



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



### "Palestinian Refugee Detained in Greece for 8th Month"

- Palestinian Refugee Karam Afani Secretly Held in Syrian Jail for 6th Year
- Palestinian Refugee from Syria Qualifies for West Asia Table Tennis Tournament in Jordan
- OIC to Launch Endowment Fund for UNRWA

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## Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee Yasser Fa'our has been kept in custody in Greece for the eighth month running over allegations of assaulting Greek police and attempting to burn state property, among other counterfeit charges.

Reaching out to AGPS, Fa'our said he had illegally entered Greece through Turkey on May 20, 2018. He had sought shelter in Moria refugee camp on Lesbos Island. Two months later, an altercation burst out between Arab and Afghani migrants while he was outside the camp.



As tensions soared, police troops showed up in the camp and showered refugee tents with teargas grenades. At the time, Yasser and a group of migrant youths rushed to the camp to evacuate women and children through the barbed wire. Four hours later, the police unlocked the entrance gates, allowing the refugees' access out of the camp. However soon after, policemen fired teargas once again and arrested Yasser and two other Palestinian refugees, one of them was formerly sheltered in Yarmouk Camp and the other from the blockaded Gaza Strip.



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“We were exhaustively interrogated by the police. However, our testimonies were later changed in the court and we were made to sign documents which we could not translate. Five charges were slapped against us, including incitement, attempted arsons against state property, assaulting police, and defamation of public institutions”, said Yasser.

Yasser and the two other arrestees were taken to Athens. Release appeals filed by their attorneys were rebuffed, pending another court hearing.

“When we reached out to the Palestinian Embassy we’d been told that there is nothing they could do for us as they are only tasked with issuing required documents”, he added.

Fa’our stayed for two years in Libya and four years in Lebanon, after he fled Yarmouk Camp, in war-torn Syria. He later entered Turkey through Kurdistan and spent 10 months in the country, before he embarked on a life-threatening Greece-bound journey.

Over recent years, Yasser volunteered at human rights associations and humanitarian charities. He had launched a theatre training project and a psychological support program for youths in Moria camp, before he was ultimately sent to jail.

Palestinian refugees from Syria who have been stranded in Greece continue to sound distress signals after most European states opted for a closed-door immigration policy, leaving hundreds of refugees trapped in underequipped makeshift refugee camps. An agreement between Turkey and Greece to tighten grip on refugees from Syria



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trying to creep into the Greek territories via the Turkish borders has made the situation far worse.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Karam Ahmad Afani, aged 26, has been mysteriously locked up in Syrian state prisons since September 15, 2013.



Karam, a resident of Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus, was arrested in Qudsaya, in Rif Dimashq.

AGPS documented the imprisonment of 1,730 Palestinian refugees in Syrian government jails, among them 108 women and girls.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee from Syria Alaa Nizar Fdheil has qualified for the West Asia Junior Table Tennis Tournament, set to be held at Princess Soumaya Bint AlHasan Hall in AlHusain city between March 15 and 17.

Alaa, sheltered in Khan Dannun Camp, in Rif Dimashq, will join the competition representing the Syrian national team, after she qualified for the tournament at Damascus' Tishreen Sports Complex.



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In another development, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) endorsed on Saturday the establishment of an endowment fund to ensure the sustainable financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), reported the Saudi Press Agency.

The agreement was reached during a meeting in Abu Dhabi by foreign ministers of OIC member states.

The funds will be dedicated mainly to supporting Palestinian refugees, announced OIC Secretary General Dr. Yusuf AlOthaimen.

The endowment fund will be run as a trust fund under the umbrella of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank.

UNRWA is confronted with an increased demand for services resulting from a growth in the number of registered Palestine refugees, the extent of their vulnerability and their deepening poverty.

UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions and financial support has been outpaced by the growth in needs. As a result, the UNRWA program budget, which supports the delivery of core essential services, operates with a large shortfall.