



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



"Tension Flares Up South of Syria following Assassination of Palestinian Refugee"

- Water Cut Off in AlSabina Refugee Camp for over 10 Months
- Palestinian Refugee Mohi AlDeen Jodeh Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime for 7th Year
- Refugee Children on Greek Islands Deprived of Right to Education

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Latest Developments

Tension has been running high at Deraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, following the assassination of Palestinian refugee Sami Adnan Omar.

Sami, born in 1994, was assassinated by anonymous gunmen on Tuesday, April 13, in Deraa camp. His family has threatened to retaliate for his murder and closed off the access roads to the camp before they attacked an opposition site near AlShuhadaa Cemetery. Sounds of shootouts were detected in the area.

Reporting from southern Syria, an AGPS news correspondent said Sami's body was found in the local cemetery while covered in blood from head to toe.

Sami joined opposition groups in Syria before he signed a compromise with the Syrian regime and served in the regime's Fourth Division unit.

Over recent years, dozens of assassination operations have targeted Palestinian refugees sheltered south of Syria.

In another development, Palestinian refugees in AlSabina Camp, in Rif Dimashq, continue to sound distress signals over the acute water crisis in the area.

The residents said water has been frequently cut off for over 10 months, forcing civilians to purchase water from privately-owned tanks.



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Civilians continue to lash out at the apathy maintained by UNRWA and the local municipality regarding their calls for supplying the area with power generators and filling main water tanks.

Located some 14 kilometers away from southern Damascus, AlSabina Camp has been gripped with an abject situation owing to the absence of humanitarian assistance, relief aids, proper infrastructure, and vital facilities.

UN data indicates that the camp was established in 1948. Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to 22,600 Palestine refugees. It was taken over by armed opposition groups in 2013. The camp remained closed to civilians for almost four years and houses and infrastructure were damaged in the fighting. In September 2017, civilians were able to return to their homes. All UNRWA installations were in need of repairs.

The whole Palestine population in AlSabina camp suffered from displacement during the crisis and many families left the country and sought refuge in neighboring countries or fled to Europe.

During the conflict, labor opportunities have dwindled and the unemployment rate is still very high with very limited financial resources to help Palestine refugees restore their livelihoods. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

The camp is situated on an area of 0.03 square kilometers. Palestine refugees who came to Syria in 1948 first settled the camp.



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It also accommodates Palestine refugees who were displaced as a result of the 1967 conflict.

Along similar lines, Palestinian refugee Mohyi AlDeen Mustafa Jodeh has been secretly held in Syrian government prisons for the seventh consecutive year.

The refugee, born in 1986, was arrested on January 5, 2014 by Syrian security forces deployed at Ali AlWahsh Street in Rif Dimashq.

In the meantime, Refugee Support Aegean (RSA), a non-profit organisation, published a report tracking the different levels of barriers to education through the eyes of refugee children, their parents and education professionals across Greek islands.

RSA said the exclusion of refugee children from the education system has reached record levels. Statistics demonstrate a sharp and rapid drop in enrolments of refugee children in public schools over the past two years, from 12,867 in June 2019 to 8,637 in March 2021.

The report analyses a series of deficiencies in the implementation of the education framework leading to exclusion ranging from delays in the establishment of classes and recruitment of teaching staff, to unavailable or insufficient transport services.

Refugee children's access to education is marred by aggravating factors stemming from broader deficiencies in the Greek asylum



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system, including barriers in the asylum procedure and precarious living conditions.

The insistence on the part of the Greek government and the EU Commission

on large-scale camp facilities for the reception of asylum seekers located far from urban centres corroborates fears of further exclusion and segregation, added RSA.

AGPS continues to urge the Greek authorities and all concerned bodies to ensure smooth and uninterrupted access of refugee children to the public education system through prompt establishment of the required classes, recruitment of teaching staff and transport arrangements.