



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 Targeted in Arbitrary Arrests South of Damascus"

- Students Appeal for School Transport at AlNeirab Camp for Palestine Refugees
- Palestinian Refugees Tortured to Death by Syrian Regime
- Education Services for Palestine Refugees at Risk in War-Torn Syria

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees taking shelter south of Damascus are living in distress due to the arbitrary arrest sweeps and crackdowns perpetuated by the Syrian security forces.

Palestinian refugees have been subjected to movement crackdowns and denied free access out of and into southern Damascus towns.

Thousands Palestinian refugees have been trapped in the area due to the tough cordon imposed by the Syrian government forces on Babila, Yalda, Beit Sahem, and Sidi Miqdad towns.

The Syrian authorities ruled that in order for Palestinian refugees sheltered in the area to gain free access out of and into Damascus a formal consent should be issued to that very end.

Over 5,000 Palestinians taking refuge south of Damascus have been grappling with dire conditions due to the price leap, steep rental fees, crackdowns carried out by pro-government militias, and forced military conscription.

Meanwhile, families of Palestinians tortured to death in Syrian government penitentiaries said they have been made to sign fraudulent documents and certificates claiming that their relatives died of heart attacks.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the wife of a Palestinian victim of torture told AGPS: “I have left no stone unturned to find out about my husband’s fate. Following relentless efforts and pressure, I was handed over a fraudulent death certificate



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testifying to the fact that my husband died of a heart attack, which I was compelled to approve and sign. I was also asked not to raise any further questions.”

“However, an ex-detainee told me that he met my husband in government prisons right after the release of the death certificate,” the wife added.

Activists also quoted ex-detainees as stating that they have met Palestinian refugees in Sednaya military lock-up after they were pronounced dead by the prison authorities.

Horrific photos showing thousands of people who were tortured to death in Syrian government penitentiaries were leaked by a military police photographer, codenamed Caesar.

AGPS documented the secret incarceration of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in Syrian government prisons, including 110 women and girls.

In another development, students and parents at AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Aleppo, appealed to the concerned authorities to secure transportation means to give daily lifts to the local university due to overcrowding and unpunctuality in public means of transport.

The residents called for the need to secure buses to transfer students to and back from their academic institutions.

Palestinian refugee families taking shelter in AlNeirab Camp continue to sound distress signals over the high rates of



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unemployment, water and power outages, along with the absence of health care and vital items, particularly fuel and gas.

In the meantime, this school year, 49,000 Palestine refugee girls and boys have gone back to 103 schools run by the UNRWA in Syria, with measures being taken by teaching staff to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Students and teaching staff have been wearing face masks, using disinfectants, and keeping to social distancing as part of safety measures recommended by the Agency.

As the new academic year has stepped in, Palestinian refugee schoolchildren and students continue to struggle with the devastating impact of the ten-year warfare.

Available data by UNRWA indicates that 32 UNRWA facilities have been reduced to rubble in Yarmouk Camp alone, including 16 schools, in the Syrian conflict.

Several other UNRWA facilities were destroyed in the Syrian warfare and others have gone out of operation, including two clinics, a vocational training center, a youth development center, and 28 schools, out of 112 UNRWA schools in Syria.

Upon more than one occasion, the UN has raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among the Palestinians of Syria, several among whom have left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.



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Dozens of Palestinian students, schoolchildren, and teaching staff have been killed or forcibly disappeared in war-ravaged Syria.