



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



"On Int'l Women's Day: Families Slam Silence of Int'l Community over Women, Children Jailed in Syria"

- 37 Palestinian Female Refugees Missing in War-Torn Syria
- Palestinian Refugee Jihad Edris Held in Syrian Gov't Jail for 6th Year
- 2 Migrant Children Drown off Greek Coast

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Latest Developments

Families of Palestinian women and girls continue to voice their deep disappointment over the apathy maintained by the international community, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the human rights NGOs regarding the mystery in which their relatives' fates and whereabouts have been shrouded in Syria.

According to affidavits by ex-detainees and breakaways, Palestinian women and girls have been subjected to harsh psycho-physical torture tactics in Syrian penitentiaries, including electric shocks, heavy beating using iron sticks, and sexual abuse.



Such practices represent flagrant violations of the Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict of 1974, Article 5, which criminalizes all forms of torture and mistreatment against women and children.



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As many as 110 Palestinian women and girls have, meanwhile, been secretly held in Syrian state jails.

At least 35 Palestinian women and girls were tortured to death in Syrian government dungeons, some among whom have been identified in leaked snapshots, according to AGPS data. A total of 487 Palestinian refugees died under torture.

AGPS believes the numbers to be far higher as scores of casualties have gone undocumented after the Syrian authorities kept their names secret. Several families have also refused to reveal their relatives' names over retaliation concerns.

Thousands of other women have been displaced from such refugee camps as Yarmouk and Khan Eshieh to northern Syria, where they have been struggling for survival in the impoverished refugee tents.

At the same time, 37 Palestinian women and girls have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian conflict. The list includes nine female refugees from Yarmouk Camp and 10 from AlTadhamun neighborhood.

According to activists, several abductions were carried under the security guise. Arrestees' families have often been subjected to blackmailing.

Over 300 Palestinian refugees, male and female, have gone missing in war-ragged Syria, half of whom are from Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus.

Inherently a taboo misdemeanor in the MENA region, violence against women, be it sexual, physical, or verbal, has remained



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under-reported among the Palestinian refugee community in Syria, with reasons wavering between fear of retaliation, embarrassment, fear of punishment for those below the age of criminal responsibility, and distrust in law enforcement.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Jihad Edris, from AlAyedeen Camp in Hums, has been secretly held in Syrian state prisons since February 9, 2013.

He was spotted a few months following his abduction in a Damascus detention center.



AGPS documented the secret detention of 1,732 Palestinian refugees in Syrian government prisons.

In the meantime, the Hellenic Coast Guard said a man and two children died on Thursday when a boat they were travelling on sank just off the coast of the Aegean island of Samos in Greece.

According to the national coast guard of Greece, two children perished during their transportation back to land, while later the



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body of the missing man was recovered from the sea. The boat was carrying 13 migrants in total.

The remaining rescued migrants were taken to Samos port for identification and registration processes.

The warm Spring-like temperatures have seen an increase in attempts by migrants in boats crossing over from the Turkish coast, with a spike in activity in the North East Aegean region in recent days.

According to the UN agency for refugees UNHCR, around 174 either died or went missing off the Aegean waters, trying to disembark in Greece.

Human rights groups and NGO's are a source of constant criticism for the Greek government, with the latest report from the Council of Europe's Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) last month lamenting the "inhuman and degrading conditions" at the country's migrant camps.