

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



## "277 Palestinian Refugees Affiliated with PLA Killed in War-Torn Syria"

- Residents of Syria's Neighborhood of AlHajar AlAswad to Return to Their Homes
- Hepatitis Virus Outbreak Feared in AlRashidiya Refugee Camp
- Families of Forcibly Disappeared Persons in Syria Rally outside of Russian Embassy in Berlin



## **Latest Developments**

In statistics released on the 55th founding anniversary of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA), AGPS found out that 277 Palestinian refugees fighting alongside PLA forces were pronounced dead since the outbreak of the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Most of the casualties died in such Rif Dimashq areas as Tel Kurdi and Tel Sawan and also in AlSweida region, south of Syria.

15 PLA members were pronounced dead after they broke away from the battalion. Several others were tortured to death in Syrian government jails. 17 members have been forcibly disappeared since 2011.



Scores of Palestinian youths have been forced to join the PLA. Those who refuse forced conscription are often subjected to manhunt and imprisonment. Thousands of young men have fled the country in the hunt for a safer shelter.



Sometime earlier, the PLA's Chief of Staff, Major General Tareq AlKhadra, said nearly 6,000 conscripts have been fighting alongside PLA at over 15 sites across war-ravaged Syria.

In another development, member of Rif Dimashq council Abdul Razaq Damiriya said local authorities have green-lighted the return of the residents of AlHajar AlAswad neighborhood, south of Damascus, to their habitable homes.

Damiriya told government sources in Syria that Syria's general company for engineering studies and consulting is outlining a roadmap to reconstruct destroyed buildings and premises. The rehabilitation plan is slated to be finalized by the beginning of the new year.



He added that sanitation networks have been completely repaired and that efforts have been underway to repair power, water, and telecommunications networks, 40% of which have reportedly been rehabilitated.

Thousands of Palestinian refugees took shelter in AlHajar AlAswad, which came under heavy shelling since 2013 and a crippling siege after ISIS crept into the area. Offensives launched



by the Syrian and Russian forces resulted in heavy material damage and took away the lives of dozens of civilians.

Meanwhile, UNRWA has warned of the outburst of hepatitis (liver inflammation) in AlRashidiya Camp, south of Lebanon and called on the refugees to follow prevention tips.

Over the past couple of days, UNRWA's Health Department spotted a number of hepatitis-stricken cases in AlRashidiya refugee camp.

UNRWA said it has been keeping tabs on such cases and taking all necessary measures to protect the refugees. Samples have been sent to hepatitis testing laboratories. The agency has also embarked on an awareness-raising campaign.

Media sources said at least 50 persons have been diagnosed with hepatitis, including two persons sheltered in AlBas refugee camp but were on a visit to AlRashdiya Camp.

Located south of the Lebanese city of Sur (Tyre), AlRashidiya Camp is home to some 260 displaced Palestinian families who fled the bloody shootouts in Syria.

In the meantime, a vigil was staged by relatives of forcibly disappeared persons in Syria outside of the Russian embassy in Berlin, calling for stepping up pressure on the Syrian government to release all victims of enforced disappearance and disclose the condition and whereabouts of those held behind prison bars.

Photos of forcibly disappeared persons and victims of torture, including Niraz Sai'd and Basel AlSafadi who were tortured to death in Syria's state-run lock-ups, were lifted during the rally.



In recent years, hundreds of Palestinian families have suddenly learned that their missing relatives have been registered as dead by the Syrian authorities. Government officials often refuse to comment publicly on death news, claiming most of the casualties have died of sudden heart attacks.

