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خوش آمدید

Newspaper of discussion and news about migrants struggles

# مرحبا

# #1

september 30, 2015

## Important statement by the migrants and refugees

Paris, Place des Fêtes.  
Septembre 21th, 2015

We are refugees in the city of Paris. We have left our numerous and different countries where catastrophic situations are taking place (wars, political conflicts, civil war ...), situations which have caused countless casualties and material losses. We have been pushed us out, forced to migrate to flee the horror of these conflicts.

During our migration to safer countries, we encountered many hardships that have caused great loss of life, in the desert and at sea, where many of us have drowned.

We are survivors who were able to make it to this country of human rights and the rule of law, where one can live in dignity, as it is claimed in the media.

When we arrived in Paris, we slept in the street and then in an old disused school, Place des Fêtes, which does not provide the bare necessities. The classrooms, converted into dormitories, no longer support the large number of migrants who must cram in them. Despite the efforts of the refugees and their supporters, the issues we face daily cannot be resolved. This is the result of negligence and denial on the part of the authorities who refuse to uphold their responsibilities towards migrants, abandoning them to their fate.

Actually, even emergency accommodation shelters do not provide the minimal condi-



tions for reception of migrants. In many cases, our most basic rights are violated despite the promises made by the authorities to honor their commitments, which they brag about in the media, in particular, their commitment concerning the reception of refugees «under dignified conditions.» As an example, if proof was needed, the refugees in the accommodation center of Nanterre were first treated with contempt upon arrival, then threatened with repression, and some were even arrested and detained in order to terrorize them.

**For all the reasons mentioned above, we ask that the relevant authorities grant us, and everyone, the following necessities:**

- Suitable housing accommodations, which honor human dignity
- Papers to reside and move freely
- Respect of rights, including the right to eat one's fill

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IS DISTRIBUTED AS  
WIDELY AS POSSIBLE  
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AT THE OCCUPIED  
SCHOOL OF PLACE  
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QUARRÉ)

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# The Jean Quarré occupied school may be evicted in 1 month

On Thursday, September 23rd, the occupants of the high school Jean Quarré and their supports accidentally learnt that the Paris city hall had initiated legal proceedings to obtain the immediate eviction of the place. These proceedings were in progress for several weeks but the people in charge in the city hall had not warned anybody about it, in spite of the multiplication of numerous meetings with many supports and occupants of the high school these last days... Moreover, the official summons arrived only 2 hours before the audience; it was given to a neighbor, not even to the habitants themselves. In spite of this fact, the judge did not agree to grant Henri Braun, the migrants' lawyer, the adjournment of audience in order for him to be able to better prepare the defense. About fifty people were present during the trial to support the habitants of the high school. During the audience, the city hall of Paris and the prefecture largely used the gossip coming from the press articles edited in the past weeks. Once again, the media prepared the ground for the repression... and it's a shame that some people, who call themselves « support of the migrants » talk to the media to tell false and horrible things about the school. The argument of the municipality lawyer rested on the health risks (risk of epidemics, insufficient showers and toilet, overcrowding, etc.) and the fights between refugees. Henri Braun then asked if any complaint had come to support these charges, but no document of this kind was produced, there were only press articles. He reminded that this was all about 2 or 3 fights in a two-months-period and asked about the number of fights in the street and in some of the official and subsidized refugee centers. Indeed, for all those who know or knew the reality of the street and the emergency housings, the assertions of violence concerning the life in the high school

Jean-Quarré are very relative. It is to note that one more time women were used as a political instrument, the city hall pointing that their situation was very serious and required an intervention. We wonder how the eviction of the high school could be useful to the women. Concerning the insalubrity of the place, the lawyer of the high school occupants reminded that in numerous official hostels, such as the Adoma hostels, there were very deficient sanitary conditions and equipment. He asserted numerous arguments among which that of the rehousing obligation of the high school occupants, and reminded that since June 2nd and the ultra-mediatized eviction of the La Chapelle camp, in every evacuation (Aeolus, Pajol and Jessaint), numerous people had remained in the streets. On this question, the city hall was not able to answer anything to the judge when she asked the city hall if rehousing solutions were planned or if it was a «dry eviction». "We want an immediate eviction, but what will come after, that I can't tell you» were obliged to

