



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

31-10-2019

No. 2853

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees Stranded in Thailand Push for Urgent Humanitarian Action"

- As Winter Looms, Palestinians from Syria in Greece Stuck in Ramshackle Tents
- Palestinian Student Ahmad Jalil Secretly Held in Syrian Jail for 7th Year
- Food Baskets Distributed in Daraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees

+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

A jailed Palestinian refugee who fled war-torn Syria to Thailand said that like hundreds of other refugees in the country he has been struggling with dire humanitarian conditions.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the young man said: “We fled the Syrian warfare to Thailand seeking a safe shelter. However, we’ve been mistreated by local authorities and sent to jail. Others were forcibly pushed back to war-torn Syria.”

The witness also said scores of refugees have gone through psychological breakdowns due to the squalid conditions they have been facing in Thailand. “Several detained refugees from different nationalities have attempted suicide after they lost hope”.



According to the testimony, refugees are denied access to the Thai labor market. Those who overstayed their visas were sent to jail with their children. Women and children aged below three years along with elderly people were only released on a bail.

“Our living conditions are just unbearable. The UNHCR continues to turn deaf ears to our ceaseless cries for help”, he said, calling for



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

transmitting his appeals to the concerned authorities and for smoothing the refugees' travel to Malaysia or Cambodia pending their safe return to their homelands.

Over recent years, the Thai authorities have been treating Palestinians from Syria as lawbreakers rather than asylum seekers fleeing war-stricken zones. Scores of refugees have been arrested after they overstayed their visas.

Palestinian refugees from Syria trapped in Thailand continue to slam the apathy maintained by the international community, the United Nations, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas over their suffering.

Activists have also raised alarm bells over the dire conditions of captivity in Thai detention centers, where dozens of migrants are crammed into cells that can barely accommodate a handful of persons.

The refugees continue to appeal for urgent humanitarian action and for serious measures in order to pressurize the Thai government to grant them safe asylum and work out their legal status.

As a freezing winter season is around the corner, thousands of migrants, including Palestinian refugees from Syria, continue to struggle with terrible conditions, in overcrowded and ramshackle tents and containers on Greek islands.

According to witnesses, thousands of people are crammed into overpopulated and desperately under-resourced facilities in



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

hotspots on Greek islands. Thousands, including children, elderly people, single women, and female heads of households are being forced to live in unequipped tents, sleeping on the ground, as the weather worsens. Some women are forced to share tents with other foreigners, putting their privacy and safety at risk.

Displaced Palestinian families in Greece-based refugee camps continue to voice deep concern over their fate with the advent of winter, denouncing the absence of vital services, including health care, housing, relief assistance, and power and water.



In recent years, Greek refugee camps have reportedly been running at three times their capacity. Overpopulated refugee camps cause a shortage of resources, not least healthcare.

Last month, UNICEF warned that the number of unaccompanied migrant minors staying in overcrowded reception centers on the Greek islands exceeds 1,100, the highest level since the peak of the refugee crisis in early 2016, calling on European countries to do more to protect vulnerable children.



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

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.

Activists estimate that around 4,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria are taking cover on such Greek islands as Lesbos, Mytilene, Chios, Leros, and Kos, among other areas.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Ahmad Diab Jalil, aged 29, has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian government lock-up for the seventh year running.

Ahmad, a student of Chemistry at Damascus University, was kidnapped by pro-government forces on June 25, 2013 at a checkpoint pitched on Road 86, between Khan Ehieh and Damascus.

AGPS documented the secret incarceration of 1,768 Palestinian refugees in Syrian penitentiaries.

In the meantime, the Syrian Red Crescent Society handed over food baskets to a number of Palestinian families sheltered in Daraa Camp, south of Syria.

The organization has resumed its relief mission in the area following reconciliation accords between the Syrian government and opposition groups.



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

In recent years, residents of Daraa Camp have sounded distress signals over the absence of vital services and life-saving medical kit. Most of the clinics and medical centers in the area have gone out of operation in the warfare.

UNRWA clinics and health centers have also shut their doors in the government-held zone, exacerbating the health conditions of hundreds of displaced Palestinians taking refuge in the area.

All the way through Syria's eight-year conflict, Daraa Camp has also been grappling with a chronic water blackout. The residents have lashed out at local authorities for dragging their feet over their appeals for rehabilitating infrastructure and sanitation networks.

Founded in 1950-1951, Daraa Camp is home to over 650 displaced Palestinian families. As many as 4,500 families used to take shelter in the camp prior to the outbreak of the conflict in 2011.

