



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



### "Yarmouk Residents Appeal for Removal of Dead Bodies"

- Situation of Palestinian Refugees in Turkey Exacerbated by Coronavirus Pandemic
- 2 Members of Palestinian Group in Syria Executed by ISIS
- Palestinian Refugees Go Homeless after Fire Rocks Greek Migrant Camp
- With Advent of Holy Ramadan Palestinian Refugees from Syria Continue to Suffer Abject Poverty

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## Latest Developments

Activists and civilians in Yarmouk Camp called on the concerned authorities and humanitarian organizations to urgently step in so as to remove the bodies of five residents who have remained under the mounds of debris piled up in the camp.

According to local activists, the bodies of Haifa AlHaj and her husband Mohamed Hadaba, along with Inshirah AlShaabi, Abdul Hadi Ghoutani, Basema Ghoutani, Walid AlWazir, and Salah Abeiat have been stranded under the stacks of debris in the camp.

The victims were killed in the offensive launched by the Syrian fighter jets on April 19, 2018 to recapture the camp.



Over recent years, AGPS has called on the Syrian government to allow paramedics and civil defense crews a safe access to Yarmouk Camp so as to remove the bodies of civilians who were killed in the round of hostilities launched by the government forces.

The Syrian government forces regained control over Yarmouk Camp and southern Damascus towns, following a 33-day military operation launched on April 19. Over 30 civilians were killed and dozens more injured in the offensive. Heavy material damage was wrought on more than 60% of civilian buildings and property.



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In another development, Palestinian refugees from Syria in Turkey have expressed concerns over their deteriorating condition particularly in light of the new movement clampdown imposed across Turkish provinces as part of anti-coronavirus measures.

A large number of companies, factories, and shops shut their doors for fear of further COVID-19 contaminations. Several Palestinian families have lost their sole sources of income as a result.



Palestinian refugees have urged the concerned parties to work on toning down their calamitous state of affairs in light of the socio-economic crisis and health setback wrought by the global coronavirus epidemic.

As many as 2,992 people have died of coronavirus in Turkey. The tally of confirmed coronavirus cases climbed to 114,653.

After originating in China last December, COVID-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus, has spread to at least 180 countries and regions across the world, with its epicenter shifting to Europe.

The virus has killed more than 218,490 people and infected 3,152,556 globally, while above 960,000 people recovered from the disease, according to figures collated by the worldometer.



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In another development, two members of Liwaa AlQuds brigade, allegedly affiliated with the Syrian regime, were fatally gunned down by ISIS militias, a few days after they had been kidnapped.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the two dead bodies were spotted in AlMayadeen desert, in the eastern corners of Deir AlZor area.

Nearly 7,000 gunmen are enlisted at Liwaa AlQuds brigade, among them 800 Palestinian refugees taking shelter in refugee camps across the Syrian territories.

AGPS kept record of the death of over 90 Palestinian refugees as they fought alongside Liwaa AlQuds forces since 2013.

Meanwhile, 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.

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.



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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.

An AGPS reporter said some 256 Palestinian refugees taking shelter in Vathy camp, pitched on Samos Island, have been facing squalid living conditions due to overcrowding and poor hygiene.

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.

Along similar lines, this year's Holy Ramadan month has been tougher for Palestinian refugees inside and outside the Syrian territories (PRS), as the coronavirus outbreak means that many PRS have not been able to reunite with or provide for their families.

Several PRS families have been scattered in displacement camps set up in northern Syria and on borderlands with the war-torn country. Scores of others have been stranded in reception facilities set up in European and Asian countries, where they have been facing dire living conditions due to overcrowding, poor hygiene, and lack of access to vital services.

At the same time, hundreds of families taking shelter in displacement camps in northern Syria continue to struggle for survival as they have been deprived of much-needed items and vital



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services, particularly healthcare, at a time when the novel coronavirus continues to claim the lives of thousands of people around the world.

Palestinian refugees from Syria have been denied easy access to neighboring countries, including Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, and North African countries.

The Turkish embassies have suspended visas for Palestinian refugees from Syria for over five years. Jordan also issued a decision officially banning the entry of the Palestinians of Syria regardless of their condition.

Palestinian refugees from Syria are reported to lack legal status in Lebanon. The absence of a specific legislation addressing the unique situation of the Palestinians of Syria has made them vulnerable to marginalization within the Lebanese polity.

Most of the Gulf countries have also outlawed granting visas to Palestinians with Syrian travel documents since 2013.

After nine years of conflict, Palestinian refugees in and from Syria continue to face significant humanitarian and protection needs. In the absence of a durable political settlement, intense hostilities and violence resulting in deaths and injuries, internal displacement, loss of livelihoods, decreases in the provision of public services, and extensive damage to civilian infrastructure have disrupted the lives of civilians and forced thousands to become internally displaced.

UN data indicates that as many as 120,000 Palestine refugees have fled war-stricken Syria since 2011, including 28,000 to Lebanon.



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The Syrian conflict has impacted Palestine refugees inside and outside the Syrian territories. There used to be 560'000 countrywide, mainly in Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Latakia, Damascus and Deraa.

According to the UN, today, some 440,000 Palestine refugees remain in Syria, more than half of them are internally displaced, and nearly all require sustained humanitarian assistance.

AGPS continues to call on UNRWA, the Palestinian Authority, and all other concerned bodies to immediately intervene in order to enhance the alarming humanitarian situation of the cash-stripped Palestinian refugees in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and Gaza, among other destinations.

Economic hardship forced thousands of PRS to embark on life-threatening journeys to neighboring countries or to try to get to safety to a European destination. Hundreds have died at sea.