



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

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"Families of Palestinian Victims of Torture Urge Syrian Authorities to Release Dead Bodies"

- 313 Palestinians Missing in War-Torn Syria
- Palestinian Student Ranks 1st in Hums
- UAE Contributes \$50 million to UNRWA

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Latest Developments

The families of Palestinian refugees tortured to death in Syrian government dungeons have renewed calls to the Syrian government to release their relatives' bodies so as to bury them in known cemeteries.

The families held the Palestinian factions and the Palestine Liberation Organization responsible for the fate of Palestinians held in Syrian lock-ups.

Activists said withholding dead bodies is another crime perpetrated by pro-government militias in Syria.



Withholding the bodies of slain civilians is prohibited under international law except in cases where pillage and mistreatment are feared to occur. The Fourth Geneva Convention, the Hague Convention, and the Rome Statute consider the despoliation and mistreatment of dead bodies war crimes.

Activists called for internationalizing the cause and appealing to international courts and human rights institutions to urge the



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Syrian regime to disclose the fate of several Palestinians held in government lock-ups and to release the bodies of those tortured to death.

A couple of days earlier, 21 human rights bodies called on the Syrian government to hand over the bodies of persons tortured to death in its dungeons to their families so as to bury them at the soonest time possible.

In recent weeks, hundreds of families have suddenly learned that their missing relatives have been registered as dead by the government. Government officials have not commented publicly on the new information or the causes of death, claiming most of the casualties died of sudden heart attacks.

AGPS documented the death of 555 Palestinian refugees as a result of torture in Syrian government prisons, among them 77 victims identified in photos leaked by the so-called activist Caesar.

Meanwhile, AGPS documentation team said 313 Palestinian refugees, including 39 women and girls, have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian warfare. Most of those who have disappeared are reportedly residents of Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

Activists accused pro-government militias for targeting Palestinians in arbitrary abduction sweeps carried out under the security guise.

Several other Palestinians have been enduring mysterious fates in Syrian government penitentiaries.



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AGPS believes that the number is far higher due to the gag orders enforced by the Syrian regime on the detainees' fates and names, along with the reluctance of the casualty's families to reveal the names of their deceased or missing relatives for fear of retaliation. A number of Palestinians had also been held captive by AlNusra Front and ISIS gangs.

In another development, Palestinian girl Ola Alaa AlDeen AlShaabi, sheltered in AlAyedeen Camp in Hums, got the highest grade at the Laureates School in Hums.

Residents of AlAyedeen Camp hailed Ola, stressing the need to boost education among the Palestine refugee community and urging UNRWA to assist students throughout their academic careers.

In the meantime, UNRWA said it has received \$50 million in aid from the UAE to support the agency's services for Palestine refugees.



Sometime earlier, UNRWA figures have shown that 70% of all the Agency's schools in Syria are inoperative. This is due to school buildings being destroyed, damaged, rendered inaccessible by



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fighting, or because they have been turned into shelters housing the displaced.

47,000 Palestinian schoolchildren have received academic courses at 104 UNRWA schools.

The devastating impact of the war in Syria has diminished the academic achievement of students at UN-run schools as educational facilities had come under heavy shelling by the Syrian and Russian forces.

UNRWA budget, which supports the delivery of core essential services, has been operating with a large shortfall as a result of the US cut of its aids to the refugee agency.