



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

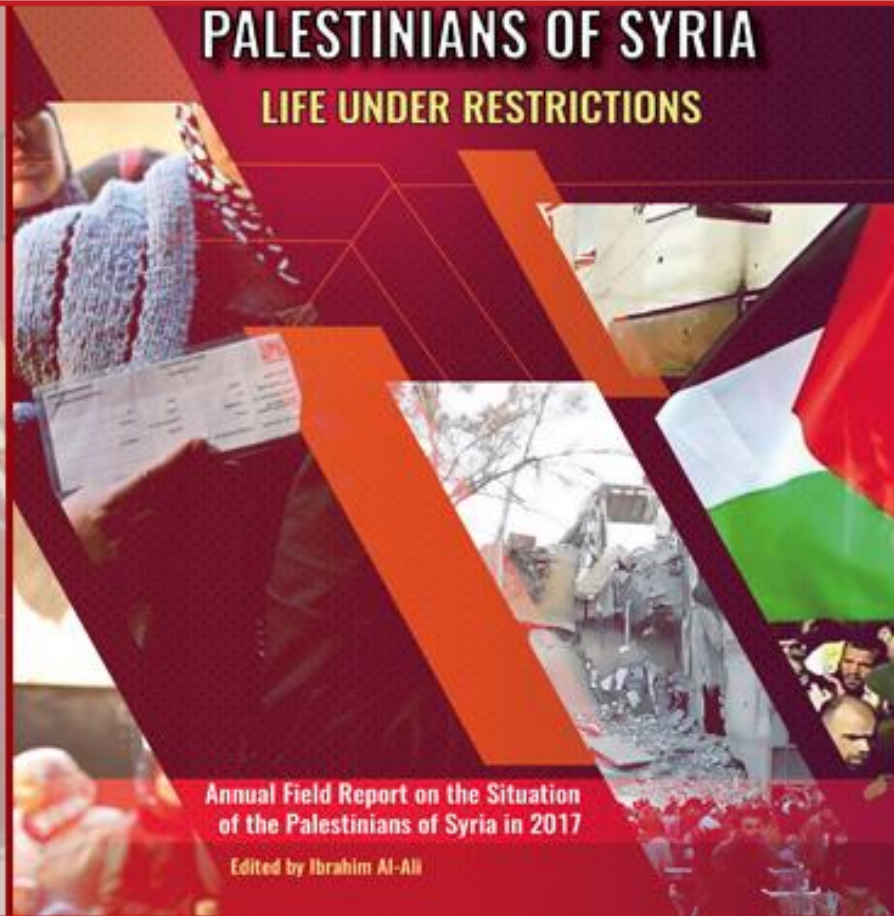
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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



**"English Version of Annual Report Documenting Situation of
Palestinians of Syria in 2017 Issued by AGPS, PRC"**

- Palestinians from Syria in Egypt Gripped with Dire Conditions
- UNRWA: Int'l Community Must Not Let Thousands of Palestine Refugee Students down
- DTC Launches Free Courses for Palestine Refugees

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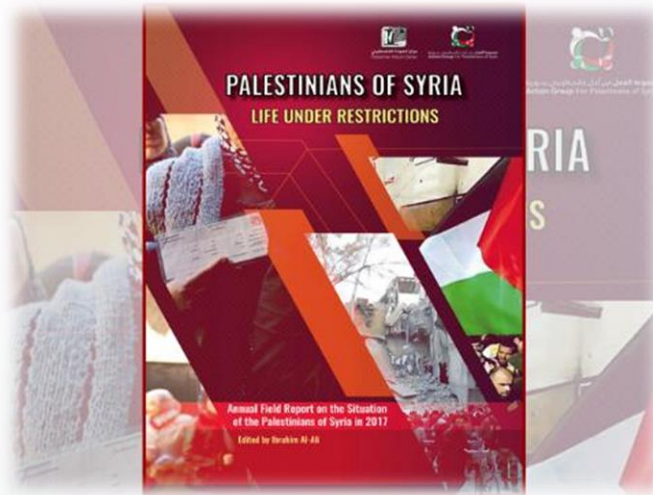
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Latest Developments

The Action Group for Palestinian of Syria (AGPS), in partnership with the Palestinian Return Centre (PRC), has released the English version of an annual report documenting the situation of the Palestinians of Syria in 2017.

Entitled “Life under Constraints”, the 93-page report spotlights the situation of Palestinian refugees from Syria in 2017 as they have been grappling with an unabated tide of forced deportations, extra-judicial killings, psycho-physical torture, and arbitrary detentions.