recognize the State representatives. Unfortunately, justice renderings depend often more on the personality of the judges and on their acquaintances with the interests of the holders of the power and the wealth than on the good arguments of lawyers (avocats) and those that they defend.... So, the decision made that very evening confirms the immediate eviction demanded by the city hall. On the other hand, the magistrate authorizes the intervention of law enforcement in a month only, giving thus implicitly a kind of deadline. We shall all, migrants and people united, get organized meanwhile. To get organized requires naturally to be able to speak about all this together while knowing that the people who live in the high school -as they have no other solutions- are the ones who have to remain the decision-makers of their fate.

**The decision of justice given Friday, September 25th 2015 demand to the high-school habitants to leave the place. The judge authorizes a police intervention in a month.**

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## Closing of the shelter « Les écluses »

On September 24 the shelter « Les écluses closed ». People who were housed since their expulsion from the camp on June 17 of Eole gardens were spread across 2 other shelters according to communitarian criteria: Eritreans in a center of the 13th arrondissement and Sudanese in the foyer located inside the Vincennes detention center. Some knew the Vincennes detention center because they had been locked up after the expulsion of Halle Pajol June 8. So they were reluctant to go and live in a place that reminded them of this traumatic episode and live in the same enclosure as several hundred people without papers locked up awaiting deportation. But to go to other homes as those assigned it takes a prefectural authorization. Indeed the prefecture needs to know where each asylum seeker, including where to send the police seek those who have exhausted all their appeals.

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## Expulsion of the encampments: from the streets to under the carpet

**W**e, refugees, have fled desperate, life threatening circumstances, we have migrated under horrendous conditions and risked our lives every singly day.

any of us died crossing the desert and the sea. The few of us who arrived in France, came with the hope of leading a decent life in this country of asylum and human rights, as it appeared in the media. But our welcome was one of misery on the streets, forced to become homeless beggars, of rain and cold, in short destitution. After the evacuation of our encampment in front of the city hall of the 18th, we were taken to an emergency shelter. There, all promises of the authorities and the administration turned out to be false. When we arrived at the shelter in Nanterre, which turned out to be the annex of a psychiatric hospital, we were confronted with a surprising and terrifying sight, because of its ugliness and of the worrying condition of the numerous patients. We did not get out of the bus out of fear. The administration asked us to choose three of us to visit the dorms inside the center and to facilitate dialogue. Those three refugees confirmed that the place was not suitable and did not correspond to the promises made by the officials who had spoken to us that same morning before the evacuation of the encampment. When we refused to accept this shelter, due to the terrible conditions, the police intervened under orders of the authorities. They arrested the three people who had been designated to speak

with the administration and facilitate a dialogue regarding the shelter. The administration thus used tricks against us and deployed 50 police officers to scare and pressure us. They took the three we had selected, brought them to an unknown location, and we did not hear from them again. Our nightmare did not stop there, we were detained for several hours on the bus. They did not let us go to the toilet and starved us to force us to accept the shelter. We were shocked by this unacceptable behavior and treatment of refugees by the French State. Eventually some refugees accepted this shelter under coercion, although its conditions violate human dignity. Given those bad conditions, we left the center and prefer to roam. All we ask for is the respect of our human rights and \*a\* decent life. Our rights are not big demands. We only ask for normal, decent housing conditions and the recognition of our refugee status in this country, which claims to respect human rights.

*Migrant witnesses, who fled the shelter*

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## Demonstration

**A** hundred people, migrants and people in solidarity, demonstrated in the late evening, Wednesday, September 24. The text « Important statement of migrants and refugees » written by migrants who left Nanterre shelter and inhabitants of the occupied school, was distribute in French and Arabic. The demo, energetic, went to the Place de la République.

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## Let's be many to support the solidary people who suffuring the repression

**T**uesday, August 11, 2015, several migrants hosted in a Emmaus shelter in the 14th district began a hunger strike. Hosted in this center since July 28, day of yet another expulsion of the hall Pajol camp, they are demanding better accommodation and an acceleration of their asylum procedures.

