

# MARXIST LENINIST COMMUNIST PARTY TURKEY/KURDISTAN



# MLKP



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## INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

November 2017 / No: 180

### Interview with Ahmet Şoreş after Raqqa Operation

*MLKP Martyr Serkan Battalion Commander, Ahmet Şoreş answered the questions about Raqqa, Deyr ez Zor, Idlib and Shahba. He evaluated the results of the move, following developments and possible dangers. His answers as follows:*

#### **What does the defeat of ISIS gangs in Raqqa mean for Rojava revolution?**

ISIS couldn't demolish Rojava revolution despite its savage attacks. The revolution and its arising new possibilities and dynamics made ISIS to taste a big defeat in Middle East. Other forces putting such a solid stance against the revolution will not save themselves from facing a similar result. Because, Rojava revolution is marching forward with full speed by turning into the unified revolution of the peoples. Liberating Raqqa completely and some parts of Deyr ez Zor, the revolution is advancing in the lands where Arab people live. Only vanguard forces drawing no lines to the revolution -national struggle kinds, alliances, etc- can succeed this.

ISIS was mostly defeated. However, Rojava revolution is still face to face with great dangers due to ongoing war in Middle East and the qualities of the subjects of this war. Afrin canton's



being isolated is a great danger. Also, the existence of gangs holding Idlib is another danger. ISIS was not the only enemy. Forces like Turkey-FSA, Syria-Iran-Hashdi Shabi, are the closest and hottest threats to Rojava and North Syria. For this reason, our revolution's military tasks have not been concluded, on contrary we need to raise our capacity to fight.

#### **What does the developments in Raqqa, Deyr ez Zor, Idlib and moving from there Afrin-Shahba mean?**

It has been said that big stones will be moved after Musul and Raqqa. It is actually happening like that. These developments brought out an independent Kurdistan in Iraq, widening of Rojava revolution to the new lands in the path of



democratic Syrian revolution and dispelling the existing disunity with Afrin. Arab spring opened a new route for people from Kurdistan with the Rojava revolution. Rojava revolution, now started to expand to a democratic Middle East revolution. Yet, the missing point which is always hinting at it, is the lack of a unified Kurdistan. Today, the conditions for this are more than ever. Hence, the chief factors creating these conditions are the successes of Rojava and democratic Syria revolution in Manbij, Tabqa, Raqqa and Deyr ez Zor.

***How was people's joining to the moves?***

In Raqqa move, Arab people's joining was high. Support of people and attendance of new fighters continued all along the whole move. This is a very crucial point which can not be ignored. Raqqa war has passed very difficult as expected. ISIS resisted and fought until the last minute. It had preparations appropriate for the city war and submitted different tactics throughout the war. It turned all the streets, shops and houses of Raqqa into a mine field. Again, by dressing mines to all of its fighters and civilians from people, it made them suicide bombers and sent them to SDF fighters and among civil peoples. It used drones in the first periods. It used assassination tactics effectively from time to time. But there was a devastating force ahead of it. They knew that they had no chance of achieving victory against this force anymore. However ISIS, is a force of politic creed (religious), because of that, it fulfills fighting and struggling as a requirement of its own line.

The main decisive force of the defeat of ISIS in Middle East and making it unable to hold its areas in hand no more, is YPG and after that Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF).

***What is the significance of Deyr ez Zor and Idlib for the following days?***

With the liberation of Raqqa, Idlib and Deyr ez Zor became the areas drawing attention with their other properties. Right now, Idlib is the largest piece of land left in the hands of gangs in Syria. Clearing

Idlib out of gangs will be the most correct policy for the construction of Rojava and democratic Syria revolution and for the defense and liberation of peoples under pressure. This, can only be carried out by the peoples living in these regions together with the revolutionary forces of Rojava and North Syria, not by the components of Astana.

Esad's accepting Turkey's sending military force to this region on the basis of Astana agreement is significant regarding that it shows the desperation of the regime. The reality of Esad who is unable to defend Syrian people became once more visible with the developments in Idlib. It is no secret for Esad that the state of Turkey is tight-knitted with these gangs, it organizes them and gives any kind of support to them. But, what is behind of Esad's letting Turkish state, is the fear from Kurds. Such a fear is coded in the genes of Turkish state. Henceforth, in the center of the togetherness of these forces in Astana and its reflection to Idlib, there are Kurds and the unified revolution led by them and expanding by including Arab people to it.

