

#### **DeirEzzor News Summary**

**DeirEzzor news during January 2021** 

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# ND militia and al-Ashaer Army enhance outposts in Deir Ezzor badiya

The National Defense (ND) militia and the al-Ashaer (Tribes) Army deployed fighters to their outposts in the eastern Deir Ezzor badiya. 125 fighters deployed to the militias' outposts in the al-Jalaa, al-Faydda, and al-Duweir areas. The outposts the militias enhanced are the first defense line against Daesh' attacks.



# Hizbollah militia withdraws surprisingly from al-Bukamal neighborhoods

Hizbollah militia withdrew from a number of its headquarters in al-Jam'iyat neighborhood in al-Bukamal city eastern Deir Ezzor, to other headquarters in al-Hajjanah neighborhood, according to Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent. Our correspondent said that four vehicles of Hizbollah militia surprisingly transported furniture from the militia's headquarters in al-Jam'iyat neighborhood to headquarters in al-Hajjanah neighborhood in Al-Bukamal. The headquarters from which Hizbollah has withdrawn are some of the oldest ones the militia has in Al-Bukamal, as they have been under its control since 2017



#### 4th Division retaliates against people of Deir Ezzor

On Saturday, January 2, members of Assad forces' 4th division beat a number of Deir Ezzor's people at al-Panorama checkpoint at the southern entrance of Deir Ezzor as they were on their way back coming from Damascus, according to Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent. Our correspondent said that the checkpoint members beat a number of reporters on the pretext that they were late to show their ID cards. After they beat them, the members ordered the bus driver to go and leave the young men at the checkpoint for several hours, as a punishment for being late to show their ID cards, amid shouting and insults against the passengers. The 4th Division took its wrath out on the people of Deir Ezzor after 30 members of Assad's forces were killed in al-Shoula area a few days ago.



# Poor families of Deir Ezzor city lose their free medicine

Deir Ezzor 24 network knew that free medicines used to be provided by charity clinics in Deir Ezzor have been cut off for nearly a month and a half. Health centers (charitable clinics), that used to provide free medicine, such as "Khaled Ibn al-Walid" dispensary, has stopped distributing it to poor families, Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent said. Our correspondent added that clinics used to provid free medicines to patients with chronic diseases on a regular basis. "Khalid Ibn al-Walid" dispensary was to provide medicines for about 10,000 people with extremely poor conditions, but this will not happen. These centres used to receive support from charities, but this support has been suspended for more than a month for unknown reasons.



Do you think that sustaining security in Eastern Syria starts

with controlling smuggling operations?



# ND militia intends to dismiss many fighters in Deir Ezzor

The National Defense (ND) militia plans a new training course for its fighters in al-Bukamal and its countryside. The ND will hold the course on January 10, 2020, for ten days. The aim of holding the course is to test fighters to dismiss those uneffecient and keep those who pass the test. The ND did not invite fighters who are relatives to officials or know acquaintances in power. The ND decided to dismiss fighters following the recent financial crisis, as the militia delayed paying the fighters amidst quarrels between the militia commanders due to financial shortage.



# Assad forces launch campaign on al-Bishri mountainous area, western Deir Ezzor

The Assad forces' 5th Corps and National Defense (ND) militia launched a campaign to comb the perimeter of the al-Bishri mountainous area, western Deir Ezzor. The forces reached new posts that Daesh used to be operative in, and that the Assad forces have not reached before. The campaign followed Daesh frequent attacks on the Assad forces in Deir Ezzor badiya, as these attacks increased over the recent weeks, killing and injuring dozens of Assad forces.



#### Daesh landmines injure ND' fighters, western Deir Ezzor

On Thursday, January 7,2020, a Daesh landmine exploded in a military pick up vehicle, injuring seven National Defense (ND) militia' fighters on the perimeter of the Hamma area in the al-Bashri mountainous area in the western badiya of Deir Ezzor. On the same day, an ND group and the 5th Corps forces headed to comb the perimeter of the al-Bishri Mountain. After the forces surrounded a location thought to be sheltering Daesh members, landmines exploded, injuring ND fighters. The forces retreated following the landmines exploding.



# Autonomous administration reduces Deir Ezzor's share of diesel amid popular and administrative rejection

It is mid winter, and the people of Deir Ezzor are still demanding the autonomous administration to increase their share of fuel. Their appeals were met with a negative response on the part of the autonomous administration officials, as they have recently reduced Deir Ezzor's share of the diesel used for agricultural and services purposes. Since the beginning of this winter until this moment, the people of Deir Ezzor have been demanding the autonomous administration to increase their share of heating diesel to protect themselves and children from the harsh cold of winter. Deir Ezzor Civil Council dealt seriously with these demands and conveyed them several times to the autonomous administration's leadership, but what happened is that the diesel quantity was reduced even more, which increased the suffering of Deir Ezzor's people who are facing a bitter winter. In addition to facing the bitterness of winter without heating, the people of Deir Ezzor are also facing a drought because of the absence of rain water this winter, so naturally the people's need for fuel has increased as they will need to operate irrigation pumps and other machinery. Until now, the autonomous administration has not taken any real step to meet the people's need for fuel in Deir Ezzor although recently, people have held many protests and demonstrations in several areas of Deir Ezzor, demanding it to resolve the fuel shortage problem, knowing that their province is rich with oil resources.



