



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



"Activists Speak Up for Palestinians from Syria in Thailand"

- Palestinian Students Appeal for School Transport in Damascus
- Palestinians from Syria Shorn of Basic Rights in Saudi Arabia
- Family of Missing Palestinian Refugee from Syria Appeals for Information
- Germany Resumes Family Reunification for Migrants from Greece

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Latest Developments

Palestinian activists appealed to the Palestinian Authority, chaired by Mahmoud Abbas, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and the mass media to rally around Palestinians from Syria in Thailand, where they have been facing the risk of detention and refoulement.

According to the activists, over 600 Palestinian refugees in Thailand have become increasingly at risk of being detained or forcibly deported after the Thai authorities tightened their grip on refugees who overstayed their visas.



The situation has exacerbated as the UNHCR failed to live up to its missions regarding the situation of the Palestinians of Syria in Thailand. No other country has expressed its willingness to receive the refugees fleeing war-torn Syria in its territories.

The activists called on the UNHCR to take urgent steps as regards the Palestinians of Syria in Thailand for they fall outside of UNRWA's fields of operation.

They further appealed to the Thai authorities to treat Palestinian refugees in accordance with international laws and standards.



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Meanwhile, parents and students at Damascus Training Center (DTC) appealed to the concerned authorities to allocate a budget for the transfer of students via buses to and back from the center.

The appeals were launched a couple of days after a traffic accident took away the life of the Palestinian student Malek AlAsadi outside of DTC.



The parents slammed the concerned authorities for reducing the budget allotted for students' transportation under the pretext that UNRWA funds have shrunk back.

“Why on earth haven't the transportation and travel budgets allocated to UNRWA officials been cut?”, wondered a parent.

The parents lashed out at DTC's administrative board for their lack of concern as regards their appeals.

“Our daughters have found no other way than to board overcrowded buses and pay extra cash to reach their destination”, a mother angrily said.



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In the meantime, Palestinian refugees fleeing war-ravaged Syria have been denied access into the Saudi territories, except for those heading for the kingdom to perform minor or greater pilgrimage (Umrah or Hajj).

Palestinians from Syria in Saudi Arabia have been shorn of their right to visas, education, and health care, among other vital services.

Saudi Arabia continues to opt for a closed-door immigration policy regarding Palestinian refugees seeking asylum in its territories, sparking widespread condemnation.

The family of the Palestinian refugee Omar Mohamed Kheir Abu Nahiya, born in 1988 and raised in Yarmouk Camp, appealed to all international human rights institutions, namely Amnesty International, to work on revealing the fate of their, who had disappeared some three years ago from Istanbul.



In appeals emailed to AGPS, Abu Nahiya's family said their son suffers from psychological disorders and a hearing loss. He disappeared from his home on April 27, 2014, shortly after his friend, Youssef AlRefai' left the house to fetch much-needed items. When the latter went back home he did not find him there.



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The family informed the Turkish authorities about their son's absence. However, his fate has gone mysterious and no pieces of information have been provided as regards his whereabouts and condition.

Meanwhile, Germany resumed the family reunification program on Monday after it was halted last year. The plan will eventually reunite migrant families across Germany.

Nearly 200 refugees who were trying to reunite with their families in Germany left Greece on Monday, restarting a reunification program that stalled last year.

"The departure of the first 177 refugees is part of an administrative arrangement between Greece and Germany for the completion of family reunifications already approved by Germany," the Greek Migration Ministry told AFP.

The refugees, mostly from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq, took a charter plane to Munich, according to the ministry.

The ministry added that there would be more upcoming flights, as some 2,000 refugees are expected to rejoin their families in Germany with the program, a ministry source told AFP.

The reunification program was slowed down in 2017 for refugees with subsidiary protection in Germany before stopping altogether.

According to the Dublin Regulation, the European country that an asylum seeker is first processed in will handle their case.



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The Commission on Human Rights in the European Parliament criticized Germany's policy on the reunification of refugee families, and that the German authorities impede reunification of refugee families.

Sometime earlier, the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights leveled heavy criticism at Germany over its closed-door policy regarding the reunification of refugee families.