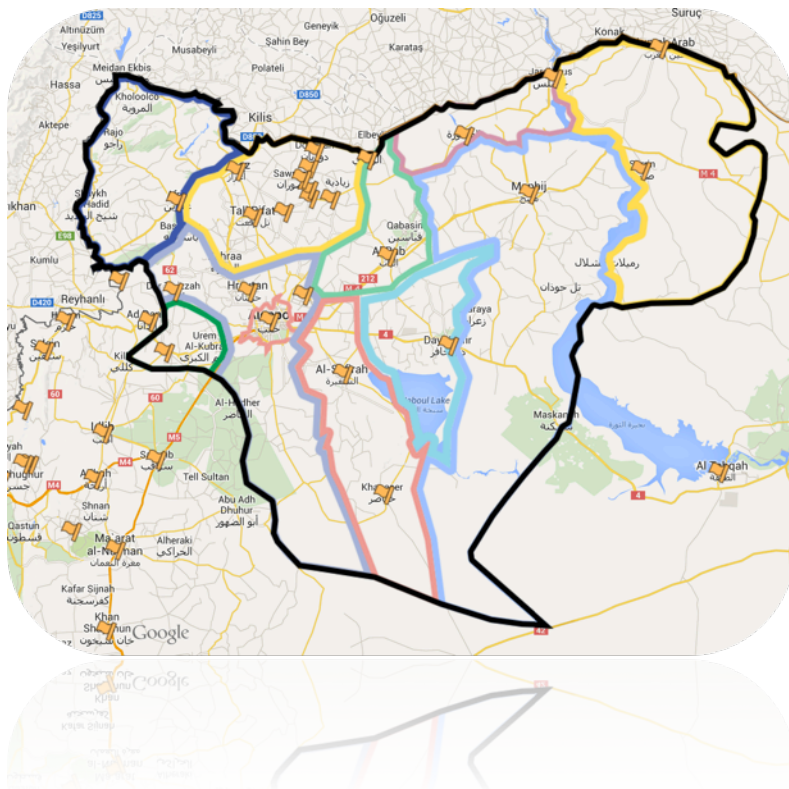


# ALEPPO PROVINCIAL OVERVIEW

## A LOOK AT THE EVENTS ACROSS THE PROVINCE



September 6th-12th, 2014



Fighting is occurring in all districts between opposition and Regime forces, mostly via air strikes



Civilian casualties have resulted from shelling and bombings being carried out by both sides



The province lacks consistent electricity and affordable fuel



The Foundation of the Kurdish language has changed course language options

Number of Activists contacted for report 5 :  
Number of CSOs or Rights Groups contacted:2  
Number of Media Activists Contacted: 7



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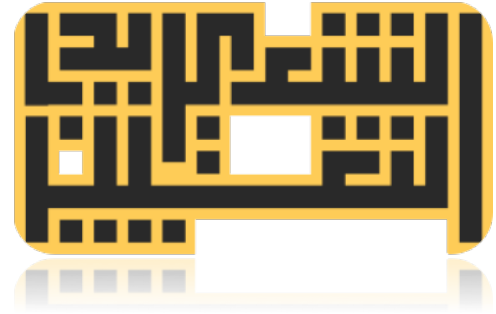


## About PDC LLP

People Demand Change LLP (PDC), was established in early 2013 in response to the seismic changes taking place in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), and the need for the implementation of a new relationship between aid providers and the communities on the ground being served. The MENA region is at a pivotal stage in which whole populations are demanding a direct stake in how they are governed.

PDC intends to help in aiding this transformation by developing long-term relationships with key communities and populations within the region, working with them in a collaborative and culturally competent fashion that takes into account the changing dynamics of this region over the course of time.

As the people of the Middle East continue to redefine and redraw the social contract between society and their respective governments, the opportunity to provide long-term support to a new generation of civil society activists and human rights defenders has come to fruition. Just as the Middle East is changing, the method used to support the MENA region's latest iteration of civil society actors must also change.



