


منظمة العدالة من أجل الحياة
Justice For Life Organization



An Appeal from Deir Ezzor Camps



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Introduction:

Justice for Life organization (JFL) continues observing the humanitarian situation in Deir Ezzor province. This paper focuses on the conditions in some camps in the Syria Democratic Forces (SDF) held areas in the north of Euphrates River.

With the onset of winter, the dire humanitarian situations of the internally-displaced people (IDPs) in Deir Ezzor camps, either in the organized or the random ones, increased as tents were washed away by the rainwater, along with the severe shortage in humanitarian relief.

This paper highlights the humanitarian conditions in seven camps located in SDF held areas in Deir Ezzor province.

Organized camps; which are supervised by the local authorities and receive humanitarian relief from different organizations and agencies.

Random camps; which are not supervised by the local authorities and receive low quantities of relief irregularly.

About JFL:

Justice for Life organization, JFL, is a Syrian, independent, non-profit, non-governmental that works on promoting human rights in Syria.

It was established in 2015 by a number of human rights defenders and actors from Deir Ezzor province. This was a fruit of their individual and team defend for human rights in their communities, and documenting the human rights violations that are committed by different parties and powers who have been in the province since 2011, to make it as a platform and space for those who defend human rights and victims in order to advocate and defend their cases in accordance with a legal and professional course, so these violations and acts do not go by no just accountability. It also aims at promoting the human rights in the Syrian society and state on the political, behavioral, and cultural levels in order to ensure access for the victims and their relatives to their rights. In this endeavor, JFL expanded its work in 2016 to be an active and effective part in the national and international alliances and platforms concerned in human rights and documenting violations in Syria, and preparing the profiles of violations and crimes that took place against the Syrians since 2011 according to mechanism and methodologies compatible with international legal standards.

JFL team includes Syrian male and female activists and human rights defenders along with specialized supporting team that includes experts and specialists such as lawyers, judges, doctors, and journalists, who had a role and experience during the past years in the processes of documentations, defend, and advocacy towards human rights in their communities, and on the national level on the other hand, where they depend on their deep belief in principles and values of human rights.

JFL Vision

Syria is a justice and rule of law state where human rights are inviolable and enshrined.

JFL Mission

We work in a participatory manner with the exerted efforts locally and internationally in observing and following up the reality of human rights in Syria

through observation, documentation, forming evidences, participating in initiating legal actions before courts and specialized parties, promoting the capacity of human rights defenders in Syria, and creating spaces for citizens, especially victims and the marginalized, to express and participate in the course of justice until reaching the state of law and citizenship.

Suffering of Some Camps in Deir Ezzor:

First: Abu Khashab Camp:

It is located in [Abu Khashab](#) village, which is subordinated to [Al Kasra](#) sub-district. The camp is considered as the only one that is supervised by the local authorities. It hosts more than (500) displaced families who fled from different areas. It also hosts displaced families from Iraq and families of ISIS fighters.

A number of IDPs in this camp stated to JFL correspondent many problems and challenges they face including;

- 1- Personal documentations of the camp residents are taken by the camp management in order not to leave the camp.

- 2- The long distant between the camp and the populated areas where the markets and water sources.
- 3- Lack of water as a number of organizations and agencies rent water tankers to provide the camp with water.

The camp residents confirmed that the camp conditions got worse by the onset of winter.

On October 26th 2018, many tents were destroyed by the rain storm. It forced dozens of families to sleep outdoor for three days. International organizations provided (500) new tents.



Damaged Tent by the Rain Storm in Abo Khashab Camp – October 26th 2018



Damages of the Rain Storm in Abo Khashab Camp – October 26th 2018

One of the personnel of a humanitarian organization that works in the camp told JFL correspondent that the camp management rejected a request to mobile the camp with no reasons. The same request was raised by number of families in the camp.



