



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



"Palestinians from Syria Outside of UNRWA Fields of Operations Denied Protection"

- Palestinians from Syria Released from Irbil Detention Centre
- Family Appeals for Information over Condition of Missing Palestinian Refugee
- Palestinian Refugee Woman Dies of Black Fungus

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) sheltered in displacement camps outside of UNRWA fields of operations are still deprived of their basic rights and enduring precarious legal and humanitarian conditions.

Nearly 12,000 Palestinian refugees in Turkey and 3,500 in Egypt have failed to obtain UNRWA protection cards over claims that they fall outside of the Agency's operations map.

Similarly, some 50 PRS families who fled the war-torn country to Thailand continue to sound alarm bells over the deteriorating humanitarian condition endured in the kingdom. The refugees risk to be forcibly sent back to Syria or tossed into Thai detention centers for indefinite periods of time. The government also prohibited renting homes to the refugees, who have been considered as lawbreakers rather than asylum-seekers.

AGPS calls on UNRWA and host countries to provide Palestinian refugees outside of UNRWA fields of operations with physical, legal, and moral protection. Hundreds of displaced families continue to live in a state of perpetual fear and deep-seated trauma over detention and/or refoulement concerns.

Along similar lines, the Palestinian consulate in Erbil, in Kurdistan region, north of Iraq, said authorities released two Palestinian refugees from Syria after they had been kept in custody for days.



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Ambassador Ahmad AlDik said that following instructions by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates along with efforts by the Palestine Embassy in Syria and Palestine's General Embassy in Erbil, the refugees were freed.

AGPS database indicates that over 700 Palestinian refugees from Syria are taking shelter in Iraq's Kurdistan region, where they have been subjected to squalid humanitarian conditions.

Palestinian refugees have been residing in Iraq since 1948, when the Arab-Israeli conflict caused large-scale displacement throughout the region. That movement was followed by another group who fled the Occupied Territories as a result of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war and later by a third group who fled from the Gulf countries in the aftermath of the 1991 Gulf war.

Persecution of members of the Palestinian community in Iraq began almost immediately after the fall of the former Saddam Hussein's regime in April 2003. Palestinians were subjected to harassment, targeted attacks, kidnapping, abduction, torture and extra-judicial killings.

Hundreds of Palestinian families were forcibly evicted from government and privately-owned housing, by groups of armed Shi'a militia as well as landlords who had received minimal rent from the government. Large numbers of Palestinians were dismissed from their employment, and the widespread violence in the aftermath of the US invasion caused the exodus of hundreds of families.



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Meanwhile, a Palestinian family continues to appeal for information over the condition and whereabouts of Jihad Odeh, born in 1982 and raised in Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus.

Jihad disappeared on January 28, 2019 as he tried to reach Hungary from Serbia.

According to AGPS data, 333 Palestinian refugees from Syria, including 37 women and girls, have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian warfare.

In the meantime, an elderly Palestinian woman sheltered in AlNeirab displacement camp, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo, succumbed on Tuesday to a fungal infection she recently sustained.

Over recent years, Palestinian refugees sheltered in camps set up across the Syrian territories have expressed concern that mucormycosis, also known as black fungus, would spread quickly in refugee camps.

Patients who have previously caught COVID-19 are particularly prone to this type of fungal infection.

Mucormycosis, also known as black fungus, is a serious fungal infection, usually in people who are immunocompromised. Symptoms depend on where in the body the infection occurs. It most commonly infects the nose, sinuses, eye, and brain resulting in a runny nose, one-sided facial swelling and pain, headache, fever, blurred vision, bulging or displacement of the eye



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(proptosis), and tissue death. Other forms of disease may infect the lungs, stomach, intestines, and skin.

It is spread by spores of molds of the order Mucorales, most often through inhalation, contaminated food, or contamination of open wounds. These fungi are common in soils, decomposing organic matter (such as rotting fruit and vegetables), and animal manure, but usually do not affect people. It is not transmitted between people.