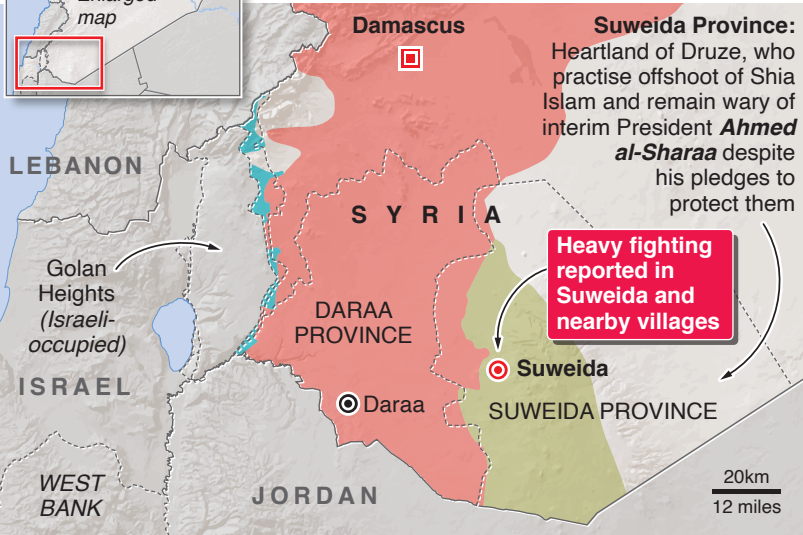


# Sectarian clashes threaten Syria's transition



Clashes between Bedouin tribes, government forces, and Druze militias have left nearly 250 people dead, once again raising fears of a breakdown in Syria's fragile postwar order



■ Government led by **Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS)**
■ Opposition groups
 ■ Israel Defense Forces (IDF)

■ **Jul 11:** Robbery and abduction of Druze merchant on highway to Damascus sparks clashes between Bedouin tribes and Druze militias in Suweida Province

■ **Jul 13:** Druze fighters seize al-Maqwas neighbourhood of Suweida, which is inhabited by Bedouin, as clashes spread into other parts of province

■ **Jul 14:** Syrian government deploys military to quell conflict. Druze militia, believing that government forces are coming to aid Bedouins, clash with them

■ **Jul 14-16:** Israel launches strikes against government troops in Suweida and Syrian Defence Ministry in Damascus with declared aim of protecting Druze from harm