



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



**"New Report: Palestinian Refugees among Dozens Hanged in Sednaya Prison"**

- Palestinian Refugees Rally Outside of UNRWA Office in Beirut
- Bread Crisis Exacerbated by Corruption in Khan Eshieh Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- Fuel Supplies Distributed to Displaced Palestinian Families in Northern Syria

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## Latest Developments

Governor of Deir AlAsafir town, in Rif Dimashq, handed over documents proving the death of over 46 prisoners, including Palestinian refugees, in Syria's military prison of Sednaya.

Local sources have been able so far to identify 35 victims, including nine members of the same family. Another 15 victims, among them five Palestinian refugees, could not be identified.

All the victims were arrested in 2018 and subjected to extra-judicial execution in the regime prison of Sednaya.

The Syrian regime recaptured Deir AlAsafir town in mid-March 2016 following air strikes that targeted hospitals and vital services and resulting in scores of civilian deaths and injuries.

AGPS has documented the death of 636 Palestinian refugees in Syria's state-run penal complexes since the outbreak of the conflict in 2011.

AGPS estimates the real number to be far higher due to the gag orders slapped by the Syrian government on the detainees' names and fates, along with the families' reluctance to report such cases over retaliation concerns.

Affidavits by ex-detainees have provided evidence on the involvement of Syrian government officers in harsh torture tactics, including electric shocks, heavy beating using whips and iron



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sticks, and sexual abuse against Palestinian prisoners, in a flagrant violation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, commonly known as the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).

In another development, Palestinian refugees displaced from Syria in Lebanon have rallied outside of the main Beirut office of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to protest the Agency's latest decision to cut food aid for PRS and suspend shelter grants.

The protesters strongly condemned the decision which they said is a sign of apathy regarding the abject humanitarian condition already endured by the Palestinian refugee community in displacement camps across the Lebanese territories, where they have been denied vital services and access to the local labour market.

They added that the decision is also a serious breach of UNRWA's humanitarian mission as mandated by the UN and the Agency's promise to assist Palestinian refugees in its five fields of operation, including Lebanon.

Palestinian refugees have urged UNRWA to resume delivery of cash grants on a monthly basis in order to enable them to pay their house rents and purchase food and medicines for their children.

They further called on UNRWA's protection department to coordinate with the Lebanese General Security Office in order to



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issue/renew visas and identity documents for displaced Palestinians from Syria and cover 100% of hospitalization fees.

The refugees handed over a memorandum to director of UNRWA operations in Lebanon Claudio Cordone, slamming the latter over the Agency's austerity policy.

By the end of 2021, UNRWA said that starting 2022, multi-purpose monthly cash grants of 100 USD to every registered PRS will be reduced to 25 USD per person.

The Agency also said every PRS will receive an additional cash grant of 150 USD on two batches in 2022. UNRWA will suspend its food allowances for PRS in Lebanon.

A number of NGOs leveled heavy criticism at UNRWA and urged the Agency to backtrack on the new measures which they said would result in further despair for PRS.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees sheltered in Khan Eshieh camp, in Rif Dimashq, have called on the Syrian authorities to control bread distribution and bread smuggling to the black market.

A resident told AGPS that over recent years, funds have been raised by donors to cover bread expenses, including production at the local AlJalil bakery. However, civilians continue to suffer an acute shortage in bread supplies as the bakery staff have been smuggling bread to the black market.



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Eye-witnesses said overnight a number of staff workers have been taking advantage of the power blackout and taking large quantities of bread packs outside the camp.

At government-subsidized bakeries a bread pack is sold at 400 Syrian pounds.

At the same time, no special anti-coronavirus measures have been taken in the area, leaving civilians at high contamination risk.

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 eleven years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs. The vast majority of families have been living below the poverty line.

In the meantime, the Palestine Commission for Relief and Development distributed fuel supplies to displaced Palestinian families in Deir Ballout and AlMuhamamdiya camps, north of Syria.



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Every registered family received 20 liters of fuel. Sometime earlier, the Palestinian Youth Movement distributed charcoal in the area.

Hundreds of Palestinian families have been struggling for survival in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout and Muhammadiya camps, after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns. For many displaced Palestinian refugees, the perils of winter weather add to the torment already experienced throughout the conflict.

Last month, heavy snowfall affected north-west Syria, damaging displacement sites, tents and people's belongings.