



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



**"Amnesty: Syria Refugees Tortured, Raped on Return"**

- PLA Officer Arrested over Corruption Charges
- Palestinian Refugees Appeal for Urgent Anti-Coronavirus Measures
- Palestinian Refugees among hundreds seeking reconciliation in Deraa Camp
- Palestinian Refugee Released from Syrian Custody

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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## Latest Developments

Syrian refugees who returned home were subjected to torture, detention and disappearance by security forces, Amnesty International has said, urging foreign governments to protect them from deportation and forcible return.

In a report, titled “You’re going to your death”, the London-based human rights group documented violations by intelligence officers against 66 returnees, including 13 children.

Among those were five cases in which detainees had died in custody after returning to the country torn by war, while the fate of 17 forcibly disappeared people remains unknown.

The report documented serious violations committed by the Syrian government against refugees who returned to Syria from Lebanon, Rukban (an informal settlement between the Jordanian and Syrian borders), France, Germany, Turkey, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates between mid-2017 and mid-2021.

The report cited testimony from a Syrian woman, Alaa, who was arrested along with her 25-year-old daughter at a border crossing as they came back from Lebanon. The two were detained for five days.

“They removed my daughter’s clothes. They handcuffed her and hung her on the wall. They beat her. She was totally naked. One put his penis inside her mouth,” the report quoted Alaa as saying.



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The report came as pressure piles on Syrian refugees in some Western countries such as Denmark to go home.

“Any government claiming Syria is now safe is willfully ignoring the horrific reality on the ground, leaving refugees once again fearing for their lives,” said Marie Forestier, a researcher on refugee and migrant rights at Amnesty International.

She said while military hostilities may have subsided in most parts of Syria, the Syrian government’s “propensity for egregious human rights violations has not”.

The Syrian government and its chief international backer, Russia, have publicly called on refugees to return home and accused Western countries of discouraging it with claims that Syria is still unsafe.

Syria has denied refugees face indiscriminate torture and reprisals, and President Bashar al-Assad has said millions of refugees were being forced to stay in host countries by “pressure or intimidation” and that host states were enticing them financially while benefiting from international aid for them.

Amnesty urged European governments and Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon to halt any practice that forces people to return.

The European Council and the European Parliament have issued declarations saying conditions are not favourable for the safe and voluntary return of Syrian refugees.



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Similarly, the United Nations' refugee agency, UNHCR, has called on states not to forcibly return Syrian nationals to any part of Syria, even those areas controlled by the government, such as the capital region.

In another development, Staff Brigadier General Ayman Muhammad Kassab, from the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) has been detained for nearly two months at the PLA's central prison over charges of corruption.

Local sources told AGPS that the officer is involved in corruption and took bribes from conscripts in exchange for a leave of 24 to 72 hours. He is also accused of illegally selling dry bread, fuel, oils, and fat along with other items.

In another development, a reconciliation agreement between the Syrian regime and opposition forces has been partly put into effect for the 2

consecutive day. Light and medium weapons have been handed over to Syrian security forces.

Syrians and Palestinian refugees have increasingly appealed for reconciliation after the Russian forces okayed the safe exit and travel of armed persons from Deraa AlBalad by April 2022.

Syrian regime forces early Sunday escalated attacks on the southern city of Deraa, including its Palestinian refugee camp.



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According to Anadolu Agency, the Iranian-backed 4th Division militia group targeted the neighborhood with intense attacks after four days.

Noting that Assad regime forces broke a cease-fire agreement reached September 1, the same source said the regime aimed to force residents to migrate.

Machine guns, mortar artillery, tanks, and grad missiles were used in the attacks.

Since July 29, the Bashar al-Assad regime and Iranian-backed militias have launched a ground operation on the neighborhood, triggering clashes that spread across the countryside.

Deraa was blockaded by regime forces on June 25 after residents, including former members of the Syrian opposition, resisted an order to surrender light weapons and allow regime forces to search houses in the area.

During recent Russian-led mediation talks with the opposition, regime forces demanded that residents and armed opposition groups surrender all light weapons and allow home searches and the setting up of nine checkpoints in the neighborhood.

The demands, however, were rejected by the Daraa-based Reconciliation Center which was negotiating on behalf of the residents, prompting the regime to conduct fresh attacks on the besieged city.



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Daraa, known as the birthplace of the Syrian revolution, is home to 40,000 residents and was an opposition stronghold until 2018.

Meanwhile, residents of AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Aleppo, have called on the Syrian and international human rights organizations to take urgent action regarding the increase in the confirmed coronavirus cases in the area.

Over 10 confirmed coronavirus cases have been reported in the area following CT scans and laboratory tests. The list includes seven elderly people and three young men, among them a UNRWA teacher. Three 7

graders also contracted the virus.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Ahmed Ali Mey'ari, a resident of AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo, was released by Syrian security forces after he had been held in custody for days.

Ahmad was arrested last week over claims of drug-trafficking.

Local sources denied the accusations and told AGPS that the arrestee—Ahmad Ali Meyari—has achieved outstanding school results and has a good reputation. Ahmad got the highest score (238/240) at his final secondary school exams.

Reports of drug consumption and trafficking have increasingly emerged in AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Syria.



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Over recent years, members of Liwaa AlQuds armed group, affiliated with the Syrian regime, have been accused of running a network for drug trafficking in AlNeirab displacement camp and adjacent areas.

Drug distribution is often carried out by children aged below 18 and members of cash-strapped and vulnerable families who are exploited by illicit drug trafficking networks which are subject to drug prohibition laws.