



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

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الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees Sound Distress Signals from Greece Migrant Camp"

- Civilians Launch Calls for Rehabilitation of Yarmouk Camp
- Murderers of Elderly Palestinian Refugee Arrested in Syria's Khan Eshieh Camp
- Palestinian Refugee Nader AlNader Forcibly Disappeared in Syria for 7th Year
- Excursion Organized for Palestinian Refugee Children in Ankara

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Latest Developments

Hundreds of Palestinian refugees from Syria sheltered in Nea Kavala camp, north of Greece, raised alarm bells over their abject humanitarian situation in the isolated migrant facility, describing it as “an open-air prison”.

The nearest city to the camp—Polykastro—is at least one hour away on foot.

The refugees slammed the Greek authorities for dragging their feet over their appeals for family reunification. Often, procedures take years to be finalized.

Over recent months, the Greek government has come under heavy criticism over the separation walls built around the mainland refugee camp near Athens.

Some residents of the camp being walled off described a heightened sense of imprisonment.

Nea Kavala camp was built in the former “Asimakopoulou” air force camp. It opened its gates on 28 February 2016 and together with Cherso were the two mass tent camps established to host the thousands of refugees evacuated from Idomeni. Nea Kavala camp is characteristically hosting many different nationalities.

The camp is located at the rims of Nea Kavala village next to a small countryside road and is 56 km away from Thessaloniki. The



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nearest town is Polykastro and it takes a refugee living in the camp between 30 and 40 minutes to reach it on foot. A return bus ticket from Polykastro to Thessaloniki costs 12 Euros.

The Greek Army and RIS are responsible for site management. Police is guarding the entrance.

At the end of August 2018, the population consisted of new arrivals from the Aegean hotspots and the land borders as well as people who had been living in the camp for nearly two years.

Refugees interviewed said that they experienced lack of safety and spoke about tensions among the camp's residents, unequal shelter conditions, and a breakdown of community structures. Residents described the fear they felt about walking in the camp when it was dark. Electricity cuts were creating additional problems regarding the safety of residents during the night. Women refugees were scared to walk alone to the toilets and single women feared staying alone in the rub-halls with too many men. All residents were anxious about leaving their prefabs unprotected.

In another development, activists have called on residents of Yarmouk Camp to work on reconstructing their houses and destroyed commercial facilities.

The activists said buildings and commercial structures located in AlRija and Abu Hashish squares should be rapidly rehabilitated in order to get life back to normal in these vital areas and encourage civilians to return to the camp.



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Entering its eleventh year, the Syrian warfare has had disastrous fallouts on Yarmouk Camp and other displacement camps set up across the ravaged country. In 2014, the Syrian regime cut off water in the camp, leaving hundreds of families at the risk of death.

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.

Meanwhile, Syrian police arrested three wanted criminals involved in the murder of an elderly Palestinian man last month.

Following preliminary investigations and interrogation of witnesses, police found out that the murderer showed up at the victim's shop shortly before he killed him. The killer confessed that other people helped him in armed robbery attack on the shop. The victim was beaten on his head to death.

The victim—Adnan Mousa Khuza'i, nicknamed Abu Samir—died at the hospital. He was heavily beaten with a metal bar while he was taking a siesta outside of his flea store.

Adnan was displaced from AlSayeda Zeinab Camp to Khan Eshieh some six years ago.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Nader Adel AlNader has been secretly held in Syria's state-run prisons for over seven years running.



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Nader, born in 1978 in Yarmouk Camp, was arrested in January 2014 as he turned himself in to security forces deployed near the main entrance to Yarmouk Camp. At the time, Nader had hoped to reconcile with the Syrian regime and work out his legal status.

AGPS has documented the secret detention of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in state-run penal complexes across war-torn Syria, among them 110 women and girls.

AGPS also documented the death of over 600 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).

Meanwhile, the Turkish Association for Solidarity with Palestine “FIDAR” in Ankara organized a trip to the diyarı harikalar park for a number of Palestinian children from the Quds Club.

The children displayed paintings expressing their commitment to their right of return to their motherland Palestine and their solidarity with Palestinian children in the Israeli-occupied territories.



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Nearly 2,400 Palestinian families from Syria have sought shelter in Turkey, including 1,200 families in Istanbul, where they have been facing an abject situation.