



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

01-04-2022

No. 3539

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



منظمة العفو الدولية

"Amnesty International: Syria's New Anti-Torture Law Whitewashes Decades of Human Rights Violations"

- Vulnerable Families in Jaramana Camp in Need of Urgent Humanitarian Assistance
- Palestinians in Northern Syria Displacement Camps Mark Land Day
- Asylum Seekers Pushed Back to Turkey from 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

Amnesty International lashed out at the Syrian President Bashar al-Assad for enacting a new anti-torture law that fails to address a decade of torture, ill-treatment and extrajudicial executions carried out by Syria's security forces.

Lynn Maalouf, Amnesty International's Deputy Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, said: "While we welcome any legislative steps towards complying with internationally recognized anti-torture conventions, the new law effectively whitewashes decades of state-sanctioned human rights violations.

"It fails to offer redress to past victims of torture, include any protection measures for witnesses or survivors of torture, nor does it state whether torture survivors, or in the event of their death, their families would receive compensation. Crucially, it fails to mention any measures that could be taken to prevent torture from occurring in detention centres and prisons in the future."

Amnesty International called on the Syrian authorities to urgently allow independent monitors to access the country's notorious detention centres – where torture leading to death has been taking place at a mass scale for years – as a first step to signalling any genuine intent to curtail the practice of torture by state agents.

Amnesty said the anti-torture law must align with international human rights law – and that means as a first step, ensuring that the perpetrators of torture, cruel, inhuman or other ill-treatment



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

face justice in fair trials before ordinary civilian courts and without recourse to death penalty.

The anti-torture law was enacted by Presidential Decree on 30 March after being discussed in Syria's parliament for the first time on 28 March.

Amnesty International has previously documented inhuman conditions across Syria's prisons. The widespread and systematic use of enforced disappearance, torture and other ill-treatment, which has led to deaths in detention, and extrajudicial executions following sham trials, amount to crimes against humanity.

In another development, residents of Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, have launched appeals for cash and in-kind aid with the advent of the holy Ramadan Month.

Civilians and activists have appealed to expatriates working abroad to raise funds for vulnerable families in the camps.

Residents of Jaramana Camp, located a few kilometers away from central Damascus, continue to set off alarm bells over the lack of basic services and dire socio-economic conditions rocking the area as a result of the steep rental fees, high rates of unemployment, the price hike, and poor sanitation.

Jaramana camp is 8km from Damascus on the road to Damascus International Airport. The camp was established in 1948.

UN data indicates that before the start of the conflict in 2011, there were over 18,000 Palestine refugees living in Jaramana camp.



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

During the Syrian crisis, the number of Palestine refugees in the camp and the surrounding area increased to 49,000 due to an influx of displaced Palestine refugees from other areas, including the camp of Yarmouk. As a result, Jaramana has become one of the most densely populated areas of Damascus.

Many of the refugees worked as street vendors, government employees or in nearby industrial plants. Some inhabitants find work in the informal sector through collecting garbage for recycling. The majority of women are domestic workers in Damascus to supplement family income. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

In the meantime, dozens of Palestinian refugees joined a vigil held by the Association of Displaced Palestinians in northern Syria, in cooperation with the Directorate of Palestinian Affairs in the Syrian interim government, to mark the 46

anniversary of the Palestinian Land Day.

The event was held in I'zaz city, north of Syria.

Speaking at the event, Palestinian refugees and activists have stressed their strong commitment to their inalienable rights, most notably their right to return to their Israeli-occupied motherland.

March 30, 2022 marks the 46th anniversary of the Palestinian Land Day, on which Israeli police shot and killed six Palestinian



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

citizens of Israel as they were protesting the Israeli government's expropriation of thousands of donums of Palestinian land.

Annually, on this very special day, Palestinian refugees take to the streets to speak up for their inalienable rights, most notably their right to return to their homeland—Palestine—from which they have been expelled by the Zionist regime.

The Land Day is a major commemorative date in the Palestinian political calendar and an important event in the Palestinian collective narrative as it reveals Palestinians unyielding commitment to every single inch of their native land.

Back in 1976, Israeli attacks on mass protests which saw Palestinian communities resisting not only the theft of land but also overall settler colonial policies of erasure, resulted in six deaths and hundreds of injuries.

Meanwhile, Greek coast guard rescued asylum seekers after their boat capsized but returned the vessel to Turkish waters shortly afterwards.

Greek coast guard received distress signals from Rhodes island before they showed up in the area and rescued the migrants.

In recent years, hundreds of thousands have made short but perilous journeys across the Aegean to reach Northern and Western Europe in search of a better life.



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

Hundreds of people have died at sea as many boats carrying refugees often sink or capsize. The Turkish Coast Guard Command has rescued thousands of others.

Turkey and Greece are key transit points for migrants looking to cross into Europe, fleeing war and persecution to start new lives. Turkey has accused Greece of large-scale pushbacks, summary deportations and denying migrants access to asylum procedures, which is a violation of international law. Ankara also accuses the EU of turning a blind eye to this blatant abuse of human rights.

Pushbacks are considered contrary to international refugee protection agreements that say people should not be expelled or returned to a country where their life or safety might be in danger due to their race, religion, nationality or membership of a social or political group.