



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



"332 Palestinian Refugees Missing in War-Torn Syria"

- Residents of AlSabina Camp for Palestinian Refugees Denounced Gas Shortage
- AlRaml Camp for Palestinian Refugees Grappling with Deteriorating Conditions
- Palestinian Refugees in Handarat Camp Call for Urgent Humanitarian Action by UNRWA
- Palestinian Refugees in Syria Rally over Trump's Biased Peace Plan

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Latest Developments

332 Palestinian refugees, including 37 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.



AGPS believes that the number is far higher due to the gag orders enforced by the Syrian authorities on the detainees' fates and names, along with the reluctance of the refugee families to reveal the names of their deceased or missing relatives for fear of retaliation.

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



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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 forcibly-disappeared Palestinians, 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).

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to disclose the fate of scores of Palestinians forcibly disappeared in state-run dungeons, release the bodies of those tortured to death, seriously work on halting harsh torture tactics, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.

Meanwhile, families taking shelter in AlSabina refugee camp denounced the delay in gas delivery and the inequitable distribution of gas cylinders.

Civilians said Takamul Company delayed gas delivery for over two months, forcing the residents to purchase gas from the black market at expensive prices.

The residents called on local authorities to take urgent measures in response to the gas dearth and delay in gas delivery.

Located some 14 kilometers away from southern Damascus, AlSabina Camp has been gripped with an abject situation owing to the absence of humanitarian assistance, relief aid, proper infrastructure, and vital facilities. Frequent water and power outages have made the situation far worse.



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Along similar lines, residents of AlRaml Camp in Latakia continue to sound distress signals over the dire conditions they have been made to endure in the area owing to the poor infrastructure, absence of vital services, and price leap.

The residents said their life has been marred by the transportation crisis, frequent power/water outages, and the poor healthcare services.

Civilians urged UNRWA to assume its responsibility in this regard and slammed the Syrian government for its apathy regarding their cries for help.

Over recent years, Palestinian refugees taking shelter in AlRaml Camp have been facing abject conditions due to the lack of financial resources, food price leap, high unemployment rates, and steep rental fees.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees in Handarat Camp, in Aleppo, accused UNRWA of dragging its feet over their appeals for urgent relief services due to the dire condition and lack of humanitarian assistance in the area.





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The displaced Palestinian families called on UNRWA to take urgent steps in order to reconstruct the destroyed homes and facilities, saying most of the families have been taking shelter in buildings rented at extremely steep costs in the poverty-stricken area.

A severe water and power crisis also continues to rock the area. A massive destruction has been wrought on the infrastructure and civilian structures.

Heavy shelling on Handarat and bloody shootouts between the government forces and the opposition outfits led to the destruction of over 90% of buildings in the camp. The confrontations culminated in the government's takeover of the camp along with other areas in Aleppo and the displacement of its residents on April 27, 2013.

In another development, Palestinian refugees in Syria's AlSabina camp joined a vigil staged on Friday to protest the US President Donald Trump's peace deal, which he announced last week.

The rally-goers denounced the silence maintained by a number of Arab governments over the one-sided deal and reiterated Palestinians' firm commitment to their right to return to their homeland and establish an independent, sovereign, and democratic Palestinian State.

U.S. President Donald Trump unveiled the controversial proposal a couple of weeks ago in Washington. It would allow Israel to annex all its West Bank settlements — which the Palestinians and the



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international community view as illegal — as well as the Jordan Valley, which accounts for roughly a quarter of the West Bank.

In return, the Palestinians would be granted statehood in Gaza, scattered chunks of the West Bank and some neighborhoods on the outskirts of Jerusalem, all linked together by a new network of roads, bridges and tunnels. Israel would control the state's borders and airspace and maintain overall security authority. Critics of the plan say this would rob Palestinian statehood of any meaning.

The plan would also abolish the right of return for Palestinian refugees displaced by the 1948 war and their descendants, a key Palestinian demand.

