

27-11-2022

No: 3772



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

5 Palestinian-Syrian Children Separated from Parents in Sweden

- Presidency in Syria: Palestinian Children Eligible to Obtain Smart Card
- Palestinian Writer Wins Hana Minah Novel Competition
- 2 Palestinian Girls Win Bronze Medal at Sports Contest



Latest Developments

Over the past three months, five Palestinian refugee children were separated from their families in Sweden.

Social Services Office in Sweden, known as “Socialstyrelsen” continue to intern children on claims he/she is at risk of physical or mental harm by parents or family relatives.

Earlier this year, Sweden submitted a draft law for the care of young persons by the social care services. The draft law puts forth amendments on laws related to Swedish care of children and young persons. The so-called “lilla hjartat” (little heart) amendments were issued following the death of a child called Ezmerlada, who died after she was returned to her parents.

The Minister of Health and Social Affairs, Lena Hallengren, said the new five amendments give social services the power to enhance the family’s situation before the child is returned to his/her parents and to act to protect children. Compulsory care will only be ended after social services make sure the parents’ situation has improved.

In case a decision is made to return the child to his/her family, a municipality’s social affairs committee inspects the child’s situation for six months. The parents are also required to undergo a drug consumption test.

A decision to take a child away from their families, according to the Swedish Care of Young Persons (Special Provisions) Act, LVU, must always be based on a significant risk of harm to the child’s health or development. It can either be the situation in the family home or the child’s or young person’s own behaviour that may be deemed harmful or dangerous. Violence or some other form of abuse by the family is one example, another that the child exposes itself to danger or commits crimes. A prerequisite is that it can be assumed – or that the social services know – that the parents and the child don’t agree to the care needed.

In another development, Syrian President Bashar AlAssad issued a decree ruling that Palestinian children under the age of 15 be



treated equally to Syrian children in terms of their access to bread and other subsidized food items through the smart card.

The General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR) called on concerned refugee families to show up at its offices in Syria to be able to obtain smart cards for children.

Over recent years, children aged below 15 have been barred from smart cards used by the Syrian government to ration bread and a wider range of subsidized goods, namely fuel, rice, tea, and sugar.

Several refugee families said they have not received sufficient quantities of bread and food items.

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

Meanwhile, Palestinian writer Suzanne AlSaabi won the first prize for her novel "As if I'm Dancing Like an N", which she presented in the Hanna Mina competition for Arabic novel organized by the Syrian Ministry of Culture.

Suzanne's family hails from Ein Ghazal village, in Haifa, in Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1948. She studied media at Damascus University and is a member of the Palestinian Writers and Journalists Union.

Along similar lines, two Palestinian girls from AlIsraa Sports Club snatched the third place in the Syrian Arab Republic Championship for sports clubs and houses in the martial eagles sports, which was held by the Martial Arts Union in AlJala Sports Hall in Damascus.

The two girls are Rouaa Ahmed Namer, and Kaasa Nadhmi Khaled. Children born in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 participated in the competition.