



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



"Palestinians from Syria in Egypt Shorn of Basic Rights"

- Palestinian Students Honored in Syria's AlRaml Camp
- Palestinians from Syria Take Part in Palestine Heritage Festival in Istanbul
- Indonesia-Based Foundation Contributes US\$ 350,000 to UNRWA

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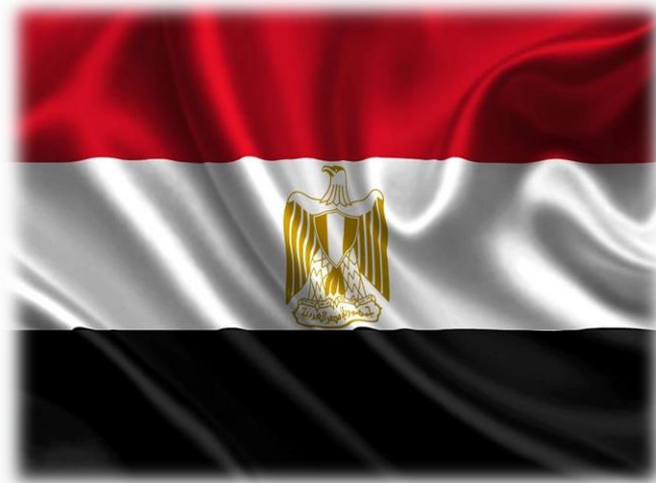
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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees who fled war-torn Syria have been subjected to a fragile legal status in Egypt, where they are treated as foreigners rather than asylum-seekers fleeing war-stricken zones.

Palestinians from Syria in Egypt have been denied the right to legal visas, refugee documents, safe accommodation, basic services, and relief assistance.

Those who illegally entered Egypt via the Sudanese borders have been denied the right to free movement, education, and labor, among other basic necessities. Unlike Syrian nationals, who are granted safe asylum in Egypt and systematically assisted by the UNHCR, Palestinian refugees are left on their own.



An AGPS correspondent said a number of Palestinian families from Syria have been held in Egyptian custody for the third month over allegations of illegal entry into the country from Sudan. The list of arrestees includes 12 persons, among them children. They were all arrested on the Egyptian-Sudanese borders.



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At the same time, the number of Palestinians who fled war-torn Syria to Egypt has dramatically shrunk back over the past three years.

AGPS data indicates that the number of Palestinian refugees from Syria in Egypt in 2018 was estimated at 3,500, down from over 6,000 in recent years. Some 500 refugees illegally entered Egypt through Sudan.

AGPS continues to stress the need to secure the rights of the Palestinians from Syria in Egypt, who fall outside of UNRWA's fields of operations, to legal and physical protection, as per the Refugee Convention of 1951, and to hand them over cash and in-kind aids, along with refugee cards, in order to enhance their legal status in the Egyptian territories.

In another development, a celebration was held by the Majed Abu Sharar Foundation in AlRaml Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Latakia, to honor Palestinian students who achieved the highest scores at schools located in AlRaml's southern corners.

Sometime earlier, Palestinian refugee Ahmed Malek Warda, sheltered in AlRaml camp, snatched the first rank after he got full marks in his secondary school exams.

The Syrian warfare has contributed to a sharp nosedive in the rates of access to education. Most of Syria's schools have been destroyed or put out of operation in the raging warfare, imperiling the education of the Syrians and Palestinians alike.



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Concerns over abrupt abduction sweeps, torture, and enforced military conscription have led to a dramatic increase in school dropouts and tremendously affected children's access to education.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees from Syria joined the Palestine Heritage Festival staged by the Popular Conference for Palestinians Abroad, FIDAR Association, and Takaleed Foundation, in Istanbul on October 5 as part of the international campaign to preserve Palestinian heritage.

Speaking at the event, deputy-director of FIDAR Association, Ibrahim AlAli, stressed the importance of such pro-Palestine festivals, which he dubbed a step in the right direction and a means to promote the cultural, artistic, and humanitarian legacies of Palestine.



AlAli called on the Palestinians to mobilize regional and international back-up of the international campaign to preserve Palestinian heritage by twitting on hashtag #هاظا_النا particularly on October 7, which marks the Palestinian Heritage Day.

Palestinian garments, dishes, handicrafts, chants, videos, and choreographies figured at the festival.



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In the meantime, on October 3, the Tahir Foundation, based in Indonesia, made a first-time contribution of IDR 5 billion (equivalent to US\$ 350,000) to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

During a ceremony at UNRWA Headquarters in Amman, Dato' Sri Professor Dr. Tahir, Indonesian philanthropist and businessman, presented its contribution to the UNRWA Acting Deputy Commissioner-General Christian Saunders in the presence of the Ambassador of Indonesia to Jordan and Palestine, H.E. Andy Rachmianto.

In his statement, Dato' Sri Professor Dr. Tahir reiterated his support for Palestine refugees: "It is always a blessing for me and my family to participate in this amazing effort and support all that UNRWA provides to Palestine refugees. We highly appreciate all your humanitarian work for them".

UNRWA Deputy Commissioner-General Saunders said: "UNRWA is extremely grateful to Dato' Sri Professor Dr. Tahir for the generous donation and for his unwavering commitment to the health and education of Palestine refugees. The strong partnership that exists between UNRWA, the Government of Indonesia and organizations such as the Tahir Foundation is essential to the successful implementation of the agency's mandate".

The Tahir Foundation is a privately-funded organization founded by Dato' Sri Professor Dr. Tahir, Chairman of Mayapada Group. The Foundation focuses on healthcare and education services to vulnerable groups.



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UNRWA has been mandated by the UN to provide life-saving services to some 5.5 million Palestinian refugees registered with the Agency across its five fields of operation, including Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. Its services include education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, protection and microfinance.

