



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



# 1797

## Palestinian detainees, including

**110**  
women

**49**  
children

## are held in Syrian prisons



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**"Over 1,797 Palestinian Refugees Secretly Incarcerated in Syrian Prisons"**

- 2 Elderly Palestinian Refugees Pronounced Dead in AlHusainiya Camp
- Palestinian Refugees in Syria Denounce Sound Alarm over Scarce Humanitarian Aid
- Palestine Embassy in Turkey: Palestinians Eligible for Kimlik Visa

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## Latest developments

AGPS has been deeply concerned about the upsurge in the number of Palestinian victims of torture and enforced disappearance in Syria.

Over 1,790 Palestinian refugees have been secretly held in Syrian government dungeons since the outburst of deadly hostilities.

AGPS also documented the death of over 600 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



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tactics, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.

As the novel coronavirus COVID-19 continues to grip the Middle East and the world, AGPS has called on the Syrian government to free all Palestinians and Syrians held behind prison bars.

AGPS fears the coronavirus could spread quickly in jails and in overcrowded displacement camps, where neither hygiene kit nor medical equipment are accessible.

AGPS calls on the Syrian government to immediately release Palestinian detainees and provide those who tested positive for COVID-19 with the necessary medical treatment.

The Syrian authorities and all concerned parties should also take precautionary measures and enhance captivity conditions to rein in a tragic propagation of the virus in jail.

The unabated shelling and deadly shootouts rocking the Syrian territories for the tenth year running have claimed the lives of thousands of Palestinian refugees and resulted in the abduction, torture, displacement, and enforced disappearance of thousands more.

AGPS has documented the death of 4,039 Palestinian refugees in Syria, including women and children, since 2011, as a result of war-related incidents.



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Along similar lines, an elderly Palestinian man taking refuge in AlHusiniya camp, in Rif Dimashq, has died of coronavirus. His wife also succumbed to the virus just a few days later.

The Syrian authorities closed off the local market in AlHusiniya following an increase in coronavirus cases.

Recently, concerns have mounted over a striking increase in coronavirus cases in and around Palestinian refugee camps in Syria, where the number of confirmed infections has already soared.

Medics sounded distress signals over the acute shortage in staff and equipment along with fuel needed to operate power generators at hospitals. The number of infections is estimated to get at least three times higher.

The Health Ministry's coronavirus team said wearing face masks and respecting social distancing has become an obligation at commercial centers and public facilities. Those who violate such orders will have to pay a fine of 8,000 Syrian pounds.

Over recent months, AGPS has also warned of a projected outbreak of COVID-19 in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria. Though campaigns to help spread awareness among the camps' residents have recently seen the day, limited access to running water, pharmacies and medical facilities mean displacement camps are more susceptible to the spread of the highly infectious virus.



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Displacement camps set up in northern Syria are especially vulnerable as most hospitals and medical facilities have been bombed, rendering them out of order.

In another development, Palestinian refugees in Syria continue to denounce the insufficiency of UNRWA aid at a time when coronavirus outbreaks have made the socio-economic situation worse in the war-torn country.

Palestinian refugees in Syria continue to launch cries for help over their deteriorating humanitarian condition due to the sharp decrease in the exchange rate of the Syrian pound compared to the USD and their lack of access to the local labor market. The price leap has also overburdened the cash-stripped refugees.

The refugees continue to urge UNRWA and all other concerned parties to increase financial aid, help the displaced families return to their refugee camps, and provide much-needed relief services for Palestine refugees.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian embassy in Turkey said Palestinian refugees are eligible to apply for temporary protection cards known as “kimlik”. Demands should be submitted at migration agencies across Turkish cities except for Antalya, Aydın, Bursa, Cangli, Duzce, Edirne, Hatay, Istanbul, Izmir, Krakale Rili, Kocaeli, Mughal, Sakarya, Tekirdag, and Yalova.

Recently, Palestinian refugees from Syria in Turkey have expressed concerns over their deteriorating condition particularly in light of





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the new movement clampdown imposed across Turkish provinces as part of anti-coronavirus measures.

A large number of companies, factories, and shops shut their doors for fear of further COVID-19 contaminations. Several Palestinian families have lost their sole sources of income as a result.

Palestinian refugees have urged the concerned parties to work on toning down their calamitous state of affairs in light of the socio-economic crisis and health setback wrought by the global coronavirus epidemic.