This revolution continues to move on. The fear of its reaching nearby Idlib made yesterday's enemies, friends again. Turkey's explanation of its presence in Idlib with the propaganda of 'Kurds will open a corridor to Mediterranean through Afrin' signifies the existence of a great fear. We have seen that the liberation Kurdish people did also result in the liberation of other peoples in Rojava revolution. Peoples living in Idlib and in the region reaching to Mediterranean from here, need freedom. This need, will eventually find its correspondence. Turkey's Idlib





move -other than effecting tactically- will have no orders worth mentioning. Idlib is the second example of Turkey's failure of Esad policy after Halep.

***What is the role of Free Syrian Army (FSA) in Idlib right now?***

FSA has no meaning other than 'legitimizing' the presence of Turkish state in Syrian Arab and Kurdistan lands. FSA has acted according to this role since its emergence in the beginning. Today, Turkey is FSA from now on. Russia centered Astana bloc has given this mission to Turkey. Today, as a result of this policy, Turkish state, is in Syria to protect Esad who once it tried to overthrow. It is trying to hold on in the region with a compulsory mission like taking the gangs which once it trained and equipped under control, and clearing some of them in those areas. Let's see what else the fear of Kurds will push Turkish

state to do. It is not possible that Turkish state will live by with this fear anymore. Even though Turkish state explained its presence in Idlib within the scope of the deal for cease-fire regions, its real purpose is to surrender Afrin and defeat it and Rojava revolution. It has grievance about how to make Afrin and Shahba to fall. Turkish state has now placed its soldiers in Idlib and they are solving their positioning problem by making some sort of deals with the gangs. But, in the center of their attention, there is always Afrin and Shahba. When you look their positioning-trenching places and preparations, all data is pointing this direction. Turkish people and revolutionary forces must invalidate this policy of Turkey. The solidarity and mobilization exhibited during Kobanê process must also be put forth for Afrin. It should be considered as an opportunity to break the effects of fascist demagogic discourse of Turkish state on Turkish people.

**For the Solidarity with the Southern Kurdistan People,  
To the Action in the Streets**

The blockade attack started a while ago by Turkey, Iran and Iraq which are holding Kurdistan under the colonialist yoke, has boiled up to an extent of a war. The state of Iraq took up an occupancy move to Kerkuk to push around the Southern Kurdistan People and to break their will of complete equality of rights.

As much as towards Southern Kurdistan, this attack has also directed towards whole Kurdistan; as much as towards whole Kurdistan, it has directed towards all workers, all women, all oppressed and their revolutionary forces, all of whom are raising the flag of honor and freedom in from Palestine to Iran, from Turkey to Syria, from Iraq to Lebanon, from Egypt to Tunisia, in all Middle East and North Africa.

Iraq is now carrying out an unjust war; a war of invasion, sovereignty and plunder on the basis of tightest collaboration with other regional colonialists. The resistance of people of Kerkuk and South Kurdistan on the other hand, will be the sign of a righteous war. Confrontation is as clear and pure as no word tricks can cover.

Starting from the parties and groups claiming to be revolutionary, socialist and antifascist; all

progressive, democratic forces of Middle East and North Africa must uphold the solidarity with Southern Kurdistan People against this colonialist invasion. This the test of honor for Arab, Turkish and Persian workers, women, youth and laborers.

Let's organize actions of 'End the occupation, Recognize the will of Southern Kurdistan' in front of Iraqi embassies and representations all around the world. Let's act on against the attacks of colonialists' and imperialist countries' taking peoples under yoke with war, and to fight side by side with the peoples that will resist for freedom and honor. Let's raise the unified struggle of Turkish, Kurdish, Arab, Persian workers and oppressed for freedom, justice and equality for peoples.

**18.10.2017**

**Central Committee of MLKP**



## Women, One of the Main Forces Against Fascist Dictatorship

Oppression, patriarchy, violence, abuse and murder are deep-rooted problems of women in Turkey. Since the AKP government came to power in 2002 these problems and the inequality between genders even increased.

The fascist dictatorship tries to reinforce a mentality and view against any freedom understanding in general and especially against freedoms of women. Trying to legitimate this view with religious motives the dictatorship wants to create a society in which women are set back into traditional roles of motherhood, as homemakers under submission. Since Erdoğan declared the state of emergency he attacks women in society with different law decrees.

The so called „multi marriage bill“ proposes to allow muftis, or state-employed Sunni clerics, to issue civil marriage licenses. This dangerous legislation, if accepted, would begin a dual track marriage certificate system for Turkey. This law will make it easier for forced child marriages, polygamy and child abuse in general. Women won't have no protection in marriage, divorce or inheritance.

Another example of reactionary legislation was the proposal of a bill that would overturn men's convictions for child sex assault if they married the children they raped.

