



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



"On World Refugee Day, AGPS Raises Alarm Bells over Situation of Palestinian Refugees in War-Torn Syria"

- Thousands of Palestinian Refugees from Syria Scattered across Globe
- Migrant Boat Carrying 26 Palestinian Refugees Intercepted off Turkish Coast
- Swedish Riksdag Votes to Ease Family Reunification for Holders of Subsidiary Protection

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest Developments

On the world refugee day, observed on June 20 each year, Palestinian refugees from Syria continue to face a calamitous situation both inside and outside of the embattled Syrian territories.

The Syrian conflict has had disastrous fallouts on the Palestinian refugee community in the country, with over 260,000 refugees internally displaced at least once during the war.

Thousands have, meanwhile, been living below the poverty line, lost their sources of incomes, and have become dependent on UNRWA's sporadic aids. Hundreds of families fled to neighboring countries and European destinations, risking their lives onboard the so-called "death boats".



AGPS kept record of the death of 3,987 Palestinian refugees due to war-related incidents, including shelling, blasts, fatal torture in jail, or on the migration route.



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At the same time, as many as 2,084 men, women, and minors have been secretly locked up in state-run prisons after they were kidnapped from refugee camps and shelters across the Syrian territories.

AGPS strongly condemns the violations perpetrated against Palestinian refugees in Syria and the infringements of their basic human rights, in violation of the international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

AGPS calls on all warring parties to keep the refugees at bay from the bloody hostilities and military calculations.

The Syrian government should disclose the whereabouts and condition of all detainees and ensure they are fairly trialed and humanly treated while in custody.

All concerned authorities should combine forces so as to reconstruct destroyed Palestinian refugee camps. Serious steps should be made by UNRWA in order to rehabilitate the refugees' psycho-physical protection and enhance their living conditions in northern Syria and other zones, including Lebanon and Jordan.

Along the same line, AGPS found out that over 200,000 Palestinian refugees fled Syria, where 560,000 refugees used to take shelter prior to the outburst of the deadly warfare.

Over 60% of Palestinians from Syria have undergone displacement for at least once all the way through the eight-year conflict.

According to AGPS data, over 150,000 Palestinians from Syria reached Europe until the end of 2018 while 28,000 Palestinians



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have sought refuge in Lebanon. 17,000 others fled to Jordan; 3,000 have sought asylum in Egypt; 8,000 in Turkey; 400 refugees from Syria returned to the Israeli-blockaded Gaza Strip.

At least 53 Palestinian migrants from Syria drowned at sea onboard the Europe-bound migrant boats.

Meanwhile, a Greece-bound boat carrying dozens of irregular migrants, including 26 Palestinian refugees, was intercepted by the Turkish coast guard off Aydin seashore, west of Turkey.

The migrants were taken to Aydin Provincial Directorate of Migration Management.



A few days earlier, 12 people died after a boat carrying migrants sank off southwestern Turkey. The boat went down off the coast of Bodrum district in Mugla province. The list of victims includes Palestinian refugee from Syria Ahmad Abu Hamida, a resident of AlNeirab Camp, in Aleppo.

Turkey is a transit country for migrants trying to reach Europe. But a March 2016 deal between Turkey and the European Union helped staunch the flow.



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Between January and June this year, 555 migrants died attempting to cross the Mediterranean, according to the International Organization for Migration.

In the meantime, the Swedish Parliament (Riksdag) extended on Tuesday immigration laws for another couple of years so as to lift some restrictions on family reunification for refugees already in Sweden.

The new decision will enable the wives and children of refugees with subsidiary protection to join them. Minors aged below 18 will also be able to reunite with their parents. The new amendments are to be put in effect starting July 20 until July 2021.

Over the past few years, in response to growing numbers of refugees claiming asylum in Sweden, the Swedish government tightened border controls and made it increasingly difficult for migrants to claim a residency permit or to reunite with family members already in Sweden.