

Christian communities of northern Syria brace for Turkish incursions, raids by Ankara's proxies



Incursions by the Turkish military and its proxies in northern Syria continue unabated this week, with the number of displaced people in the border region now exceeding 200,000, and with the number of dead in the dozens, according to international news agencies.

Beyond the predominate Kurdish element along the border between war-ravaged Syria and southeast Turkey, which is the obvious target of the incursions and bombings, the ancient and hard-press Christian communities of northern Syria are also being systematically targeted.

As widely reported over the past few days, hundreds of ISIS fighters captured and jailed by Kurdish forces have escaped from detention, following airstrikes by Turkish warplanes and raids by Turkey-affiliated rebels.

The concern now on the part of the west is that hardcore ISIS terrorists, many of whom hail from Muslim families that emigrated to western Europe over the past

few decades, as well as radicalized converts, will head back to the continent.

A telling headline in the Turkish Islamist newspaper Yeni Akit, one of the most vocal media supporters of the ruling AKP party in the country, reads “Go and tell the unbelievers that the army of Mohammed is coming”.