



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



"AGPS, PRC Release 2018 Annual Report about Situation of Palestinians of Syria"

- Palestinian Civilians, Activists Held in Syria's State-Run Jails
- Family of Palestinian Refugee Tareq Abdulatif Appeals for Information
- 6 Palestinians among 88 Migrants Intercepted by Turkish Coast Guard
- Migrant Death Toll in Mediterranean Tops 1,000, Says UN Agency

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Latest Developments

The Action Group for Palestinian of Syria (AGPS), in partnership with the Palestinian Return Centre (PRC), has released the Arabic version of its annual report documenting the situation of the Palestinians of Syria in 2018.

Entitled “Palestinians of Syria: Unending Tragedies”, the 270-page report spotlights the situation of Palestinian refugees from Syria in 2018 who have been grappling with an unabated tide of forced deportations, extra-judicial killings, psycho-physical torture, and arbitrary detentions.



The newly-issued report provides thorough data on the daily onslaughts, death toll, and number of detainees in war-torn Syria. It also underscores the crises endured by the Palestinian community in refugee camps across and outside of the embattled Syrian territories.



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At the same time, the study provides a detailed account of the violations perpetrated against the Palestinians of Syria on the asylum-seeking road and on way to Europe.

The study keeps record of the death of 276 Palestinians during 2018 due to war-related incidents, 82 among them were killed under torture in Syrian government dungeons, where 1,737 others have also been locked up. Since the outbreak of bloody hostilities, 570 Palestinians were pronounced dead as a result of torture in Syrian prisons.

The report documents the detention of 16 Palestinians in 2018 and the release of 26 others after they had been held captive for varying time spans.

The provided data is the by-product of joint efforts made by a team of field reporters, news correspondents, journalists, photographers, and researchers.

Hundreds of reports have been released by AGPS on a daily basis in an attempt to draw the international community's attention to the calamitous state of affairs endured by the Palestinians of Syria.

AGPS is a London-based human rights watchdog that monitors the situation of Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria. In seeking to fulfill this goal, AGPS team does its best to uphold the finest standards of historiographic ethics and maintain honesty in sourcing. To that very end, live snapshots, footages, and sworn affidavits are taken directly from the fighting scene across a myriad of flashpoints so as to authenticate AGPS role as a human rights overseer.



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Meanwhile, the family of Palestinian refugee Tareq Rateb Abdulatif, born in 1991, have called on the Turkish authorities and international human rights institutions to disclose the fate of their missing relative.

In appeals sent to AGPS, the family said Tareq disappeared from Latakia city, in Syria, on May 7, 2013, on his way back from Germany. His condition and whereabouts have remained unidentified.



327 Palestinian refugees, including 38 women and girls, have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian warfare, AGPS has found out. Most of those who have disappeared in the country are residents of Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

Activists have accused pro-government militias of targeting Palestinians in arbitrary abduction sweeps carried out under the security guise. Scores of families have been blackmailed over the release of their missing relatives and have paid large sums of money to brokers, crooked lawyers, or government officials to get pieces of information about their conditions and whereabouts.



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Along the same line, a number of Palestinian refugees, including relief officers, have been locked up in Syrian government prisons. Several of them have got their security situation worked out after the opposition outfits withdrew from southern Damascus, though.

Recently, AGPS has learned that an abduction sweep launched in Babila, Yalda, and Beit Sahem towns, south of Damascus, culminated in the detention of a number of Palestinian refugees over allegations of involvement in deadly shootouts during the conflict.

AGPS believes that the arbitrary internment of Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria amounts to a war crime.

Sometime earlier, the Syrian authorities ordered Palestinian refugees sheltered in Babila, Yalda, and Beit Sahem, south of Damascus to work on clearing up their security situation at offices run by the Russian side, the Ministry of Reconciliation, and pro-government security forces. The measure was dictated following a reconciliation deal struck between the Syrian government and opposition outfits in April 2018.

Key to the deal was the retreat of gunmen from Yalda, Babila, and Beit Sahem to Idlib, north of Syria, after handing over their war arsenal. Civilians who wished to leave southern Damascus were also allowed access out of the area.

In another development, 88 irregular migrants, including six Palestinian refugees from Syria, were apprehended by Turkish coast guard off the seashore of Aydın's Didim district, trying to reach Greece.



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The migrants were turned in to the Migration Department in Aydin pending the finalization of legal procedures.

Turkey has served as a major launch-off point for migrants fleeing Syria, among other war-stricken zones, onboard “death boats” bound for Europe.

AGPS kept record of the death of dozens of Palestinian refugees at sea, trying to reach European destinations.

In the meantime, at least 1,000 migrants have died so far this year in the Mediterranean Sea, said the UN refugee agency on Tuesday.

“For the 6th year in a row, more than 1,000 people have died attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea,” United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesman Charlie Yaxley said on Twitter.



Yaxley said the “bleak milestone” had been reached and priority must be to save lives.

“We need to do more to stop people attempting these dangerous boat journeys in the first place,” he said, adding that safe and legal alternative pathways to access asylum in Europe is needed.



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People should never feel they have no other choice than to put their lives in the hands of smugglers, he stressed.

“There needs to be a return to the seas of an EU State search and rescue operation. Naval assets alone are not enough. Previous naval missions in the past, such as Mare Nostrum, have saved thousands of lives and should return,” he added.

"UNHCR is urgently calling for an increase in search and rescue capacity, including a return of EU state vessels to search and rescue operations, and an acknowledgement of the crucial role of NGO boats in saving lives at sea," Yaxley said in a statement.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) stated that at least 15,000 victims have lost their lives in Mediterranean crossings since 2014.

AGPS statistics indicate that over 150,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria have reached Europe in recent years, fleeing the bloody shootouts in Syria. At least 52 Palestinians drowned at sea.