

Human rights report on the situation of Syrian refugees in Beqah Lebanon

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Presentation:

The Syrian observer in Lebanon studies the situation of human rights of Syrian refugees in Lebanon, supported by the Arab Human Rights Fund (www.ahrfund.org), it is a one-year project. The number of Syrian refugees estimated by the United Nations statistics is 400 thousand people. The focus in this report is on two areas in Beqah: Bar Elias and Saad Nael, five camps between those two areas were aimed (119 tents). There are some tents inhabited by several families in order to reduce the rent of the ground; the number of families is 136 (600 refugees) contains 306 children which means that they are the same number as the adults. The work team noticed an increase in the case of non-subscribed babies who were born in Lebanon, most of them only have birth certificates from the hospitals on top of that the parents do not know how to subscribe them legally or they are unable to afford the cost and afraid of going to the Syrian embassy. Some marriages are not even conformed in the court of law, some exploitation cases were observed on the part of the land owners, the rent of a tent starts from 75 thousand Liras up till 150,000. This increase is because of the absence of inspection plus the townships do not committed to the situation of the refugees. A lot of Syrians have migrated to Beqah and they are being used by the land owners, they do not let them dig wells nor they let them move the sewer out the camp so the water gets contaminated which led to illnesses and diseases affected the residents of the camps, also they would disconnect the electricity in order to reduce the bill which they already counted with the rent. Sometimes people are deprived of the supplies where townships only allow the organizations to distribute according to their statistics which has no hand in this area but it gives only a small amount and later sells the rest. The township bothers those who work in the field of psychological support and in education, the violation in hospitals in this area is increasing as well, with winter coming, there is a lack in heating. Young men are unable to work because of the hard condition opposed by general security and being unable to renew their papers. A human disaster is approaching, illnesses will spread, the cold will be unbearable specially among kids because their number keeps getting larger because the refugees lack procreation awareness.

Violation cases:

1- A camp was raided and a young man was taken (h-l) along with other men, they were taken to (sh) police station where they were beaten and assaulted verbally, he stayed

there for two days then he was released and given leave papers for approximately 15 days , all his legal papers were taken away and they told him to go to general security after 15 days to get his papers , when he went they also told him to come back after 15 days and until the time of this report he still in the same situation.

2- A child named abdalmalek was dehydrated, they took him to hospital (a-l) he was in need to intensive care room so his father paid money and the hospital asked for united nations papers, they took the money and the papers and put the child in a regular room after 2 days his condition kept getting worse, the father talked to the manager but his answer was there are no empty rooms. it took them 3 days to move the kid to the room where he stayed one day and then died, they did not give him his body until the father gathered 1 million Lebanese liras after contacting some organization, the hospital also took the identity of the mother, yhey took the body but the father could not sue the hospital because he had no papers.

3-(r-m) went to erssal to visit , in the way back to beqah she was stopped on reaq roadblock the got her out and started asking so many question a=so she answered provocatively so she was taken to the police station along with another women whom she was with in the car but they did not know each other one of the officer said that she must be put with male prisoners but the head of the station rejected that so they were moved to a military hospital where (r-m) spent the night in the safe room , they were inspected in the hospital and she was assaulted by the officer , in the morning they were moved to zahle in exchange of 900 thousand liras.

4- (S and m_e) at 6 o'clock in the morning the camp was raid and they entered the tent of s and m they asked the mother to open the door < s and m were asleep they were uncovered and dragged out side and beaten up with out knowing the reason so m confronted the officer and asked about the reason but the officer hit him and he was dragged outside the camp along with his brother and put in a car and taken to the police station where he was hit again for confronting the officer , they kept hitting them till the evening then they released them because they were under the legal age . m had a motorcycle , they took it when he was released he asked for it back , they told him to comeback in a week , when he went to get it he was beaten again and was not given back his motorcycle.

5- (k_l) age 16 works in a canned goods factory for 9 hours a day and a 13000 paycheck she stands everyday for 9 hours only 30 minutes break . sometimes she had sudden break down because of standing for long time but non of the supervisors cared and always asked her to go back quickly to work, k says that onetime a can exploded in her hand which was normal because of the big pressure inside these cans, supervisor S was near her when this happened so he hit her with the can , another time a bean can exploded in her face so hot water came out of it and burnt her face , they took her to the supervisor and he spilled on her face some cold water and told her to get back to work . in summer they did not allow the workers to drink cold water saying that it was

only for the boss . once there was a fire in the factory so they took the workers out , a girl said that the factory is not safe so the supervisor hit her in the back in order to shut her up.

6- (h_g) his tent was raid and he asked them to give him time just to get dressed but they dragged him out side and searched the tent and hit him his cousin was there , after they tortured him the officer moved them to the car , h had a motorcycle when the officer asked him he said it was not his, his cousin said that they own it so the officer took it and started the motor but it was out of gas so he took 10000 from h to fill its tank. They were put in the car , beaten and assaulted for 15 minutes then they asked for his cellphone , they went to the tent and searched it and threatened his wife until she handed the phone. They moved them to the station where h was tied and they undressed them and got hit on the toes by the gun heel, another officer hit them with a whip. Later h was moved to a kitchen , an officer cut his hand and put on the wound some pepper so h will confess, another one came and hit his other hand with a steel pipe. In the evening they were moved along with another person to station (a) , h was taken to the detective but his eyes were covered , he asked him about what happened but he was so much in pain , they uncovered his eyes and he saw his hands, one bleeding while the other is swelling , the detective threatened him that if he did not confess he will cut it off. He was moved to a humid dark sell and thy forced him to eat spoiled food then they turned him to another officer in another station but he would not take him in before he gets some medical attention , he was taken to a hospital, where he paid 25 thousand liras to cure him , the next morning the detective came and released them all.

Recommendations:

Ministry of internal affairs and townships:

Assign supervisors to the town ship to organize the supplies distribution process.

Ministry of social affairs :

Sue the people who are taking advantage of children, spread awareness among parents, and work to stop child working.

Purify the water in saad nael and assign supervisors on the process.

Spread awareness among people about the importance of subscribing the children and found in office specialized in this topic in the Lebanese government.

Refugees legation:

Reconsider the decision of cutting out people from the united nations, going to camps to see the fired people in order to know if they deserve it, and explain their decision to the people .

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