

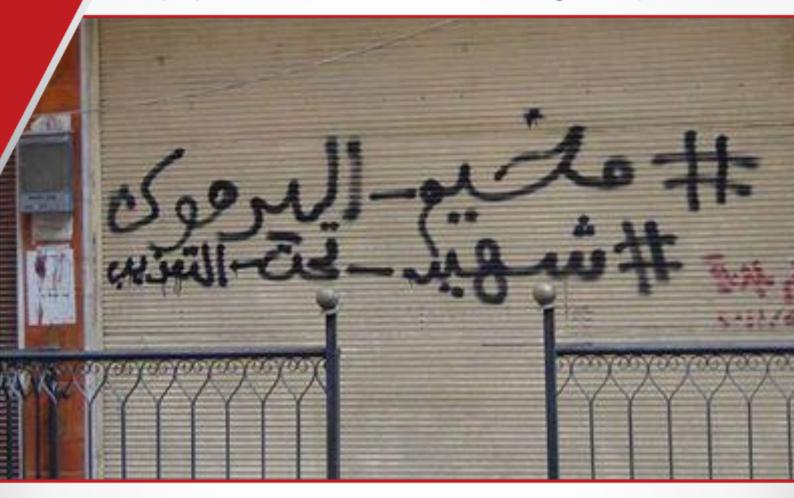
22-09-2021

No. 3357

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugee Tortured to Death in Syrian Prisons"

- Palestinian Refugees Overburdened by Taxes Imposed in Deraa
- Residents of Yarmouk Camp Denounce Blackmailing by Rubble-Clearance Teams
- UNRWA Starts Transfer of Cash Aid to Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon
- Palestinian Refugee Mohamed Ayman Abu Husain Forcibly Disappeared in Syria for 8th Year



Latest Developments

An ex-prisoner in Syria said Palestinian refugee Majed AlMadani died under torture in Syrian regime prisons.

In August 2014, Majed was spotted in Security Branch 27. He was arrested during aid distribution in Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus.

AGPS has documented the death of 620 Palestinian refugees in Syria's state-run penal complexes since the outbreak of the conflict in 2011.

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.

Affidavits by ex-detainees have 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 prisoners, 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).

In another development, Palestinian refugees sheltered in Deraa city and its refugee camp, south of Syria, have denounced the crackdowns perpetrated by Syrian regime troops deployed at the



Saraya checkpoint, separating Deraa AlBalad and areas formerly controlled by opposition groups.

Students and civilians are subjected to daily searches and taxes at the checkpoint.

On June 25, the regime forces asked the residents and former opposition forces to lay down all light weapons and allow them to search their homes. However, the Daraa Central Committee, the main reconciliation center in the area, noted that they were only supposed to hand in heavy weapons as part of the Russian-brokered agreement signed in July 2018. The regime then started imposing a blockade on some 40,000 civilians living in the area.

Along similar lines, families displaced from Yarmouk Camp and wishing to return to their houses said rubble-clearance staff request up to 10,000 Syrian pounds to remove debris from destroyed houses and structures.

The residents said pro-regime committees continue to blackmail them and ask them to pay exorbitant sums to get rubble cleared from their houses.

At the same time, engineers in the camp called on rubble-clearance committees to update the house owners on the building condition following a damage assessment.

Meanwhile, UNRWA in Lebanon said 59% of registered Palestine refugees in Lebanon have received their cash grants through the Lebanon Post.



UNRWA said delays in text message delivery are due to meticulous administrative procedures for children and minors aged between one-day and 18 years-old.

In the meantime, Palestinian young man Mohamed Ayman Abu Husain, born in 1986, has been forcibly disappeared in Syria's state-run prisons for the 8th consecutive year.

Mohamed, a resident of Yarmouk Camp, was arrested on April 27, 2013 by pro-government militias in Jaramana Camp, in Damascus, 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).