

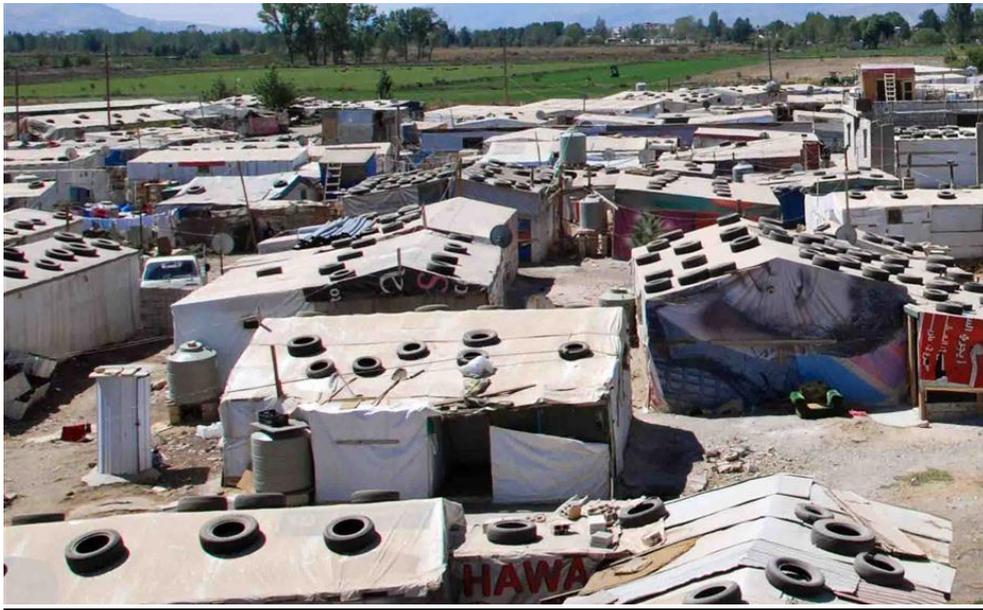
Human Rights Report about the Situation of Syrian refugees in the Beqaa - Lebanon

2016/8/18

about July/2016

Introduction:

We have nominated a Syrian observer (rapporteur) in Lebanon to study the human rights situation of the refugees from Syria in the Beqaa in Lebanon, supported by the Arab Human Rights Fund www.ahrfund.org as a one year project. The number of refugees from Syria in Lebanon is estimated to be 400 thousand people according to United Nations statistics. The focus in this report is on al-Marj in Western Beqaa.



The situation of camps:

This report targeted (almost 500 refugees) in 4 different camps. (162) children including (62) unregistered, noting:

- An increased proportion of unregistered new-born in these camps.

- A neglect of war casualties by the United Nations which is not providing any assistance to them.
- A large increase in the number of refugees whose stay permit expired and their inability to renew it.
- The targeting of these camps by some of the civilian entities and the looting of aid intended for them on the pretext that the situation of the local civilians is worse than the situation of the refugees.
- Increased raids by security forces and the refugees being exposed to beatings and insults.
- Neglect by the local municipal operations in cleaning these camps, despite the presence of an Association who is paying cleaning fees for these camps to the municipality, and a temperamental control of municipal electricity, despite the fact that each tent pays fees of 50000 LP per month.
- Threats by the land owners to the camp residents who are late paying rent for the tents in the camps (one female land owner threatened camp residents that tents will be burned down if the money is not paid) without any control or deterrence of those by the municipalities and government agencies.
- Increase in the number of children in these camps who do not go to schools.

On abuse cases

(S-Kh) entered clinic (Sh) for an emergency birthing. She gave birth to twins who were in good shape according to the testimony of the nurse and the family. A person walked into the mother's room demanding she thumbprints on a paper without knowing its content but one of the mother girlfriends arrived and refused to do so, knowing that the mother was under the influence of the anesthetic drug.

When the mother asked to see her twins, they told her that the children are now in another clinic without giving her the reason for their transfer. The kids stayed in the other clinic for 15 days without a permit for the mother to see them. They asked the mother to pay 5 million Lebanese Lira for them to deliver the twins to her on the pretext that the children were born premature but the mother confirms that they were born in the ninth month. The mother went to see the doctor who insulted her. Then the mother went to the United Nations, whereby the United contacted the clinic to resolve the problem. When the mother went back to get her twins, all they demanded from her was her personal identity card and gave her back the children.

(E-h) was arrested by the barrier. During the arrest he was with his brother. They began to beat him up. They proceeded to beat him up for 5 minutes continuously, until his brother interfered telling them: the that the man had an open-heart surgery and if anything happens to him they will bare full responsibility. Here they stopped the beating and he was taken to the station. In the station, he was again subjected to beatings and was transferred to another station and there his health deteriorated and he was taken to a hospital. He remained in the hospital for 4 hours and then was transferred to the public security in Beirut where he stayed for four days and was release and given an order to leave Lebanon.

Recommendations:

1- To the Lebanese ministry of social affairs:

- a. accelerate in the development of a real plan to for an official registration for new-born children.
- b. work urgently on a plan to improve the conditions of the camps as the camps have no sewage service and garbage is piling-up in areas very close to the camps, all this makes a dangerous risk for epidemics spreading and outbreaks even outside the camp.

2- To the Lebanese Ministry of Health:

- a. Work to put the clinics under your supervision and control, especially those contracted by the United Nations to treat Syria's refugees due to the large proportion of violations committed by these clinics against the refugees rights, in addition to the issue of manipulation to cover the expenses of the refugees by the clinics contracted by the United Nations.
- b. Work on and allow vaccination campaigns for children in the camps, to stop the spread of epidemics there which leads to epidemics spreading in the surrounding areas.

(This project is supported by the Arab Human Rights Fund www.ahrfund.org . The opinions and viewpoints in this report do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the Arab Human Rights Fund or its positions).