



## Salvation Government Ask to Move Displaced Residing in Idlib Schools to Kafriya and al-Fu'ah

Residents of Kafriya and al-Fu'ah Evacuated Under Agreement between Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and Iran

## About Syrians for Truth and Justice

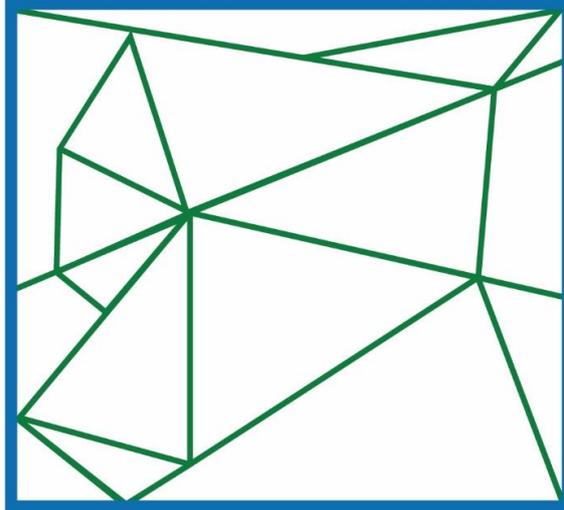
[Syrians for Truth and Justice \(STJ\)](#) is an independent, non-governmental and non-profit organization whose members include Syrian human rights defenders, advocates and academics of different backgrounds and nationalities. It also includes members of other nationalities.

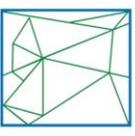
The initiative strives for SYRIA, where all Syrian citizens (males and females) have dignity, equality, justice and equal human rights.

سوريون  
من أجل  
الحقيقة  
والعدالة  

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Syrians  
For Truth  
& Justice





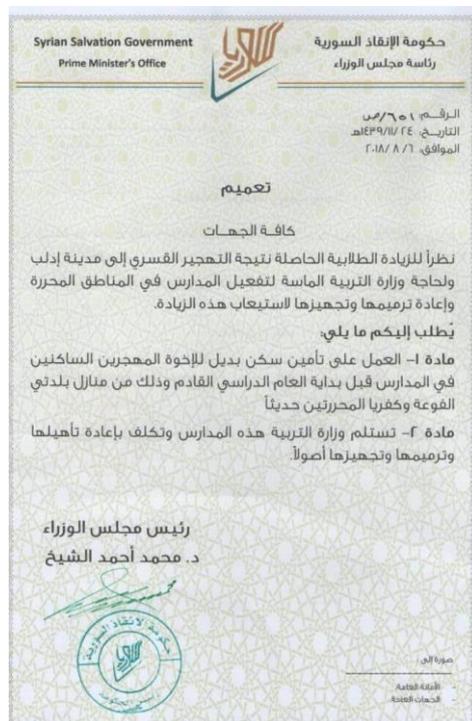
## **Salvation Government Ask to Move Displaced Residing in Idlib Schools to Kafriya and al-Fu'ah**

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The Salvation Government<sup>1</sup> operating in Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS<sup>2</sup>)-controlled areas in Idlib city demanded to move the internally displaced people- who came from different parts of Syria and resided in scattered schools throughout Idlib province- to towns of [Kafriya and al-Fu'ah](#), which were evacuated recently from all their residents, being civilians or militaries, under an agreement<sup>3</sup> reached between HTS and Iran on July 16, 2018.

An official statement released by the Salvation Government on August 7, 2018, attributed the reason to ask to get out the displaced was the desperate need of the Ministry of Education to activate schools and prepare them to intake the increase number of the students. However, local activists said these procedures to be a proactive steps to prevent other military factions from seizing all the houses in both towns, since some factions actually started to house their fighters in the towns.



Copy of the statement released by the Salvation Government regarding evacuating schools in Idlib city from the displaced and moving them to nearby towns of Kafriya and al-Fu'ah.

<sup>1</sup> On October 7, 2017, the Salvation Government was announced in order to administer Idlib province and the areas controlled by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS). The Salvation Government emerged from a constituent body that was emerged in turn from the Syrian General Conference which was convened on September 17, 2017, under calls by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS). Sessions of the Conference and the sessions on establishing the Salvation Government were held in Bab al-Hawa crossing border with Turkey.

<sup>2</sup> On January 28, 2017, several jihadist factions in northern Syria announced the merger under the name Hayat Tahrir al-Sham- HTS. These factions are: Jabhat Fateh al-Sham- formerly al-Nusra Front, Nour al-Din al-Zenki Movement, Liwaa al-Haqq, Ansar al-Din Front, Jaish al-Sunnah, and Ansar al-Sham Islamiyya Movement. However, after the outbreak of recent confrontations between Ahrar al-Sham al-Islamiyya and HTS in the north of Syria July 15, 2017, Nour al-Din al-Zenki Movement announced its separation from HTS on July 20, 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Well informed sources said the deal reached was as part of an old one that was called "the Four Towns Agreement", which means the four towns of Zabadani, Madaya, Kafriya and al-Fu'ah. The sources denied that there is a direct role of the Syrian government or the Russian side in this deal.



Concerning the situation of infrastructure and services in both towns, Basil Hawa, the local activist said in an interview with STJ on August 7, 2018, that the destruction is partial and simple in just two neighborhoods from the side of Binnish city, whereas there are lots of mines specially in the agricultural lands besides some anti-personal mines and improvised explosive devices were rigged prior the evacuation process and the rate is 10 mines in each single neighborhood.

As soon as the evacuation process was over in Kafriya and al-Fu'ah on July 19, 2018, only the civilians from different areas were allowed to enter. Some displaced were moved to reside there as well, the activist added.

Jaysh al-Ahrar announced it inhabited several of its elements in addition to some displaced from Damascus countryside, Homs and Hama in houses it had seized in Kafriya and al-Fu'ah, according to [press statements by the military commander](#)<sup>4</sup> in Jaysh al-Ahrar, who calls himself Abu al-Mu'tasim, to a Syrian local news agency on August 5, 2018.

HTS had concluded an agreement with Iran to evacuate all of the residents, being civilians or militaries, of Kafriya and al-Fu'ah- the predominantly Shiite, and move them to Syrian regular forces-controlled areas in Aleppo province in exchange for the release of 1500 from the civilian detainees in Syrian apparatus security, and the release of 40 fighters of HTS, Syrian Liberation Front, and Free Idlib Army, as well as the release of 4 civilians who were detained by Syrian and foreign military militias that were in both towns.

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<sup>4</sup> Edited by Abdullah Darwish "Jaysh al-Ahrar Inhabits Fighters and Displaced in Houses it Had Seized in al-Fu'ah Village" Smart New Agency, August 5, 2018. (<https://smartnews-agency.com/ar/wires/314319/%D8%AC%D9%8A%D8%B4-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D8%AD%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D9%8A%D8%B3%D9%83%D9%86-%D9%85%D9%82%D8%A7%D8%AA%D9%84%D9%8A%D9%86-%D9%88%D9%85%D9%87%D8%AC%D8%B1%D9%8A%D9%86-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D9%85%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%B2%D9%84-%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA%D9%88%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%8A%D9%87%D8%A7-%D8%A8%D9%82%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A9>)