



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



"AGPS: 82 Palestinians from Syria Tortured to Death in Syrian Prisons in 2018"

- Secretary of Fatah Office in Aleppo Kidnapped, Family Points Finger at Syria Pro-Government Battalion
- Mahmoud Abbas Pushes for Smoothing Return of Yarmouk Residents
- Palestinian Refugee Tent Burned Down in Deir Ballout Camp
- 2 Sick Palestinian Children Left without Treatment in Deir Ballout Camp

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Latest Developments

AGPS documented the death of 82 Palestinian refugees as a result of harsh torture in Syrian state prisons.

AGPS estimates the real number to be far higher due to the gag orders slapped by the Syrian government on the detainees' names and fates, along with the families' reluctance to report such cases for fear of retaliation.



AGPS kept record of several cases where Palestinians have been kidnapped at government checkpoints or during abduction sweeps carried out by pro-government militias in war-torn Syria. In more than a few cases, the detainees' families receive their relatives' bodies from a military or government hospital while being wrapped up in a plastic bag or in a blood-tainted piece of cloth.

In another development, 58-year-old Palestinian refugee Mahmoud Rafe', from AlNeirab Camp in Aleppo, north of Syria, was kidnapped by anonymous gunmen.

Mahmoud's family held the Liwaa al-Quds battalion, affiliated with the Syrian government, responsible for the abduction and appealed to the concerned authorities to take an urgent response.



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The captive is the father of Samer Rafe', the commander of Liwaa AlQuds who has been detained over charges of corruption and arms sales.

In the meantime, the Palestinian Authority (PA) President, Mahmoud Abbas, stressed the need to press ahead with the reconstruction of Yarmouk Camp so as to allow displaced Palestinians to return to their homes at the soonest time possible.

Abbas' calls were made during a Tuesday meeting with the committee overseeing debris-clearance and reconstruction of the local cemetery in Yarmouk Camp.



The committee told Abbas that 70% of debris has been removed from Yarmouk's alleyways and that 280 families returned to the camp.

A decision issued by Syria's Council of Ministers during its weekly session, held on November 11, tasked local authorities in Damascus with rehabilitating infrastructure and destroyed facilities in Yarmouk Camp so as to pave the way for the safe return of the displaced residents.



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Minister of Local Administration and Environment Hussein Makhoul said at the time that the decision aims to task Damascus governorate with missions previously undertaken by Yarmouk municipality in an attempt to boost reconstruction plans and facilitate civilians' return at the soonest time possible.

The Syrian government forces regained control over Yarmouk Camp and southern Damascus towns following a 33-day military operation launched in April 2018. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured in the offensive. Over 80% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed in the warfare.

Meanwhile, a heater caused fires to break out in a Palestinian refugee tent in Deir Ballout Camp, north of Syria. The tent was reduced to ashes.

Civilians rushed to extinguish the fires lest they extend to other refugee tents in the poorly-equipped camp.

An AGPS news correspondent said a Palestinian refugee used to take shelter along with his disabled children in the ruined tent. He attributed the fire to the poor-quality heaters handed over by AFAD charity to the refugees, adding that six such accidents occurred over recent weeks.

Along the same line, Palestinian refugee Abu Mohamed Esam urged the International Red Cross, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the Turkish authorities, among other concerned bodies, to work on securing urgent treatment for his two disabled children in Deir Ballout Camp, north of Syria.



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The father said his two sons caught life-threatening diseases in Yarmouk Camp and have not received medical therapy as a result of the tough blockade imposed by the Syrian government forces on the camp.

According to the father, the government forces deployed at the main entrances to Yarmouk did not allow him access out of the camp to fetch medicines for his two children and transfer them to Damascus hospitals.

The father said he was deported along with his two sons to the under-equipped Deir Ballout Camp, where they have been struggling for survival due to the absence of relief assistance and the acute dearth in much-needed items.

The refugee appealed to the concerned institutions to broker his children's urgent access to Turkish hospitals.

Nearly 600 displaced families, among them 325 Palestinian families, have been struggling for survival in the impoverished Deir Ballout Camp, after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns.

