

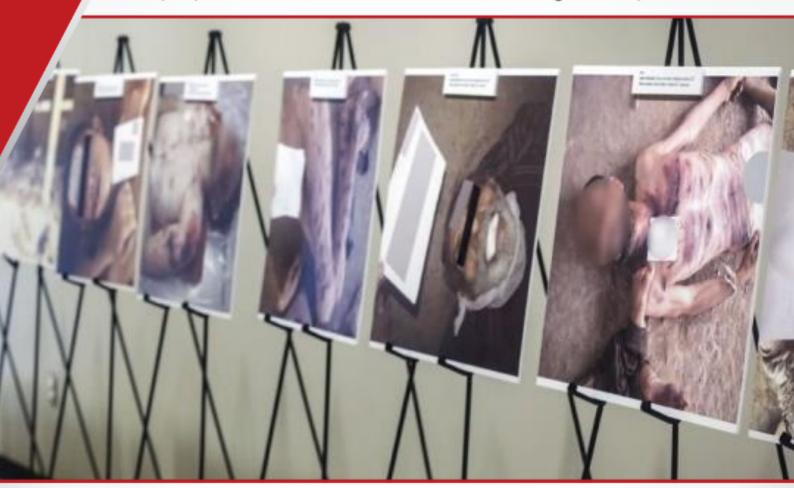
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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Families Urge Syrian Gov't to Release Bodies of Torture Victims"

- Red Cross Delegation Sounds Alarm over Situation of Palestinians of Syria
- Residents of Syria's AlAyedeen Camp Denounce Poor-Quality Bread
- Relief Items Distributed to Palestinian Refugees in Idlib



Latest Developments

The families of Palestinian refugees tortured to death in Syrian government dungeons have renewed calls to the Syrian government to release their relatives' bodies so as to bury them in known cemeteries.

The families held the Palestinian factions and the Palestine Liberation Organization responsible for the fate of Palestinians secretly held and fatally tortured in Syrian lock-ups.

Activists said withholding dead bodies is another crime perpetrated by pro-government militias in Syria.



Withholding the bodies of slain civilians is prohibited under international law, except in cases where pillage and mistreatment are feared to occur. The Fourth Geneva Convention, the Hague Convention, and the Rome Statute consider the despoliation and mistreatment of dead bodies war crimes.

AGPS documented the death of 616 Palestinian refugees as a result of torture in Syrian government prisons, among them 77 victims identified in photos leaked by the so-called activist Caesar.



In another development, head of the International Red Cross envoy in Damascus Philip Alexander was updated on the calamitous situation of Palestinian refugees in war-ravaged Syria.

This came in a meeting with Palestinian Ambassador Anwar Abdul Hadi, also director-general of the Palestine Liberation Organization's political department, at the Damascus office of the Red Cross.

Abdul Hadi stressed the need for coordination between all concerned parties, including UNRWA and the Red Cross, in order to set practical measures aiming at assuaging the alarming humanitarian condition of the Palestinians of Syria.



The PLO delegate briefed the Red Cross envoy about the poor services received by Palestinian refugees at the Red Crescent-run Bisan Clinic in Syria and the acute dearth in medicines and medical equipment.

The Red Cross representative gave pledges to reach out to all concerned bodies in order to help enhance the quality of healthcare services and food assistance.



After eight years of conflict, Palestinian refugees in and from Syria continue to face significant humanitarian and protection needs. In the absence of a durable political settlement, intense hostilities and violence resulting in deaths and injuries, internal displacement, loss of livelihoods, decreases in the provision of public services, and extensive damage to civilian infrastructure have disrupted the lives of civilians and severely undermined coping mechanisms.

According to UNRWA's database, of the estimated 438,000 Palestine refugees remaining inside Syria, over 95 per cent (418,000) are in critical need of sustained humanitarian assistance. Some 254,000 Palestine refugees have been displaced at least once since the beginning of the conflict and an estimated 13,500 are trapped in hard-to reach or inaccessible locations.

In another development, residents of AlAyedeen camp for Palestinian refugees, in Hama, spoke out against the poor quality of bread sold in the area.

The locals said bread is unfit for human consumption. They denounced the insufficient quantity allotted to the camp, saying shopkeepers have been selling bread to passers-by.

Residents of AlAyedeen camp also continue to set off alarm bells over the lack of basic services and dire socio-economic conditions rocking the area as a result of the steep rental fees, high rates of unemployment, and price hike.

The absence of relief assistance by UNRWA and other humanitarian institutions has made life unbearable in the Camp.



In the meantime, the Palestinians of Syria Commission for Relief and Development handed over meat portions, donated by the Islamic Association, to displaced families in and around Idlib province, in northern Syria.

Meals were also distributed to displaced families in the area.

The charity said it distributed hundreds of blankets and makeshift tents along with 3,500 meals, meat portions, and food baskets to displaced families taking refuge in northern Syria in January.

Hundreds of Palestinian and Syrian families who have been forcibly deported to northern Syria have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation as most of them have been taking cover in underequipped tents and denied access to vital services.

