



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

01-03-2022

No. 3515

## التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



**"Family Appeals for Information over Forcibly-Disappeared Palestinian Refugee in Syria"**

- Coronavirus Vaccines Provided in in Khan Dannun Camp
- Burglary Reported in AlHusainiya Camp due to Power Blackout
- Dozens of Refugees Suffering Medical Neglect in Greece

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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

## Latest Developments

The family of Palestinian refugee Mohamed Mazen Anbatawi continues to appeal for information about the condition and whereabouts of their relative, who has been secretly held in Syrian regime prisons for seven years running.

Mohamed, born in 1983 and raised in Yarmouk Camp, was a 2<sup>nd</sup> year university student. He had not been involved in any political or military activity. He was arrested at Ali AlWahsh checkpoint, south of Damascus, in December following a massacre perpetrated by pro-regime militias in the area.

AGPS has documented the secret detention of over 1,800 Palestinian refugees in state-run penal complexes across war-torn Syria, among them 110 women and girls.

AGPS has also documented the death of over 600 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government lock-ups, including women, children, and elderly civilians.

Affidavits by ex-detainees provided evidence on the involvement of Syrian government officers in harsh torture tactics, including electric shocks, heavy beating using whips and iron sticks, and sexual abuse against Palestinian detainees, in a flagrant violation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, commonly known as the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).



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

In another development, staff at the UNRWA clinic in Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian refugees announced the launch of a vaccination campaign in the next few weeks.

The residents will be receiving vaccine doses on Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday every week at the clinic for those aged 18 and above.

Those suffering from cold and influenza should not show up at the clinic until they fully recover.

Over the past couple of years, at least 25 residents succumbed to coronavirus in the camp. Over 2,000 recovery cases have been recorded.

Living conditions in Khan Dannun have sharply deteriorated as a result of the coronavirus pandemic and the loss of livelihoods.

According to UN data, Khan Dannun camp was built several centuries ago to give overnight accommodation to trading caravans on the ancient route between Jerusalem and Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). In 1948, the ruins of the city provided shelter for refugees from villages in northern Palestine.

The camp, which lies 23 km south of Damascus, was officially established in 1950-1951 on an area of 0.03 square kilometers. The camp was home to 10,000 Palestine refugees by 2011, almost all of whom were living in irregular housing, constructed without any formal approval from the municipality.



Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was already one of the poorest camps in Syria. The conflict exerted additional pressures. The camp was surrounded by armed opposition groups and many refugee families displaced from other areas of Damascus took refuge in the camp, tripling the number of residents to some 30,000 during the crisis. Currently, the camp is home to 12,650 Palestine refugees. The increase of the camp population has had a negative impact on the camp's infrastructure.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees sheltered in AlHusaniya, in Rif Dimashq, have raised concerns over the increasing property-theft and home-burglary attempts, particularly overnight due to chronic power blackouts.

A few days earlier, a woman was stripped of her mobile phone and money at 09:00 p.m. while on her way to her relative's house.

In the meantime, the PHILOS Emergency Health Response to Refugee Crisis program under the Greek Ministry of Health is due to end on Monday (February 28). This would leave thousands of undocumented migrants and refugees without healthcare and 670 medical professionals without a job, the opposition party SYRIZA's shadow minister for health, Andreas Xanthos, warned on Friday.

"The two-month extension granted by the government after December 31 has not been utilized in order to ensure the renewal of staff contracts and the sustainable funding of a program that has been positively evaluated and is known to have a social impact," he said.



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

He urged the government to ensure that action is taken, saying: "We call on the government, the Ministry of Health and EODY to guarantee in every way the smooth continuation of the program, the jobs and the rights of the staff and, most importantly, the equal coverage of the health needs of a population group of special vulnerability. Not only for reasons of humanity but also for reasons of public health."

He said that the "EODY's Philos program... has, since 2017, with backing from the European Commission, provided comprehensive healthcare to the migrant community."

The SYRIZA politician accused the center-right government coalition of "systematically implementing a xenophobic strategy even against the fundamental right to health [of migrants and refugees], violating the country's international obligations."

Implemented by the Hellenic Center for Disease Control and Prevention (HCDCP), PHILOS provided the health-related and psychosocial services to people living in open camps. The program was funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) of EU's DG Migration and Home Affairs.