

## 'Citizens of Over 81 Countries Fighting in Syria'

DAMASCUS (Press TV) – A recent intelligence report has revealed that terrorists from over 81 countries are currently fighting inside Syria against the government of President Bashar Al-Assad. New York-based intelligence firm, the Soufan Group, estimated in June that at least 12,000 terrorists from 81 countries, including some 3,000 European nationals, are fighting in Syria.

## Thought for Today

If you are greeted then return the greetings more warmly. If you are favoured, then repay the obligation manifold; but he who takes the initiative will always excel in merit.

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UN:

# 650,000 Iraqis Internally Displaced in Recent Weeks



A displaced family from the Izadi community, fleeing violence, walks toward the entrance of Mosul, northern Iraq.

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – A UN committee says over 650,000 Iraqi civilians have been internally displaced in the past few weeks mainly because of attacks by the ISIL Takfiri terrorist group.

The UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination said in a report on Friday that the total number of Iraqis displaced since the beginning of the year has now exceeded 1.5 million.

It added that most of the displaced Iraqis belong to ethno-religious minority groups. According to the committee, the ISIL militancy and the Iraqi army's operation against the terrorist group

have forced civilians in northern parts of the country to leave their homes.

It added that the ongoing ISIL offensive in Iraq "has a grave impact on a variety of minority groups."

It also said that in the past weeks, thousands of civilians have been either killed or put at risk of death in Iraq.

Since early this year, Iraq has been facing a growing militancy by the ISIL Takfiri group and its allied terrorists, who have taken over areas in the country's west and north. The crisis has deteriorated since June, when the ISIL declared a so-called caliphate in the territories they have seized.

The ISIL terrorists have threatened all communities, including Shias, Sunnis, Kurds, Christians and Iza-di Kurds, in Iraq. They have been committing heinous crimes in the areas they have taken, including the mass execution of civilians as well as Iraqi army troops and officers.

The Iraqi army, backed by Kurdish forces and thousands of volunteers, is engaged in fierce fighting with the ISIL terrorists to push them out of the captured areas.

## Syrian Army Continues Targeting Terrorist Positions



The UN Security Council says Yemen's Houthi movement must end anti-government protests.

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – Syrian government forces continue striking a terrorist stronghold in the Jobar district of the capital city of Damascus for a second day.

Syrian fighter jets and artillery targeted Takfiri terrorists' positions, destroying their hideouts and tunnels.

The offensive is being conducted to drive the terrorists out of the strategic area, which the terrorists have used as a staging area for many attacks against the capital over the past year.

Meanwhile, the Syrian army destroyed a terrorist position in the border town of Tfail, which is located in both Lebanese and Syrian territory.

The soldiers destroyed an entire base, which was used to prepare car bombs.

Several explosive-laden cars ready for attacks were destroyed and many terrorists were killed in the operation.

Over the past months, the Syrian army has achieved major victories in its battle against Takfiri groups across the country.

According to estimates by the United Nations, over 190,000 people have been killed and millions of others displaced due to the turmoil fueled by the Western-backed terrorists in Syria since March 2011.

troops at one UN encampment were attacked, but those at another were extricated.

Sources say there are 40 Filipino troops in the encampment that came under attack and 35 in the second.

The latest developments come after the peacekeepers refused to surrender to terrorists, including those linked to the al-Qaeda-affiliate al-Nusra Front. Syrian opposition groups including al-Qaeda-linked al-Nusra Front have been directly supported by the US and trained in Jordan.

Meanwhile, terrorists have also abducted 44 UN troops from Fiji. The Fijian members of the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) were detained on Wednesday near Quneitra.

The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned the assaults against the peacekeepers.

Syria has been gripped by deadly violence since March 2011. Over 190,000 people have reportedly been killed and millions displaced due to the violence fueled by the foreign-backed Takfiri terrorists.

According to reports, the Western powers and their regional allies -- especially Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Turkey -- are supporting the Takfiris fighting the legitimate government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

### UN Peacekeepers in Golan

Dozens of Filipino peacekeepers in the Golan Heights have come under attack by foreign-backed terrorists fighting the Syrian government.

