



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



"1st Women-Only Gym in Sweden Founded by Palestinian Refugee from Syria"

- Daraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees Grappling with Drinking-Water Scarcity
- Palestinian Refugees Raise Alarm over Leshmania Propagation North of Syria
- Palestinian Doctor Alaa AlDeen Youssef Secretly Held in Syrian Dungeons for 7th Year

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee from Syria Ayeda AlRifi opened up a women's sports club in the southern Swedish city of Malmo, making her 16-year-old dream come true.

Speaking with Alkompis news site, Ayeda said that what makes her new fitness club's so special is the fact that it provides a large space and all-inclusive services for women.

The studio is equipped with professional gym kit and provides courses in aerobics, zumba dance, tai po dance, stretching, and yoga both for children and adults. It is also equipped with a solarium, a sauna, a women's hair salon, and a private spa-massage area.



Ayeda, who grew up in Syria and had worked in the country as a sports coach, moved to Lebanon, before she headed for Sweden in 2015, where she has fulfilled her 16-year-old dream.

Dozens of displaced Palestinian refugees have achieved success stories in Europe, despite of the traumatic upshots wrought by the daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction across the embattled Syrian territories.



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In another development, residents of Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, denounced the acute dearth in drinking water, a crisis they attributed to the heavy damage inflicted on the main water lines by the relentless shelling.

Civilians said maintenance works have been carried out by the local water company to repair the main line feeding the northern corners of the camp. The company set Thursday and Friday as the weekly days for pumping water to the camp.



Over recent months, families taking refuge in the area said drinking water has been contaminated by sewage, causing it to become foul and salty.

The displaced families warned of the life-threatening diseases wrought by poisonous rodents and unpleasant smells stemming from contaminated sewage, saying wastewater continues to flow into their refugee camp around the clock.

The families continue to urge the local authorities and relief institutions, namely UNRWA, to make urgent steps in order to rinse out wastewater and enhance hygiene in the area.



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All the way through Syria's eight-year conflict, residents of Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, have been grappling with dire humanitarian conditions owing to the high rates of unemployment and absence of vital facilities.

In the meantime, media reports have warned of the spread of skin allergies and infections in northern Syria owing to mosquito-borne diseases contaminating civilians' vulnerable bodies.

A local medic said though it can be treated in one year's time without medical therapy, Leshmania leaves skin scars and deformities and causes life-threatening inflammations.

Last year, paramedics at the mobile clinic in Deir Ballout Camp, in Efrin, north of Syria, said they kept record of over 100 cases of mosquito-borne diseases among civilians taking shelter in the area.

The disease causes infections, high fever, swelling, redness, respiratory disorders and severe pains.

Coetaneous Leishmaniasis is a type of skin disease caused by Leishmania Tropica, also known as the "Aleppo Evil", "Aleppo ulcer", "Aleppo boil", "Aleppo button" or "habbat halab". It can produce permanent disfiguring scars on the face, especially of young people.

Such types of diseases are mainly found in areas associated with poor waste disposal. Water shortage, poor sanitation, and lack of other public services combine to create ripe conditions for the transmission of water/mosquito-borne infections.



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Meanwhile, Palestinian medic Alaa AlDeen Youssef has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian penitentiaries, where he has been kept for the seventh consecutive year.

Neurosurgeon Youssef has been forcibly disappeared since December 25, 2012. He was kidnapped from a checkpoint pitched near the main entrance to Yarmouk Camp.

Medical staff and structures in war-torn Syria came under heavy shelling by the government squads. Dozens of doctors, pharmacists, and paramedics have been pronounced dead while others have gone missing. A number of medics have reportedly been tortured to death on allegations of tending to wounded enemies and providing medical assistance to rival parties.



In a report issued in April 2018, on the occasion of the International Health Day, AGPS warned that the health situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria has remarkably exacerbated as a result of the unabated tensions rocking the Syrian territories since March 2011.



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According to the report, daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction led to deteriorating conditions. The study kept record of serious violations against medics, paramedics, and ambulances by the different warring parties in Syria. Wounded civilians, expectant women, elderly people, and hundreds of humanitarian cases have faced severe difficulties trying to reach hospitals and medical centers.

AGPS documented flagrant violations against wounded civilians and medical crews. These include extra-judicial killing, abduction, crackdowns, movement restrictions, and torture in jail.

Lists of dozens of medics and paramedics who have been killed, detained, forcibly disappeared, or tortured to death in Syria figure in AGPS' archives.

AGPS reiterates its calls to the Syrian government and all other concerned parties to protect medics and paramedics carrying out humanitarian missions in tension-stricken zones.