



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



"Arab States Invalidate Travel Documents of Palestinian Refugees"

- Classes to Kick Off for Students of AlJarmak School
- Palestinian Doctor Alaa AlDeen Youssef Secretly Held in Syrian Dungeons for 6th Year
- Palestinian Refugee Turns Home in Jaramana Camp to Palestinian Museum

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Latest Developments

A number of Arab governments announced their decision to ban the entry of Palestinian refugees holding travel documents issued in such countries as Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan.

According to Palestinian officials, Arab governments called on Palestinians taking refuge in their territories to abandon their travel documents and try to obtain Palestinian Authority-sanctioned passports.

The officials said the measure serves Israeli interests and forcibly dismantles the refugee status of the displaced Palestinians along with their right to return to their homeland.



A handful of such measures was opted for and put into effect by the Saudi authorities and the United Arab Emirates in an attempt to force the Palestinians to seek refuge outside of their territories.

In 1955, the League of Arab States prohibited granting dual citizenship to Arab nationals and ruled that Palestinian refugees be not granted another Arab nationality to preserve his/her



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Palestinianhood. At the same time, the Syrian, Lebanese, and Iraqi authorities issued travel documents for Palestinian refugees in order to smooth their movement across the region.

Most of the Gulf countries along with Turkey and a number of Arab governments have outlawed granting visas to Palestinians with Syrian travel documents.

In another development, education chief in Yarmouk Camp, Walid AlKurdi called on students enrolled at AlJarmak School in Yalda town, south of Damascus, to join classes at the girls' school.

AlKurdi said classes will kick off on September 25 under the supervision of the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees and UNRWA.

Students taking shelter in Yarmouk Camp have been shorn of their right to education as no alternative school has been opened by UNRWA in southern Damascus.

Endeavors to open alternative schools in Yarmouk saw the day in the 2013-14 academic year following joint efforts by residents and instructors. Such schools as Damascus School, in AlThalatheen Street, AlAzma School, west of Yarmouk, and AlJarmak School, in AlMadaris Street, were opened to bridge the gap. However, the schools shut their doors soon after due to the lack of proper funding and the absence of long-term teaching staff.

In the meantime, Palestinian medic Alaa AlDeen Youssef has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian penitentiaries, where he has been kept for the sixth consecutive year.



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Neurosurgeon Youssef has gone missing since December 25, 2012. He was kidnapped from a checkpoint pitched near the main entrance to Yarmouk Camp.

Medical staff and structures in war-torn Syria came under heavy shelling by the government squads. Dozens of doctors, pharmacists, and paramedics have been pronounced dead while others have gone missing since the outburst of the deadly warfare. A number of medics have reportedly been tortured to death on allegations of tending to wounded enemies and providing medical assistance to rival parties.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Abu Ali Jaber turned his home in Jaramana Camp into a showroom for Palestinian heritage.

Visitors of the museum said handmade items reflecting Palestinian traditional handicraft and folkloric Palestinian costumes, along with iron keys symbolizing Palestinians' right of return to their motherland and traditional kitchen wares, were put on display at Abu Jaber's home.





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Founded in 1948 and covering an area of 0,03 square kilometers, Jaramana Camp has been home to 18,500 Palestinian refugees, according to UNRWA statistics. Some 8,000 more refugees have sought shelter in the camp after they were forcibly deported from war-stricken zones in Syria.