New Tents in Abo Khashab Camp – October 31st 2018

Second: Jazrat AL Buhmaid Camp:

It is considered one of the biggest random camps in the western countryside of Deir Ezzor. It is located in the village of [Jazrat Al Buhmaid](#), which is subordinated to Al Kasra sub-district. It hosts about (700) displaced families. The majority of the camp residents fled from the areas that were controlled by the Syrian regular forces in the south of Euphrates River, or from the areas where battle are taking place between SDF and ISIS in the south of the river.

A number of the camp residents confirmed the dire conditions and no relief have not been provided for more than three months. They also confirmed the outbreak of diseases such as infections and diarrhea among children in particular due to cold weather and storms that hit the area.

Third: Zghair Camp:

It is located in the desert of [Zghair](#) village in Al Kasra sub-district, the western countryside of Deir Ezzor. It is a cluster of shattered tents. It hosts about (100) displaced families, most of them fled from Ayyash village and other villages that are controlled by the Syrian regular forces.

A number of the camp residents told JFL correspondent that they suffer from poor tents that has been used for about one year. They also confirmed that they have not received any relief support for more than four months. Also, they stated that there are not medical services as the health centers are distant Al Kasra hospital, which is the nearest one, is 20km away from the camp.



Zghair Camp – November 5th 2018

Fourth: Hawaej Theyab Camp:

It is located in [Hawaej Theyab](#) village, Al Kasra sub-district in Deir Ezzor western countryside. It hosts about (40) displaced families. A number of the camp residents confirmed that they have not received any relief support for about five months, except for distributing an amount of (55,000) SYP by one organization for each family. This distribution was only for some families in the camp.



Hawaej Theyab Camp – November 5th 2018



Torn Tent in Hawaej Theyab Camp – November 5th 2018.

Fifth: Hawaej Al Bumasa'a Camp:

It is located in the center of [Hawaej Al Bumasa'a](#) village, Al Kasra sub-district in the western countryside of Deir Ezzor. It hosts about (50) families who fled from the Syrian regular forces held areas in the south of the river.

A number of the camp residents told JFL correspondent that a number of tents were torn away by the rain storm that hit the area on October 26th 2018. They also confirmed that not humanitarian organizations paid attention to their suffering and they do not receive any humanitarian relief.



Hawaej Al Bumasa'a Camp – November 5th 2018.

Sixth: Mhaimeda Camp:

It is located in [Mhaimeda](#) village in Al Kasra sub-district. It hosts about (200) displaced families who fled from the areas that were recaptured by the Syrian regular forces. The camp has not been provided by any humanitarian relief for about six months. The rains destroyed many tents during the storm that hit the area in October.

A number of the camp residents told JFL correspondent that the humanitarian organizations do not pay attention to their conditions, except for one organization that distributed an amount of money to some families.



Mhaimeda Camp – November 5th 2018.

Seventh: Al Ashawi Camp:

It is located in Sfeera village, Al Kasra sub-district, in the western countryside of Deir Ezzor. It hosts about (20) displaced families. The camp suffers from lack of humanitarian relief and poor tents due to higher temperatures in summer. Additionally, many tents were torn away due to the rain storm that hit the area.

A number of the camp residents told JFL correspondents that they have no ability to rent houses and leave the camp due to expensive rents and lack of money.



Al Ashawi Camp – November 5th 2018.

Recommendations:

Justice for Life organization demands;

1- Self-Administration to:

- Facilitating the movement of the IDPs
- Providing the IDPs with their basic needs in the camps that are run by the self-administration.
- Expanding the current camps and establishing more ones.
- Providing security to the camps.

2- Humanitarian organizations to pay attention to all camps and provide them with adequate relief on regular basis.

3- Donors to increase the fund to the implementing organizations in the north of the river in Deir Ezzor in order to meet the needs of the civilians, residents and IDPs, in these areas.

4- Media platforms to shed the light on the civilians' suffering in Deir Ezzor province, especially those who are displaced in tents as winter is coming.

5- The new UN Syria envoy to put pressure on the Syrian government in order to provide a secure and rapid returning to the IDPs.

6- The international community to put pressure on all parties to conflict in Syria to enter a comprehensive peace process that respects the human rights.



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