

# Detection report about the archaeological sites in Al Balikh basin and Euphrates valley



The Authority Of Tourism and  
Protection Of Antiquities in  
Al Jazira Canton

Manbej

Kobani

Tell Abyad ( Gere Spi )



Prepared by :

Rustem Abdo - Adnan Al Bari

Translated by : Amer Ahmed - Nergez Bijjo

Since the Syrian crises has broken out on March in 2011 the legacy became lives a real danger where vandalism and robbery reached to cataclysmic phase threatens to erase the immortal humanity civilization Since two years the Authority of Tourism and protection of Antiquities has founded in Al Jazira Canton this

Authority belong to Democratic Self – Management to protect the archaeological sites by a group of archaeologists ..

After liberating Kobani , Tell Abyad ( Gere Sbi ) and Manbej by people protection Units and Democratic Syrian forces we have documented some of their sites by delegation from the Authority ( Beryvan Yunes – Rustem Abdo – Adnan Al Bari – Nejbir Ibrahim ) by coordinating with administration of these cities these cities are as following :







## Manbej

located 80 Km northeast of Aleppo it was called during the Roman and Greece period ( Herapolis ) and the oldest mention of it dates back to end of second millennium and beginning of first millennium B . C . in the Assyrian tablets ..







# Hmam Al Kabir

Located eastern of public garden it has been built in end of Othman period as written on the bathroom door shows that , the bathroom is generally in good situation



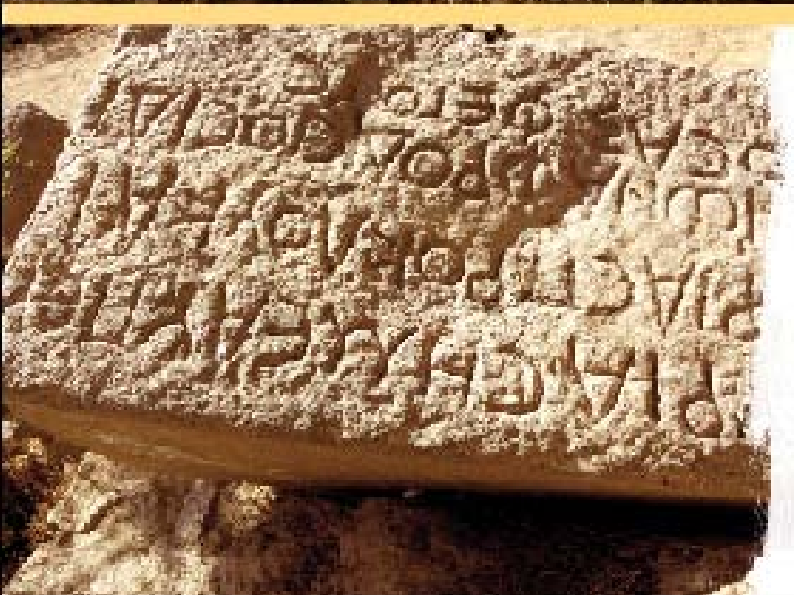


## The public garden


located beside the pitch and it has been built above a Greece temple that was belong to one of gods it has become as exhibition to displays the sculptural arts those found accidentally in the city during construction work

After detection we have noticed secret excavation in the east part of the garden where found a drawer leads to the entrance . also destroying some sculptures those displayed in the garden

Just for notice : the garden has been shelled by alliance warplanes after used it as a shelter by terrorist groups.







## Al Sheikh Aqil Almanbeji shrine

Located in southern side of Manbej city where blowed and also destroying most of graves in the cemetery.



## Nabi Yunnes shrine

located close to Sheikh Aqil shrine it has been destroyed and removed .





## Kone Qarajya

located in the old neighborhood that is called as Qala ( castle ) where subjected to bulldozing and removing a mosaic.

## Citadel of Al Nejem

located 115 km north east of Aleppo on the right bank of Euphrates river . it has been built above rocky mound rises about 54 m . it has irregular form supported by squared towers . the citadel consists of depots , stores , cisterns and secret passages in the beneath . above of this point located the principality palace, bathrooms , halls , rooms and ovens , regarding of upper part it is consist of the command hall and mosque.



