



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

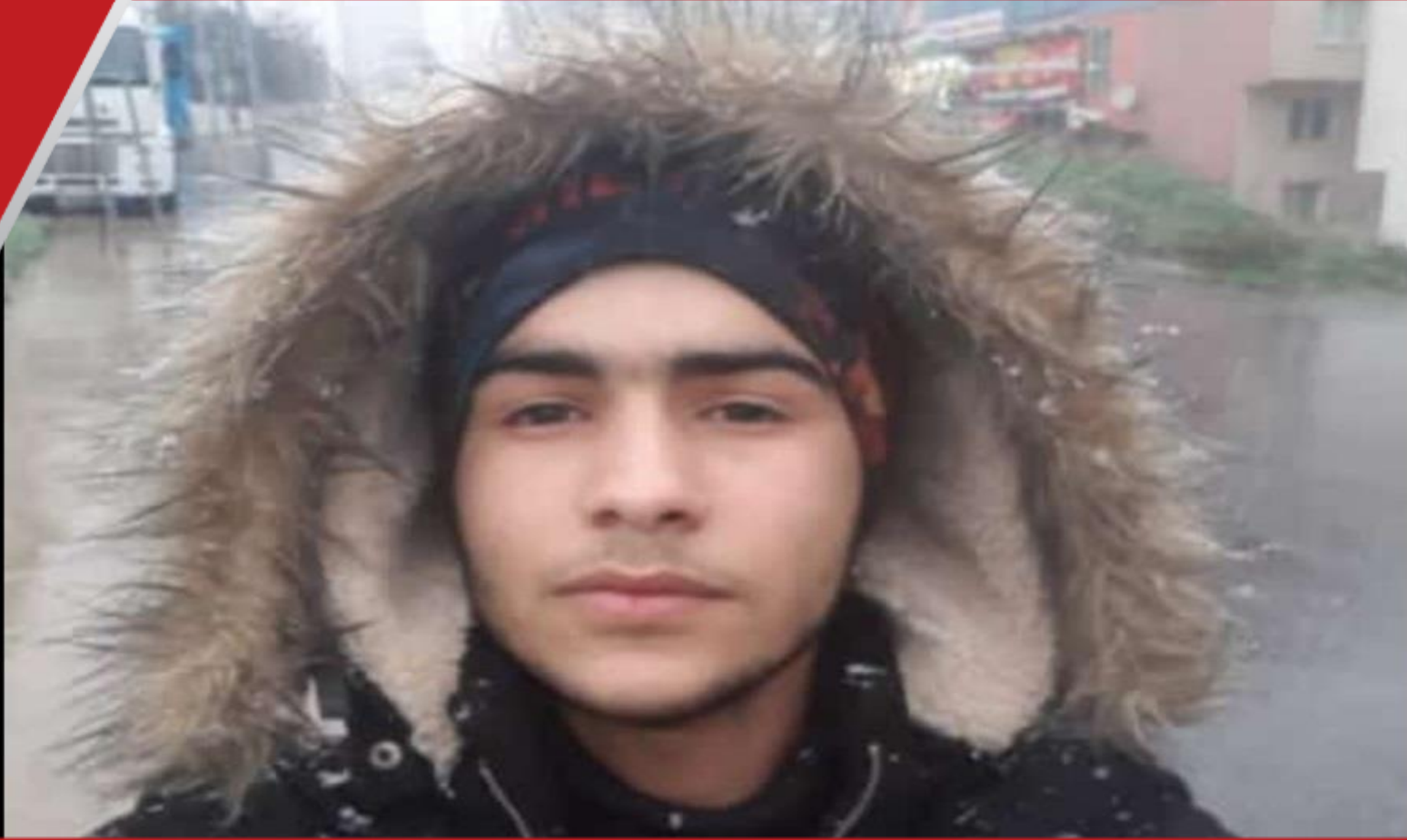
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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Family of Missing Palestinian Refugee Appeals for Information"

- Palestinian Refugee Students Win Competitive Programming Marathon in Syria
- Italian Gov't Considering Delivering Cash Aid for Reconstruction of Yarmouk Camp
- Residents of Khan Dannun Camp Denounce Fuel Price Leap
- UN Urges Syrian Regime to Reveal Condition of Thousands of Prisoners

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Latest Developments

The family of Palestinian refugee Bahaa AlHasan, raised in Deraa Camp, south of Syria, have appealed to search and rescue teams to work on revealing the condition and whereabouts of their relative, who has gone missing since October 11 as he tried to cross the river along the Turkish-Greek borders.

