bahar and Girê Amêdî areas, a total of five Turkish soldiers were killed on Tuesday and Wednesday by snipers from the HPG and the Free Women's Units (YJA Star).

In Girê Bahar, the guerrillas also intervened against the construction of military roads for the occupiers, and a shovel excavator was destroyed by fire from a heavy weapon. Further attacks with heavy weapons were carried out by YJA Star fighters against the Turkish troops in the Girê Cûdî area in the Zap region and in Girê Şehîd Hêmin in Xakurke.

Attacks by the Turkish army

As to the attacks by the Turkish army, the HPG reported that prohibited explosives were used against guerrilla tunnel systems in the Girê FM and Girê Cûdî areas a total of six times in the past two days.

In addition, areas in the Xakurke, Gare, Metîna, Zap and Qendîl regions were bombed 15 times by fighter jets and 12 times by attack helicopters.



TEV-DEM announces the death of 3 members in Turkish attack, calls for action against Turkish crimes

ANF | 11 OCTOBER 2024

The Democratic Society Movement (TEV-DEM) made a statement announcing the death of 3 of its members in an attack carried out by the invading Turkish state in Shehba on 9 October.

“The fascist Turkish state proves day by day its hostility to women, democratic work, peace and society to the whole world and to our people, in particular in Northern and Eastern Syria. Turkish fascism is led by the AKP-MHP. The Turkish state has become a threat not only to our people, but also to all the peoples of the Middle East and the world at a time when it has failed due to its wrong policies, racism and deadlock in the face of freedom fighters. They are attacking women, civilians, activists and all the values in the mountains of Kurdistan and the gains of the people throughout Kurdistan, killing hundreds of fighters,

women and pioneers of our people. It is attacking the refugees displaced by the occupation of Afrin. Three of our members who fought against the AKP-MHP occupation, which wants to continue the genocide against our people, were martyred in one of these dirty attacks,” said the TEV-DEM statement on Friday.

TEV-DEM saluted the “martyrdom of our freedom and democracy fighters who braved all kinds of difficulties in their work for the construction of a democratic society, women's freedom and the brotherhood of peoples.”

The statement continued: “Comrade Zelal Efrîn worked with all her strength in every field and fought for the freedom of the people, democratic society and freedoms throughout Northern and Eastern Syria during the Rojavayê (Western) Kurdistan Revolution. She did not step back under any circumstances, taking her place in TEV-DEM after the 19 July women's revolution and achieving great works among immigrants.

Comrade Mazlum Antep, who represented the unity of our people in all four parts of Kurdistan with his revolutionary personality and who undoubtedly saw the 19 July Revolution as the revolution of all peoples and the people of Kurdistan, fought great struggles. Mazlum Antep, who also took his place in TEV-DEM, mourned and rejoiced together with the immigrants forcibly displaced by the occupying Turkish state.

Comrade Alaf Mûrad is a Kurdish youngster. He served the people and society of Northern and Eastern Syria by putting forward the duty and role of youth in the work of the movement. Comrade Alaf did not give up his cause until the moment he was martyred.

We salute our people, our freedom and democracy fighters and the martyrs. We strongly condemn the human rights organisations and states that remain silent on the atrocities of the Turkish state. We call on all our people, democrats and everyone to stand up against Turkish fascism and to bring these crimes against humanity before international courts.

As TEV-DEM, we pledge to our martyred comrades that we will continue to fight for freedom, democracy, an organised, equal society based on moral and human values, and women's liberation.”

— ★ —

Feminicide

Saturday Mothers acquitted in '950th week' case

ANF | ISTANBUL | 5 OCTOBER 2024

The Istanbul 39th Penal Court of First Instance acquitted 20 relatives of the disappeared people and human rights defenders who were charged with attempting to hold an illegal demonstration in 2023. The defendants attended an event to mark the 950th gathering of the Saturday Mothers/People.

The Court ruled on Friday that none of the defendants had committed any criminal offense and cleared all charges against them.

Speaking in court, a defendant, Cüneyt Yılmaz, recounted how police assaulted and detained them without any prior warning. "As we were walking towards Galatasaray Square, the police attacked us and took us into custody. We reject the accusations against us," Yılmaz told Mezopotamya Agency (MA).

Another defendant, Hünkar Hüda Tanrıverdi, said: "At the police station, they asked us, 'Who gave you permission to hold this demonstration?' But the right to peaceful assembly is protected by the constitution, and we don't need anyone's permission for it."

Background

Several prominent figures from the Saturday Mothers movement, which has been seeking justice for those who disappeared in custody, mostly in Kurdish regions, since 1995, were among the defendants.

Among those acquitted were Ali Ocak, Ali Tosun, Besna Tosun, Cüneyt Yılmaz, Hanife Yıldız, Hasan Karakoç, Hatice Korkmaz, Hünkar Hüdai Yurtsever, İkbâl Yarıcı, İrfan Bilge, İsmail Yücel, Leman Yurtsever, Maside Ocak, Meryem Pars, Mikail Kırbayır, Mukaddes Şamiloğlu, Selvi Gülmez, Oya Meriç Eyüboğlu, Saime Sebla Ercan, and Ümmügülsüm Aylin Tekiner.

The Saturday Mothers began in 1995, and is made up of relatives of people who were forcibly disappeared while in state custody. The group has held weekly protests in Istanbul's Galatasaray Square, demanding that the government investigate the disappearances and prosecute those responsible.

In 2018, then-Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu banned the 700th-week demonstration at Galatasaray Square, and the police intervened, detaining several participants. Since then, authorities have prevented the group from holding demonstrations in the square, blocking access with police barriers.

The ban was challenged in the Constitutional Court, which ruled that the prohibition violated the group's right to peaceful assembly. Despite the ruling, police once again intervened during the group's 950th-week

demonstration in June 2023, detaining 20 participants. The case brought against them concluded with this week's acquittals.

— ★ —

MKG announces its September report

ANF | AMED | 5 OCTOBER 2024

In its September 2024 report, the Mesopotamia Women Journalists Association (MKG) stated that pressures and threats against freedom of the press are increasing day by day. The report pointed out that war policies and the deepening of poverty played an important role in this process.

“While women journalists are constantly subjected to judicial pressure for reporting news, they face obstructions by police, soldiers or gangs in the field,” the report said.

Noting that the house of JINNEWS reporter Rabia Öner was raided due to her news on drugs and prostitution in Hakkari, the report stated, “This incident shows that repression has reached a systematic dimension.”

The report listed violations against women journalists as follows: 2 journalists were attacked, houses of 2 journalists were raided and 2 journalists were detained. In addition, 4 journalists were subjected to ill-treatment, 1 journalist was threatened and 2 journalists were prevented from reporting news. In September, 1 female journalist was arrested and a warrant was issued for the arrest of 2 journalists. 2 journalists were investigated and 1 journalist was prosecuted. While a total of 9 journalists stood trial, one journalist was fined 14,160 TL in total.

Imprisoned journalists

- Elif Ersoy: Editor-in-Chief of Yürüyüş Magazine
- Hatice Duman: Owner and Managing Editor of Atılım Newspaper
- Özlem Seyhan: Journalist
- Tulay Canpolat: Ankara Correspondent for Sabah Newspaper
- Selamet Turan: Journalist
- Özden Kinik: Former TRT Employee
- Lutfiye Burcu Kara: Reporter for Mücadele Birliği Newspaper

— ★ —

MKG celebrates Kurdish Women Journalists Day

ANF | AMED | 7 OCTOBER 2024

The Mesopotamian Women Journalists Association (MGK) issued a written statement to mark Kurdish Women Journalists Day. The statement underlined that the legacy left by Gurbetelli Ersöz, the first female editor-in-chief of the Özgür Gündem newspaper and a pioneer in the history of the Turkish and Kurdish press, will be protected.

The statement added that Gurbetelli Ersöz was a brave revolutionary, journalist and women's rights advocate who did not back down despite the pressures. "In memory of Gurbetelli, who lost her life on 7 October 1997, Kurdish women journalists continue their struggle to strengthen the presence and voice of women in the press. This struggle underlines the importance of women taking their rightful place in the media and social life."

The statement continued: "Every step Gurbetelli took and every word she wrote became a symbol of the resistance. She was the voice of the free press and women. The legacy left by Gurbetelli, who said, 'This fire will burn you too', continues to feed the courage and determination of Kurdish women journalists. Today, despite the pressures and the arrests, women journalists who pursue the truth continue their resistance against the male language of the media. Kurdish women journalists, who face pressure and threats, work with great devotion to maintain the existence of the free press. The fact that journalist Rabia Önver was subjected to pressure due to the news she wrote about Hakkari (Colemêrg) is a concrete example of this pressure. However, Rabia and Kurdish women journalists like her continue to stubbornly search for the truth."

'We will not allow the truth to remain in the dark'

The statement also commemorated journalists Gulistan Tara and Hêro Bahadîn, who were killed by a Turkish drone in the city of Sulaymaniyah (Silêmanî) in South Kurdistan on 23 August, and journalist Nagihan Akarsel, who was killed on 4 October 2022.

The statement said: "Gülistan and Hero, just like Gurbetelli and Nagihan, took their place in the resistance as defenders of the free media struggle. The legacy they left behind will further strengthen the spirit of resistance of the free media. Today, as we commemorate all free media workers who lost their lives in the person of revolutionary journalists Gurbetelli Ersöz, Nagihan Akarsel, Gülistan Tara and Hêro Bahadîn, we promise that we will continue to walk their path with determination. As Kurdish women journalists, we believe that the truth will not remain in the dark thanks to the philosophy of 'Jin, Jîyan, Azadî' and we underline that we will continue our struggle. MKG will continue its efforts to ensure that women journalists take a more active part in the struggle for free media and will continue to make their voices heard everywhere. The establishment of MKG will carry this legacy into the future as a symbol of the courageous and determined stance of Kurdish women journalists in their search for truth."

ROJIN: Kurdish women journalists open the window of truth to society

ANF | 7 OCTOBER 2024

7 October, the day of the death of Gurbetelli Ersöz, the editor-in-chief of Özgür Gündem Newspaper, a pioneer in the development of the Kurdish women's press and the first woman editor-in-chief in the history of the Turkish press, was declared "Kurdish Women Journalists' Day" in 2014.

Kurdistan Women Journalists' Union (ROJIN) released a statement on this occasion and vowed to continue to walk on the path opened by Gurbetelli Ersöz so that the truth does not die.

"On the day celebrated as Kurdish Women Journalists' Day, we are once again proud to carry this valuable heritage. We commemorate with respect, love and gratitude Gurbetelli Ersöz, the guide of our women's journalism, who set out knowing that protecting the truth means wearing a shirt of fire and requires a heavy price, who did not bow down to the rulers in torture benches and colonial courts. We celebrate 7 October Kurdish Women Journalists' Day," said the statement by ROJIN, which further included the following:

"We once again respectfully commemorate the martyrs of the free press in the person of our journalist friends Gulistan Tara and Hêro Bahadîn, who paid the price with their lives to carry the truth to women and society by taking on the legacy of Gurbetelli Ersöz.

Women who claimed Gurbetelli's pen do not compromise on writing the truth against the masculine language of the media. Kurdish women journalists, who do not cower and do pursue the truth despite pressure, detention, arrest, neglect and annihilation policies, open the window of truth to women and society. Therefore, the importance of women journalists is even greater today, when war policies prevail and sexism in the media is at its peak.

Undoubtedly, this legacy is taken from Gurbetelli Ersöz's brave and determined struggle. As ROJIN, knowing that protecting her pen is protecting the truth, we will continue to walk on the path opened by Gurbetelli Ersöz so that the truth does not die."

— ★ —

Women protest femicides in Mardin

ANF | MARDIN | 10 OCTOBER 2024

In the Artuklu district of Mardin (Mêrdîn), the Şahmaran Women's Platform came together to protest femicides. The women got together in front of the Chamber of Civil Engineers and wanted to walk to the Highways Park. However, they were blocked by the police with barricades. The women marched toward

the barricade chanting slogans such as "Jin jiyan azadî", "Self-defense is a right, it cannot be prosecuted", "Men are killing, the state is protecting".

The women kept defying the barricades and demanded that they be removed. Police reinforcements were sent, but as a result of the women's persistent resistance, the police had to eventually withdraw the barricade.

The women who broke through the barricade walked to the street and instead of making a statement to protest the police's attitude, they held a sit-in protest and closed the road to traffic. The women left their banners in the middle of the street while they sat in protest. Shopkeepers and citizens came out of their workplaces in the area supporting the women with applause and whistles.

Platform member Gülizar İpek Bilek voiced the demands of the women, and underlined that women and children were being killed on an almost daily basis. She said that Turkey had become a children's cemetery. Bilek added: "We are shouting from here once more: women will never give up our struggle. You are reflecting the misogynist policies of this government. We will never accept this. We will continue to struggle and crown our lives with the philosophy of Jin, Jiyan, Azadî. We, women, will weave a life without violence. 3 to 5 women are killed every day. We call this femicide. We fill the squares against femicide. Women will break all the barricades."

Bilek continued: "We will struggle against the male mentality, against impunity policies, until the Istanbul Convention is reinstated. We will continue to fight until Law No. 6284 is implemented. We will not give up on women's right to life."

On 4 October, the killing of two 19-year-old women by a man of the same age sparked protests across Turkey and North Kurdistan. According to the news compiled by bianet from local and national newspapers, news websites and agencies, men killed at least 33 women and one child in September.

— ★ —

Ecocide

Mining company in Dicle is destroying life and nature

ANF | AMED | 7 OCTOBER 2024

Residents of Pirajman neighbourhood in the Dicle district of Amed (Diyarbakır) recorded the damage caused to nature by Ölmez Nakliyat and Doğu Madencilik Sanayi A.Ş. Residents of the neighbourhood stated that these activities threaten their living spaces.

The residents, who also shared the footage with the Mesopotamia Agency (MA), noted that vineyards, gardens and agricultural areas were damaged and all living things in the region were affected.

A resident of the neighbourhood stated the following: “The way of working in the mining areas in Pirejman Neighbourhood damages the nature and the vineyards, gardens and agricultural areas of us citizens who farm in the region. Now, all living creatures living in nature are affected by this atrocity. Ölmez construction company, which has been operating in the region for about 10 years, detonates the area and extracts the mine with dynamite. As citizens living in the region, we are very disturbed by this incident and the way they work. A geography, a forest is being destroyed in plain sight. The balance of nature is disturbed, even birds no longer sing in this region, which is the habitat of birds. Ölmez Construction and Doğu Mining companies are seriously destroying life and nature in the region. We appeal to sensitive circles. Let's stop these killers of nature and life together.”

— ★ —

Turkish state destroys forests in Şırnak countryside

ANF | ŞIRNAK | 10 OCTOBER 2024

The Turkish state is committing ecocide in Elemûn village, in the Uludere district of Şırnak, on the grounds of ‘security’.

Villagers recorded the cutting of trees and stated that the action was carried out by the contractor Selim Babat.

The footage published by Mezopotamya agency (MA) shows that the trees are cut from their roots and loaded onto tractors.

— ★ —

Human Rights Violations

Unlawful raid on Kurdish association in Berlin

ANF | BERLIN | 5 OCTOBER 2024

Nav Berlin Democratic Kurdish Community Centre operating in Berlin was targeted by arbitrary practices on Saturday. The Berlin police raided the centre with special teams and acted without a search warrant. The fact that the police did not explain the reason for the search revealed an arbitrary practice. During the raid, which took place at around 15:00, the police officers pointed guns at the people in the Community Centre and made serious threats. Despite the families and children in the Democratic Community Centre, the attitude of the police, especially the pointing of the guns at the people, drew reactions. The aggression of the Berlin police reminded of the methods of Nazi Germany.

The members of the association stated that the raid was incompatible with German democracy and the law on associations. It is noteworthy that identity checks and interrogations were carried out without the presence of a lawyer.

Hüseyin Yılmaz and a member of the Democratic Society Centre were arrested and taken to the police station.

The Democratic Society Centre called on the public to embrace the organisation.

— ★ —

Hüseyin Yılmaz: Raid of Nav Berlin is an extension of Turkish oppressive policies

ANF | BERLIN | 6 OCTOBER 2024

The Democratic Society Center in Berlin was raided by German police on Saturday afternoon. Nav Berlin co-chair Hüseyin Yılmaz and one other person were taken into custody and later released.

Co-chair Yılmaz said that the attack on the Democratic Society Center was an extension of the oppressive policies carried out in Turkey and Kurdistan and emphasized that their social struggle would continue.

Yılmaz added that German security forces used methods that were similar to those of Turkish security forces. "It is unacceptable for an armed intervention to be directed at the Democratic Society Center. Such raids aim to instill fear in society, and we call on the public to be sensitive to this situation. We believe that such operations, which are carried out as the anniversary of Abdullah Öcalan's arrest approaches, are part of an international conspiracy."

Yılmaz said that "Kurdish People's Leader Abdullah Öcalan's isolation for 26 years is a result of these policies," and called for international solidarity.

— ★ —

MKM denounces detentions of artists Helim Ömerî and Azad Bedran

ANF | AMED | 8 OCTOBER 2024

Kurdish artists Helim Arslan (Ömerî) and Azad Bedran Kızılkâr were taken into custody in Amed on Monday. It was learned that Arslan was detained at his home, while Kızılkâr was detained at the airport. The reason for the artists' detention could not be learned.

‘Kurdish music cannot be silenced’

In a statement, the Mesopotamia Cultural Center (MKM) said that "the government's intolerance towards Kurdish culture and art continues. So do detentions. The raids and detentions carried out on the homes of Kurdish artists Azad Bedran and Helim Omerî on Monday are an attack on the survival of Kurdish music and art. This pressure will not be able to prevent Kurdish culture and art. On the contrary, Kurdish culture and art will become stronger with our struggle. We condemn these detentions and the pressures on Kurdish artists. Kurdish music and art cannot be silenced!"

— ★ —

Co-Mayor and 4 other women detained in Kurtalan, Siirt

ANF | SIIRT | 9 OCTOBER 2024

Turkish police carried out house raids in the Kurtalan district of Siirt early Wednesday morning.

Co-Mayor Sadiye Aktin, Peoples' Equality and Democracy Party (DEM Party) District Co-Chair Saliha Sak, Democratic Regions Party (Democratic Regions Party) District Co-Chair Sultan Yorulmaz, Municipality Council Member Mehpare Yeşilbaş and Gülbahar İvdil were detained during house raids.

The detained women were taken to Kurtalan District Security Directorate.

— ★ —

Police raid DEM Party Iğdır Provincial Organization building

ANF | IĞDIR | 10 OCTOBER 2024

The Peoples' Equality and Democracy Party (DEM Party) Iğdır (Îdir) Provincial Organization building was raided by the police in the morning hours.

Special police units closed all streets leading to the party building.

The DEM Party protested the raids and said in a statement on its X account: "Our Iğdır provincial building was blockaded by the police. There have been some detentions. Our Provincial co-chair has been taken into custody. The police and the judiciary, which have become the sticks of the government, continue to obstruct the right to democratic politics with every step they take. These efforts are futile."

— ★ —

Eight people including DEM Party provincial co-chair detained in Iğdır

ANF | IĞDIR | 10 OCTOBER 2024

The Peoples' Equality and Democracy Party (DEM Party) Provincial Organisation building was subjected to a police attack in the morning.

During the course of the raid, special operations police officers blocked all streets and avenues leading to the party building.

The search in the building lasted for hours. Many houses were raided simultaneously.

During the raids, eight people, including DEM Party Provincial Co-Chair Mehmet Selçuk, were taken into custody. The raids were based on a secret witness denunciation.