PDC mission in Syria

*PDC leverages an extensive and trusted network within Syria, fostered over two and a half years, that taps into the knowledge of local activists, local council leaders, and Free Syria Army (FSA) soldiers. This enables our organization to access privileged, up-to-date information on the ground that has assisted organizations and policymakers alike to make informed decisions about the composition of the Syrian opposition and ever-changing nature of the conflict. Moreover, our Arabic-speaking staff possesses the capacity to directly oversee monitoring and evaluation programs for all our funded projects*

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## Our Weekly Reports Methodology



Syria Info Hub

PDC has a wide network inside Syria, Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan, through which PDC is able to access a wide range of data both open source and from within network both in English and in Arabic.

Our analysis team in Turkey is following up daily regarding the changes on the ground through PDC's network inside Syria as well as by tracking various pertinent social media. PDC currently has networks operating in all 14 provinces, through which an initial data report is generated and then cross-referenced with other sources such as local councils, civil society organizations and independent activists. Because each province has its own unique set of circumstance, PDC's networks tailor their information gathering techniques to best fit the circumstances on the ground.

## ALEPPO CITY DISTRICT

### Security and Control

There was violent fighting on the outskirts of the neighborhoods of Bustan Basha and Sheikh Maksoud, which lasted until Saturday morning (09/06/2014). Regime forces had tried to take siege of these neighborhoods, but were stopped by opposition fighters. The Regime forces targeted the Karm Altarab neighborhood the same day using barrel bombs, causing material damage only. The Regime forces also targeted the Al'Helluk neighborhood, injuring civilians, and used warplanes to target the Leiramon neighborhood and used heavy machine guns along Gaziantep Road. Additionally, a mortar shell fell near Al'Tip Al'arabi circle in the Al'Neel Street neighborhood and came from Bani Zeid, which is controlled by the Badr Martyrs Brigade [opposition forces].

On Sunday (09/07/2014), the Hanano Housing neighborhood was shelled, causing material damage. The Regime forces also targeted the Hapabeh paper plant in the Karm Altarab neighborhood. Parts of the plant were burned down as a result:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZhJ0tu76tl&feature=youtu.be>

Artillery shells in the Salah al-Din neighborhood, which were fired from areas controlled by Regime forces, killed a child and wounded a number of civilians. This was an escalation of the fight that broke out between Regime and opposition forces as opposition fighters attempted to confront progressing Regime fighters. The Regime forces also targeted Al'Shaar and Qadi Askar with artillery shells, but there were no resulting injuries. Fighting resumed in the Suleiman Al-Halabi neighborhood on Sunday afternoon. None of the involved parties have gained any territorial advantages, although the opposition forces reported blowing up a Regime tank and killing a number of Regime soldiers.

On Monday (09/08/2014) the Regime forces targeted the Bermalan and Al'Mallah with barrel bombs. A huge fire broke out in the Karm Al'Jabal neighborhood on Monday afternoon. The fire started in a fuel shop where seven barrels of fuel exploded. One civilian's home caught fire as a result.

### The District In Pictures

Noureddine Al-Zanki's movement, from the armed opposition, published a video which shows a building where Regime forces had been holed up near the Scientific Researches front being targeted with several locally-made rockets resulting in the death of some Regime fighters:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyOErnlpEU4&feature=youtu.be>

Monday's fire in the Karm Al'Jabal neighborhood:



## Security and Control continued

On Tuesday (09/09/2014) Regime forces used artillery shells to target the part of the Al'Ashrafieh neighborhood, which is under opposition control, causing material damage. The armed opposition targeted the places in both Al'Rashideen-north and the Al'Hkalidiyah neighborhood where Regime forces are located with hand-made rockets, injuring and killing many people.

On Wednesday (09/10/2014), Regime forces targeted the Hanano Housing neighborhood with artillery shells which caused a house to catch fire. The Regime also used barrel bombs to target Alhaidariya, Al'Intharat, and Al'Sakan al'shababi in the Al' Ashrafieh neighborhoods. There have been no reported civilian casualties.

On Thursday (09/11/2014) violent fighting broke out between Regime forces and opposition fighters in Ancient, Aleppo – near the castle. A number of civilians were wounded after the armed opposition forces targeted the Khalidiyah neighborhood with hand-made rockets.

