

4.1.4. Afrin area

The Afrin area, previously occupied by the SNA until control was transferred to the transitional administration in early February 2025,[656](#) witnessed during the reference period numerous instances of civilians being subjected to killing,[657](#) kidnapping,[658](#) beating,[659](#) threats[660](#) and intimidation,[661](#) as well as armed robbery/looting[662](#) by members of militias, including SNA-affiliated factions such as the Sultan Murad Division,[663](#) the Al-Hamzat Division,[664](#) and the Suleiman Shah faction.[665](#) Rudaw quoted the human rights monitor Violations Documentation Center (VDC) as saying that 87 people had reportedly been kidnapped between 1 January and 8 February 2025.[666](#) At least one child was killed during gunfights involving theft and robbery.[667](#)

[656](#)

FDD, Syrian government forces enter Afrin, signaling a change in control, 6 February 2025, [url](#); BasNews, Syrian Forces Take Control of Afrin From Turkish-Backed SNA, 6 February 2025, [url](#)

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SOHR, Six gunshots | Members of “Al-Sultan Murad” kills a civilian after exiting a mosque in Efrin, 7 January 2025, [url](#)

[658](#)

Rudaw, 87 people ‘kidnapped’ in Afrin since start of 2025: local watchdog, 8 February 2025, [url](#); ANHA, Turkish occupation mercenaries continue to commit crimes in Afrin, 17 February 2025, [url](#); SOHR, Ongoing violations | Turkish-backed factions kidnap six women and arrest five young men in north Aleppo countryside, 11 January 2025, [url](#); SOHR, Ongoing violations in Afrin | “National Army” factions continue kidnaps, arbitrary arrests and looting of civilian properties, 28 December 2024, [url](#)

[659](#)

SOHR, Ongoing violations in Afrin | Turkish-backed factions brutally beat civilians, loot civilian properties and fell fruit-bearing trees, 23 January 2025, [url](#)

[660](#)

SOHR, Ongoing violations | Turkish-backed “Suleiman Shah” Faction storms houses in Efrin and impose extra royalties, 14 January 2025, [url](#)

[661](#)

SOHR, Ongoing violations in Afrin | Turkish-backed factions brutally beat civilians, loot civilian properties and fell fruit-bearing trees, 23 January 2025, [url](#)

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Rudaw, 87 people ‘kidnapped’ in Afrin since start of 2025: local watchdog, 8 February 2025, [url](#)

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SOHR, Stray bullet | Girl killed during clashes between “Mohamed Al-Fateh” Faction and thieves in Efrin, 15 November 2024, [url](#)