## Unknown shooters kill four people,including tribal dignitary, eastern Deir Ezzor

On Monday, January 11, 2021, unknown shooters stormed the house of Haj Taliyoosh al-Shatat who is a major tribal dignitary of the al-Akidat Tribe in the village of al-Hawayej. The shooters killed al-Shatat, his son, and a guest. Al-Shatat's killing shocked residents of the area due to the horrible method and storming his house. Another assassination followed, as masked shooters killed a young man from the town of Abu Hardoob when we was passing by the hospital of Ash-Shaheil town, eastern Deir Ezzor. These assassinations coincide with a military operation by the Syrian Democratic Forces and International Coalition in al-Rawda badiyah, northern Deir Ezzor to comb the area and chase Daesh.



#### Exchange Rates and Gold in DeirEzzor 31-01-2021

Sell Buy 3000 3030 **DOLLAR** 3637 367B **EURO** 4 15 409 LIRA 798 809 **RIYAL** El e, PEl **GOLD 18** 157,305 **GOLD 21** 



# Hizbollah militia redeploys in Deir Ezzor and Homs badiyahs

Hizbollah militia redeployed its forces to its positions deep in Deir Ezzor and Homs badiyahs, a source told Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent. The source added that Hizbollah militia reinforced its positions in the vicinity of "Arak" company and Jahar and Al-Hail fields in order to avoid Daesh attacks, as it brought four cars from Kabajib area south of Deir Ezzor. This deployment followed Daesh attacks, that killed dozens of Assad forces and militias in Deir Ezzor and Homs badiyahs.



### Assad's forces in Buqruss exchange fire with smugglers

Three civilians were injured on Tuesday, January 12, in Buqruss town, which is under the control of Assad's forces in the eastern Deir Ezzor countryside, when members of Assad's forces and Liwaa al-Quds militia exchanged fire with smugglers, according to Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent. Our correspondent said that Assad's forces stationed on the bank opposite to Ash-Shahil town started firing at the riverine crossing in Ash-Shahil, so persons who were near the crossing shot back at them. The crossing was closed for nearly two hours after the shooting, he said. These incidents are frequent often due to differences between Assad's forces and the smugglers working with them.



# Teachers from Deir Ezzor complain to governor, and he responds adversely

About 20 teachers from Deir Ezzor went to the governorate building this morning to file a complaint to the governor against the Directorate of Education in Deir Ezzor, according to Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent. The teachers' complaint is that the education director deducted from their salaries under false pretenses, he said. When they entered to see the governor, he refused to meet them for more than five minutes claiming that he was busy with important issues. The next day, the teachers were surprised that they were transferred to schools in the eastern Deir Ezzor countryside, he added. The governor was recently appointed by Assad regime in Deir Ezzor. He promised to fight corruption and look into the complaints of Deir Ezzor's people.



# Autonomous Administration reopens al-Salhiyah crossing for three days

On Wednesday, January 31, 2021, the Deir Ezzor Civil Council said the Autonomous Administration will reopen al-Salhiyah crossing between the banks of the Euphrates. The crossing links the SDF-controlled areas with those controlled by the Assad regime in Deir Ezzor. The Autonomous Administration attributed reopening the crossing to humanitarian reasons and to facilitate people's moving. The administration added that they will open the crossing on Saturday, January 16 until Monday, January 19, 2021 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00.p.m.



# Liwa al-Quds militia enhances outposts in al-Mayadeen despite bombings

On Wednesday, January 13, 2021, a military convoy of the Liwa al-Quds militia entered the city of al-Mayadeen in the eastern Deir Ezzor countryside. The convoy included 100 fighters headed by Mahmoud Hamdawi and Imad Nayrab. The fighters mission is to enhance the militia's outposts in al-Mayadeen badya. The convoy entered al-Mayadeen after dozens of suspected Israeli airstrikes hit Assad forces' and Iranian militias' outposts, which suggests that the Russians knew about the airstrikes already, especially as they back the militia.



#### Assad regime security services intensify measures in Deir Ezzor

The Assad regime' security services deployed intensified patrols and established checkpoints in major sites in the city of Deir Ezzor. The largest number of patrols and checkpoints deployed to the al-Jourah and al-Qusur neighborhoods and at major roundabouts. The Criminal Security branch arrested two young men for unknown reasons in the al-Wadi street in al-Jourah neighborhood. The Assad regime' security services have been intensifying security measures in Deir Ezzor for unknown reasons.



# Security company in Assad forces-controlled areas announces competition to recruit security guards in al-Bukamal

"Special Tasks" company announced an employment competition to recruit a number of young men from al-Bukamal in combat and guard positions, according to Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent. According to the advertising, which Deir Ezzor 24 network obtained a copy of, the people who will apply for the positions should be between the ages of 20 and 45, healthy and legally eligible. Those who will be selected will have to guard oil facilities in Deir Ezzor, under annual contracts, and with a monthly salary of 175,000 Syrian pounds, that can be increased after 6 months to 200,000 SYP, Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent said. The director of "Special Tasks" man from al-Bukamal called Sheikh company is a "Mohammed al-Daham". He is known for his loyalty to Assad regime and Iranian militias.



