



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



"Thousands of Palestinian Refugees Can't Go Back to Syria Due to Security threats"

- Palestinians from Syria in Jordan Push for Urgent Humanitarian Aid
- Lebanon Charity Provides Healthcare Services for Palestinians of Syria
- Palestinian Refugees in Syria's Gilin Town Appeal for Oxygen Cylinders
- Palestinian Brothers Muhammad and Muayad Akawi Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime

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Latest Developments

Ten years into the Syrian conflict, thousands of Palestinian refugees continue to suffer protracted displacement after they fled the war-torn country to other destinations. The Syrian regime has forcibly displaced thousands of Palestinians and Syrians.

Today, those who wish to return to the vastly devastated refugee camps in Syria fear they would be arrested or forced into military conscription.

Those who were involved in anti-government protests and deserted from military service say they cannot go back to the country for fear of being jailed or persecuted.

A poll conducted by Palestinian activists from Syria in Lebanon found out that 548 interviewed families said they cannot return to Syria due to security threats. 450 families said one of their relatives are held in Syrian prisons. 188 families fear they would be tossed into compulsory military service.

Human rights groups have documented several cases where Syrian intelligence branches have arbitrarily detained, disappeared, and/or harassed people in areas retaken from opposition groups. The abuse is taking place even when the government has entered into reconciliation agreements with the people involved.



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Upon more than once occasion, AGPS has called on the Syrian government to disclose the fate of hundreds of Palestinians forcibly disappeared in state-run dungeons.

AGPS believes that the arbitrary internment of Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria amounts to a war crime.

According to AGPS statistics, over 550 Palestinian refugees, including scores of women and dozens of minors, died under torture in Syrian government lock-ups. Several casualties were identified through live snapshots leaked from Syrian penal complexes, where over 1,790 Palestinian refugees continue to be secretly jailed.

Recently, Syrian President Bashar Assad issued a decree granting amnesty and reducing sentences for several categories of crime committed before May 2, state news agency SANA said.

The Amnesty did not include thousands of Palestinian and Syrian prisoners held on security/political grounds and in such notorious lock-ups as Sednaya.

Since Syria's conflict began in 2011, Assad has issued similar amnesties, the latest of which came in September 2019. The conflict has killed half a million people and displaced half the country's prewar population including more than 5 millions who are refugees abroad.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees in Jordan have called for including them in Himmat AlWatan Fund Program launched by



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the Jordanian government to assist vulnerable people who have been worst affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

Speaking with AGPS, activists said Palestinian refugees with Syrian travel documents have neither been included in Himmat AlWatan program nor in assistance programs by the UNHCR.

Along similar lines, Rahma Association for Relief and Development said Palestinian refugees will benefit from a healthcare assistance program to be launched in Lebanon.

In a joint statement with UNRWA, AlRahma said it will provide assistance to patients who need surgical operations of more than 4,000 USD, newborns who need intensive care or incubators for more than eight days, and girls who got married before the age of 18 and who are in need of special treatment.

In the meantime, activists in Gilin town, in Deraa, south of Syria, have launched calls for securing oxygen cylinders to save coronavirus-stricken patients.

Coronavirus cases have increasingly been recorded among Palestinians sheltered in Gilin town, south of Syria.

Activists have denounced the absence of anti-coronavirus measures and the violation of precautionary protocols.

Palestinian refugees who have returned to Gilin town, in Daraa's western outskirts, after they fled the area due to the rampant shelling and deadly shootouts, continue to sound distress signals over the unbearable situation they have been enduring in the area.



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Gilin's infrastructure and public amenities have sustained massive destruction in the warfare. Civilians wishing to have access to healthcare facilities often head for AlMuzeireeb town as no clinics are operative in Gilin.

Located some 25 kilometers away northwest of Daraa's city center, Gilin is home to 1,700 families displaced from the occupied Palestinian territories.

In another development, Palestinian brothers Mohamed Saleh Akawi, born in 1982, and Muayad Salah Akawi, born in 1992, have gone missing since December 2013.

Both of them were kidnapped by Syrian government troops deployed at AlBatikha checkpoint, set up on the access road to Yarmouk Camp.