

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

2 Palestinian Brothers from Syria Meet Their Egyptian Mother for 1st Time in 30 Years

- Palestinian Family Appeals for Information over Relative Missing for 8th Year in Italy
- Activist Provides Testimony over Moufeq Daouah's Alleged War Crimes
- 8 Members of Palestinian Deib Family Forcibly Disappeared in Syria Prisons



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Latest Developments

Separated from their mother more than 30 years ago, Palestinian brothers Samer and Reda Khader Qudsiya met with their mother Fayeza Ahmed Sarhan via the internet.

Fayeza, born in 1955 in Damanhour, Egypt, got married in the late 1970s with Palestinian-Syrian refugee Khader Qudsiya. She lived with him in Aleppo as a second wife and gave birth to Samer and Reda.

Sometime later, she attempted to visit Egypt with her son Reda but the Syrian authorities deported her to her mother country. Reda was returned to his father.

Fayeza left no stone unturned to reach out to her husband and sons through the Syrian embassy in Egypt, however, to no avail.

In December 2022, Fayeza launched appeals published by "Missing Children" Facebook page. Efforts are under progress to help the brothers make it to Egypt to meet with their mother and finally give a brokenhearted mother the opportunity to hold her sons in her arms for the first time in 30 years.

Along similar lines, the family of Palestinian-Syrian man Kusay Musleh has appealed to the international human rights organizations and the Palestinian authority to work on revealing the condition and whereabouts of their son.

Kusay disappeared from Italy some eight years ago after he survived a migrant shipwreck from Libya on August 02, 2014.

Kusay along with his mother Amira Nassar and his three sisters fled the Yarmouk refugee camp, south of Damascus, to Lebanon's AlBadawi Camp in 2013, in search of livelihoods. Their father remained trapped in Syria.

Kusay got an MSCE engineering diploma before he decided to travel to Europe through Libya to pursue his academic career.

In another development, a relief activist provided his testimony before a court in Germany, where a series of court hearings have



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been held to trial Palestinian-Syrian man Moufeq Dawah over alleged war crimes committed in Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees in Damascus.

The witness Anouar AlBeni said the firing occurred in the afternoon and not at night, as other witnesses claimed. On the following day, civilians said Moufeq fired the mortar in retaliation for the death of his nephew.

Palestinian refugee Mofeq AlDaouah, a military commander at the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command (PFLP-GC), affiliated with the Syrian regime, has been accused of involvement in rape crimes against women in Yarmouk Camp and in a massacre against civilians at Ali AlWahsh checkpoint.

He is also held accountable for unleashing an RPG-7 missile targeting civilians during aid distribution in late March 2014 in retaliation for the death of his relative in clashes with opposition outfits in Yarmouk Camp. At least 17 people were killed and dozens injured in the attack.

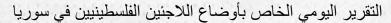
Last year, an eyewitness who spoke on condition of anonymity confirmed his willingness to deliver his testimony about Moufeq's crimes before courts and concerned judicial bodies.

Another witness said Moufeq had been a commander at the Free Palestine Movement, affiliated with the Syrian regime, adding that he had been involved in assaults on Yarmouk Camp and bombardment of civilian structures.

Scores of Palestinian youths have been forced to join progovernment battalions in Syria. 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.

In the meantime, eight members of the Deib family, sheltered in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus, have been secretly held in Syria's state-run prisons for over eight years running.

The list includes: Adnan Deib (born in 1966 and arrested in Yarmouk in 2015), his sons Seif and Muhannad, Tareq Ali Deib,





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Ala Ali Deib, Muhannad Ali Deib, Abdul Fattah Ali Deib, and Udai Ali Deib.

AGPS data indicates that over 2,000 Palestinian refugees have been secretly held in Syrian government dungeons since the outburst of deadly hostilities.

AGPS also documented the death of some 700 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government lock-ups, including women, children, and elderly civilians.

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 Palestinian detainees, 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 estimates the real number to be far higher due to the gag orders slapped by the Syrian government on the detainees' names and fates, along with the families' reluctance to report such cases over retaliation concerns.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to disclose the fate of scores of Palestinians held in its lock-ups, release the bodies of those tortured to death, to seriously work on halting harsh torture tactics, engage in fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.