

Displacement Movement in Northern Syria

From 20/9/2015 Until 20/10/2015

Introduction

After the liberation of Idleb Governorate by armed opposition and its progress towards Al Ghab Valley, Russian forces received an authorization from Kremlin to spread military troops and use warplanes in Syria under the pretext of fighting terrorism in Syria.

In mid-September 2015, Russian airplanes started surveillance rounds over the out of regime control areas. The first air strike was carried out on **September, 30, 2015**. Russian forces targeted Al Latmana Village and some residential buildings there; this village is located in Kafar Zeita Sub-district in Hama Governorate. Taking into consideration that this area is under the control of moderate opposition that was trained by Europe and USA and now this opposition is supported and supplied with weapons by them as well. Russian airstrikes aimed to support regime's army on the ground. Syrian regime has started to move forward the liberated areas of Hama Governorate under the aerial protection of the Russians.

Two weeks have passed and the regime proved his failure on the ground. Thereupon, the Syrian opposition could retrieve every village the regime took control of with Russians help in just few hours. Russian forces stated that their aerial operations are in a deadlock for two reasons: firstly, the regime ground forces are totally collapsed; secondly, there is no coordination between the airstrikes of the Russians and regime land forces.

Syrian Regime has tried to go forward the areas out of his control in Aleppo Governorate, after his failure to control liberated countryside of Hama Governorate. The Syrian Regime hit northern countryside of Aleppo Governorate that is controlled by moderate opposition. As well as, Syrian Regime has committed several massacres against the civilians there.

It is important to mention that Russian Forces were absent during ISIL progress in Rural Aleppo and taking control of Telsosin, Telqraq and Fafin villages, Juvenile prison and Infantry School on October, 9, 2015. Although the only reason for Russian intervention in Syria is to fight Islamic State.

Russian air forces tried to help Syrian Regime to progress in Southern Countryside of Aleppo Governorate in order to control and open the Aleppo-Damascus highway. Syrian Regime took control of Wdeihi, Alsabikiya and Abtin villages and tried to move forward from the side of Ballas Village. As well as, Russian forces shelled locations that are under the control of moderate opposition where ISIL forces do not exist at all. Zarbah and Iss villages were under the attack of Russian airplanes too, in an attempt to help Syrian Regime to take control over those villages, and most likely the regime will try to control Saraqab and Ma'arrat An Nu'man in Idleb Governorate in the near future.

One hundred and two opposition controlled locations were shelled by Russian air forces, per contra only **ten** ISIL controlled locations were targeted by Russians. Civilians were the most affected party in out of regime-controlled areas targeted by Russian air forces and most air strikes were directed on civilian areas and hospitals. The regime progress on ground has also affected badly on civilians in areas of engagement.

Displacement Flows

Displacement movements have started from the areas that are out of regime control in Hama Governorate specifically from Kafar Zeita and Madiq Castle sub-districts. Although previously Madiq Castle sub-district contained big number of IDPs from neighboring areas. Till the moment of writing this report, more than 20,000 families left liberated countryside of Hama Governorate, as well as, the displacement flow has increased with intensified bombardment on Idleb Governorate. Assistance Coordination Unit enumerators have recorded 16,432 IDPs who were displaced from Idleb Countryside, and 107,470 IDPs in Rural Aleppo Governorate. This massive displacement flows started after the new Russian plans to shell new areas in the North.

Displacement during September



24,623 Families

127,172 Individuals

7,771 Counted Families

44,094 IDPs with Specified Needs

Families Distribution



Open Air

159



Random Camps

252



Collective Shelters

3,224



Hosting Families

1,816



Rented Accommodations

1,798



Northern Syria Camps

1,665

The following figures show the displacement locations in Idleb and Aleppo governorates.