# Citadel of Al Nejem

The apparent remains of the citadel date back to Ayyubid period specifically the period of Al Zaher Gazi ( beginnings of thirteen century ) who renewed its building ..

It was used as a military point by the extremist group where throwing arrows center in the citadel damaged also they have took off one of the citadel doors and some of its iron fence . also they opened a hole in the water depot leads to outside in the southern side of citadel as a corridor for flee , and the another hole beside the secret entrance down of the drawer . a part of one of the halls has collapsed as well ..





# Kobani



## Shiukh Tahtani

located on the left bank of Euphrates between Jarablos and Tell Ahmar , settled during 3000 – 1200 B.C ( bronze periods ) also during Assyrian , Roman , Greece , and Islamic periods.



# Shiukh Tahtani

The excavations in the site began in 1993 by Italian expedition under Juaniko Falsuni supervision. After detection noticed bulldozing and road opened from down to up in helically motion in south west side of mound . also noticed secret excavation inside the mission excavations in the east side of mound . in addition to secret excavation down of mound with length 1,5 M , wideness 1 M and depth 10 M , and noticed squared pit in the northern side with length 4 M and depth 1,5 M

Most of mission excavations have been affected by the weather factors , also most of expedition house contents have been stolen ( we have transported some of it to safety place ).





# Shiukh Foqani

located on the left bank of Euphrates river southwest of Shiukh Tahtani after detection noticed bulldozing and opening road from down to up in the southeast side , also trench beside the mound in the southern side , the expedition house has been stolen and damaged ( we have transported some of it to safety place ).



# Tell Ahmar ( Tell Barsip )



Is located about 20 km south of Jarablos on the left bank of Euphrates river . the site inhabited in the end of second millennium and early first millennium B .C . it was called in Aramaic period as Barsip name and it was the capital of Bit Adni kingdom before changing its name to Kar Shalmaneser during Assyrian period . then inhabited during the Roman and Greece period too The excavations in the site began in 1927 – 1931 then excavated by Australian expedition ( under management of Bonin ) in 1980

After detection noticed bulldozing in the top of mound and earthy barricade , also the excavations have been affected by weather factors , beside of stealing expedition house contents ( records – Equipment – remains ) and collapsing the house walls . also building for protection in the site , some of its contents transported to safety place ..



## Elijag ( Qanaya )



located 40 KM southwest of Kobani after detection noticed bulldozing with length 15 M and depth 1,5 M in the western side of mound , also noticed ( 3 ) pits with different sizes in the west of mound , in addition of dredging and opening a road from down to up in the southern and eastern side of mound , also noticed pit in the beneath of mound in southern side in addition of bulldozing in the top of mound and building cement fortifications on it ..