DEM Party members made a press statement in front of the provincial office to protest the raids and detentions.

DEM Party Provincial Co-Chair Bahar Etreçi emphasised that they will not take a step back in the face of the pressure and said, "Hundreds of police officers blockaded the street where our party building is located. With these unlawful pressures, they aim to render the 'Freedom Rally' to be held in Amed on 13 October uninspiring. You will not be able to intimidate us with oppression."

Bahar Etreçi said, "As always, we will shout for peace and democracy most loudly. These pressures, detentions and arrests have taken place within the collapse plan of the AKP-MHP government. With these pressures, you will not be able to make us take a step back from our struggle for democracy. As always, we will continue to shout for democracy and peace."

— ★ —

Journalist Pelin Özkaptan sentenced to 1 year and 6 months in prison

ANF | ISTANBUL | 10 OCTOBER 2024

Journalist Pelin Özkaptan is accused of 'making illegal organisation propaganda' over her social media posts about a fallen fighter in Rojava, Eylem Ataş. The 3rd hearing of the lawsuit filed against Özkaptan was held at Istanbul Courthouse 13th Assize Court in Çağlayan on Thursday.

Eylem Ataş (Cemre Heval) travelled to Rojava in November 2015 and joined the struggle against ISIS in the ranks of the United Freedom Forces (BÖG). 23-year-old Ataş lost her life in Manbij whilst fighting

against ISIS on 7 June 2016. Her body was kept at the border and not handed over to her family for 101 days.

Journalist Pelin Özkaptan did not attend the hearing, while lawyers Emine Özhasar and Didare Hazal Sümeli from Media and Law Studies Association (MLSA) Legal Unit were present.

During the hearing, the prosecution repeated its final opinion from the previous hearing, demanding a penalty.

Lawyer Emine Özhasar, defending against the final opinion, stated that Pelin Özkaptan is a journalist and her posts were within the scope of journalistic activities and asked for her client's acquittal.

The court ruled that it was 'fixed' that journalist Özkaptan committed the crime of 'making propaganda for an illegal organisation' and sentenced her to 1 year 6 months and 22 days. The court deferred the announcement of the verdict.



Xwebûn Newspaper Editor-in-Chief sentenced to 1 year and 3 months in prison

ANF | AMED | 10 OCTOBER 2024

Mehmet Ali Ertaş, Managing Editor-in-Chief of Xwebûn Newspaper, was previously sentenced to 1 year and 3 months in prison for 'making propaganda for an illegal organisation' and the decision was reversed by the Constitutional Court (AYM). Ertaş appeared before court once again today.

Ertaş did not attend the hearing held at Diyarbakır 9th High Criminal Court. His lawyer Resul Temur was present at the hearing, as well as DİSK Basın-İş Diyarbakır Regional Representative Hakkı Boltan.

The prosecutor demanded a penalty against Ertaş. Lawyer Resul Temur reminded the violation decision of the Constitutional Court and demanded acquittal, saying: "My client shared his feelings and thoughts in his posts due to being a journalist. He does not bear an approach that praises and encourages violence. I think this is the main reason for the Constitutional Court's decision of violation."

The court sentenced Ertaş to 1 year and 3 months and decided to defer the announcement of the verdict.



Musician Engin Cengiz taken into custody

ANF | ISTANBUL | 11 OCTOBER 2024

The Turkish regime's political campaign of extermination against the Kurdish population continues. Once again, a musician from the Mesopotamia Cultural Center (Navenda Çanda Mezopotamyayê, MKM) has been taken into custody under the guise of "fighting terrorism".

The MKM said that artist Engin Cengiz was taken from his apartment by the police on Thursday for questioning. The reason is an investigation conducted by the public prosecutor's office on alleged suspicion of terrorism. What exactly this is about is unclear: the file is subject to a confidentiality clause, and a 24-hour contact ban has been imposed on Cengiz. This means that he has no access to his lawyer.

The MKM protested the arrest of its members, and said that it was an "attack on Kurdish art and culture. Kurdish music and art cannot be silenced."

Musicians Helim Arslan and Azad Bedran Kızılkar released

Two other MKM musicians, Helim Arslan (Omerî) and Azad Bedran Kızılkar, were taken into custody in Amed at the beginning of the week. They were also detained on the orders of the Istanbul Public Prosecutor's Office for alleged "terrorist propaganda". Both artists were released on Thursday on condition of judicial control.



Journalist Serhildan Andan detained in Amed

ANF | AMED | 11 OCTOBER 2024

Kurdish journalist Serhildan Andan was taken into custody in Amed (Diyarbakir). The Dicle-Fırat Journalists Association (DFG), of which Andan is a board member, announced that the detention was carried out by the anti-terror police on Friday morning with no reasons being given.

In a written statement, the DFG stated that the government continues its practice of criminalising the work of journalists.

"We know that this practice against Andan, who was detained within the scope of his professional activities, is not new. The government, which is afraid of the truth, is trying to criminalise the work of journalists and fabricate crimes. In this context, we will continue to raise our voices more against such attacks and embrace our profession more. We demand the immediate release of Serhildan Andan. We call on all journalists and professional organisations to stand against such attacks and defend journalism," said the DFG statement on Friday.



Interview

Andok: Conspirators fail to prevent Öcalan from reaching millions

ANF | BEHDINAN | 5 OCTOBER 2024

Xebat Andok, member of the KCK Executive Council, spoke about the anniversary of the global campaign 'Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan, a Political Solution to the Kurdish Question' as well as the anniversary of the beginning of the international conspiracy on 9 October 1998.

Andok pointed out: "Again, many forces fighting against the system and demanding freedom, justice, and democracy see Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan] as their leader. In the past, Rêber Apo was a free man only for Kurdish women, but now he is a free man for all women who struggle for freedom."

The Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Öcalan, discussed in a broad manner and exposed the aims of those responsible for the international conspiracy of 9 October 1998, which was directed against him. He made great efforts to ensure that the conspiracy was researched and understood in depth. How do you evaluate the current situation in general?

I greet Rêber Apo with love, respect and longing. Also, I commemorate with gratitude and respect all the martyrs of the revolution, particularly those who gave their lives following the true meaning of the slogan "You cannot darken our sun!". We reiterate our promise to the martyrs once again; we will definitely continue their path, and we will realize the goal of our martyrs.

As you mentioned, Rêber Apo is the one who analyzed the conspiracy the most, revealed its details, and assessed it in every sense. There are many evaluations of Rêber Apo that show us how to understand the conspiracy well; one can find them both in the prison writings and in the notes that were taken by those who had gone to Imralı. Those who are curious about the details of the conspiracy can read and learn from these evaluations of Rêber Apo. It has been 26 years since the conspiracy. Since then, the conspiracy has been constantly discussed. Why this conspiracy took place, against whom it was carried out, what the conjuncture was, how exactly it took place – all these questions are interconnected.

The conspiracy targeted our leader. Rêber Apo was the leader of the PKK when the conspiracy took place, which means that the conspiracy also targets the PKK. The Kurdish people see Rêber Apo as their leader, which means that the conspiracy also targets the free Kurds in the person of Rêber. Rêber Apo also represents the oppressed peoples. He is waging a socialist struggle based on democratic and communal values. This struggle is seen as hope for humanity. So, undoubtedly, this conspiracy was directed against democratic and communal values, against the ideology of socialism, and against all forces that oppose the system of capitalist modernity in general. All this reveals who the conspiracy was carried out against in a broad framework. Those who developed this conspiracy are the forces of capitalist modernity.

Rêber Apo has called it the great conspiracy of Gladio. Gladio is the core force of NATO – a force that wants to dominate societies. NATO is the military and political power of capitalist modernity. The conspiracy was carried out by the forces of capitalist modernity. In fact, Bulent Ecevit, the Turkish Prime Minister of that period, while evaluating the conspiracy, said, “We don’t understand why they gave Abdullah Ocalan to us.” Those who developed the conspiracy and handed over Rêber Apo to the Turkish state were, of course, the capitalist forces.

But why did the forces of capitalist modernity carry out such a conspiracy? Under which circumstances did this conspiracy take place? After the First World War, the capitalist powers deliberately created the Kurdish question and aimed to intervene in the Middle East through the Kurdish question when the time came. After the 1990s, these forces, led by America, Britain and Israel, wanted to intervene in the Middle East again. The Third World War has been going on in the Middle East ever since. It has been going on in the Middle East, centered in Kurdistan, after the collapse of the Soviet Union almost 35 years ago. When the forces of capitalist modernity saw that Rêber Apo and the PKK would not fit in their system, they decided to liquidate them.

When they intervened in the Middle East, they aimed to prevent those who struggled on behalf of the peoples, on behalf of society, and especially on behalf of the Kurdish people, from benefiting from this new process. Rêber Apo analyzed this period well, recognized the power vacuums, and knew how to utilize them. When it came to a new intervention in the Middle East, capitalist forces had to clear these obstacles out of the way. There were also some Kurds in Kurdistan who cooperated with them. It is the Barzani clan that supports and paves the way for what the forces of capitalist modernity want to do in Kurdistan. For the Kurdish people, this line drawn by the Barzani clan stands for collaboration, betrayal.

When the capitalist powers wanted to intervene in the Middle East, they paved the way for those who would serve their interests. The parliament in southern Kurdistan was also created on this basis, as was the power union there. The union they formed in the so-called South Kurdistan went to America in 1998 and signed the Washington Treaty against the PKK and Rêber Apo. They wanted to design a Kurdistan according to their own desire with this treaty. While we are fighting against Turkey, they also want to redesign this country according to their own desire. When they intervened in the Middle East, they realized that they could not do it if the PKK and Rêber Apo were in a very strong position. That’s why they also intervened in Turkey. What did they do? For example, after the abduction of Rêber Apo in 1999, they immediately took Fethullah Gulen to America. After a while, they paved the way for Erdogan and brought the AKP to power in order to realize the goals they aimed for through the conspiracy. In this way, they made a general intervention. The forces of capitalist modernity saw the PKK and Rêber Apo as an obstacle to their plans in the Middle East, so they developed the international conspiracy. One of the aims of the conspiracy was the physical destruction of Rêber Apo. It was part of the so-called Greater Middle East Project. The bearers of this project are the forces of capitalist modernity.

Rêber Apo’s stance against the conspiracy is absolutely essential. He showed his difference by taking a stance that no one expected. In fact, Rêber Apo intervened against those who wanted to interfere with him through the conspiracy. How do you evaluate Rêber Apo’s stance?

When we look at it today, we must say that no one expected anything alike. I mean, it is easy to say that now, but considering the conditions at that time, no one knew how it would turn out. Everyone who saw Rêber Apo and the PKK as a hope was the target of the conspiracy. At the beginning, no one knew what

to do. Everyone evaluated the conspiracy in their own way. But there were also Rêber Apo's evaluations. And as you pointed out, they were very different. Both the Kurdish people, including us, the international friends of the Kurdish people, and the enemy were very surprised by these evaluations.

When the conspiracy developed, they put enormous pressure on the Syrian government to force Rêber Apo out of there. They filled the Mediterranean with warships; America put all its weight there. If Rêber Apo had not left Syria, they would have attacked and occupied Syria. Rêber Apo saw this at that time and left Syria, frustrating their plan. In this way, he prevented the conspirators from starting a regional war, invading Syria and paving the way for great suffering in the Middle East. So, Rêber Apo chose to leave Syria.

The conspirators were aiming to deepen the war in the Middle East. This would have happened if Rêber Apo had turned to the mountains, but he did not prefer that either, knowing that the war had reached a certain stage and that it had played his role. He wanted different paths to develop. On this basis, he turned to Europe. Because Europe sees itself as the cradle of democracy, claiming that it defends democratic values, law, and justice. Rêber Apo stated that Europe created this problem and that it was them who developed these massacre policies in Kurdistan. He basically told them: "If you talk about democracy, law, and justice all the time, then let's take a look at the Kurdish people. Let's solve this." In this way, Rêber Apo revealed the true face of Europe. He unmasked them all. This was a different step. One that the capitalist powers didn't expect to happen.

The forces of capitalist modernity abducted Rêber Apo on February 15, 1999. They wanted to physically destroy him. With his destruction, they aimed to create an endless war between Kurds and Turks. Because it was clear how the PKK and the Kurdish people would react. Our entire movement would have followed comrade Zilan. Because comrade Zilan set an example as early as 1996. She showed what kind of stance PKK militants would take when there was an attack on Rêber Apo. She determined the level of revolutionism, and this was valid for all the fedais and militants of the PKK. On this basis, all members of the party were ready to carry out sacrifices. The Kurdish people, with all their generations, were already on their feet. It was not clear what kind of action they would take. They were going to make the destruction of the leadership the cause of an unending Kurdish-Turkish war. Because Rêber Apo was aware of this, he frustrated this plan with his change of strategy and stance against the conspiracy in order to prevent a war between Kurds and Turks.

The capitalist powers failed here too. They wanted to provoke a regional war and through this occupy the region, but this did not happen. They thought that maybe Rêber Apo would head to the mountains and the war would deepen in this way, but Rêber Apo frustrated their plans and expectations. They wanted the physical destruction of the leadership, and on this basis they wanted to pave the way for a Kurdish-Turkish war. Rêber Apo prevented this goal of the capitalist forces by putting honorable peace on the agenda, especially with the stance he took in Imralı. At that time, Rêber Apo was sentenced to death, but as a result of the stance of the leadership, society, especially the Kurdish people, taking this stance as a basis and a joint struggle, the death penalty was removed from Turkish law in 2002. With the death penalty removed from the constitution, the goals of the conspirators were again not realized. On his own, Rêber Apo dealt with this conspiracy in a broad manner, revealing the aims, goals, and true faces of the conspirators. He struggled and resisted in the line of freedom and frustrated the aims of the conspirators by abolishing the death penalty in 2002.

It is obvious that Rêber Apo put up relentless resistance in Imrali. With his resistance, he developed a whole new paradigm. Rêber Apo describes the process of change in Imrali as a rebirth of him and the Kurdish people. How can this be understood?

As I said, the conspiracy was at a different stage until 2002. Within the first stage of the conspiracy, the physical destruction of the leader was the main goal; the second stage was to ideologically debunk, render meaningless, and neutralize him if he could not be physically destroyed. It wasn't just about the physical destruction of someone, because there was a leader there, and if he didn't play his role, if he didn't lead, if he didn't become a hope, and if he couldn't liberate society, he would fall from his position as a leader. That is why they wanted to put Rêber Apo in such a situation under such conditions in Imrali. When he entered Imrali, he was the leader of a party, a people, but when we look at Imrali now, is he only the leader of the PKK, only the leader of the Kurdish people? No. When we look at it today, many peoples have recognized Rêber Apo and see him as their leader. Again, many forces fighting against the system and demanding freedom, justice, and democracy see Rêber Apo as their leader. In the past, Rêber Apo was a free man only for Kurdish women, but now he is a free man for all women who struggle for freedom. This means that the ideological stance of Rêber Apo in Imrali was deepened and broadened so much that it transcended the borders of the PKK and Kurdistan and became universal. This happened with a paradigm shift.

The biggest achievement in Imrali is the development of the democratic, ecological, and women's libertarian paradigm by Rêber Apo. All those who struggle for democracy, freedom, free coexistence, and against the male-dominated system can achieve their goals with this paradigm. Until the new paradigm, the goals and objectives of the oppressed forces were correct, but their practices were not exactly in line with their goals. In other words, the paths and methods they preferred and took as a basis did not fully serve their goals. They strived for democracy, freedom, justice, and free coexistence; they were fighting for it, but they were not achieving any results. This is where the importance of the new paradigm emerges. The new paradigm determines the way and method according to the liberation of the oppressed. It creates a way and method outside the state. The solution to this is democratic autonomy. Society is multi-colored. Each color must be autonomous. No color should dominate over other colors. Rêber Apo presented such a paradigm to all the oppressed and showed them the ways and methods to achieve their goals. The oppressed peoples saw their salvation in this paradigm.

What kind of situation, precisely the rebirth described, has arisen through Rêber Apo's efforts in Imrali? What is the significance, what is the extent of this process?

For example, thousands of people have been imprisoned in Kurdistan and Turkey. Rêber Apo says that if he had not come to Imrali, he would not have been able to achieve this deepening. One might wonder if it is the prison or the personality of Rêber Apo. If the prison had deepened, liberated, and empowered everyone like this, then everyone who was imprisoned would have deepened, empowered, liberated, and solved the problems of society. The trick is not in being in prison; the trick is in the personality of Rêber Apo. He is the same inside as he was outside. The difference in the prison is that outside, he was carrying out all the practical works of the PKK; he was following everything. Rêber Apo took care of all the cadres' problems. He was preparing thousands of cadres. Rêber Apo was carrying out social and ideological work. Therefore, the opportunity to realize mental depth in the prison was greater for him than outside.

Obviously, when you are in the enemy's house and don't take a strong stance, the enemy will destroy you. That is to say, Rêber Apo took such a strong stance that it turned the enemy's headquarters into a place that deepened and liberated himself and strengthened the PKK, women, and society. Rêber Apo has been under great attack since he was put in Imrali. He is frustrating these attacks with his resistance. Under these attacks, he created the new paradigm. Rêber Apo wrote a lot of prison writings and put forward the new paradigm. When he wrote the Sociology of Freedom, they put him in solitary confinement and increased the pressure even more. They didn't give him pens or notebooks; they didn't give him books at all. He prepared most of the prison writings under such difficult conditions. Tuncer Kilinc, the spokesperson of the Turkish National Security Council (MGK), said about Rêber Apo that they were creating an environment in which he would gradually deaden and die off, bit by bit, until he and his importance and influence would disappear. They wanted to make even breathing torture for him. But Rêber Apo managed to turn all this around and even use it to his advantage.

That is why his struggle in Imrali is so historic, great, and successful. When great people do great things, their enemies launch great attacks. But what matters is the result. Rêber Apo enlightened the Kurdish people with his struggle; the PKK, which the enemy back then gave a life expectancy of six months, still exists today, but those who gave it this life expectancy have disappeared. Today the PKK is much stronger than in the past. The Kurdish people did not know what to do when the conspiracy was launched. They probably thought that our leader would be destroyed and that they would be destroyed like in the past. But it didn't happen like that. The struggle for freedom and existence today is being waged not only in northern but in all four parts of Kurdistan. The whole world recognizes Kurds today; millions of people say "Jin Jiyan Azadi." Kurdish, which was defined as an 'unknown language' by the Turkish state, is now being used all over the world. This reality is in front of the eyes of everyone.

During the Imrali process, Rêber Apo said that there would be no more life and war as before. What needs to be done in order to correctly use and understand the ways and methods developed by Rêber Apo to nullify the conspiracy and to wage a correct struggle?

When we look at the conspiracy from the perspective of Rêber Apo, the conspiracy has been nullified. For example, like I said, the first main aim of the conspiracy carried out by capitalist modernity was physical destruction; they failed. Their second aim was to render Rêber Apo ideologically meaningless, but instead he deepened his ideological stance in Imrali and became a universal leader. Rêber Apo also frustrated this plan. That is why we say that the conspiracy was destroyed in the person of Rêber Apo. That is why they are afraid of Rêber Apo. They are already unable to reduce his influence; even though he is in their hands and under the most intense pressure, he still does not compromise his stance. The conspiratorial forces must be thinking about how Rêber Apo was when he was brought to Imrali and how he is now. The whole world sees Rêber Apo as a leader. Just recently, 69 Nobel laureates were demanding Rêber Apo's physical freedom.

