



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



"Palestinian Refugee from Syria Detained in Turkey for 16th Day"

- Abdul Hadi: Debris Clearance Ongoing in Yarmouk to Reconstruct Local Cemetery
- Residents of AlHusainiya Camp Denounce Price Manipulation
- 8 Migrants Drown off Turkish Shore, over 20 Others Missing

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee from Syria Ammar Ahmad Aboud, from Yarmouk Camp, has been kept in custody for the 16th day running in Turkey on account that he overstayed his visa.

Reaching out to AGPS by phone, Ammar said Turkish police arrested him at Esenyurt Square, along with four Syrian migrants, despite the fact that he has the “kimlik” temporary protection card. He was transferred to a detention center in Bakırköy, on the Asian side.

The four other refugees were released some three days ago. Ammar has been told by the Turkish police that he will not be released before his file is dispatched from Kumkapi, in Aksaray.



Activists appealed to the Turkish authorities, human rights bodies, and the Palestine Embassy in Istanbul to make serious steps in order to release Ammar and work out his calamitous situation.

Unofficial data indicates that nearly 8,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought shelter in Turkey, where they have been enduring dire conditions and denied access to the local labor market.



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Meanwhile, director of the political department of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Syria, Anwar Abdul Hadi, said debris removal in Yarmouk Camp makes part of underway attempts to unblock access roads to AlShuhadaa Cemetery.

Speaking with al-Watan daily, Abdul Hadi said the Syrian government approved the reconstruction of Yarmouk Cemetery by the Palestinian government and under the supervision of the PLO.

“We’ve made serious efforts to preserve the cemetery, home to the bodies of the martyrs of the Palestinian Revolution since 1965”, he added.

Abdul Hadi said reconstructing the Shuhadaa Cemetery is the first step towards the reconstruction of Yarmouk Camp, a process that hinges on the final decision to be opted for by the Syrian government, which has been examining plans to reconstruct Damascus’ vicinities. The Syrian government is the only side entitled to take decisions in this regard for Yarmouk is part of Damascus province.

He said no specific data has yet been set for the return of Yarmouk residents to their homes, from which they have been kept away for seven years.

On September 11, 2018, Abdul Hadi said, however with a more optimistic tone, that cooperation and talks between the Syrian authorities and the Palestinian Authority over the rehabilitation of Yarmouk Camp, among other destroyed Palestinian refugee camps, have been in progress.



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He vowed at the time that a budget will be allotted soon to repair ruined homes and allow civilians a safe return to the camp.

Member of Fatah Central Committee, Samir AlRefa'i, also said following a meeting convened on October 3 at the headquarters of the Syrian National Council in Damascus between national factions in Syria and the committee overseeing debris clearance in Yarmouk that agreements have been reached to combine efforts to boost debris removal and pave the way for the smooth return of the residents.

Deputy Secretary-General of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, Talel Naji, said the committee informed the Palestinian factions that were present at the meeting that 50% to 60% of destroyed homes have become fit for civilian habitation.

In another development, residents of AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, denounced price manipulating by “greedy merchants” who have been inflating and deflating prices of much-needed items for personal gains.

The residents lashed out at the Ministry of Supply and local authorities for their lack of control over crooked merchants and puffed up prices.

A local resident said civilians have been overburdened by the unexpected leaps in the prices of vital items and rental fees in the unemployment-stricken area.



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In the meantime, eight migrants drowned at sea and over 20 others, among them children and women, have gone missing after a Greece-bound vessel capsized off Turkey's Aegean coast.

Activists said the Turkish coast guards uncovered eight dead bodies and rescued one migrant while the others, including five children, have been missing.

The boat, reportedly carrying 35 migrants onboard, was bound for the Greek island of Chios.

Efforts have been reportedly underway to pull bodies of other migrants that might have breathed their last at sea.

The migrant boat set sail from Turkey a couple of days earlier, before it tipped over just two kilometers away from the seashore. Warnings of a heavy weather had been launched by naval authorities sometime earlier.

Turkey has served as a major launch-off point for migrants fleeing Syria, among other war-stricken zones, onboard "death boats" bound for Europe, as they rummaged around for a safe shelter.