## Ain Al Arab ( Kanya Kurda )

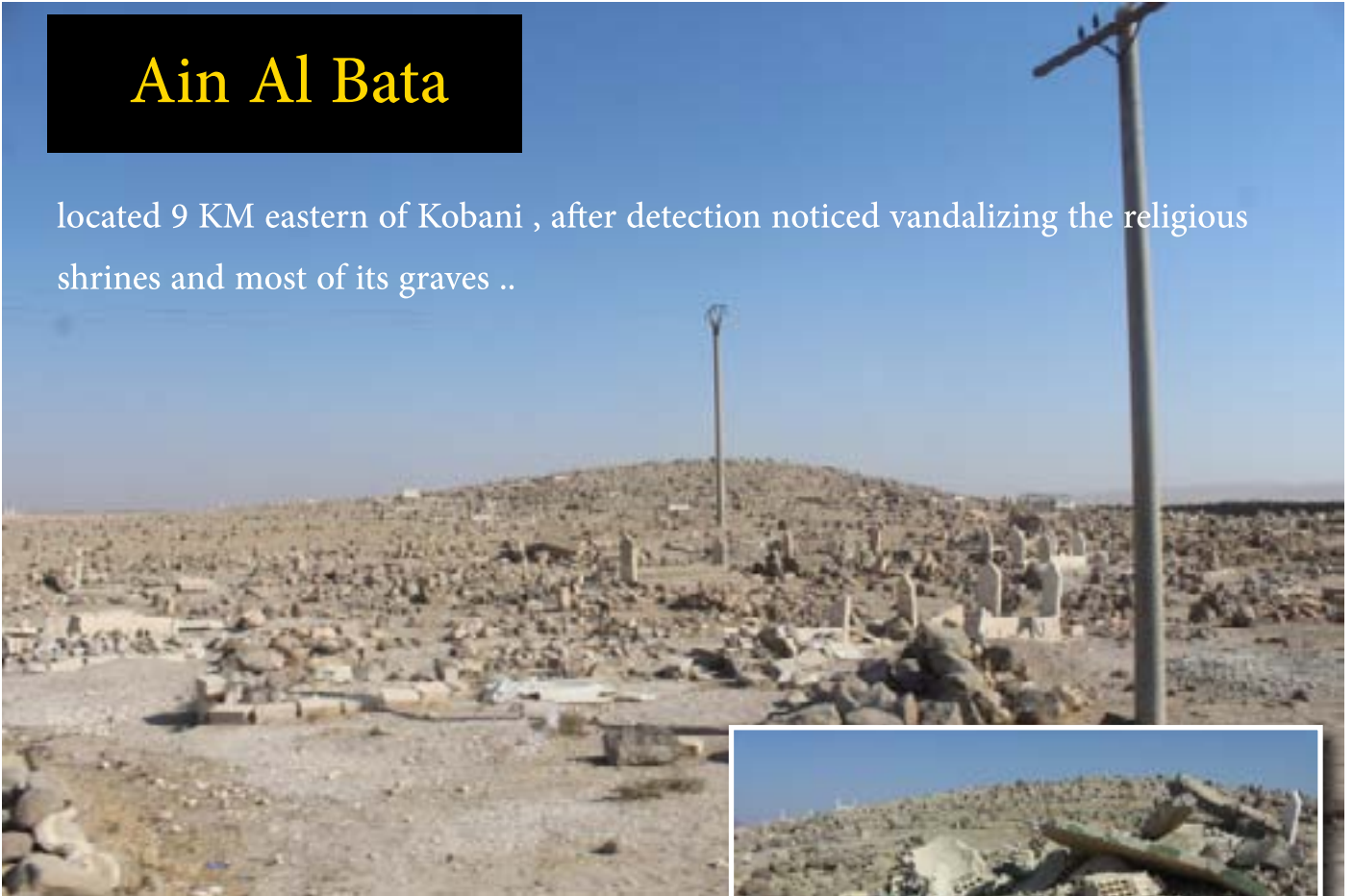
located north of Kobani after detection noticed trench around the mound in three sides , also bulldozing and road leads to the top of mound in the western side of mound , and bulldozing top of mound with depth reached to 2 M for protection , trench begin from the beneath to up of mound in western side ..





# Ain Al Bata

located 9 KM eastern of Kobani , after detection noticed vandalizing the religious shrines and most of its graves ..



# Kana

located 20 KM eastern of Kobani after detection noticed bulldozing in the northern and southern mound in addition of fortifications in the northern mound.







## Tell Shair

located 2 KM western of Kobani after detection noticed trench with length 25 m , wide-ness 2 m and depth 1,5 m ending with squared pit with size 4/5 m and depth 3 m in the northwest side of mound , also trench with length 110 m , wideness 2 m and depth 2m extend from northern side to southern in the middle and east of mound , in addition of discordant building on the mound.



# Tell Abyad ( Gere Spi )

## Hamam Al Turkman

located 20 KM southern of Gere Spi ( Tell Abyad ) it is one of important sites in Al Balikh basin , it has been named as a historical name ( Zalba ) , the site inhabited during Al Obeid period and 3000 – 1200 B . C ( Bronze periods ) and it was the prosperity period in the site . its area about 3 hectare the excavation in the site began in 1981 by Dutch expedition under Van Lon supervision .







## Hamam Al Turkman

after detection noticed secret excavation more than 100 pit with different sizes in dispersedly places , also the excavations have been affected with weather factors.





