

# UNION OF SOUTHEASTERN ANATOLIA REGION MUNICIPALITIES

# **REGIONAL DAMAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT**

August 2015 - January 2016

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## About GABB

The Union of South-eastern Anatolian Region Municipalities is an official member institution with 117 municipalities directly involved in problems of settlements served by these municipalities. It also attempts' to find radical solutions to problems witnessed by member municipalities. In this respect, it aims at providing structural and sustainable solutions to a wide range of problems from water, sewage and other infrastructure problems to urbanization-construction problems, socio-economical troubles and ecological problems. GABB, thusly, aims at increasing the capacities of our cities and local administrations to cope with these problems by strengthening them.

The leading problems recently faced by our region can be classified as war, conflict, migration, asylum seekers and natural disasters. We had Van earthquake in 2011, while in 2014, the region received an immense flow of migration in the aftermath of ISIS massacres of Shingali Yazidis, followed by the migration of Kobanê people to cities like Suruc, Adiyaman, Şanlıurfa and Diyarbakir as part of Kobanê War of the same year. GABB recognized these as disaster and emergency situations and attempted to find a solution to this humanitarian crisis with the local administrations. Its particular activities were concentrated on organizing logistic support in times of war, disaster and emergency situations; strengthening the solidarity networks among member municipalities, raising awareness in the international society and publishing regular reports.

## **About the Report**

Hereby report includes a balance sheet of the severe damage created by the conflict in the region following 7<sup>th</sup> of June Turkish General Elections. The report includes the assessment of damage and ecological destruction in conflicted towns affected by curfews with respect to women's suffering and life and right violations in general.

Curfews and high intensity clashes were still ongoing in Sur, Cizre and Silopi at the time when the report was being prepared; therefore, the report does not include the *final situation* of the damage in these towns. As of the lettering of this report, conflicts continue in towns like Cizre, Silopi, Nusaybin, Dargeçit, Sur. Field studies aiming at gathering data related to the damage assessment reported hereby were conducted before December 2015 when heavy weapons and military units were deployed in city centres. The damage on humans, number of people forced to emigrate and buildings destroyed and became dysfunctional severely increased -and continues to

increase- since December 2015 in the region in general and in these towns in particular. The destruction caused by heavy weapons used in town centres, leads to a serious accommodation problem of the population assumed to be temporarily displaced. According to the data issued on 11 January 2016 by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, 50 pct of overall 439 thousand of population Cizre Silopi/Sırnak; in and Sur/Diyarbakir, Nusaybin/Mardin were adversely affected by the clashes. This was announced to be 220 thousand 400 people. Number of people emigrated from these four towns were reported to be around 93 thousand. Given the practical impossibility of coming up with exact figures in times of internal

migration, it is highly possible that this figure is much higher. As a result of information from local resources, it can be said that emigration flow is generally towards nearby rural and urban districts. An internal immigration route is reported from Cizre and Silopi to Şırnak city center, from Nusaybin to Mardin city center and from Silvan and Sur to other districts at the city center. According to the estimated data we gathered from our interviews with the municipalities, deputies and related humanitarian aid associations, the ongoing emigration flow is twice as big as the figures of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and it continues to get worse.

#### **The Overall Balance Sheet**

The data coming from institutions like the Human Rights Association, Mesopotamia Lawyer's Association, Turkish Association of Human Rights, Mesopotamia Ecology Movement, The Bar of Diyarbakir, depicts a seriously concerning picture with regards to human right violations.

The blockages which were firstly announced in Varto in August 16 under the name of "curfew," went on in three towns, namely Cizre, Silopi and Sur. 56 curfews have been announced up until now in 20 towns of 7 cities, amounting to overall 288 labour days. Following is the general situation in three towns where ongoing curfews have been announced as of 10 January 2016: The last curfew in Cizre which witnessed 5 curfews in total was announced in 14.12.2015. 45 civilians have been killed in the blockage that has been going on for 28 days. 78 civilians lost their lives in Cizre since July 2015.

The last curfew in Silopi which witnessed 2 curfews in total was announced in 14.12.2015. In the blockage that has lasted for 28 days, 26 civilians have lost their lives. Since July 2015, overall 39 civilians have lost their lives in Silopi.

The last curfew was announced in 02.12.2015 in Sur which witnessed 6 curfews in total. 16 civilians have lost their lives in the blockage that has been going on for 40 days. The number of civilians who have lost their lives since July 2015 in Sur is 20.

When we have a look at the overall balance sheet of the clashes as of 10 January 2016; 397 civilians, of which 56 are kids and 78 are women lost their lives in 20 July 2015 – 10 January 2016.



