



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



"Side-Event Onboard of UNHRC Sounds Alarm over Palestinian Victims of Forced Disappearance in Syria"

- **Palestinian Families Gripped with Dire Conditions North of Syria**
- **PA Pledges to Cover Expenses of Debris Clearance in Yarmouk Camp**
- **Activists Call for Serious Response to Home Burglary in Yarmouk**
- **Family of Cancer-Stricken Palestinian Girl from Syria Appeal for Urgent Treatment**
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+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest Developments

A seminar was held on Monday by the London-based Palestinian Return Centre (PRC) in partnership with the Action Group for Palestinians of Syria (AGPS) on the sidelines of the UN Human Rights Council's 39th session in Geneva.

The side-event shed light on the arbitrary abductions and enforced disappearances recorded among the Palestinians of Syria. A plethora of academics and researchers were in attendance. The session was moderated by human rights activist Olzhas Toleugazin.

Speaking at the inaugurating address, AGPS's CEO, Ahmad Husain, briefed the audience on the calamitous situation of the Palestinians of Syria, 1,700 among whom have been secretly held in Syrian dungeons, where 556 others have also been tortured to death.



Lawyer and former detainee in Syria Wael Zahraoui narrated his tragic experience in Syrian locks ups and the cruel torture tactics pursued by the Syrian authorities against hundreds of men, women, and minors held behind prison bars.



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Zahrawi said several detainees tortured in Syrian jails often return to their cells with one or two organs being taken out of their bodies, in a crime the like of which has never been recorded throughout history.

Wrapping up the seminar, CEO of Syria's Violations Documentation Center Youssef Wahba underscored the fragile legal status of the Palestinians of Syria and the fallouts of the "protection gap" wrought on thousands of Palestinians all the way through the seven-year warfare.

Wahba warned that the violations perpetrated in Syrian penitentiaries amount to state terrorism of the kind committed by stakeholders in the embattled Syrian territories.

Wahba called on the Palestine Liberation Organization and official Palestinian bodies to live up to their responsibilities as regards the situation of the Palestinians of Syria and to take those involved in war crimes against them to regional and international courts.

PRC is an independent, non-partisan organization advocating the rights of Palestinian refugees. In July 2015, the centre was granted consultative status at the United Nations as a Non-governmental organization (NGO) in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), in recognition of its efforts in standing up for Palestinian human rights.

AGPS, also based in London, is a human rights watchdog that monitors the situation of Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria. It saw the day in October 2012. It is dedicated to bringing the news of the Palestinians of Syria and the human rights violations



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perpetrated against them to a wide audience without bias or a political agenda.

Meanwhile, hundreds of Palestinian and Syrian families who have been forcibly deported to northern Syria have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation as most of them have been taking cover in underequipped tents that risk to fall into pieces in winter season.

The families appealed to the concerned human rights institutions to take urgent measures so as to supply them with much-needed fuel supplies and food items with the advent of winter.

Families who were forcibly deported to northern Syria are crammed into over-crowded camps where neither power nor water supplies are available.

High rates of unemployment and lack of relief assistance have made the situation far worse for the displaced families.

In the meantime, member of the Fatah Central Council Samir AlRefai said the Palestinian Authority (PA) President, Mahmoud Abbas, gave instructions to shell out the expenses needed to remove debris from Yarmouk Camp.





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The decision was announced following a visit by a delegation of Fatah's Executive Committee led by Azzam ALAhmad to Damascus on August 10.

ALAhmad said at the time that clearing debris from Yarmouk is an essential step to allow displaced families a safe return to their homes.

At the same time, activists have called on the Palestine Embassy and Palestinian factions in Damascus to urge the Syrian authorities to seriously work on halting the housebreaks and burglary targeting civilian homes in Yarmouk Camp.

The activists added that vandals deployed across three locations—ALMadraes, Street, ALMadares-Safad crossroads, and Palestine Street—have been burglarizing civilian homes.

Over recent days, the Syrian authorities have started clearing debris from Yarmouk Camp, unblocking access out of and into Loubiya Street, ALThalatheen Street, and Palestine Street. Other thoroughfares will be opened in the next few days.

Meanwhile, the family of the three-old Palestinian child from Syria Maria Tamer Abu Azarah, taking shelter in Ein ALHilweh Camp, south of Lebanon, after they were deported from Yarmouk Camp, appealed to all human rights institutions to cover fees for the treatment of their daughter, diagnosed with blood cancer.

The family said the child underwent regular checks at Ghassan Hamoud Hospital, where medics diagnosed her with blood cancer and ordered that she stay under control for one week to undergo life-saving treatment.



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Maria's treatment is reportedly worth \$50,000 as she needs a needle every couple of days at a cost of \$1,000 each. Other checks and further intensive treatment will follow in the coming months.



In another development, UNRWA transferred cash aids for the Palestinians of Syria in Lebanon via ATM cards.

Every Palestinian family from Syria received a rental allowance of \$100 and a food allowance worth 27\$ per every refugee.

Some 31,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought refuge in Lebanon, where they have been enduring exacerbated living conditions.