For 43 months there has been no news from Rêber Apo. This conspiracy proves that everything they had planned for Rêber Apo has been nullified. This is the success of Rêber Apo. Undoubtedly, there was the struggle of our people, our movement, and our international friends, but this was also due most essentially to the resistance stance of Rêber Apo. If Rêber Apo had not taken such a stance, the struggle would not have grown this much. They thought that with the liquidation of the leadership, the PKK and the free Kurds would be liquidated, and the Kurds would be eradicated. What does this situation show us? It means that success can be achieved with the stance of Rêber Apo against the international conspiracy. In

other words, Rêber Apo succeeded against the conspiracy. If we also want to succeed, we will have to take the stance and style of Rêber Apo as a basis. The conspirators currently have the captivity and physical imprisonment of Rêber Apo. Other than that, they have not achieved their goals.

Who now has a role to play? The role of ensuring the physical freedom of Rêber Apo falls to the freedom movement, the Kurdish people, all women, and all oppressed societies. The fact that the conspirators are still trying to achieve their goals is not because of the stance of Rêber Apo, but because of the stance outside. There are deficiencies in the external struggle. The struggle to ensure the physical freedom of Rêber Apo and to frustrate the conspirators is not strong enough. There is no doubt that there is a strong struggle, but this result has not yet emerged. As I said, we can only achieve this result with the style of Rêber Apo. So how was Rêber Apo able to take such a strong stance against the conspirators? He mentions it in his prison writings. In fact, Rêber Apo achieved this in two ways: "First, I was with my society, because man is a social being. There can be no personal freedom. On this basis, I was going to unite my fate with the Kurdish people and Kurdistan." This is very important.

Capitalist modernity is based on making people selfish. They have implemented this reality in such a way that people forget their mother, father, family, or society. It eliminates social identity, renders it meaningless, and leaves the personality. But Rêber Apo states that man is a social being. He states that the liberation of the individual can only be achieved through the liberation of society, and he fights against the system of capitalist modernity in a social way. Secondly, man is a developing being. This change-transformation also takes place in the mentality. In İmrālî, Rêber Apo made himself the truth; he made himself the representation of right thinking. In short, he represents the truth. This means that if we act in the same way, we can achieve success.

A genocide decision has been taken against the Kurdish people. How can an individual in society accept this? Free Kurds do not accept the individualistic life offered by capitalist modernity; they have to embrace society. As such, their stance in life also changes. At the same time, the free Kurd also has to see the lie of a life offered by capitalist modernity. It is about seeing the true life and pursuing it. If the people become conscious, organized, and have the power to act on this basis, then this struggle against the international conspiracy will become stronger, the embrace of Rêber Apo will increase, the struggle based on his physical freedom will grow even more, and the capitalist powers will weaken in this way. In this sense, the current struggle against the conspiracy is incomplete; when it increases, people's stance changes. This is what we need today.

Of course, we are much stronger than in the past. For example, today the number of those who take Rêber Apo as their basis has increased, the global campaign aiming for the physical freedom of Rêber Apo is being embraced all over the world, the Kurdish people are now more conscious and stronger, and the true face of the forces of capitalist modernity, the occupying forces, the collaborator-traitor Kurds has been exposed. If we wage a struggle outside the country that is equal to the stance of Rêber Apo, the international conspiracy will be defeated by us, just as it was defeated by Rêber Apo, and the conspiracy will be defeated in every sense. The hopes of the ruling powers to succeed will also be completely destroyed.

Kalkan: A new Middle East is being shaped according to energy routes and economic corridors created

ANF | BEHDINAN | 6 OCTOBER 2024

In the third part of this interview, PKK Executive Committee member Duran Kalkan said that "the Kurdish people, as its freedom forces, have eaten the bread and drunk the water of the Palestinian people. We have also eaten the bread and drunk the water of the Lebanese people, especially the Shiite community. They are our brothers and sisters. We deeply share their pain."

The Turkish Republic has still not recovered from the shock of the historic action in Ankara conducted by guerrillas Rojhat and Erdal on 1 October 2023. In this context, we would like to ask you about the current situation of guerrilla warfare.

It is indeed the anniversary of a historic sacrifice. As you pointed out, the AKP-MHP, the whole of Turkey has still not been able to recover from the shock of the action in Ankara. 1 October 2023, was a great act of heroism, an act of sacrifice. Of course, not only that. Also in the previous year, on September 26th, there was the action of the comrades Ruken and Sara in Mersin. The heroism of Mersin and the heroism of Ankara merged with each other. And while it gave hope to everyone, to all the oppressed, it also shocked the fascist, colonialist, and genocidal forces.

We must always remember, embrace, and salute these actions on their anniversary. These heroic acts – and this is what is really called being superhuman – have happened many times in the Kurdish struggle for freedom. But the two mentioned actions have been the most prominent actions of recent years, actions that give us all hope and faith and draw us all into the struggle. I commemorate with respect, love, and gratitude comrades Rojhat and Erdal, comrades Sara and Ruken, and the heroic martyrs of the HPG and YJA-Star who fought sacrificially in Zap, Avashin, Metina, Khakurke, and all over Kurdistan. Every day we give martyrs because we are waging a great war. The world is at war. We are forced to wage it in order to exist and live free. Otherwise, freedom is not easily achieved. Democracy is not easily achieved. Preserving your existence and living can only be realized through struggle, and only a sacrificial struggle. I salute all the commanders and fighters of the HPG and YJA STAR and salute their success.

The action of comrades Rojhat and Erdal gave a new direction and showed everyone the truth face of this struggle and of the enemy. The previous year was guided by the actions of the comrades Sara and Ruken. They symbolize the realities that determine our struggle. These are the truths that guide us. We – as a movement, as a people, as all guerrilla forces – saw and found the truth in this heroic stance and their successful actions. The Kurdistan freedom guerrillas continue their path. It continues this path all over northern Kurdistan and the Medya Defense Areas. There are actions every day in Zap, Avashin, Metina, and Khakurke. There are daily activities on Mount Cudi, Mount Amediye, and Mount Bahar, in the resistance areas of Metina and the various parts of Khakurke, as well as in Heftanin. The guerrilla resistance continues to develop and deepen. At the same time, the attacks by the Turkish state also continue.

Due to the betrayal of the KDP and now also the support of the Iraqi government, they are trying to continue their attacks, and since July 3rd, they have intensified their efforts in the framework of their invasion and annexation.

The state of their war is that they carry with them those who try to sell the Medya Defense Zones and a large part of southern Kurdistan to the fascists of the AKP-MHP and the Turkish state. The war continues with all its violence, intensity, and depth. It continues primarily in northern Kurdistan. From time to time, our Central Headquarters Command (NPG) also provides information and gives statements. The other day, my comrade Haki made some evaluations in this regard. He said that the guerrilla resistance is everywhere. In every resistance, the AKP-MHP fascism has great losses, but they hide them, conceal them. He was elaborating on this more broadly. There is war everywhere.

As he pointed out, from Bagok to all parts of Amed, the whole Botan area, there were clashes everywhere during this period. There are attacks and clashes all the way to Serhat. The fascist regime is constantly under attack, so there are military mobilizations under the name of operations. Against these fascist, colonialist, genocidal AKP-MHP attacks, it is the guerrilla's heroic stance and struggle that defends life. The state destroys all kinds of moral values and attacks even children. They say that the number of missing children in Turkey is more than the population of some countries of the United Nations. Where do these missing children go? What is done to them? Are their organs sold? Are they used as slaves? Are they raped by the male-dominated mentality and system? This is a real situation in this country. Prostitution and drugs are deliberately spread everywhere. In Colemerg (tr. Hakkari), gangs have been established. There used to be gangs in the past in order to keep society under control in Kurdistan. The Turkish colonialism used to give various districts to specific families and organized gangs there. For example, we are talking about the struggle in Sewreg (tr. Siverek), where the struggle of the PKK began.

Celal Bucak was the leader of such a gang. In Sirnak, Alixan Tatar was such a gang leader. These were all specially trained by the state. Now again, they continue their special warfare by developing such gangs. One should not be surprised by this. The question is, what needs to be done? A struggle is necessary. By understanding correctly what kind of power the AKP-MHP fascism, the Turkish state, is, we must fight against it in order to live and to achieve a free and democratic life. Everything one wants to achieve can only be achieved through struggle. Thirty years ago, when they could not defeat or crush the guerrilla struggle, they burned, demolished, and destroyed thousands of villages, especially in the region of Botan. They dehumanized rural areas. Now they are doing basically the same, by building mines, dams, and everything on every mountain.

Currently, they are building yet another dam in Sirnak. They will drown all the historical village areas of Botan that have been inhabited for centuries, or even millennia. Thirty years ago they wanted to destroy the villages; now they want to destroy nature and, like this, achieve results against the guerrillas. They are risking this much. We must take care of them and fight against them. We need more awareness, more organization, and a more effective struggle using richer methods. We must be more courageous, more sacrificial. If we really want to achieve a free life, we must become freedom fighters. We must make every area of life a struggle for freedom. This is absolutely necessary. This is always necessary. This is the truth and beauty of life. If there is to be life, it will either be free or not, Rêber Apo said. Living freely can only be achieved through such a struggle.

On the other hand, the resistance in the Medya Defense Areas has left the Turkish state stranded. It has reached a dead end there and is locked in. It was said that it would come, lock the guerrilla in, and finish it. But now look at it. They are locked and finished. As mentioned before, they have begged the CM of the CoE and got permission to continue for one more year. They themselves have actually seen their failure. Even if they don't admit it, even if they don't say it openly, they have failed. They have been fighting on one hill for three years and cannot capture it. Our people in southern Kurdistan should follow this reality.

The resistance in the Medya Defense Areas is the resistance of all Kurdistan, the resistance of humanity, the resistance of free life. All humanity must embrace those resisting in Zap, Metina, and Khakurke. They are defending southern Kurdistan, defending its honor, defending its freedom, and defending its existence. Everyone says that southern Kurdistan will come to its end. Our people of southern Kurdistan, intellectuals, politicians, youth, women, and laborers should not remain silent against this; they should be brave. They should raise their voices a little more.

It is said that there will be elections in southern Kurdistan on October 20th. We don't know if it will really happen or not. But anyway, what is important is that this is an important opportunity to hold the fascist, colonialist, and genocidal attacks to account. People should not say, "What can I do? I have nothing." They should say "stop" to these occupying, annexing, genocidal attacks. They must say "stop" to the government that opened the door to this. The opportunity is in their hands. In fact, the elections can be a declaration of will. The patriotism of southern Kurdistan should be expressed through it.

The people can show what kind of patriotic society southern Kurdistan is, how it fought against the genocidal attacks of Saddam's fascism in the past, and what kind of stance it has now against the AKP-MHP fascist aggression and those who collaborate with it. That it is in favor of Kurdish freedom, existence, and will. The people must be able to make such a declaration of will. It is indeed a very important and historical opportunity. We believe that on October 20, the people of southern Kurdistan will teach a historical lesson to both the occupying, aggressive forces and those who collaborate and serve them.

After the war in Kurdistan, I would now like to talk about the war in the Middle East in general. After Gaza, Israel has been targeting Lebanon in particular over the last week or two. What can you tell us about this war and generally about the current developments in the context of the Third World War?

Yes, this is correct; also, the anniversary of the beginning of the Gaza war is approaching. The beginning of this war undoubtedly shocked everyone in the world. And now, a little less than a year later, there were similar attacks against Lebanon, and the same shocking situation is happening again. We have already evaluated this war on many occasions. Immediately after the war started, we pointed out the reasons for it, its aims, the forces waging the war, and how this war should be approached. What did we say back then? We said that Lebanon would be next. This was not unpredictable. But when we said this, we didn't think that a war of this level would take place in Lebanon. We really didn't think it would. We thought that the right lessons would be learned from the Gaza war, that the warring forces would approach it a little more correctly, and that such brutality would not take place in Lebanon. But that was incorrect.

Hezbollah could not show such an attitude, and Iran could not prevent it. Actually, it had an attitude in the Gaza war. Based on that, we actually thought that Iran was prudent and would not allow this. We don't know if Iran really wanted this to happen or if it was powerless to prevent it. The newly elected president spoke about the unity of the ummah. "Hezbollah cannot fight alone," he said. This needs to be evalu-

ated correctly. Who has divided the ummah for centuries? The forces of power and the nation-state have torn it apart. And there is not only the unity of the ummah. If you are talking about unity within the ummah, then, of course, the Christians will demand unity under the Messiah and the Jews will also demand their unity. We need to want the unity of everyone, the unity of all humanity.

We need to overcome this religionism. Religionism and nationalism have ravaged the Middle East for 100 years, 200 years. They are the main reasons for all these ravaging wars. The only focus lies on the destruction of the other, not on co-existence. This is wrong! If one doesn't believe in democracy, then one should at least believe in the brotherhood of all religions. One must convince himself that all people have the right to live together and in peace. Such an understanding of life must be upheld. First of all, all religions must abandon this approach that they can only exist if all others are destroyed. The essence of basically any religion, as we know it, is the rejection of this. Religions that have begun to strive for power have developed into this. They merged with nationalism. With the nationalism of the nation-state, they have turned everyone into enemies and everywhere into a field of conflict. As a result, the people of Gaza were sacrificed. And now, the people of Lebanon are being sacrificed.

We have said it before; we have received a lot of support from the Palestinian people. As the Kurdish people, as its freedom forces, we have eaten the bread and drunk the water of the Palestinian people. We have also eaten the bread and drunk the water of the Lebanese people, especially the Shiite community. They are our brothers and sisters. We deeply share their pain. What shall one say? This should never have happened. It is a crime in itself that this was not prevented. Who is responsible for the situation? A horrible crime is being committed. Who wanted war in Lebanon the most? It was the AKP-MHP; it was Turkey.

The AKP's media and those who are invited to talk there were talking 24 hours a day about how Hezbollah and Israel would and should fight, how Iran and Israel would and should face each other in Lebanon and make war. Now they have made them fight. In Lebanon, I guess their wishes have been fulfilled; they have succeeded. Are they satisfied? Now those who did it seem to have gone limp because they know of the crime they committed.

Iran is still a little more careful in its own way. But why has Lebanon become like this, and why is there such a violent war? It is shocking to humanity. Israel's attacks are brutal. Turkey says it opposes it, but here are the attacks carried out by the Turkish Republic. They have exploded pagers and radios and are relying on other similar technologies. The Turkish state has been using these for ten years. We know these things. Now we have experienced the confusion that all humanity has seen in Lebanon, that Hezbollah circles have experienced. We have suffered similar experiences a lot. Our central headquarters has repeatedly made statements, pointing out that such a technique is being used. Technology and weapons that violate the laws of war and constitute human rights crimes are used regularly.

The worst thing is that this technique, that is now used for crimes against humanity, was originally invented for the benefit of humanity. And the whole world has now seen in Lebanon that this technology is not used for the benefit of the people but for war and destruction. This technology always primarily serves war and only secondarily is being for anything else. As long as the power system and the system of nation states exist, technical production will always follow this principle. We have explained this many times, but nobody emphasized it. But now everyone is seeing what is happening in Lebanon. Israel is launching a shocking attack. So much so that no one can stand against it. It uses all kinds of technologies and means. Technologies that should be forbidden. It didn't use to do that in the past because there were restrictions.

But now..., this is what the world has become. This is the situation of the Third World War, and this is the point it has reached. Everyone should be aware of this. The fascist AKP-MHP does it the same way and has used it the most throughout the last years. From chemical weapons to tactical nuclear bombs, they use everything. Some of those still have not been used yet in Lebanon. For example, UAVs were not used, and UCAVs used to be banned. It was forbidden both to operate and to sell them. Now no one is preventing it, and the Turkish state is the one that uses it the most against the Kurdish guerrillas.

Why did this war break out? This is a war that has been going on for a hundred years, a hundred and twenty years. The First World War did not end. The October Revolution did not conclude according to the logic of that war; it concluded according to its own logic. The Second World War continued in the same way. Now, through the Third World War, they actually want to complete what was left over from the First World War. The system of capitalist modernity wants to reshape itself according to the results that have been emerging for a hundred years. This is what is being done through Israel. NATO, the US, and Europe are behind Israel. This is very clear. They have all kinds of power and means at their disposal, and they are carrying out a destructive attack for their own interests and to open their energy route. This is a war for dominance over energy resources and economic corridors. This war has developed as a struggle between various circles of interest and powers.

Of course, the peoples suffer the damage. In the past, these powers used to fight themselves. Now they are making their proxies fight. And what will be the result? In the 1990s and 2000s, they waged this war for 15 to 20 years to seize the Persian Gulf. Since 2010, they have been waging this war to seize the Eastern Mediterranean. They want to open an energy route from India through the Gulf, Israel, and Cyprus to Greece. This is the US plan, and NATO is in agreement with this. These attacks aim to pave the way for the energy route and economic corridor. The obstacle in Lebanon has been removed. Probably it cannot be extended any further. We don't know how it will end. Syria may not be much of an obstacle in their plans if it learns lessons from the current developments.

In conclusion, I will say the following, and I have stated it several times before, the peak of it will be Cyprus, and the center of this war is Turkey. Turkey is not a state that was formed according to the outcome of the First or Second World War. Turkey is a state formed on the basis of the October Revolution in Russia and the existence of the Soviet Union. After the collapse of the Soviet Union and the start of the Third World War, a new Middle East is being shaped according to the energy routes and economic corridors created. Turkey is outside of this. Therefore, this Turkey will be changed. It is Turkey that is most opposed to the system it is a part of, that contradicts the system the most, that is a party to the Third World War. Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan] wrote and warned about this many times; 15 years ago, 20 years ago. He called attention to this and said that great disasters would befall them. They did not listen. Now AKP-MHP fascism has put Turkey into a disaster. Cyprus will be next, the Turkish border will be next, and the war will intensify in Turkey. What will the Turkish state do? Either it will become a complete servant, surrender, become a satellite, lose everything, or if it tries to defy, they will tear it apart. Rêber Apo said, "They will divide Turkey into forty pieces".

In the globalization of the capitalist modernity system, or in the global capitalist modernity system, there is no place for the present Turkish state. It has to look for a way out. Therefore, Rêber Apo suggested an alternative. "This nation-state nationalism and religionism will tear you apart," he said. In response to this, he proposed a democratic nation and democratic confederalism as a solution to overcome those in the Middle East and Turkey. This is a very clear and open situation. But this was not listened to. No one took

that into consideration. The only idea that will save Turkey from the disaster that AKP-MHP has dragged Turkey into is Rêber Apo's idea of democratic confederalism. It is the creation of a democratic Turkey based on Kurdish freedom. The only power that will ensure this is Rêber Apo. The only person who can save the Kurdish people from the disaster they have been dragged into, from the disaster the AKP-MHP has dragged them into, from the disaster the current state has dragged them into, is Rêber Apo. They have put him under a system of oppression, torture, and genocide so that no information about him has been received for 43 months. They want to suffocate him. However, it is these thoughts that have the power to save Turkey.

To conclude, those who love Turkey, intellectuals, politicians, artists, women, young people, and true patriots of Turkey must be aware of this reality. Demanding the physical freedom of Rêber Apo should be the work of the patriots and democrats of Turkey more than the Kurds. It is a solution that will serve the democratization of Turkey as much as the liberation of Kurdistan, a solution that will save Turkey as much as it will save the Kurds. Therefore, the people, particularly the women and the youth of Turkey, must oppose the Imrali torture and isolation system as much as the Kurds.

The peoples of Turkey, those who love Turkey, the workers and laborers should demand the physical freedom of Rêber Apo as much as the Kurds. If they want to avoid this catastrophe, there is only one way: democratization of Turkey based on Kurdish freedom. This means the overthrow of AKP-MHP fascism, nationalism, and religionism. These approaches that say that no force can harm the country and that the system is indestructible – they are disastrous. What happened to Lebanon should be a clear lesson. The law of the jungle prevails in this world. Whoever has power is whoever has power. You have power; you oppress the Kurds; you do what you want to the Kurds. What will you do if someone with more power than you tries to do the same to you tomorrow? Will they do it? They surely will. It is not a power only in your hands. The AKP-MHP is responsible for this.

