



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



#### "Dozens of Palestinian Refugees Strike Compromises with Syrian Regime"

- Robbery Gang Arrested in Khan Eshieh Camp
- New Measures Required by Palestinian Embassy in Damascus
- UN: Syria Unsafe for Refugee Returns
- Palestinian Refugee Mootaz Janazra Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime for 9th Year

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## Latest Developments

Dozens of Palestinian refugees in AlMuzeireeb town, in Deraa's western outskirts, south of Syria, have reached compromises with the Syrian government forces at a reconciliation center established following a truce between the central committees affiliated with opposition forces and the pro-regime forces.

A few days earlier, Syrian security forces escorted by Russian troops entered AlMuZeireeb town and established a reconciliation center to work out the situation of opposition affiliates, breakaways, draft evaders, and those wishing to hand over their arms. Checkpoints were pitched around the main entrances to the area.

Scores of Palestinian refugees sheltered south of Syria have sounded distress signals over arbitrary manhunts and security sweeps by the Syrian regime

Human rights groups have documented several cases where Syrian intelligence branches have arbitrarily detained, disappeared, and/or harassed people in areas retaken from opposition groups. The abuse is taking place even when the government has entered into reconciliation agreements with the people involved.

Upon more than once occasion, AGPS has called on the Syrian government to disclose the fate of hundreds of Palestinians forcibly disappeared in state-run dungeons.



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In another development, policemen in Khan Eshieh refugee camp arrested a three-member robbery gang involved in crimes and burglary against civilians.

Local sources told AGPS that over the past few weeks the gangsters stole the belongings and money of an elderly and his wife.

A few days earlier, an elderly Palestinian refugee sheltered in Khan Eshieh Camp, in Syria's Rif Dimashq province, was killed by gangsters who attempted to rob his money.

The victim—Adnan Mousa Khuza'i, nicknamed Abu Samir—died at the hospital. He was heavily beaten on his head with a metal bar while he was taking a siesta outside of his flea store. The gangsters robbed the shop after fatally beating the man.

The residents called for launching an immediate probe into the crime.

Palestinian families taking refuge in Khan Eshieh camp have been struggling with squalid humanitarian conditions inflicted by the ten-year warfare.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian Embassy in Damascus called on Palestinian refugees who applied for passport processing to send out their identity documents and personal photos via the embassy's post box N2889.

Earlier this month, the Palestine Embassy in Damascus launched a new website to facilitate consular procedures, including passport processing.





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The site is as follows: [www.palemb-sy.com](http://www.palemb-sy.com). It will be operative starting Sunday, September 05.

In the meantime, the upsurge in fighting and the return to violence are cause for alarm, according to the 24th report of the UN Syria Commission of Inquiry released on September 14 and stressing that the country is not fit for safe and dignified returns of refugees.

“One decade in, the parties to the conflict continue to perpetrate war crimes and crimes against humanity and infringing the basic human rights of Syrians. The war on Syrian civilians continues, and it is difficult for them to find security or safe haven in this war-torn country,” the Chair of the Commission, Paulo Pinheiro told a press conference in Geneva.

According to the report, as President Assad enters his fourth term in office – controlling about 70% of the territory and 40% of the pre-war population – there seem to be no moves to unite the country or seek reconciliation. On the contrary, incidents of arbitrary and incommunicado detention by Government forces continue unabated.

The Commission said it has continued to document not only torture and sexual violence in detention but also custodial deaths and enforced disappearances.

Further, during the reporting period, the Syrian economy has been rapidly deteriorating, causing bread prices to soar and a striking more than 50 per cent increase in food insecurity compared with last year.



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“The overall situation in Syria looks increasingly bleak. In addition to intensifying violence, the economy is plummeting, Mesopotamia’s famous riverbeds are at their driest in decades, and widespread community transmission of the COVID-19 seems unstoppable by a health care system decimated by the war and lacking oxygen and vaccines. This is no time for anyone to think that Syria is a country fit for its refugees to return”, Commissioner Karen Koning AbuZayd stated.

Recent months have seen increased fighting and violence both in the northwest, northeast and south of the country, according to the report which covers the period 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021.

The lull in hostilities in northwest Syria, brought about by the March 2020 ceasefire agreement between the Russian Federation and Turkey, began unravelling with aerial bombardments and shelling. Medical facilities, such as the de-conflicted hospital in Atarib, markets and residential areas have been struck by aerial and ground attacks, often indiscriminately, causing numerous civilian casualties.

Meanwhile the southwest experienced fighting not seen since before the 2018 Russian-brokered agreement between the Syrian Government and the armed opposition groups. In the town of Dar’a Al-Balad, the birthplace of the uprising in 2011, pro-Government forces imposed a siege characterised by heavy artillery shelling, leaving tens of thousands of civilians trapped inside without sufficient access to food nor health care, forcing thousands of men, women and children to flee.



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“Shockingly, the past months have seen the return of sieges and siege-like tactics, in Dar’a, Quineitra and Rif Damascus governorates. Three years after the suffering that the Commission documented in eastern Ghouta, another tragedy has been unfolding before our eyes in Dar’a Al-Balad”, Commissioner Hanny Megally said.

In the Afrin and Ra’s al-Ayn regions of Aleppo, civilians live in fear of vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices that are frequently detonated in crowded civilian areas - striking markets and busy streets and claiming the lives of many. The Commission documented the killing and maiming of at least 243 women, men and children in seven such attacks – but the full toll on civilians is considerably higher. Indiscriminate shelling also continued, including on 12 June when munitions struck multiple locations in Afrin city, killing and injuring many and destroying parts of the “de-conflicted” al-Shifa hospital.

The Commission will present its report to the Human Rights Council on Thursday 23 September at 15.00.

The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, which comprises Mr. Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro (Chair), Ms. Karen Koning AbuZayd, and Mr. Hanny Megally was established ten years ago, on 12 September 2011. It has been mandated by the United Nations Human Rights Council to investigate and record all violations of international law since March 2011 in the Syrian Arab Republic.



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In another development, Palestinian refugee Mootaz Janazra, born in 1990, has been secretly held in Syrian government prisons for the ninth consecutive year.

Mootaz, raised in Deraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, was arrested on December 24, 2012 and dragged to an unidentified destination.

AGPS has documented the secret detention of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in state-run penal complexes across war-torn Syria, among them 110 women and girls.

AGPS also documented the death of over 550 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).