

Weekly Updates: The Siege of Deir ez-Zor is Lifted as the Army liberates 85% of Syrian Territory

By Maxim Nikolenko.

In the past week from September 4 to September 10, more triumphs were reported from the 'War on Terror' in Syria, while instability persists elsewhere, with 32 attacks resulting in 83 deaths across the destabilized countries of 'Global South'.

The silence in Western media on the day when the siege of Deir ez-Zor was broken is virtually unanimous. There is nothing to celebrate, indeed; tens of thousands of civilians have survived over 1000 days of a blockade which was unleashed on them by the medievalist fanatics of Daesh (ISIS). Who cares that this is a symbolic and strategic victory for Syrians, for their country's survival, and a possibility of a return of peaceful life!

In the end, the residents of Deir ez-Zor city are not the residents of eastern Aleppo, and their plight resembles voices of the "unworthy victims." They fought on the wrong side, and they were liberated by a wrong army.

On September 6, the day after the siege of Deir ez-Zor was lifted, the Western media suddenly focused its attention back on Syria, covering the Israeli air strike on a military site near the town of Masyaf. It was reported that the targeted site was linked to production of chemical weapons and missiles, a "smoking gun" which was previously presented in the West on numerous occasions, always without evidence to support, while routinely attempting to justify the persisting desires of establishments in Washington, London and Jerusalem to see a regime change in Syria.

No one dared to ask a question: how the Israeli jets can interfere into space of a sovereign country and bomb its facilities? In fact, at least 6 similar attacks against

the Syrian army have occurred since the start of 2017.

Perhaps, this is how Israel helps to fight terrorists...

The latest attack near Masyaf was successful at distracting the Western viewer from events in Deir ez-Zor. Meanwhile, according to the latest statement from the Russian Ministry of Defense, 85% of Syria is now under control of the government forces, a remarkable turnaround in the war which was predicted to last for decades.

Two years ago, the government maintained its authority of no more than a quarter of Syrian land, while housing up to 60% of country's population; that alone articulates the side on which a majority of Syrians chose to be. There is no solidarity, however, with that majority.

There was an international outcry when eastern Aleppo was liberated from the Islamist fanatics in December 2016. A "slaughterhouse" was the word which was used to describe the ordeal of civilians who were trapped inside the besieged city. In contrast, a virtual silence accompanied the siege of **at least** 93,000 civilians in Deir ez-Zor. Furthermore, it was **reported** by Sputnik on September 6, that no aid was offered by the European governments and international organizations to the residents of the city. Such practice of double standard is not a novelty, though the extent of its arrogance and hypocrisy still staggers the mind.

During the blockade, the supplies of essential goods were delivered to the city by air; now the humanitarian convoys of Damascus and the Russian government are reaching the city by roads, restoring life to the Syrian Stalingrad.

Vividly, the country is winning the war, a conflict which was imposed on its people, justified as collateral damage in the struggle for democracy and human rights. The real concerns, however, which caused the anti-government protests in Syria in 2011 had long been forgotten, reduced to irrelevance, overwhelmed by the CIA and the Gulf-sponsored Islamist syndicates, many of whom are coming to fight in Syria from abroad.

It is also clear that the West will not help the country to rebuild from war. Contrary to that, the victories of Damascus are seen by the Empire as unforgivable. Already, shortly after the blockade of Deir ez-Zor was lifted, the U.S-backed Kurdish rebels of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) had launched an offensive against Daesh in the countryside of Deir ez-Zor Province. The prime goal of this assault has virtually nothing to do with Daesh and has a lot do to with the interest of Washington and its client states, implementing their last attempt to balkanize Syria. For Kurdish nationalists of SDF, the offensive presents an opportunity to capture Deir ez-Zor's vast oil fields.

What would happen when SDF and the Syrian Arab Army finalize their operation against Daesh in the province is unknown. Nonetheless, in over 6 years of war, Syrians have never been closer to achieving peace and unity of their secular multinational state.

Other countries are less fortunate

Terrorist Attacks Across the Destabilized South

There is no peace in sight in neighboring Iraq. There, amidst that fact that Daesh has been ousted from Tal Afar and Mosul, the Iraqi army is far from achieving a conclusive victory. The vast territories of a Sunni-majority Anbar Governorate are still occupied by fanatics. War is continuing to consume lives. Civilian casualties are unknown; they are unreported. Away from the front lines, security in the country remains poor, incomparable to that in Syria. At least 9 terrorist incidents have occurred in Iraq between September 4 and September 10. Thirteen people have lost their lives. Though the number of fatalities was lower than in the prior week, the frequency of attacks is shocking.

In Afghanistan, at least 9 people died in 4 separate terrorist incidents. The perpetual war and American occupation are part of a daily reality for over 35 million people who call this country home.

The Islamists from Al Shabaab continued conducting attacks in Somalia and Kenya, with 16 and 4 people killed, respectively. Like Iraqis and Afghans, Somalis are living in a state of Perpetual War.

Since 2009, the region of northeastern Nigeria was also submerged into a state of perpetual violence. At least 21 people died in 4 separate terrorist incidents between September 4 and September 10.

Two UN 'peacekeepers' were killed when their convoy hit a mine in northern Kidal region of Mali. This country is also sliding into a potential state of perpetual War on Terror, recolonized by France, with instability justifying their presence.

Two separate attacks have resulted in 7 deaths across Pakistan.

At least 6 fatalities were reported from 5 separate incidents in Turkey.

Two fatalities were reported from two separate attacks in the Indian-occupied Kashmir. The residents of Jammu and Kashmir are living in a state of perpetual conflict.

3 policemen were shot dead in Peru, allegedly by the Marxist militants of Shining Path. The society of Peru had long suffered from the neoliberal policies of a right-wing government, with current President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, seeming to feel more at home in the U.S. than in his home country.

Concluding this report is a documentary film produced by the Russian-based ANNA News, depicting the last 3 days of the battle for Deir ez-Zor. The film crew of ANNA News accompanied the Tiger Forces unit of the Syrian Army, capturing a historic moment when the distance was broken between defense lines of Deir ez-Zor and Damascus; on the third day, September 5, the siege was lifted.