



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



"On 73rd Anniversary of Nakba, Palestinian Refugees in Syria Express Solidarity with Gaza, Jerusalem"

- Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon Raise Funds for Gaza
- On Nakba Day, PLA Accused of Apathy over Situation in Israeli-Occupied Palestinian Territories
- Palestinian Girl Goes Missing in Syria
- Greece to Pursue Six-Pronged Migration Policy

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest Developments

On the 73rd anniversary of the Israeli-inflicted Nakba of 1948, in reference to the expulsion of thousands of Palestinians from their homes by Zionist militias, scores of Palestinian refugees sheltered in displacement camps across Syria, have expressed deep anger over Israel's escalating violence and state terrorism in the occupied Palestinian territories and deadly aggressions on besieged Gaza.

Every year on May 15 Palestinians commemorate the day in which tens of thousands of civilians were forced out of their homes during the war that led to the creation of the self-proclaimed State of Israel in 1948.

This year, the Nakba Day comes amid deadly Israeli airstrikes, Jewish mob attacks and other forms of violent tactics imposed by the Zionist forces.

On May 15, 1948, some 750,000 Palestinians were expelled into refugee camps that still exist in the West Bank, Gaza, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon following the creation of the State of Israel in 1948.

Millions of Palestinians, including those displaced with the establishment of Israel, now found themselves having to live under military occupation, as well as further Israeli expansionism in their lands.

For many Palestinians, the Nakba is the first chapter in a process of land grab that began in 1948.



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According to Palestinian figures, roughly 640,000 Jewish settlers now live on 196 settlements (built with the Israeli government's approval) and more than 200 settler outposts (built without its approval) across the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.

International law regards both the West Bank and East Jerusalem as "occupied territories" and considers all Jewish settlement-building activity there as illegal.

Along similar lines, Palestinians of Syria sheltered in the southern Lebanese city of Sidon embarked on a fundraising campaign seeking to collect aid to Palestinians in Jerusalem and Gaza, both of which have come under Israeli violence and aggressions.

The campaign's chief told AGPS that the move comes amid increasing crimes and human rights abuses by Israeli forces and settlers gangs against the Palestinians in Jerusalem and the West Bank and amid deadly Israeli offensives of the besieged coastal enclave of Gaza.

So far, a sum of 8,000 Lebanese pounds has been collected.

In another development, a Palestinian child called "Haneen" disappeared on May 15 as she left her family house in AlHusainiya, in Rif Dimashq.

Her family continues to appeal for information over her condition and whereabouts.

333 Palestinian refugees, including 37 women and girls, have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian warfare. Most of those



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who have disappeared in the country are residents of Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

Activists have accused pro-government militias of targeting Palestinians in arbitrary abduction sweeps carried out under the security guise. Scores of families have been blackmailed over the release of their missing relatives and have paid large sums of money to brokers, crooked lawyers, or government officials to get pieces of information about their conditions and whereabouts.

In the meantime, activists leveled heavy criticism at the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) over a statement released on the 73rd anniversary of the Israeli-inflicted Nakba of 1948, in reference to the expulsion of thousands of Palestinians from their homes by Zionist militias to make way for the creation of present-day Israel.

Activists said the PLA has not expressed solidarity with the Palestinians in Gaza, who have been brutally massacred by the Israeli military.

“The PLA should’ve stood by the Palestinians in the occupied territories rather than dragging refugees in Syria into pro-regime battles”, an activist told AGPS.

In another development, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis on Wednesday said Greece was pursuing a six-pronged policy on migration aimed at combining protection of national sovereignty and international law with respect for humanitarian principles and refugee rights.



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During a visit to the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, Mitsotakis outlined the six principles of the policy, namely protection of the country's sea and land borders; the distinction between refugees and economic migrants; an effective return policy of those who are not eligible for international protection; the establishment of closed and well-monitored facilities; greater transparency in the operation of non-government organizations (NGOs); and, finally, an effective integration policy for recognized refugees.

Mitsotakis added that Greece had seen a significant drop in migrant arrivals from 72,000 in 2019 to 15,000 in 2020 and 2,500 in the first quarter of 2021.

More than 4,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria have sought shelter in Greece, where they live in filthy and overcrowded temporary camps, some for months or years.