



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



"Syrian Regime Violates Deal to Lift Blockade on Deraa"

- Palestinian Refugees Denounce Mistreatment by BEMO Bank Staff
- AlNeirab Camp Left Without Power for 2nd Day
- Palestinian Refugee Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime for 8th Year
- Turkey Rescues 288 Migrants Pushed Back from Greece

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Latest Developments

The Syrian government forces in Deraa reportedly breached an agreement reached on Monday to lift the blockade on the area.

An AGPS news correspondent said mortar shells slammed into residential neighborhoods in Deraa at the same time as a number of civilians were fatally gunned down by snipers. Injuries were also reported.

The Syrian regime's Fourth Division and Ninth Division, along with intelligence units are expected to storm the area and cordon off its entrances, in violation of the truce deal struck on Monday.

Over 50,000 civilians sheltered in Deraa, including hundreds of Palestinian refugees, remain under the threat of a mass genocide by the Syrian regime forces and their war partners.

On Monday, the Central Committee in Deraa city, south of Syria, reached an agreement with the Syrian government to lift the noose tightened around the area and backtrack on any projected military escalation.

As part of the deal, a number of residents and former opposition forces will lay down their personal weapons in return for a security solution, by the Syrian regime, in favor a 130 wanted residents, including 25 Palestinian refugees.



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Last week, the Syrian regime has attacked Deraa AlBalad, south of Syria, with anti-aircraft guns, forcing dozens of families out of their homes and shelters.

On June 25, the regime forces asked the residents and former opposition forces to lay down all light weapons and allow them to search their homes. However, the Daraa Central Committee, the main reconciliation center in the area, noted that they were only supposed to hand in heavy weapons as part of the Russian-brokered agreement signed in July 2018. The regime then started imposing a blockade on some 40,000 civilians living in the area.

All entrances and exits from the district were blocked, and the transportation of all medical and food assistance, as well as fuel, prohibited.

Daraa-based activists told Anadolu Agency (AA) that another reason for the regime to impose the blockade was because the region's people had opposed setting up ballot boxes for the regime's so-called elections.

In another development, Palestinian refugees in displacement camps in Aleppo, north of Syria, have railed against the mistreatment they have faced by Bemo Bank staff.

Refugees who received transaction codes of their cash grants provided by the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) said they been humiliated by the bank employers who have denied them entry into the facility, forcing them to stay in the scorching summer heat for hours.



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Meanwhile, residents of AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees in Aleppo, north of Syria, said power has been cut off for over two days.

Speaking with AGPS on condition of anonymity, a worker at the thermal power station in Aleppo said the Syrian government is considering selling electricity to Lebanon and Jordan after repairing the broken turbines, paying no heed to the residents' needs and appeals.

AlNeirab camp is the largest official camp in Syria and is 13km east of the city of Aleppo near the Aleppo airport.

Before the start of the conflict in Syria, Neirab camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. Like other Palestine refugee camps in Syria, a large number of families, young people, have travelled abroad. The camp has also seen a large influx of more than 900 families from the nearby Ein el Tal camp, which has been mostly destroyed.

With nearly 18,000 registered refugees, Neirab camp is among the most densely populated camps. The camp suffers from overcrowding and a lack of privacy. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

The location of the camp near the military airport means the area was exposed to hazards including mortars and shelling between the start of 2013 and the end of 2018.



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Poor shelters and poor construction of the barracks result in scorching temperatures in summer and freezing conditions in winter. Water leakage and rodent infestation also remain a problem for the refugees.

Meanwhile, the family of Palestinian refugee Mohamed Issa AlHourani reiterated their appeals to the international human rights institutions to work on disclosing the whereabouts and condition of their son who has been locked up in Syrian state jails for the eighth consecutive year.

Born in 1982, AlHourani was kidnapped by Syrian government forces in November 2013 from Daraa AlBalad. His condition and whereabouts have been shrouded in mystery.

Over 1,790 Palestinian refugees have been secretly held in Syrian government dungeons since the outburst of deadly hostilities.

AGPS has also documented the death of over 660 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government lock-ups, including women, children, and elderly civilians.

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).



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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.

In another development, Between July 17 and July 22, Turkish Coast Guard units in the Aegean Izmir province rescued 388 asylum seekers illegally pushed back to Turkey's territorial waters by Greek forces, authorities said on Tuesday.

According to Anadolu news agency, a total of 217 asylum seekers were rescued off the Seferihisar coast and two suspected traffickers arrested between July 18 and July 21, while 78 asylum seekers were found off the coast of Dikili between July 17 and July 20.

On July 22, 26 asylum seekers were saved off the coast of Izmir's Foca district and another 67 foreign nationals stranded in a sailing boat off the Cesme district were also rescued.

Turkey has been a key transit point for asylum seekers aiming to cross into Europe to start new lives, especially those fleeing war and persecution.

Turkey and human rights groups have repeatedly condemned Greece's illegal practice of pushing back asylum seekers, saying it violates humanitarian values and international law by endangering the lives of vulnerable migrants, including women and children.