The newly-issued report provides thorough data on the daily onslaughts, death toll, and number of detainees in war-torn Syria. It also underscores the crises endured by the Palestinian community in refugee camps across and outside of the embattled Syrian territories



At the same time, the study provides a detailed account of the violations perpetrated against the Palestinians of Syria on the asylum-seeking road and on way to Europe.



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The study keeps record of the death of 205 Palestinians during 2017 due to war-related incidents, 12 among them were killed under torture in Syrian government dungeons, where 1,644 Palestinians have also been locked up. Since the outbreak of bloody hostilities, 475 Palestinians were pronounced dead as a result of torture in Syrian prisons.

The report documents the detention of 28 Palestinians in 2017 and the release of 25 others after they had been held captive for varying spans.

The provided data is the by-product of joint efforts made by a team of field reporters, news correspondents, journalists, photographers, and researchers.

Six such documentary reports were issued by AGPS to underscore the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria in 2014, 2015, and 2016. Hundreds of reports have also been released by the group on a daily basis in an attempt to draw the international community's attention to the calamitous state of affairs endured by the Palestinians of Syria.

AGPS is a London-based human rights watchdog that monitors the situation of Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria. In seeking to fulfill this goal, AGPS team does its best to uphold the finest standards of historiographic ethics and maintain honesty in sourcing. To that very end, live snapshots, footages, and sworn affidavits are taken directly from the fighting scene across a myriad of flashpoints so as to authenticate AGPS role as a human rights overseer. To download the report, [click here](#)



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Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees from Syria have been grappling with a precarious legal status in the turmoil-stricken Egyptian territories.

The Egyptian authorities continue to turn down Palestinians' appeals for visas under the pretext that "security go-aheads" have not been issued to that end.

The situation has gone from bad to worse due to the price hike, high rates of unemployment, and security turmoil rocking the Egyptian territories.

Nearly 6,000 Palestinian refugees have sought shelter in Egypt, fleeing the bloody warfare in Syria.

In the meantime, UNRWA Commissioner-General Pierre Krähenbühl said it was because of students like "Aya" that the agency decided to open its schools on time this week, notwithstanding a shortfall of over 200 million USD— an unprecedented deficit in UNRWA's 70-year history.

Referring to student Aya Abbas, whom he had met last month, Krähenbühl said: "The 9th grader from Yarmouk refugee camp outside Damascus was the highest scoring student across Syria. Despite the extraordinary adversities she faced as a Palestine refugee child, including forced displacement from the camp where she was born and raised, she outperformed her peers in all subjects. Her courage and determination exemplify the commitment of 526'000 students at our 711 schools in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Gaza and West Bank (including East Jerusalem)".



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“Many people expressed deep satisfaction for what they considered a courageous decision. However, the real heroes who deserve our solidarity are the half a million students in our schools whose faith in UNRWA—and by extension the international community—remains unwavering, despite repeated uncertainty and the absence of political horizon”, added Krähenbühl .



“In recognition of that faith, and to pay tribute to the many donors who either significantly increased or advanced their contributions this year, we are opening our schools to celebrate one of the most successful human development programs in the Middle East”, he stated. “For decades, donors have recognized that UNRWA is a force multiplier for stability in one of the most the volatile regions around the world .

“Moreover, the prospect of over half a million students not attending schools was deeply unsettling for the host countries who have generously welcomed hundreds of thousands of refugees for decades”, the statement further read.

“As we deservedly celebrate the opening of our schools on time, however, we must not lose sight of the fact that we are still facing



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severe and crippling financial crises. The year began with the regrettable decision by the US Administration to cut 300 million USD from its planned annual contribution to our budget, adding to a pre-existing deficit of 146 million USD,” UNRWA Commissioner-General warned.

“Refugees like Aya Abbas are not defined by their enduring displacement but by their sheer determination to realize their full human potential”, he said. “And as she and many others have proven over the years, Palestine refugees are one of the most industrious people around the world if they are given the necessary tools and opportunities. Time and again, they demonstrated their extraordinary attachment to the quality education and other vital services we provide”.

“We must not let half a million students like Aya down. And we cannot wish them away either. Palestine refugees have been told to have a faith in peace processes until “a just and lasting solution” is found to their plight. Decades later, they have neither justice nor a lasting solution ”.

“The international community has a moral responsibility to sustain vital services such as education and health for Palestine refugees until the political conflict is settled. Because dignity is priceless”, Krähenbühl’s statement concluded.

Along the same line, UNRWA-run Damascus Training Center has announced the launch of free courses for Palestine refugees with preparatory and secondary school diplomas in 26 technical and vocational fields of specialty .



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DTC said on its Facebook page that the courses are to kick off as of mid-September 2018. Every student s entitled to enroll in one session regardless of his/her grade.

Shortlisted Syrian and Palestinian candidates are invited for interviews. 419 students have been accepted so far .