



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



" Voice Recording Reveals Tragic Situation of Palestinians of Syria in Thailand"

- E-Campaign Kicks off in Solidarity with Palestinian Refugees in Thailand
- Short Film Made to Depict Yarmouk Camp Residents' Struggle for Survival
- Palestinian Student Salma Abdul Razaq Secretly Held in Syrian Jails for 6th Year

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Latest Developments

Voice recordings released by activists have provided tangible evidence about the tragic conditions endured by Palestinian and Syrian refugees stranded in Thailand and held at I.D.C detention center in Bangkok for overstaying their visas.

As emerges in the soundtrack, children, women, and elderly refugees are crammed in over-crowded detention centers, where they are made to sit and sleep in a squatting position, with their legs drawn up closely beneath or in front of their vulnerable bodies.



A stranded refugee said that one of the detainees has been kept in custody at I.D.C for over three years and that a number of children have been growing up at detention centers with no identity documents whatsoever. Others have had their travel documents invalidated due to the long detention periods.

The refugees have spoken out against the scorching temperatures at the detention center, along with the medical neglect and the poor-quality and insufficient food.



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The refugees appealed to the international humanitarian institutions, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the Thai government to take urgent steps so as to release them and enhance their conditions at the soonest time possible.

At the same time, Palestinian activists embarked on an e-campaign on social media networks to speak up for Palestinian and Syrian refugees in Thai prisons.

Recently, dozens of refugees have voiced their concerns over forced deportation as the Thai authorities continue to rebuff their appeals for visa-renewal.

The activists called on the Palestinians and Syrians to step up pressure on the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and Thai government and urge them to take up their moral and legal responsibilities in this regard, in accordance with the Refugee Convention and the international humanitarian law.

The activists also urged the mass media to raise the world's awareness about the cause and speak up for refugees trapped at I.D.C.

“We’ve fallen prey to skin diseases as we’ve not seen the sun and been deprived of ventilation for quite a long while,” said a trapped Palestinian refugee from Syria in a letter emailed to AGPS several months ago.

In another development, Syria’s General Organization for Cinema ended filming a short documentary named “The Capital of Hope, the Capital of the Diaspora”, directed by



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Palestinian movie maker Mohamed Abu Mathana as part of a project to support youth cinema for 2018.

Speaking with AGPS, Abu Mathana said the film saw the day thanks to a grant offered by the General Organization of Cinema and the Damascus-based Ministry of Culture.



The shot film will be screened at the Youth Cinema Festival at the Opera House in May.

The film covers the humanitarian and socio-political situation in Yarmouk Camp from the very early stages of its founding and civilians' hope to see the shelter reconstructed after it has gone into rubble in Syria's seven-year warfare.

A set of interviews with the residents, Palestinian leaders, and relief officers also figure in the movie.

“It is high time we revived hope in the capital of the Diaspora”, said the movie maker.

In the meantime, Palestinian student Salma Abdul Razzek, enrolled at the Architectural Engineering University in Damascus,



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has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian government penitentiaries.

Born on March 30, 1990, Salma fled Yarmouk Camp after it was struck with Mig fighter jets. She was kidnapped as she attempted to re-enter the camp on December 30, 2012 via a checkpoint pitched near AlBashir Mosque, after reports emerged that her brother was injured with sniper fire.

She was transferred, along with Palestinian refugee Husam Maw'ed, to an unknown location and charged with assisting refugees and tending to the wounded.



In August 2013, an appeal was sent by her family to the National Reconciliation Committee and another was submitted to the Judicial Palace in November 2013. However no data has been revealed on Salma's condition and whereabouts.

According to AGPS statistics, 108 Palestinian women and girls figure on a list of 1,709 refugees secretly held in Syrian government dungeons.



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AGPS believes the exact numbers to be far higher due to the gag orders slapped by the Syrian government on the fates and whereabouts of the detainees and the families' reluctance to report cases of torture and enforced disappearance over retaliation concerns.