



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية  
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

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## التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



**"Over 108 Palestinian Women, Girls Secretly Held in Syrian State Prisons"**

- **Palestinian Families Facing Dire Conditions in T'Seil Town**
- **Ahmad Abu Holi Pledges to Make Serious Steps in Favor of Palestinians from Syria in Gaza**
- **Wool Exhibition Held in AlSayeda Zeinab Camp**

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## Latest Developments

Dozens of Palestinian women and girls have been enduring mysterious fates in Syrian government dungeons, where scores of others died as a result of torture. Palestinian women have also been subjected to abrupt searches and exhaustive questioning at military checkpoints.

AGPS has frequently sounded the alarm over the violations perpetrated against Palestinian women in war-torn Syria, most notable among these are arrests, abductions, executions, body disfigurement, sniper attacks, sexual abuse, enforced deportation, and denial of the right to a fair trial, among other violations that flagrantly breach international laws and treaties.



AGPS documented the death of 35 Palestinian women and girls under torture in Syrian government dungeons.

The total death toll among the Palestinians of Syria who have fallen prey to fatal torture in Syrian state prisons has hit 565, among them children and elderly refugees.



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AGPS believes the number to be far higher as scores of casualties have gone undocumented after the Syrian authorities kept their names secret. Several families have also refused to reveal their relatives' names over retaliation concerns.

According to affidavits by ex-detainees, Palestinian women and girls have been subjected to harsh psycho-physical torture tactics in Syrian penitentiaries, including electric shocks, heavy beating using iron sticks, and sexual abuse.

Such practices represent flagrant violations of the Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict of 1974, Article 5, which criminalizes all forms of torture and mistreatment against women and children.

Inherently a taboo misdemeanor in the MENA region, violence against women, be it sexual, physical, or verbal, has remained under-reported among the Palestinian refugee community in Syria, with reasons wavering between fear of retaliation, embarrassment, social prestige, fear of punishment for those below the age of criminal responsibility, and distrust in law enforcement.

In another development, Palestinian refugees seeking shelter in T'seil, in the southern Syrian province of Daraa, continue to launch cries for help over the exacerbated socio-economic conditions they have been enduring.

Palestinian families have called on all concerned parties, including UNRWA and the Palestine Liberation Organization, to rally around them and help them reconstruct their destroyed homes.



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Meanwhile, head of the PLO's Department of Refugee Affairs, Ahmad Abu Holi, said he will reach out to the Palestinian Prime Minister, Rami AlHamdlallah, and the Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in order to urge them to implement the cabinet decision regarding the Palestinian refugees from Syria in Gaza.



Abu Holi promised to urge UNRWA to shell out shelter allowances to the refugees and to coordinate with the concerned authorities to boost support for the Palestinians of Syria.

360 Palestinian families headed for the blockaded Gaza Strip by the end of 2012, fleeing war-torn Syria. The number has gone down to 154 families as a number of families left the impoverished coastal enclave as a result of the absence of relief assistance and tragic living conditions wrought on the Israeli-blockaded strip.

In another development, a wool exhibition was staged by popular factions in AlSayeda Zeinab Camp for Palestinian refugees in Rif Dimashq.

Traditional textile designs were put on display during the event.



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AlSayeda Zeinab Camp, held by the Syrian government forces and their affiliated popular committees, has been gripped with dire socio-economic conditions as a result of the high rates of unemployment. Scores of civilians have fled the camp while others have been forced to join pro-government battalions.

