



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

05-01-2020

No. 2629

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"AGPS: 616 Palestinian Refugees Tortured to Death in Syrian Jails"

- General Authority for Refugees Urges UNRWA to Follow Up on Situation in Palestinian Refugee Camps
- Deaths Reported as Migrant Boat Sinks Off Turkish Coast
- Leisure Activities Held for Children in Syria's AlAyedeen Camp

+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

AGPS documented the death of 616 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government prisons since the outburst of the bloody warfare.

Updated statistics by AGPS indicate that 1,780 Palestinian refugees have been secretly held behind Syria's prison bars, among them 109 women and girls along with dozens of minors.

Field reporters believe the real numbers to be far higher due to the government's reticence to reveal the names and fates of Palestinian captives and the families' fears to disclose their relatives' names over retaliation concerns.

The list of victims includes activists, volunteers, medics, engineers, academics, journalists, university students, and artists.



According to affidavits by ex-detainees, Palestinian refugees have been subjected to harsh psycho-physical torture tactics in Syrian penitentiaries, including electric shocks, heavy beating using iron sticks, and sexual abuse.



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

AGPS believes that such practices represent flagrant violations of international law which criminalizes all forms of torture and mistreatment against civilians.

Such practices also breach the Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict of 1974, Article 5, which criminalizes all forms of torture and mistreatment against women and children.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian authorities to cease all forms of torture against captives and to disclose the condition and whereabouts of hundreds of Palestinian refugees held in its penal complexes.

In another development, the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR) urged the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) to enhance its follow-up mechanisms in 2020 regarding the situation in Palestinian refugee camps in and around Damascus.



In a letter to UNRWA's director of Syria operation, Michael Amany, GAPAR said a meeting will be held with local committees in Damascus and its suburbs in order to identify priorities and challenges in Palestinian refugee camps for the new year.



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

GAPAR called on UNRWA to take part in the meeting and to set a definite time and place for the event.

The warfare in Syria has led to massive destruction in Palestinian refugee camps and facilities across the country, including dozens of UN-run premises.

After more than eight years of conflict, Palestinian refugees in Syria continue to be one of the most vulnerable communities, with immense humanitarian needs.

Meanwhile, eight people, including three women, have drowned after a boat carrying migrants sank off Turkey's Aegean coast, Turkey's Ministry of Interior has said.

A ministry statement on Friday said a rubber boat with about 15 people on board sank late on Thursday off the coast of Fethiye, in Turkey's southwest.

The coastguard dispatched three boats, a team of divers, a plane and a helicopter to the area as soon as it received word of the incident.

A search-and-rescue mission continued for seven migrants thought to be missing.

There was no information on the nationalities of the migrants who were on the boat.

Turkey is a main crossing point for migrants trying to make their way to Europe to escape violent conflicts or economic hardship.

AGPS has kept record of the death of dozens of Palestinian refugees onboard Europe-bound boats, as they fled war-torn Syria to Turkey,



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

before heading for neighboring Greece and other coastal destinations.

A deal between Turkey and the European Union in 2016 helped stem migration flows, but many asylum-seekers still attempt the dangerous trip across the Aegean Sea to Greek islands.

In the meantime, leisure activities were held by the Palestinian Scouts Club in Hums, where hundreds of Palestinian refugee children have been born and raised.

Palestinians taking shelter in AlAyedeen Camp in Hums have been facing a deteriorating humanitarian situation as a result of the price leap, sharp shortage in fuel supplies, the frequent power blackouts, and absence of humanitarian assistance. High rates of unemployment and the security turmoil rocking the region have made the situation far more alarming.

