



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



"Fears Mount as Dozens of Palestinian Refugees in Syria Contract Coronavirus"

- Palestinian Refugees Call for Increase of UNRWA Aid
- Palestinians from Syria in Denmark Facing Ambivalent Fate
- 1,458 Palestinian Residents of Yarmouk Camp Killed in Syrian Warfare
- AGPS Calls on Palestinian Families to Report Cases of Enforced Disappearance, Torture in Syria

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Latest developments

An AGPS reporter said dozens of confirmed coronavirus cases have been recorded among the Palestinian refugee community in Syria, including a couple living in Berzeh town and a four-member family living in Rukn AlDeen neighborhood, in Damascus.

The list of infected persons also includes a Palestinian woman sheltered in Qudsaya and three Palestinians in Jdeidat AlFadhl town.

A few days earlier, Palestinian actor Ahmad Rafea reportedly contracted the virus.

Last week, six suspected cases of novel coronavirus have been recorded in AlNeirab camp for Palestinian refugees, in Aleppo.

The suspected cases have been home-quarantined and kept under observation to curtail a propagation of the lethal disease in the displacement camp.

Recently, state of panic has overwhelmed the Palestinian refugee community taking shelter in war-torn Syria following reports of increased coronavirus cases in and around Damascus.

State-run media outlets in Syria said Health Minister Nizar Yazaji ordered the closure of wedding halls to help curtail COVID-19 contaminations after a number of Syrian nationals have tested positive for the lethal virus.



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AGPS continues to urge UNRWA and the Syrian Health Ministry to provide the Palestinian refugee community in the war-ravaged country with hygiene kit and relief items in light of the coronavirus outbreak.

AGPS also stresses the need to supply Palestinian refugee camps with medicines, detergents, and disinfectants in order to help the displaced communities defend themselves against the deadly COVID-19 virus.

AGPS is deeply concerned that the lack of transparency maintained by the Syrian government regarding the pandemic will result in a catastrophic situation in displacement camps, at a time when the deadly virus continues to claim the lives of thousands of people across the globe.

AGPS fears the coronavirus could spread quickly in jails and in overcrowded displacement camps, where neither hygiene kit nor medical equipment are accessible.

Displacement camps set up in northern Syria are especially vulnerable as most hospitals and medical facilities have been bombed, rendering them out of order. A confirmed coronavirus infection has been reported in the northern Syrian province of Idlib so far.

Though campaigns to help spread awareness among the camps' residents have seen the day, limited access to running water, pharmacies and medical facilities means displacement camps are more susceptible to the spread of the highly infectious virus.



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Meanwhile, UNRWA provides assistance to over 438,000 registered Palestinian refugees in Syria. Some 13,500 others remain in hard-to-reach or inaccessible zones in northern Syria.

The assistance includes cash and in-kind items. Throughout the conflict, the Agency endeavored to protect the right and dignity of refugees and the integrity and continuity of its services. This necessitated important adjustments in its emergency operations to protect the provision of vital assistance to the most vulnerable Palestine refugees in and outside Syria.

However, the sharp decrease in the exchange rate of the Syrian pound compared to the USD and PRS lack of access to the local labor market have made UNRWA's assistance quite insufficient, especially for vulnerable families, families with members with special needs, and female-headed households.

The price leap has also overburdened the cash-stripped refugees.

House rents have also seen a striking leap from previous years.

The refugees continue to urge UNRWA and all other concerned parties to increase financial aids, help the displaced families return to their refugee camps, and provide much-needed relief services for Palestine refugees.

Along similar lines, some 2,200 Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) who have reached Denmark from 2012 to 2020 have been facing a precarious condition in the Nordic country.



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90% of PRS in the country are refugees who fled Yarmouk Camp. 10% are from other Palestinian camps and communities across the war-torn country.

Some 1,717 PRS have reportedly been granted temporary protection in Denmark, and thus, it is hard for them to obtain permanent residence permits or citizenship.

Scores of refugees have failed to reunite with their families in Denmark.

One of the following three types of visas is often granted in Denmark: political asylum, humanitarian asylum, and temporary protection. The latter is valid for one renewable year and its holder becomes entitled to family reunification only after three years.

Over recent years, successive right-wing governments in Denmark backed up by the far right-wing Danish People's Party have opted for closed-door migration policies.

In another development, 1,458 Palestinians sheltered in Yarmouk camp were killed in the raging Syrian warfare, 496 among whom died in unabated shelling on the camp while the blockade and medical neglect took away the lives of 208 Palestinian refugees.

237 refugees were, meanwhile, fatally gunned down while 168 Palestinians were killed by sniper bullets. 215 others were tortured to death at the same time as 33 Palestinians were extra-judicially executed.



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Israeli bullet fire killed 11 refugees while 11 others were kidnapped and killed. 17 Palestinians died as a result of car-bomb blasts and 14 others were assassinated in the camp. 11 more refugees drowned at sea and five died of health setbacks rocking their vulnerable bodies.

According to AGPS, five Palestinians breathed their last on the migration road to Europe. Other refugees died of reasons varying between building collapse, suffocation, burning, cold-weapon assaults, and car ramming.

In the meantime, 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.

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 4,047 Palestinian refugees from Syria have died of war-related incidents.



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AGPS is a human rights watchdog that monitors the situation of Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria. AGPS has conducted over 2,830 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.

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