Turkey must mobilize for the physical freedom of Rêber Apo. There will be a rally in Amed on October 13. 50 thousand people, 100 thousand people will come to Amed. There will be rallies in Istanbul, Izmir, Ankara, the Black Sea region, in Cukurova, everywhere. Society will demand an end to this policy because there is no other way. The only solution that will save the Middle East from this disaster is the development of a democratic nation against this religionism and nationalism, against this nation-state mentality.

Again, the only solution is the democratic nation and democratic confederalism. The only thing that will save Turkey from the point into which it has been dragged is the democratization based on Kurdish freedom and the acceptance of the democratic nation. For this, Rêber Apo said, "Give me the opportunity, and I will fix everything in one week." The society of Turkey must stand up to save Turkey and for the physical freedom of Rêber Apo. This is the way to save the Middle East from these disasters. A lot of time has passed; there have been massacres and bloodshed. We don't know how this will be cleaned up. But we have said it before: our war is not such a war.

We are against all these wars of interest. We are for the fight based on legitimate self-defense, waged for the existence, democracy, and freedom of peoples. This is the fight we are waging; this is the war we are waging. The point where the ongoing World War has reached is a dangerous point. One needs to be careful. For this reason, we must develop our struggle for freedom everywhere. We must grow and strengthen our guerrilla. We must definitely strengthen our self-defense everywhere. Most importantly, we must carry

Rêber Apo's solution of democratic nation and democratic confederalism everywhere. We must envision liberation together with all neighboring peoples.

On this basis, once again, I share the pain of the Lebanese people and salute everyone who resists these cruel attacks that harm the peoples.



Besê Hozat: No matter what the conspirators did, they could not achieve their goal

ANF | BEHDINAN | 7 OCTOBER 2024

Besê Hozat, co-president of the KCK Executive Council, spoke about the first anniversary of the global campaign called 'Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan, a Political Solution to the Kurdish Question', as well as the 26th anniversary of the beginning of the International Conspiracy that forced the Kurdish people's leader to leave Syria.

The October 9th Conspiracy, which will soon have its 26th anniversary, is not a closed historical event. The attack against the Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Öcalan, and the Kurdish people that it represents continues to this day. What can you tell us about the cause of the conspiracy and how it continues?

As we are about to enter the 27th year of the conspiracy, I strongly condemn and curse the forces responsible for it. At the same time, I commemorate all the martyrs who gave their lives for freedom with respect. In the 26-year ongoing struggle against the conspiracy, a high price was paid by many of our valuable comrades, our people, and our international friends. We had many martyrs, and tens of thousands of people have been imprisoned. There has been great suffering. But, as a result, the conspiracy failed to achieve its goal. This is very important.

We have evaluated the purpose of the conspiracy on many occasions and Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan] himself made the most extensive evaluation in his prison writings. What always needs to be pointed out is that the Third World War started with the conspiracy. The international powers wanted to intervene in the Middle East on a large scale under the leadership of America. They saw Rêber Apo and the PKK as a major obstacle to this intervention. Why? Because Rêber Apo had a great impact on the Kurdish people. He caused great changes and transformations in the Kurdish people, and he started a freedom struggle centered in Kurdistan. The hegemonic powers saw a freedom movement like the PKK as a threat to them and wanted to neutralize it. That is why they, under the leadership of America, Britain, and Israel, developed a conspiracy against Rêber Apo. Many powers, like Greece and all European Union countries, especially Germany, also took part in this conspiracy. When Rêber Apo went to Europe, they did not grant him political asylum. Rêber Apo wanted to be tried, but they didn't put him on trial. Because if they had tried him, the Kurdish question would have been on the agenda of European and international public opinion. By preventing his right to political asylum and his trial, they almost led to his extermination. They put pressure on Italy, and Rêber Apo was forced to leave the country. One should not overlook that regional powers also took part in the conspiracy. For example, Egypt took part in the conspiracy, Iran perhaps

played a side role, and Russia took part in it as well. All of them realized that they could not intervene in the Middle East unless Rêber Apo and the PKK were neutralized.

After the conspiracy, Al-Qaeda attacked America in 2001, and using this as a justification, America intervened in Afghanistan. In March 2003, America intervened in Iraq. Saddam was liquidated, and civil war broke out in Iraq. Step by step, a federation was created in southern Kurdistan. They wanted to align the whole of southern Kurdistan with the KDP in order to use it as a collaborationist and treasonous force. In this way, they aimed to take everything under their control. In fact, the KDP and the Barzani family clan took a very active part in the conspiracy. The PKK is a very strong revolutionary, democratic, and socialist movement that leads the peoples in the Middle East.

Opportunities would arise from chaos in the Middle East, and they calculated that the PKK would take advantage of this, that it would grow even more, that it would make the Kurdish freedom movement permanent, and that the freedom of Kurdistan would be inevitable under the leadership of the PKK. There would be a revolution in Kurdistan and a democratic revolution in the Middle East, and when this happened, the calculations, plans, and concepts of the conspirators would come to naught. Because the people do not want intervention from outside, they will revolt against it; they will not accept hegemonic, occupying forces. In order to prevent this, they carried out the conspiracy.

Also important to underline is that in 1998, Rêber Apo had declared a ceasefire before leaving Syria. He wanted to solve the Kurdish question in a political and democratic way. On this basis, he called on the Turkish state and asked for democratic negotiation. The hegemonic powers saw this as a threat to their interests. If the Kurdish question were to be resolved in this way, they would not be able to abuse Turkey as they would like. Therefore, with the conspiracy, they intervened in the democratic and political solution process of Rêber Apo and blocked it. The conspiracy is a conspiracy against the Kurdish people, the peoples of the Middle East, and particularly women.

Rêber Apo represents their freedom, so the Kurds, the peoples of the Middle East, and women are targeted through the attack on the person of Rêber Apo. Rêber Apo, with the stance he exhibited, has thwarted the attacks and traps against him one by one. Our people saw the truth quickly and rose up; millions of people rose up in all four parts of Kurdistan and abroad. Our people, our international friends, the democratic forces, and everyone who saw the conspiracy and the danger rose up. Particularly the Kurdish women played a leading role. There were many sacrifices; our comrades, our patriotic people, burned themselves; some turned their own bodies into weapons. The conspiracy was met with great reaction by our people, by the guerrilla, and particularly by women. This had a huge impact on the conspiratorial forces. That is why they did not dare to physically destroy Rêber Apo. Rêber Apo also took precautions and adopted a strategic policy, which made the conspiracy futile. Since the conspiratorial forces could not physically destroy him, they continued the conspiracy with the isolation method. This time with isolation, they wanted to neutralize Rêber Apo, cut his ties with the outside world, and prevent his voice from reaching the peoples. For 26 years, there has been isolation against him.

From time to time, the struggle against it reached intense peaks; from time to time, campaigns took place and massive actions took place. For example, the “Êdî Bese” campaign had a huge impact. Whenever the enemy was under great pressure, they sometimes eased the isolation. Sometimes they did this for their own interests.

For example, from time to time, the lawyers of Rêber Apo would go to hold talks with him, and HDP delegations would go to Imrali from 2014 until April 2015. The state carried out a tactic for its own interests. As I said, sometimes the isolation was alleviated, but basically, Rêber Apo has been under isolation for 26 years. Most of the time they said that the ferry to the island was out of order; many times they used the excuse of bad weather, and in this way they continued the isolation. Now, for more than five years, they have been using disciplinary punishment as an excuse. That is all part of the concept of the conspirators. Along with isolation, they are also conducting a great genocide policy against the Kurdish people. They want to break the will of the Kurdish people in this way, to surrender them. This is how they aim to bring the conspiracy to its goal. For this reason, a huge war has been waged for 26 years, centered in Imrali.

In northern Kurdistan, there is a military war, there are constant operations, and cultural and natural genocide persists without any break. They are attacking every day to liquidate the Rojava Revolution. To destroy those who waged a great war against ISIS and Al-Nusra. The Kobane war was part of this, as was the occupation of Afrin. When they could not use ISIS actively anymore, they started to use tens of thousands of gang remnants and mercenaries against the Kurdish people. They attacked Afrin, Serekaniye, Gire Spi, Shengal (Sinjar), and Makhmur. There is an invasion, and the occupation attacks in southern Kurdistan are now continuing for four or five years. This all happens within the frame of the Misak-i Milli. The war has never stopped, and the conspiracy has always continued. These attacks were the continuation of the conspiracy. The international powers involved in the conspiracy back then are also taking part in the attacks carried out by Turkey now.

The war continues in northern and southern Kurdistan, as it does in Rojava. The Turkish state is committing war crimes and crimes against humanity in this war, but no one objects it; in fact, they support it. Right now, the Israeli state is carrying out a genocidal policy against the Palestinian people, the Lebanese people – the Turkish state has been doing this for a hundred years. Especially in the last ten years, it has been waging this war much more violently. Israel takes the Turkish state as an example in these attacks. They share the same mentality, the same understanding, and carry out the same policy.

As you mentioned, Rêber Apo, the Kurdish people, the guerrillas, and the international friends of the Kurdish people did not surrender to the conspiracy and waged a continuous struggle against it. How do you evaluate the ongoing struggle against the conspiracy?

After 26 years, the Turkish state is still waging a war against Rêber Apo and the Kurdish people. It is so because the conspiracy that started on October 9, 1998 did not yield any results. In the first year of the conspiracy, they wanted to physically destroy Rêber Apo and liquidate the PKK. They aimed to bring the genocide concept to a conclusion in two years at most. They could not achieve their goal because there was great resistance against the conspiracy. Our people were always and everywhere in resistance. That is why the conspiracy failed. They could not physically destroy Rêber Apo, they could not liquidate the PKK until today, they could not break the will of the free Kurds, they could not force them to surrender. Our people waged a great struggle, so the conspiracy could not achieve its goal.

When one evaluates these 26 years, one sees that the resistance developed by Rêber Apo in Imrali had a great impact on the Kurdish people and the peoples of the region. Rêber Apo developed the paradigm of a democratic nation under conditions of torture and isolation in Imrali. He wrote five books defending the rights of the Kurdish people, women, and oppressed peoples in every sense and defending human values.

Rêber Apo revealed the ideological, philosophical, and theoretical aspects of the paradigm he developed for the freedom of the Kurdish people, for the freedom of peoples and women.

The prison writings were read and evaluated by the Kurdish people, the movement, and our international friends, and this created a great consciousness. Like this, the paradigm of the democratic nation frustrated the international conspiracy. Because the aim of the conspiracy was to create an endless war between Kurds and Turks, between Kurdish people and Arab people, between Kurdish people and Persian people. In other words, they wanted the peoples in the whole region to be enemies of each other on the basis of racism, on the basis of religionism, and to be in perpetual war. The conspiracy had set such a trap for the peoples. The paradigm of democratic nation refuted this conspiracy.

This paradigm was based on the coexistence of all peoples in a fraternal, free, and democratic system. The nation-state system maintains its power permanently with its divide-rule policy. Rêber Apo deciphered this with the paradigm of democratic nation. Our people also waged a struggle within the framework of this paradigm. They paved the way for a revolution in the region based on this. The paradigm created a great change in mentality; it created a great change and transformation in the peoples. The Rojava Revolution is the result of this. And the Rojava Revolution had had an undoubtedly huge impact on peoples all over the world. This is very important. It created great chaos in the nation-state system. It weakened the system and created a free, democratic, and equal life for the peoples.

The struggle of the Kurdish people has had a huge impact on the peoples of the Middle East today. It has prepared a great ground for the democratization of the Middle East. And the resistance continues on this axis. That is why the attacks also continue. Because the hegemonic powers evaluate this resistance as a danger. That is why they continue the isolation. Because the plans of the conspirators do not yield results, Rêber Apo has deciphered them all. Our people frustrated them all with their resistance. No matter what the conspiratorial forces did, the conspiracy could not achieve its goal. In every period, the conspiracy was frustrated. Today, the paradigm of democratic nation, the democratic confederal system, has become the alternative of a free life for the Kurdish people, for the people of the region, and for all peoples of the world.

For 26 years, the struggle waged by Rêber Apo, our people, and our international friends has unmasked the Turkish state and the forces of capitalist modernity, revealing their true faces. That is why they have gone mad; they have fallen into a great hatred. With this hatred, they are going after Rêber Apo and are imposing absolute isolation. They are hostile to Rêber Apo, free Kurds, the freedom movement, and Kurdistan. That is why the conspiratorial forces support the Turkish state. But as I stressed out, the resistance continues as well. No matter what they do, they cannot get results.

For 26 years, our people, our international friends, and particularly women have resisted. They have frustrated the conspiracy; they have prevented the conspiracy from achieving its goal. Rêber Apo's influence on the peoples is greater today than ever before. Rêber Apo is now the leader of the peoples, his influence has spread all over the world. The freedom movement is standing with all its strength, fighting with all its might; our people are standing and struggling. The conspiratorial forces lost, the liberation forces, and the resistant peoples won. Even though they persistently continue the conspiracy, today the resistance still continues. The resistance of Rêber Apo continues. As a result, this conspiracy has failed. No matter how much they want to cover up this reality, this fact, they cannot succeed. The conspiracy has not yielded any

results so far, and it will not in the future. Our people and all the peoples will not allow the conspiracy to get results.

The global campaign 'Freedom for Abdullah Ocalan, a Political Solution to the Kurdish Question' is approaching its first anniversary. What has been its impact, and what have been the achievements in the course of the past year?

The campaign that was launched on October 10, 2023, is of great significance. In this one-year period, a great struggle took place, and the carried-out resistance successfully achieved some important results. It is a campaign that is being led by our international friends. That is why it had such a strong impact all over the world. Rêber Apo's prison writings were read all over the world. The truth, paradigm, and ideas of Rêber Apo to be understood and recognized are very crucial. The fact that they spread had great consequences in terms of embracing Rêber Apo and demanding his physical freedom. Many conferences were organized; academics, artists, and intellectuals discussed his paradigm and wrote articles. All of these also had a serious impact and are very important. Again, for example, there were concerts, artists supported the campaign, raised their voices for Rêber Apo's physical freedom, and voiced their demands. 69 Nobel Prize-laureates wrote letters to the regarding authorities and also raised their voices for Rêber Apo's freedom.

Unions in England and Scotland, which have thousands of members, made a statement for the physical freedom of Rêber Apo. More than 1500 lawyers wrote letters, made statements, and called on the authorities for Rêber Apo. The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) had to make many statements; most recently, the institutions of the Council of Europe met, held discussions, and also had to react. The reason for all this is the resistance, the struggle. This universalized the campaign for Rêber Apo's physical freedom. We can say that the campaign launched to demand Rêber Apo's physical freedom has gone far beyond the borders of Kurdistan and that there is a mass embrace all over the world. In the four parts of Kurdistan, especially in northern Kurdistan and Rojava, as well as abroad, our people were constantly on their feet.

Our people also waged a very effective struggle. It has been like this for years, but especially in the last year, the struggle has grown even more. The struggle on a social, legal, ideological, political, and diplomatic level, and particularly the spreading of the paradigm, has brought upon some serious results. Today, the occupying Turkish state reached a dead end. This campaign squeezed the conspiratorial forces; they had to make statement after statement, justification after justification. That shows the success and importance of the campaign. Now we must evaluate these results in order to find the correct ways to achieve even bigger success. There are opportunities and conditions in every sense for the campaign to succeed, and it is inevitable that we will get results in the coming year.

Hozat: Success of international campaign for Öcalan will determine the fate of Kurds and Middle East

ANF | BEHDINAN | 8 OCTOBER 2024

Besê Hozat, co-president of the KCK Executive Council, said that "the war that Israel is currently waging in Lebanon and Gaza cannot be considered as a war just affecting these places and only affecting these forces." She added: "In fact, this war is a regional war and its center is Kurdistan. This war has been going on in Kurdistan for decades. The second phase of the international campaign for Öcalan will continue in this framework."

Last month, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted a resolution regarding the so-called 'Right to Hope'. How do you evaluate the Committee of Ministers' decision on the violation of the 'Right to Hope'?

As I pointed out, they had to take such a decision as a result of the struggle. The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) took a decision in 2014 and determined its approach back then. It basically said, "There is isolation and torture in Imralı; this is a violation of human rights; this is unacceptable; it is a crime." Accordingly, it asked the Turkish state to end the isolation and torture. But that is it. Afterward, they kept silent and did not take any further steps. From 2014 until 2024, they never again put it on the agenda. They did not question why their decision was not implemented even after ten years.

They did not question why the isolation still continued. When this campaign started, when the struggle grew all over the world, when it became universal, when many people in many international areas reacted to the isolation, the Committee of Ministers (CM) of the Council of Europe (CoE) had to convene and take a decision. They told the Turkish state that it must end the isolation and fix the system within a year. We consider this to be great hypocrisy. Where have you been for the last ten years? For ten years there has been a system of absolute isolation and torture in Imralı. Knowing this, why did you remain silent?

Ten years have passed, and only today are they meeting and making such a decision. Of course, it is important that they took such a decision as a result of the struggle, but they are interconnected with the Turkish state. For ten years, the Turkish state has been conducting a policy of genocide against the Kurdish people. There are great attacks in every area, and the international powers are also partners in these attacks; they support the Turkish state. 'You can completely neutralize Öcalan, eliminate the freedom movement, liquidate it, and bring the genocide concept against the Kurdish people to a conclusion.' That is what they told them. They support them, turn a blind eye on them, and do not make a sound.

Encouraged by this, the Turkish state has been carrying out a genocidal concept against the Kurdish people for over ten years. It wants to neutralize the Kurdish people all over the world. For example, there were two massacres against friends of mine in Paris. And they also maintained the system of solitary confinement against Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan]. But still, they could not get results. Today, the Third World War has entered its most strategic stage. The position of the Turkish state harms the interests of Europe, America, and NATO. They saw that they could not neutralize Rêber Apo, the freedom movement, and the Kurdish people, that they could not weaken their will, and that they could not bring the concept of

international powers to a conclusion. That is why they have made some changes in their approach. Not completely, but they still gave the Turkish state a last chance. In fact, through blackmailing and putting them under pressure, they are telling the Turkish state that it has to act in accordance with their interests.

They are telling the Turkish leaders that they have to adjust their axis one hundred percent to Europe and America; otherwise, they say, their position will gradually change. They are giving such a message to the Turkish state. In fact, that is why they are giving the Turkish state one more year. Neither Europe nor the Western Bloc can support the Turkish state in such a position any longer. The Turkish state is now a big burden to them. They are also being disgraced. The struggle waged by our people and our international friends exposes and disgraces them too. Because they are all partners of the Turkish state. Everyone sees that their law and democracy are fake.

They say they are the center of democracy, democratic law, and human rights, but the Kurdish people, the peoples of the region, and the peoples of Europe see that all this is actually fake, that it is political propaganda, that it is for the dirty interests of the governments. Their real faces are being exposed. The Turkish state has been blackmailing Europe for ten years. They used ISIS as blackmail. Again, they lured the entire Syrian people to Turkey, and today they say that more than four million Syrians are in Turkey. They received money from the European Union through the refugees. They made agreements to leave the refugees in Turkey and not send them to Europe. They took Europe hostage, and at the same time they took money from them. That money did not help the refugees in the slightest. These policies are bankrupt. Europe is trying to get out of this hostage position.