Armed opposition factions also announced a prisoner exchange with Regime forces at the Garage A'Hajez crossing. The armed opposition handed over a Regime captain and soldier in return for the release of three people, one being a woman, from the Regime's prisons: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z5iqySXzqfA&feature=youtu.be>

On Friday morning (09/12/2014), the armed opposition and the Regime forces resumed fighting when the armed opposition attempted to make an advance. Regime forces also targeted the Hanano Housing neighborhood with barrel bombs, although no injuries were reported. The Islamic Front announced destroying one of the Regime's T-72 tanks in the Al-Zahraa neighborhood, located adjacent to the Air Force Security branch.

### The District In Pictures

Activists arranged two demonstrations – one in the Bustan Al'Kaser neighborhood and one second in the Salah A'l Din neighborhood – in solidarity with the Ahrar Al'Sham Movement. Meanwhile, Regime warplanes flew at low altitude over opposition-controlled neighborhoods and areas and targeted Bustan Al'Kaser with land missiles. No injuries have

The Islamic Front announced bombing the Cement Plant in Sheikh Saeed and destroying 12.7 mm machine gun belonging to the Regime.



## Economics, Medical and Humanitarian

There have been no significant changes in the humanitarian situation in Aleppo city, although conditions continue to deteriorate in opposition-controlled areas due to the increased shelling by the Regime. The return of water to the most parts of the city has been the most considerable humanitarian event, however, the prices of main materials and foodstuff continue to rise.

Most major battles in Aleppo city are constituted by the sporadic clashes between Regime forces and the armed opposition on several fronts. Neither party has made significant progress, although the armed opposition did take control of some buildings in the Suleiman Al'Halabi neighborhood, which has fortified their position

## JABAL SAMAAAN DISTRICT

### Security and Control

The Regime continues to target most of the towns and villages with aerial shelling. On Saturday (09/06/2014), the Regime targeted Alatareb city and the town of Hraitan with barrel bombs, causing material damage. A civilian woman was killed and her son was wounded when Regime forces bombed the town of Kaferhamrah. The Regime also shelled Daret Ezech causing civilian casualties.

On Monday (09/08/2014), Regime warplanes launched an air strike on the town of Orem Al'Kubral town, killing one civilian and injuring others. The Regime also targeted the surrounding villages of Al'Zirbeh and Al'Kamari with artillery shells, but caused no reported injuries.

On Tuesday (09/09/2014), the Al'Mujahideen and Al'Ansar Army from Ansar Al'Deen announced the arrest of a spy network affiliated with Regime's forces in the village of Sevat near northeast of Handarat. Additionally, Regime warplanes targeted the town of Anadan town with barrel bombs and machine guns, killing one and wounding dozens.

On Wednesday (09/10/2014), Regime forces targeted the outskirts of Kafar Hamra with aerial shelling, but caused no injuries. The Regime's warplanes also managed to drop four boxes of food and ammunition on the towns of Nobul and Al'Zahraa, which were under siege by the opposition forces. Opposition gunmen were able to shoot down a Regime plane carrying ammunition and goods.

On Thursday (09/11/2014), another warplane dropped foodstuff and ammunition on Nobul and Al'Zahraa:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5DhDxnRZPQ&feature=youtu.be>

### Economics, Medical and Humanitarian

The humanitarian situation in the Jabal Samaan district is bad due to the frequent shelling being carried out by Regime forces, which causes displacement. The population also suffers from long power outages and water scarcity.



## AFRIN DISTRICT

### Security and Control

The Chairperson of the Legislative Council in Afrin, Heven Rashid, announced in a statement to Kurdish media on Tuesday (09/09/2014) that because the Kurdish parties have not submitted a formal request for a license from the Council, their offices will be closed and their newspapers will no longer be published. Additionally, Afrin Asayish forces arrested the leader of the Kurd Youth movement, named Genghis Khalil, on Monday evening (08/09/2014). Activists also reported the death of a citizen located in Midan Ikbis who was shot by Turkish border guards while trying to cross into the Turkish lands.