Philippine Defense Minister Voltaire Gazmin said the terrorist assault started early on Saturday, noting that the

The Golan Heights has been under the Israeli occupation since the 1960s.

The Tel Aviv regime captured the Golan Heights during the Six-Day War of 1967 and annexed the region in 1981, although the move was never recognized by the international community and was a violation of international law.

## Fresh Violence Leaves 6 Dead in Afghanistan

KABUL (AFP) – Six people have been killed in a car bomb explosion as well as a shooting attack by Taliban militants in the city of Jalalabad, eastern Afghanistan.

On Saturday morning, a truck filled with explosives blew up at the gate of the Jalalabad office of Afghanistan's National Directorate of Security (NDS).

"The attack was carried out by a vehicle bomb on the Nangarhar provincial NDS office, and then some militants started attacking the office," Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the spokesman for the Nangarhar provincial governor, told AFP.

Three NDS employees were killed in the attack, Abdulzai added.

The head of Nangarhar public hospital, Najeebullah Kamawal, also put the number of those killed and injured at 6 and 45 respectively.



Afghan policemen and security forces arrive at the scene after an attack by Taliban militants on the Afghan intelligence service office in Jalalabad on August 30, 2014.

ly. The bombing prompted heavy fighting between Taliban militants and Afghan police. Officials say the clashes continued for several

hours in the area located along the Pakistani border.

Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, with its spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid saying that

several NDS staff were killed in the assault.

In December 2012, NDS head Asadullah Khalid was wounded in an assassination attempt after a bomb explosion targeted his guesthouse in the capital, Kabul.

Recently, Taliban has stepped up its attacks against the Afghan government, foreign forces and civilians. The group has vowed to escalate the attacks on Afghan forces and US-led troops, their bases, diplomatic missions and vehicle convoys.

The United States and its allies invaded Afghanistan in 2001 as part of Washington's so-called war on terror. The offensive removed the Taliban from power, but insecurity remains across the country despite the presence of tens of thousands of US-led troops.

## Human Rights Activist Khawaja Denied Entry to Bahrain

MANAMA (Press TV) – Bahraini human rights activist Maryam al-Khawaja has been denied entry and detained upon arrival in her country. Security forces at the Manama International Airport told the Bahraini activist on Friday that she no longer holds Bahraini citizenship.

The Bahraini passport of Khawaja, who also has Danish citizenship, was confiscated at the airport. She has now started a water-only hunger strike for not being allowed in her home country.

Khawaja came to Bahrain days after her father, prominent human rights activist Abudulhadi al-Khawaja, started a hunger strike. Hundreds of other inmates are also on hunger strike in protest against torture and ill-treatment of prisoners in Bahrain jails.

The Manama government has imprisoned thousands of people for attending pro-democracy demonstrations over the past three years. In June, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) censured the Manama regime for human rights violations in the country. A total of 46 members of the international body expressed deep concern over the Al Khalifa regime's crackdown on peaceful protesters.

Since mid-February 2011, thousands of pro-democracy protesters have held numerous demonstrations in the streets of Bahrain, calling for the Al Khalifa royal family to relinquish power. On March 14, 2011, troops from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates were deployed to assist the Bahraini government in its crackdown on peaceful protesters.

## Pay for the Bullets

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A group of people caught up in unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, after a white officer killed a black teenager, sued local officials on Thursday, alleging civil rights violations through arrests and police assaults with rubber bullets and tear gas.

The suit, filed in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, says law enforcement met a broad public outcry over the Aug. 9 killing of 18-year-old Michael Brown with "militaristic displays of force and weaponry," (and) engaged U.S. citizens "as if they were war combatants."

The lawsuit seeks a total of \$40 million on behalf of six plaintiffs, including a 17-year-old boy who was with his mother in a fast-food restaurant when they were arrested. Each of the plaintiffs was caught up in interactions with police over a period from Aug. 11 to 13, the suit alleges.

Neither the city, county nor police departments had any immediate comment on the lawsuit.

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"It is doubtful justice would be carried out in a U.S court," remarked my friend Jamsheed and added, "Probably the outcome of the lawsuit would be the plaintiffs being sentenced to pay for the six bullets that were used to kill Michael Brown."