## 1. METHODOLOGY of THE SURVEY AND ITS TIME SPAN

**FIGURE No 1:** The geographic locations of settlements that have been affected by the clashes in the region. The affected settlements include the districts of Varto, Nusaybin, Dargeçit, Lice, Dicle, Silvan, Sur, Bismil, Beytüşşebap, Silopi, Cizre, Şemdinli, Yüksekova, and İpekyolu.

The GABB (the Union of South-eastern Anatolia Region Municipalities) has pursued three research methods for the field studies:

**1.** A common and standard damage assessment survey form has been created in the meetings with Diyarbakir, Mardin, and Van Province Coordination Committees of the TMMOB (the Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects) (**see. Appendix 1**). This form was used during the field visits (in Suriçi, Nusaybin, Cizre, Dargeçit, Dicle and Bismil).

2. Technical teams have been created among the engineers, architects, and technicians form the GABB-member municipalities. These technical teams, which averagely consist of 50 members, conducted field studies in Suriçi, Nusaybin, Silvan, Derik.

**3.** For a number of districts which were affected by the clashes (Şemdinli, Yüksekova, Lice, Varto, Beytüşşebap), damage assessment reports that had been prepared by the district municipalities with their own capacities or with the help of neighbouring municipalities were requested and archived.

The clashes did not take place simultaneously in the districts. In certain places (e.g., Nusaybin, Suriçi), clashes as well as curfews took place for more than once. Therefore, this report covers the time period from **August to December 2015**.

Additionally, the Union contacted the Emergency Architects Foundation, a France-based non-governmental organization conducts that damage assessment studies for the situations of conflict and natural disasters, and invited a delegation to the region. The delegation visited districts of Suriçi, Silvan ve Cizre published a report on their and observations.<sup>1</sup> For the report see. Appendix 2.

<sup>1</sup> See. Appendix 2, Link:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/67i09z5xaujazm5/AABPRj 0a7CISmo2c4Rjil8P9a?dl=0 http://www.archi-urgent.com/pdf/pages/actus/turquie-

## 2. PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGES



## I. MARDIN-DARGEÇIT (Survey conducted on October, 26, 27, and 28)

According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

District Population: 28.891 (Villages included)

# Population directly affected by the clashes:

Saray, Tepebaşı, Bahçebaşı ve Safa neighbourhoods, total population

## 15355

 a) TMMOB Mardin Province branches and Mardin Metropolitan Municipality initiated a damage assessment study on the damage that was caused by the martial rule conditions that followed the "curfew" imposed by Mardin Governorship in Dargeçit district between **October 10 and 13, 2015**.

- With the 3-day long "curfew," around 40 different buildings had bullet holes in their walls. The targeted buildings were primarily residential and commercial buildings, but also included public institutions, schools, and barns.
- The targeted buildings were listed as:
  - 26 houses
  - 9 workplaces
  - 1 public building

- It was found that 15 houses and workplaces were damaged with heavy weapons.
- It was found that facades and walls of the 25 buildings, including houses, were damaged, either cracked or partially destroyed, by both heavy and light weapons.
- It was found that a house was completely destroyed and 3 houses were 'heavily damaged'.
- It was found that most of the damage happened in Bahçebaşı neighbourhood, which included:
  - 2 air conditioners
  - 2 water storage tanks
  - It is important to note that walls of 25 buildings were intentionally targeted and exposed to heavy shooting.
- b) Mardin Governorship declared a second "curfew" in Dargecit district between October 11 and 29, 2015. The curfew continued for 19 days for 24-hours without an intermission. Following that тммов curfew, and Mardin Metropolitan Municipality initiated another damage assessment study. The damage assessment report is under preparation.



According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

District Population: 116.068 (Villages included)

Population directly affected by the clashes:

Fırat, Dicle, Yenişehir, Abdulkadir Paşa neighbourhoods, total population

33922

a) TMMOB Mardin Province branches and Mardin Metropolitan Municipality initiated a damage assessment study on the damage that was caused by the martial rule conditions that followed the two "curfews" declared by Mardin Governorship in Nusaybin district between October 1 and 6 as well as October 9 and 10, 2015.

- With the 9-day long "curfew," around 100 different buildings had bullet holes in their walls. The targeted buildings were primarily residential and commercial buildings, but also included public institutions, schools, and barns.
- The targeted buildings were listed as:
  - 55 houses
  - 27 workplaces
  - 4 public buildings
  - 1 school
- 1 barn it was found that 18 houses and workplaces were damaged with heavy weapons.
- It was found that facades and walls of the 22 buildings, including houses, were damaged, either cracked or partially destroyed, by both heavy and light weapons.

