

21/07/2018

## **"ALL WOMEN WERE CHECKED EVEN UNDER THEIR UNDERWEAR. THEY ALSO CHECKED MY HAIR. THEY CHECKED EVERYTHING"**

**Date and time:** July 21, 2018 10:00

**Location:** mountain place around 25 km from Velika Kladusa, Croatia

**Coordinates:** 45.161097388431266 , 15.729578532670644

**Push-back from:**

**Push-back to:**

**Demographics:** person(s), age: , from:

**Minors involved?** Yes

**Violence used:**

**Police involved:** 5 Croatian police men, tall and in police uniforms, the one who was the most brutal had blue eyes and blond hair

**Taken to a police station?:**

**Treatment at police station or other place of detention:**

**Was the intention to ask for asylum expressed?:** No

**Reported by:** No Name Kitchen

### **ORIGINAL REPORT**

F.'s family and other men from their camp left early morning Velika Kladusa and walked through the Bosnian border to Croatia. The family hoped to reach the European land and apply for asylum, explaining to the EU authorities that they cannot live in Iran due to the oppressive and violent Government. When the whole group walked through Croatia, around 25 km from the Bosnian border, they were detected by 5 police Croatian police men. The family tried to speak to the police and ask for asylum, but the only respond they got back was: "Shut up!". The police started searching through the pockets of all people for their phones and money that they stole and destroyed their old phones. After that, the police stripped all men naked and frisked their bodies. When they were done with the men, the police told all women to get naked and touched their all body parts, including the breast and genitals:

*"They checked all our body, everything, took our clothes. Outside, all men could see us, our underwear. They just told the men to put their faces to the other side. All women were checked even under their underwear. They also checked my hair. They checked everything" (F.).*

One woman tried to resist to the body frisk and pushed a police officer away from her, but the police officer started beating her that the woman fell on the floor. Following the body check, the police transported all people in a big van to another place, which they could not identify because the van had dark windows. The car was driving so fast, that Fatima's older daughter started vomiting. Fatima asked the police to stop and give them water because her daughter was not feeling well, but they got no response. After 30 minutes, they reached a mountain place and were told to get off the car. Then, the police stood into a circle and told all single men (5) to come to stand in the middle of that circle, and started attacking them with metal batons:

*"The refugees were in the middle of the circle. The police like a circle, and they were beating them with batons. 5 police men*

*on 5 single. Every police man was beating one single men and kept beating them. One man was crying and other was vomiting, they wanted to go back to Bosnia, but the police kept beating them. After when they finished, we walked a bit to the Bosnian land and the police again kept beating them, again 5 policemen were beating 5 men.” (F.)*

When the police stopped beating the men, they took the men into a car and deported them to close to Bihac, including F.’s son. The families were transported to the deportation to a different place. The van was driving again very fast and people were falling from one side of the van to the other. After one hour, the driver stopped in a mountain place for their deportation:

*“When we opened the car, they [police] said to us to come out. We saw just tall mountains, very steep, surrounded by trees and thorny plants [showing scratches around her legs and feet]. The police said to us to come here, and my bigger daughter was vomiting in the car, she was sick, and my husband was holding her and coming with her out of the car. I was walking out of the car in front of my husband. I could hear that the police started beating him with batons, but I did not see it as I was with my back towards him, walking in front. My small daughter was walking as the last one and she saw her father being beaten. When my daughter saw her father being beaten, she said to the police: “Please, stop beating my father and beat me instead of him.” And the police started beating my daughter [pointing at her daughter’s swollen eye and crying]. In this mountain way, the police said to me: “Go straight go back!”. But I told him, “Where back? Where? I don’t know where.” as there was just a steep hill full of threes and thorny plants. The police took a gun and put it into my head and shouted: “Go, go, go!”. and I was so scared, I thought he was going to kill me [crying]” (F.).*

The whole family walked for one hour in a forest, trying to find the way back to Velika Kladusa. When they reach a road, they tried to wave on the passing cars to stop them, but none stopped. After a while, F.’s daughter jumped into the road in front of the car to make the driver to stop and helped them. The driver took them the whole way to Velika Kladusa and offered them food and water, which F.refused. After, 20 km, the family reached Velika Kladusa.

The first aid medics from the No Name Kitchen team, who treated the whole family, observed these manifestations: second grade contusions on the left eye of the fifteen years old girl caused by a physic aggression without object. On the left side, the medics found an injury cause by first grade contusions because of a non sharp object, causing a hematoma all along the left side. Furthermore, 21 years old man had stretches and wounds on his back cause by the attack of a metal baton.