The next day they call for solidarity people met during the struggle to make them see the situation in which they find themselves. Faced with the contempt of the Emmaus staff, migrants decided to occupy the center to ask for the coming of the Director of OFPRA of responsible Emmaus and the town hall to open negotiations with them. In response, they received only the massive police operation. 4 people were then arrested and placed in GAV. Under judicial review, they will go on trial for «sequestration» and «refusal to submit to biological samples» Friday, October 9, 2015 at 9:30 am at Paris Court before the 24th chamber.

Let's be many that day to support them.

## WILLKOMEN

In early September, Austria, opposite the train between Budapest and Vienna blocking hundreds of people organized themselves to get their vehicles migrants and migrants in Hungary and lead them directly on Austrian soil. Persons engaging in this solidarity action have been threatened with prosecution for aiding illegal immigration and four Austrian activists have also been arrested for it in Budapest and the border closure in mid-September has ended this solidarity action openly proclaimed.

But everywhere, every border whether in Greece, Italy, Slovenia, Austria and elsewhere solidarity people are crossing borders to people without asking anything in exchange.

## CALAIS

After the great demonstration of 3000 migrants Saturday, September 19, demanding to be able to go to England, decent housing and be treated as human beings, the state has cracked down hard. Monday, September 21, the prefecture has expelled two camps in the center of the city and razed part of the State slum bulldozed. Two migrants and solidarity person were arrested and another migrant beaten by police. Sont2 this Thursday arrested Sudanese migrants in Calais who have been deported to Sudan.

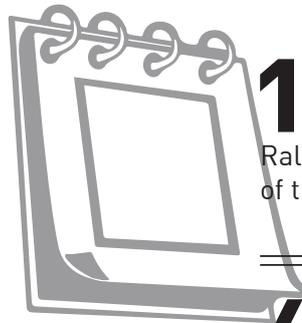
Last week, two migrants were also found dead at the entrance to the Channel Tunnel.

## VINTIMILLE - ITALIE

A., a young Sudanese who participated in the permanent collection at the border between Ventimiglia and Menton was arrested in France. He is currently imprisoned in a detention center. These detention centers this week plusieurs Sudanese were forcibly taken on a plane to be deported to Sudan.

At Ventimiglia migrant and non-migrant people living and participating in the camp held a rally in front of the border post that was blocked for 2 hours. A rally dedicated specifically to A and his fellow prisoners locked up in prison for aliens awaiting deportation. This gathering was harshly repressed by cops in riot gear and 5 people were injured.

Solidarity and freedom for all!



**1** OCTOBER, AT 6PM, IN FRONT OF THE SHELTER AURE, 26BIS RUE SAINT PETERSBURG, M° PLACE DE CLICHY

Rally in solidarity with the hunger strikers of the home.

**4** OCTOBER AT 3PM, PLACE DE LA BASTILLE  
Demonstration called by organizations and trade unions for freedom of movement, in solidarity with all migrants.

**4** OCTOBER AT 8PM, AT CICIP, 21 TER RUE VOLTAIRE, M° RUE DES BOULETS  
Evening Support for the 4 people who pass on trial for their support to the strikers migrant hunger of the shelter Emmaus Pernety (14th arrondissement).

**7** OCTOBER, TIME TO DEFINE  
Rally at Emmaus in solidarity with the four individuals who pass on trial for «sequestration»

**9** OCTOBER AT 9AM30, AT THE PARIS INSTANCE COURT (CHAMBER 24), M° CITÉ  
Trial of 4 people (1 one is asylum seeker) who provided support to migrants hunger strikers of shelter Emmaus Pernety (14th).

Borders

**Permanence open to everyone and implemented from the struggle on encampments Pajol:**

Jean Quarré occupied High School

- Tuesday from 3PM to 6PM
- Friday from 3PM to 6PM

At the ATMF (10 rue Affre métro La Chapelle ou Barbès)

- Wednesday from 1:30PM to 5:30PM

**Permanences provided by Cimade and reserved for asylum seekers:**

- Tuesday at 9:30AM, - Métro Saint Sulpice -58 rue Madame - 75006 Paris
- Tuesday at 9AM, - 46 Boulevard des Batignolles - 75017 Paris (métro Rome ligne 2)