



TURKISH STATE ATTACKS ON WOMEN WHO DEFEATED ISIS



In 2024 six YPJ fighters were martyred in drone attacks by the Turkish state

In this brochure, we want to shed light on the lives of the YPJ fighters and commanders who were martyred in the year 2024 in assassinations by the Turkish state.

- *In total 16 YPJ fighters were martyred in the year 2024 in attacks by the Turkish state or its mercenary army.*
- *As a result of the war for Qereqozak Bridge, Deir Hafir and Tishreen Dam eight YPJ fighters were martyred*
- *Assassination with drones is one of several methods of Turkey's special warfare against North and East Syria.*

The revolution in Rojava /North and East Syria (NES) is entering its 13th year of existence, driven by the pioneering role of the Women's Protection Units, which have taken a heavy burden on them in order to protect the peoples of the region. The YPJ has resisted all occupying forces and militias, and became a source of inspiration and great strength for women around the world to stand up against all kinds of attacks.

In 2024, significant progress has been made in ideological and political as well as in military terms. The fight against ISIS did not only improve the security of the peoples of North and East Syria, but contributed to protecting the entire globe from ISIS. Concerning ISIS, the prisoners and families in Al-Hol camp remain the biggest threat at a time when ISIS is trying to rebuild itself, supported by clandestine help from outside. As an answer to this, 2024 saw the 3rd operation "Humanity and Security" and the operation "Enduring Security" in al-Hol camp, setting a major blow to ISIS. Besides making important progress in the military field 2024 also saw meaningful work carried out in the ideological field. The 4th YPJ conference, the inauguration of the Central Headquarter of Women's Defense and the 2nd "Forum for Women & Protection in the Middle East" took place.

Nonetheless, warfare remains a constant reality in North and East Syria. The occupying Turkish state, who bases its



- *In 2020, the Turkish state began targeting fighters, commanders, and people by drones.*
- *The Turkish state drone technology is leading worldwide with exports increasing. It uses its drone technology mostly in the war against North and East Syria and Kurdistan.*

nationalism on the extinction of the Kurdish people and the revolution, has seen the revolution from its beginning as a threat to itself, thus carrying out numerous attacks in order to obstruct and weaken the revolution from progressing. According to international law the attacks of the Turkish state amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes, as Turkey is pursuing these attacks on a monthly basis and outside of a declared war.

Feeling particularly threatened by the fact that this is a women's revolution in its truest sense, the Turkish state has been especially targeting women as leaders of this revolution. The courage, sacrifice, and hard work of the past 12 years have been made to protect women worldwide and humanity itself. The fighters and commanders of YPJ are not simply in their skills of warfare but also due to their ideological and political stance an example for all women to struggle against the consciousness of the dominant men, capitalist and hegemonic forces on multiple fronts. In this regard, targeting YPJ fighters and commanders does not mean to simply target the military defense of North and East Syria, the protection of the people, but the revolution as a whole.

YPJ fighters assassinated 2021-2024

*Sorxwîn Rojhilat
Azadî Derik
Sorxwîn Celal
Hêvî Umud
Tolîn Pelşîn
Jinda Cudî
Berçem Kobanê*

*Cûdî Egîd
Mezra Botan
Roşna Egîd
Şervîn Serdar
Nûcan Ocalan
Canda Cûdî
Dilar Heleb*

*Ronahî Kobanê
Kobanî
Mizgîn Botan
Jiyan Tolhildan
Roj Xabûr
Barîn Botan
Sosin Bîrhat*



January

Turkish drones strike civil infrastructure all over North and East Syria, including oil refineries, power stations, food silos and food production facilities. 2 mil. people are temporarily without electricity. (see picture below)

Targeting civilians and civil infrastructure is a war crime. As part of its overall warfare strategy, Turkey's attacks put the brunt on civilians, seeking to sow discord.

11 February

A Turkish drone hits two YPJ commanders at the centre of the Federation of the War-Disabled in Qamishlo.

Only days later, on 15th February the people mourn the day of imprisonment of Abdullah Öcalan.

One method of special warfare is the psychological strategy of bringing days of collective trauma once again into the presence.

3 April

A Turkish drone strikes a YPJ commander.

This attack happens a day before 4th April - the day of the foundation of YPJ and the birthday of Abdullah Öcalan.

This psychological warfare equally means attacking on days of celebration, instilling fear into the people to prevent gatherings.

