



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

04-03-2021

No. 3150

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Cash-Stripped Palestinian Families Sound Alarm over Poor School Performance in AlHusainiya Camp"

- Member of Free Palestine Movement Killed in Syria
- Refugees' Committee Calls on Palestinians from Syria in Gaza to Update Personal Data
- Palestinian Families Appeal for Information over 3 Missing Relatives
- Palestinian Youth Ali AlShehabi Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Gov't for 7th Year

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees sheltered in AlHusainiya camp, in Syria's Rif Dimashq province, said their children's school grades have gone down gradually over time due to economic hardship and the ensuing trauma inflicted by the ten-year warfare.

Over recent years, AGPS has kept record of a sharp nosedive in access to education for Palestinians sheltered in AlHusainiya refugee camp, among other displacement camps set up across the war-torn country.

A number of local schools face overcrowding, with over 50 students often crammed in a single classroom.

Schoolchildren have also been subjected to bullying and psycho-physical violence by a number of teaching staff.

At times, students are compelled to walk for kilometers to attend classes or sit for exams due to the transportation crisis. The situation has been exacerbated by the chronic power blackouts.

UNRWA installations in the camp include two double-shift schools and one afternoon-shift school in a government school.

Upon more than one occasion, UNRWA has raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among the Palestinians of Syria, several among whom left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.



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Several UNRWA facilities were destroyed in the Syrian warfare and others have gone out of operation, including two clinics, a vocational training center, a youth development center, and 28 schools, out of 112 UNRWA schools in Syria. Other education facilities have been turned into prisons or field hospitals, imperiling Palestinians' academic careers.

In another development, Palestinian young man Abdul Mutaleb Khnifes was fatally shot near the Damascus-Deraa highway.

The Free Palestine Movement, affiliated with the Syrian regime, mourned Abdul Mutaleb's death, saying he was killed by opposition outfits in Deraa.

Meanwhile, the Follow-Up Committee of Palestinian Refugees from Syria in Gaza has called upon Palestinian returnees from Syria to update their personal records.

The committee said updates include the refugee's name, family members, address, and contact numbers. The data will also be used by UNRWA.

Sometime earlier, Director of UNRWA operations in Gaza Mathias Schemale promised to increase efforts in order to tone down the calamitous humanitarian condition endured by Palestinian refugees who returned from Syria to the blockaded Gaza Strip.

Schemale promised to reach out to donor parties in order to help construct housing units for Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS)



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in the besieged enclave and to secure rental allowances to displaced families.

Some 150 Palestinian refugee families from Syria who returned to the blockaded Gaza Strip have been facing an abject humanitarian situation in the Israeli-blockaded enclave.

The refugees say they have been deprived of humanitarian assistance by UNRWA and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip have been enduring dire living conditions due to the 13-year-long Israeli siege and the devastating upshots of the Israeli onslaughts on the coastal enclave.

Civilians continue to launch cries for help over the high rates of unemployment, lack of financial resources, and movement crackdowns, which they said have made life quite unbearable in Gaza.

The offensives launched by the Israeli military on Gaza have turned the enclave into a hell on earth as most families have lost their sources of incomes, homes, and property.

According to data by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Gaza is one of the world's most densely populated areas, with more than 5,000 inhabitants per square kilometer. The Gaza Strip is smaller than the city of Oslo but is home to three times as many people.

Gaza is described by many Palestinians and humanitarian actors as the world's largest open-air prison, where nearly 2 million



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Palestinians live behind a blockade and are refused access to the other occupied Palestinian areas and the rest of the world.

NRC said 7 out of 10 Palestinians in Gaza are registered as refugees, and many of these come from families who were forced to leave their villages in 1948. Many have also been forced to leave their homes due to war, violence, and economic hardship.

In the meantime, concerns have been raised over the fate of 11 Palestinian and Syrian migrants, including Palestinians from Syria, Palestinians from the Israeli-blockaded Gaza Strip, and Syrian nationals, who have gone missing west of the Turkish seashore, onboard a Greece-bound vessel, since March 27, 2019.

The names that figure on the list are Palestinian refugees from Syria Mohamed Marwan Tamim, Mohamed Dhafer AlNajar, along with Raed Mabrouk, Ziad Radi, Mohamed AlHasasna, and Ahmad Sa'id from Gaza. Four other names—Amar Yaser Amouri, Mohamed Yaser Amouri (minor), Mohamed Nafe' Taeemeh, and Tareq Balout, all from Syria—figure on the list.

There have been conflicting reports about the migrants' condition and whereabouts. Unverified sources said a number of migrants have been detained by the Turkish police while others said they drowned off the Aegean coast.

In late April, the body of Palestinian refugee Mohamed Ismail AlBheisi was spotted off the Aegean coast. Palestinian media sources quoted Palestine Ambassador in Ankara, Fayed Mustafa,



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as stating that the Turkish Foreign Ministry updated the embassy on AlBaheisi's death southwest of Turkey.

Turkey and Greece have served as major launch-off points for migrants fleeing Syria, among other war-stricken zones, onboard "death boats" bound for Europe.

AGPS has kept record of the death of dozens of Palestinians at sea, trying to reach European destinations.

Along similar lines, Palestinian young man Ali Abdul Salam Shehabi has been forcibly disappeared in Syrian prisons since February 2, 2014,

Ali and some other 130 young men were arrested on the same day on their way to receive food aid in Yarmouk Camp, where they took shelter.

AGPS documented the incarceration of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in Syrian regime lock-ups, among them children and women.