



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



"On Palestinian Prisoner's Day...AGPS Urges Syrian Regime to Disclose Fates of over 1,700 Palestinians Forcibly Disappeared in Jail"

- Elderly Palestinian Woman Goes Missing in Athens
- Residents of Southern Damascus Neighborhood Appeal for Return to Their Homes
- Food Items Handed Over to Displaced Palestinian Families from Syria in Turkey

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Latest Developments

AGPS has documented the secret detention of 1,794 Palestinian refugees, including women and minors, in Syrian government lock-ups.

AGPS estimates the real number to be far higher due to the gag orders slapped by the Syrian government on the detainees' names and fates, along with the families' reluctance to report such cases over retaliation concerns.

AGPS also documented the death of 620 Palestinian refugees, including 37 women, under torture in Syrian government prisons since the outburst of the bloody warfare. 77 victims were identified through pictures leaked from Syrian state prisons.



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).



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AGPS is also deeply concerned over an unabated outbreak of coronavirus in Syrian prisons, at a time when the deadly virus continues to claim the lives of thousands of people across the globe.

Though the Syrian government reported only dozens of coronavirus infections throughout the war-ravaged country, there are growing fears that a large outbreak in prisons could be particularly catastrophic.

AGPS fears coronavirus could spread quickly in jails and in overcrowded displacement camps, where neither hygiene kit nor medical equipment are accessible.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to disclose the fate of scores of Palestinians held in its lock-ups, release the bodies of those tortured to death, to seriously work on halting harsh torture tactics, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.

AGPS calls on the Syrian government to immediately release Palestinian detainees and provide those who tested positive for COVID-19 with the necessary medical treatment.

The Syrian authorities and all concerned parties should also take precautionary measures and enhance captivity conditions to rein in a tragic propagation of the virus in jail.

In another development, Palestinian refugee from Syria Lutfiya Mahmoud, a former resident of Yarmouk refugee camp, in Damascus, has gone missing for the seventh day in Athens.



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The refugee, aged 72, disappeared on April 10, after she left her home in Omonia Square. Her condition and whereabouts could not be identified.

Palestinian refugees from Syria continue to risk their lives onboard the “death boats” to Greece, rummaging around for a momentary respite from violence and economic hardship.



AGPS has kept record of the death of dozens of refugees onboard Greece-bound ships. Several others have been arrested by Turkish coast guards.

Activists estimate that around 4,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria are taking cover on such Greek islands as Lesbos, Mytilene, Chios, Leros, and Kos, among other areas.

Meanwhile, Palestinian families displaced from AlHajar AlAswad neighborhood, south of Damascus, continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

Civilians said their economic situation has dramatically gone down amid a full lockdown imposed on the country to rein in coronavirus propagation.



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Activists said the engineering company has finalized a damage assessment study and greenlighted civilians' return to Tishreen and AlThwarah neighborhoods, where homes are habitable.

The residents have also called on local authorities to remove rubble from the streets and repair the sewerage and power networks.



Thousands of Palestinian refugees took shelter in AlHajar AlAswad, which came under heavy shelling since 2013 and a crippling siege after ISIS crept into the area. Offensives launched by the Syrian and Russian forces resulted in heavy material damage and took away the lives of dozens of civilians.

Meanwhile, Khayra Ummah Organization distributed 120 food baskets to displaced and vulnerable Palestinian refugee families seeking shelter south of Turkey.

The move comes as part of underway initiatives to assuage the abject economic situation inflicted by COVID-19 outbreak particularly on day laborers.

Some 580 Palestinian families displaced from Syria have been enduring dire conditions in southern Turkey due to exorbitant rents, steep prices of food items, and the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.