### Economics, Medical and Humanitarian

The humanitarian situation in Afrin is bad as people suffer from the high price of electricity, as well as increasing food, rent, and real estate prices. This makes finding living accommodations difficult for internally displaced Syrians.

### Local Councils and CSOs Activities

The Foundation of the Kurdish language in Afrin has changed the names of the 22 public schools in the city and replaced them with names of Kurdish fighters. On Friday, the government in Afrin also issued the decision to change the curriculum. Classes will now be taught in Kurdish from the first through third grade, although there will be an Arabic option for Arab students.

## AZAZ DISTRICT

### Security and Control

Opposition factions announced an attack on the central ISIS point near the Dabeq village which led to the death of a number of ISIS soldiers.

On Monday (09/08/2014), the Regime targeted Marea city with aerial destroying infrastructure and wounding a number of civilians who were taken to field hospitals and medical points for treatment.

The opposition factions participating in the NahrawanA-Sham battle against ISIS declared, on Monday 08/09/2014, their intent to target ISIS strongholds in the Tal Maled village, thereby continuing the fighting in the region:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4V73SfoULq4&feature=youtu.be>

On Tuesday (09/09/2014), Regime warplanes targeted Tal Rifaat and Marea cities and caused material damage.

On Wednesday (09/10/2014), the armed opposition factions participating in the Nahrawan al-Sham battle against ISIS targeted ISIS soldiers located in the Arshaf village with artillery.

On Saturday (09/06/2014), ISIS soldiers stormed civilian houses in the town of Ahtemilat and confiscated their property under the pretext of allotting it to the armed opposition. This has combined with the continued internal displacement away from ISIS controlled areas. Due to this and the increasing price and unavailability of electricity, the humanitarian situation in the Azaz district is deteriorating.

### The District In Pictures



Regime forces targeted Tal Refaat city on the morning of 09/07/2014 with areal shells, injuring civilians

### Monday's aerial shelling in Marea city:



Sporadic fighting continues between the armed opposition forces and ISIS between Marea and Akhtaren without any progress for either side.



## AL-SAFIRAH DISTRICT

### Security and Control

On Saturday (09/06/2014), the regime forces targeted the Abtin village with barrel bombs, but no human casualties have been reported.

### Economics, Medical and Humanitarian

People suffer from increase security restrictions in Regime-controlled areas. Additionally, electricity is expensive and there are frequent power outages which last for many hours each day.

## AL-BAB DISTRICT

### Security and Control

On Saturday (09/06/2014), a number of civilians were injured after aerial shellings that targeted Bzaah city located to the north-east of Albab city.

On Monday (09/08/2014), Regime forces targeted the areas surrounding Kweres military airport with four barrel bombs.

On Thursday (9/12/2014), civilians were killed and wounded in an air strike on Albab city. Warplanes targeted the city again on Friday afternoon, killing four and wounding dozens.

### Economics, Medical and Humanitarian

ISIS has not been too much of a threat this week in Albab, but residents still suffer from Regime shellings and bombings. Also, electricity is expensive and power outages are frequent.

## JARABLUS DISTRICT

### Economics, Medical and Humanitarian

The humanitarian situation is bad due to high prices and water and electricity unavailability.

## MANBEJ DISTRICT

### Security and Control

A woman and a child were killed in Maskana city by aerial shellings on Monday (09/08/2014) afternoon.

### Economics, Medical and Humanitarian

The humanization situation is bad in Manbel as the people suffer from the ISIS stronghold on the district as well as high fuel prices, and water and electricity unavailability.

## AIN AL-ARAB (KOBANI) DISTRICT

### Security and Control

The Kobani residents are suffering from the siege ISIS has on the city and surrounding areas. No major battles or events have occurred during the past week. However, opposition forces have recently allied with PYD units and the Kurds Front against ISIS in Aleppo and Raqqa. This new alliance intends to attack ISIS-controlled areas and re-take control, although no military operations are, as yet, underway.

### The District In Pictures

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The armed opposition (predominately the Islamic Front), PYD, and the battalions of the Northern revolutionaries and the Kurdish Front:

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