- It was found that 3 houses were completely destroyed and 8 houses were 'heavily damaged'.
- It was found that most of the power distribution units of Dicle EDAŞ, the electricity distribution company, were destroyed and became unserviceable in Firat neighbourhood.
- It was found that most of the damage happened in Firat neighbourhood
- , which included:
  - 11 air conditioners
  - 2 water storage tanks
  - It is important to note that walls of 22 buildings were intentionally targeted and exposed to heavy shooting.

**b)** Following the clashes that took place during the curfew declared between November 13 and 27, 2015 in Nusaybin, a technical team of 40 members from Divarbakir Metropolitan Municipality, Mardin Metropolitan Municipality, Nusaybin Municipality, and the GABBB visited Nusaybin and conducted a second damage assessment study in Dicle, Firat, Abdulkadir Yenisehir and Pasa neighbourhoods. The findings of the study are expressed below:

- In total, 149 workplaces were damaged. 136 of those workplaces were slightly damaged and 13 workplaces were moderately damaged.
- In total, 357 houses were damaged. 324 of those houses were slightly damaged, 29 houses

were moderately damaged, and 4 houses were heavily damaged.

- A funeral home (taziye evi) and a Community Center (Halk Evi) were also damaged. It was found that the power distribution units were intentionally targeted and destroyed. Due to the lack of security, damage assessment inspection on public building (e.g., schools, etc.) could not be conducted.
- Additionally, it was found that the private property in residents' houses and workplaces, namely cars, household goods, air conditioners, and other kinds of goods and food (e.g., meat, etc.) were severely damaged. The detailed information on those damages was recorded.
- c) Between November 29 and December 3, the curfew was declared for the fourth time in Nusaybin. Damage assessment inspection could not be conducted following the curfew.
- d) Between December 6 and 9, the curfew was declared for the fifth time in Nusaybin. Damage assessment inspection could not be conducted following the curfew.
- e) Between December 14 and 24, the curfew was declared for the sixth and seventh times in Nusaybin. Damage assessment inspection could not be conducted following the curfew.

## III. MARDIN – DERİK (Survey conducted on December 4)





According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

District Population: 61.320 (Villages included)

Population directly affected by the clashes:

Kale, Cevizpınar, Dağ, Küçükpınar neighbourhoods, total population

#### 14280

Following the clashes and the curfew, which was declared between **November** 

**26 and December 3** in Derik, a technical team of 30 members from Diyarbakir Metropolitan Municipality, Mardin Metropolitan Municipality, Kızıltepe Municipality, and the GABBB visited Derik town center and conducted a damaged assessment study. The findings of the study are expressed below:

- In total, 56 workplaces were damaged. 50 of those workplaces were slightly damaged and 6 workplaces were moderately damaged.
- In total, 172 houses were damaged. 161 of those houses were slightly damaged, 9 houses were moderately damaged, and 2 houses were heavily damaged.

- A funeral home (*taziye evi*) was slightly damaged. Due to the lack of security, damage assessment inspection on public building (e.g., schools, etc.) could not be conducted.
- Additionally, it was found that the private property in residents' houses and workplaces, namely cars, household goods, air conditioners, and other kinds of goods and food (e.g., meat, etc.) were severely damaged. The detailed information on those damages was recorded.

## IV. DİYARBAKIR - SİLVAN (Survey conducted on November 16, 17, and 18)



This photograph was taken in Silvan. It shows a Turkish flag drawn on a wall and a graffitti, which reads in Turkish "How happy is the one who says I am Turkish" written by the police special forces. During the curfews declared in Silvan, Cizre, and Sur, similar racist graffities (e.g., "You will face the Power of the Turk", "If you are a Turk, be proud of, if not obey," "Fear! The Wolf had the taste of blood in its teeth," etc.) were written on the walls of various buildings. The PÖH, which was written on the door, stands for Police Special Operation department (Polis Özel Harekat).

According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

District Population: 86.633 (Villages included)

Population directly affected by the clashes:

Tekel, Mescit & Konak neighbourhoods, total population

14345

Following the clashes and the curfew, which was declared for six different times, between **August 18-19**, **August 24-25**, **September 13-14**, **October 2-5**, **October 18-21**, **and November 3-14**, in Silvan, technical teams from the GABB-member municipalities in Diyarbakir Province conducted a 3-day long field study in Tekel, Mescit, and Konak neighbourhoods in Silvan. During the study, 661 residential and public buildings were inspected. The findings are summarized below:

 In total, 105 workplaces were damaged. 57 of those workplaces were slightly damaged, 40 workplaces were moderately damaged, and 8 workplaces were heavily damaged.

- In total, 552 houses were damaged. 396 of those houses were slightly damaged, 112 houses were moderately damaged, and 44 houses were heavily damaged.
- In total, 4 public buildings were damaged. One of those public buildings was slightly damaged, 2 public buildings were moderately damaged, and the other public building was heavily damaged.
- Additionally, it was found that the private property in residents' houses and workplaces, namely cars, household goods, air conditioners, satellite dishes, etc. were severely damaged. Those damages were recorded.