The family lost contact with Bahaa after Greek police forced him, along with other migrants, to swim back to Turkey.

AGPS data indicates that over 333 Palestinian refugees from Syria, including 38 women and girls, have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian warfare.

In another development, Palestinian students garnered the highest scores in the 2021 Programming Marathon for children and adults in Syria.

213 contestants from Syria took part in the competition organized by the Syrian Virtual University in cooperation with the Excellence and Creativity Agency.

Students from the UNRWA-run Ras AlEin school in Qudsaya town, in Rif Dimashq, won gold, silver, and bronze medals. The gold medal was earned by Mohamed Abdul Aziz. Abdullah Oudeh and Mahmoud Hamid received silver medals while Wissam Jaber got the bronze medal.



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According to UNRWA, the students received training in logical thinking and programming using the C++ language thanks to their teacher Rana Kamela, who is specialized in information technology.

The competition aims to boost the participants' interest in information technology and enhance their programming capacities at an early age.

Meanwhile, Chargé d'Affairs of the Italian Embassy in Syria Massimiliano Dantono said during his meeting with the Director General of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization Anwar Abdel Hadi that Italy is considering providing assistance for reconstruction projects in Yarmouk camp.

Dantono pledged that his country will continue to support the Syria education programme of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA).

Abdul Hadi briefed the Italian official about the squalid humanitarian situation facing Palestinian refugees in displacement camps set up across the Syrian territories.

In the meantime, displaced Palestinian families sheltered in Khan Dannun refugee camp, in Rif Dimashq, expressed fear that they won't be able to cook their food or keep the cold out of their homes due to exorbitant prices of fuel, as a freezing winter season is about to unlock its gates.



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The refugees have launched into a tirade against the malpractices of Syria's burgeoning black oil market, fuel shortages, and—most of all—the exorbitant prices of wood and fuel charged by corrupt officials and traders.

The price of a liter of fuel has been raised in the black market to over 4,000 Syrian pounds, in a country where a civil servant receives 80,000 in the best of cases.

Families barely receive 100 liters of fuel through the smart card, which has become essential in the Syrian government-held areas. With this card, a family can obtain their small but vital allocations of heating oil, gas, bread, sugar, rice, and other goods. In early 2019, the Syrian government began the smart card system, which allegedly aimed to stop monopolization of aid and provide support to those in need.

At the same time, desperate for warmth, displaced Palestinian and Syrian families taking refuge in under-equipped camps and substandard facilities have been burning their clothes and plastic materials to stave off winter cold after they failed to afford firewood and fuel supplies.

This has resulted in heavy smokes engulfing camps from all corners and engendering civilians', particularly children's, health condition. Scores of children have sustained costochondritis (chest inflammation) and bronchitis due to heavy smoke inhalation.

In the meantime, the Chair of the UN Syria Commission of Inquiry, Paulo Pinheiro, warned the international community that while



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some might be thinking the conflict is ending, the facts on the ground paint another picture.

Addressing the Third Committee of the General Assembly on October 25, Pinheiro said: "This is not a time for anyone to be thinking that Syria is safe, for its refugees to return home. Instead, we are seeing an upsurge in fighting and violence,"

"As we speak, millions of civilians continue to be condemned to war, terror, and grief. Many of those displaced have seen their properties destroyed or seized by the Government, armed groups or terrorist groups -- they have little left to return to and little prospects for their livelihoods," Pinheiro elaborated.

Addressing one of the biggest agonies facing Syrians, the Commission reminded the General Assembly about the hundreds of thousands of Syrians wake up each morning, worrying about the fate and whereabouts of missing loved ones.

"We respectfully ask the distinguished representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, how much longer must they wait for your Government to let them know?" asked Pinheiro, stressing that Syrian authorities should allow the detainees to contact their families and to receive visits by independent monitors, and release prisoners who are sick, infirm or elderly.

"The tens of thousands disappeared and missing represents a national trauma," said Commissioner Hanny Megally, pointing out that families of the missing on all sides in Syria have come together urging the international community to help them and to facilitate



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an independent initiative with an international mandate to coordinate and consolidate information regarding missing persons.

"Will we keep them waiting or will Member States act now in response to their plea?", Pinheiro, the Chair of the UN Syria Commission asked.

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).