The decision taken by the CM of the CoE is incomplete and too late. It is a point to criticize, but as they say, it is better to cut your losses. They were very wrong; they conducted a very dirty policy; they supported the genocide concept of the Turkish state; they were complicit. Now they want to change their policies; even if it is late, even if it is incomplete, it is still a positive step. Europe should no longer be a partner in this crime. An end must be set to this persecution against the Kurdish people. They are persecuting the Kurdish people in the person of Rêber Apo, and they are waging war. Therefore, the Turkish state must fulfill whatever international law requires. An end must be set to isolation and torture. Rêber Apo has the right to hope; he must be tried again. The conditions in Imralı must change immediately; this is important.

According to your opinion, in what ways and methods should the campaign continue from now on? In particular, what kind of political, ideological, social, moral, and legal struggle should be waged in Kurdistan and abroad in order for the second phase of the campaign to succeed?

This is an important question. One year has passed, and it is very important for us to succeed in the coming year. Because as I said, the Third World War in the region has now reached a strategic stage. The war is spreading every day and there is a possibility that it will spread to Iran and Turkey as well. The war that Israel is currently waging in Lebanon and Gaza cannot be considered as a war just affecting these places and only affecting these forces. In fact, this war is a regional war and its center is Kurdistan. This war has been going on in Kurdistan for decades. The second phase of the campaign will continue in this framework.

The success of this campaign will determine the fate of the Kurdish people and the peoples of the Middle East. The Turkish state wants to complete its genocide plans at this stage of the war. That is why the Turkish state will insist on the war of genocide and deepen it. The war waged by Israel has turned into a war

between Iran, Israel and Turkey. And the Turkish state wants to take advantage of it, to finalize its genocide policy. Therefore, the second phase of the campaign must be continued with total resistance in every field. The campaign was carried out successfully last year and achieved important results, but it is not enough. The method is not enough because of the war being waged in the world today.

There are great dangers for our people, there is a great danger for the peoples of the Middle East. If a strong resistance is not put up in every field, if a strong struggle is not waged, there is a high risk that our people and the peoples of the region will face a great genocide. No one should deny this danger. That is why our people must be very, very careful. Our people must be organized wherever they are. They must organize ways of self-defense and must be in a total resistance. This total resistance must also include the physical freedom of Rêber Apo. For this campaign, the freedom of Rêber Apo, our people and the peoples of the region must always be the basis. There are genocidal attacks on our people in northern Kurdistan and a total war is being waged in every military, economic, cultural and political field. The center of this war is Imralı. Our people have always stood up until today, they have put up great resistance, but it is still not enough.

The Third World War is deepening day by day, and the genocidal attacks against our people will increase. That is why our people must rise up. They are holding rallies now; this is important; there will be a rally in Amed (tr. Diyarbakir) on October 13th; there will be a rally in Istanbul, and many alike. These are valuable. Everyone who is against fascism, genocide, and this system must take part in the rallies. Hundreds of thousands, millions of people should attend the rallies. But everything does not end with these rallies. The resistance must continue; it must be permanent. All areas, streets, and squares must be filled with peoples. Our people must stand up against all attacks on the guerrillas, language, culture, economy, and ecology. They must be in a state of self-defense, wage a revolutionary people's war, and be in a state of total resistance. This is important. The political sphere should carry out more effective policy and diplomacy. And without a doubt, the ideological struggle must be deepened.

The same goes for Rojava. For example, the danger to Rojava is increasing day by day. The Turkish state is waiting for a good conjuncture to emerge in order to carry out a new invasion and genocidal attack. It is waiting for an opportunity to occupy the whole of Rojava. On this basis, it is working on diplomacy in every field. The Turkish state wants to benefit from Israel's war against Hezbollah, Palestine, Lebanon, and Iran. One of its main targets is Rojava. Our people in Rojava must prepare for a revolutionary war at all its levels. They must strengthen their defense forces. It is not enough just to march and shout slogans. All of our people must organize and form a self-defense force. Everyone, from the old to the young, from women to men, must organize on the basis of self-defense. Everyone should be a member of SDF, YPG, and YPJ and defend their country, values, freedom, and existence on this basis. The same accounts for southern Kurdistan. The Turkish state has plans according to the Misak-i Mili. All our people in southern Kurdistan need to be in resistance.

There is a war against Rêber Apo. But Rêber Apo is not just a person; he stands for the whole of Kurdistan. When one reads about the plans and policies against Rêber Apo well, one understands what kind of policy is being carried out against Kurdistan. Therefore, we cannot consider the physical freedom of Rêber Apo and the freedom of Kurdistan independently of each other. We cannot consider the struggle for Rêber Apo's physical freedom independent of defending our own existence, country, freedom, and generally human values. That is why the peoples all over the world must be in a state of permanent resistance and struggle. That is why our people should welcome the second year of the campaign in this way. Of course,

the legal part of the struggle was also very important and brought positive results. It forms one of the pillars of social resistance. We must attach importance to this in the coming year as well.

The dissemination of Rêber Apo's ideas must be done very effectively. The prison writings should be read, conferences, workshops and discussions should be held based on them. There should be a lot of programs on the paradigm of democratic nation in the media. We need an effective ideological struggle in this field as well. Again, in the coming year, a more effective diplomatic and political struggle must be waged. All of these are very important. In connection with this, I am strongly convinced that next year will be the year when Rêber Apo's physical freedom is achieved and the Kurdish people and Kurdistan are liberated. For this, a total struggle must be waged in every field.

— ★ —

Bese Hozat: The struggle and resistance frustrated the international conspiracy

ANF | BEHDINAN | 9 OCTOBER 2024

In an in-depth interview, Besê Hozat, co-chair of the KCK (Kurdistan Communities Union) Executive Council, talks at length, among other things, about the significance of the international conspiracy on the occasion of the 26th anniversary and elaborates on the global freedom campaign against it. She also goes into great detail about current developments in the context of the Third World War and analyzes the interests of the hegemonic forces of capitalist modernity, with a special focus on Turkey and Iran.

The international conspiracy has now left its 26th year behind. The Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Ocalan, has analyzed this conspiracy in detail several times and described it as an attack on the Kurdish people and the peoples of the Middle East. The conspiracy is an attempt to drive the peoples of the Middle East into war against each other. How should the conspiracy be assessed today, in view of the ongoing Third World War?

We have reached the 26th anniversary of the international conspiracy and are entering its 27th year. First of all, I condemn and curse the forces that developed the conspiracy with hatred, and I salute with respect and love the great resistance that Rêber Apo (Leader Abdullah Öcalan) has developed throughout those 26 years under the conditions of torture and isolation in Imralı. A great popular and guerrilla resistance developed inspired through it. This brought upon very important results. And it continues to do so. In this sense, I send my greetings and love to Rêber Apo. I also commemorate all the martyrs of revolution and struggle for freedom with respect, love, and gratitude, particularly the martyrs who gave their lives for the struggle under the slogan "You cannot darken our sun!".

October is a month that symbolizes both the international conspiracy and the great resistance against it. On October 9, 2019, the Turkish state launched an invasion operation against Gire Spi and Serekaniye. Again, on October 9, 2020, the Shengal Treaty was signed, which meant a new german (the word used by the Yazidi people to describe a genocidal attack on them. It comes from the time of the Ottoman Empire, where the rulers attempted to wipe out the Êzidis through several 'fermans') against Shengal (Sinjar). A

major attack against the Êzidis started through this agreement. There was also the massacre of October 10 at the Ankara Train Station (On October 10, 2015, two ISIS suicide bombers attacked a demonstration for a democratic solution to the Kurdish question organized by the HDP and other democratic forces at Ankara train station. 102 people were killed and more than 500 others were injured.) Over one hundred people lost their lives in this massacre. I commemorate them all with respect, love, and gratitude. It was an attack that caused a great trauma in Turkish society. Even though it was ISIS who attacked, it happened with the direct participation of the AKP, MHP, and the Turkish state. They used ISIS in Ankara, just as they used them against the Kurds in Rojava, against the Êzidis in Shengal, the democratic forces, the socialist forces, and the Kurdish freedom movement; they used them in Turkey and in the whole region.

On the other hand, of course, very big serhildans (Kurdish word for popular uprising) also took place within this month. There were the Kobane serhildans of October 6-7 in northern Kurdistan. Hundreds of thousands of people participated in them. They had an important role and impact on the protection and liberation of Kobane. The Turkish state put Hizbulkontra, as well as many gangs and mercenaries, into action there, and dozens of our people were massacred brutally.

In the month of October, great women fell as martyrs, especially Gülnaz Karataş [nom de guerre: Beritan, a pioneer in the Kurdish freedom movement. She laid the foundation for the development of the autonomous Kurdish women's guerrilla. In a battle against the KDP in 1992, she was surrounded by the enemy and instead of surrendering, she decided to throw herself off a cliff], Gurbetelli Ersöz [a leading militant of the Kurdish women's movement, best known for her activities in the free press and her prison resistance. She fell in combat in southern Kurdistan on October 8, 1997], Rojin Gewda [Sureya Aslan, a leading member of the central command of the HPG and YJA Star guerrilla forces. She fell in combat on October 7, 2012 in the Hakkari region], Gülnaz Ege [Nuran Er, a leading member of the central command of the YJA-Star guerrilla forces. She fell martyr in a battle on September 30, 2017 in Diyarbakır], Çiçek Kurtalan [Ayten Ene, a leading member of the central command of the YJA-Star guerrilla forces. She was martyred in an attack by the enemy army on October 04, 2019 in the Dersim region] and Nagihan Akarsel [a long-time activist in the Kurdish women's movement who did pioneering work, particularly in Jineolojî (women's science). She was murdered on the street in an assassination attempt in Sulaymaniyah on October 4, 2022]. On October 4, 2014, Arin Mirkan carried out a self-sacrificial action in Kobane, which had a massive impact on the resistance of Kobane. With her spirit, the Kobane resistance developed and succeeded. The month of October is indeed full of great martyrdoms.

Finally, the so-called 'Çöktürme Planı' [Plan that the Turkish government, or rather the deep state of Turkey in coordination with NATO forces, forged secretly during the so-called 'peace process'. The state abruptly broke off talks with the Kurdish movement in 2015 and escalated the situation as part of this plan, which could literally be translated as a 'plan of forcing them to their knees'] was also developed in this month, on October 30, 2014. October is a month full of conspiracies and attacks, especially the international conspiracy on the one hand, and it is also a month full of great resistance and struggle against the conspiracy on the other.

The international conspiracy is a conspiracy targeting the Kurdish people in the person of Rêber Apo and generally targeting the peoples of the region. Rêber Apo was seen as a major obstacle by the international capitalist hegemonic powers. There was an intervention in the Middle East that had already started in the early 90s. It marked the beginning of the Third World War. The collapse of the Soviet Union, Saddam's attack on Kuwait, these developments marked the beginning of this war, and it continued to intensify with

the American intervention. The international conspiracy of October 9, 1998, was also developed at an important stage of the Third World War. At that time, a stronger direct intervention in Iraq was on the agenda. It was aimed at overthrowing Saddam's government and eliminating him. Also, the intervention in Afghanistan was on the agenda. Generally speaking, a very comprehensive Middle East intervention was on the agenda, and Rêber Apo and the PKK were seen as an obstacle to this. Because it was the main revolutionary dynamic force in the region. A great struggle was being waged under the leadership of the PKK. The Kurdish people's struggle for freedom, the peoples' struggle for freedom was creating a very serious consciousness and enlightenment among the peoples of the Middle East. In this respect, such a conspiracy was carried out against Rêber Apo. This paved the way for the collaborationist, treasonous line in Kurdistan. A line that they wanted to make dominate in Kurdistan. The international hegemonic powers wanted to benefit from it in their regional policies and interventions in the region.

Of course, as I pointed out before, a great struggle also developed against this conspiracy. Our people, everyone regardless of age, whether in the four parts of Kurdistan or outside, have all stood up. Dozens of people carried out self-sacrificial actions. The paradigm of democratic nation and the democratic confederal system put forward by Rêber Apo in the following years, as a whole, brought this conspiracy to naught. It deciphered the trap that was laid on the peoples. With the deciphering of this and the failure of the conspiracy, the freedom struggle increased its influence in Kurdistan and the region. The movement grew even more. As one result, the Rojava Revolution took place, paving the way for the democratic revolution in the Middle East. A very strong ground was formed in this sense. When the situation was reversed, of course the international conspiracy updated itself and continued. After 2000, especially within the PKK, there was an attempt to develop a treasonous, collaborative line based on conquering power and seizing the PKK from within. They developed many meetings and relations with some of those who were in leading positions at that time, and through them they wanted to take over the PKK and liquidate it. The internal betrayal and liquidationist line developed after 2000. And in 2003, it made itself fully visible and wanted to make an internal coup against the movement and take it over. This was led by the US, AKP, and KDP.

The US, AKP, and KDP were in contact with these traitors within the PKK. It was an attempted intervention of these forces inside the PKK. Of course, this also came to nothing. Against this, Rêber Apo and the movement waged a strong struggle. Our people waged a strong struggle. At the end, the liquidationism itself was liquidated.

The KDP was involved in this conspiracy from the beginning. They wanted to put all Kurds under the control of the collaborationist, treasonous agent line. The international capitalist and imperialist powers had given such a role to the KDP. They also wanted to make Turkey a model and actively develop intervention in the region through Turkey. In this respect, these forces conspired against Rêber Apo and handed him over to Turkey. Such a very dirty, illegal, inhumane, and immoral conspiracy was developed against the Kurdish people and the peoples of the region in the person of Rêber Apo. The resistance that Rêber Apo developed, the solution project, the solution approach, the paradigm of the democratic nation, the ecological, democratic, confederal system project based on women's freedom, completely nullified this conspiracy.

The aim of the conspiracy was the physical extermination of Rêber Apo, the complete liquidation of the PKK, and a total genocide of the Kurdish people. Neither the physical destruction of Rêber Apo was realized, nor was the PKK liquidated, nor were the Kurdish people subjected to a total genocide as they had

envisioned. This conspiracy came to naught with the resistance stance put forward by Rêber Apo, the resistance of our people, the guerrilla resistance, and the resistance of women. We can state this very easily.

Of great significance was also that, during the period when this conspiracy was developing, Rêber Apo had declared a unilateral ceasefire. He had demanded a solution to the Kurdish question within the borders of Turkey. There were also several statements in this sense. Of course, these statements and this search for a solution did not develop spontaneously. The Turkish army and the Turkish state were also in a tendency, a search, and an effort to solve the Kurdish question through dialogue. Our leadership had also received messages in this direction. The ceasefire declaration also developed on this basis. The statements made by our leadership also developed on this basis. Indeed, within the Turkish state, one wing of this was represented by the army. Some generals were leading this. They wanted to solve the Kurdish question on a political basis. In order to give them a chance, Rêber Apo decided on such a ceasefire.

In fact, the international conspiracy was also an intervention against such tendencies that might develop within the Turkish state; it was also an intervention against such efforts of the movement and Rêber Apo. In other words, the first steps of the change of strategy and the change of paradigm were actually a process that started in 1993 and 1995. But it reached an important stage in 1998. They saw this because the democratic solution of the Kurdish question, the liberation of the Kurds, the democratization of Turkey, and the democratization of the region were not in the interest of the international powers, led by the US and Britain, who wanted to intervene in the region. They saw this as an obstacle. They saw it as a threat, a danger. A constant conflict, a state of war in Turkey, was more useful for them. In this situation, they could better use Turkey for their own interests; they could put it at their service. They could use the Kurds more easily. They could put them under the control of the collaborationist agent line and put them at their service in any way they wanted. In that respect, they envisioned a war between peoples to be in their own interests. In that way, they would be able to implement their policies in the region more easily. They would be able to realize their interests more easily. Such a dirty policy was implemented.

When Rêber Apo was abducted, Ecevit was in power. During the Ecevit period, some generals had meetings with Rêber Apo. There was still a search for a democratic political solution to the Kurdish question. But after the Al-Qaeda attack on America on September 11, 2001, the intervention in Afghanistan developed. The concept of “fighting terrorism” was implemented all over the world. And Turkey also wanted to benefit from this. Therefore, it ended that process completely. In those processes, especially during the Ecevit period, there were actually searches in this direction. But after that, all talks with Rêber Apo were broken off. Ecevit was already ousted from power. They replaced him with the AKP. The AKP carried out a tactic to settle in the state; it carried out a liberal politics that appealed to everyone. After it took control of the state, it put genocide policies into effect. In 2014, it developed the ‘cokturme planı’.

After October 9, 1998, the conspiracy continued, and was constantly updated. Genocidal attacks, total genocidal attacks continued. And a great resistance also developed against this. The center of this resistance was, of course, İmralı, Rêber Apo. The conspiracy did not reach its goal. The struggle and resistance frustrated the conspiracy.

Bese Hozat: International campaign reaffirmed Öcalan as a universal leader

ANF | BEHDINAN | 10 OCTOBER 2024

In the second part of this in-depth interview, Besê Hozat, co-chair of the KCK (Kurdistan Communities Union) Executive Council, talks at length, among other things, about the significance of the international conspiracy on the occasion of the 26th anniversary and elaborates on the global freedom campaign against it. She also goes into great detail about current developments in the context of the Third World War and analyzes the interests of the hegemonic forces of capitalist modernity, with a special focus on Turkey and Iran.

The global campaign under the slogan ‘Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan, a Political Solution to the Kurdish Question’ has now completed its first year. The campaign represents resistance at various levels against the international conspiracy. How do you assess the past year of the campaign, and what are the challenges for the coming year?

The global campaign ‘Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan, a Political Solution to the Kurdish Question’ is a campaign led by our international friends, and it is about to complete its first year. It has indeed produced very important results. Very valuable work was done on an international scale. There were many workshops, conferences, concerts, seminars, marches, and readings of the prison writings of Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan]. There were also many struggles in the legal field; letters were written to many institutions, and statements were made by them. 69 Nobel Prize-winning scientists participated in the campaign; they wrote letters to the relevant institutions. There is the participation of trade unions in England, Scotland, and in the Spanish State. There were many events in many parts of the world. The ideology and paradigm of Rêber Apo were discussed very extensively. This led to very serious enlightenment. It led to the recognition of Rêber Apo’s ideas. Therefore, a very large group of people emerged internationally who embraced the physical freedom of Rêber Apo. The global campaign has become global and universal. This produced a very important result. The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe took a decision. It gave Turkey one year’s time to correct the system of torture and isolation in İmrālî and to eliminate this criminal situation. Otherwise, it said it would issue an interim decision. Of course, all this was the result of this struggle.

At the stage we have reached now, the campaign has gone one year and is entering its second year. Our international friends who developed this campaign will definitely draw up the planning and perspective for the coming year. We believe that very strong planning will emerge for the coming year. Of course, a very important pillar of this campaign is also Kurdistan and its social, political, diplomatic, and legal struggle. In northern Kurdistan, the freedom march, the ‘Give Freedom a Voice’ protests, and justice protests developed. There was the Cologne march. Now it has been rescheduled for November. On 13 October, there will be a rally in Amed (tr. Diyarbakır). And a similar effort is being considered in Istanbul. All of these are extremely valuable and meaningful. Also in Rojava, our people were resisting. Generally, in the four parts of Kurdistan, there was an uninterrupted struggle, even if it was routine and insufficient in some places.

Of course, another crucial pillar is the guerrilla struggle. The guerrillas showed a very strong performance and resistance, particularly this last year. Very strong actions developed. The YJA Star also played a very decisive role in this.

