



# Headlines:

- Turkey says won't let Kurds 'Seize' Northern Syria
- Turkey's Erdogan to be 'Caliph' under Presidential System, Pro-AKP Columnist Claims
- Syria divides remain / U.S., Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey discuss transition

### Details:

# Turkey says won't let Kurds 'Seize' Northern Syria

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan accused Kurdish groups on Saturday of trying to grab control of northern Syria, and said Ankara would not allow this to happen.

Turkey is alarmed by territorial gains for the Kurds in Syria's civil war, which it fears could stir separatism among its own Kurdish minority.

Tel Abyad, on the border with Turkey, was captured in June from Islamic State of Iraq and Syria group militants by Kurdish YPG militia with help from U.S.-led air strikes. Last week, a local leadership council declared it part of the system of autonomous self-government established by the Kurds.

Syrian Kurds have established three autonomous zones, or "cantons', across northern Syria since the civil war broke out in 2011. They deny aiming to establish their own state.

The YPG's capture of Tel Abyad linked up the Kurdish-controlled canton of Kobane, which was besieged by Islamic State last year, with the bigger canton of Jazeera, which is further east and borders Iraq.

Turkey has for the past three decades been trying to end an insurgency by fighters of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), which is classified as a terrorist organization by the United States and European Union.

The PKK has been staging almost daily attacks in the southeast since July, when a ceasefire fell apart.

Ankara accuses the Syrian Kurds' political arm, the PYD, of deep links to the PKK. It has been incensed by the role the Kurds have carved out for themselves, with U.S. support, in the fight against Islamic State in northern Syria.

Erdogan also slammed countries who provided assistance to the PYD, although he did not name them.

"Right now there are 1,400 PKK members in PYD. There is no point ignoring this, this is a fact," said Erdogan. "But all these countries who seem friendly towards us are trying to make this look the opposite way. Whatever arms assistance they (PYD) receive, it is coming from these countries. We know very well whose arms."

Earlier this month, the YPG Kurdish militia announced a new alliance with small groups of Arab fighters, and the group was air-dropped small arms and ammunition by U.S. forces in northeast Syria.

Washington has indicated it could direct funding and weapons to Arab commanders on the ground who cooperate with the YPG. [Source: <u>Al Arabiya</u>]

Firstly: Nationalistic bond is an unsuitable bond to bind man with man. So it causes conflicts among people over dominion. It does not serve to unite The Muslim Ummah.

Secondly: Erdogan is acting like he does not collaborate with the USA. But in fact he applies his political plans for the sake of the USA. We can see this collaboration at Incirlik airbase and Diyarbakir airbase. American planes bombing Syrian land takes off from these bases.

### Turkey's Erdogan to be 'Caliph' Under Presidential System, Pro-AKP Columnist Claims

A pro-Justice and Development Party (AKP) columnist has claimed that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan would be the 'caliph,' or leader of Sunni Muslims in the world, under the muchanticipated presidential system. Yeni Akit columnist Abdurrahman Dilipak said the rooms of the controversial presidential palace would be reserved for the representatives from nations under the caliphate, adding that Turkey's caliphate had never been abolished.

"If Tayyip Erdogan shifts to a presidential system, he will probably assign advisors from the regions under the caliphate and open representative agencies of all Islam Union nations in that 1,005-room [the presidential palace] in Bestepe," said Dilipak speaking at a conference organized by AKP Toronto Election Coordination Center in Canada.

Dilipak also added that Erdogan would assign advisers for all Muslim nations in the world.

Erdogan has been known for his longtime aspiration for a presidential system in the country. [Source: <u>Hurriyet Daily News</u>]

If something inevitable approaching threatens a state's interests, it generates a fake happening to deceive the public and confuse people's minds. Futile efforts like ISIS and Erdogan's Presidential Caliphate will be Capitalist ideology's last tricks. Nothing can prevent the Prophet's (saw) glad tidings and the coming promise of Allah (swt): The Khilafah Rashidah.

# Syria divides remain / U.S., Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey discuss transition

The United States, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Turkey put forward new ideas Friday to revive a failed push for a political transition in Syria that could end the country's civil war, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Friday. But they remained deeply divided over the future of Syrian President Bashar Assad.

The top diplomats from the four countries agreed to meet again in an expanded format with representatives from other nations, but the only concrete result of last week's talks appeared to be an agreement between Jordan and Russia to coordinate military operations in Syria. Kerry said there was no decision on whether to invite Iran, a major patron of Syria.

Kerry said that he, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir and Turkish Foreign Minister Feridun Sinirlioglu went over proposals to restart moribund talks on how to create a transitional government for Syria.

After the meeting, Kerry told reporters the "meeting was constructive and productive and succeeded in surfacing some ideas, which I am not going to share today, but which I hope have a possibility of changing the dynamic."

Lavrov said he has invited the United States, Saudi Arabia and Turkey to join a coordination center that Russia and Jordan agreed earlier Friday would be used to integrate their air campaigns over Syria. Jordan is a member of the U.S.-led coalition bombing Islamic State facilities in Iraq and Syria. The coalition has so far refused to cooperate with Russia's operations beyond a basic agreement intended to prevent mid-air incidents. Mohammed al-Momani, Jordanian government spokesman said the agreement did not mean that Jordan was leaving the coalition.

A leading Syrian opposition group, the Syrian National Council, said it still aimed for Assad's ouster. "We will not accept the presence of Assad for one day in the transitional period," said Anas al-Abdah, a member of the coalition, in a statement e-mailed to AP.

The United States, Turkey and Saudi Arabia all share the view that Assad must go if the conflict is to be resolved. Russia began airstrikes in Syria last month that it said were aimed at Islamic State militants, but the United States and its allies say the bombing is bolstering Assad rather than targeting militants.

Lavrov said Russia's support for Assad remains strong. "Our partners have some obsession with the figure of the Syrian president, but we reaffirmed our position," Lavrov said.

One item on the agenda, Kerry said, is which nations should be included political transition discussions. Russia is keen to bring Iran into the talks, but Saudi Arabia is opposed. The Obama administration has said repeatedly that all the countries with an interest in Syria, including Iran and Russia, need to agree on a unified, secular and pluralistic Syria governed with the consent of its people. [Source: <u>The Japan News</u>]

It seems like the last Crusade coalition is going to work with Turkish and Saudi support. USA aim to form a secular and pluralistic government in Syria. This is what they mean by the word: Moderate.