



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



"Civilians Regain Access to Deraa Camp through Saraya Crossing"

- Palestinian Child Killed by Explosive Ordnance in Syria Displacement Camp
- Palestinian Women Denied Citizenship Documents in Turkey
- Humanitarian Condition Exacerbated by Power Crisis in AlNeirab Camp
- Palestinian Brothers Ahmad and Walid Mousa Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime

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Latest Developments

Dozens of Palestinian refugees have returned to Deraa Camp after the Syrian regime reopened AlSaraya crossing.

The Syrian security forces have totally backtracked from the city's eastern and southeastern corners. However, military checkpoints have been pitched near and around Deraa's neighborhood of AlSad along with the city's southwestern zone.

This week, Syrian army troops entered Deraa al Balad, the birthplace of the uprising against President Bashar al-Assad's rule, for the first time since it lost control over the area a decade ago.

Army units set up at least nine checkpoints across the city under a Russian-brokered deal between the army and opposition groups that was finally agreed this week.

In 2018, Assad's army, aided by Russian air power and Iranian-backed militias, retook southern Syria, bordering Jordan and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights to the west.

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



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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.

In another development, Palestinian child Mohamed Bassem Mer'i succumbed to injuries he sustained in a cluster bomb blast in Hindarat Camp for Palestinian refugees, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo.

In late August, at least seven children, including Mohamed, were left wounded in Hindarat Camp as explosive debris went off in the area. The wounded were rushed to AlKindi Hospital in Aleppo.

The children, aged between 14 and 16, were wounded as they gathered in a playground in the camp. Screaming and shouting were heard at the time of the blast. The children's faces were covered with blood. Mohamed was left in a critical condition as a shrapnel penetrated his skull.

The list of injured children included Mohamed AlMesri Sweid, Ahmed Mohamed Kasem, Mousa Yaser AlKhader, and Reda Abdul Fatah.

Landmines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), which are particularly unpredictable and difficult



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to detect, continue to put millions of people, including Palestine refugees, at risk.

Data by the UN Agency for Palestine refugees indicates that in Syria, approximately 1 in 2 people are at risk from explosive contamination and 1/3 of the communities are potentially contaminated. Contamination severely impacts lives, livelihoods and amplifies the social and economic crisis aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

People displaced or returning home are at high risk as they have limited information on safety issues in the areas they are going to.

This threat is particularly high for Palestine refugees in Syria, especially in newly-accessible or difficult-to-reach areas. These include areas that Palestine refugees have recently returned to areas such as Yarmouk, Ein el Tal and Dera'a camp.

Children on their way to and from school are highly exposed to the dangers of explosive ordnance.

Meanwhile, a Palestinian refugee woman who fled war-torn Syria to Turkey said the Turkish authorities continue to turn down her application for citizenship rights.

The refugee who holds Syrian travel documents had entered Turkey ten years ago.

She received an email saying that is eligible for neutralization in Turkey. As she showed up at the office of migration authorities she



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was, however, told that she is ineligible for Turkish citizenship rights due to her Palestinian origins.

The refugee appealed to the concerned Turkish and international organizations to pressurize migration authorities to provide her with legal protection and grant her citizenship.

Meanwhile, residents of AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo, have denounced the power crisis in the area, saying power generators have not been regularly operated by the owners.

An AGPS news reporter said power generators are switched on by their generators only for three hours daily, in violation of an agreement between the residents and the owners.

A number of residents who spoke out against power manipulation in the area have reportedly been blackmailed by generators owners affiliated with pro-regime militias and received threats of power cuts.

In the meantime, Palestinian brothers Ahmad and Walid Mousa Mahmoud have been held in Syrian government jails since February 2014. Both were kidnapped from their family home in Rukn AlDeen, in Damascus.

Their families have received no information over their whereabouts and conditions of captivity.

AGPS documented the incarceration of 1,797 Palestinians in Syrian government lock-ups, among them women and children.



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Dozens of others have also died under torture in Syria's regime penitentiaries, including three brothers from Hamdan family, from Yarmouk Camp, and three sisters from Sa'd AlDin family, from AlRaml Camp. The latter were pronounced dead on March 30, 2015.