On the occasion of the anniversary, I greet and congratulate all the international friends, patriotic people, and guerrillas who developed this global freedom campaign with respect and love. I believe that the next phase will also develop very successfully. Yes, important results have emerged, but we still haven't achieved our main aims. Because the aim of the campaign is the physical freedom of Rêber Apo and the democratic solution to the Kurdish question. At the current stage, Rêber Apo has not been physically liberated, and the Kurdish question is still not politically and democratically solved. It is in the middle, and the war of genocide continues uninterrupted. The total genocidal war continues, as the resistance continues uninterrupted.

In this sense, this campaign, which is now in its second year, must and will continue in the coming year in a stronger manner on the basis of the ground that has been formed, and it must and will surely succeed. I strongly believe in this.

As I have mentioned, there have been very important results and achievements in the past year. Rêber Apo has become a universal leader, there has been a very strong embrace around the world. Based on this, we need to develop this campaign more strongly. Social resistance must continue to grow everywhere.

Social resistance has a great impact on the legal struggle, the political struggle, and the diplomatic struggle. Our people also see and know this. Northern Kurdistan and Turkey should gradually become the center of social struggle. An uninterrupted struggle must be developed in northern Kurdistan. Because northern Kurdistan is the center of genocidal attacks. Right now, northern Kurdistan is the center of total genocidal attacks. The center of this is Imralı and northern Kurdistan in particular. There is a very intense special war. Language, culture, and nature are under fire. There is a policy of massacre against young people with drugs and prostitution. It is the same for Kurdish women and Kurdish children. There is a recent example of Narin. In this sense, against special war attacks, against total genocidal attacks, our people, particularly in northern Kurdistan, and Turkey's democratic forces must take part in this global campaign in a stronger way. An uninterrupted resistance must be developed.

This is also the case in Rojava. Rojava must be able to develop a strong revolutionary people's war. This is more crucial for the survival of Rojava than bread and water are. The revolution in Rojava is under great danger. The Turkish state aims to occupy the remaining areas of Rojava when it finds the opportunity. It is just trying to seize the opportunity and conjuncture for this. In this sense, our people must be in an uninterrupted resistance here. This resistance cannot only be done by taking to the streets and marching on several occasions. Our people must be organized on the basis of self-defense, regardless of age. It must be organized on the basis of a revolutionary people's war. They must be able to develop their own self-defense. There should not be a single unorganized person anywhere, not a single person without self-defense. In the coming year, we must continue the social struggle in the four parts of Kurdistan by increasing and sustaining it.

Also, the legal struggle gains importance. We have seen this very clearly throughout the past year. The struggle on this issue had a significant impact and result. The Council of Europe (CoE), the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman

or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), and the forces that developed this conspiracy are all partners in these genocidal policies. They are responsible for the torture and isolation system in Imralı. They established this system.

The legal, political, diplomatic, and social struggle against these forces must continue strongly. As long as this struggle continues, we will achieve results. We will make them apply their own laws. They will be forced to apply international conventions, and the Turkish state will be forced to apply them. The way to this is through struggle. Nothing can happen without a struggle. No development can be created without struggle. Without struggle, without resistance, you cannot liberate Rêber Apo; you cannot solve the Kurdish question; you cannot liberate Kurdistan. The path to freedom and democracy is through struggle and resistance. The process we are going through necessitates a total struggle and resistance as indispensable prerequisites. We must definitely lead this global freedom campaign to success with great resistance.

While the absolute isolation against Kurdish people's leader Abdullah Ocalan continues, an intensive war is being waged outside. The Turkish state is constantly attacking with all the technical means at its disposal or provided by its NATO partners. It is a war that is currently taking place with a focus on the Medya Defense Zones. How do you assess the course of this war?

The war continues with all its intensity. It is a really fierce war. There are very intense attacks, especially centered on West Zap, Metina, Xakurke, and Xinere, and there is very strong resistance of the guerrillas, who launch impressive actions.

The Turkish state aims to occupy and annex all these areas and gradually establish its complete sovereignty over southern Kurdistan. We always say that by occupying and annexing southern Kurdistan and Rojava, they are trying to establish their hegemony over Iraq and Syria by reaching the borders of Misak-i Milli. They aim to become the hegemonic power of the region. This is the basic strategy and policy of the Turkish state. To seize the Misak-i Milli on the basis of the Kurdish genocide, and to establish its hegemony over the region by seizing it. Accordingly, it continues this war very persistently.

The Turkish state is waging war wherever it enters. For the last four to five years, it has been building a lot of forces, piling up a lot of techniques, hitting from the air, hitting from the ground, using chemical weapons, using everything. And there is still a great resistance in those tunnels. At the moment, the Turkish state has no control over West Zap, Metina, Xakurke, or Xinere. There is an intertwined, hand-to-hand battle going on here. There is great guerrilla resistance. I take this opportunity to commemorate with love, respect, and gratitude all the comrades who were martyred in this resistance. And I also greet with love and respect all the comrades who are struggling and taking part in this sacrificial resistance. They are developing an honorable and noble resistance. They are defending and representing the dignity of humanity.

The KDP is very actively involved in the annexation and occupation attacks of this genocidal war. Right now, for example, in Duhok, Amediye, and Zakho, KDP businessmen have made agreements with the Turkish state and are developing joint construction projects. They are building positions, roads, and outposts for the Turkish state. They have made agreements with these companies. Currently, all these works are being undertaken and carried out by KDP businessmen in southern Kurdistan. They provide all kinds of intelligence information and logistical support. All these attacks are happening with the active support of the KDP. There is a situation that is really up to its neck in betrayal and collaborationism.

The attacks intensified after the agreement between the Iraqi government, the KDP, and the Turkish state. There have already been intense attacks against civilians. By becoming a partner in these attacks, in the Turkish state's occupation, annexation, and expansionist policies, Iraq legitimized these attacks in the eyes of international states. The current Iraqi administration has no dignity and respect in the eyes of the Kurdish people, the Iraqi peoples and the peoples of the region. It is a completely discredited government that has lost its respect and prestige. It has done the greatest disservice to the Iraqi people. It has earned the great anger and hatred of the Kurdish people. It has earned the great anger of the Iraqi people. We know that there are very serious disturbances within Iraq right now. There are many tendencies, different wings within the state. We know that there are many contradictions and conflicts between them. It seems that in this form, this administration cannot sustain itself for long. The disservice to the Kurdish people and the Arab community has been too big.

There is a struggle against this; it is going on everywhere. It is going on in southern Kurdistan, as well as in northern Kurdistan. The war continues with all its intensity. There is great resistance, and there are also many great martyrs.



Hozat: Israel's war on Gaza and Lebanon should not be evaluated as limited to those two areas

ANF | BEHDINAN | 11 OCTOBER 2024

In the third and last part of this in-depth interview, Besê Hozat, co-chair of the KCK (Kurdistan Communities Union) Executive Council, goes into great detail about current developments in the context of the Third World War and analyzes the interests of the hegemonic forces of capitalist modernity, with a special focus on Turkey and Iran.

The Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Öcalan, spoke of and assessed the Third World War many years ago. Today we see that this war has found a focal point in Israel, which is currently attacking Lebanon. Attempts to involve Iran more in this war are also recognizable. Also, America is closely involved in the war through its agreements with Israel and close cooperation. How do you assess the current developments in the context of the Third World War?

The Third World War is currently taking place in the region with all its intensity. The war is deepening and spreading. Israel's attack on Lebanon and its attack on Gaza should not be evaluated as limited to Gaza and Lebanon. Turkey's attack on the Kurds and its genocidal attack should also not be evaluated as limited to Kurds and Kurdistan. It affects the whole region. This war is a World War. And this World War is currently intensified and deepened in the Middle East. There are great powers behind Israel, particularly America, Britain, and most of Europe. In fact, a concept, a strategy, is being implemented. Israel is the practical implementation force, the striking force of this strategy, and Iran is the target of these attacks. In this way, Israel is gradually increasing its influence and power in the region with the support of the West. And the region is gradually being reshaped and redesigned on the basis of the interests of these hegemonic powers and Israel.

Hezbollah has really suffered a heavy blow that was almost fatal. Of course, it is difficult for it to be completely liquidated; it has serious roots in society. But it is also very clear that it has suffered a heavy blow. The blow to Hezbollah is a blow to Iran. At the same time, Hamas has indeed suffered a fatal blow. Hamas's blow is both a blow to Turkey and Iran. This is clear.

Turkey is behind the October 7 Hamas attack. It played a major role in the development of such an attack on the basis of sabotaging the energy road project from India to the Eastern Mediterranean, Cyprus, and Europe. Other forces also played a role. It is not that they did not play a role, but Turkey played the most decisive role. Afterward, it wanted to be involved in the process and equation through Hamas. It did everything to try to broker a ceasefire. None of the attempts yielded any results.

Currently, Iran is being targeted, but at the same time, Turkey's policy in the region, its foreign, domestic, and regional policy has suffered a huge blow. Turkey has always pursued a policy of balance between Russia and America, between Europe and Asia. It has used this for years. It used it in the Ukraine conflict; it wanted to use it in the Gaza-Israel war. Every time there was a crisis, it wanted to use this policy of balance. It used it. This war is all about controlling the energy routes, controlling energy resources, and redesigning the region. It is the 21st century's war to re-establish and re-organize the political balances, economic balances, and political system. In this war, Turkey has been wounded, and Iran as well is seriously weakening. The situation in Syria and Iraq is already obvious. With the support of America, Britain, and the West, Israel is gradually increasing its influence and strength. A situation of designing the region on the Israeli axis is gradually emerging. All this has put the AKP-MHP fascism in a very serious predicament and put it in a great panic. Where will this war evolve? Where will it spread to? This war will continue to intensify. Until the US elections, maybe they will continue it in this dosage for a while. But after the US elections, the situation and level of this war will become clearer. But one can already predict that it will intensify and deepen. It seems that the capitalist, imperialist, and Western hegemonic powers will not leave the region in this form. They will gradually intensify these attacks on Iran. They will force the Iranian regime to surrender. They will force an agreement, a compromise based entirely on their own interests. In the absence of this, they will intensify these attacks and war even more. And they will try to bring this policy, their strategy, to a conclusion.

This war is all about controlling the energy routes, controlling energy resources and redesigning the region. It is the 21st century's war to re-establish and re-organize the political balances, economic balances and political system. In this war, Turkey has been wounded and Iran as well is seriously weakening. The situation in Syria and Iraq is already obvious. With the support of America, Britain and the West, Israel is gradually increasing its influence and strength. A situation of designing the region on the Israeli axis is gradually emerging. All this has put the AKP-MHP fascism in a very serious predicament and put it in a great panic. Where will this war evolve? Where will it spread to? This war will continue to intensify. Until the US elections, maybe they will continue it in this dosage for a while. But after the US elections, the situation and level of this war will become clearer. But one can already predict, that it will intensify and deepen. It seems that the capitalist, imperialist, Western hegemonic powers will not leave the region in this form. They will gradually intensify these attacks on Iran. They will force the Iranian regime to surrender. They will force an agreement, a compromise based entirely on their own interests. In the absence of this, they will intensify these attacks and war even more. And they will try to bring this policy, their strategy, to a conclusion.

Something alike is also being carried out against Turkey. Turkey is a NATO country. Of course, there is no such thing as Israel attacking Turkey as Erdogan claims. This is all part of their special warfare. It is the tac-

tical politics of designing the opposition, designing Turkey's internal politics. There is no such thing as Israel attacking Turkey. All Turkey fears is the Kurds. It is conducting a policy of genocide against the Kurds. It does not want this genocide policy to weaken. It does not want these genocidal attacks and war to be sabotaged. It wants to bring this war of genocide to a conclusion without any obstacles or problems. It does not want the Kurds to benefit from this deepening crisis and chaos in the Middle East from this war environment. In order to prevent such a situation, it has been in a panic attack inside and outside.

Of course, this war will have repercussions in Syria. The attacks have already intensified. It is clear that very serious attacks will further be launched against Hezbollah in Syria. They are already underway. The Syrian regime will also be affected by this. This raises several questions. Will the Syrian regime pursue a policy on the axis of America, Israel, and the West? Will it pursue a policy of compromise and agreement with Turkey? Or will it see it in its own interest to compromise and reconcile with the Kurds and seek to solve its internal problems democratically on the basis of democratizing Syria and solving the Kurdish question democratically? This would be the most correct way. It is this option that will win Syria.

In the same way, this war will also have an intense impact on Iraq. These attacks already started a long time ago, and they intensified throughout the last year. Particularly the attacks on Hashd al-Shaabi are very intense. The attacks directly target Iran through them. They want to break Iran's influence in Iraq with these attacks. In the same way that America is trying to re-establish a Sunni-Shiite balance in Iraq, Turkey is also working very hard, trying to organize Sunnis loyal to it and set them into action. They are trying to make the groups under their control and under their own guidance effective. They are trying to completely break the Iranian influence. Of course, Iran will not stand still either. Obviously, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, and Yemen are also important for Iran. Iran is also a serious power that pursues a hegemonic policy in the region in order to maintain its influence and power in the region. It is one of the hegemonic powers of the region. It will not remain silent or surrender to this. It will try to protect its power and presence and increase its influence everywhere. Therefore, it will take a more active part in this war. This will gradually deepen the chaos in Iran. It really seems that Iran will either make a deal by making many concessions, which is not a solution. Iran will not see this as a gain for itself – or it will wage a very violent war at any cost. It is debatable where this will lead Iran. There are also many fundamental historical problems in Iran. As the last option, it will turn to a solution, an option based on solving these problems on a democratic basis, democratizing Iran, and taking democratic politics as a basis. This would obviously be the right thing to do. This is the option that will really protect and strengthen Iran.

No matter how we look at it, this is the same for Iraq and Turkey. The more Turkey gets involved in this war, the more it will sink and collapse. Kurdish hostility will finish Turkey. Kurdish genocide policies will finish Turkey; they will bring Turkey to its end. We call on Turkey again; give up on this. This will not gain you anything. This will solely destroy you. Make a deal with the Kurds, reconcile with the Kurds, and negotiate with the Kurds. Recognize Kurdish rights, recognize their freedoms, recognize their language, recognize their culture, and recognize their political rights. The only thing that will save Turkey is a democratic solution in Kurdistan and the democratization of Turkey. This will save Turkey.

Ultimately, we are coming to the solution of Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan]. As long as the powers in the region insist on war, as long as they insist on Kurdish hostility, on the policy of violence, they will not get any results. Indeed, this means destruction. But as they move towards a democratic solution and peace, this will be a win for everyone. It will benefit the region. Of course, it will benefit the peoples the most. This is a fact.

The region is really going through a very dangerous process. This war will spread. It will affect everyone. In this sense, Rêr Apo's solution project of democratic nation and democratic confederal system is the only reasonable solution project. This is the case for the Kurdish people, the peoples of the region, and the states of the region. Otherwise, the region will turn into a bloodbath. It will experience great destruction. This will be a loss for everyone.

In this ongoing chaos, the Turkish state is trying to adjust its own policy. On the one hand, it always says that Israel has its eye on Turkey and Israel is treated with hostility, while on the other hand, trade relations between the two states continue unabated and there is still collaboration on a military level. They try to conceal this domestically and try to adapt their language accordingly. What are the true intentions of the connection between Erdogan, Bahçeli, and Ergenekon within the current chaos?

In recent days, in the Turkish media, the agenda is constantly being heated that Israel has its eyes on Turkey. There were statements by Erdogan and then by Devlet Bahçeli. Devlet Bahçeli even suggested something he called 'Jerusalem Alliance'. He said that he wants to unite all Muslim countries against Israel in a 'Jerusalem Alliance'.

On the 8th, the Grand National Assembly of Turkey will convene. They will discuss the Israeli agenda. It is necessary to gain a good understanding of their true intentions. Israel is not going to attack Turkey. Turkey's relations with Israel are not bad. All of Erdogan's words are all demagoguery. Turkey did not cut its relations with Israel in any way. Trade and exports continued. It sold all kinds of goods to Israel. At the moment, there is great support from Turkey in the war being waged in Gaza, in the West Bank, and in Lebanon. This is a fact. In that sense, Netanyahu and Erdogan are soul mates. There is no difference between them. Just as Netanyahu is a Hitler, Erdogan is a Hitler as well. Erdogan has even surpassed Hitler. He is not at all what they say he is. What is Turkey's fear? It is not a matter of Israel attacking Turkey. They are afraid that Kurds could benefit from this war environment and that the Kurds could make more gains. They are afraid that the genocide policies they have been conducting would be thrown away. This is the whole fear and panic. They fear that Kurds in Syria can benefit from this war and that Kurds in Iraq can benefit. That is what Bahçeli's Jerusalem Alliance means. They want to take Syria, Iraq, and Iran with them and form an anti-Kurdish alliance to go against the Kurds and complete the genocide. It is pursuing this policy in order to get the support of the Syrian regime, Iran, and Iraq in the attack on Northern Syria, Rojava.

They are developing such a discourse in order to gain support for their annexation-occupation policies in southern Kurdistan. Otherwise, Erdogan does not care about the Arab people. He sacrificed them. As I pointed out before, Erdogan is behind the October 7 Hamas attack. The intention was to sabotage the energy deal and then to get himself into the equation, but it didn't work. Now they are setting up such a game. They are trying to develop something like this by gaining the sympathy of Iran, the Arabs, the peoples of the region, and the support of the Arab states under the pretext of the Israeli attacks. But no one will buy it. It is already clear that some Arab countries are not against Israel's attacks. For example, the Abrahams agreements that Israel made with the support of the US are in force. Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries are silent. Egypt is silent. Obviously they also support.

But now the eyes of the Kurdish people have been opened. The eyes of the peoples of the region have also been opened. The states of the region are also more or less aware of what is going on now. It is Turkey that has brought Syria to this state. It is Turkey that has caused such great destruction. It organized tens of

thousands of gangs and mercenaries against the regime in Syria. It is also Turkey that has turned Iraq into this situation. What is it doing now? They are trying to design the opposition inside. The other day Bahçeli shook hands and greeted the DEM Party leadership in the parliament. He had a dialog with the CHP and Ozgur Ozel; it was a hot topic in the press. He gives warm messages to all of them. He says that he wants to strengthen the internal front. Under the name of strengthening the internal front, the AKP-MHP regime is trying to redesign the opposition as a whole on the basis of their own interests and policies, in the name of Turkey's survival and national interests, within the framework of the words that Israel will attack Turkey. They are trying to leave no opposition. They are trying to completely liquidate and neutralize it. They are setting up such a new game. After Devlet Bahçeli shook hands with the DEM Party, the press asked him why he did so. He said, "While we want peace outside, of course we need peace inside. MHP is a party of Turkey. Other parties cannot take such a step without the MHP taking such a step." He made various statements like this. If that is the case, then we would like to say something to Bahçeli. He talks about internal peace. Then he should take Erdogan and Ozgur Ozel and go to İmrālî with them. They should sit down with Rêber Apo. They should talk about the Kurdish question together, negotiate, and work out a joint democratic solution.

Devlet Bahçeli is the main actor of the AKP-MHP fascist regime. At the moment, Turkey is ruled by Devlet Bahçeli's mentality. Let Devlet Bahçeli ask for a solution; no one can say anything against it. Let him take Erdogan and Ozgur Ozel and go to İmrālî. Will he go? He won't. Because they are after a new game. They are not interested in making peace with the Kurds, coming to an agreement, or recognizing their rights. They don't want to solve the Kurdish question, nor do they want to democratize Turkey. This is not their concern. It is Rêber Apo's entire concern and effort to find a democratic solution to the Kurdish question and the democratization of Turkey. The PKK's entire effort is the democratic solution of the Kurdish question and the democratization of Turkey. But the fascist AKP-MHP regime is weaving a new game, a new trick, a new conspiracy. In order to carry out these genocide policies, they are trying to completely neutralize the opposition inside, create confusion among the Kurds, if they have various unnecessary and unwarranted expectations, they are trying to put such individuals, to leave the Kurds without struggle, to passivate them, to break their will to struggle and resistance, to put them in expectation, to put democratic politics in expectation, to break its influence and activity; if they can, to carry out an operation inside, if they can, to create a disintegration within the DEM Party and within democratic politics. They try to find individuals who are sympathetic to them, who listen to them, try to confuse them further, and gain influence over the Kurds and the CHP through them. All with the aim of forcing the CHP completely under their service, completely weakening the opposition force, and implementing their genocidal policies. This is their reality. This is the game they are playing and the reason why Bahçeli shook hands with the DEM party.

