



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 Refugees in/from Syria Facing Squalid Humanitarian Condition"

- Palestinian Refugees from Syria Subjected to Multiple Hardships in Blockaded Gaza
- Palestinians Struggling for Survival in Northern Syria Displacement Camps
- 248 Palestinian Residents of Khan Eshieh Camp Fall Prey to Enforced Disappearance in Syrian Jails
- Palestinian from Syria Wins Best Sports Staff Award in Sweden

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## Latest Developments

After more than ten years of conflict, Palestinian refugees who remained in Syria or who fled the war-torn country to Lebanon, Jordan, Gaza, Turkey, Egypt, and Thailand, among other destinations are identified as the world's most vulnerable groups.

The outburst of the bloody hostilities in Syria led to the displacement of thousands of Palestinian refugees in countries that fall outside of UNRWA's fields of operations, exacerbating even further their humanitarian and legal condition.

Nearly 10,000 PRS fled to Turkey and 3,500 to Egypt, where they have been facing a precarious legal status and denied access to vital services.

At the same time, AGPS continues to sound alarm bells over the deteriorating humanitarian condition endured by dozens of Palestinian refugees who fled war-torn Syria to the Kingdom of Thailand. The refugees risk to be forcibly sent back to Syria or tossed into Thai detention centers for indefinite periods of time.

Sometime earlier, the refugees urged Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas to pressurize the Thai authorities so as to release refugees trapped at IDC detention center and grant them legal and physical protection.

The Thai authorities continue to rebuff their appeals for visa-renewal after they overstayed their residence permits. The Thai



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government also prohibits renting homes to the refugees, who have been considered as lawbreakers rather than asylum-seekers.

Thus, UNRWA and UNHCR should join efforts in order to provide PRS with the legal, physical, and moral protection they quite urgently need at such a critical time and in such tension-stricken zones, where thousands, have been pronounced dead, arrested, injured, and/or displaced.

Serious efforts should be made by the UN agencies in order to assist registered PRS in hard-to-reach zones, particularly northern Syria. PRS in Lebanon and Jordan are also in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.

UNRWA should also cooperate with UNHCR offices outside of its fields of operations in order to push for permanent humanitarian assistance of PRS.

Along similar lines, 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 14-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



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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.

AGPS continues to express concern over the alarming situation in the besieged Gaza Strip in light of the propagation of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 and latest Israeli escalation.

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.

A 2012 UN report predicted the Palestinian enclave would be “unlivable” by 2020 if nothing was done to ease the blockade, but in June 2017 a UN report on living conditions in Gaza stated that all the indicators were going in the wrong direction and that deadline was actually approaching even faster than earlier predicted.

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



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leave their villages in 1948. Many have also been forced to leave their homes due to war, violence, and economic hardship.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees sheltered in displacement camps in northern Syria have been enduring a tragic situation. Most of them have been crammed in poorly-equipped tents and denied their rights to vital services.

Hundreds of Palestinian families have been struggling for survival in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout and Muhammadiya camps, among other camps, after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns.

For many displaced Palestinian refugees, the perils of coronavirus add to the torment already experienced throughout the conflict.

High rates of unemployment and lack of relief assistance have made the situation far worse for the displaced families.

According to data by the Commission of Palestinians of Syria for Relief and Development, as many as 1,488 Palestinian families have been sheltered in the northern Syrian regions of Idlib, Efrin, and Aleppo's suburbs. The largest number of families are taking refuge in Idlib.

Some 819 Palestinian families have sought shelter in Idlib, including 226 families in the city center, 152 in Atama, 60 in Akrebat village, and 60 more in Sarmada town. 50 families are taking refuge in Maarat AlNu'man and Jericho, south of Idlib, and also in Ataa village.





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In another development, some 248 Palestinian residents of Khan Eshieh Camp, in Syria's Rif Dimashq province, among them women and children, have been secretly held in Syrian government jails.

The detainees' fates and whereabouts have been shrouded in mystery.

AGPS documented the death of 616 Palestinian refugees under torture in state-run prisons in Syria.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Osama Kasem and his four-member team won the best sports staff award as part of the "staff i motion" competition held in Helsingborg to evaluate the performance of sports employees across Swedish municipalities. More than 450 teams from 290 municipalities took part in the contest.

Osama also received an individual award and the highest score as one of the most trained employees. He also practices several sports such as running, walking, swimming, cycling and bodybuilding. He had won the fourth award in a similar competition staged last year.

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



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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.