



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



**"Victims in Palestine Liberation Army rise to 230 and the army command continues to force its members to fight"**

- Regime pushes Palestinian and Syrian detainees on to the battlefields
- The signing of an agreement under the auspices of Egypt with a Russian guarantee to "reduce the escalation" south of Damascus
- Syrian regime implements unjust decisions against Palestinian employees and refers some of them to the judiciary
- The Red Cross takes a tour in the Handarat refugee camp in Aleppo

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## Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee “Tarek Nour Al-Garadat” from the Palestine Liberation Army has died while fighting alongside the Syrian regime forces in the clashes taking place in Beit Jann town, in Ghouta, west of Damascus.

The Monitoring and Documentation team in AGPS revealed that the number of Palestinian victims in the ranks of the Palestine Liberation Army since the outbreak of war in Syria has reached 230, most of which died while fighting during clashes in different places across Syria, mainly in the Damascus suburbs.



At the meantime, the Liberation army’s command continues to force its members to fight in Syria, alongside the regime forces, despite the ongoing demands to not push them into the Syrian conflict. There are more than 6000 fighters in 15 different locations across the country, of which 3000 are engaged in the clashes.

Families of the detained Palestinians have sent pleas to AGPS, stating that their detained relatives in the Syrian prisons are being



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pushed into the battlefields, through being persuaded to accept the offer of joining its ranks or its affiliated factions, in return to being freed.

One of the detained Palestinian's wives said that every time she visited her husband in Adra prison in the Damascus suburbs, the visit would get postponed without a clear reason. After several months she received a call from her husband telling her that the regime released him and sent him to fight alongside its forces in Deir ez-Zour.

The Syrian regime has referred to recruiting and arming the detainees in order to fill the considerable shortfall and losses incurred by its forces throughout the country.

AGPS has confirmed its documentation of 1639 Palestinian detainees, who forcibly disappeared, including women, children and elderly people, as well as activists, jurists, journalists, medical personnel, and workers in the humanitarian and relief field.

AGPS also revealed that these detainees have been exposed to all kinds of torture in the Syrian security branches and the secret and public detention centers, without any medical care and under extremely tough living conditions in which hundreds of detainees died.

In another context, "Muhammed Aloush," responsible of the political department in the Syrian Jaish Al-Islam, announced in a meeting held in Cairo under the auspices of Egypt, on Thursday



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October 12th, the conclusion of a new agreement to reduce the escalation in the area south of Damascus.

He explained that the invitation, which he received from the Egyptian leadership, came in agreement with the Russian side to stop the escalation in the eastern region of Ghouta and Al-Qadam neighborhood in south Damascus, adding that a preliminary agreement to ceasefire and reduce the escalation was reached.



Aloush added that the agreement included “Jaish Al-Islam,” “Jaish Al-Ababeel and “Aknaf Bait Al Maqdis” under Egyptian auspices and a Russian guarantee to cease-fire in southern Damascus, opening the crossings and rejecting forced displacement of residents of the area, emphasizing on welcoming any faction wanting to join the agreement.

The armed Syrian opposition factions in the south Damascus towns of Yelda, Babilla, Beit Sahm and Al-Qadam had issued a press release on 12th of September, stating their rejection of any agreement that encourages forced displacement of the towns’ residents. The people of south Damascus organized a protest in the streets of Yelda, Babilla and Beit Sahm to express their refusal of





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forced displacement and changing the area's demographics on a sectarian basis to serve the Syrian regime and the sectarian militias affiliated to it.

Thousands of Palestinian refugees are living in the three towns after being displaced from Yamrouk camps, due to the Syrian forces' bombardments and ISIS being in control of it.

In another context, Palestinian and Syrian employees are complaining of the unfair decisions and laws issued by the Syrian regime against them, saying that they have affected their living and economic conditions. After the outbreak of war, the employees have become unemployed or homeless due to their salary cuts by the regime. Many have been displaced from their homes, making them unable to reach their work, especially in the besieged camps or towns which prevent their people from leaving. Others have had to take an unpaid break from their jobs to be able to flee to neighboring towns to protect their families' lives.

