



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 Refugee in Sweden Creates Electronics Dictionary"

- Family Appeals for Information over Forcibly-Disappeared Relative in Syria
- Following Latest Decision to Cut Aid, UNRWA Distributes Cash Aid to Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon
- Food Baskets Distributed in Deraa Refugee Camp

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee Shehadeh Shamdin Atwa, born in 1959, has compiled a special dictionary of electrical and electronic terms to facilitate vocational studies in Swedish institutes.

Shehadeh Atwa, was a resident of Yarmouk camp. He is the father of five children. He graduated from the Faculty of Economics and Commerce in 1984 and arrived in Sweden in 2014 fleeing war-torn Syria via Libya.

He joined a vocational institute teaching electricity and electronics. “I faced enormous difficulties when I arrived in Sweden due to linguistic and cultural differences. At first, I felt a kind of frustration, but I decided to start from scratch, even though I was over 50 years old at that time.”

From his very first months at the institute, Shehadeh was able to compose a dictionary of electrical and electronic terminology for Arabic and non-Arabic speakers. The dictionary is made up of 2,144 terms in three languages: Arabic, English and Swedish.

He later opened his own project, programming car keys, a specialty he was able to master after intensive courses in Holland and Sweden, with the help of his eldest son Amer, a student of electronic engineering at a university in Goteborg.

Shehada Atwa and his family obtained Swedish citizenship in 2019. He currently resides in the city of Kamar and his children are



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pursuing their studies at Swedish universities. His eldest daughter Farah obtained a master's degree in engineering and automatic control.

In another development, a Palestinian family has appealed for information about the condition and whereabouts of Adnan Ahmad Ghanayma, who has been secretly held in Syrian prisons for eight years running.

Adnan was born in 1970 in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees. He has not been involved in political or military action. He was arrested on March 18, 2013 near Adra Petrol Centre.

His family and relatives have appealed to ex-prisoners and activists who have pieces of information about his condition and whereabouts to reach out to AGPS.

AGPS has documented the secret detention of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in state-run penal complexes across war-torn Syria, among them 110 women and girls.

AGPS has also documented the death of over 550 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government lock-ups, including women, children, and elderly civilians.

Affidavits by ex-detainees have provided evidence on the involvement of Syrian government officers in harsh torture tactics, including electric shocks, heavy beating using whips and iron sticks, and sexual abuse against Palestinian detainees, in a flagrant violation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel,



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Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, commonly known as the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).

Meanwhile, UNRWA started on January 4 distributing cash aid to Palestinian refugee families from Syria covering the month of December.

The aid grants will be disbursed through Liban Post. Registered families will receive text messages to that end.

UNRWA said that as of February 2022, it will be shelling out cash grants to Palestinian refugees from Syria for the months of January and February. Every registered Palestinian refugee will receive a sum of 25\$ per month.

In the meantime, some 700 Palestinian refugee families received last week food baskets distributed by the Syrian Red Crescent Organization.

All the way through Syria's conflict, residents of Daraa Camp have been grappling with dire humanitarian conditions owing to the high rates of unemployment and absence of vital facilities.

Civilians continue to sound distress signals over the absence of health services and life-saving medical kit. Most of the clinics and medical centers in the area have gone out of operation in the warfare. Dozens of sick and elderly civilians face mountainous journeys trying to reach AlKashef area for treatment.



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UN data indicates that Deraa refugee camp is located inside Deraa City, in southern Syria. Palestinian refugees came to the Deraa area in two waves in 1948 and in 1967.

However, as the recent conflict unraveled, the camp became engulfed by violence and 90 per cent of the camp population had to leave the camp and seek safety in other areas such as Deraa city, Damascus or Jordan. Most UNRWA services were moved to alternative premises in Deraa city.