



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



"The decreased number of Palestinian-Syrians in Lebanon raises questions about the credibility of the results of the latest statistics"

- For the 1200th day, Yarmouk camp is without water because of the regime forces' siege
- The Syrian regime continues to detain the Palestinian "Ahmed Mahmoud Eid," since 2013

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Latest Developments

Conflicts and divergent views arose among many of the researchers and writers specialized in the Palestinian refugees' affairs, regarding the final results of the "General Population and Housing Census in the Palestinian Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon," which was performed by the "Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee," in coordination with the Lebanese Central Administration of Statistics and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, as it showed that the number of Palestinian refugees living in Lebanon in general, has significantly decreased, and the Palestinian-Syrians displaced to Lebanon in particular. The General Population and Housing Census showed that the number of Palestinian refugees displaced from Syria to Lebanon is 18601 people, while the number of Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon, according to UNRWA's statistics at the end of December 2016, is estimated at 31 thousand.

On his part, Samy Hamoud, Director of the "Thabet" Right of Return Organization, considered the population census of the Palestinian refugees, regardless of the number which has been announced, falls within a generic local, Arab and international context, to deal with the reality and future of the Palestinian refugees, from the political and humanitarian dimensions.

He added that there are opinions that have appeared regarding the validity and accuracy of this number, because many of the families from Palestine, Lebanon and Syria did not come across the census and population teams, especially that the number does not equal to that released by the local and international, relief and humanitarian



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organizations, which provide the material and financial assistance to the families living or displaced from Syria on a regular basis, including UNRWA.

Meanwhile “Ibrahim Al-Aly,” a writer and researcher specialized in the Palestinian refugees’ affairs, asserted that there is a clear mistake in the statistics regarding the Palestinian-Syrians in Lebanon. In the beginning of 2017, UNRWA announced that the general census of displaced Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, was 31800 refugees, while the figure issued by the Lebanese Government Statistics Committee, in the first quarter of the same year, noted that there are about 19000 refugees. This means that the number has decreased by 13000 refugees and this number is greatly mistaken on the field, especially that Palestinian-Syrians in Lebanon did not even hear about the census.



Al-Aly clarified that the general conditions in Syria do not indicate the possibility of the return of such a great number of refugees to Syria, especially that more than 50% of them were displaced from Yarmouk camp, which is still a land of conflict to this day.



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In the same context, the numbers which led to the census revealed that the number of Palestinian refugees in the camps and residential gatherings is 177422 people. The results also indicated that 45.1% of the Palestinian refugees live in the camps, in comparison to 54.9% of them who live in the Palestinian gatherings and the neighboring areas.

In addition the census showed that the number of Palestinian families displaced from Syria to Lebanon is 8487 families, of which 2202 of them are living in the Palestinian camps, 1055 families are living in the gatherings neighboring to the camps, and 1199 families are living in different areas across Lebanon. The census indicated that the 8487 Palestinian-Syrian families are distributed across the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

In another context, the Syrian regime forces continues to cut the water supply from the besieged Yarmouk camp, for the 1200th consecutive day, aggravating the suffering of its residents and leading them to risk their lives, by walking to the neighboring areas in order to secure drinking water for their families and children. The Syrian army and security forces had stopped feeding the camp through the water channel coming from the neighboring areas, since 9/12/2014. This caused the relief organizations that were working inside the camp to rehabilitate and operate a number of artesian wells.

It is noteworthy that a number of Yarmouk camp's residents have died, after the regime forces targeted the points of water distribution. On 21st September 2015, the 52-year-old, Palestinian



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refugee, “Abdullah Ahmed Abdullah,” and four others, including a man and his son, got injured because of a mortar that fell while they were filling water from the point of distribution of drinking water, in the Tadamon neighborhood, adjacent to Yarmouk camp.

ISIS and the Nusra Front also aggravated the suffering of Yarmouk’s residents, after taking control in the beginning of April 2014. Both organizations banned the residents of the camp from water, when violent clashes broke out between them on April 7th 2016, leading to the deterioration of living situation of the camp’s residents. Dozens of families in the camp could not leave the hot areas, to the more safer ones. They were also prevented - as the rest of the residents of the besieged camp - the access of the water extracted from the artesian wells.



The results of his laboratory tests, carried out by the Charitable Medical Complex in the camp, on samples of the wells’ water used by its residents, showed that the water used in the camp is not suitable for drinking and is suitable only for external use.



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In another context, the Syrian regime continues to the Palestinian man, “Ahmed Mahmoud Eid,” for the fourth consecutive year. The Syrian regime arrested him on 01-02-2013 and took him to an unknown place. To this date, no information has been released about his fate or detention place.

AGPS receives a number of messages and information about the detained Palestinians. They are then documented despite the difficulty of recording information because the Syrian regime continues to hide the fate, names and locations of the detainees. The Group has recorded the detention of 1644 Palestinian refugees in the Syrian regime prisons, of which 106 are females.



Palestinians of Syria: December 26, 2017 Statistics:

- The total number of victims documented by the Action Group is 3625, including 463 women
- 1644 Palestinians are locked up behind Syrian government's bars, 106 of which are women
- Yarmouk refugee camp is under the Syrian regime army and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine's siege for 1,623 days in a row
- 204 refugees, mainly in Yarmouk Camp, have died due to lack of medical care and malnutrition



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- Water supplies have been cut off Deraa Camp for 1360 days, and 1200 days in Yarmouk Camp
- Residents of Handarat Camp, in Aleppo have been banned from their homes for 1,696 days. Government troops have taken over the camp for more than 459 days.
- Approximately 85 thousand Palestinian-Syrian refugees fled to Europe by the end of 2016
- 31 thousand refugees are located in Lebanon
- 17 thousand refugees are sheltered in Jordan
- 6 thousand refugees are in Egypt
- 8 thousand refugees are staying in Turkey
- One thousand refugees are present in Gaza