

Women's Revolution

Monthly Newsletter on the development and agenda of the women's revolution in North and East Syria



March 2024



KONGRA STAR
مؤتمر ستار



Newsletter February 2024



In this newsletter, we are highlighting important events from the women's movement in North and East Syria which happened in February. Among other attacks by the Turkish fascist state in the region, there was an attack on the Centre for the Wounded from War in Qamishlo in which our dear friends Sorxwîn Rojhilat and Azadî Dêrik, both YPJ commanders, fell martyr. Despite these attacks on women's resistance, organising continued: the Jineoloji committee met women representatives from Nepal to strengthen each other's struggles, and Kongra Star collaborated with the Civil Diplomacy Center on a session for the World Social Forum 2024. The recorded session was on the alternative system being built in North and East Syria. February 15th marked the 25th anniversary of the international conspiracy against Abdullah Öcalan, the Kurdish freedom movement and the Kurdish people. Seven central demonstrations were held across cantons. A few days before, a women's conference for the freedom of leader Abdullah Öcalan took place in Raqqa, organized by Kongra Star and the Arab women's organization Zenobiya and attended by more than 250 delegates. At the end of the month, the program for the run-up to the 8th of March was announced, which started on the 24th of February: it consists of festivals, lectures, marches and workshops on the topic of women's struggle, as well as other actions and educations.



Announcement of International Women's Day program

Under the slogan, "With the free will of women, we will end the policies of genocide, occupation, and isolation," the joint activities platform for women's movements and organizations in NE Syria announced the program of activities for the run-up to March 8th 2024.

The statement was read in three languages: Kurdish by Kongra Star spokeswoman Rehan Loqo, Arabic by the member of the Joint Events Platform for Women's Movements and Organizations, Khud Al-Ali, and Syriac by the member of the Syriac Women's Union, Sophia Youssef.

The program of events began on February 24th and includes:

- Decorate all areas in women's colours, and hang the campaign's logo at the entrances of cities.
- Holding expanded meetings for the people on women's struggle.
- Giving lectures on March 8 in all villages, districts, towns and institutions.
- The Women's Festival will be held by the Hilal Zerin Movement and the Culture Authority on March 1 and 2.
- Holding a photo exhibition in Kobane.
- Setting up an artistic tent by the Hilal Zerin Movement, the Mesopotamia Democratic Culture and Art Movement.
- Visit the shrines of the martyrs and light candles.

- Holding a direct dialogue forum with women's movements online.
- Planting trees and giving flowers to women of the Internal Security Forces .
- Organizing an exhibition of pictures of women martyrs and introducing their lives and struggles.
- Holding dialogue forum in Kobane, Ain Issa, Hasaka, Qamishlo and Raqqa on March 3.
- A dialogue lecture by the Women's Council of the Democratic Union Party (PYD) across Syria on March 5.
- Opening a special course for men in all aspects over three days.
- Distributing brochures to introduce March 8th.
- Organizing central marches and heading to celebration squares in Qamishlo, Hasaka, Kobani, Shahba, Aleppo, Damascus, South Kurdistan, Lebanon, and Europe.
- Continuing the environmental campaign.
- Visiting detained women and giving them a lecture on the history of March 8.
- Launching a hashtag campaign on social media.
- Organizing a central march on March 7, led by the Syriac Women's Union.
- Organizing a workshop for women inside Syria on the importance of March 8 (International Women's Day).



Attack on the Federation of the Wounded People

On February 11th 2024, Turkish drones hit the Federation of the Wounded People of North and East Syria in Qamishlo. In this attack, our commander and friends Sorxwîn Rojhilat and Azadî Dêrik fell martyrs.

Comrade Sorxwîn was a YPJ commander during the fight against ISIS in Kobane, where she struck great fear into the hearts of ISIS with her skill, courage and bravery. She was from East Kurdistan. She was wounded during the historical resistance, sacrificing her sight, and took important responsibilities in the Federation of Wounded of War of North and East Syria. There, she contributed to the rehabilitation of the wounded of the revolution, as well as other activities. A statement on their lives is available [here](#).