# V. DİYARBAKIR – SUR (A study conducted by TMMOB (UCTEA – Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects) in October)



In this photograph taken in Sur neighbourhood, the graffiti in the lower right quadrant reads: "You will see the Power of the Turk". The crescent and the star symbolizes the Turkish flag and the graffiti on the upper left quadrant reads as: "Allah is worth it all, Esedullah Team<sup>2</sup>"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>There is evidence that Esedullah Team was founded one year ago as a branch of ISIS in Syria. Yet, the government has made no commentary on how a branch of ISIS wanders around the streets of Sur during a curfew and how they make these graffitis. The local people have given public testimonies which appeared in the press as to how there were men with long beards speaking in Arabic and acting in concert with the Special Forces.



- curfews and the ensuing armed clashes happened between on dates September 6-7, September October 13-14 and 10-13 respectively. In October a study has been conducted in the area Suriçi, called 706 inspecting workplaces and residences. The established study that 693 buildings could be repaired and 13 buildings should be carefully inspected and accordingly strengthened or demolished. The anticipated reparations include changing of glass windows, painting plasterwork, works, replacement of wooden doors and iron gates, roofing and board fences.
- In addition to these, during the armed clashes and raiding of the houses by the police, housing appliances and technological tools have been damaged and

destroyed. It was observed that the outdoor units of airconditioners have been targeted and shot with bullets.

- Cars have been damaged. The overall cost of reparation of the damage, calculated based on the unit prices declared by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization in 2015 for the damaged buildings and based on the market prices for the appliances damaged in households and workplaces, amount to approximately 1.305.799,64 TL.
- a) The fourth curfew in Sur has been declared between the dates
  November 28-30. It has not been possible to conduct a damage assessment study afterwards.
- b) The fifth and sixth curfews have been declared on December 2nd, (there was a one day pause between the two curfews on December 10th, before the sixth curfew was declared on December 11th).
- The curfew has been going on continuously for the last 40 days excluding the one-day pause stated above. (The report was written on January 10th, 2016)
- The number of families who had to leave their homes and applied to Diyarbakir Metropolitan Municipality is 2031. In the eight neighbourhoods of Suriçi where no

curfew is declared, yet which have been affected by the armed conflict, 250 families had to leave their homes.

- It has been recorded that, among the families who had to leave their homes, 700 families have relocated in the district of Bağlar, 350 in the district of Kayapınar, and 500 in the district of Yenişehir and 600 in the district of Sur. All of these districts are in the Diyarbakir metropolitan area. Some of these families have moved temporarily to their relatives' homes and others have been obliged to cohabit in the apartments they have jointly rented. The number of inhabitants of Sur who had to migrate due to the clashes in Sur is approximately 25 thousand people.
- As different from the first four curfews, the following curfews have brought about an unprecedented destruction. The fact that the army has advanced its offensive to the level of using tanks, missiles and heavy weapons has multiplied the extent of the devastation.

VI. DİYARBAKIR – BİSMİL (Survey conducted by TMMOB (UCTEA – Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects) in October)



According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

District Population: 112.461 (Villages included)

Population directly affected by the clashes:

Ulutürk and Dumlupinar neighbourhoods population:

11698

The neighbourhoods damaged during the four curfews declared in the Bismil District of Diyarbakir on dates September 8th-9th, September 27th, 28th and 29th and October 6th are Ulutürk and Dumlupinar neighbourhoods. Overall, 41 workplaces and residences have been damaged and in the damage assessment reports of the UCTEA it has been established that the reparation costs amount to 108.560,15 TL.

## VII. DİYARBAKIR – LİCE



According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

District Population: 26.427 (Villages included)

Population directly affected by the clashes:

Only two households in the rural and urban areas The clashes have escalated in the Lice district of Diyarbakir at **the end of Julybeginning of August**. Forests have burnt due to the attacks such as mortars and missiles fired by the Turkish Army. Two houses have been damaged by the mortars fired in the district centre and these have been reported by the Lice municipality.

# DİYARBAKIR-DİCLE (Survey conducted by TMMOB (UCTEA – Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects) in October)

According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

VIII.

District Population: 40.033 (Villages included)

Population directly affected by the clashes:

Rural areas and Bağlarbaşı neighborhood in the district center

Bağlarbaşı neighborhood population: 518

Due to the armed clashes in October in the district of Dicle the technical team of UCTEA has visited the district and reached the following conclusions:

In the observational research conducted in the district of Dicle it has been observed that the focus of the damaged area is the Bağlarbaşı neighborhood, Ferah Avenue and the Çeşme Square; window glasses has been smashed, pull-down shutters have been broken, the coating and painting inside and outside of the buildings have been harmed, the products inside the commercial buildings have been damaged and there are bullet holes in the walls. The total number of buildings damaged is 22 consisting mainly of houses and workplaces. The overall cost of repairs has been calculated as 56.049,04 TL.

