



Field Situation in Ain Al Arab City (KOBANY)

October 2014



وحدة تنسيق الدعم
ASSISTANCE COORDINATION UNIT

Field Situation in Ain Al Arab City (Kobany):

Ain Al Arab (Kobany) city with Kurdish majority is located on the Syrian-Turkish border in Aleppo governorate. Fifty four (54) villages and residential communities belong to this city according to the administrative division of United Nations.

In 2011, the total number of Ain Al Arab sub-district population reached seventy thousand (70,000) people.

Due to the intensification of clashes in Northern areas of Syria and the fact that Ain Al Arab sub-district had been a relatively quiet area, a lot of people had been displaced to Ain Al Arab sub-district and the villages surrounding it during the Syrian crisis, therefore the population of the sub-district reached three hundred thousand (300,000) people.

Islamic State in Iraq and Levant (ISIL) forces started approaching Ain Al Arab city in September 20, 2014 and controlled its eastern countryside and Maktala village. This village is considered strategic due to its location on the crossroad of Joban and Tel Abyad that leads to Ain Al Arab sub-district. Regarding the western countryside Alshuyukh and Jarablus crossroad was under their control too, this crossroad that leads to Ain Al Arab, Alizaa area was also controlled. Therefore, Ain Al Arab sub-district was besieged completely from east and west sides. ISIL forces controlled Barkal mountain in the south side of Ain Al Arab which separates Sarin plain and Ain Al Arab sub-district. Thus, all access roads and supply routes were cut off to Ain Al Arab sub-district from Syrian lands, except one supply route which is the Turkish cross border Murshit Pinar.

Massive displacement wave started towards Turkish lands, after ISIL forces had entered Ain Al Arab sub-district. About two hundred thousand (200,000) people were displaced and hosted by Turkish government as refugees in the second half of September. Some

Ain Al Arab sub-district location and the surrounding sub-districts

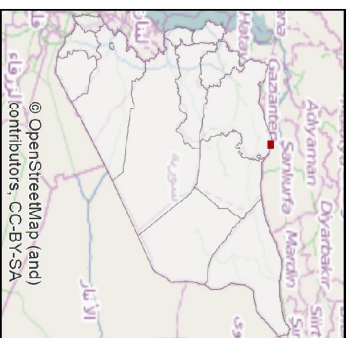
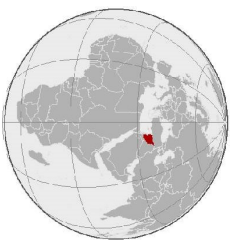


of them settled down in Turkish camps and the others returned to some Syrian areas with Kurdish population like Afrin, Ras Al Ain, Darbasiyah, and other areas.

To date, Ain Al Arab city has been totally devoid of its civilian population. ISIL forces have taken control of most neighborhoods of the city and they are proceeding towards Murshit Pinar Syrian – Turkish cross border.



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, iSatellite, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Controlling Forces in the field

- Mursit pinar Cross border
- City's neighborhoods recently controlled by (SIL)
- Remaining city neighborhoods under the control of PKK
- Syrian-Turkish borders