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



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

Academics among 2,000 Palestinian Refugees Forcibly Disappeared in War-Torn Syria

- **280 Palestinian Refugee Families from Syria Facing Squalid Conditions in Bursa**
- **Palestinian Refugee Families Struggling with Abject Conditions in Khan Dannun Camp**
- **Residents of Yarmouk Camp Appeal for Means of Transportation**



Latest Developments

AGPS has documented the names of nearly 2,000 Palestinian refugees who have been forcibly disappeared in Syria, among them scores of academics, journalists, and activists.

The list includes Palestinian doctor and lecturer Hayel Kacem Hamid, activist Ali Sai'd Shehabi, neurosurgeon Alaa AlDeen Yousef, journalist Muhannad Omar, engineer Moad Adnan Khalil, photojournalist Niraz Sai'd Manad, photojournalist Rami Hajou, urology and genitourinary surgeon Nizar Jawdat Kasab, doctor Radi Salah Shakosh, doctor Emad AlDeen Sa'id, writer Mahmoud Nawara, engineer Abdul Muhaymen Hanawi, engineer Sami Ahmad AlBesharat, and Ahmad Khamis, who was previously held in Israeli prisons.

Dozens of Palestinian academics and activists have also died under torture in the regime prisons, among them Maw'ed Saeed AlMaw'ed (a member of Fatah Movement in Syria), Basil Khartabil "Al-Safadi" (a software developer, technical director and co-founder of Al-Aws Publishing Company), Ahmed Musa Mahmoud (Director-General of the Palestine Charity in Syria), Hisham Qablawi (a political activist and member of the Fatah Al-Intifada Movement), Khaled Bakrawi (an active member of the Jafra Foundation for Relief and Development), activist Alaa Al-Naji (chief of the Palestine Charity in Dumar Al-Balad neighborhood), Hassan Hassan (a theatre artist who was a member of the "Reaction" artistic team and of the Jafra Foundation), and Muhammad Dib Abu AlRuz, leader of the Palestinian Bisan Art Troupe and a member of the Fida party.

Affidavits by ex-detainees continue to provide 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).



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 another development, 280 Palestinian families from Syria sheltered in the Turkish city of Bursa suffer from dire humanitarian conditions as a result of price inflation, exorbitant house rents, and the lack of access to the local labor market.

The absence of humanitarian and cash aid by UNRWA and the High Commissioner for Refugees, among other international organizations, has made the situation far more alarming.

Turkey's currency inflation, which rose by nearly 80% year on year, has affected the humanitarian condition of thousands of Palestinian refugees who fled war-torn Syria. The refugees continue to grapple with soaring food and energy costs.

Food prices in the country of 84 million rose 91.6% year on year, the country's statistics agency reported, bringing into sharp view the pain that regular consumers and vulnerable communities face as supply chain problems, rising energy costs and Russia's war in Ukraine feed into global inflation.

Economic analysts expect the trajectory for Turkey's inflation will only get worse.

Unofficial statistics indicate that 10,000 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.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee families taking shelter in Khan Dannun camp, in Rif Dimashq, continue to rail against the poor infrastructure and absence of vital facilities in the area.



Water supplies have been repeatedly cut off across residential neighborhoods in Khan Dannun, forcing civilians to buy drinking water from privately-owned tanks at steep prices. The residents have also denounced the ongoing electricity blackout.

At the same time, civilians continue to appeal to the concerned authorities to secure transportation means to give them daily lifts to their destinations and workplaces. Students, workers, and sick people are made to wait for hours daily to reach their destinations.

Living conditions in Khan Dannun have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the unbridled warfare.

According to UN data, Khan Dannun camp was built several centuries ago to give overnight accommodation to trading caravans on the ancient route between Jerusalem and Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). In 1948, the ruins of the city provided shelter for refugees from villages in northern Palestine.

The camp, which lies 23 km south of Damascus, was officially established in 1950-1951 on an area of 0.03 square kilometers. The camp was home to 10,000 Palestine refugees by 2011, almost all of whom were living in irregular housing, constructed without any formal approval from the municipality.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was already one of the poorest camps in Syria. The conflict exerted additional pressures. The camp was surrounded by armed opposition groups and many refugee families displaced from other areas of Damascus took refuge in the camp, tripling the number of residents to some 30,000 during the crisis. Currently, the camp is home to 12,650 Palestine refugees. The increase of the camp population has had a negative impact on the camp's infrastructure.

Along similar lines, families who have returned to Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus, have called on the Syrian authorities to secure means of transportation to give them daily lifts to their destinations and help bring life back to normal in the ravaged camp.

Residents of AlJa'ouna and Palestine streets also called on minibus drivers to reach the neighborhoods in order to transfer civilians to and back from adjacent areas, including UNRWA's catering centre.



Before the crisis started in 2011, Yarmouk was a bustling home to almost 30 percent of the Palestine refugee population in Syria. Today, the weight of displacement, hardship and the loss of loved ones add to the difficult living conditions in Yarmouk.