

Heavy fighting heard in Syrian border town

Contributed by Dailystar
Wednesday, 08 June 2011

Syrian army soldiers stand on their vehicle as they reinforce the village of Arida near the Lebanon-Syria border May 19, 2011.

BEIRUT: Heavy fighting was heard around the Syrian village of Arida near the border with Lebanon Wednesday, a Lebanese security source said.

The source told The Daily Star that crackling gunfire and shelling from tanks echoed through Arida near the Lebanon-Syria border at dawn Wednesday.

Pillars of smoke billowed over the village, the source added.

The body of a Syrian soldier shot in the back was found and retrieved from the al-Kabir River along the Lebanon-Syria border.

The source said the body was taken to Salam Hospital in Zghorta, north Lebanon.

Another Syrian soldier, also with gunshot wounds to his back, made it into Lebanon. He was taken to Rahhal Hospital in the north Lebanon region of Akkar.

Syria has banned foreign journalists and prevented coverage of the conflict, making it nearly impossible to independently verify accounts coming out of the country or to gauge the strength of the unprecedented protest movement in one of the most authoritarian regimes in the Middle East.

Read more: <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Politics/2011/Jun-08/Heavy-fighting-heard-in-Syrian-border-town.ashx?#ixzz1OgWqbvUH>