



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيين 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



"Palestinians from Syria Spend Occasion of Eid away from Home"

- Hundreds of Palestinian Refugees Spend Eid Festival behind Syria's Prison Bars
- Residents of Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian Refugees Denounce Mistreatment at UNRWA Clinic
- Food Items Handed Over to Palestinian Asylum-Seekers in Greece

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Latest developments

Tens of thousands of Palestinians from Syria have spent the holy occasion of Eid AlAdhha (Feast of Sacrifice) away from their homes and families.

Torn from the nourishment of home and warmth of family, Palestinians have been scattered across Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Libya, Sudan, Thailand, Malaysia, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Britain, the Netherlands, Finland, Switzerland, France, Brazil, Chile, and Canada, among other destinations. Hundreds have become internally displaced across the Syrian territories.

Available figures indicate that over 120,000 Palestinian refugees fled Syria in the hunt for a safe shelter.

The situation has gone downhill as most of the world's governments have opted for a closed-door immigration policy vis-à-vis the Palestinian refugee community from Syria.

Hundreds have embarked on life-threatening journeys onboard the death-boats to Europe, having no place to take cover in.

Along similar lines, Palestinian prisoners in Syria and their families have been deprived of the joy of Eid in the war-torn country, where thousands of civilians have been killed and thousands more have fallen prey to enforced disappearance.

Over 1,790 Palestinian refugees, including minors and women, have been held behind Syria's prison bars.



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“We have not celebrated Eid for years. We miss our father so much”, wrote a prisoner’s son on his Facebook account.

Affidavits by ex-detainees continue to provide 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).

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to disclose the fate of scores of Palestinians held in its lock-ups, release the bodies of those tortured to death, to seriously work on halting harsh torture tactics, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.

Meanwhile, residents of Khan Dannun Camp, in Rif Dimashq, have spoken out against the mistreatment they have been subjected to by staff members at a UNRWA-run clinic in the camp.

Local activists have urged the UN refugee agency, the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees, and all other concerned authorities to take immediate action in response to the mistreatment they have been facing at the UNRWA clinic.

A number of residents leveled heavy criticism at the dentist working in the clinic, saying he has been mistreating patients showing up at the facility.



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In a statement emailed to AGPS, the residents slammed the medical staff at the clinic for their apathy regarding the appeals of a number of patients for much-needed treatment and medicines, along with psychological support.

Living conditions in Khan Dannun have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the unbridled warfare.

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.



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In the meantime, activists have distributed meat portions to a number of Palestinian and Syrian families in Greece.

Some 100 displaced families taking shelter around Athens benefited from the move.

Palestinian refugees from Syria continue to risk their lives onboard the “death boats” to Greece, rummaging around for a momentary respite from the daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction. AGPS has kept record of the death of dozens of refugees onboard Greece-bound ships. Several others have been arrested by Turkish coast guards.

Activists estimate that around 4,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria are taking cover on such Greek islands as Lesbos, Mytilene, Chios, Leros, and Kos, among other areas.