



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



Saudi Arabia Denies Holders of Palestinian-Syrian Travel Documents in Egypt Right to Pilgrimage

- Ex-Prisoner: Palestinian Refugee Tortured to Death in Syrian Regime Prison
- Damascus Governor Meets Palestinian Diaspora Communities
- ALSayedra Zeinab Camp for Palestinian Refugees Grappling with Dire Conditions



Latest Development

Saudi Arabia has banned the entry of Palestinian refugees with Syrian travel documents and currently taking shelter in Egypt to perform pilgrimage in the Kingdom.

A number of Palestinian-Syrian refugees said they have submitted all necessary documents but the Saudi embassy in Egypt turned down their demands for pilgrimage visas.

In 2018, Saudi Arabia issued a law outlawing the entry of Palestinians with Syrian travel documents.

AGPS calls on the Palestine Liberation Organization, Palestine embassies and diplomats, and the international human rights organizations to urge Saudi Arabia to lift the ban on Palestinian refugees and enable them to freely exercise their right to religious pilgrimage.

In another development, an ex-prisoner called Ahmad, recently released from the regime's Sednaya Military Prison in Syria said Palestinian refugee Anas Malkash, nicknamed Abu Jamila, from Hjeira town, south of Damascus, was fatally tortured in prison.

The ex-prisoner said they had been subjected to heavy beating and torture by Syrian security forces in the notorious prison.

Ahmed, who was arrested on March 30, 2014, on his way back to Syria to sit for his bachelor's exams, said Anas told him he was arrested on his wedding day and that he is a Palestinian refugee living in Hjeira town, in Rif Dimashq.



In 2019, the Association of Detainees and the Missing in Sednaya Prison (ADMSP) stated in its first report, entitled “Sednaya Prison: Factory of death and enforced disappearance in Syria”, that inmates have been tortured to death in the highly-secretive penal complex.

The report monitored the procedures and consequences of detention in Sednaya Prison in Syria, which the Assad regime continues to use as a main centre for the detention and enforced disappearance of political detainees, denying them any contact with the outside world and subjecting them to poor conditions that often lead to death.

The report stated that the Syrian regime itself is unable to issue accurate lists of the numbers of detainees due to the numerous victims of extrajudicial executions, torture, starvation, deprivation, and medical neglect. The report also

The ADMSP identified 24 types of psychological torture which included mock executions, being forced to watch other inmates being tortured, and threats against prisoners' families.

Every former prisoner interviewed reported to have been beaten with sticks or batons in Sednaya, with 20 forms of torture identified, often resulting in the death of the inmates.

Almost all reported being whipped or beaten while trapped inside a tire, with other forms of torture including being suspended from the arms, electrocution, and the "German chair", which sees inmates tied around a chair with pressure applied.



Sexual abuse has also significantly increased under the Assad regime, with around a third of detainees admitted to have suffered from this form of torture at Sednaya.

Few inmates expect to emerge from Syria's Sednaya prison alive, a place where routine torture and inhumane living conditions are, obviously, all designed to break the hope and dignity of prisoners, according to human rights groups.

Meanwhile, Damascus Governor Eng. Adel Aleibi met with a delegation of the General Secretariat of the Union of Palestinian Communities, Institutions and Events in the Diaspora (Europe), on Tuesday, May 17th.

The governor discussed the situation in Yarmouk camp and efforts made by the governorate to bring life back to normal in the camp.

He added that hundreds of families returned to their habitable houses in the camp after permits were issued by concerned authorities to that end.

A number of Palestinian refugees slammed the General Secretariat of the Union of Palestinian Communities in the Diaspora, saying the visit comes at a time when the Syrian regime continues to commit serious human rights abuses against Palestinian refugees in the war-torn country.

The refugees said the Union should have rather urged the Syrian authorities to release all Palestinians held behind prison bars, assist vulnerable families in displacement camps in Syria, and push for the reconstruction of destroyed camps.



In the meantime, residents of AlSayeda Zeinab camp, in Rif Dimashq, have been enduring squalid conditions due to the absence of vital services and loss of livelihoods.

Eleven years into the conflict, more than half of the residents lost their sources of income. Scores of families continue to live below the poverty line due to exorbitant prices of food and non-food items.

As a result, Scores of civilians have fled the camp while others have been forced to join pro-government battalions.

The Syrian government forces regained control over AlSayeda Zeinab Camp following a seven-month military operation in early 2013. Heavy material damage has been inflicted on the camp.

UN data indicates that the camp was established on an area of 0.02 square kilometers in 1948, but the majority of the residents came in 1967. The inhabitants, who were displaced from the Quneitra Governorate in the Golan Heights during the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict, sought refuge for the second time in their lives in the area. Most had originally fled to the Golan Heights in 1948 from nearby villages in northern Palestine.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to 23,700 Palestine refugees. The camp was affected by violent clashes that forced 40 per cent of the people to leave in late 2012.

Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the major concerns shared not only by Palestine refugees but also Syrians alike during the



ongoing conflict in Syria. The majority of Palestine refugees in AlSayeda Zeinab work as day laborers, government employees or vendors.