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مجموعة العمل

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Action Group For Palestinians of Syria



## التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



**Palestinian Refugee Pronounced Dead, His Brother Missing as Migrant Boat Sinks off Tunisian Coast**

- Palestine Embassy in Damascus: Migration via Libyan Route Perilous
- Residents of Hindarat Camp Denounce Property-Theft
- UNRWA to Distribute Food Aid for Palestinians of Syria



## Latest Development

Palestinian refugee Husain Ali Tayeh, who disappeared off Tunisian seashores, was pronounced dead while his brother's condition remains unknown, according to their family.

The family's friends in Tunisia headed for Sfax governorate where the victims were transferred and identified Husain's body.

A few days earlier, the family of Palestinian brothers Husain Ali Tayeh, born in 1999, and Mahmoud Ali Tayeh, born in 2001, have appealed to international human rights organizations to work on identifying their sons' condition.

Both Husain and Mahmoud, raised in AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Aleppo, disappeared after the Europe-bound migrant boat sank off the southern Tunisian island of Kerkennah on May 25.

A rubber boat sailed from the coast of the city of Zuwara in northwestern Libya carrying 100 migrants and asylum seekers before it sank last Monday off the coast of the state of Sfax, southeast of Tunisia.

According to the International Organization for Migration, 24 people were rescued, and 76 others are still missing.

Six Palestinian refugees from Syria have been detained along with other asylum seekers by Libyan authorities since May 25.



The asylum seekers were transferred to custody in the city of Zuwara in northwestern Libya. They were trying to reach Italy when they were arrested.

AGPS has been able to identify the six Palestinian refugees: Mohamed Afifa, Ali Nabulsi, Omar Kadurah, Osama Khatib, Mohamed Mustafa Mi'ari (born in 1992), and Jamil Mohamed.

Their families have urged the Palestinian Authority, the International Red Cross, and the other international human rights organizations to pressurize the Libyan authorities to immediately release their relatives.

Along similar lines, the Palestine Embassy in Damascus warned against the life-threatening risks of illegal migration through the Libyan route.

In a statement issued on May 26, the Embassy said hundreds of Palestinian refugees from Syria have reached Libya through the Benina International Airport, in Benghazi, east of Libya, in a process that costs 2,000 USD per every passenger.

The embassy said migration through Benina Airport is illegal. Many migrants are blackmailed and abused by human smugglers and traffickers.

The statement added that illegal migrants risk to get imprisoned by Libyan authorities while crossing to Benghazi from Tripoli or at military checkpoints. At times, smugglers themselves turn the migrants in to the Libyan Coast Guard. As a result, migrants are



often sent to detention centres. 30% of them lose their identity and travel documents and get their money and belongings seized.

The Embassy said it takes charge of the release of minors caught on the illegal migration route, often with counterfeit documents, only for one time. In case these trips reoccur minors are kept in custody until they are released on a bail.

It called on the Palestine Embassy in Syria to take all necessary measures in order to cease the influx of illegal migrants and help curtail the number of victims of such life-threatening trips.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee families sheltered in and around Hindarat Camp, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo, have raised concerns over the increasing theft attempts and home-burglary reported in the area.

Recently, furniture and equipment have been stolen from civilian homes in the camp. Several women have also had their mobile phones and personal belongings stolen in public amenities and overcrowded markets. Power cables and car batteries have been taken away, exacerbating the power crisis in the area.

In its Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal, UNRWA said that protracted displacement, deteriorating socio-economic conditions aggravated by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, dire humanitarian needs and protection concerns continue to affect the lives of Palestine refugees in Syria.

Many PRS lost their sources of income; refugee camps have seen unprecedented levels of destruction; rental prices have





dramatically gone up; undernourishment and poverty have been a daily nightmare.

Due to the serious protection gaps, children have been forced to drop out of school and join armed groups to help feed their starving families.

In another development, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) said food aid items will be distributed to the refugees, in cooperation with the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR), as of May 27.

Due to food shortage, bulgur supplies will be replaced by rice sometime later.

After eleven years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs.

Survival for the majority of Palestinian families in war-stricken Syria has largely hinged on relief assistance. The vast majority of families have been living below the poverty line.