

NATO Backed Al Qaeda Atrocities Continue in Northern Syria. UN Turns a Blind Eye

By [Mimi Al Laham](#)

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Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

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Fighting continues in northern Syria – as NATO-backed Al Qaeda militants desecrate churches, displace local population, and impose “Sharia law.”

Fighting on the Syrian-Turkish border near the northwestern Syrian town of Kassab between Al Qaeda insurgents Jabhat Al Nusra and the Syrian military continues for the fifth day.

Insurgents are [shelling](#) the towns near Kassab in Latakia province while the military is [returning](#) fire on their positions.

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Point 45, a strategic hilltop overlooking Latakia’s countryside and Kassab, was [regained](#) by the Syrian army, initially lost to the militants flooding in from the Turkish side of the border.

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Meanwhile the insurgents are [reported](#) to have moved through Kassab village reaching the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

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No Response from the Predictably Silent United Nations

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The Syrian Ambassador to the United Nations, Bashaar al Jaafari, has sent an official letter to the UN Security Council regarding Turkey’s support of the Al Qaeda offensive in Syria. Early in the battle Turkey shot down a Syrian jet firing at Al Qaeda targets flooding in from the Turkish border. In turn Russia [proposed](#) a UN Security Council statement on Al Qaeda’s shelling of Latakia province.

Armenians gathered Wednesday outside UN Commission headquarters in the Armenian capital Yerevan to protest what they saw as a Turkish-led Al Qaeda attack on the Armenian village in Kassab. Thousands of Armenians settled in Syria after the genocide of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire in 1915. The Attack on Kassab resulted in thousands of Armenians fleeing the area.

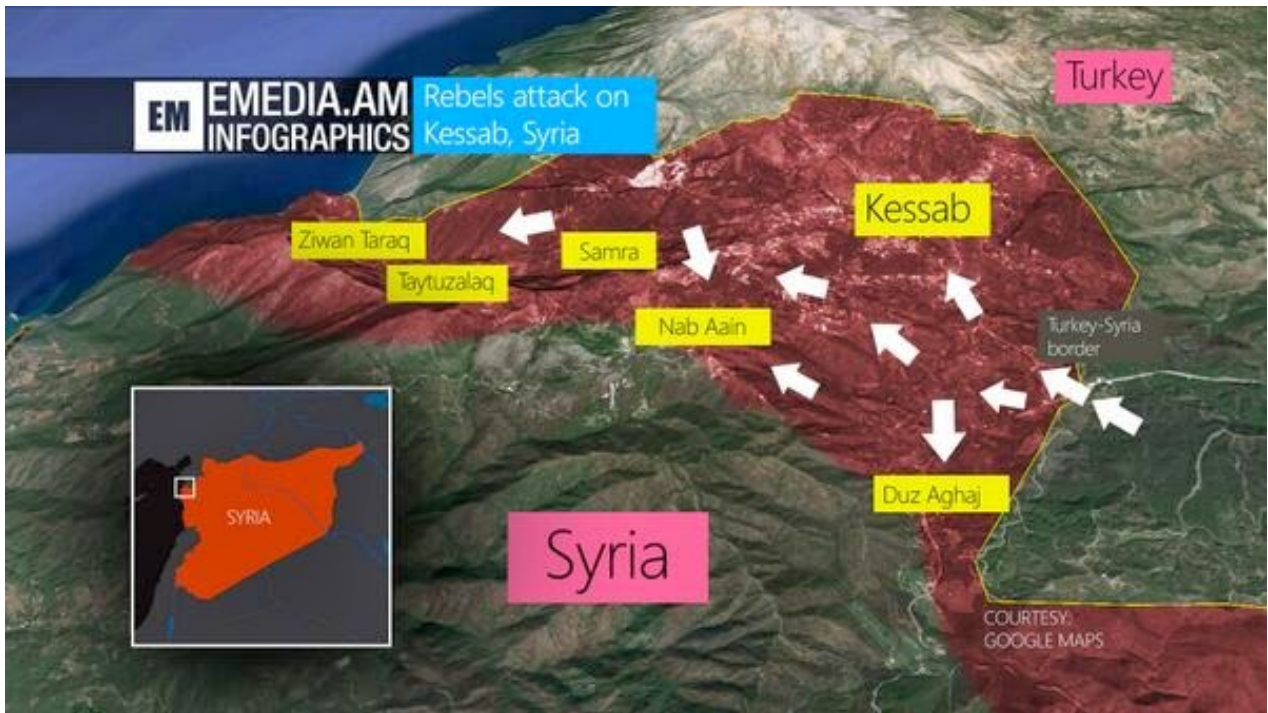


Image: infographic from Armenian media [Emedia](#).

“We condemn UN silence over this crime and believe that it is a tacit approval of Turkey’s conduct,” the protestors told [journalists](#).

Protesters handed the UN Commission a letter that condemned the attack, describing it as a violation of international law and a breach of international commitments.

The Armenian president [thanked](#) the Syrian government for protecting Armenians in Kessab in a press conference, while on Wednesday members of Armenian parliament visited Latakia and met with Kessab Armenians to report on the situation.



Image: Armenians protest the United Nations silence on AlQaeda's attack in [Yervan](#)

Churches Desecrated

The Al Qaeda affiliated insurgents launching the offensive have ransacked churches ([as they have in other areas of Syria](#)), removing all crosses and removing the faces from many statues. The insurgents also began seizing and destroying alcohol citing that it is now contraband under their version of "Sharia law." Early signs of the Sharia courts [have been seen in other rebel held areas in the country](#).





أبو قتادة الأثري

Yesterday at 3:59 PM

تم هدم صلبان كنسية مدينة كسب المحررة وبإذن الله سيقلبها المجاهدين إلى مسجد ..!



1, and the church Bibles have been burned.



Haitham Moussawi)



Images: Al Qaeda militants tweet that they have removed all crosses from churches and that alcohol is now contra ban.

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