Besides this legal framework, which prepares this oppressive atmosphere in society, the number of women murdering and violence has increased. Women were beaten in the streets or in the busses because of the clothes they wear or the way they live. The dictatorship tries to silence the voices of women and to break their will. Numerous women's organizations that had been campaigning against child abuse and male violence were among 370 associations whose activities were tried to shut down under emergency law decrees. But women don't remain silent to these attacks against their free will.

When 20-year-old Ozgecan Aslan was stabbed and beaten to death after trying to fight off a man bent on raping her on a minibus a new women's uprising and will to fight was born. This resistance against violence and attacks against freedom of women continues. Thousands of women have been protesting and fighting against the fascist law decrees. Women and LGBTI organizations are uniting against the laws the AKP tries to pass. These protests are just the beginning of new women uprisings and the united women's resistance against fascism. Many women actions and initiatives started after the new stage of patriarchal dictatorship in the stage of emergency state such as the initiative „We want to live“, which organizes actions against





male violence monthly in many cities of Turkey, remembering Ozgecan Aslan.

Working and labouring women, as a main force of revolution, will strengthen themselves in these struggles and develop gender consciousness to organize on a higher level. Our party's women organization KKÖ (Communist Women Organization) prepares itself against the fascist, patriarchal oppression and calls women for

self-defence and self-organization. The KKÖ calls the women to unite in the ranks of the Communist Women Organization to fight in every part of life for women revolution, for a free and equal life of women, which will be possible in a classless, borderless world without patriarchy. Therefore women have to start from today on fighting against all enemies of women, such as the fascist dictatorship.

## Commune Elections Shows the Path to A Free Democratic Syria

Last few weeks have been witnessing some crucial developments in four parts of Kurdistan. Commune elections in liberated regions of North Syria, independence referendum in Başurê (South) Kurdistan, Turkey's Idlib move, the fall of Kerkük, the victory of SDF in Raqqa, the clashes in Deyr ez Zor between the last remnants of ISIS and SDF and Syrian-Russian forces are all connected to each other with their consequences and tactical meanings. Also, growing tension in Rojhilat (East) Kurdistan between Kurdish people and Iran state forces due to killings of kolbers (people who carry stuff across borders of Iran-Iraq-Turkey) and continuous guerrilla actions in Bakur (North) Kurdistan which cause Turkish army to lose both their morales and soldiers have political effects on these developments.

Reflections of the existential crisis of the capitalist system on Middle East with sharpening conflicts between regressive colonialist states of the region and imperialists have basically two faces like the two sides of a knife. Most apparent ones of these, on one hand, are the politic-islamist fascist hordes as the most barbaric face of it; and on the other side, there is the hope of oppressed peoples of the region, growing and expanding revolution of Rojava. The revolutionary process in Rojava (West) Kurdistan, from the beginning, overcame its national boundaries and gathered all the peoples of the region seeking freedom and honorable lives. And it is passing to another stage now.

On September 22th, commune co-presidency elections were made for 3732 communes in three region of North Syria: Cizire, Fırat and Efrîn. This election was the first step of the three staged elections of following federation process. Next elections for the assemblies of neighborhoods and districts is planned to set place in January and the last step of it will be the elections for canton assemblies and general assembly. These assemblies will be the structural backbones of the Democratic North Syria Federation which will be declared afterwards. The attendance of people for the first step was 70 percent. 437.132 people in Cizire, 136.433 people in Fırat and 161.092 people in Efrîn went to the ballots to vote. 7630 co-presidents, one of which is woman and other is man, are elected for the communes.

Communists from MLKP have also taken place in political work during the campaign period with their ideological styles. They called people to join the elections as a part of their political task of social structure. These elections became the jumping points to carry the revolution forward in social reconstruction and beyond defending it militarily. Politics is being made with the authority of people coming from social base. It





offers a social-political alternative for the peoples of the region. This is the reason why the revolution keeps spreading, does not hesitate, even expands to whole Syria and increasingly gets more support for almost 6 years, despite all blockades, attacks of reactionary gangs, regional colonialists and moves of imperialists to stop it. This election was made during a war time and martyrs from all fronts sacrificed themselves for it to take place. And communists, both by having martyrs, lastly Destan Temmuz in Raqqa front, and by directly using this chance to propagandize socialist ideology to advance in revolution, undertook their responsibility towards the laborers and oppressed of the region.

