



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

29-09-2019

No. 2821

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugee from Syria Detained at Istanbul Airport"

- Deadline for Registration of Palestinian and Syrian Newborns Extended in Lebanon
- Palestinian Refugee Ahmad Abu Tawq Forcibly Disappeared in Syria for 6th Year
- Saudi Arabia Announced US\$50 Million Contribution to UNRWA

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk www.actionpal.org.uk



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

Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee from Syria Kasem Rashid Rayan has been detained by the Turkish authorities at Istanbul's new airport for the sixth consecutive day over allegations of illegal entry.

In appeals circulated on social media networks, Kasem's family called on the Palestinian and international humanitarian and human rights institutions to take urgent action in order to release Kasem and provide him with physical and legal protection.

Kasem fled Syria's Yarmouk Camp for Palestine refugees, south of Damascus, to Turkey, seeking a safe shelter and employment opportunities.



Unofficial statistics indicate that 8,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought shelter in Turkey, where they have been facing dire socio-economic conditions and denied access to the local labor market.

Turkish embassies continue to prevent Palestinian refugees from Syria from obtaining visas. As a result, hundreds of Palestinians have embarked on life-threatening journeys via illegal immigration roads to reach Turkey, fleeing war-tattered Syria, among other war-stricken zones.



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

In another development, the Lebanese Directorate-General of Personal Status announced its decision to stretch the time-limit set for the registration of Palestinian and Syrian newborns born in Syria.

The decision figured in Circular No. 112 sent to the Lebanese Foreign Ministry and the local municipalities.

The circular called on heads of governorate departments and foreigners' affairs departments in Beirut to register concerned newborns aged above one year and who were born between February 9, 2018 and February 09, 2019.

Obtaining birth/death certificates and identity documents by Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon is far from being a trouble-free process.

In recent reports, AGPS said the number of Palestinians who fled war-torn Syria to Lebanon has dramatically shrunk back over the past few years.

The decrease has been attributed to the mistreatment and crackdowns perpetrated against the refugees in the Lebanese territories, where they have also been denied the right to legal visas, refugee documents, safe accommodation, basic services, relief assistance, free education and healthcare, and access to the local labor market.

A decision issued by the Lebanese authorities in early May 2014 denied the Palestinians of Syria the right to freely enter the Lebanese territories, in an attempt to rein in refugee influx from Syria.



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

Meanwhile, Palestinian young man Ahmad Abu Tawq, born in 1990, has been secretly locked up in Syrian government prisons since September 4, 2013.

Ahmad was kidnapped by pro-government forces from AlRaml Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Latakia. His condition and whereabouts have been shrouded in mystery.



AGPS documented the secret detention of 1,768 Palestinian refugees in state-run penal complexes across war-torn Syria, among them 108 women and girls.

AGPS also documented the death of over 550 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government lock-ups, including women, children, and elderly civilians.

Affidavits by ex-detainees provided evidence on the involvement of Syrian government officers in harsh torture tactics, including electric shocks, heavy beating using whips and iron sticks, and sexual abuse against Palestinian detainees, in a flagrant violation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, commonly known as the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).



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

AGPS estimates the real number to be far higher due to the gag orders slapped by the Syrian government on the detainees' names and fates, along with the families' reluctance to report such cases over retaliation concerns.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to disclose the fate of scores of Palestinians held in its lock-ups, release the bodies of those tortured to death, to seriously work on halting harsh torture tactics, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.

In the meantime, Ibrahim bin Abdulaziz Al-Assaf, Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, announced on September 26 a contribution of US\$50 Million to the core program budget of UNRWA for 2019.

In a meeting with UNRWA Commissioner-General Pierre Krähenbühl on the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York, the Foreign Minister reaffirmed Saudi Arabia's position as one of the strongest political and financial supporters of UNRWA. He expressed strong recognition for the work carried out for Palestine refugees.





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

“The renewed and generous donation by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is of great significance to our Agency. Throughout the summer, as we prepared for the opening of the new scholastic year, we rehabilitated dozens of UNRWA schools with Saudi funding. The crucial contribution announced today will allow us to preserve the right to education of our 532, 000 students, as well as other core services to Palestine refugees. We are very grateful for the dynamic partnership and cooperation with the Kingdom”, said Krähenbühl.

Last year, UNRWA said it was facing the greatest financial predicament in its history following the abrupt end to funding by the United States, resulting in a shortfall that threatened general education for 525,000 students, essential primary health care for 3 million patients and food assistance for 1.7 million refugees. In response, UNRWA launched a global campaign, #DignityIsPriceless, to raise donations for the agency.