SPECIAL WARFARE



SORXWÎN ROJHILAT

YPJ Commander

Birth name: Fatma Sakan

Date and place of martyrdom:

11.02.2024 - Center of the
Federation of War-Disabled,
Qamishlo



With the support of the Turkish state who became complicit in the plans to eradicate the people of the revolution in North and East Syria, ISIS began attacking the city of Kobani in 2014. The YPJ commander Sorxwîn Rojhilat joined the fight against ISIS as a commander with great courage, being a skillful soldier. The women's struggle in Kobani was able to stop the barbarian militias and thus ending ISIS' chain of success. Alongside martyrs such as Arin Mirkan and hundreds more, Sorxwîn Rojhilat made herself a name in the historical resistance in Kobani, in which internationalists from

all over the world took part. Despite her heavy injury in which she partially lost her sight, she dedicated herself to work for the revolution in North and East Syria. She took the slogan of Abdullah Öcalan "The wounded veterans are those martyrs that did not die" as her foundation and served as one commander of the "Federation of the War-Disabled of North and East Syria". Having gained so much experience in the ideological, military and political field, she was able to give a lot of strength and morale to other war veterans.



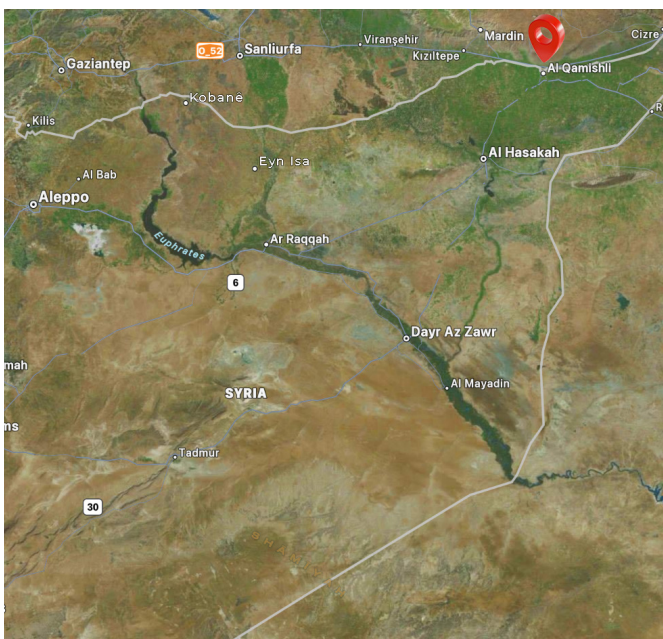
AZADÎ DÊRIK

YPJ Commander

Birth name: Emîne Seyîd
Ehmed

Date and place of martyrdom:
11.02.2024 - Center of the
Federation of War-Disabled,
Qamishlo

Azadî Dêrik was a militant and warm-hearted woman. Azadî never saw formal school education but taught herself to read and write in order to deepen her understanding of the philosophy of Abdullah Öcalan. She always strove to educate her friends around her as she came to the conclusion that without educating and enlightening women, freedom would definitely not be achieved. She took her place as a leader



in various health structures and, although she was not a war wounded herself, was working in the “Federation of the War-Disabled North and East Syria”. As a result of Turkish state hostility, she reached martyrdom alongside her comrade Sorxwin Rojhilat in Qamishlo on 11th February 2024, when a drone hit both of them in the drive-way of the center of the “Federation of the War-Disabled North and East Syria”.



YPJ Commander

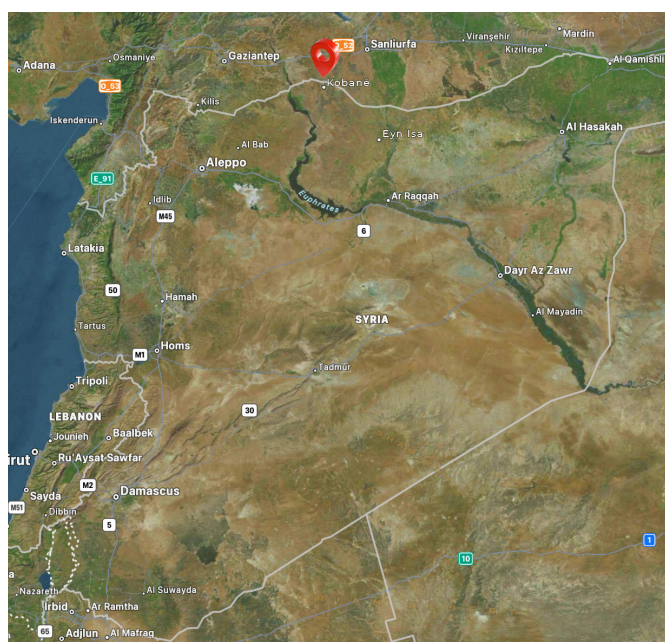
Birth name: Vahîde Atalay
Date and place of martyrdom:
03.04.2024 - Kobane

