



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



### "Palestinians from Syria in Libya Facing Mysterious Fate"

- Palestinian Family Deported from Saudi Arabia at Risk of Refoulement in Sweden
- Palestinians from Syria Spend Holy Eid Away from Their Families
- Children in Palestinian Refugee Camp in Syria Sustain Eye Wounds

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## Latest Developments

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Libya has been characterized by uncertainty and life-threatening risks.

The situation has been particularly alarming for Palestinian refugees and other migrants in Libya following the 2011 uprising, which put an end to over four decades of Qadhafi rule.

The outbreak in violence in May 2014, which split the country into two rivaling governments, has led to the withdrawal of international aid agencies and embassies. This in turn has contributed to further limiting access to updated information on migrants, including Palestinians fleeing war-torn Syria. Very little has been reported on Syrians and Palestinians in Libya, which makes their future increasingly uncertain.

The conflict in Syria that broke out in March 2011 brought about a new wave of Syrians and Palestinians seeking refuge in Libya. These refugees hoped to find a better life in the oil-rich country. However, the growing influx of refugees from Syria to Libya soon turned out nightmarish in a country that was already mired by civil unrest in the aftermath of the uprising.

The political stand-off between the rivaling governments, the upsurge of multiple armed conflicts, and the new wave of intense fighting between different coalitions of armed militias over control of territory, infrastructure and resources resulted in the death of thousands of civilians and the displacement of hundreds of thousands of individuals, including Palestinian refugees.



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Palestinian refugees have been severely affected by the recent turmoil that broke out in Libya, where they are increasingly being regarded as unwanted foreigners. In addition, Palestinians are also victims of the escalating level of crime, such as theft, violence, human smuggling and abductions, brought about by the exacerbated situation. This in turn has pushed thousands of them to take the perilous journey across the Mediterranean to Europe. Some Palestinians are reported to have been detained before their journey even began.

In addition, restrictive entry/exit measures undertaken by neighboring countries, such as Egypt and Tunisia, have further hampered their possibility to leave Libya.

In another development, Palestinian refugee from Syria Nour Hamada has expressed her deep disappointment after the Swedish Migration Agency issued a decision to deport her to Saudi Arabia along with her husband Mahmoud Barou and her three children Majd, Joudi, and Ahmad.

The deportation comes after six years, during which the family has kept appealing for a visa in Sweden.

“Our family is Palestinian in origin”, Nour Hamada told AGPS. “Our grandparents were forced out of their home in 1948. We are registered at a UN body as stateless and hold a Syrian travel document”.

Nour’s husband and children were born and raised in Saudi Arabia. The Saudi employer ended her husband’s work contract and invalidated his work permit.



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“We met in Sweden in 2014 as asylum seekers. We kept appealing to the Swedish migration authorities to grant us legal stays in the country. Now we’re about to be forced back to Saudi Arabia, after six years of unheeded appeals”, she added.

Nour said the Saudi Embassy in Stockholm had already handed them a final exit visa stating that they can no longer re-enter or work in Saudi Arabia.

The wife said the family members have been enduring a state of psychological distress and denied their basic human rights, including education, healthcare, and access to the labor market.

Nour has appealed to all international humanitarian and human rights institutions to urgently step in and pressurize the Swedish Migration Agency to cancel the deportation ban and grant her family humanitarian asylum in the kingdom pending their return to their homeland—Palestine.

“I am a Palestinian refugee rather than a Saudi national”, confirmed Nour. “I should be pushed back to Palestine, not to another exile”.

Along similar lines, tens of thousands of Palestinians from Syria have spent the holy occasion of Eid AlFitr (Fast-Breaking Feast) away from their homes and families.

Torn from the nourishment of home and warmth of family, Palestinians have been scattered across Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Libya, Sudan, Thailand, Malaysia, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Britain, the Netherlands, Finland, Switzerland, France, Brazil, Chile, and Canada, among other destinations. Hundreds have become internally displaced across the Syrian territories.





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Available figures indicate that over 120,000 Palestinian refugees fled Syria in the hunt for a safe shelter.

The situation has gone downhill as most of the world's governments have opted for a closed-door immigration policy vis-à-vis the Palestinian refugee community from Syria.

Hundreds have embarked on life-threatening journeys onboard the death-boats to Europe, having no place to take cover in.

Today, some 440,000 Palestine refugees remain in Syria, more than half of them are internally displaced, and nearly all require sustained humanitarian assistance.

In another development, a number of children sheltered in AlAyedeen camp for Palestinian refugees in Hums were injured in their eyes by plastic toy guns sold at local markets.

An AGPS news correspondent said some of the injured children risk to go sightless due to serious eye wounds.

AGPS has kept record of the death of over 250 Palestinian refugee children in war-torn Syria.

Thousands of children have gone orphaned after they lost one or both of their parents in the deadly warfare.

The warfare in Syria has had traumatic fallouts on Palestinian refugee children in and outside of Syria. Post-traumatic stress disorders, mental psychosis, sleeplessness and nightmares, eating disorders, and intense fear have all been reported among Palestinian children from Syria.



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AGPS renews its calls to the international community, human rights institutions, UNICEF, UNRWA, and all concerned bodies to work on protecting Palestinian children in embattled zones.