Comrade Azadi Derik was a YPJ commander from Derik who took an active position in all areas of the revolution with great commitment, dedication and modesty. She joined the Federation of Wounded from War on her request. She also worked with many local and international institutions to protect, educate and treat the wounded.

Under the leadership of commanders like Sorxwîn and Azadi, the YPJ as waged an unparalleled war against ISIS, and the occupying Turkish state is taking revenge for this by targeting women leaders. Turkey also seeks to weaken the resistance to ISIS gangs, who are a threat for the whole world. The attack on the Federation of the Wounded People was a war crime, and occurred close to the anniversary of the 15th February conspiracy against Ocalan in order to target the will of free women and peoples.





World Social Forum Webinar

On February 17th, as part of the World Social Forum, the session „Rojava Revolution, an alternative world being built in NE Syria“ was organised by Civil Diplomacy Centre in North East Syria, in collaboration with Kongra Star and Jineoloji Center. Fifty attendees from around the world took part online to learn about the methods of the women-led revolution in North and East Syria. The webinar was online as it was not possible to travel to Nepal from NE Syria, where the forum was held. Speakers were Perwin Youssef, a PYD member, and Zozan Sima, a member of the Jineoloji Academy and the webinar can be watched on YouTube - it is available [here](#).

Jineoloji Committee and Kongra Star Foreign Representatives meet Nepali women

Jineoloji Committee Member Necîbe Qeredaxî and Kongra Star Foreign Affairs Spokesperson Rûxoş Şêxo met with five Nepali women parliamentarians, academics, presidents and executive members of the Beyond Beijing Committee at the headquarters of the organization in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal.

[Topics of the meeting](#) included the attacks against women carried out by the Turkish state in North and East Syria, the role of Jineoloji in recording women’s history and science beyond Kurdish women.

Parliamentarians said that they wish to establish a joint network consisting of Kurdish and Nepali women, and that they will hold meetings with women in parliamentary committees and bring the attacks against Rojava and the isolation of Abdullah Öcalan to the agenda. They also said that the Nepalese people have a long history of struggle.“The Kurdistan cause is the cause of freedom and democracy. We all support you,” said one of the parliamentarians.



15 February: Protests against the international conspiracy

February 15th marked the 25th anniversary of the international conspiracy against Abdullah Öcalan, the Kurdish freedom movement and the Kurdish people. On this occasion, millions of people around the world took to the streets to demonstrate against this plot, in which Abdullah Öcalan was captured, and to demand his freedom. Seven central marches also started in four cantons of North and East Syria to condemn the international conspiracy against leader Abdullah Öcalan and to demand an end to the isolation detention and his freedom. There were large demonstrations in the cities of Derik, Qamishlo, Hasake, Kobane, Raqqa, Shehba and Aleppo. All the demonstrations were jointly organized by civil society organizations and the women's movement and in the city of Haseke the demonstration was organized by Kongra Star.

Women's conference in Raqqa demands freedom for Ocalan

On 10 February, a women's conference for the freedom of leader Abdullah Öcalan took place in Raqqa, organized by Kongra Star and the Arab women's organization Zenobiya and attended by more than 250 delegates. The conference is taking place under the slogan, „We will ensure the physical freedom of Leader Öcalan with the philosophy of Jin, Jiyan, Azadi“. At the conference on the physical freedom of leader Abdullah Öcalan, the effects of the international conspiracy against leader Abdullah Öcalan and the crimes committed against him in Imrali prison were discussed. It was pointed out that in order to thwart the conspiracy, women must unite their voices and fight together for the physical freedom of leader Abdullah Öcalan. In addition to the demand for the freedom of Abdullah Öcalan, it was made clear with great determination that we as women must intensify our struggle for the freedom of Abdullah Öcalan, peace in the entire region and the liberation of women.

<https://anfenglishmobile.com/women/women-s-conference-in-raqqa-calls-for-freedom-for-Ocalan-71709>



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