

Northwest Syria Update

1-10, November, 2019

Introduction: Syrian Civic Platform will monitor the situation in the Northwest of Syria from November 2019 – January 2020 and will update the Syrian and international actors on the situation. This will respond to the concerns that the Syrian civilians have in those areas because of the escalation by the Syrian regime and Russia.

This report monitors the humanitarian and field conditions in North-West Syria during the period from 1 -10 November, 2019, within the areas outside the regime's control in Idlib Governorate, Southern and Western Aleppo Governorate, as well as Western Hama countryside and Lattakia countryside. This area is inhabited by more than 3.5 million people.

The North-West witnessed a significant rise in fuel prices after the start of the battle of Nabe Salam which affected the lines of fuel transportation from the Eastern regions. This has been in addition to the decline of the Syrian pound against the US dollar. This has led to an increase in the prices of most commodities and impacted the population severely due to the increased suffering related to economic problems such as poverty and unemployment. The impact of the rise in fuel prices was more notable in the bakery and electricity sector, where the operating hours were reduced and the monthly subscription value was reduced. The weight of the bread bundle was also reduced.

The City of Idlib saw demonstrations in protest against the service and living conditions on 1/11/2019

On 9/11/2019, workers in the education sector in Idlib Governorate and Western Aleppo countryside went on strike to protest against the interruption of support for the education sector.

Displacement Movement

The Southern and Eastern rural villages of Idlib Governorate, which are close to the regime-controlled areas, are still mostly abandoned.

The southern countryside of the Governorate is in a state of fear and anticipation, where they suffer from the escalation that affects their villages and fear of new displacement in the event of continued shelling or regime forces ground battles in their immediate vicinity. The displaced people in the Northern areas are suffering from difficult humanitarian conditions, especially with the approach of winter, where a large percentage of them are still homeless, or live in tents on agricultural land.

Victims:

45 Civilians, including 15 children and 5 women, were killed in the North-West of the country. 37 were killed in Idlib province, 7 were killed west of Aleppo, and 1 person was killed west of Hama. In addition, 84 Civilians, including 13 children and 6 women, were injured, in total (56 in Idlib Governorate and 28 West of Aleppo).

Field Conditions:

Southern Idlib: Warplanes, most likely Russian according to field observatories, continued daily shelling of several areas in Southern Idlib.

Southern Idlib Countryside: The Targeted Areas Bombed by Warplanes					
Hassana	Baarbo	Aldar Kabira	Kafarrouma	Kafarsajna	Marret Nuaman
Stouh Der	Kursaa	Alnqier	Sheikh Mostafa	Albara	Kafranbil
Marzeta	Um Seer	Erenba	Jbala	Hzarin	Haas
Sarja	Bsida	Kansafra	Tehtaya	Rakaya	Marret Hurma
Shnan	Martmatir	Sheikh Damis	Alfattira	Alramy	Benin

On 4/11/2019, the bombing of the city of Kafr Nabil was documented to have had 9 cluster missiles and 14 high explosive rockets. The Regime forces also continued to shell several areas South of Idlib daily.

Southern Idlib Countryside: The Targeted Areas by Regime Ground Forces' Shelling					
Marzeta	Sarja	Kafarsajna	Haas	Tarmala	Marret Nuaman
Jbala	Kafarrouma	Hzarin	Erenba	Tal Nar	Kafranbil
Tehtaya	Stouh Der	Baarbo	Marret Hurma	Lwebda	Heesh
Sheikh Damis	Sheikh Mostafa	Rakaya	Alnqier	Maar Hatat	Kafar Awid

East of Idlib: Warplanes, most likely Russian according to field observatories, continued almost daily shelling of several areas East of Idlib

Eastern Idlib Countryside: The Targeted Areas Bombed by Warplanes			
Um Jlal	Alteh	Mardikh	Almsherfa
Mazraet Jadaan	Tal Sheikh	Maar Shorin	Sihal

The Regime forces continued to shell several areas East of Idlib on a daily basis.

Eastern Idlib Countryside: The Targeted Areas by Regime Ground Forces' Shelling					
Der Gharby	Alriffa	Alsurman	Sehyan	Almsherfa	Alteh
Tal Touqan	Der Sharqy	Alfrija	Albarsy	Um Jlal	Babolin
Alkanayis	Altina	Um Khalakhil	Alhlubba		

West Idlib: The Regime's warplanes carried out a fierce bombing campaign that lasted for 6 days from 4/11/2019 - 9/11/2019.

Western Idlib Countryside: The Targeted Areas Bombed by Warplanes					
Kafaridin	Ain Asafir	Sheikh Sindian	Alkfear	Alnajiya	Jisr Shughur
Hllouz	Ain Bardi	Maraand	Bashiriya	Alkinda	Bdama
Eshtabraq	Zaeniya	Alshegher	Mishmshan		

The targeting of the Jisr al-Shughur area was documented to have had cluster missiles on 1/11/2019, believed to be from Russian battleships in the Mediterranean according to field observatories. The regime forces continued to shell several areas West of Idlib.

Western Idlib Countryside: The Targeted Areas by Regime Ground Forces' Shelling				
Zaeniya	Alghassaniya	Maraand	Aljanoudiya	Jisr Shughur
Bdama	Alkinda	Alnajiya	Alhanboushiya	Alsayyadi

Northwest Hama: Artillery and rocket shelling in the Western Hama countryside continues almost daily.

Western Hama Countryside: The Targeted Areas by Regime Ground Forces' Shelling						
Qurret Jirn	Midan Ghazal	Alhawija	Alzyara	Alsirmania	Alhwash	Alqahira

Northwest Hama has witnessed clashes, shelling, and shots between Opposition Forces and the Regime. On 5/11/2019, the Regime Forces targeted civilian cars with guided missiles on the road linking the villages of Qarqour and Sheikh Sindian. A car was also targeted on the outskirts of Al-Ankawi village with a guided missile on 10/11/2019.

Southern and Western Aleppo:

On 6/11/2019, warplanes, most likely Russian according to field observatories, shelled a residential gathering in al-Sahara village, west of Aleppo, killing 7 civilians, including a child and two women, while injuring 25 others.

On 7/11/2019, warplanes bombarded the outskirts of Kafr Aleppo. Luckily, there were no reported casualties

On 8/11/2019, warplanes bombed the outskirts of the town of Darat Azza and the 111th Regiment West of Aleppo. No casualties were reported.

On 9/11/2019, warplanes bombarded the village of Al-Bawabiya, wounding one child and two women.

Sporadic clashes between Regime forces and opposition forces have been documented in Mansoura and Scientific Research areas West of Aleppo.

The Regime's ground forces shelled several areas South and West of Aleppo

Southern and Western Aleppo Countryside: The Targeted Areas by Regime Ground Forces' Shelling							
Zmar	Jizraya	Dhahiet Jahrabaa	Arab Fattoum	Kafarnaha	Khan Asal	Tal Bajir	Khasa

North East Lattakia:

The Regime forces continued to make ground attempts on the Kabina area of Lattakia countryside amid heavy aerial bombardment of warplanes, most likely Russian according to field observatories, and from the Regime's helicopters which throw explosive barrels daily on the area in addition to artillery shelling. There was no change in the control map.

On 1/11/2019, the Opposition Forces launched a counter-attack in which they took control of several points that were under the control of the Regime, and withdrew on the same date, killing 23 members of the regime forces, while suffering 11 casualties to their own forces.