## ANTIRASSISTISCHE INITIATIVE E.V.

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New release!

25<sup>rd</sup> updated edition of the documentation

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# **Germany's Asylum Policy and its Lethal Ramifications** (1993 - 2017)

### Deportation - Afghanistan as a case in point

Deported on 23 January 2017, the rejected asylum seeker Atiqullah Akbari, 23, was injured two weeks later in a bombing in Kabul. The 22-year-old Farhad Rasuli was killed in a targeted attack by the Taliban in Afghanistan on 10 May, three months after being deported from Germany (FRG). Abdul Razaq Saber, 26, was seriously injured on 31 May in a devastating bomb attack in Kabul's diplomatic quarter. His asylum application in the FRG had been rejected, and when the third collective deportation took place, he caved in to the authorities' pressure and "voluntarily" returned to Afghanistan in March.

Collective deportations of rejected refugees to Afghanistan were launched in mid-December 2016. By the end of 2017, 188 rejected refugees had been forcibly repatriated. With 512 federal police officers for these 8 flights and at a flight cost of 1.925 million euros, the FRG had created a fait accompli. (*German Bundestag - printed matter 19/632*)

The increasingly threatening and concrete deportation scenarios also had a devastating effect on Afghan refugees living in the FRG in 2016 and 2017: At least 8 Afghans (including 3 minors) killed themselves and 110 self-harm suicide attempts were reported, of which 20 were committed by minors. It can be assumed that the figure was substantially higher.

### Forced Isolation - by Preventing Family Reunification

In March 2018, the Syrian Suzan Hayider drowned along with her three-year-old daughter and her one-year-old son in the Aegean Sea's turbulent waters. Together with 18 other refugees she had tried to reach the island of Samos - and thus Europe, in a small dinghy. In 2016, her husband, Salah J., had to leave behind his then pregnant wife behind in Turkey and to move to Germany alone. In this case the possibility of family reunification was officially suspended until at least March 2018, and since her husband couldn't obtain a Turkish visa to go and visit his family, Ms. Hayider tragically chose the perilous route across the Mediterranean.

#### 25 years of Research and Documentation of State and Societal Racism

Deaths and injuries of refugees linked to Germany are chronologically documented in this three-volume case-by-case documentation, covering the last 25 years. Across more than 9000 incidents, it becomes clear the extent to which refugees are exposed to violence, not only from the authorities, the courts and police, but also from racists in public space; those seeking shelter are not just met with arbitrariness and contempt, but are beaten, tortured, harassed, isolated and often driven to suicide or to self-injury.

Incidents such as the example above, in which refugees were harmed by "security" measures taken by Europe or Germany, are rarely documented, because it is unknown whether those affected explicitly wanted to come to the FRG.

The abovementioned examples of deportees who were injured in the country of origin are also exceptions, for deportees seldom have the opportunity to make a report because they have to hide or flee, they have no money or simply no longer know any contact persons in the FRG.

#### The Documentation spans the period from 1.1.1993 to 31.12.2017.

- 261 refugees killed themselves in the face of their impending deportation, or died in their attempts to avoid deportation; 79 of whom while in custody pending deportation.
- 2528 refugees injured themselves out of fear of deportation, in protest against impending deportation, (risk hunger strikes) or tried to commit suicide, 743 of whom were in custody pending deportation.
  - 5 refugees died during deportation.
- 540 refugees were injured through compulsory measures or from mistreatment during deportation.
- 36 refugees died in their country of origin after deportation.
- 618 refugees were mistreated in their country of origin by the police or the military, or were at risk of their lives due to severe illness
- 74 refugees disappeared without trace after deportation.
- 213 refugees died en route to the FRG or at its border, 131 of whom died on the FRG 's eastern borders; 3 persons drifted off course on the Neiße and deemed as missing persons ever since.
- 714 refugees suffered injuries crossing the border, 352 of which occurred on the FRG's eastern borders.
- 24 refugees died through physical force committed by the police or guards either in detention centers, during arrest or deportation, on the streets, in governmental institutions or in refugee accommodation at least 1102 were injured.
- 23 refugees died through criminal neglect.
- 86 refugees lost their lives in fires, attacks on refugee accommodation centers or from dangers at these centers 1612 refugees were injured, at times gravely.
- 26 refugees died through racist attacks on the streets and at least 2465 refugees were physically assaulted and investigated for assault

Since 1993 at least 563 refugees have died as a result of measures taken by the FRG – 112 persons died through racist attacks and as a result of being accommodated in camps (i.e. attacks, arson).

Documentation contains three books (DIN A4). The 3 volumes are available for  $30 \in$  plus  $5.00 \in$  shipping & packing. Vol. I (1993 – 2004)  $10 \in$  356 pages. – Vol. II (2005 – 2013)  $11 \in$  336 pages. – Vol. III (2014 – 2017)  $12 \in$  348 pages. plus  $1.80 \in$  each for shipping & packing.

Databank + Search-machine www.ari-dok.org (currently featuring the 24<sup>th</sup> edition. 25<sup>th</sup> edition initially as Pdf-Format)