

17-01-2023

No: 3823

مجموعة العمل

من أجل فلسطينيين سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

**Dutch Police Arrest Alleged IS Security Chief for War Crimes
in Yarmouk Refugee Camp**

- Family Appeals for Release of Palestinian Refugee in Syria
- Palestinian-Syrian Father Appeals for Reunification with His Child in Jordan
- Civilians Accuse UNRWA of Corruption



Latest Developments

Dutch authorities arrested a Syrian man on Tuesday who is suspected of having been a security chief for the Islamic State and Jabhat al-Nusra extremist groups during Syria's grinding war, prosecutors said.

"It is suspected that from his position at IS he also contributed to the war crimes that the organization committed in Syria," the National Public Prosecutor's Office said in a statement.

The 37-year-old man, whose name wasn't released, was detained in the small village of Arkel, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) east of the port city of Rotterdam, prosecutors said in a statement.

The man is suspected of holding "a managerial position in the security service of IS" from 2015-2018, prosecutors said. For two years prior to that, he allegedly carried out the same work for Jabhat al-Nusra. Prosecutors say he held both functions "in and around the Yarmouk refugee camp" south of the Syrian capital, Damascus.

The suspect applied for asylum in the Netherlands in 2019 and later settled in Arkel, prosecutors said. He was scheduled to appear before an examining magistrate in The Hague on Feb. 20.

It wasn't the first time Dutch authorities arrested a suspect from the Syrian conflict. Last year, a Dutch court convicted two Syrian brothers of holding senior roles in Jabhat al-Nusra between 2011 and 2014.

In another development, the family of Palestinian-Syrian man Mahmoud Abdul Sattar Mahmoud has appealed to the Syrian opposition, north of Syria, to reveal the condition of their relative and release him, after he has been forcibly disappeared for over one year and eight months.

Mahmoud's brother told AGPS that the Shamiya Front, affiliated with the Syrian National Army in northern Syria, arrested Mahmoud in May 2020 after they summoned him to questioning.

Mahmoud's condition and whereabouts have been shrouded in Mystery.



Mahmoud was born in 1996 and lived in Eastern Ghouta, in Rif Dimashq.

Meanwhile, Palestinian-Syrian refugee Mohamed Hazem Anbatawi said his 10-year-old child Yehya was in his custody after his mother got married in Saudi Arabia. The latter occasionally comes to visit her sister in Damascus and meets with Yehya. In her last visit, she asked her sister's husband to bring Yehya to his house.

Shortly after, the father asked the sister's husband to return Yehya but the husband claimed he does not know Yehya's location.

The father updated the police on his son's disappearance before he learned that his son left Syria to Jordan using a fake legal guardianship; A travel ban against the child has been in effect since 2018, though.

The father continues to appeal to the Jordanian authorities to help him reunite with his son who was smuggled to Jordan against his will.

In another development, residents of AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo, accused UNRWA staff of "hypocrisy" and "dishonesty".

The residents said that prior to the visit of UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini to Aleppo, the Agency's hygiene chief distributed new uniforms to workers and gave instructions for cleaning alleyways and main access roads.

Heads of other departments also took new measures, including eliminating a number of staff for fear that they will be communicating injustices and mismanagement to the Commissioner-General.

UNRWA staff and civilians in the area called on Lazzarini to stand on guard to corrupt chiefs and to take note of the residents' appeals for urgent humanitarian assistance.

Palestinian refugee families taking shelter in AlNeirab Camp continue to sound distress signals over the high rates of unemployment, water and power outages, along with the absence of healthcare services and vital medicines.



Before the start of the conflict in Syria, Neirab camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. Like other Palestine refugee camps in Syria, a large number of families, young people, have travelled abroad. The camp has also seen a large influx of more than 900 families from the nearby Ein el Tal camp, which has been mostly destroyed.

With nearly 18,000 registered refugees, Neirab camp is among the most densely populated camps. The camp suffers from overcrowding and a lack of privacy. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.