SORXWÎN CELAL



In the city of Kobani, at a time when the brutality of ISIS had reached a peak, our comrade Sorxwîn Celal joined the resistance. In the different phases of the fight against ISIS, from the battles of Til Berak and Til Hemis to the battles in Heseke and Serekaniye, Sorxwîn always took her place at the frontline. She turned herself into a living shield in order to protect the values of the people. She was not spared physically

in battle, also losing the sight of one eye and becoming a wounded veteran. Until her last drop of blood Sorxwîn dedicated her life to the struggle for freedom. She was martyred on 3rd April in Kobani as a result of an airstrike by the occupying and fascist Turkish state, thus being martyred not only in the city where her fight began but also a day before the anniversary of the foundation of YPJ.



3 October

A Turkish drone hits a YPJ commander in her car on the highway near Amude.

The attack happens close to 9th October, the same day Abdullah Öcalan in 1998 was forced to leave Syria.

Shortly after, Turkey begins bombing vital infrastructure in the whole of North and East Syria, killing several civilians. The majority of whom were workers.

10 October

A Turkish drone hits a YPJ commander in her car. She was visiting the ceremony of the anniversary of the liberation of Shengal.

The liberation of Shengal from ISIS was a milestone to end the Yazidi genocide, in which thousands of Yazidis were brutally murdered or enslaved. Around 2.700 women are still dissappeared, their whereabouts are unclear.

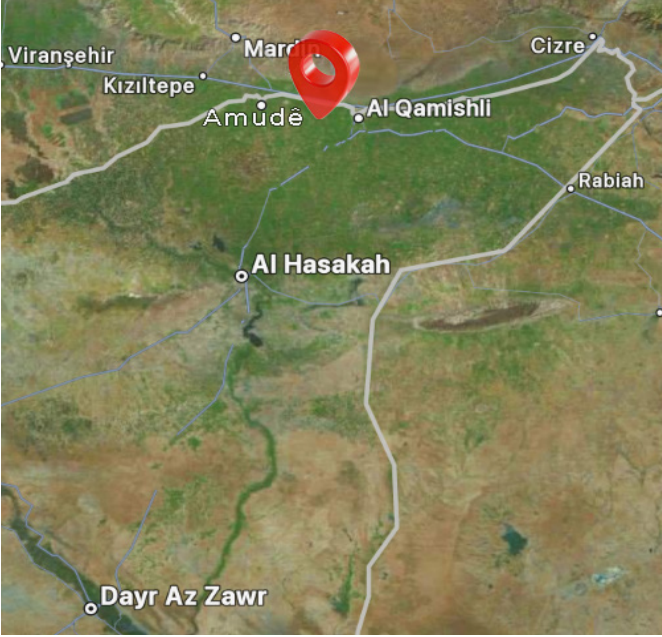
23 October

On 23rd, 24th and 25th Turkish drones hit civil infrastructure all over North-East Syria. (Image below)

Over 30 vital facilities were struck and destroyed, including oil stations, gas refineries, electricity stations, a sewing factory, several food silos, a dairy factory, several construction factories, and several medical facilities.

