



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



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117 People Released from Sednaya Military Prison in Syria

- Kuwait Contributes US\$ 2 Million to Palestine Refugee Agency
- Palestinian Doctor Obtains PhD from German University
- Palestinian Refugees in Syria Displacement Camp Deprived of Potable Water



Latest Development

On Sunday, the Association of Detainees and Missing Persons of Sednaya Prison revealed the number of detainees released from Sednaya prison as part of the recent “amnesty” decree issued by regime president Bashar AlAssad.

As of Sunday evening, 117 detainees had been released from the Sednaya prison, the association said in a statement on Facebook. It stated however that it was not possible to confirm the number.

The arrest of six of those detainees dates back to the first months of the conflict, specifically in 2011, while eight of those released were arrested 2012, the statement said. Thirty-two cases were arrested in 2018.

The highest number released is from the Rural Damascus governorate with 39 detainees, followed by the Daraa governorate with 34, Homs with 20, Idleb with eight, Quneitra with four, and Hama and Hassakeh with three — amongst the thousands detained in Sednaya prison.

In batches, the regime released dozens of detainees arrested by regime security forces during the years of the Syrian conflict, as part of the recent presidential amnesty.

In 2019, the Association of Detainees and the Missing in Sednaya Prison (ADMSP) stated in its first report, entitled “Sednaya Prison: Factory of death and enforced disappearance in Syria”, that inmates have been tortured to death in the highly-secretive penal complex.



The report monitored the procedures and consequences of detention in Sednaya Prison in Syria, which the Assad regime continues to use as a main centre for the detention and enforced disappearance of political detainees, denying them any contact with the outside world and subjecting them to poor conditions that often lead to death.

The report stated that the Syrian regime itself is unable to issue accurate lists of the numbers of detainees due to the numerous victims of extrajudicial executions, torture, starvation, deprivation, and medical neglect. The report also

The ADMSP identified 24 types of psychological torture which included mock executions, being forced to watch other inmates being tortured, and threats against prisoners' families.

Every former prisoner interviewed reported to have been beaten with sticks or batons in Sednaya, with 20 forms of torture identified, often resulting in the death of the inmates.

Almost all reported being whipped or beaten while trapped inside a tire, with other forms of torture including being suspended from the arms, electrocution, and the "German chair", which sees inmates tied around a chair with pressure applied.

Sexual abuse has also significantly increased under the Assad regime, with around a third of detainees admitted to have suffered from this form of torture at Sednaya.

Few inmates expect to emerge from Syria's Sednaya prison alive, a place where routine torture and inhumane living conditions are,



obviously, all designed to break the hope and dignity of prisoners, according to human rights groups.

In another development, the Government of Kuwait contributed US\$ 2 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) on Sunday.

The Ambassador of Kuwait to Jordan, Aziz al-Dehani, presented UNRWA Acting Director of External Relations Tamara Alrifai with the donation cheque at the Embassy of Kuwait in Amman.

This funding is in addition to an earlier US\$ 10 million contribution to the Agency for 2022 in support of its core Programme Budget for essential services including health care, education, and relief and social services. The Agency serves Palestine refugees across its five field of operation in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

The Ambassador of Kuwait to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Aziz al-Dehani, said: “This donation from the Government of Kuwait was aimed at strengthening UNRWA activities and programmes in the region for some five million Palestinian refugees. It comes in accordance with the permanent directives of the high political leadership and on the instructions of the Kuwaiti government, stressing the ‘firm’ position of the State of Kuwait on supporting the Palestinian cause and committing to support the humanitarian situation of Palestine refugees in the region.”

“With this additional contribution, Kuwait shows Palestine refugees that its long-standing support is still firm,” said Tamara



Alrifai. “UNRWA is truly grateful to Kuwait’s government and people for their generosity and solidarity. In times of acute financial crisis like the one that UNRWA is facing now, this additional contribution is very welcome and will hopefully encourage other partners to come forward.”

UNRWA is facing immense financial challenges that threaten its ability to maintain all services. It is calling on governments, donors and partners to continue their support to Palestine refugees, who rely almost entirely on the Agency for their daily needs.

Kuwait has long been an important partner to UNRWA and Palestine refugees. Since 2000, contributions from Kuwait to the Agency have neared US\$ 215 million, including US\$ 65 million for UNRWA emergency operations in Syria. This vital support from the Government of Kuwait and Kuwait-based organizations such as the International Islamic Charity Organization, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and the Kuwait Red Crescent enables UNRWA to continue to provide essential services to some 5.8 million Palestine refugees across the Middle East.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee from Syria Mohamed Nayef Maw’ed obtained his PhD in medicine with an honour from Germany’s prominent Göttingen University.

Nayef’s thesis is entitled “Troponin Levels and Differences between Normal Patients and Others”.

A troponin test measures the level of troponin in one’s blood. Troponin is a type of protein found in the muscles of the heart. These proteins are released when the heart muscle has been



damaged, such as occurs with a heart attack. The more damage there is to the heart, the greater the amount of troponin there will be in the blood.

The founding of Göttingen University took place at the instance of the local ruler Elector George Augustus of Hanover (who was at the same time the King of Great Britain as George II due to the personal union with Great Britain and Ireland from 1714), after whom the University was named.

In the meantime, residents of Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian refugees in Rif Dimashq have set off alarm bells over the acute water crisis which has been ongoing for over eight years across a number of residential neighborhoods.

Civilians have been forced to purchase drinking water at exorbitant prices as water has been supplied fortnightly in the area.

The residents said the main water tank in the area has been unevenly distributed, calling on the government institutions and UNRWA to urgently step in and take serious measures in response to the crisis.

Living conditions in Khan Dannun have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the unbridled warfare.

According to UN data, Khan Dannun camp, which lies 23 km south of Damascus, was officially established in 1950-1951 on an area of 0.03 square kilometers. The camp was home to 10,000 Palestine refugees by 2011.



Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was already one of the poorest camps in Syria. Most refugees worked as farm workers on Syrian-owned lands, others are wage laborers, while a few commuted to industrial plants.

The conflict exerted additional pressures. The camp was surrounded by armed opposition groups and many refugee families displaced from other areas of Damascus took refuge in the camp, tripling the number of residents to some 30,000 during the crisis. Two UNRWA schools premises were converted into collective shelters to give accommodation to more than 130 families between 2012 and 2018. Currently, the camp is home to 12,650 Palestine refugees.

The increase of the camp population has had a negative impact on the camp's infrastructure, affecting the electric network and the sewerage system. The camp suffers from sporadic sewage blockages due to the increased pressure on the existent sewerage system, which was designed for only 10,000 inhabitants, while there are now significantly more. Water supply resources have also been affected and the camp suffers from water shortages, especially during the summer months.

Many school children have dropped out or work after school hours to support their families. The camp also suffers from a high incidence of inherited diseases such as thalassaemia and sickle-cell anemia.