

17-05-2021

No. 3224

## التقرير اليومي

## الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugee Forcibly Disappeared in Syria"

- Palestinian Refugee Missing from Khan Dannun Camp
- Residents of AlSabina Camp Denounce Bread Dearth
- Over 200 Camps Left without Water in Northern Syria
- Scholarships Granted to Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon



## **Latest Developments**

The family of Palestinian refugee Tamam Ali Ayoub has appealed for information over the condition and whereabouts of their son who has been forcibly disappeared in war-torn Syria since 2013.

Tamam disappeared in 2013 near AlMajed Mosque. A few years ago, reports emerged on his death under torture in Syrian regime prisons.

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 550 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).

Along similar lines, Palestinian refugee Khaled Halawah has gone missing from Khan Dannun Camp, in Rif Dimashq, for days.

Khaled suffers from Down syndrome.



333 Palestinian refugees, including 37 women and girls, have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian warfare. Most of those 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 another development, residents of AlSabina Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, continue to speak out against the insufficient quantities and poor quality of bread sold in the area.

They further lashed out at the poor and unfair distribution mechanisms implemented by government-run distributers, overburdening even further the cash-stripped families.

As the two local bakeries have gone out of operation, civilians have been forced to buy bread from the black market at a price of over 600 Syrian pounds a bundle.

Located some 14 kilometers away from southern Damascus, AlSabina Camp has been gripped with an abject situation owing to the absence of humanitarian assistance, relief aids, proper infrastructure, and vital facilities. Frequent water and power outages have made the situation far worse.



In the meantime, Coordinators of Syria Response said over 200 displacement camps in northern Syria have been left without water.

The association appealed to the international humanitarian institutions to urgently work on securing potable water for thousands of displaced Palestinian and Syrian families sheltered in northern Syria.

Thousands of displaced Palestinians and Syrians who live below the poverty line have sunk into further despair in the substandard refugee camps set up north of Syria, where conditions are dire and characterized by overcrowding, poor housing, unemployment, poverty and lack of access to justice.

Protracted displacement, deteriorating socio-economic conditions aggravated by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, dire humanitarian needs and protection concerns continue to affect the lives of Palestine refugees in Syria, according to UNRWA's "Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal 2021".

UNRWA said in its fact-sheet that in Syria, the protracted conflict has devastated human security and left 91 per cent of the 438,000 Palestine refugees estimated to remain in the country in absolute poverty and 40 per cent displaced.

In 2020, living conditions deteriorated further as a result of an economic crisis, leading to an increase in prices, including of the most basic commodities.



As the coronavirus pandemic has rebounded around the MENA region and the globe, Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria continue to struggle with growing poverty and economic hardship.

In another development, Mahmoud Abbas Foundation said it invites applications for school grants for Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon for the school year 2020-2021.

Applications will be received between May 17 and May 30, 2021.