

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

AGPS Calls on Palestinian Families to Report Missing, Detained Relatives

- Palestinians Rally in Deir Ballout over Abject Conditions
- Campaign to Raise Diabetes Awareness Launched in Dumar
- Palestinian Writer Hosam Amin Khatib Forcibly Disappeared in Syria

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Latest Developments

AGPS renews its calls to the Palestinians of Syria to register the names of their detained or missing relatives on the group's official website.

To report any information regarding a missing or detained relative please click here: actionpal.org.uk/en/reported_victim.php.

Lists of missing or detained refugees are available on AGPS website, both in English and Arabic. AGPS supplies a database of their names and possible times and places of arrest.

In another development, displaced Palestinian refugees have rallied in Deir Ballout camp, north of Syria, protesting their deteriorating living conditions in the poorly-equipped facility.

The refugees called on AFAD, UNRWA, and all other concerned parties to take up their responsibilities regarding the squalid conditions they have been struggling with in the poverty-stricken area.

They further urged the international human rights institutions, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Turkish authorities to take immediate steps in response to their appeals.

Palestinian refugees sheltered in Idlib, AlMuhammadiya Camp, and Deir Ballout Camp, in northern Syria have been enduring a tragic situation. Most of them have been crammed in poorly-equipped tents and denied their rights to vital services.

Hundreds of Palestinian families have been struggling for survival in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout and Muhammadiya camps, after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns.

For many displaced Palestinian refugees, the perils of winter weather add to the torment already experienced throughout the conflict.

High rates of unemployment and lack of relief assistance have made the situation far worse for the displaced families.



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According to data by the Commission of Palestinians of Syria for Relief and Development, as many as 1,488 Palestinian families have been sheltered in the northern Syrian regions of Idlib, Efrin, and Aleppo's suburbs. The largest number of families are taking refuge in Idlib.

In the meantime, volunteers from Dummar Community Centre, run by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society in Syria, in cooperation with the Danish Red Cross, held an awareness-raising event for Palestinian and Syrian students at Samir Al-Nahhas School in Dummar, west of Damascus.

The event aimed to raise awareness about diabetes, its causes, and prevention tips.

In another development, Palestinian-Syrian author Hosam Ameen Abdullah AlKhatib was pronounced dead in Doha, Qatar, at the age of 90.

He is a pillar of the Palestinian literary movement. He was born in Tiberias on May 10, 1932 but was displaced from the city following the Palestinian Nakbah of 1948. He is an Arabic instructor and worked as the head of the Department of Cultural and Educational Affairs, chief editor of the Arabic instructor magazine, member of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Head of the Arabic Language Department at Damascus University, and Assistant Minister of Higher Education.

He is also a member of the Arab Writers Union, the Palestinian Writers Union, and the International Association for Comparative Literature.

He became the Assistant Secretary of the Arab Parliamentary Union from 1977 to 1983; an advisor to the Syrian Presidency from 1966-1970, and a professor of comparative literature and criticism at Damascus University from 1970-1990.

He wrote more than 30 books on criticism, literary research, linguistics, education and translation. He is considered as one of the most prominent scholars and critics of modern Palestinian literature.