



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

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## التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



### "AGPS Calls on Palestinian Families to Report Cases of Enforced Disappearance, Torture in Syria"

- Activists Slam UNRWA over Unequipped Quarantine Room for Palestinian Refugees
- Palestinian Doctor Infected With Coronavirus in Turkey
- Hundreds Homeless as Fire Tears through Migrant Camp on Greek Island

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## Latest Developments

AGPS calls on Palestinian families to register the names of their relatives who have been detained, missing, or killed in war-torn Syria on the group's official website.

Families wishing to report any authentic pieces of information regarding a missing, detained, or dead relative should go to the following link: [actionpal.org.uk/en/reported\\_victim.php](http://actionpal.org.uk/en/reported_victim.php).

Lists of hundreds of forcibly disappeared Palestinian refugees and victims in Syria are available on AGPS website, both in English and Arabic. AGPS supplies a database of their names and possible times and places of arrest.

AGPS documented the secret detention of over 1,797 Palestinian refugees, including women and minors, in Syrian government lock-ups. Some 332 refugees have also gone missing in the country.

AGPS data indicates that 4,074 Palestinian refugees from Syria have died of war-related incidents.



AGPS is a human rights watchdog that monitors the situation of Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria. AGPS has conducted over



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2,740 daily reports documenting the situation of the Palestinians of Syria. The reports are available on the group's website both in English and Arabic: [www.actionpal.org.uk](http://www.actionpal.org.uk).

Other material, including videos, live snapshots, statistics on the number of casualties and detainees, news articles, and press releases also figure on the website.

Meanwhile, a photo circulated on social media networks has sparked outrage after it revealed the unequipped quarantine room in which a coronavirus-stricken Palestinian family from Syria has been confined in AlJaleel refugee camp, in Lebanon's Baalbek city.

Palestinian refugees and activists leveled heavy criticism at UNRWA over the substandard quarantine facility in which the family members have been held.

Only a handful of mattresses and pillows figure on the circulated picture.



Activists said the facility is similar to a prison room and is unfit for extended home quarantines. They lashed out at UNRWA's Director of Lebanon Operations, urging him to take immediate steps in order



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to transfer the family to Rafic Hariri Hospital or other equipped quarantine facilities.

A few days earlier, UNRWA said four residents of the Jalil (Wavel) Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon tested positive for the novel coronavirus, bringing total cases in the area to five.

Authorities closed all entrances to AlJalil Palestinian camp in eastern Lebanon, heightening concerns the virus could further spread among its overcrowded population.

The four infected with the virus are relatives of a Palestinian woman from Syria who tested positive earlier last week and are quarantined inside their home, according to a statement from UNRWA.

The Palestinian woman who was taken to a hospital in Beirut last week became the first refugee living in a camp in Lebanon to contract the virus, a finding that triggered a spate of testing in the camp.

The woman is identified as Manal Shehabi, displaced from Syria's Yarmouk displacement camp.

Lebanon, a tiny country of five million people, is host to tens of thousands of Palestinian refugees and their descendants, most of them living in squalid camps with no access to public services, with limited employment opportunities and no rights to ownership.

Wavel refugee camp was originally a site of French Mandate-era army barracks situated 90 km east of Beirut in the Beqaa Valley near Baalbek. It provided shelter to Palestine refugees in 1948. In 1952, UNRWA assumed responsibility for providing services in the camp. Many refugees still live in the original army barracks, which lack



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daylight and adequate ventilation. Conditions are particularly harsh in winter.

The ongoing Syria crisis has also led to the additional presence of Syrian refugees and Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in the camp.

Camp residents are only able to find seasonal work in agriculture and sometimes construction. Students often drop out of school in order to support their families. The camp's water, sewerage and storm water drainage systems were rehabilitated between 2004 and 2005. However access to potable water remains a persistent challenge, as elsewhere in Lebanon.

In another development, Palestinian doctor Muhannad AlKhatib who was displaced from Syria's Aleppo city to Turkey said he had contracted coronavirus during his work at the COVID-19 unit at Mersin University Hospital.

AlKhatib said on his Facebook page that he will be confined at the hospital after he tested positive for the deadly virus. He said his condition is stable.

So far, Turkey has reported 112,261 cases of confirmed coronavirus infections. The death toll stands at 2,900.

In the meantime, at least 200 migrants and refugees have been left homeless after a fire tore through a camp on the Greek island of Samos, according to a migration ministry official.

"Around 200 people have been left homeless," Migration Ministry Secretary Manos Logothetis told AFP news agency on Monday.



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The blaze was started on Sunday evening "amid internal disputes [between residents]", he said.

Another fire was started on Monday in a new round of clashes between "Arabic speakers and Africans", a local police source said.

"The incidents began on Sunday night. The fire was put out at midnight, but today we had more tension and stone-throwing," the officer said.

Riot squads were sent to quell the unrest and seven people were detained, he said. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

Stefan Cordes, a field coordinator on Samos with the Doctors Without Borders (MSF), confirmed the account of the incidents to Al Jazeera, putting the number of those left without shelter after the two fires at about 500.

He accused the government and the European Union of failing to take care of the migrants whose living conditions are believed to be the cause of the violence.

"They don't have access to hygiene, water or good food," Cordes told Al Jazeera. "This makes their lives really difficult. The government and the European Union don't take care of these people, who are here for a long time."

"We have to really consider that about 500 people are without shelter now and the authorities have to take care of these people and provide a space where these people can be safe", he said.

The Samos camp is massively overcrowded, with nearly 7,000 people in a facility built to handle fewer than 650.



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The Greek government had planned to relocate to the mainland more than 2,300 asylum seekers from island camps - including many elderly and ailing persons - but the operation has been delayed owing to fears of coronavirus.

Palestinian refugees from Syria continue to risk their lives onboard the “death boats” to Greece, rummaging around for a momentary respite from the daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction. AGPS has kept record of the death of dozens of refugees onboard Greece-bound ships. Several others have been arrested by Turkish coast guards.

Activists estimate that around 4,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria are taking cover on such Greek islands as Lesbos, Mytilene, Chios, Leros, and Kos, among other areas.