## IX. HAKKARI - YUKSEKOVA



According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

District population: 68,757

Population directly affected by the clashes:

The total population of Cumhuriyet Neighbourhood:

11,990

a) Between August 26-28, September
 10-11, and November 20-23, in
 Yüksekova district, the curfew was
 declared three times, and in the
 city where the clashes taken place,
 the Yüksekova municipality has
 carried out an inspection in the
 Cumhuriyet neighbourhood on the
 24<sup>th</sup> of November to assess the

damage. The results of this survey provide the following data:

• It was found out that a total of 20 households and workplaces have been damaged. Among those, two workplaces were slightly damaged; one workplace was severely damaged; and also 16 households were slightly damaged. The detailed information on damage assessment was recorded in an official statement.

• The damage ratio in the entire district is not certain yet, since it is still not possible to enter some neighbourhoods due to the curfews and clashes.

**b)** Between December 7-8, a fourth curfew was declared in Yüksekova. Damage assessment inspection could not be conducted following the curfew.

## X. HAKKARİ - ŞEMDİNLİ



According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

**District population: 15,739** 

Population directly affected by the clashes:

Almost the entire city

Due to the declaration of the curfew on **August 16**, in the town of Şemdinli and to the ongoing clashes during this process, the district as a whole was significantly damaged. The District Administration has brought together a commission for damage assessment inspection; however, this commission did not include anyone from the municipality.

As reported by the municipality, which notified our section on 20. Nov. 2015, it was indicated that there is going to be repair costs for 122 shops, 5 public buildings, and 42 households. The repair cost is expected to be approximately 2,500,000 Turkish Liras. XI. ŞIRNAK - CİZRE (Survey conducted by the TMMOB (UCTEA – Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects) in September 2015)



According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

District population: 112, 973

Population directly affected by the clashes:

The Total Populations of the Cudi, Nur, and Yasef Neighbourhoods: 67,162

a) In the Cizre district of Şırnak, between September 4-12 and September 13-14, the "Curfew" was declared twice by the Şırnak Governor, and as a result of the implementation of the martial law with the curfew, the Şırnak Representatives of TMMOB together with the Municipality of Cizre launched a Damage Assessment Inspection. The results of the inspection are given below: • Together with the declaration of the 8day "curfew," approximately 1000 buildings—primarily households and businesses and also bakery, pharmacy, mosque, school, and cultural center intentionally targeted and exposed to heavy shooting.

• Since the landlord was not reached, almost in 100 households, damage assessment inspection could not be conducted following the curfew.

Types of the buildings where the damage assessment was conducted;

- -652 Housing units
- 204 workplaces
- 2 bakeries
- 2 pharmacies
- 1 health center
- 1 cultural center

- 2 schools
- 5 mosques
- 2 barns
- 27 vehicles

• 132 residential and commercial units were destroyed by heavy weapons.

• 9 of them were burned, and 46 residences were identified as 'severely damaged'.

• Almost all power distribution units belonging to the Dicle EDAS in the Nur neighbourhood and the network infrastructure of the drinking water of the Cizre Municipality were found to be unusable.

• The majority of the units located in the Nur neighbourhood;

- 284 air conditioners

What is particularly significant is that 302
 water storage tanks were intentionally
 targeted and exposed to heavy shooting

b) Between November 14-15, a third curfew has been declared in Cizre.Damage assessment inspection could not be conducted following the curfew.

c) Between November 24-25, a fourth curfew has been declared in Cizre. Damage assessment inspection could not be conducted following the curfew.

**d)** As of **December 14**, a fifth curfew has been declared in Cizre.

• The curfew in Cizre has lasted uninterruptedly today on its 29th day

(**January 10, 2016,** the day when the report was written).

According to the information given by the State authorities through the press, 14 Generals, 26 Colonels and 15 thousand soldiers were deployed only to the province of Şırnak. Some of them were transmitted to the Cizre district and some to the Silopi district. As in the Sur district, they have entered the city with tanks, artillery and heavy weapons.

## XII. ŞIRNAK - SİLOPİ



According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

**District population:** 87,839

Population directly affected by the clashes:

Overall Populations of the Cudi, Başak, Barbaros, Nuh, Şht.Harun Boy Neighbourhoods: 43,670

**a)** Due to the clashes in the district of Silopi, the technical staff of the municipality has carried out an inspection in the Cudi, Başak, Barbaros and Nuh neighbourhoods to assess the damage, and the results were reported to our section. In the inspection conducted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October, 2015, it was found out;

 45 houses and workplaces were damaged. 25 households had slight damage and 5 households were moderately damaged, and 2 households were severely damaged.

