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## التقرير اليومي

## الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Syrian Regime Removes Checkpoints, Lifts Blockade on Deraa"

- Coronavirus-Related Deaths Increasingly Reported in Jaramana Camp
- UNRWA Honors Palestine Refugee Workers in Khan Eshieh Camp
- Turkey Rescues Migrants after Greece Pushback
- Palestinian Student Maher AlAyesh Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime since 2012



## **Latest Developments**

The Syrian regime forces removed checkpoints and roadblocks after they cordoned off the area for months.

Security forces unlocked the Saraya access road and all the other roadblocks pitched in the area.

On June 25, the regime forces asked the residents and former opposition forces to lay down all light weapons and allow them to search their homes. However, the Daraa Central Committee, the main reconciliation center in the area, noted that they were only supposed to hand in heavy weapons as part of the Russian-brokered agreement signed in July 2018. The regime then started imposing a blockade on some 40,000 civilians living in the area.

All entrances and exits from the district were blocked, and the transportation of all medical and food assistance, as well as fuel, prohibited.

In another development, deaths have increasingly been reported in Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, particularly among the elderly and people with chronic diseases.

The residents attributed the deaths to the medical neglect and absence of PCR tests at private and UNRWA-run clinics.

Last week, seven coronavirus-related deaths were reported in the camp.



Confirmed coronavirus cases have been increasingly reported in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria, at a time when residents have been launching cries for help over the absence of hygiene kit and medicines.

Civilians continue to slam UNRWA's apathy, saying urgent action is needed to save the displacement camps.

Meanwhile, a number of UNRWA cleaning and sanitation laborers were honoured by the Agency's director of Syria operations, Amanya Michael Ebye.

The work of cleaning teams during the Syria conflict was one of the most difficult challenges, given the serious risks that the teams were exposed to on daily basis during their movements.

UNRWA has over 30,000 employees, most of them Palestine refugees and a small number of international staff, in two headquarter offices (Gaza and Amman), five field offices (Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and West Bank), and in four Representative/Liaison Offices (New York, Geneva, Brussels and Cairo).

In the meantime, a group of irregular migrants on a lifeboat were rescued by Turkish Coast Guard off the coast of Muğla's Datça district.

They were left to Turkish territorial waters by Greek assets. 48 irregular migrants, including four Palestinian refugees, on the lifeboat were rescued.



The migrants were transferred to the immigration directorate pending legal procedures.

Meanwhile, Palestinian university student Maher Abdul Hamid AlAyesh, aged 33, has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syria government jails after he was kidnapped by Syrian security forces on June 10, 2012 from the exam room at the Damascus Faculty of Science.

Maher, a third-year student of mathematics, was born in Tel Hamees, in AlKameshli, northeast of Syria, near the Turkish borders. An ex-prisoner said he had last met Maher in 2014 at AlMezzah intelligence detention center.

According to AGPS data, over 620 Palestinian refugees were fatally tortured in Syrian government lock-ups, where at least 1,797 others have been secretly held.

Affidavits by ex-detainees have 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).

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to disclose the fate of scores of Palestinians held in its lock-ups, release the bodies of those tortured to death, to seriously work on halting harsh torture



tactics, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.