If Devlet Bahçeli, AKP, and Erdogan really had such a positive intention and approach as they claim, then fine, İmrālî is there. It is under your control; you have established the system of torture and isolation yourself; you are practicing absolute isolation. There has been no news from Rêber Apo for years. Now, if Devlet Bahçeli wanted to, he could end the isolation there within an hour.

A very dirty, very insidious policy is being carried out. It aims to completely disable the opposition and neutralize the Kurdish people while carrying out the Kurdish genocide.

The CHP's policy so far serves the current foreign and domestic policies of the AKP-MHP regime. It is almost as if it is carrying out a policy that plays into the hands of the AKP-MHP regime, that is, a crutch

that continues its past role and mission. In other words, there is no serious opposition. This is what all the CHP's messages mean. Again, it is obvious that they are trying to pull the CHP along for the sake of the survival of this government. In its current form, the CHP is open to this. Until now, the CHP has not uttered a single word against the isolation. A terrible lawlessness is being practiced there. An immoral and inhuman politics is being practiced that renders meaningless the so-called law in Turkey. It creates terrible decay. The main source of this decay, the development of the gangs, mafia, prostitution, all kinds of pollution, ugliness, child murder, and evil in politics and society in Turkey is these Kurdish genocide policies, torture, and imprisonment policies. They have been doing this for years, for more than a century. They themselves organize these gangs for this purpose. The CHP does not have a single policy against isolation, against war. It does not have a single serious policy, a single word for peace, for the solution of the Kurdish question. The rhetoric of 'normalization' is going on and on. 'Normalization' has also turned into service to the AKP-MHP fascist government and its policies. If there is to be normalization, first and foremost the torture-isolation system in İmralı must be abolished. If there is to be normalization, Devlet Bahçeli, Erdoğan, and Özgür Özel must go to İmralı and sit down with Rêber Apo. True normalization starts from İmralı.

A total special warfare is being waged. The Kurdish people, the peoples and society of Turkey and democratic public opinion are being deceived. There is a terrible special warfare. And the opposition is following a policy that feeds this special warfare. We need to be very vigilant about this.

Finally, I would like to talk about the elections in southern Kurdistan, which are scheduled for October 20. What can you tell us about the elections and the circumstances surrounding them?

There is not much that I currently want to express in this direction. The elections in southern Kurdistan are taking place in the midst of a big war. There is an annexation-occupation attack taking place against southern Kurdistan. Both the southern Kurdistan administration and the KDP are completely involved in this war. In such an environment, these elections are being held.

Our people see who is a betrayer, collaborator, or agent, how they harm the Kurdish people, and how they carry out a dirty interest policy. They also know who is patriotic. They see and know that they think about the interests, honor, and values of the people, that they struggle for this, that they live for this, and that they do politics. There is no need for us to express this. Our people are aware of these. It is already said that this election did not create much excitement in southern Kurdistan. What excitement will there be in a place where there are occupation-annexation attacks, where this administration, the KDP, and the Barzani family clan are involved in these occupation and genocide attacks? Of course they cannot create anything in the people. In this sense, I can only say this. If such an election is possible, of course our people should vote for patriotic candidates. Our people should go and vote for candidates who defend the honor of this people, the national values of this people, who fight for this, who conduct politics. They should also bury the collaborator, betrayer, and agent network in these ballot boxes. This is important. Our people in southern Kurdistan must show the strongest attitude against the collaborator-traitor line in these elections.

Kalkan analyzes how conspiracy against Öcalan is intertwined with Third World War

ANF | BEHDINAN | 11 OCTOBER 2024

In this extensive interview, Duran Kalkan, member of the KCK Executive Council, analyzes how the conspiracy of 9 October 1998 is intertwined with the Third World War. Kalkan describes the interests in the current Third World War and explains where this war will extend in the future, and what effects it will have, particularly for Kurdistan, Turkey and the Middle East.

The international conspiracy of October 9, 1998, which began with the Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Öcalan, being forced to leave Syria, is now reaching its 26th anniversary. What can you tell us about the conspiracy and the intentions of those who organized it?

It indeed is necessary to understand the conspiracy and the struggle against it correctly. As the freedom movement and the people, we have been waging a historic resistance against the attacks of the international conspiracy under the leadership of Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan] for 26 years. On this basis, we salute the pioneer of this heroic resistance, Rêber Apo, and the struggle of our people for freedom and democracy led by the historic İmralı resistance. At the same time, we remember with respect, love, and gratitude our heroic martyrs who stood protectively in front of Rêber Apo and gave their lives carrying the slogan "You cannot darken our sun!" in their hearts. We once again express our conviction and will to defeat the international conspiracy and the İmralı torture and isolation system that represents it and to bury it in history by struggling more accurately and decisively, following the paved way of Rêber Apo and the legacy of our martyrs.

As it is known, the international conspiracy was launched on October 9, 1998, with Rêber Apo being forced to leave Syria. What followed was the biggest pursuit in history, extending from Russia to Europe and from there to Africa – continuing for over four months. With this attack, they aimed at destroying Rêber Apo, liquidating the PKK, the vanguard of the Kurdish people's freedom. All obstacles in front of the Kurdish genocide were wanted to be removed. It should be noted that the international conspiratorial forces have indeed acted in a very planned and organized manner. They have come up with the most suitable attack strategy for themselves and put it into practice. By carrying out the Kurdish genocide, they aimed to further divide and fragment the Middle East, to make it live under fascist dictatorships, and to poison life for all humanity.

However, thanks to the very careful and sensitive stance and struggle developed by Rêber Apo against these conspiratorial extermination attacks, and thanks to the unity of our movement and our people based on the slogan "You cannot darken our sun!" their efforts came to nothing and their attack failed. Realizing that they could not destroy Rêber Apo with these methods, the conspiratorial forces changed their approach and made a new plan and came up with the February 15, 1999 conspiracy. It should be noted that they did not give up on the goal of Kurdish genocide, the liquidation of the PKK, and the destruction of Rêber Apo; it was only when they could not destroy Rêber Apo through conspiratorial methods that they had to change their methods and find new methods of destruction.

The conspiracy emerged on October 9 as an attack of annihilation. Many forget and ignore this. The conspirators wanted to destroy and annihilate Rêber Apo on October 9th. That is a fact about which there is nothing to argue. We live in a world where the law of the jungle applies. Whoever has the power, they attack brutally without adhering to any moral or legal rules. This process started most concretely with the attack on Rêber Apo. In the early 90s, during the dissolution of real socialism, there were also attacks in those areas, but apart from that, an attack of this kind started then. These extermination attacks were thwarted through struggle. Otherwise, it is not that our opponents did not plan and implement them; they planned, tried to implement them, but they failed. The February 15th conspiracy was planned for the execution of Rêber Apo. Some of us have lost touch with reality to the extent of saying, "They took Rêber Apo to solve the Kurdish question in Imrali." They put him there to be executed. The execution could only be prevented through struggle. For some, the effect of the conspiracy began to take effect, so they started saying things like, "Struggle does not yield results; the struggle of the peoples, women, and youth is done, but it does not yield results; they have no power; only the rulers determine the outcome." This was obviously wrong from the beginning. However, the struggle of the peoples, the struggle of the Kurds, and the effective and sacrificial struggle of Rêber Apo have always yielded successful results. It has frustrated the plans of the enemy, defeated them, and achieved gains. The struggle prevented the extermination and prevented the execution.

The conspiratorial forces reevaluated the situation and decided to destroy Rêber Apo politically and ideologically through the policy of decay within the Imrali system. The so-called wise rulers of the Turkish Republic took the approach of 'everyone else has used Apo; let's use him in this way; let's make him serve us'. They wanted to carry this out with the government headed by Ecevit, but in the end they themselves were defeated. Rêber Apo used his time in the Imrali system to deepen his thoughts and reassess the ideology of the movement. He gave self-criticism on behalf of the movement and struggle of all the oppressed and gave this struggle a new paradigm. In the solitary confinement of Imrali, he realized the greatest mental and intellectual revolution in history. He developed the new paradigm, the line of democratic civilization, which shows the path of liberation for all the oppressed, and created an appropriate system. He created the paradigm of democratic modernity. These are the greatest revolutionary developments in history. This means that one can struggle under those conditions as well; one can struggle, make progress, and achieve gains under all conditions. We saw this in the Imrali struggle. In the end, those who wanted to rot Rêber Apo in Imrali were confronted with the greatest revolutionary thought and were defeated. Then they hoped to achieve results with the lying and dishonest methods of the Tayyip Erdogan administration, the AKP. They thought that the AKP would bring the international conspiracy to a conclusion with its deceitfulness. They wanted to get results with all kinds of lies and deceit in the form of the so-called "solution process." They wanted to succeed by misleading and deceiving the other side; they developed a thousand and one methods in this direction. Over the past twenty years, they have repeatedly created such plans. A great struggle was waged against them all. Thus, Tayyip Erdogan and the AKP's way of managing the conspiracy was frustrated and defeated. Turkey was put as a "guardian"; in other words, Turkish politics as a system that will put the conspiracy into practice and bring it to a conclusion that will manage Imrali, has long since ended, is in crisis, and cannot get out. Together with Turkey, the conspiratorial system is in crisis and chaos; it cannot get out of it.

What results could be achieved in the 26 years of resistance and struggle against the conspiracy?

In order to take a truly patriotic position, it is first of all necessary to feel the effects of the conspiracy in all its depths. In the context of the conspiracy, various approaches emerged; there were those who assessed the

situation very superficially, others who remained very narrow in their analyses, still others simply tried to continue their own way of life, while there were others who whined that they would now have to struggle with difficulties. For 26 years now, the existence of the free Kurds has constantly been under the sword of Damocles. This existence is preserved only by continuing a resistance with great consciousness and organization every day and every night. Instead of the Kurds living comfortably and freely, they live in a system of torture, isolation, and genocide – the Imrali system.

At that time, there were those who thought they could live by exploiting the gains that were achieved in Rojava and southern Kurdistan. There were those who thought they could live by exploiting the values that were created in southern Kurdistan. But they were mistaken. Talking about the gains and achievements of the Kurdish people, one must question on what basis they were created and are sustained. They are maintained and kept alive by carrying out the 24/7 resistance of existence against the torture, isolation, and genocide system of Imrali. They have not been created for individuals to exploit them. With the blood of tens of thousands of martyrs and by continuously giving martyrs day by day, these gains are kept alive, multiplied, and enlarged.

One needs to see the connection between the reality of the conspiracy and the reality of the Kurdish genocide. The Kurdish genocide attacks continue as an international conspiracy attack. For 26 years, since October 9, 1998, the free Kurdish existence has been ensured by the sacrificial resistance based on the Imrali resistance. One cannot understand Kurdish reality by looking at Hewler (Erbil). One can understand it by looking at Imrali. The real Kurdish entity, the free Kurdish entity, is there, and it is obvious what kind of annihilation attack it is under. Those who say that they want to live freely in Kurdistan must see, know, and understand how this life is created in Imrali and how it is achieved through a great 24/7 struggle.

And it should be emphasized that the struggle against the conspiracy has made significant progress throughout those 26 years. The ongoing global freedom campaign should be seen as one of its results. Not understanding the conspiracy leads to not understanding the Kurdish reality, the Kurdish genocide, the mentality and system that created this genocide, the global capitalist modernity system. Failure to understand this leads to a failure to understand the Kurdish strive for freedom and therefore to a failure to understand humanity's gaining a free and democratic life. Not understanding the colonialist-genocidal mentality and system correctly also leads to not understanding the struggle against the conspiracy. It leads to wrong conclusions such as 'the conspiracy cannot be fought against' or 'the conspiracy cannot be defeated'. This is how many liquidationist tendencies emerged among and around us. Individualism, disorganization, being according to oneself, and all the approaches that emerge by saying "my views" underlie this. In fact, we are living on the values created by the struggle against the conspiracy, but we are not aware of it. Some values have been created, and one can see that some people are asking themselves how they can use and exploit them for themselves. This is very dangerous, and we should forbid it for ourselves. Also, not understanding what values you are living on is like usurping the values that someone else has created through sweat and blood. This is no different from the theft of capitalist modernity; it is another version of it. After this 26-year struggle, we need to see what the results have been, and for this, we need to be well aware of the aims of the conspiracy.

Opinion

Bayık: The solution is in Abdullah Öcalan's Paradigm

ANF | BEHDINAN | 8 OCTOBER 2024

In the first part of a conversation, Cemil Bayık, co-chair of the KCK (Kurdistan Communities Union) Executive Council, talked about the importance of the Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Öcalan, for the struggle for free coexistence, freedom and democracy not only for the Kurdish people and the Middle East, but also on a global level, and about the corresponding necessity to see the struggle for his freedom as part of a struggle for one's own freedom.

International conspiracy

The international conspiracy targeting Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan] is an attack carried out against the Kurdish people, the peoples of the Middle East, and all of humanity. It is about to reach its 26th anniversary and to enter its 27th year. A great persecution was committed against our people, the peoples of the Middle East, and humanity in the person of Rêber Apo. On this occasion, I offer my greetings and respect to Rêber Apo and reiterate our promise to him, who is waging a historic resistance against this conspiracy. The resistance developed through people like Halit Oral against the international conspiracy has determined a new line of resistance. Not only cadres of the party but also the people of Kurdistan took part in it. Today, humanity is taking part in it. This line of resistance is developing and succeeding day by day and continues to this day. Great oppression, persecution, and torture were carried out against our people, the peoples of the Middle East, and humanity through what they have done to Rêber Apo. But with his resistance, Rêber Apo took the values of our people, the peoples of the Middle East, and humanity as a basis for his struggle and became a universal representative of them.

The fact that there was a conspiracy against Rêber Apo, that this conspiracy is still insisted on, and today is continued through a system of absolute isolation and solitary confinement, makes it necessary to understand the reason for it very well. And in order to be able to understand it well, one needs to understand, first of all, the approach of the system of capitalist modernity, of the occupiers, of the nation states, and of the powers. If one does not understand their approach towards the Kurds well, one cannot understand the international conspiracy and the continued isolation. The foundation for this was laid at the Cairo meeting. At the Cairo meeting, a policy regarding the Middle East was determined. The Middle East was fragmented; both the Arabs and the Kurds were fragmented, and through this fragmentation they established the system of capitalist modernity in the region. When they did this fragmentation in the Middle East, they denied the existence of the Kurdish people; they said the Kurdish people no longer existed. They said that there is no place for Kurds in the politics of the Middle East, in the politics of the capitalist modernity system. That is why they took the politics of genocide and extermination as a basis. That is why they excluded Kurds from the system they developed. This means that the Kurds no longer have any rights and laws.

Since then, the politics of genocide have been carried out until today. Like I pointed out, if one does not understand this well, the laws developed against the Kurds cannot be understood. As is known, many laws were enacted; for example, the so-called 'Eastern Reform Plan', the 'Tunceli Law', the 'Takrir-i Sukun Law', and many others related to these were enacted. The aim of all these laws was the elimination of the Kurds. The Turkish state is now again enacting its laws as genocidal laws against the Kurds. There is only one law for the Kurds in Turkey; everyone who comes to power must take the genocide of the Kurds as a basis. Those who are in power must continue the politics of genocide and deliver results. Those who do not take this politics as a basis can never come to or stay in power in this state. If they brought the AKP-MHP to power and kept them in power, it was to complete the Kurdish genocide. The AKP-MHP maintain their power entirely on the basis of the Kurdish genocide.

Turkish state founded on the basis of the politics of genocide

The Turkish state was founded on the basis of the politics of genocide; politics is carried out on this foundation. They consider themselves entitled to everything they do to the Kurds. They commit massacres, ban everything, throw countless Kurds in prisons, kill and torture them there, plunder the Kurdish nature, force the people to migrate from their land; they see it as their right to do all these things. Because they are pursuing a policy of genocide against the Kurds, and they insist on this policy to achieve results. This is the reality of the Turkish state. The Turkish state assessed the development of the international conspiracy as an opportunity for itself. They thought that they could take advantage of this opportunity and could successfully conclude their policy of genocide against the Kurds. And indeed, the international conspiracy helped the Turkish state in every way. Because the system developed by capitalist modernity was based on the genocide and extermination of the Kurds. Since the Turkish state was also pursuing this policy, they helped the Turkish state in every way. They were doing this for their interests.

İmrālî is a completely illegitimate system

The İmrālî system is a completely illegitimate system. It is a system developed by Gladio. For 26 years, the rule of Gladio has been applied in İmrālî. There is no law there, as there are no rights and laws for the Kurdish people. With the Cairo meeting, they deprived the Kurds of their rights and laws. A people whose rights and laws have been usurped, and even those who stand up for that people, who struggle for democracy and freedom for that people, are declared criminals by these forces. That is why they see the struggle waged by Rêber Apo and the PKK against them; they see them as criminals. That is why they are extremely hostile to Rêber Apo and the PKK. That is why they do not recognize any right, law, or justice. Rêber Apo stood against this system regardless of the very difficult conditions and impossibilities in İmrālî. In other words, he stood against the Gladio system and developed a historical resistance. He represents and defends Kurdish values as well as human values in general. Rêber Apo managed to turn himself into a power of solution. He did this for the Kurdish people, the people of the Middle East, and humanity.

In order to be able to solve the named problems, Rêber Apo evaluated who initiated the international conspiracy, and who took part in it. He drew conclusions from these evaluations and renewed himself and his philosophy based on them. He revived the Kurdish people in his own person. Therefore, he developed a new paradigm for the Kurdish people and humanity, particularly for women. This is how he raised their hopes. The reason why they insist on the conspiracy and impose isolation is because they are afraid of Rêber Apo. They are afraid of his ideas and speeches. Because he has an impact not only on the politics of Turkey but also on the politics of the Middle East and on a global level. He influences not only the Kur-

dish people, gives morale and hope, and shows the way to a solution. That is why the conspirators, treasonous Kurds, and the colonizers are afraid of Rêber Apo.

Turkey doesn't accept 'Right to Hope'

The Turkish state does not accept the so-called 'Right to Hope' because it wants to conclude the genocide of the Kurdish people and eliminate everything in the name of Kurdistan. Because, as I said, already at the Cairo meeting, the existence of the Kurdish people was denied, and they were excluded from the new world system. They did not give any rights to the Kurdish people; they said that the Kurdish people had no right to live. They developed their system on this basis. The Turkish state was founded based on this later on in Lausanne. That is why the Turkish state does not accept the Kurds and does not recognize their rights. That is why they do not accept Rêber Apo's 'Right to Hope'. The approach to Rêber Apo's is like litmus paper; it reveals the political stance of everyone. Rêber Apo's resistance in Imralı has revealed the reality of all Kurds; it has revealed in every way what the line of betrayal and collaborationism is and what the patriotic and revolutionary stance is. This is, for example, the reason why the reality of the Barzani family clan is so clearly seen by so many Kurds today.

