



WAR STATISTICS 2018

The Third World War that is carried out on the ancient land of Mesopotamia, continued its brutality in the year of 2018. The international powers who want to impose their dominion in all parts of the world, aiming to prolong the time of their system with war, crisis and chaos. The oppressive forces and those who are interested in keeping the Status Quo alive are even going further. They try to make the people swallow the crisis but the people are organizing and using their right of legitimate self-defense.

Without doubt Syria became the center of this war and chaos in the last years. Millions of people were forced to leave their homes, tens of refugees camps have been built and thousands of people lost their life in this war. Dozens of cities have been destroyed; people have been displaced from their villages, districts and towns. The year of 2018 has been a year of struggle and resistance for the Kurdish people and all people in Syria. Knowing that they need to defend their land and their existence, our people and all our forces carried out an incomparable struggle in all areas of Northern Syria.

As Women's Defense Units YPJ we took the responsibility of defending all women and people also in this year. In the Berxwedana Serdemê military campaign (English: "Resistance of the Age"), our forces were giving answers to the occupational attacks of the Turkish state with great willpower, courage and huge commitment. The defiant attitude of our fighters became the order of the year. With the martyrdom of comrades like Avesta, Barîn, Rosyar, Îlan, Polat and Karker in the Berxwedana Serdemê resistance, 2018 became an important year in our history of resistance.

Next to the Berxwedana Serdemê military campaign that continues until today with various forms of action, we also started the Operation Cizire Storm this year. We understood the call of our people as a command and despite heavy attacks this operation is advancing. Although being a year full of war, 2018 was a year in which we as YPJ have made important steps. Although we were fighting without any break against Islamist mercenaries and occupation, we completed tens of academies – both ideological and military. Understanding their duty, every fighter moved toward the battle fields. Dozens of educational programs prepared new fighters, among them Turkmen, Kurds, Arabs and internationalist comrades. The number of women joining YPJ increased.

The most important step was to create autonomous brigades and battalions. This step was a product of years of effort and attempts in which YPJ built itself as a women's army. Today in most of our resistance areas, there are autonomous women's units, battalions and brigades. Next to the works with YPG, the YPJ is organized in all areas in an autonomous way. With this form of organizing we left another year of struggle and resistance behind us and could counteract many intentions and plans of the occupying forces.



Balance of the year 2018

1. The YPJ took a vanguard role in the 2 months of the Berxwedana Serdemê military campaign as well as in the second phase that is continuing until today. The YPJ forces participated with great courage in all their actions. On this basis;

- ▶ 900 actions were carried out against the occupation forces in the war that continued for 58 days.
- ▶ 1098 airforce attacks were done by the occupation forces.
- ▶ In the war 2422 soldiers and mercenaries of the Turkish State got killed.
- ▶ In the 2nd phase of the Berxwedana Serdemê military campaign 147 different actions were carried out.
- ▶ As a result of those actions 350 mercenaries and soldiers of the Turkish state have been killed. The YPJ participated in these actions in an active way.

2. The Operation Cizire Storm started with the vanguard of SDF and YPJ fighters. Dozens of villages, districts and towns have been liberated. The districts of Xeranîç, the town of El Behra, the village Baghuz, the village Deşîşa, the oil fields of El Ezraq, El Malêh and dozens of small areas belonging to Dêrezorê were liberated from the hands of the Islamic State. Also thousands of civilians were liberated. On this basis;

- ▶ 4214 Islamic State mercenaries got killed in this operation.
- ▶ Positions of the Islamic State were attacked, 135 times with heavy weapons. The YPJ was involved in an active way in all fighting and battles.
- ▶ In both of those operations, the Berxwedana Serdemê military campaign and the Operation Cizire Storm 6986 Islamic State mercenaries and soldiers of the Turkish Army have been killed.

3. Next to the participation of wars and operations, YPJ also made steps in the field of education. One of the most important works in this year, was the works of education. The YPJ was active in all academies – ideological ones, military ones and the ones teaching military branches. Dozens of YPJ fighters also took part in mixed-gender academies, where preparations for autonomous projects for women have been made. Hundreds of YPJ fighters have been educated in terms of ideological and military academies as well as in professional academies of military branches. This is why



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- ▶ In the ideological, military and branches academies 635 fighters have received education and were sent to work after their graduation.

4. Recruitment has been done in a widespread and organized way. In all Northern Syria new fighters joined the ranks of YPJ. In this year hundreds of fighters from Arabic, Kurdish, Turkmen background as well as internationalist volunteers came to join the YPJ forces. In the Martyr Sadiq and Martyr Nejbir academies, dozens of educational programs have been educating new fighters and from there were sent into their work. On this basis

- ▶ The Martyr Nejbir Academy educated new fighters in eight educational terms of 40 fighters, which leads to a total number of 320 fighters.
- ▶ The Martyr Sadiq Academy had 66 fighters educated in 3 different autonomous women educational programs.
- ▶ 178 YPJ fighters graduated from 13 mixed-gender educational programs of the Martyr Sadiq Academy.
- ▶ At the Martyr Rojda Minbic Academy for Arabic fighters in the Euphrates region, 5 autonomous women's educational programs have been done, from which 150 fighters graduated.

5. One of the most important steps was the creation of autonomous brigades. This year the YPJ organized itself autonomously, next to the gender-mixed projects. Such as

- ▶ Two autonomous brigades with the names of Martyr Viyan Kobane and Martyr Zilan Cudi were created.
- ▶ An autonomous battalion with the name of Martyr Hebung Erab has been created in Tabqa.
- ▶ An autonomous battalion with the name of Amargi Tolhildan has been created in Raqqqa.



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6. In this year, dozens of YPJ fighters took an active place in the frontlines of heaviest fighting. In those fighting and other areas in which YPJ fighters took part, 149 comrades were martyred.

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The forces of our Women's Defense Units are organizing themselves on their heritage and are preparing themselves on an ideological and military level. Next to all the difficulties that we were facing, we made this year a year of high commitment, struggle and resistance. The YPJ with all its fighters and commanders emerged from their duty to defend the revolution in Northern Syria and all the women. Especially in Afrin, but also in all other areas we will fight and resist until victory and protect our people and land against the threats of the attacks of the occupiers.

As much as the past 7 years brought major achievements in which we created an unique resistance we will bring long-lasting victories in the year of 2019. As YPJ we won't fight in the same way we have done before. Not just our war tactics but also our lives won't be like they were before. We will oppose the occupying forces in a new way and with new tactics and once again we renew our pledge to our martyrs and our people that we will fight until the end, until we have built a free future, making the slogan "resistance in life" to our basis. With this in mind and the belief of victory, we wish our people and all women a successful new year.

YPJ General Command