

The current state in Mosul

Josh – Thursday 16 March 2017

ISIS is being pushed out of Mosul. The most recent raid against ISIS has been by the Iraqi elite forces in the Eastern side of Mosul. The raid was carried out in the night time. This saved many lives on the other side of the bridge.

Counter terrorism forces (CTS) formed a night time attack on the Tigris River and drove back I.S.

"We used special equipment and had the element of surprise - the enemy did not expect us to mount a night offensive because all previous offensives were during the day," said CTS spokesman Sabah al- Numan in a recent interview with Reuters.

The UN has placed a warning to 400,000 civilians because it involves a siege on the old city. According to the UN, more than 200,000 people have already evacuated in and around Mosul.

A U.S top military soldier said "They're lacking purpose, motivation and direction" in a recent interview.

The pace of these battles show major advancements in the Iraqi military and being able to co-ordinate with the US-led air campaign has shown great strength. This is pounding I.S militants and forcing them out.

Iraq's military quickly annihilated barriers and trenches that the militants established. The militants are struggling to put in place military operations too slow the Iraqi advance. Iraq's military has been fighting ISIS since 2014 when they attacked Iraq from Syria. US training camps have resulted in a much stronger fighting force to take back major cities. In addition, ISIS militants are heavily outnumbered. There are around 100,000 Iraqi soldiers pushing back ISIS compared to I.S's 3,000-5,000.



Image - A destroyed government building in the west of Mosul.

Source: Reuters