• 7 workplaces were also slightly damaged, 4 business workplaces were moderately damaged, and 2 workplaces were heavily damaged.

**b)** Between October 7-9, the first curfew was declared in Silopi. Damage assessment inspection could not be conducted following the curfew.

**c)** As of December 14, a second curfew has been declared in Silopi.

• The curfew in the town of Silopi has lasted uninterruptedly today on its 29<sup>th</sup> day (January 10, 2016, the day when the report was written).

• The above mentioned military shipments taken place in Cizre also apply to Silopi.

# XIII. ŞIRNAK - BEYTÜŞŞEBAP



According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

**District population**: 5263

Population directly affected by the clashes:

**Overall district population** 

A damage assessment survey was conducted following the curfews imposed in Beytüşşebap in **September**. Findings of the survey are expressed below:

- 24 buildings (both one-story and multi-story buildings) were damaged.
- It was found that 10 buildings were slightly damaged and 14 buildings were heavily damaged, mostly due to the fire.

## XIV. MUŞ - VARTO



## According to 2014 Address Based Population Registration System:

**District population:** 10.241

Population directly affected by the clashes:

Overall district population

Following the curfews and armed clashes between **August 16-17** in the district, a damage assessment survey was conducted. The findings of the survey are expressed below:

- 91 houses and workplaces were damaged.
- A house with house appliances and furniture was completely burnt in Gümgüm neighbourhood.
- Other damages include damages in store windows. Window shutters, etc.
- During the clashes, 3 work machines and a taxi car were partially damaged.

By January 10, 2016	Total Populatio n (Villages included)	Populatio n affected by the clashes	Buildings affected by the clashes	What happened after the Damage Assessment Survey
Dargeçit / Mardin	28.891	15355	26 houses + 9 workplaces + 1 public building (by October 28, 2015)	More intense clashes took place after the damage assessment survey conducted. On December 29, 2015, the curfew was lifted. Clashes still continue from place to place.
Nusaybin / Mardin	116.068	33922	55 houses + 27 workplaces + 5 public buildings (by November 28, 2015)	More intense clashes took place after the damage assessment survey conducted. Clashes still continue. According to the Ministry of Interior Affairs, 20 thousand people have migrated by January 10, 2016.
Derik / Mardin	61.320	14280	172 houses + 56 workplaces (by December 4, 2015)	More intense clashes took place after the damage assessment survey conducted. Later clashes stopped.
Silvan / Diyarbakir	86.633	14345	552 houses + 105 workplaces + 4 public building (by November 18, 2015)	More intense clashes took place after the damage assessment survey conducted. Later clashes stopped.
Sur / Diyarbakir	121.750	26084	706 houses and workplaces (by October)	More intense clashes took place after the damage assessment survey conducted. Clashes still continue. According to the Ministry of Interior Affairs, 18 thousand people have migrated by January 10, 2016.
Bismil / Diyarbakir	112.461	11698	41 houses and workplaces (by October)	No clashes took place after the damage assessment survey.
Lice / Diyarbakir	26.427	26.427	Forest areas in the rural areas, 2 houses in the villages and town center	No clashes took place after the damage assessment survey.
Dicle/Diyarbakir	40.033	518	22 houses and workplaces (by October)	No clashes took place after the damage assessment survey.

Yüksekova / Hakkari	68757	11990	20 houses + 2 workplaces (by November 24, 2015)	More intense clashes took place after the damage assessment survey conducted. Clashes still continue.
Şemdinli / Hakkari	15.739	15.739	42 houses + 122 workplaces + 4 public buildings	No clashes took place after the damage assessment survey.
Cizre / Şırnak	112.973	67.162	652 houses + 208 workplaces + 9 public buildings (by October)	More intense clashes took place after the damage assessment survey conducted. Clashes still continue. According to the Ministry of Interior Affairs, 25 thousand people have migrated by January 10, 2016.
Silopi / Şırnak	87.839	43.670	45 houses and workplaces (by November 3, 2015)	More intense clashes took place after the damage assessment survey conducted. Clashes still continue. According to the Ministry of Interior Affairs, 30 thousand people have migrated by January 10, 2016.
Beytüşşebap / Şırnak	5263	5263	24 houses and workplaces (by October)	No clashes took place after the damage assessment survey.
Varto / Muş	10.241	10.241	91 houses and workplaces (by October)	No clashes took place after the damage assessment survey.