SPECIAL WARFARE





JÎNDA CUDÎ

YPJ
Commander

Birth name: Xezal Belge

Date and place of
martyrdom: 03.10.2024 -
Highway Amûdê-Qamişlo

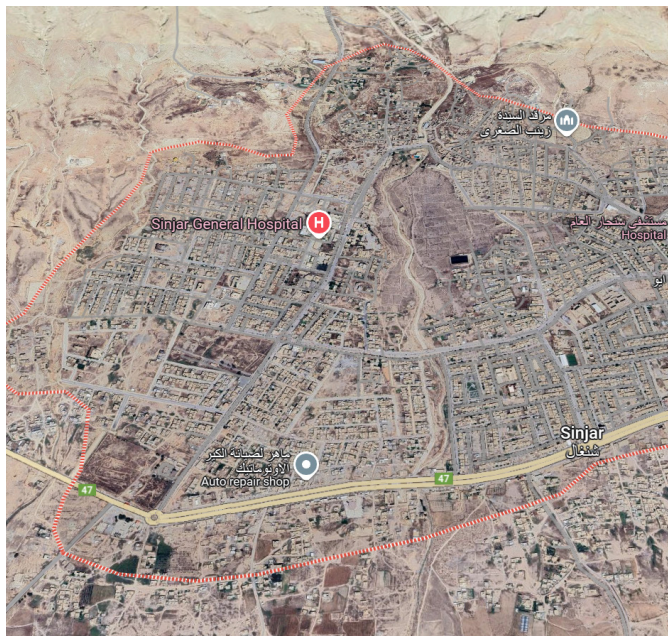
Jînda Cudî joined the Kurdistan Freedom Movement in 2003. When ISIS militias were brutally slaughtering the peoples of North and East Syria and implementing jihadist rule and Salafi mentality throughout the Middle East, Jinda followed the call of Abdullah Öcalan and went to Rojava to join the ranks of YPJ.

She took her place as a commander in the battles against ISIS in the



cities of Jazeera, Rebiaa, Mabrouka, Til Kocher, Serekaniye and Al-Hol and played a key role in the struggle against the militias. Despite being heavily injured, she continued waging a great struggle for building up a democratic nation and fighting for the success of the revolution. On 3rd October, Jînda Cudî was targeted by a drone of the fascist Turkish state and joined the convoys of immortals.





HÊVÎ UMUD

YPJ
Commander

Birth name: Sediye Ehmed

Date and place of martyrdom:
10.11.2024 - Shengal

Like many other women Hêvî Umud joined the Kurdistan Freedom Movement shortly after the international conspiracy to imprison Abdullah Öcalan in 1999 which aimed at liquidating the movement. She went to the mountains of Kurdistan to strengthen the movement in a time of big change. With the experiences she made there, Hêvî was an outstanding fighter and played a magnificent role



in fighting ISIS. As a female commander she knew the techniques of war well and with her humble personality took a place in the heart of every friend. On 10th November, Hêvî Umud was targeted by the occupying Turkish state when she took part in the ceremony marking the anniversary of Shengal's liberation and reached the level of martyrdom.



BERÇEM KOBANÊ

YPJ
Fighter

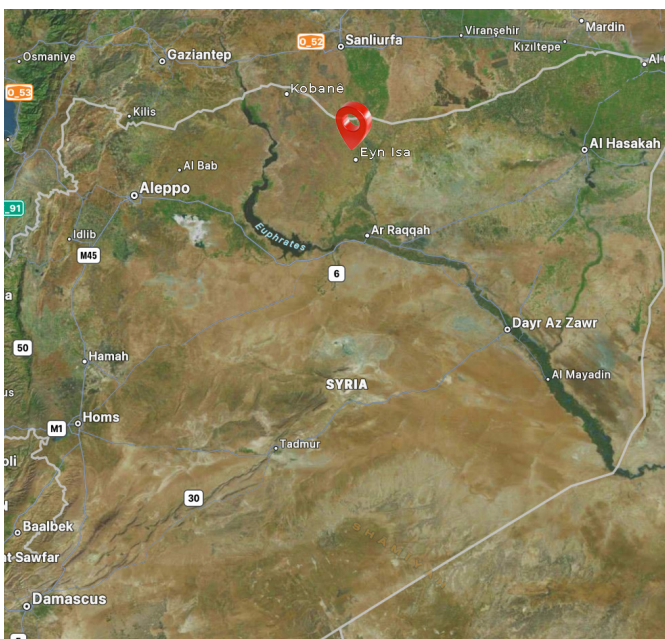
Birth name:

Zeyneb Mihemed

Date and place of martyrdom:

01.12.2024 - Ayn Issa

Young women who have grown up fighting against the policies of occupation, denial and elimination, saw a historic opportunity with the emergence of the revolution in North and East Syria. Women were able to seek revenge against colonialist and occupying forces. Our comrade Berçem Kobane was one of those young women who did not bow her head against those who wanted to condemn the peoples of North and East Syria to displacement, misery and war. Instead she united her heart with



the revolution. By joining the women's youth organisation, she trained and organized hundreds of young people. Having gained experience in the organization of 'Young Women' she joined YPJ. Despite her young age, she had a leading role and mission on the battlefield and in life, waging war on all fronts. The occupying Turkish state, whose greatest fear is the power of women, saw an opportunity for itself and carried out an airstrike on 1st January. Our comrade Berçem Kobane reached the level of martyrdom in this attack.