Many Kurdish people voted in this election for the first time in their life since Syrian regime has not given an identity to them for many years. Now, they are building their self-governed federation and communes are the root cells of it. Kurd, Arab, Armenian, Turkmen, Circassian, Chechen, Assyrian, Ezidi and all other peoples, women and youth especially took their gainings under guarantee of this system with their will. Yet, as a failed expression of narrow-minded bourgeois nationalist and collaborative politic line, in Başur (Southern) Kurdistan, the Kurdish

bourgeois politic line, represented by Barzani and his KDP was stuck inside its national boundaries and got a heavy blow from Iraq army and Hashd-i Shabi forces recently, causing them to lose Kerkük and retreat his peshmerga forces without firing a bullet from Shingal and some other areas. Raqqa and Kerkük in these last weeks represent two political lines. One is taking the example of great October revolution by creating communes as direct democracy organs like soviets; while the other one is expecting a salvation from imperialists. While Turkey is preparing to invade Efrîn, revolutionary forces of Rojava are ready to fight and defend their lands with the support of peoples, like they did in Raqqa.

Now, Barzani has resigned and declared his reproaches to USA and Turkey. He once looked down on the ongoing efforts for Kurdish national congress, but the time proved that today, there is no way to move even slightly out of colonialist politics by giving them whatever they want and rejecting the demands of people. Commune elections are the most appropriate response of Rojava revolution to those colonialist, imperialist and collaboratives and bright side of this sharp politic period.

### **Erdoğan's Desperate Game of War**

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of November 2007, Erdoğan and George W. Bush were shaking their bloody hands after a meeting held in White House on the agenda of their imperialist and colonial alliance on Middle East. In that meeting, these two particularly 'genius' figures agreed on the highest technological military support of the US army, the herons and the predators, to be given to the service of Turkish army. At that time, only Israel and US used to have their herons and predators flying over the Middle East and by being able to get the information of the Kurdish guerrillas' location from those, Turkish State was achieving a huge

advantage which would directly have effected its colonial war in Kurdistan. The plan was so clear and simple for the sovereigns: the US herons do the surveillance, Turkish jets attack to the given coordinates! The Turkish side of that agreement was incredibly happy and contented from achieving that privileged position, just as a younger brother who had finally got the





permission to play with the play-station of its elder. Right after the meeting, the general commander of the Turkish army at that time appeared on TV's, declaring their early victory by saying that “ There will be no guerrillas anymore, since for us, all of their bases become like those in the Big Brother Show!”

It has been ten years that we have been encountering such statements again and again, just as how the interior minister of Turkish state was yelling day and night on the TV's during the early days of this year: “By the April of 2017, no one will mention about PKK since it will be totally ceased.” However, even though now we cannot see him on TV's anymore, that childish excitement of the minister, which was actually reflecting his blindness to a lesson from what history brought so far, was meaning more than a simple fascist propaganda. Because above all, he was giving those statements by the confidence arising from the fascist state's concept of total war together with “the state of emergency” which has been terrorizing the country over than a year. Secondly, along with those US herons and predators which have been flying above the lands of Kurdistan, keeping on helping the Turkish jets to spread death over the peoples since 2007, now it has been 2 years that Erdoğan is having also its own 'play-station': the SİHA's. SİHA is an armed air vehicle which is technically equal to the US predators. These so called 'national predators' are produced by the company Bayraktar, which is owned by the family of Erdoğan's groom. That is to say, what lays behind all those fascist bullshits of praising the 'national success' of the Turkish State now, is nothing more than the oligarchic dreams of these relative families of Erdoğan and Bayraktar through maximizing their profits from the blood of Kurdish people. Since not surprisingly, their toys of massacre have been

tested through the murders along with a continuous fascist propaganda of the mainstream press which is totally controlled by Erdoğan. The last example that we encountered in Hakkari/North Kurdistan, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. After those SİHA's murdered a group of civilian villagers, Erdoğan and his lackeys declared them as terrorists and calling the 'national spirit' of the country to take their side with them against the Kurdish liberation movement. Another old brand statements that has been repeating itself over years and years...

Now apart from the continuous crimes of the fascist Turkish State accompanied with creating its own oligarchical family structures through its 'national predators', what we have been seeing throughout these ten years is nothing other than the failure of Erdoğan's attempts to overcome the will of the Kurdish and the communist guerrillas. The truth is that, against all strategical and tactical technologies being developed by those dirty capital interests, the guerrilla movements have always managed to renew and develop themselves together with extending their presence over the country more and more. Those who were declaring the defeat of PKK ten years ago are now mobilizing all their technical, economical and military forces to overcome also for the communist guerrillas carrying out their fight among the mountains to the cities under their united organisation of HBDH (Peoples' United Revolution Movement). No matter how the fascist state tries to suppress the will of freedom through the violent rules of state of emergency or to siege the guerrilla from above and below at the cost of million dollars taken from the laborers, the armed struggle keeps on hitting the fascist state and causing them to leave their emplacements one by one.