



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



"Palestinians from Syria Trapped between Hammer and Anvil as Neighboring Countries Opt for Closed-Door Immigration Policy"

- Palestinian Father & His Son Tortured to Death in Syrian Jails
- Palestinian Families in AlSayeda Zeinab Appeal for Garbage Clearance
- 38 Palestinian Residents of Daraa Camp Held in Syrian Prisons
- Situation of Palestinians from Syria in Europe Exacerbated by Delays in Family Reunification

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Victims

Palestinian refugee Faris Balsha and his son Mohamed died under torture in Syrian prisons, where they had been held for over five months. They were kidnapped at a government-run checkpoint on March 12, 2014.



Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees from Syria have been denied easy access to neighboring countries, including Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, and North African countries.

The Turkish embassies have suspended visas for Palestinian refugees from Syria for over five years. Jordan also issued a decision officially banning the entry of the Palestinians of Syria regardless of their condition.

Palestinian refugees from Syria are reported to lack legal status in Lebanon. The absence of specific legislation addressing the unique situation of the Palestinians of Syria has made them vulnerable to marginalization within the Lebanese polity.



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Most of the Gulf countries have outlawed granting visas to Palestinians with Syrian travel documents since 2013.



AGPS continues to urge neighboring countries to lift the entry bans slapped against the Palestinians of Syria and to abide by international conventions prohibiting the expulsion of civilians fleeing war-stricken zones.

Meanwhile, residents of AlSayeda Zeinab Camp for Palestinian refugees continue to rail against the mounds of trash piled up in civilian neighborhoods and around the main access roads to the camp, resulting in bed smells and the spread of life-threatening diseases and rodents.

Recently, live photos from the camp showed trash mounds being piled up in residential alleyways.

Local activists and civilians lashed out at the Syrian authorities, UNRWA, and PLO for dragging their feet over the exacerbated situation in the area, calling them to urgently step in and work on removing trash without further delay.



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The residents further called for reconstructing ruined homes and rehabilitating destroyed infrastructure, including water, power, and sanitation networks.



In another development, AGPS documented the detention of 38 Palestinian refugees sheltered in Daraa Camp, south of Syria, between March 2011 until January 2019.

Three Palestinian residents of Daraa Camp were also tortured to death in Syrian state jails, where a total of 569 Palestinian refugees 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.



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According to data by AGPS, 1,729 Palestinian refugees, among them children, women and elderly refugees, have been enduring unknown fates in Syrian government lock-ups. Toddlers clinging to their mothers' arms have also been spotted in Syrian jails.

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

In the meantime, thousands of Palestinian refugees from Syria who have fled to Europe have been torn apart from the nourishment of home and warmth of family reunification.

Most of European states have opted for closed-door policies, denying visas for Palestinians from Syria and delaying family reunification procedures.

The situation has gone downhill as a result of the refugees' lack of access to the European labor market and steep monthly expenses.

Scores of refugees whose finger prints have been recorded in such destinations as Italy have, meanwhile, had their appeals for asylum rejected by northern European countries.