



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

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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Coronavirus-Related Death, New Cases Reported in Deraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees"

- Palestinian Refugees in Syria Displacement Camp Launch Distress Calls over Water Scarcity
- Solar Panels Installed in Yarmouk Refugee Camp
- Palestinian Refugee Child Wins Chest Competition
- Palestinian Refugee Muadh Ali Forcibly Disappeared in Syria for 6th Year

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee Ahmed Mahmoud AlHaj, from Deraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, has died of the novel coronavirus.

At the same time, three residents of the camp have contracted the virus and are in a critical condition.

Civilians have strongly condemned the Syrian authorities and international humanitarian organizations regarding their appeals for urgent treatment and for ambulances to carry the diseased to the hospital.

The residents have expressed deep concern over their children's safety due to the absence of anti-coronavirus drives and hygiene kit in the area.

Confirmed coronavirus cases have increasingly been 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.

A few months earlier, AGPS also warned of an unabated outbreak of COVID-19 in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria. Limited access to running water, pharmacies and medical facilities mean displacement camps are more susceptible to the spread of the highly infectious virus.



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Displacement camps set up in northern Syria are especially vulnerable as most hospitals and medical facilities have been bombed, rendering them out of order.

Along similar lines, residents of AlSayeda Zeinab camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, said water has been repeatedly cut off in the area due to breakdowns in the main water pumps as a result of the power blackout.

Civilians have been forced to buy water supplies from private tank owners at prices of up to 12,000 a tank.

Residents of AlSayeda Zeinab camp have been enduring squalid conditions due to high rates of unemployment.

Eleven years into the conflict, more than half of the residents lost their sources of income. Scores of families continue to live below the poverty line due to exorbitant prices of food and non-food items.

The reluctance maintained by the Palestine Liberation Organization and other concerned bodies regarding their cries for help has made the situation far worse.

As a result, scores of civilians have fled the camp while others have been forced to join pro-government battalions.

The Syrian government forces regained control over AlSayeda Zeinab Camp following a seven-month military operation. Heavy material damage has been inflicted on the camp.



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UN data indicates that the camp was established on an area of 0.02 square kilometers in 1948, but the majority of the residents came in 1967. The inhabitants, who were displaced from the Quneitra Governorate in the Golan Heights during the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict, sought refuge for the second time in their lives in the area. Most had originally fled to the Golan Heights in 1948 from nearby villages in northern Palestine.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to 23,700 Palestine refugees. The camp was affected by violent clashes that forced 40 per cent of the people to leave in late 2012.

Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the major concerns shared not only by Palestine refugees but also Syrians alike during the ongoing conflict in Syria. The majority of Palestine refugees in AlSayeda Zeinab work as day laborers, government employees or vendors.

Meanwhile, the Syrian authorities greenlighted a project to rehabilitate the electricity network in Yarmouk Camp using solar panels.

Over recent years, the residents have frequently complained that power cables have been stolen from abandoned houses and alleyways in Yarmouk refugee camp, where civilians' life has already been marred by the frequent power blackouts.



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Palestinian families continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes in Yarmouk Camp and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee child Hussam Jaber Yousef was honored by the Palestinian Sports Federation after he snatched the first place in a chess contest in Hums and the fourth place at the Syrian Republic championship for the 8-year-old class.

Husam is the older brother of Majed Yousef, the champion of the Police Club chess game.

Hundreds of displaced Palestinian refugees in/from Syria have achieved success stories, despite the traumatic upshots wrought by the daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction across the embattled Syrian territories.

This includes scores of refugee students who have obtained the highest scores at their academic institutions; hundreds of refugee sportsmen/sportswomen who snatched the first places in regional and international competitions; dozens of artists who received renowned literary awards for their products and performances; and several housewives who turned trauma into a space of creativity.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Muadh Mahmoud Ali, born in 1995, has been secretly held in Syrian government prisons for the sixth consecutive year.



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Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

Muadh, raised in AlSayeda Zeinab Camp, in Rif Dimashq, was arrested at a government checkpoint pitched in AlZahira, in Damascus, on his way to the university.

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).