



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



"Palestinian Woman and Her Sightless Son Launch Cry for Help from Greek Camp"

- Resident of Palestinian Refugee Camp in Syria Goes Missing
- Khan Eshieh Camp for Palestinian Refugees Left without Bread
- Rights Group Warns of Humanitarian Catastrophe Northwest of Syria
- Palestinian Refugee Jihad Idris Forcibly Disappeared in Syrian Prisons for 7th Year

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Latest developments

Thousands of migrants and asylum seekers, including Palestinian refugees, have been facing an abject humanitarian situation in Moria camp, set up on the Greek island of Lesbos.

Palestinian refugee woman Umm Mustafa and her sightless son fled war-torn Syria after she lost her husband in the conflict and had her house and property entirely destroyed.

Umm Mustafa first fled Damascus to Idlib, north of Syria, before she illegally entered Turkey. She last landed in Moria camp, where she has been taking shelter with her son Mustafa, 14, and her 11-year-old child for six months.

The refugee said thieves crept into her tent twice and stole her mobile phone.

Her son Mustafa was born blind and cannot stand normal on his feet, which causes him severe backaches and asthma. The two children have not been enrolled at school.

The woman said she spends her day lining up for hours for food and toilet. She expressed wishes that her sons receive medical treatment and enter school.

The mother and her sons have gone missing following the fire that tore through Moria camp a few days earlier and displaced more than 12,000 people.



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After the fires, Greek officials relocated more than 400 unaccompanied children to mainland Greece, according to CNN. But authorities have refused mass transfer off the island, despite the pleas of refugees. Officials promised to provide safe and sanitary conditions at the new tent encampment.

The Moria camp was built to house 3,000 people but at least four times as many people have been living there.

Authorities have lost track of 35 camp residents who had tested positive for coronavirus virus, Reuters reported. The displaced refugees have had no access to basic sanitation in the days since the Moria camp was burned.

The unsanitary conditions being endured by Moria's former inhabitants in the fields and streets of Lesbos has caused deep alarm.

"This is a health bomb. These people haven't even had access to water all these days, they cannot even wash their hands," Matina Pagoni, president of Athens and Piraeus hospital doctors' union, told Skai television.

Many of the asylum seekers in Moria described life there as being worse than much of what they had endured on their long, often painful journeys towards what they hoped was a better life in Europe.



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Along similar lines, Palestinian young man Wisam Derdah Hasan, born in 1988 and raised in Jaramana camp, in Rif Dimashq, suddenly disappeared from Damascus.

Hasan's family continues to appeal for information about his condition and whereabouts.

In another development, Palestinian families sheltered in Khan Eshieh refugee camp, in Rif Dimashq, continue to denounce the acute shortage in bread supplies.

The residents have appealed to the concerned authorities to work on supplying civilians with much-needed bread and to increase bread and flour quantities allotted for the local bakery.

Over recent years, residents of Khan Eshieh camp have spoken up against the poor-quality bread sold in the area, saying it is unfit for human consumption and holding the government's quality control staff responsible for the crisis.

Living conditions in Khan Eshieh have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the raging warfare. A transportation crisis has added bad to worse.

After ten years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs.



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Survival for the majority of Palestinian families in war-stricken Syria has largely hinged on relief assistance. The vast majority of families have been living below the poverty line.

Along similar lines, Syria Humanitarian Response Coordinators group has warned of a humanitarian crisis in northwestern Syria due to the coronavirus outbreak and absence of medical assistance.

The group said serious measures should be immediately taken before the situation reaches a point of no return.

It further called for increasing anti-coronavirus drives and distributing hygiene kit in the area in order to protect the vulnerable residents.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Jihad Idris, from AlAyedeen camp, in Hums, has been forcibly disappeared in Syrian government prisons since February 9, 2013.

Over 1,790 Palestinian refugees have been secretly held in Syrian government dungeons since the outburst of deadly hostilities.

AGPS also documented the death of over 600 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government lock-ups, including women, children, and elderly civilians.

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



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Degrading Treatment or Punishment, commonly known as the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).

As the novel coronavirus COVID-19 continues to grip the Middle East and the world, AGPS has called on the Syrian government to free all Palestinians and Syrians held behind prison bars.

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