



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



**"AGPS Report Documents Misappropriation of Palestinian Refugees' Property in War-Torn Syria"**

- Orphans in Deraa Palestinian Refugee Camp Helpless
- 42 Palestinian Residents of Daraa Camp Secretly Held behind Syrian Prisons
- Palestinian Refugee Student Honored by Governor of Upper Austria

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## Latest Developments

A report issued by the Action Group for Palestinians of Syria (AGPS) on October 12 under the title “Seizure of Palestinian Refugees’ Property” in Syria warns of the misappropriation of assets of displaced Palestinian families.

AGPS has documented several cases where Palestinian property has been confiscated, destroyed, and/or stolen in displacement camps across the war-ravaged country, including AlSabina, Khan Eshieh, AlNeirab, and Handarat camps.

The stolen/destroyed property were owned by Palestinian activists, journalists, or prisoners accused of affiliations with the Syrian opposition or with terror groups.

The 14-page report includes a definition of property ownership rights as per international law and the Syrian constitution of 2012.

A section of the report has also been devoted to geographical locations of Palestinian property that has been subjected to forfeiture. In most cases, seized houses have been taken by pro-regime gunmen and militias in Syria.

Along similar lines, vulnerable groups taking shelter in Daraa camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, continue to struggle for survival in the poverty-stricken area.

Some 121 households in Daraa lost their fathers, who served as their sole breadwinners, and nine other families lost both parents in the warfare.



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AGPS has kept record of the death of over 250 Palestinian refugee children in war-torn Syria.

Thousands of children have gone orphaned after they lost one or both of their parents in the deadly warfare.

The warfare in Syria has had traumatic fallouts on Palestinian refugee children in and outside of Syria. Post-traumatic stress disorders, mental psychosis, sleeplessness and nightmares, eating disorders, and intense fear have all been reported among Palestinian children from Syria.

Humanitarian conditions have gone remarkably worse in Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees due to the price leap, poor infrastructure, and absence of vital services.

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.

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,



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Damascus or Jordan. Most UNRWA services were moved to alternative premises in Deraa city.

Deraa camp and its surroundings returned to government control in the summer of 2018. The camp is now largely destroyed. Inside Deraa camp, all premises including three school buildings and a clinic need substantial repairs or complete rebuilding.

At the same time, AGPS documented the secret detention of 42 Palestinian refugees sheltered in Daraa Camp, south of Syria, from March 2011 until mid-October 2020.

Three Palestinian residents of Daraa Camp were also tortured to death in Syrian state jails, where a total of 620 Palestinian refugees have also died under torture since the outburst of the bloody warfare.

Field reporters believe the real number to be far higher due to the government's reticence to reveal the names and fates of Palestinian detainees and the families' fears to disclose their relatives' names over retaliation concerns.

The list of victims includes activists, volunteers, medics, engineers, academics, journalists, university students, and artists.

According to data by AGPS, 1,797 Palestinian refugees, among them children, women and elderly refugees, have been enduring unknown fates in Syrian government lock-ups.

According to affidavits by ex-detainees, Palestinian refugees have been subjected to harsh psycho-physical torture tactics in Syrian



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penitentiaries, including electric shocks, heavy beating using iron sticks, and sexual abuse.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian authorities to disclose the condition and whereabouts of Palestinian refugees held in its penitentiaries.

AGPS believes that such practices represent flagrant violations of international law which criminalizes all forms of torture and mistreatment of civilians.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Ahmad Fayez Diab, raised in Syria's Khan Eshieh camp, earned the highest score at the Economics and Sales Department at Linz University.

Ahmad was honored by the Governor of Upper Austria, Thomas Stelzer, during a ceremony held in the city.

Ahmed's family was displaced from Tabariya village, in Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1948, to Khan Eshieh camp, in Syria's Rif Dimashq province. He fled the war-torn country to Austria in 2014.

"I advise everybody to take profit of every single moment and learn new languages for they are the key to cultural integration in western countries", said Ahmed. "Young men wishing to enhance their skills should volunteer with NGOs such as the Red Cross".

Hundreds of displaced Palestinian refugees have achieved success stories, despite the traumatic upshots wrought by years of occupation and displacement from their motherland.



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This includes scores of refugee students who have obtained the highest scores at their academic institutions; hundreds of refugee sportsmen/sportswomen who snatched the first places in regional and international competitions; dozens of artists who received renowned literary awards for their products and performances; and several housemakers who turned trauma into a space of creativity.

Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups around the world with immense humanitarian needs. Displacement from their native land—Palestine—has caused immense suffering and trauma over the decades.