



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

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الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees Distressed following Violation of Deraa Reconciliation Agreement"

- Palestinians of Syria Facing Precarious Legal Status
- Palestinians from Syria in Egypt Struggling with Ambivalent Condition
- Palestine Embassy in Damascus Launches New Website
- Palestinian Students Honoured in Syria Displacement Camp

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Latest Developments

A reconciliation agreement that has been recently struck between the Syrian regime and opposition groups in Deraa, south of Syria, has reportedly been breached.

Reporting from southern Syria, an AGPS news correspondent said the Syrian regime ordered that residents of Deraa Camp for Palestinian refugees be either forcibly deported to northern Syria displacement camp or turned in to Syrian forces. Instructions were also given for the deployment of armed pro-regime militias and home searches in the area.

An opposition spokesman said thousands of stranded civilians in Deraa face the risk of mass expulsion to Jordan or Turkey on Saturday with the help of Russian forces.

AGPS continues to call on the Syrian security forces and their Russian allies to lift the tough cordon imposed on the Palestinian refugee camp of Deraa along with other areas in the Syrian southern city of Deraa for over 70 days running.

AGPA also demands that the air strikes and attacks launched on the area, and which claimed the lives of civilians, including Palestinian refugees, be immediately ended.

The international community should urgently step in to ensure that the inhumane blockade is immediately lifted and civilians



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regain access to food and medicines along with other life-saving items.

As a host country for Palestinian refugees, Syria should live up to its legal and moral responsibility and assist the refugees pending their return to their Israeli-occupied homeland.

At the same time, serious and urgent measures should be taken by the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Palestinian Authority, and the Arab League, among other regional and international parties, in order to ensure Palestinian refugees and other civilians in Syria are kept safe at times of armed shootouts and deadly fighting.

The United Nations bodies, most notably UNRWA and the UNHRC, should also pressurize the Syrian regime to end the blockade and ensure civilians' access to humanitarian aid supplies.

On June 25, the regime forces asked the residents and former opposition forces to lay down all light weapons and allow them to search their homes. However, the Daraa Central Committee, the main reconciliation center in the area, noted that they were only supposed to hand in heavy weapons as part of the Russian-brokered agreement signed in July 2018. The regime then started imposing a blockade on some 40,000 civilians living in the area.

Meanwhile, the Syrian warfare has severely affected Palestinian refugee communities in/from the war-torn country (PRS).



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PRS have been grappling with an ambivalent legal status and denied their basic rights, including the right to health care and access to the local labor market.

Several job announcements have excluded Palestinian refugees and persons with an equivalent status. This has been the case in the contest opened up by the Aleppo University on August 26, 2020 and the contest launched by Syrian bakeries on August 12, 2020 along with other jobs opened by the Syrian Central Bank, the Health Ministry, and other government-run bodies.

Palestinian refugees have also faced legal hurdles and complicated red tape as regards their right to property ownership.

A number of Palestinian refugee children aged below 15 have also been barred from obtaining national cards used by the Syrian government to ration bread and a wider range of subsidized goods, namely fuel, rice, tea, and sugar.

After ten years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs.

Along similar lines, Palestinian refugees who fled war-torn Syria have been subjected to a frail legal status in Egypt, where they are treated as foreigners rather than asylum-seekers fleeing war-stricken zones.



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Palestinians from Syria (PRS) in Egypt have been denied the right to legal visas, refugee documents, safe accommodation, basic services, and relief assistance.

Those who illegally entered Egypt via the Sudanese borders have been denied the right to free movement, education, and labor, among other basic necessities. Unlike Syrian nationals, who are granted safe asylum in Egypt and systematically assisted by the UNHCR, PRS are left on their own.

At the same time, the number of Palestinians who fled war-torn Syria to Egypt has dramatically shrunk back over the past three years.

AGPS data indicates that the number of Palestinian refugees from Syria in Egypt in 2018 was estimated at 3,500, down from over 6,000 in recent years. Some 500 refugees illegally entered Egypt through Sudan.

AGPS continues to stress the need to secure the rights of the Palestinians from Syria in Egypt, who fall outside of UNRWA's fields of operations, to legal and physical protection, as per the Refugee Convention of 1951, and to hand them over cash and in-kind aids, along with refugee cards, in order to enhance their legal status in the Egyptian territories.

In another development, the Palestine Embassy in Damascus launched a new embassy to facilitate consular procedures, including passport issuance.



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The site is as follows: www.palemb-sy.com . It will be operative starting Sunday, September 05.

Palestinian refugees can submit their applications after paying the required fees through the Commercial Bank of Syria on the embassy's account: 0103-106453-001

In another development, a ceremony was held in Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, to honour a number of Palestinian students who earned high scores in their basic and secondary school exams.

Hundreds of displaced Palestinian refugees in/from Syria have achieved success stories, despite the traumatic upshots wrought by the daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction across the embattled Syrian territories.

This includes scores of refugee students who have obtained the highest scores at their academic institutions; hundreds of refugee sportsmen/sportswomen who snatched the first places in regional and international competitions; dozens of artists who received renowned literary awards for their products and performances; and several housewives who turned trauma into a space of creativity.