## 3. PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED BY MUNICIPALITIES

Following the declarations of selfgovernment by people's assemblies and other local dynamics, municipalities and municipal officials started facing difficult times. Comayors of Sur, Hakkâri, Nusaybin, Silvan, and Edremit municipalities were detained and arrested. In September and October, co-mayors, municipal assembly members, and vice-mayors of other municipalities were also arrested. On January 10, the number of the arrested comayors was 18, among whom 9 were women. The number of the arrested provincial assembly cochairs, members, and municipal assembly members was 30. Almost all of the arrested co-mayors and assembly members are accused of violating the Article 302 of the Turkish Penal Code.<sup>3</sup>

In this period, upon the request of the Ministry of Interior Affairs, 25 co-mayors and 23 provincial assembly co-chairs. provincial assembly members, and municipal assembly members were dismissed. Some of the dismissed officials had not been arrested. The reasons for the dismissals have been enlisted as "attending the meetings in which self-government declarations were

made" or "participating in human shield protests and entering the military zones without permission."

Besides the arrested and dismissed local officials, search warrants have been published for 7 co-mayors and 6 assembly members. There are 3 co-mayors and 3 assembly members who were detained and released with probation.

Municipality workers have also exposed to attacks, detainments and arrests. During the curfew in Cizre, the water services to certain neighbourhoods were cut off. A municipality worker was sent to turn on the valve and resume the water services. However, that municipality worker was beaten and detained. On December 18, another municipality worker, İrfan Uysal who had tried to turn on the valve and resume the water services, was shot by a sniper. Uysal was heavily wounded and one of his arms was amputated. A dozer operator from Doğubeyazıt Municipality, a worker from Derik Municipality, and 3 workers from Silopi Municipality were arrested.

Some of the municipality vehicles were also confiscated under the allegations of "being used outside of their purposes." A digger from Lice Municipality, a tractor from Dargeçit Municipality, two diggers from Sur

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For the local officials who have been arrested, detained, dismissed as well as officials about whom search warrants have been imposed, see. Appendix 3.

Municipality, a digger from Dicle Municipality, and a digger from Diyarbakir Water and Sewerage Authority (DISKI) were confiscated by the prosecution office. Vehicles of the Silvan and Dicle Municipalities were forced to be kept in the district police garage, under surveillance of the governorship outside the work hours.

Municipalities could not fulfil their service duties in the neighbourhoods where curfews have been imposed and/or clashes take place. Main duties, such as infrastructural services, garbage collection, and continuation of hygiene and sanitation could not be conducted. This situation has caused health problems among the local populations, primarily children, living in the neighbourhoods where imposed.<sup>4</sup> curfews have been Additionally, it the zones of clashes, the remnant ammunition has not been cleaned, and this has created a huge risk, especially for children who may find and play with the remnant ammunition.

As elected officials, co-mayors tried to enter the regions where curfews have been imposed. However, comayors and other local officials have been obstructed by security forces, and mostly exposed to pepper gas attacks. Emine Esmer, co-mayor of Sliopi Municipality, was detained for going out during the curfew. Comayors could not enter the regions under the curfews and could not communicate with the local populations.

Another problem that the curfews have caused was the issue of migration, which municipalities also needed to deal with. The population who has temporarily or permanently migrated from the regions of clashes is around 200,000. These people, who were forced to leave their without houses taking their belongings, became immigrants within their own cities. These cities are already the most underdeveloped cities of the country. This situation of underdevelopment and the fact that these people were already living in the conditions of poverty have deteriorated the overall situation. Right now, municipalities are trying to assess the scope of the migration and fulfil the basic needs of these families through their social services departments. Yet, it would take much longer to fulfil basic needs and provide additional support for tens thousands of people whose houses were destroyed and socio-economic conditions significantly damaged. Pecuniary and nonpecuniary scopes of the damage are too large to assess and predict.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Istanbul Medical Doctors' Chamber and the Union of Health and Social Service Workers published a report about the general health situation in the areas under curfew: <u>http://www.istabip.org.tr/index.php/haberler/411</u> <u>3-sokaa-cikma-yasai-olan-boelgelere-yoenelk-acltibb-ve-nsan-yardim-carisi.html</u>

A significant aspect of that damage the environmental is damage. Military tanks and artilleries entered the city centers, residential areas were put artillery fire, forest areas were hit by artilleries and this initiated forest fires, animals were killed during artillery shelling, and agricultural activities were suspended in the military security zones. These events caused a significant level of damage in the ecosystem. Thousands hectares of forest areas in Şemdinli, Dersim and Lice were burnt. Security forces did not allow municipalities' fire departments as well as other departments with dozers and diggers to intervene in and fight against the fire. In fact, governorships started to restricting the use of dozers-diggers. Co-mayor of Lice Municipality, who had asked civilians from Diyarbakir to help firefighting efforts in Lice, was arrested on August 3 under the allegations of "abetting a terrorist organization." A secrecy order was imposed on that investigation.

