

# Civilian areas are targeted by Turkey and Iran



The Turkish and Iranian armies are constantly bombarding Southern Kurdistan. The Iranian army have started to gain positions by moving 3 km into Southern Kurdistan. In the last month, 3 civilians including a child, have lost their lives. To date, more than 10 civilians have been wounded since the beginning of bombardments by Turkish and Iranian armies. Moreover, many homes, fields and gardens have been targeted during the bombardment and around 350 families have been forced to leave their homes. Below is the current balance sheet of the border line bombardments.

## BORDER LINE STATEMENT

### IRANIAN ASSAULTS

- ✚ On 9th May, 5 captives (4 from PJAK) have been executed by the Iranian regime. 7 political captives convicted in charges in relation to the PJAK and the PKK have been executed since 2007 in Iran. 18 Kurdish political captives are awaiting execution, 4 of whom have disappeared.
- ✚ Kurds went on a general strike on 13 May in Eastern Kurdistan in order to protest the executions.
- ✚ Gule Abdullah (53) of Meredu and 3 other people have lost their lives as a result of the Iranian bombardment of Rezger, Mereduve and Sinawe villages in Jarawe of Pisder district on 15 May.
- ✚ The Iranian army have progressed 3 km across the border into Southern Kurdistan.
- ✚ A peshmerge spokesperson reported that on 3 June that Iranian soldiers progressed 2 kilometres across the border, established military headquarters and gained positions.
- ✚ Military deployments continue to the border and beyond.

✚ The alliance of the Iranian Regime with Turkey has brought a new dimension in the assaults against the Kurds. While the military deployment continues, villages have been the main targets in the last few weeks. The bombardments has been almost continuous especially since 10 May.

✚ In the last few weeks, 350 families had to leave their homes and emigrate. Although Iran's stated rationale for the assault is the PJAK guerrillas, the assaults on civilian areas does not support Iran's justification.

✚ Iranian regimes have bombarded at least 20 villages in the Sidekan and Coman areas. 2 houses in the Eze village on the outskirts of Kandil have been hit.

✚ Suzan Cebbar Xelil (13), who was working in a field in Berdenaze area of haci Umran, lost her life during an air assault on 29 May.

✚ Smugglers on the border have also been targeted by the Iranian regime. According to ANF records, the Iranian regime has massacred 30 smugglers on the border since early this year. It is believed that the real figures are even higher.

✚ At least 53 smugglers have been murdered by Turkish and Iranian soldiers between July and December in 2009. 52 smugglers have been murdered by Iranian soldiers and 1 by Turkish soldiers in September 2009.

✚ This year, the Iranian assaults on the border were commenced much later than the Turkish assaults.

#### ✚ Turkish Assaults

✚ Parallel to the Iranian assaults, at least 1 civilian lost his life and 6 have been wounded during the Turkish assaults since 10 May.

✚ A house in Benistan village in Duhok district of Seladize, has been hit by a howitzer during an assault from Cukurca to Southern Kurdistan. Home owner Rekan Huseyin Rekani has lost his life. His wife and 3 children named Bihar, Hesên and Huseyn, aged between 4 and 9, have been wounded. Their next door neighbour, Kerim Sekir, had been wounded as well.

✚ Yekmale village in Xabur was hit on 15 May during an uninterrupted and intense assault by the Turkish army. A villager named Izbat Temel was wounded in this assault.

✚ According to the statement given by the HPG in May, the Turkish army has perpetrated 25 land operations, 2 air assaults, and 71 howitzer and mortar assaults. Haftanin has been hit by howitzer and mortars 35 times, while Zap 17, and Zagros and Hakkari 4 times.

✚ During the first four months, the Turkish army perpetrated 22 operations as well as 87 bombardments in winter conditions. In this way, during the first 5 months of the year, the Turkish army bombarded all the land in Southern Kurdistan, apart from Hakkari, a total of 187 times with howitzer and mortars. Even before the year was over, the number of assaults have reached the level of those perpetrated last year.

✚ A total of 273 operations against the HPG took place in 2009. 262 of these operations were conducted between April to December 2009, when the HPG ceasefire decision had been in place. Moreover, 168 mortar and howitzer assaults took place last year. 145 of these assaults were conducted during the period of the HPG's military inaction.