Muhammed says: "I was fired from my job in a public-sector company because of my absence, despite my pleas for mercy, in which I justified my absence, which was due to the outbreak of clashes in the camp where I was staying and the imposed siege on it by the Syrian forces, preventing me from leaving or entering the camp. However, this was not of any help."

He added that his manager did not sympathize with his case, which is similar to that of thousands of Syrian employees. The manager responded saying that there is a rule which considers those absent for 15 consecutive days or 30 separate days without an acceptable



excuse, as resigned. The same decision authorizes the manager and the administration to decide whether or not the excuse is acceptable before taking the decision to fire the employee. Therefore, an employee cannot be dismissed for being absent, but a decision must be made by the administration to fire him.

Engineer Soha applied for an unpaid break from her work due to the deteriorating security conditions in the area she lives and having to be displaced several times. She then fled to Lebanon to find safety and security, renewing her work leave yearly at the Syrian embassy in Lebanon.

Soha pointed out that an embassy employee told her this year that her renewal request has been rejected since 2016 and that she must return to Syria to demand another leave. When she asked why, the employee told her that a decision has been issued to disallow any Palestinian employee the right to delegate someone to take their position and that she must be present personally to be able to perform any action.

She added: "I am now becoming legally prosecuted for the embassy's dereliction and not telling me that my two-year vacation renewal request has been denied since 2016. According to Article 364 if an official employee leaves without permission, he shall be treated as if resigned and prosecuted for leaving work as provided in Article 364's penalties. The penalty can reach from 3-5 years as well as a fine. Exempted from the penalty, for one time, are those who return to service or placed themselves at the government's conduct within three months of the public action against them.



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Samer, a 26-year-old Palestinian refugee from Yarmouk camp, unofficially left his work after his resignation request was rejected, in order to migrate to Europe as a result of the tensioned situation in Syria. He pointed out that the suffering of Palestinian and Syrian employees in the public sector is not limited to the imposition of strict laws on them, but could prevent them from traveling abroad without the consent of the regime, which hinders their decision to take a leave or resign if they find a better job or decide to travel.

The Syrian regime had issued a number of tightening decisions on employees such as requesting public sector workers in all government institutions to fill out a data form on their military situation and service, where the decision entails the enrollment of most employees born in 1973 and above in training course at a Syrian army camp for a period of 10-15 days. This employee is then under the command of the army under the name "employee on demand." This decision applies to government institutions in a gradual manner, where the Directorate of Agriculture staff was the first to be targeted.

In north Syria, a delegation from the International Red Cross took a tour around Hanadart camp for Palestinian refugees in Aleppo, to learn about the needs of the camp's residents, who decided to reconstruct their homes in the camp and returning to them, after being forced to leave the shelter center in the university housing in Aleppo.

The residents called on all the concerned parties and UNRWA to reconstruct their camps, to return to their homes which they were



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forced to leave, after violent clashes broke out almost 1621 days ago and led to the camp falling under the Syrian forces' control more than 372 days ago.

About 17 families from Handarat camp are living in the ninth-unit of the university housing in Aleppo, since leaving their camp due to the deteriorating conditions in it.



### **Palestinians of Syria: October 12, 2017 Statistics:**

- The total number of victims documented by the Action Group is 3600, including 462 women
- 1639 Palestinians are locked up behind Syrian government's bars, 105 of which are women
- Yarmouk refugee camp is under the Syrian regime army and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine's siege for 1,548 days in a row
- 199 refugees, mainly in Yarmouk Camp, have died due to lack of medical care and malnutrition
- Water supplies have been cut off Deraa Camp for 1285 days, and 1125 days in Yarmouk Camp





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- Residents of Handarat Camp, in Aleppo have been banned from their homes for 1,621 days. Government troops have taken over the camp for more than 372 days.
- Approximately 85 thousand Palestinian-Syrian refugees fled to Europe by the end of 2016
- 31 thousand refugees are located in Lebanon
- 17 thousand refugees are sheltered in Jordan
- 6 thousand refugees are in Egypt
- 8 thousand refugees are staying in Turkey
- One thousand refugees are present in Gaza