



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

07-01-2019

No. 2256

## التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



### "Palestinian Refugee with Disability Struggling for Survival"

- **Civilians' Fate Threatened by Uncontrolled Circulation of Weapons in AlNeirab Camp**
- **Palestinian Refugee Mootaz Bakr Secretly Held in Syrian Prison for 6th Year**
- **Palestinian Refugees from Syria Granted Citizenship in Sweden, Netherlands**

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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

## Latest Developments

More than 2,300 Palestine refugees with disabilities in Syria have had their lives marred by the unabated warfare and bloody strife rocking the Syrian territories.

“I spent my childhood confined to bed, ill and depressed. When people visited us, I felt shy to meet them. I was unable to walk until 1st grade. My mum used to carry me to school,” said Gharam Ghazi, a 33 year-old woman suffering from congenital hip dysplasia and dwarfism.



In 2011, she was displaced to Deraa by the conflict in Syria. This brought her into contact with Fatima Ali, a vivacious social worker at the UNRWA Community Based Centre in Deraa.

“My life has completely changed since I met her,” said Gharam. “Before, I always felt shy and kept my head down. I was bashful to walk in public,” she explained. “But as Fatima coached me, my confidence grew.”

Gharam attended trainings about the inclusion of persons with disabilities, as well as recreational sessions organized by UNRWA. The Agency also helped her find a stable job. Last year, in



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

2017, Fatima told Gharam that the Ministry of Education was looking to hire people with disabilities. Gharam seemed like a perfect candidate, but there was one problem: the job required applicants to have completed their 9th grade education. Gharam had dropped out of school after the 8th grade.

Fatima intervened on her behalf to lower the requirements and helped Gharam with the application process. “I got the position and am now a messenger!” said Gharam. “This has given me the feeling of independence. I feel stronger and more comfortable in my own skin. My colleagues chat with me and I am always laughing with them. It’s like I am a new person!”

Assistance to the most vulnerable Palestinian refugees, including persons with disabilities, is provided by donors like the European Union. The European Commission's civil protection and humanitarian aid department (ECHO) has funded assistance to those with disabilities, as well as female-headed households.

Meanwhile, the unrestrained flow of arms among the pro-government militias in AlNeirab Camp, in Aleppo, has marred civilians’ lives.





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

A couple of days earlier, five people, including a child from AlMesri family, were left wounded in shootouts rocking AlNeirab Camp.

In a letter emailed to AGPS, a resident attributed the simmering tension to the free access to weapons by Liwaa AlQuds militias, affiliated with the Syrian government.

The residents called on the concerned authorities to urgently work on disarming the camp and protecting vulnerable civilians.

They held Liwaa AlQuds militias accountable for terrorizing civilians and children in the area.

Meanwhile, the family of the Palestinian refugee Mootaz Mohamed Bakr, a resident of AlAyedeen Camp in Hums, continues to appeal to the human rights institutions to work on revealing their son's condition and whereabouts.



Bakr, aged 35, was kidnapped by the Syrian government forces on January 9, 2013, on his way back to the camp. He is a taxi driver.

AGPS kept record of the incarceration of 1,724 Palestinians in Syrian government prisons, among them 108 women and girls.





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

In another development, a number of Palestinians from Syria have been granted citizenship in Netherlands and Sweden, to which they fled in the hunt for a safe shelter.

The Dutch law stipulates that a Palestinian refugee from Syria be entitled to apply for citizenship rights after a three-year stay in the country and the acquisition of the Dutch language.

In Sweden, eligibility for citizenship is granted after a four-year stay in the kingdom. No other prerequisites have been set by Sweden for citizenship applications. Children of Palestinians from Syria who were born in Sweden and one of whose parents have got a permanent residence permit are systematically granted citizenship.

However, the time-span allocated for examining applications for visas or family reunification submitted by refugees from Syria is often estimated as being very long.

According to estimates by the Swedish Migration Office, more than 22,100 Palestinian refugees from Syria will have obtained Swedish citizenship by the end of 2018.

Activists, said over 7,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria have been granted citizenship in the Netherlands.

According to AGPS data, over 85,000 Palestinians from Syria have reached Europe, fleeing the war-stricken Syrian territories.