Figure: Displaced Families in Aleppo Governorate

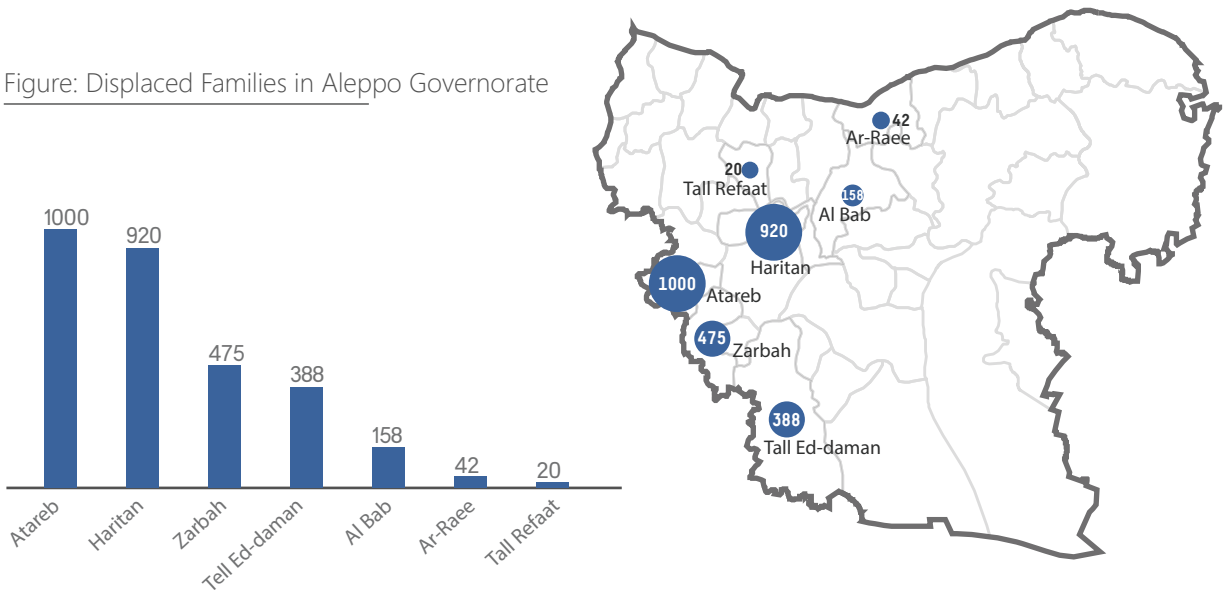


Figure: Displaced Families in Idleb Governorate

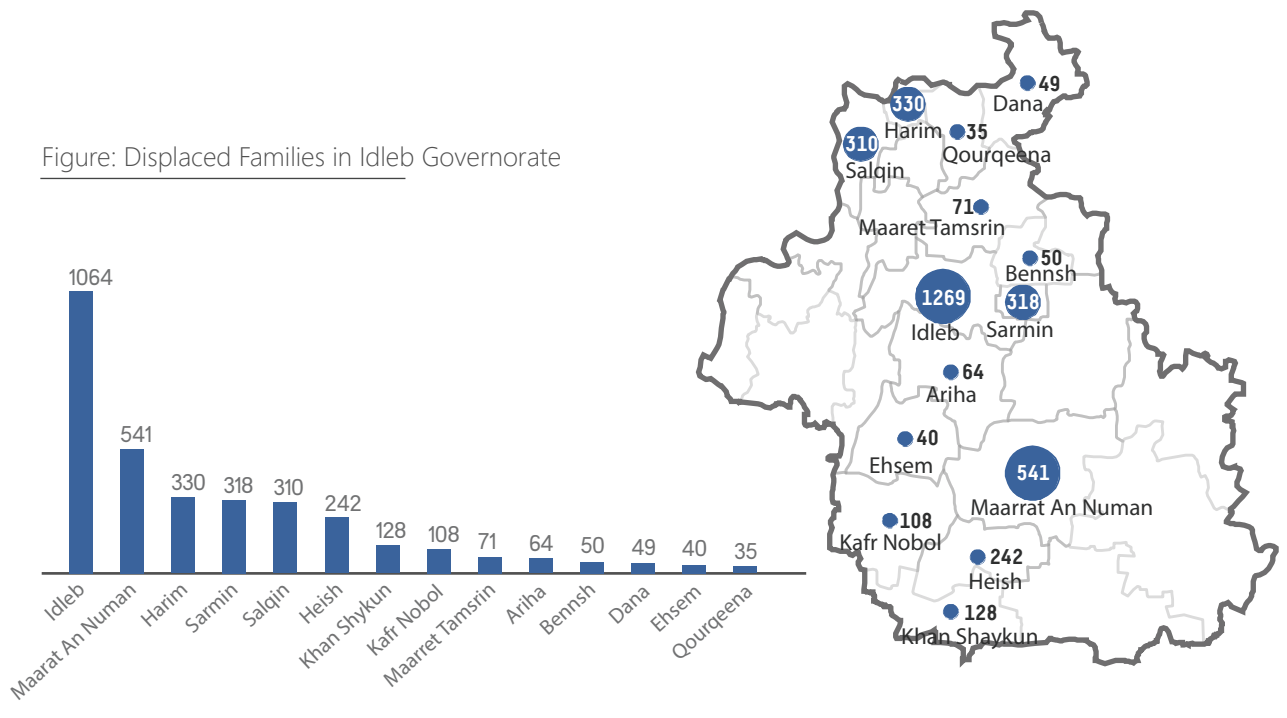
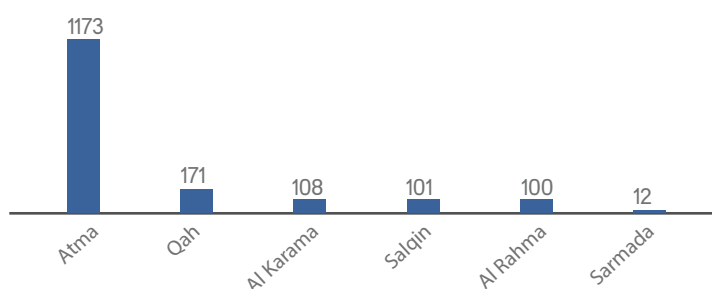


Figure: Number of Families That Arrived to Idleb Camps Last Month



The whole Syrian North is under the Russian bombardment by now; this caused additional displacement flows. The ACU enumerators could not count all IDPs, mainly because of the absence of humanitarian organizations and the struggle of recording the IDPs, how did not settle yet with the absence of safe places, and another part of IDPs were hosted by their relatives so it is hard to count all of them.

Basic IDPs' Requirements

The military changes on the ground caused continuous displacement movements. Therefore, the basic requirements for IDPs include:

- 1-Mobile clinics to accompany IDPs and to minimize the danger of damaged hospitals that are targeted all the time by airplanes.
- 2-Mobile kitchens to provide food for IDPs because most of them left their homes empty-handed.
- 3-Water tankers to deliver water for IDPs.
- 4-Providing bread for IDPs through nearby bakeries.



Food Baskets
24,623



Hygiene Kits
24,623



Blankets
98,492



Kitchen Baskets
24,623



Mattresses
24,623



Tent Rain Insulators
1,824



Tents for recorded IDPs by ACU
1,824

Displacement percentage may increase in the few upcoming days to reach 100% of Southern Aleppo Countryside, Southern Idleb Countryside and Rural Hama population that is more than 350,000 IDPs. Therefore, it is important to set up an urgent response plan especially with the advent of winter season.

Displacement Movement in Northern Syria During October 2015

