



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

22-03-2020

No. 2706

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Women in Syria Traumatized by Years of Warfare, Displacement"

- **PLA Temporarily Suspends Logistics Operations**
- **Financial Aid Delivered to Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon**
- **Palestinian Refugee Mohamed Daouah Forcibly Disappeared in Syria for 7th Year**

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Latest Developments

As the bloody Syrian warfare has entered its 9th year, Palestinian refugee mothers taking shelter in the country have gone traumatized by the daily scenes of bloodshed, destruction, and loss of beloved ones.

AGPS documented the death of 486 Palestinian women and girls from Syria due to reasons related to deadly shelling, lack of health care, and fatal torture.

At least 35 Palestinian women and girls were tortured in Syrian government dungeons, some among whom have been identified via leaked snapshots.



As many as 110 Palestinian women and girls have, meanwhile, been secretly held in Syrian state jails. Dozens of female refugees have gone missing inside and outside the Syrian territories. Dozens of others breathed their last onboard the “death-boats” to Europe.

AGPS believes the number to be far higher as scores of casualties have gone undocumented after the Syrian authorities kept their names secret. Several families have also refused to reveal their relatives’ names over retaliation concerns.



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According to affidavits by ex-detainees and breakaways, Palestinian mothers and girls have been subjected to harsh psycho-physical torture tactics in Syrian penitentiaries, including electric shocks, heavy beating, and sexual abuse.

Such practices represent flagrant violations of the Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict of 1974, Article 5, which criminalizes all forms of torture and mistreatment against women and children.

Several women have also gone homeless or widowed after they lost their husbands and/or children in the war or due to torture. AGPS found out that among tens of thousands of Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon, over 2,500 families have had women as their sole breadwinners, which increases their vulnerability.

Scores of women have not also been reunited with their sons, daughters, and relatives for years as several refugees fled the war-ravaged Syrian territories and sought asylum in European and non-European destinations.

In another development, the Palestine Liberation Army, affiliated with the Syrian government forces, said its logistics operations will be suspended until April 22, 2020, in line with the decision of the Syrian army, over the global health turmoil inflicted by the coronavirus outbreak.

Palestinian and Syrian young men whose names figure on conscription lists are allowed to freely consult hospitals or other concerned facilities without fear of harassment or persecution.



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Over recent months, calls have been circulated by the PLA to push for military conscription at Basel AlAssad Institute for Military training in Mesyaf town.



The Syrian government forces continue to drag Palestinian refugees to mandatory military conscription, forcing dozens to become internally displaced and dozens more to seek refuge in other countries.

Meanwhile, UNRWA has transferred cash aids for the Palestinians of Syria in Lebanon via ATM cards.

Every Palestinian family from Syria received a rental allowance of 150,000 Lebanese pounds and a food allowance worth 40,000 LP per every refugee.

UNRWA called on the refugees to avoid mass-gatherings and regularly wash their hands in order to prevent a swift contamination of the deadly virus.

Nearly 8,700 Palestinian families who fled war-torn Syria to Lebanon continue to endure an abject situation due to their ambivalent legal status and dire socio-economic conditions in the country.



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UNRWA has identified Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon as one of the most marginalized and poorest communities in the region.

In its 2020 Syria crisis emergency appeal, UNRWA said that PRS in Lebanon continue to face high vulnerability and marginalization, making them heavily reliant on UNRWA humanitarian support to cover their basic needs. The socio-economic hardships and unrest experienced by the country have compounded PRS' already dire living conditions.

According to a survey conducted by the American University of Beirut in 2015, nearly 90 percent of the PRS population in Lebanon live in poverty, including 9 per cent who are in extreme poverty and unable to meet even their most essential food requirements.

PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. The lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention or forced deportation.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Mohamed Hakam Husain Daouah has been secretly held in Syrian government prisons for the seventh consecutive year.

Mohamed, a resident of Yarmouk Camp, was arrested on June 10, 2013 in AlZahira area, in Damascus and was dragged to an unknown destination. His condition and whereabouts could not be identified.



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AGPS has documented the secret detention of over 1,790 Palestinian refugees, including women and minors, in Syrian government lock-ups.

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

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to disclose the fate of scores of Palestinians held in its lock-ups, release the bodies of those tortured to death, to seriously work on halting harsh torture tactics, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.

