



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

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No. 2955

## التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

# 487

27

امرأة قُضت لأسباب مختلفة

243

امرأة ضحية جراء القصف

احصائيات وأرقام الضحايا من النساء  
الفلسطينيات في سورية

26

امرأة قُضت غرقاً

68

امرأة ضحايا الحصار

34

امرأة قُضت تحت  
التعذيب

37

امرأة قُضت نتيجة  
التفجيرات

52

امرأة ضحايا القنص  
واطلاق النار



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"487 Palestinian Women Killed, Dozens Forcibly Disappeared in War-Torn Syria"

- UN Deeply Concerned over Funding Crisis Faced by Palestine Refugee Agency
- Hama Camp Gripped With Acute Shortage in Fuel, Wood
- Food Aid Distributed to Palestinian Refugees from Syria in Lebanon

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## Latest Developments

Statistics released by AGPS on the occasion of the International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women documented the death of 487 Palestinian women and girls all the way through Syria's ten-year conflict, according to death toll data for the period from March 2011 until November 2020.

The United Nations General Assembly has designated November 25 as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (Resolution 54/134). The premise of the day is to raise awareness of the fact that women around the world are subject to rape, domestic violence and other forms of violence; furthermore, one of the aims of the day is to highlight that the scale and true nature of the issue is often hidden.

AGPS figures indicate that 243 female refugees died under shelling; 68 died as a result of the blockade and medical neglect in Yarmouk Camp; and 28 others were fatally shot by snipers.

37 female refugees were, meanwhile, killed in blasts; 24 were gunned down; 26 drowned at sea; five female refugees were executed; 34 were tortured to death in Syrian prisons; and 20 others died of other reasons, including murder, assassination, suicide, suffocation, health setbacks, and Israeli bullet fire.

AGPS also documented the secret detention of 110 Palestinian women and girls in Syria's government prisons.



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AGPS kept record of the death of at least 34 Palestinian women under torture in Syria's state-run penal complexes.

AGPS believes the numbers 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.

According to affidavits by ex-detainees, Palestinian women and girls have been subjected to harsh psycho-physical torture tactics in Syrian penitentiaries, including electric shocks, heavy beating using iron sticks, 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.

Inherently a taboo misdemeanor in the MENA region, violence against women, be it sexual, physical, or verbal, has remained under-reported among the Palestinian refugee community in Syria, with reasons wavering between fear of retaliation, embarrassment, fear of punishment for those below the age of criminal responsibility, and distrust in law enforcement.

Meanwhile, the United Nations has raised immense concern over the financial shortfall that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is facing and its impact on millions of registered Palestinian refugees.



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In his daily press briefing on Tuesday, Stéphane Dujarric, Spokesman for the UN Secretary-General, said that UNRWA's Commissioner General Philippe Lazzarini has told the Agency's Advisory Board that the Agency still desperately needs \$70 million in contributions to avoid painful measures in the coming weeks and to limit the amount of liabilities carried over into 2021.

He quoted Lazzarini as stating that if UNRWA does not secure the funds for November and December salaries, the Agency will continue to lack the cash needed to operate in January, according to the currently available information on 2021 contributions.

“UNRWA this year faces a shortfall of \$115 million – including the \$70 million which is needed to cover November and December salaries of over 28,000 staff”, said Dujarric in his daily press briefing. “The Commissioner-General was compelled last week to secure an additional \$20 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to help with cash flow and cover part of the November payroll.”

He added that, based on funds available, UNRWA will decide later this week if it proceeds with partial payment of salaries at the end of the month or delays full payment.

With decreased contributions by several donors, UNRWA's funding in 2020 is the lowest the Agency has had since 2012, while the needs of refugees are huge, especially, obviously, with the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19.



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Along similar lines, residents of AlAyedeen Camp in Hama have denounced the exorbitant prices of fuel of wood.

Reporting from the area, an AGPS news correspondent said a ton of wood reaches up to 80,000 Syrian pounds. A liter of fuel costs 180,000 pounds.

Hama camp lies within the town of Hama, 210 km north of Damascus. The camp was established in 1950 on an area of 0.06 square kilometres overlooking the Orontes river. Most of the refugees had fled from the villages surrounding Haifa and Acre in northern Palestine.

UN data indicates that before the conflict in Syria, there were 8,000 Palestine refugees living in Hama camp. It is estimated that 1,000 of the original population have left the country. Hama camp has not been affected by the conflict and attracted displaced Palestine refugees from elsewhere in Syria, boosting the population. The camp is currently home to between 300 and 400 displaced Palestine refugee families, and the camp population is estimated to be around 9,000 Palestine refugees. Most employed refugees are wage labourers or shopkeepers, but many rely on UNRWA assistance to survive.

In 2018, UNRWA rehabilitated one of its two schools, both built in the 1950s, due to aging.

Environmental health in the camp is a serious problem and the mechanization of solid waste disposal is one of the most pressing



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needs. The sewerage system is antiquated and does not meet the requirements of a growing camp population.

Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike. Increasing poverty and hardship as a direct consequence of the ongoing crisis in Syria has led to an increase of negative coping mechanisms like early marriage, child labour and drug consumption.

Meanwhile, the International Red Cross, in partnership with the Youth Department at Palestine Embassy distributed on November 24 food baskets to displaced Palestinian and Syrian families in Wadi AlZina, in Lebanon's southern region of AlKharroub.

300 families benefited from the aid, a campaigner told AGPS.

According to information collected by UNRWA, more than 80 per cent of PRS indicate that the Agency's cash assistance is their main source of income. 95 per cent of PRS are food insecure, while about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty. 36 to 57 per cent of PRS youth face unemployment. In August and September 2019, UNRWA conducted a verification exercise of PRS in Lebanon and verified the physical presence of 27,803 PRS in the country.

The number of PRS in Lebanon has been gradually decreasing over the past two years, and UNRWA estimates that in 2020 the country will continue to host approximately 27,700 PRS (8,450 families). UNRWA said PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. According to the Agency's



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monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents.

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 and being issued a departure order.