We have experienced a year filled with significant events, including the conflicts of the Third World War. Amidst all this, there has been widespread resistance by the people. Throughout the year, the people of North and East Syria and the Defense Forces demonstrated once again the resolve of our people against all forms of colonialist and genocidal attacks, reaffirming their determination to live freely and equally. Each year is welcomed with hopes for peace, calm, and love. However, the occupation forces attempt to suppress these hopes with their inhumane violations. As the Women's Protection Units (YPJ), we resist all threats that prevent women and communities from living freely across all domains. We are engaged in a struggle for existence. Recent events in the region have marked the beginning of a new phase, especially for women and the people. This phase has intensified political and social crises in the region. We are in a challenging time where people are subjected to physical torture and psychological pressure because of their cultural identities and religious beliefs and are killed in brutal ways. What sustains communities is their cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity. Communities such as Alawites, Christians, and Druze face annihilation. Similarly, our region in northeastern Syria is targeted by planned attacks aiming at occupation and extermination.

In response to these violations and policies targeting nations, cultures, and beliefs, protecting social values becomes our primary mission. In the new Syria, the rights and safety of all cultural, religious, and national identities must be legally guaranteed. Women and communities must live in safety and freedom. Therefore, the need to defend and protect themselves is greater than ever.

In the new Syria, all women's rights — practiced concretely in the regions of the autonomous administration — must be institutionalized. Gender equality, fair representation in shared governance systems, and social alliances must be foundational. Through this approach, Syria can become a democratic and vibrant model for the Middle East.

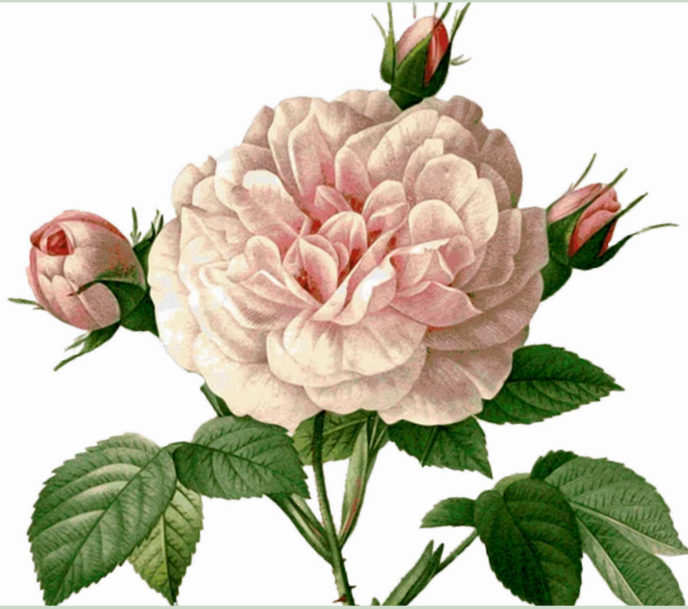
The Women's Protection Units (YPJ) welcome the year 2025 at the frontlines of resistance to protect the achievements of the revolution. Similarly, our brave people stand unwaveringly beside their sons and daughters.

At the start of every new year, we see renewed hopes. With the hope that 2025 will be a year of peace, freedom, and democracy for all the peoples of Syria, we commemorate all the martyrs of freedom through the legacy of Martyrs Ronahî, Arjîn, Yıldız, and Avaşîn. We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to following the path of the righteous martyrs. As YPJ, we extend our greetings for the new year, first and foremost to the architects of free life, Leader Apo, all the women of the world, our people, our comrades currently resisting on the frontlines, and all the families of the martyrs.

General Command of the Women's Protection Units (YPJ)

31.12.2024





"It's not just about using weapons, it's about standing up for one's rights, one's identity, for everything that belongs to a human being. We try to create this awareness: an attack on one woman is an attack on all women. With this in mind, women need to organize themselves. When unity and fellowship is created, we all become stronger." - YPJ Commander Newroz Ehmed

Follow Our Work



YPJ Information &
Documentation
Office

Email: contact@ypj-info.org

Web: www.ypj-info.org

X: @YPJ_Info

Bluesky: @ypj.bsky.social

Telegram: t.me/YPJ_Info