In July-September 2015, due to the artillery fire, 500 dunams of forest areas in Diyarbakir, 400 dunams in Bitlis, 500 dunams in Bitlis, 1500 dunams in Dersim, and 2800 dunams in Şırnak, Mardin and Hakkari were burnt and destroyed.

## 4. PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED BY WOMEN

GABB Directory of Women's Politics has carried out a research with the municipalities' women's directories and women's counselling centers in Beytussebap, Dargecit, Silopi, Cizre, Bismil, Silvan and Sur to find out the impacts of curfews and clashes on women.

We have obtained these information as a result of this research

 a) Women living in the conflict areas have developed serious psychological problems. Acute Stress Disorder, somatization, behavioural disorder,

adjustment disorder,

major depression,

traumatic stress disorder are some ofthe problems intensely developed by women. Women reported that they could not sleep in their homes and always feel panic and fear.

b) During the curfews the ambulances were not allowed to enter neighbourhoods. And that restricted women's ability to go to hospitals. In some rare cases, women took the risk and went outside for to go to hospital by carrying White flags.

- c) Women developed physical disorders and their existing sicknesses worsened. Women developed body and head aches. There has been an increase in the sicknesses of people with asthma, blood pressure, diabetics, slipped discs as these people were not allowed to go hospitals.
- d) In this period, so many pregnant women had to deliver at home as they could not go to hospital. Most of these births were preterm, although the numbers of women with preterm births are high, it has not been possible to reach the exact numbers. For example, during the high birth numbers in Cizre (11-12 per day), only 7 births were recorded in hospital during the 9 days of curfew. As the other women could not go to hospital, the number of miscarriages is not known. Furthermore, more than 300 women in Yuksekova and Semdinli have miscarriages. According to the reports of Hakkari-Yuksekova State Hospital, 73 cases of Missed Abartuz, 97 cases of Abartus Immines, 76 Miscarriages, 28 cases of Incomplete Abortus, 10 cases of Intrauterine Ex, and 1 case of Fetal Anomaly recorded. It is thought that these miscarriage cases are related to the panic, fear, anxiety, stress that is a result of the conflict. People feel anxious and angry about the miscarriages as

these are occurring in the conflict areas.

- e) There have been harassment incidents against and girls. Women's women psychologies have seriously been affected by the conflict. It is also said that special police forces women's bodies targeted by threatening them by swearing, rape, and sexist discourses. For example, by saying "we are ISIS, we will rape women. Girls! Scare from us" During the curfews, women's bodies were targeted psychologically and psychi cally.
- f) It is also reported that, in house raids police insulted women and used psychological violence
- g) During the curfews, people were not allowed to meet the need for food. Bakeries were not allowed to be open, which is supposed to be open even under war conditions. Besides the need for bread, children's need for milk and baby food were not met. Mother has to give water mixed with water to their children. Women had to share food with neighbours and tried to survive in the days that they starved for several days.
- h) Children have been the most impacted by the conflict. During the curfews, children who could not go to school, stuck at homes and witnessed the conflict developed serious psychological disorders. Some

many psychological disorders were

found out among children in the research such as sleep disorders, insomnia, lack of social interaction, withdrawn state, fear of going outside, anxiety, anxiety disorder. Many children faced psychological violence during the house raids. The children who saw police breaking the doors of their homes wearing face masks, yelling at the household caused psychological problems for children. Children who woke up by hearing the yelling of police and saw armed police in the house developed psychological problems.

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ANNEX							
Appendix 1 Damage Assessment Report Form							
DETAILED DAMAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT							
PROVINCE/DISTRICT: ADDRESS NAME/SURNAME: Tenant Property Owner ELECRICITY OR WATER SERVICE SUBSCRIPTION NO: AVERAGE LIVING SPACE: m <sup>2</sup> NUMBER OF FLOORS: BLOCK: PLOT: LAYOUT: DATE OF DAMAGE: BUILDING KIND MUD-BRICK COMPOSITE STRUCTURE REINFORCED CONCRETE HISTORICAL BUILDING USE RESIDENTIAL WORKPLACE PUBLIC BLDG SCHOOL OTHER (Explain)							
GENERAL DAMAGE LEVEL							
SLIGHTLY DAMAGED MODERATELY DAMAGED HEAVILY DAMAGED DESTROYED							
PECUNIARY COST OF DAMAGE							
•••••••							
DEMANDS of the BUILDING OWNER on HER/HIMSELF and the BUILDING:							
HAS the OWNER of the BUILDING MIGRATED DURING the CLASHES?							
DATE OF SURVEY SURVEY CONDUCTED BY VICTIM							
//2015 Name-Surname Signature Name-Surname Signature							