#### Medical sector in al-Bukamal entrapped between Assad's negligence and militias' hegemony

The people of al-Bukamal in the most eastern part of Deir Ezzor province suffer from poor health services due to the hegemony of Iranian militias and the negligence of Assad regime, which has offered the city as a gift to Iranian militias. In the shadow of the global Corona pandemic, al-Bukamal is still without quarantine centers, medicines and sterilants. Moreover, the majority of the city's hospitals are out of service. Having field hospitals special for their members, the militias don't care about the residents of al-Bukamal. According to Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent, there is only one dispensary to provide medical services to the people of Al-Bukamal, but this dispensary lacks medicines and equipment as the Health Directorate of Assad regime ignores it. The medical staff working in it are unable to deal with the waves of diseases, such as Leishmaniasis that spreads in Al-Bukamal and its countryside. Because of this bitter medical reality, the people of al-Bukamal find themselves forced to travel more than 170 km to receive treatment in Deir Ezzor city, as their city is forgotten by the Assad regime and its officials.



# Teachers of Hajin city release statement rejecting forced conscription imposed by SDF

On Sunday, January 17, teachers of Hajin city in the eastern Deir Ezzor countryside released a statement rejecting the forced conscription campaign launched by the Syrian democratic forces (SDF) against teachers. According to the statement, which came under the hashtag "Teachers not Recruits", teachers of Hajin city expressed their complete rejection of recruiting teachers in the military field, affirming that they serve only the educational process. They held the Education Authority in Deir Ezzor Civil Council, the Sheikh of Hajin area, and the dignitaries of the region, fully responsible unless the decision to recruit teachers is cancelled. The teachers of Hajin threatened to organize protests to get their voice heard by decision makers in order to stop the recruitment of teachers. About 20 days ago, the SDF instructed teachers, whose date of birth is between 1990 and 2002, in educational complexes and schools of Deir Ezzor to join military service.



#### Assad regime opens new reconciliation center in Deir Ezzor

On Monday, January 18, 2021, the Assad regime opened a new reconciliation center named the Local Initiative of National Reconciliation in the city of Deir Ezzor. The Assad regime opened the center in the al-Urfi neighborhood. Pro-Assad regime tribal dignitaries from eastern and western Deir Ezzor, and Assad regime' security officials attended the opening of the center. The Assad regime appointed a person called Jasem al-Kredi, who is not from Deir Ezzor, as the chief of the center that will receive people wanted for the Assad regime, reach a security reconciliation with them, and enlist them in the Assad forces' ranks in coordination with the Assad forces' 17th Division Command and the Security Committee in Deir Ezzor. The Assad regime opened the center to trick people of Deir Ezzor and restore its control.



#### Smuggling and Assad forces cause prices to increase in al-Bukamal

Residents complain about significantly and incredibly high prices of food materials in the city of al-Bukamal, eastern Deir Ezzor. Among the reasons for the prices' increase are the Syrian Lira decrease against the American dollar, and active smuggling in the city. Smugglers smuggle materials from al-Bukamal to Iraq in coordination with Assad forces' and Iranian militias' commanders, the thing that increases the prices of other material in markets. Taxes imposed on goods by the Assad forces at checkpoints, especially the al-Salihiya checkpoint also increased the prices of materials. The checkpoint is famous for imposing large taxes on vehicles and materials, hence traders receive them at high prices. The traders add profits, increasing the prices of materials. Residents of al-Bukamal continue to suffer due to high prices and deteriorated economy amidst the absence of monitoring, restrictions on the Supply Directorate by traders and smugglers, and the Iranian militias' authoritation.



#### Baath Battalions militia recruits young men to protect facilities in Deir Ezzor

The "Baath Battalions" militia in Deir Ezzor city announced that it want to recruit young men in the villages and towns of (Hatlah, Marrat, Khsham, Mazloum and Al-Husseiniyah), according to Deir Ezzor 24 network correspondent. Our correspondent added that the young men will be recruited as "facility guards", and will be working 4 days a week, without mentioning any thing about salaries or any other conditions. The task of guarding facilities was entrusted to Wagner's Russian forces before it became the responsibility of both the Russian and Assad forces together



#### Taxi wages increase amidst lack of fuel in Deir Ezzor

Taxi wages increased significantly due to the lack and high prices of fuel in black markets in the city of Deir Ezzor, as the Assad regime' Supply Directorate increased fuel prices. Taxi wages inside the city reached 1,200 Syrian pounds (SYP) and 2,000 SYP to the edges of the city. Most of gas stations in Deir Ezzor closed due to the lack of diesel and petrol that were available only in the Assad regime' Sadcop station. Residents complained that they are forced to wait for days or even a week in front of the Sadcop station to get a few liters of diesel. Residents of Deir Ezzor have been suffering due to a new fuel crisis for three weeks, as traders and Assad regime' officials exploited this crisis.



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