This is a great achievement for the Kurdish people. Because until now the Kurdish people thought that this family was fighting for the Kurds. Now it is visible to everybody that this family is solely running after whatever their interests are. That is why they side with the enemies of the Kurdish people. Rêber Apo did not only reveal the Kurdish traitors but also the reality of those who deceivingly call themselves socialists, democrats, and intellectuals, and those who wrongly claim to struggle for freedom and democracy against fascism and genocide. It was revealed who really upholds these values and who hides under these values. Rêber Apo ensured a correct understanding of patriotism and a revolutionary attitude among the Kurds. Like this, he has also revealed who in the world is a friend and who is a foe of the Kurds. Because Rêber Apo struggled for this all his life. He took it as a basis to expose betrayal and reveal patriotism. In this struggle, both Rêber Apo, the Kurdish people, and the PKK have suffered great pain and paid great prices, but they have also achieved great goals.

Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe's decision arrives late

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (CoE) held a meeting last month. At that meeting, they gave the Turkish state a one-year deadline to change. However, Europe had taken such a decision already in 2014. Also, the court that tried Rêber Apo did not conduct a proper trial; he should be retried. Rêber Apo is currently being tortured in Imralı. All of his rights have been trampled on. But the CoE has not taken any further steps, even though ten years have passed since their last decision. Why didn't they take any further steps? Why didn't the CoE stand behind their decision for ten years? Because the Turkish state had taken a decision against Rêber Apo, the PKK, and free Kurds and put that decision into practice. This decision was the 'çöktürme planı' (destruction plan).

In other words, it was to eliminate and destroy everything that stood for the Kurdish identity and Kurdistan. It was to completely eliminate Rêber Apo and the PKK. Since they took this decision on this basis, the CoE and the institutions affiliated with them also took this decision of the Turkish state as a basis. They waited for the outcome. They calculated that the Turkish state would liquidate the PKK and genocide the Kurdish people. When this plan was realized, there would be no need to bring up Rêber Apo's 'Right to Hope'. That is why they also helped the Turkish state. Both during the conspiracy and afterward,

they helped the Turkish state in every sense. Because the Turkish state was accepted in Lausanne through the alliance that was formed there. And this alliance was an alliance formed by those who took part in the Cairo meeting. Those who tore the Middle East to pieces, those who did not give Kurds a place in the Middle East, in the world system, those who denied the existence of the Kurds, those who deprived them of their rights, implemented their decisions in Lausanne. However, when the PKK and its international friends struggled, Europe's expectations from the Turkish state were not realized. The liquidation of the PKK and the genocide of the Kurdish people was not completed; they were stuck, and so they had to discuss their decision once again.

The fact that they now gave the Turkish state a one-year deadline was at the request of the Turkish state. The Turkish state tells everyone that it has taken so many steps against the PKK, against the struggle developed by Rêber Apo, and that it always promises that it will bring the liquidation and genocide to a conclusion. That's why they asked for one more year. That is why the CoE gave the Turkish state this one more year. This means that they receive the allowance to continue torturing Rêber Apo to eliminate the PKK and liquidate the Kurds. Their decision serves this. So Europe stands by its original decision. The decision that the Turkish state imposes on Rêber Apo, the PKK, and the Kurds is the decision taken at the Cairo meeting. On this basis, the Turkish state is conducting a policy of genocide and liquidation. The Turkish state is not only subjecting Kurds to genocide. There were so many peoples of different nations, beliefs, and cultures in Turkey, and they were all subjected to genocide. Only the Kurds as a big nation are left, and they want to eliminate the Kurds as well. They are using all the means available in Turkey for this purpose.

Today Rêber Apo is defending the values of humanity

Many struggles for democracy and freedom have developed in European history. Many achievements emerged as a result of these struggles. And now, Europe is trampling on these achievements and its own values. The peoples of Europe must see this and not accept it. They must stand against it and must protect their achievements and values. Europe is moving away from its values, trampling them underfoot. This is why fascist movements are growing in Europe. Because if one leaves law, justice, democracy, and freedom aside, fascism develops. That is why the peoples of Europe who stand against fascism, who stand against injustice and oppression, who fight for democracy, freedom, socialism, and justice need to see this.

Just as the capitalist modernity system stands against humanity, human values, democracy, freedom, justice and equality through the person of Rêber Apo, the struggle for those values must be increased all over the world. If the representatives of the system of capitalist modernity in the world, the powers within that system, stand against the peoples, against women, youth, workers, peasants, democratic forces, and trample on the values they have achieved through years of struggle, these forces should not just stand by and watch this. They should stand against this and defend their values and their future. Today Rêber Apo is defending the values of humanity, democracy, socialism and freedom. These forces must also stand up for Rêber Apo. Stand against the conspiracy, isolation and raise the struggle for democracy and freedom. The struggle for the physical freedom of Rêber Apo must be increased.

Bayık: The solution is in the Democratic Confederal system

ANF | BEHDINAN | 9 OCTOBER 2024

In the second part of a conversation, Cemil Bayık, co-chair of the KCK and (Kurdistan Communities Union) Executive Council, spoke about the importance of the Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Öcalan, for the struggle for free coexistence, freedom and democracy not only for the Kurdish people and the Middle East, but also on a global level. Focusing on the current development of the Third World War.

Political vacuum after the collapse of the Soviet Union

After the collapse of the Soviet system, there was a political vacuum. The system of capitalist modernity wanted to fill it in order to declare its hegemony over the whole world. In order to be able to do so, an ideological, psychological, military, and cultural war was launched. And day by day, this war continued to expand. Although Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan] laid the foundation of the struggle in Ankara and developed it in northern Kurdistan, the struggle grew in the other parts of Kurdistan as well.

The struggle even began to break through the framework of Kurdistan and began to affect the entire Middle East. Until then, the Middle East was the basis for the system of capitalist modernity. So, Rêber Apo's influence on the Middle East was to be prevented because the capitalist modernity system wanted to establish its hegemony all over the world. And the way to do this was through the Middle East. Therefore, they had to prevent anything in the Middle East that could pose a threat to their system. Accordingly, they saw Rêber Apo as a danger and made plans on how to prevent him. If they did not conquer the Middle East, they could not declare their hegemony to the world. Therefore, they found the solution to prevent Rêber Apo in the international conspiracy.

Turkey wanted to liquidate Öcalan and the PKK

Once they neutralized Rêber Apo, they could easily fulfill their goals in the Middle East. That is why they initiated the international conspiracy. The Turkish state also wanted to take advantage of this, aiming to liquidate the PKK and complete the Kurdish genocide. But both capitalist modernity and the Turkish state failed to achieve the desired result. They wanted to form other alliances to achieve results. Here, too, it made some alliances with the Barzani family clan and the Iraqi state. The Turkish state knew that if it could not bring together the occupiers and powers in the Middle East, if it could not bring these powers and the capitalist powers together, it would not be able to fulfill its goal of liquidating the PKK and completing the Kurdish genocide.

The Turkish state is currently working on this basis and is doing dangerous work. Our people and international friends need to evaluate these developments well. If one does not understand this situation well, an appropriate struggle cannot be waged, set goals will not be achieved, and one cannot become a hope of humanity. Rêber Apo was trying to figure out why the conspiracy was being carried out, what its purpose was, and how one could stand against it. Crucial to him was the question about what should be done to frustrate the conspiracy. And he found many answers to those questions.

Everyone expected that through the abduction of Rêber Apo, the PKK and the free Kurds would disappear. But because Rêber Apo analyzed the conspirators and their collaborators very well and was aware of their goals, he was able to become a solving force himself and focused on frustrating their aspirations. No one expected that Rêber Apo would be able to oppose the conspiracy so strongly. Rêber Apo developed a new paradigm for the Kurdish people, for the peoples of the Middle East, for humanity, for the democratic and freedom-seeking forces, and particularly for women and young people. He raised the hope of the peoples, of those who struggled for socialism, freedom, and democracy. In this way, he personally managed to frustrate the international conspiracy.

Öcalan developed a new paradigm

Rêber Apo wanted not only the PKK to resist but also the Kurdish people, the peoples of the Middle East, the women, and all oppressed peoples to also join this resistance against the conspiracy. He developed the new paradigm on this basis. Day by day, the paradigm is spreading all over the world and Rêber Apo, and the struggle of the Kurdish people and Kurdish women is understood much better.

As it is known, the Soviet system came up during the First World War, and during the Second World War it developed, spread, and strengthened. The current situation of the forces of capitalist modernity is not like it was during the First or Second World Wars. It is facing great chaos and crisis; it wants to get out of this situation, but no matter what it does, it cannot. That is why it is deepening the war day by day. This war may take place in some other parts of the world as well, but the center of this war is growing in the Middle East, and it will eventually spread more and more. The center of the war is the Middle East, and Kurdistan is the center of the Middle East.

Those who lead the system of capitalist modernity have taken the Middle East as a basis to bring the system out of chaos and crisis. That is why they are expanding the war day by day. Some may say that the war is being waged only by Israel; this is what is visible. But there are things that are hidden, and this is being revealed day by day. The system puts Israel at the forefront; they want to both defend Israel and strengthen Israeli power militarily, diplomatically, and economically in the Middle East.

Plan to redesign the Middle East

They want to redesign the Middle East again, as the system of capitalist modernity developed through the design of the Middle East in the First and Second World Wars. The system is now in chaos; the institutions it developed during the First and Second World Wars have been defeated; the institutions need to be rebuilt, so they are developing a hot war in the Middle East. They conduct this war through Israel. It is stated that there is a war between Iran and Israel; this may be partly true, but the war is not only between Israel and Iran. The war is mainly between capitalist modernity and democratic modernity. The war is being waged on this basis. The Turkish state is acting as if it is uncomfortable with this war, as if it is against Israel. However, the Turkish state is not against Israel; they are expressing their contradictions.

What they are saying is that they are part of NATO and that NATO, and capitalist modernity in general, should develop there based on them. What they say is that they are ready for this. Capitalist modernity has brought the forces in Turkey to power so that they can complete the genocide against the Kurds, smash the PKK, and establish a strong new system in the Middle East. Among other things, they created ISIS for

this purpose. But now Turkey is complaining that it is being abandoned. Israel and a handful of Arab states are being pushed to the forefront and are taking the place that Turkey would like to have.

Iran also sees this situation as contrary to its interests because both Iran and the Turkish state have built great states in the Middle East in the past, and they dream on this basis. But the system is currently weakening Iran and the Turkish state through Israel and some Arab states. This is the reason why Iran and Turkey have conflicts with Israel. Otherwise, the Turkish state is not against Israel. Massacres are taking place against the Kurdish people, the Palestinian people, and many other peoples of the Middle East. Nobody is making a sound about this. Why? Because they want to reorganize the Middle East for the system of capitalist modernity. That is why they do not want the peoples of the Middle East to emerge victorious from this war. With this war, they want to weaken the peoples and establish their system. Israel says that they kill so many terrorists every day, and the Turkish state says the exact same thing. It is like a competition between Israel and the Turkish state to kill and massacre.

The politics being carried out is based on this and is exactly the same. The only question is whether Israel or Turkey will develop its hegemony over the Middle East. This is their only question and problem. One must understand this reality well and not be mistaken. We are against this war and massacres. Against this, we struggle for freedom, democracy, and justice. And we will continue our struggle more strongly.

Forces of capitalist modernity against a democratic solution in the Middle East

The system of capitalist modernity and the forces that lead this system do not want a democratic solution to be realized in the Middle East. In contrast, they want to prevent this. Because their interests require it. Rêber Apo and the PKK want to take the Middle East out of this dirty war and open a new page for the peoples. They want to ensure freedom, democracy, and justice in the Middle East. They want to develop the unity of peoples, beliefs, and cultures. The capitalist system sees this as dangerous for its interests. That is why it wants to deepen the war between peoples, beliefs, and cultures. That is why they prevent the solution that Rêber Apo wants to develop in the Middle East. They paved the way for the likes of ISIS in the Middle East. They attacked the PKK with the support they received. Why? Because they wanted to prevent the Democratic Nation as a solution system. This is why ISIS attacked the PKK and the Kurds. They aimed to deepen the problems created by the capitalist modernity system in the past. On this basis, they wanted to put the Middle East at their service. Of course, the Turkish state gave the biggest support to ISIS and still continues to do so.

The Turkish state claims that nothing can happen in the Middle East without it. Everything that is sought there should be done through it. They are trying to enforce this. The PKK and the free Kurds stood against this and prevented the likes of ISIS from wreaking havoc in the Middle East. If today Rêber Apo, the PKK, and the free Kurds are being targeted, this is why, because they did not allow the conflicts in the Middle East to deepen. The Turkish state shows that it wants to deepen the conflicts, but it is hindered through them. That is why the Turkish state acts so hostile. This is why it is hostile to Rêber Apo, the PKK, and the solution of the Democratic Nation. Therefore, the efforts to implement the solution developed by Rêber Apo for the Middle East and humanity must be strengthened. The stronger the struggle on this basis, the sooner the demands of the peoples will be realized. Otherwise, the chaos and crisis of the capitalist modernity system will grow even more. The current war is being fought within this framework.

The solution is in the Democratic Confederal system

Therefore, anyone who says that they are against the system of capitalist modernity, that this system is against society, against humanity, against life, must take Rêber Apo's struggle for the peoples and humanity as a basis. The solution lies within Rêber Apo's paradigm; the solution is in the Democratic Confederal system; the solution is on the path of the Democratic Nation. That is why it is the forces of capitalist modernity that are currently fighting in the Middle East, led by Israel-America and Iran and Turkey, who also have their own aims in the Middle East. But the system of capitalist modernity prevents Turkey and Iran. That is why these two states are not comfortable. They see that some developments are taking place, but they do not serve their interests. That is why they are not comfortable. We need to develop a revolution of Democratic Modernity out of these conflicts. This is everyone's duty in the Middle East.



Bayık: When Öcalan is physically liberated, the Kurdish question will be solved

ANF | BEHDINAN | 10 OCTOBER 2024

In the third and last part of this conversation, Cemil Bayık, co-chair of the KCK Executive Council, spoke about the importance of the Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Öcalan, for the struggle for free coexistence, freedom and democracy not only for the Kurdish people and the Middle East, but also on a global level. He focuses, in particular, on the role of internationalism and the global freedom campaign.

For the physical freedom of Rêber Apo [Abdullah Öcalan], on October 10, 2023, our internationalist friends launched the global campaign with the name 'Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan, a Political Solution to the Kurdish Question'. Soon after its launch, the Kurdish people also joined in this campaign, but it was not prioritized by Kurds but by all the peoples struggling for democracy, freedom, justice, and equality. An agenda was created; Rêber Apo and his paradigm were presented and spread all over the world. So, one can say that the first phase of the global campaign has been successfully completed.

Now, the campaign has left one year behind. I salute, congratulate, and pay my respects to everyone who took part in the efforts surrounding the campaign. Our internationalist friends developed this campaign, strengthened it, and spread it throughout the world together with the Kurdish people. This is a great success for the Kurdish people. There has been a lot of pain, and a high price has been paid, but it became a great success for the Kurdish people. On this basis, the Kurdish people will further expand their gains and achievements. They will achieve their goals; they will ensure the physical freedom of Rêber Apo and the democratic solution to the Kurdish question. On this occasion, I salute, congratulate, and pay my respects to our heroic people.

Many developments and successes have been achieved through the campaign. The role of internationalism in these developments and successes is very important. The internationalists spearheaded the first phase of the campaign, and the Kurdish people took part in it and worked for its success. It seems that it will yield

further results in the coming year because it's spreading around the world and continues every day, and Rêber Apo's prison writings are being read more and more. In particular, the reading and discussion of his prison writings should be further developed, and activities in this regard should be prioritized more in the future. Because, as Rêber Apo also said, "Wherever my prison writings are, I am there." This is one of the reasons for the success of this move. The more those writings are read, the better they are understood, and the better the reality of Rêber Apo and the politics towards him, the PKK, and the Kurdish people will be understood. Like this, the politics being carried out can and will be more strongly opposed.

People from so many different nations, women, young people, artists, municipality members, trade unionists in England and Scotland, politicians, academics, lawyers, Nobel Prize-winning intellectuals, and many others have taken part in the campaign and have already carried out a lot of work in the first year that we are now leaving behind. If Rêber Apo and its paradigm have become better known and discussed all over the world, and if the support for Rêber Apo has increased even further, then this is largely due to the people who have participated in the campaign so far. I greet, congratulate, and pay my respects to each and every one of them. I believe that they will work even more vigorously in the future, just as they have worked until today. Because day by day they understand Rêber Apo and his paradigm much better. The better Rêber Apo's paradigm is understood, the stronger it will be embraced.

From the first moment that the campaign was developed, capitalist modernity opposed it. Because their aim is to neutralize Rêber Apo and the PKK and complete the Kurdish genocide. Therefore, they stood against the campaign wherever they could. Those who developed the international conspiracy, those who insist on it, and those who continue it through absolute isolation still want to neutralize Rêber Apo, liquidate the PKK, and complete the genocide. International reactions against the conspiracy politics are increasing day by day, and the embrace of Rêber Apo and his paradigm is growing even more. This is also why there is a war on the level of a world war. Because the conspiracy is international, the struggle against it must also be international. The war is also developing on the same basis.

What do those who take part in the campaign, those who want Rêber Apo's physical freedom and a democratic solution to the Kurdish question say? Rêber Apo's situation is similar to Mandela's. They say that what was done for Mandela should also be done for Rêber Apo. It is true; there are some similarities in the situation of Mandela and Rêber Apo, but they are not similar in every way. When an international movement was developed for Mandela, the situation in the world was different. The situation today is very different. The Third World War is going on, and there is an international conspiracy against Rêber Apo. Therefore, there are also many differences in the situation of Mandela. Maybe the campaign launched for Mandela developed easily and achieved quick results. But the campaign for Rêber Apo's physical freedom may not develop as easily and quickly as Mandela's did. This needs to be seen, and the campaign that has been developed needs to be enlarged even more.

Of course, what has been done so far is sacred to us, but it is not enough in order to be able to ensure the physical freedom of Rêber Apo. What is the conclusion we can draw from this? A bigger movement must be developed. That's why everyone should be focused on this. Everyone's agenda should be based on this, and they should carry out their work on this basis. Rêber Apo is the center of all the work; what can we do to ensure Rêber Apo's physical freedom as soon as possible? Because the longer it is delayed, the worse the situation will be for Rêber Apo, for Kurds, and for humanity. That is why we must develop strong movement very quickly, and this is everyone's duty. We have to develop a movement with the participation of millions. Millions should participate in rallies; millions should march.

People who have an impact on humanity should take part in these rallies, speak, and appeal to the conscience of humanity. Then Rêber Apo's physical freedom will be achieved faster. When Rêber Apo is physically liberated, the Kurdish question will also be solved. The reality of Rêber Apo and the Kurdish question complement each other. For this reason, life without Rêber Apo is haram to us. The approach to Rêber Apo is the approach to us; the approach to us is the approach to Rêber Apo. Everyone, especially the members of this movement, the PKK and PAJK movement, must spread the prison writings of Rêber Apo like apostles; they must spread them everywhere. Discussions should be held everywhere based on prison writings. If they do this, Rêber Apo and his paradigm will be better understood. The embrace of Rêber Apo and the Kurdish people will be stronger. In the second phase of the global campaign, everyone should work on this basis. Our work and marches should be entirely for the physical freedom of Rêber Apo and the democratic solution of the Kurdish question. I condemn the international conspiracy once again. Our anger against the conspiracy must grow even more and turn into organization and action. Once again, I greet, congratulate, and respect everyone. Bijî Rêber Apo!



Contact e-mail: imralipost@freeocalan.org

Websites: freeocalan.org | ocalanbooks.com | Videos: vimeo.com/freeocalan