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March 17, 2018

WEATHER / ANKARA  
Saturday Partly Cloudy 13°C

## Overjoyed Syrians return to liberated homes in Afrin

*Civilians return to their homes as Turkey's Operation Olive Branch continues to liberate Afrin region from YPG/PKK*

By Halil Fidan and Behcet Alkan

AFRIN - Civilians in Syria's northwestern Afrin are excited to return home after Turkish military and Free Syrian Army (FSA) cleared their villages and districts of YPG/PKK terrorists. Cars loaded with Kurdish and Arab families are on their way home.

They are being assisted by the Turkish army and FSA. A large number of civilians flocked to Sheran district, northeast of Afrin city, which is one of the liberated areas. Aziz Ahmed, one of the many Syrian Kurds who suffered persecution by YPG/PKK, said: "Thank God our region is cleared

from terrorism. We believe that from now on everything is going to be all right." He said the YPG/PKK forced civilians, including women to take up arms, punishing those who resisted, including himself. "When the terrorists were here they constantly persecuted people. I was arrested several times as... [MORE DETAILS](#)



Anadolu Agency Infographics



## Turkey to distribute 100,000 tons of flour to Syrians

By Dilara Zengin

ANKARA - Turkey will donate 100,000 tons of flour to civilians living in war-torn Syria, according to the Turkish government's official gazette on Friday,

a daily printed record of legislative acts and notices. Turkish Grain Board (TMO) will supply the flour to the Turkish Red Crescent (Kizilay), which will distribute it to civilians. The Disaster and... [MORE DETAILS](#)

## Civilians trying to flee Afrin despite YPG/PKK barriers



Anadolu Agency Infographics

By Sarp Ozer

ANKARA - Civilians in northwestern Syria, Afrin, where Turkey's Operation Olive Branch is ongoing, are trying

to flee the district center despite the terrorist group YPG/PKK's attempts to throw up barriers. As the Turkey-backed Free Syrian Army (FSA) forces are getting closer to the

district center, the civilians in Afrin began to flee the town. Trying to use civilians as human shields, however, the terrorists in Afrin have dug trenches to prevent them... [MORE DETAILS](#)



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## Sweeping arrests of suspects in terror plot

By Omer Yildiz, Safak Yel and Halil Demir

ADANA/IZMIR/ISTANBUL - At least 94 PKK suspects have been arrested across Turkey during counter-terror operations, a security source said Friday. In southern Adana province, counter-terrorism police arrested 47 suspects, including five women and 10 children, during simultaneous operations at 73 separate locations, said the source, who asked not to be named due to restrictions on talking

to the media. In another operation in western Izmir province counter-terrorism police arrested 36 PKK suspects. Separately in Istanbul, police arrested 11 PKK suspects. The suspects were preparing for a terrorist attack with arms, molotov cocktails, and improvised explosives following a call by the PKK terror group ahead of the March 21 spring festival of Nevruz. Police is on the lookout for more suspects, the source added. [MORE DETAILS](#)



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## Assad regime, Russian airstrikes kill 40 in E. Ghouta