



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

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الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Ukraine deports Palestinian "Fares Salayma" to an unknown destination"

- Residents of Yarmouk camp demand the opening of a humanitarian corridor to release emergency cases
- Palestinians of Syria in Jordan... unknown legal status and ongoing economic crises

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Latest Developments

The Ukrainian authorities have deported Palestinian “Fares Hashem Salayma” to an unknown destination, after being detained in Boryspil International Airport in the Ukrainian capital Kiev for 12 days, under difficult humanitarian conditions.

Salayma’s family said that they lost contact with their son in the morning. Three members of the Ukrainian security transported Salayma and forced him to get on a plane, without telling him its destination.



Salayma’s family accused the Palestinian embassy in Ukraine of complicity with the Ukrainian authorities, since their son’s final call was to the Palestinian Consul, Dawood Jolood. The embassy told Fares that he will be deported to Sri Lanka and that his deadline is Saturday, however Fares refused this suggestion, stressing that he is trying to obtain a visa entry in to an Arab country, but the process requires some time.



The Ukrainian authorities told Salayma that the embassy had booked for him keeping the destination unknown, noting that his Palestinian-Syrian travel document had been withdrawn and that he had a Palestinian passport.

The family held the Palestinian embassy accountable for any harm that affects their son, especially with the previous proposal of deporting him to Syria, and the family refused to do so.

On its part, the Action Group tried to contact Fares, however communications with him have been cut since 10 am, assuring that it was in touch with Fares since his deportation to Turkey.

Fares had tried to leave Ukraine irregularly because the majority of countries refused to receive him and he was unable to leave Ukraine. He was detained and subjected to several courts that either sentenced him to imprisonment or a fine of 600 euros with deportation, granting him a one-month period to leave.

He could not find any country to receive him, so he booked a flight to Mauritania, which has a passage in Morocco and Turkey. Upon his arrival in Mauritania, he was unwelcomed for not owning a visa and was returned to Morocco, where he was also refused and deported back to Turkey.

This is not the first time that Palestinian refugees have been detained in Turkey. Palestinian Bassel Azzam was detained in Ataturk Airport for more than four months, under the pretext that he failed to obtain the visa imposed by the Turkish government on Palestinian-Syrian refugees, including those who fled the war.



Turkey then deported him to the areas controlled by the opposition in north Syria, where he died during a bombardment of the area.

In another context, the residents of Yarmouk camp have demanded the urgent opening of a humanitarian corridor, to release the emergency and ill cases from south Damascus, like the surrounding areas.

“We, the residents of Yarmouk camp, living in the camp or displaced to the neighboring towns, put in their hands our continued humanitarian suffering which is portrayed with the absence of a humanitarian corridor for the exit of emergency and sick conditions,” stated the statement published on social media pages.

The statement added that the suffering of the residents is ongoing and that they are prevented from the most basic elements of their daily lives, in addition to the lack of health and medical care, and freedom of movement to the capital's hospitals.

The statement noted that during the past few months a number of patients were able to leave south Damascus for treatment, through approvals granted by the Palestine Liberation Organization after the approval of the Syrian security services, however these approvals stopped at the end of 2017.

To conclude their statement, the residents demanded the concerned Palestinian and Syrian authorities to move rapidly to release patients and emergency cases, and alleviate the suffering of the people of the besieged camp.



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In its report entitled "Palestinian of Syria... Between Promises and Restrictions," the Action Group indicated the deterioration of the health and medical status in Yarmouk camp, where all the hospitals and clinics are still out of service because the unavailability of medical materials and the absence of specialized medical staff. This is due to the continuous, strict siege imposed by the checkpoints of the regime's army and the popular committee groups-General Command, affecting between 3-5 thousand civilians since 2013. The siege has led to the death of more than 200 refugees, due to malnutrition and the lack of medical care. Also, ISIS has been in control of large areas of Yarmouk camp since early April 2015.

The report indicated that 189 Palestinian patients are in desperate need of treatment outside the areas of their presence in Yarmouk camp and its neighboring areas.

According to the report, 31 of the patients suffer from cancer and are in need of urgent treatment and constant supervision. 78 refugees have been diagnosed with heart diseases, 20 suffer of vertebrae diseases and fractures, 18 are diagnosed with liver and kidney diseases, 14 suffer from Epilepsy, 8 asthma patients and 11 cases of paralysis of the limbs which need permanent follow-up.

The report also indicated that the Syrian opposition coalition stopped its support to the field hospital in Yelda, and the medical point in Babilla, which are directly affiliated to the General Medical Authority in south Damascus, adding an economic burden to Palestinian families in Yarmouk camp and the southern area which are already suffering from extremely harsh economic conditions.



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In Jordan, more than 17 thousand Palestinian-Syrian refugees were displaced to Jordan are suffering from very bad legal and living conditions, after most of them resorted to entering Jordan illegally because of the Jordanian authorities' categorical refusal to enter any Palestinian refugees from Syria for any reason whatsoever.

Despite the presence of thousands of people displaced by road to escape death, the bombardments and the siege, the Jordanian authorities has so far refused to settle the situation of Palestinian-Syrians in its territory and to grant them legal residency, which deprives them of all their rights to work and access to medical care.

This has made them live a harsh life, especially with the high costs of living and rents, as well as the tightening on their movement inside Jordan. In addition, the Palestinian international and official agencies have failed to provide urgent assistance and do not seek to resolve their legal problems, which constitutes as a starting point for all their problems.

Palestinians of Syria: February 10, 2018 Statistics:

- The total number of victims documented by the Action Group is 3650, including 465 women
- 1658 Palestinians are locked up behind Syrian government's bars, 106 of which are women
- Yarmouk refugee camp is under the Syrian regime army and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine's siege for 1,668 days in a row



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- 204 refugees, mainly in Yarmouk Camp, have died due to lack of medical care and malnutrition
- Water supplies have been cut off Deraa Camp for 1404 days, and 1243 days in Yarmouk Camp
- The Regime army has been in control of Handarat camp for more than 502 days. More than 80% of its buildings have been completely or partially destroyed.
- Approximately 85 thousand Palestinian-Syrian refugees fled to Europe by the end of 2016
- 31 thousand refugees are located in Lebanon
- 17 thousand refugees are sheltered in Jordan
- 6 thousand refugees are in Egypt
- 8 thousand refugees are staying in Turkey
- One thousand refugees are present in Gaza