



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيين 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



### "Vulnerable Palestinian Families Struggling for Survival in Northern Syria Displacement Camps"

- Palestinian Refugees in AlBal Camp Facing Abject Humanitarian Situation
- Palestinian Refugee Family Appeals for Urgent Child Treatment
- Palestinian Refugee Wasim Falouji Forcibly Disappeared in Syrian Prisons for 7<sup>th</sup> Year

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## Latest Developments

Hundreds of displaced Palestinian and Syrian families have been facing squalid humanitarian conditions in Deir Ballout and AlMuhammadiya camps, in Efrin region, north of Syria.

Dozens of elderly people, orphans, and persons with disabilities have been taking refuge in under-equipped tents set up in the poverty-stricken area.

Some 600 families, among them 325 Palestinian families, have been taking refuge in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout Camp, where they have been denied access to vital services and humanitarian assistance.

Along similar lines, 25 displaced Palestinian families taking refuge in ramshackle tents set up in AlBal Camp, in Aleppo's northern outskirts, north of Syria, continue to launch cries for help over their alarming humanitarian condition.

The refugees said they have not received relief items and cash grants despite their ongoing appeals for urgent humanitarian assistance.

The families have sounded distress signals over the dire situation they have been facing owing to the absence of vital services, relief assistance, and potable water. The camp is located several kilometers away from the city center.



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The displaced Palestinian families have appealed to UNRWA and the concerned humanitarian organizations to make urgent steps in order to alleviate their suffering.

Located north of Suran city, in the northern countryside of Aleppo, AlBal Camp was established in April 2018 to give shelter to families displaced from Eastern AlGhouta. It is home to nearly 600 makeshift tents funded by AFAD charity and the Turkish Red Crescent.

The rampant Syrian warfare has had disastrous fallouts on the Palestinian refugee community, hundreds of whom have been struggling for survival in the violence-stricken country.

In the meantime, the family of Palestinian child from Syria Jad Mohamed Bakir continue to appeal for urgent humanitarian action to secure a sum of 300 USD needed for an urgent testicle surgery.

A report by Kassab Hospital, in Sidon, said two-year-old Jad, an orphan displaced from Syria's Yarmouk Camp, is in need of urgent surgery.

Palestinian refugees continue to call on the concerned authorities to enhance healthcare services for Palestinians in Lebanon.

The refugees have slammed the complicated red tape imposed by Lebanese hospital administrations and UNRWA-run health centres in the country.

According to information collected by UNRWA, more than 80 per cent of PRS indicate that the Agency's cash assistance is their main



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source of income. 95 per cent of PRS are food insecure, while about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty. 36 to 57 per cent of PRS youth face unemployment. In August and September 2019, UNRWA conducted a verification exercise of PRS in Lebanon and verified the physical presence of 27,803 PRS in the country.

The number of PRS in Lebanon has been gradually decreasing over the past two years, and UNRWA estimates that in 2020 the country will continue to host approximately 27,700 PRS (8,450 families). UNRWA said PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. According to the Agency's monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents.

The lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention and being issued a departure order.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Wasim Falouji has been secretly held in Syria's state-run prisons for the seventh consecutive year.

Wasim was arrested at a government checkpoint in Damascus on March 14, 2013.

AGPS has recorded the secret detention of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in state-run penal complexes across war-torn Syria, among them 110 women and girls.



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AGPS also documented the death of over 550 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government lock-ups, including women, children, and elderly civilians.

Affidavits by ex-detainees provided evidence on the involvement of Syrian government officers in harsh torture tactics, including electric shocks, heavy beating using whips and iron sticks, and sexual abuse against Palestinian detainees, in a flagrant violation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, commonly known as the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).

AGPS estimates the real number to be far higher due to the gag orders slapped by the Syrian government on the detainees' names and fates, along with the families' reluctance to report such cases over retaliation concerns.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to disclose the fate of scores of Palestinians held in its lock-ups, release the bodies of those tortured to death, to seriously work on halting harsh torture tactics, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.