



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 in Egypt Denied Their Basic Human Rights"

- Palestinian Families in Northern Syria Displacement Camp Struggling for Survival
- Displaced Families Sign Up for House Reconstruction in Yarmouk Camp
- AGPS Opens Up Competition to Document Stories of Palestinians of Syria
- Palestinian Refugee Wasim Jumu'a Forcibly Disappeared in Syrian Prisons for 5th Year

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Egypt continue to rail against the apathy maintained by UNRWA and the Palestine Embassy regarding their appeals for humanitarian, legal, and socio-economic protection.

A number of refugees said UNRWA continues to turn its back on their calls for cash and in-kind assistance.

PRS have also denounced the mistreatment they have been subjected to by the staff members of the Palestine Embassy in Cairo.

Palestinian refugees who fled war-torn Syria have been subjected to a fragile legal status in Egypt, where they are treated as foreigners rather than asylum-seekers fleeing war-stricken zones. PRS have been denied the right to legal visas, refugee documents, safe accommodation, basic services, and relief assistance.

Those who illegally entered Egypt via the Sudanese borders have been denied the right to free movement, education, and labor, among other basic necessities. Unlike Syrian nationals, who are granted safe asylum in Egypt and systematically assisted by the UNHCR, Palestinian refugees are left on their own.

AGPS data indicates that the number of Palestinian refugees from Syria in Egypt in 2018 was estimated at 3,500, down from over 6,000 in recent years. Some 500 refugees illegally entered Egypt through Sudan.



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AGPS continues to stress the need to secure the rights of the Palestinians from Syria in Egypt to legal and physical protection, as per the Refugee Convention of 1951.

Along similar lines, tents have been flooded with water as torrential downpours have swamped Palestinian refugee camps in Afrin, north of Syria.

Dozens of displaced Palestinian families have been taking refuge in ramshackle and poorly-equipped tents set up in the area.

The families continue to sound distress signals over the dire humanitarian conditions they have been facing owing to the absence of vital services and relief assistance.

Pictures and videos circulated on social media showed dozens of tents as being swamped by rain deluges while children appear to be shivering of cold.

Hundreds of Palestinian families have been struggling for survival in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout and Muhammadiya camps, after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns. For many displaced Palestinian refugees, the perils of winter weather add to the torment already experienced throughout the conflict.

In another development, Damascus Governorate called on families wishing to reconstruct their houses destroyed in the warfare in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus, to sign up for reconstruction permits.



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Required documents include a copy of the personal ID, family card, and property ownership proof along with a security permit and a document by a municipality engineer assessing the damage level and needed reconstruction materials. Replies are sent to applicants within a one week time-span.

A lawyer nsaid that over the past couple of days five reconstruction demands have been submitted by Yarmouk's residents.

Palestinian families continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes in Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus, and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

Last year, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) published the results of an assessment of the damage to Syrian cities caused by seven years of relentless bombardment by the incumbent regime and its allies since 2011.

The analysis found out that as many as 5,489 buildings were destroyed in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees. The damage atlas used satellite-detected damage analysis to identify buildings that are either destroyed, or severely or moderately damaged.

Most of Palestinian families taking shelter south of Damascus fled Yarmouk as a result of the tough blockade imposed by the government troops and also after ISIS grabbed hold of the camp on April 1, 2015.

Scores of other stranded families fled the camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the government forces on April



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19, 2018. The Syrian government regained control over the camp and southern Damascus towns following the military operation. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured. Over 80% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed.

Meanwhile, AGPS announced the launch of the “Untold Stories” competition. This is your chance to tell your or someone else’s story that has been left out of history books and put your/their voice at the forefront of war literature.

We’re inviting you to write your own narrative as part of the “Untold Stories” competition. Your short story should focus on the tragedy that has befallen the Palestinians of Syria due to war-related incidents, most notably shelling, blockade, abduction, and displacement. The text should focus on a single experience.

To be shortlisted for the prize please send your well-written story to the following email: tellus@actionpal.org.uk

Our competition is open to anyone who has an untold story to share with us. Entry closes on March 15, 2021.

The winner will receive a prize of 200 USD. The second and third best stories will receive respectively 100 USD and 50 USD.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Wasim Jumu’a has been secretly held in Syrian government prisons for the fifth consecutive year.



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Wasim, a resident of Syria's Khan Dannun camp, in Rif Dimashq, was arrested by Syrian security forces on April 29, 2016. His condition and whereabouts have been shrouded in mystery.

AGPS has been deeply concerned about the upsurge in the number of Palestinian victims of torture and enforced disappearance in Syria.

Over 1,790 Palestinian refugees have been secretly held in Syrian government dungeons since the outburst of deadly hostilities.

AGPS also documented the death of over 600 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).