## Tell Al Sabi Al Abyad

Located north east of Hamam Al Turkman about 5 km throughout Balikh river , the site consists of a group of small mounds some of them in 5 hectares , the settlement passed in two phases one during sixth - fifth millennium B . C and the second during upper Bronze period , the excavation in the site began in the middle eighteenth century by Dutch expedition under peter Akkremans management , After detection noticed bulldozing and barricade in eastern side of the mound , also in the western side down of mound in length 15 m , wideness 4 m and depth 3 m . in the northern side noticed two pits dug with a heavy machine , also the excavations in north west of the mound used as place to manufacture the fuel and bulldozing a wide area from the site for the same reason where noticed a cement building . and breaking down graves in the small mound in the north side , regarding of expedition house it is in a bad situation where some of equipment and remains have stolen as the observer alleges ( Salem Mekhlef Al Aisa )





## City of Al Far ( Muslema fort )



located 22 KM southern of Gere Spi ( Tell Abyad ) and of Hamam Al Turkman about 5 KM eastern , its area about 90 hectares and it is one of Islamic sites , inhabited during the Umayyad period and continued till Abbasid period . the excavations in the site began in 1986 by German Mission under Michael Mainke supervision . after detection noticed secret excavations inside mission excavations in the northern side of mound , most of the mission house contents have been stolen ..



# City of Al Far ( Muslema fort )





# Kharab Sayar

located between Al Raqqa and Ras Al Ain city and about 10 KM southern of Tell AL Khueira , the site has been inhabited during Abbasid period between 8th till 11th century , it has been used as a fort to counter the Byzantine empire , also the site inhabited in the Bronze periods , the excavations in the site began in 1997 by German Mission under Michael Mainke supervision .

After detection noticed that the excavations have been affected by weather factors where some of walls have collapsed , also secret excavations in dispersedly places , also the roof of mosque that is located in the west side of mound has stolen ..



# Tell Khueira

located 30 KM eastern of Gere Spi ( Tell Abyad ) , and it is one of important sites in northern of Mesopotamia during Bronze periods notably early bronze , the site excavated by German Mission under Mayer supervision .

The mission house has been shelled by alliance warplane after using as shelter by extremist groups , also it has been stolen except some of its contents transported to a safety place by the Authority of Tourism and protection of Antiquities .  
The site is generally in good situation except influence the excavations by weather factors also secret excavation in the eastern side of mound ( three sides ) .





## Koberlik ( Tell Kabir )

located in the middle way between Kobani and Gere Spi ( Tell Abyad ) after detection noticed and opened a road leads from down to up of mound , in addition of cement canal around the mound , also a trench on the southern mound from south to north side , also bulldozing down of mound in the northern side.



# Kherbat Al Bagilat

the site consists of a group of small mounds located southeast of Gere Spi ( Tell Abyad ) about 23 KM close to Hamam Al Turkman , after detection noticed secret excavation in these mounds , in the northern west mound noticed 27 pit in different sizes , and 5 pits in the northern east mound including bulldozing with length 13 M and wideness 3 M , and a group of pits in the southern mound.





# Karbet Al Anber

located 20 KM southeast of Gere Spi ( Tell Abyad ) after detection noticed secret excavations with different sizes , also removing soils.







## Tell Abyad ( Gere Spi )



located inside the Tell Abyad ( Gere Spi ) city , after detection noticed trench beside the mound with wideness 1,5 M and depth 2 M , also a trench in the top of mound , in addition bulldozing and opened road leads from beneath to the top in east side of mound , also bulldozing on surface of mound and fortification building , also noticed secret excavation as a trench surrounds the site from all sides with wideness 1M and height 2 M including pits as rooms seems were formed by extremist groups before liberating it

Also the small mound that located beside it has been subjected to bulldozing in all sides by heavy machine .





## Nabi Ibrahim shrine

located in Ain Al Arus in Tell Abyad  
( Gere Spi ) after detection noticed that the  
shrine blown by terroristic groups and  
removing it too.



## Nabi Ibrahim shrine



## Tell Dahliz

located southeast of Tell Abyad ( Gere Spi ) and western of Kharab Sayar after detection noticed collection of secret excavations in the site.

