

11-02-2019

No. 2291

التقرير اليومي الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Residents of Handarat Camp Call for Urgent Action by UNRWA"

- Russian Forces Train Pro-Gov't Battalions in Syria
- Petition Protesting Germany's Deportation of Palestinian Family Garners 30,000 Signatures
- Palestinian Refugee Shukri AlNaji Held in Syrian Jail for 4th Year



Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees in Handarat Camp, in Aleppo, have been grappling with dire conditions due to the lack of humanitarian assistance and life-saving services.

Displaced Palestinian families called on UNRWA to take urgent steps in order to reconstruct the destroyed homes and facilities.

In a petition sent to UNRWA, the families urged the agency to shell out shelter allowances, distribute food baskets, and provide vital services for the displaced families.



The residents also said most of the families have been taking shelter in buildings rented at extremely steep costs in the poverty-stricken area.

The families lashed out at UNRWA and the local authorities in the camp for turning their back on their demands, saying other areas in Aleppo have been rehabilitated, unlike Handrat Camp whose residents have been left on their own.



A severe water and power crisis also continues to rock the area. A massive destruction has been wrought on the infrastructure and civilian structures.

Heavy shelling on Handarat and bloody shootouts between the government forces and the opposition outfits led to the destruction of over 90% of buildings in the camp. The confrontations culminated in the government's takeover of the camp along with other areas in Aleppo and the displacement of its residents on April 27, 2013.

In another development, the Russian private military contracting company Vegacy Strategic Services Ltd was recently photographed training members of the Liwaa AlQuds battalion, affiliated with the Syrian government, in Aleppo. Similar photos have been posted and shared on Russian Facebook pages.



A few days earlier, military courses were held by the Liwaa AlQuds battalion in Handarat Camp for Palestinian refugees. Commander of Liwaa AlQuds, Muhammad AlSaid, accompanied by gunmen, toured the camp and inspected the conditions of the returnees.



7,000 gunmen are enlisted at Liwaa AlQuds, among them 300 to 500 Palestinian refugees taking shelter in AlNeirab, Handarat, and AlRaml refugee camps.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Shukri Muhammed AlNaji has been held in a Syrian government prison for the fourth consecutive year. He was kidnapped from Khirbet AlShiyab in Rif Dimashq on February 10, 2015. He is a resident of AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq.

AGPS documented the internment of 1,729 Palestinian detainees in Syrian prisons, among them 108 women and girls.

In the meantime, an e-campaign launched by German activists to urge the German authorities to backtrack on a decision to deport the Palestinian refugee from Syria Arafat Shreih, his wife Samah Daqaq, and their child from Germany to Latvia, has garnered 30,300 signatures.

The campaigners are seeking to reach 30,500 signatures as a means to pressurize the Bavarian government to cancel the deportation.

The Bavarian government in Germany issued a decision to deport the family to the eastern European country of Latvia, where they were first granted asylum, before they headed for Germany.

The German authorities rebuffed the family's appeals for a legal stay in the country, where they have lived for three years.

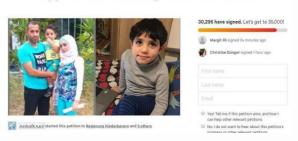
The expectant wife and her husband, both formerly sheltered in AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Aleppo, were detained



by the German police while their six-year old child was transferred to an orphanage.

Activists said the wife was released from a detention center last Friday, pending her deportation. As soon as she showed up at the airport the police decided to delay her refoulement after medical checks diagnosed her with health disorders.

Samah, who has been taking refuge in a shelter with her child, continues to appeal to the German authorities in Bavaria to cancel the deportation decision.



Stoppt die Abschiebung von Familie Chukri!

Activists said that Samah and her child have been taking refuge in a local shelter and urged local authorities to reconsider the deportation decision. The husband recently got a job in Germany. Their son got enrolled at a kindergarten and speaks the German language.

The family fled AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees in Aleppo, before they reached Greece. Shortly after, the UN secured their arrival to Latvia, where they were granted asylum.

The family had been enduring abject conditions in Latvia due to socio-cultural and linguistic discrepancies along with xenophobic reactions and denial of access to vital services in the country.