

Al-Jazeera.net attends a meeting between the mujahidin of ISIS and Jabhat Al-Nusra



Madin Diyriya – north Syria

Can a field reporter refuse an opportunity to enter a stronghold of the one of the most famous and powerful Jihadi organizations in Syria and discover from where they came? And what is their vision towards some of the current issues? And how do the fighters of Jabhat Al-Nusra Li-Ahil Al-Sham deal with their counterparts the Islamic State in Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS)?

The journalists answer to that question might be contradictory, but the Al-Jazeera.net correspondent to north Syria didn't waste that opportunity, rather he sought to take advantage of that and spent three days moving between the locations of Jabhat Al-Nusra in one of the advanced frontlines in north Syria.

There where the means of contacting with the outside world are absent and there is no sign of electricity or internet, fighters from several countries and Syrians are in a state of daily mobilization and preparation. And the Al-Jazeera.net correspondent moved between four of these locations.

The first thing that drew his attention is the outward appearance of the fighters and their keenness not to distinguish between a commander and fighter and their extreme adherence to the secrecy of the organizational status and their daily tasks.

And the keenness of some of them to wear camouflaged military outfit which some of it was designed similar to the customary outfit of the men of Sharia in Pakistan and Afghanistan. And others added to that wearing the cap of the Pashtun tribesmen in both countries despite that they live thousands of kilometers from both countries.

One day fighters and field commanders from the ISIS came to a location

of Jabhat Al-Nusra seeking to deliver a message that the bitter conflict between the leaderships of the two organizations that belong to Al-Qaeda is not that severe on the level of the fighters and field commanders.

France and Germany

Those expressed their keenness to keep the black banners that distinguish them with “Lā Ilāha Illa'llāh” written in white and they carried it whenever the camera followed them. Some of them revealed that they came from Britain, France, Norway, Germany, the Arabian Peninsula and Chechnya. And two of them in addition mentioning the names of their western countries they sent messages to their governments.



Fighters of Jabhat Al-Nusra and ISIS

Abu Amr, a Jihadi from Wales in Britain belonging to Jabhat Al-Nusra, said: “The British government should know that we are serious in establishing the Islamic State in Bilad Al-Sham”. As for Abu Musab from Norway who belongs to Jabhat Al-Nusra: “We are a project of jihad and martyrdom, tell me what power will stand in the face of 20,000 martyrdom seekers from the State of Islam in Iraq and Al-Sham”.

Also what was eye catching the presence of an Egyptian Jihadi belonging to Jabhat Al-Nusra called Abu Suleiman Al-Misri. He didn’t mention his organizational status, but he was keen to speak about the current situation in Egypt. Abu Suleiman said: “After the recent events in Egypt it became proven to the world that the vision of Jihadis is correct that the people of democracy are worshiping a dried dates idol besides Allah Almighty and that it is another religion than the religion of Islam when they starve they eat it”. And he added: “Despite that democracy brought the Islamists to power in Egypt but they turned against it and fought it with the power of arms”.

And in response to the question regarding the stance of the Syrian masses from the declaration of Jabhat Al-Nusra its pledge to Al-Qaeda, Abu Suleiman clarified “the acceptance of the people of Syria didn’t change, and the love of the masses to Jabhat Al-Nusra didn’t change, rather the acceptance and popularity increased, did anyone other than Al-Qaeda came to support the Muslims in any of the Muslim lands?”.

Alawite massacres

The ISIS wasn't different from Jabhat Al-Nusra in keenness to deny what is said against it in the media. Regarding that a spokesman for the State Abu Azzam Al-Najdi – which his nickname refers to his origin - was keen to deny that it committed massacres against the individuals from the Alawite sect or that it committed human rights violations.

He wondered: “Where are the human rights organizations from what is happening to the Muslim children? Where are they from the infants who died in the hands of their mothers? Where are these organizations from the overcrowded prisons?”



Abu Suleiman (right) and a Commander who didn't reveal his organizational status

And about the State involvement in causing a conflict with the Free Army, Abu Azzam said: “This is totally false; the State understands the reality of the conflict and it realizes the Fiqh of Sharia politics and the goal of the State was never to open fronts with the Free Army”.

And he confirmed at the same time that there are groups in the Free Army – not all of it – are hypocrites and some of them are lurking for the project of the State and want to abort and topple it.

As for what have been reported in the media about the Jihadis legitimizing the so called “jihad Al-Nikah”, Abu Suleiman and Al-Najdi confirmed that Ahli Sunnah wa Al-Jama’a “according to the Sharia reject” the so called “jihad Al-Nikah”. And Al-Najdi said: “This is a campaign that target the mujahidin in Syria to distort image of the Jihadi movements”.