



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

29-08-2020

No. 2867

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Situation of Palestinians of Syria Exacerbated by Coronavirus Outbreak, Medicine Dearth"

- AGPS Takes Part in Video Conference about Palestinian Refugee Rights
- Vigil Held in Deraa to Push for Release of Prisoners
- Palestinian Refugee Abdul Salem Amer Forcibly Disappeared in Syria for 6th Year
- Displaced Palestinian Woman Appeals for Urgent Treatment Grant in Lebanon

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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

Latest developments

Palestinian refugees in Syria have denounced the acute death in life-saving medicines at a time when the number of coronavirus cases has tripled in Palestinian refugee camps across the war-torn country.

An AGPS reporter said pharmacies have run out of several drugs used by patients with cardiovascular diseases and kidney disorders along with anti-fever medicines.

Recently, concerns have mounted over a striking increase in coronavirus cases in and around Palestinian refugee camps in Syria, where the number of confirmed infections has already soared.

Medics sounded distress signals over the acute shortage in staff and equipment along with fuel needed to operate power generators at hospitals. The number of infections is estimated to get at least three times higher.

The Health Ministry's coronavirus team said wearing face masks and respecting social distancing has become an obligation at commercial centers and public facilities.

Over recent months, AGPS has also warned of an unabated outbreak of COVID-19 in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria. Though campaigns to help spread awareness among the camps' residents have recently seen the day, limited access to running water, pharmacies and medical facilities means displacement



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

camps are more susceptible to the spread of the highly infectious virus.

Displacement camps set up in northern Syria are especially vulnerable as most hospitals and medical facilities have been bombed, rendering them out of order.

In another development, head of the studies department of the Action Group for Palestinians of Syria (AGPS) attended a videoconference held as part of “Palestine My Compass” and “My Return” campaigns.

In his oral contribution entitled “Palestinians of Syria...Facts and Challenges”, AGPS delegate underscored the calamitous situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria and the latest statistics regarding the number of victims and detainees.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee from Syria Majida Salim Abu Surur, displaced from Syria’s Rif Dimashq province, has appealed to the international human rights institutions to help her pay treatment fees for a cardiac surgery she underwent at AlSahel Clinic in Lebanon.

Activists said the operation costs 4,730,000 Lebanese pounds. UNRWA paid 2 million pounds.

According to information collected by UNRWA, more than 80 per cent of PRS indicate that the Agency’s cash assistance is their main source of income. 95 per cent of PRS are food insecure, while about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty. 36 to 57 per cent of PRS youth



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

face unemployment. In August and September 2019, UNRWA conducted a verification exercise of PRS in Lebanon and verified the physical presence of 27,803 PRS in the country.

The number of PRS in Lebanon has been gradually decreasing over the past two years, and UNRWA estimates that in 2020 the country will continue to host approximately 27,700 PRS (8,450 families). UNRWA said PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. According to the Agency's monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents.

The lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention and being issued a departure order.

In the meantime, dozens of Palestinian refugees joined a vigil held in Deraa on Friday to push for the release of Palestinian and Syrian victims of enforced disappearance in Syria.

Protesters lifted banners and chanted slogans demanding that the Syrian regime release all prisoners and disclose the condition and whereabouts of victims of enforced disappearance and secret incarceration.

As the novel coronavirus COVID-19 continues to grip the Middle East and the world, AGPS urges the Syrian government to free all Palestinians and Syrians held behind prison bars.



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

AGPS is deeply concerned over an unabated outbreak of coronavirus in Syrian prisons, at a time when the deadly virus continues to claim the lives of thousands of people across the globe.

There are growing fears that a large outbreak in prisons and Palestinian refugee camps in Syria could be particularly catastrophic.

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

AGPS calls on the Syrian government to immediately release Palestinian detainees and provide those who test positive for COVID-19 with the necessary medical treatment.

The Syrian authorities and all concerned parties should also take precautionary measures and enhance captivity conditions to rein in a tragic propagation of the virus in jail.

Along similar lines, Palestinian refugee Abdul Salem Husni Amer, aged 45, has been secretly held in Syrian government prisons since January 5, 2014.

He was arrested on his way out of Yarmouk camp, on way to the nearby Hjeira town. His condition and whereabouts could not be identified.

1,797 Palestinian refugees have fallen prey to enforced disappearance in prisons across the embattled Syrian territories.



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

Hundreds of families continue to appeal for information over the condition and whereabouts of their missing or secretly detained relatives in Syria.