



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

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الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Coronavirus Cases Go Up in Neirab Camp for Palestinian Refugees, Residents Warn of Unhygienic Funeral Procedures"

- Palestinian Refugee Succumbs to Coronavirus in Damascus
- Documentation Center North of Syria Calls on Palestinians in Aleppo's Outskirts to Sign Up for Identity Documents
- Palestinian Refugee Bakr AlKousi Held in Syrian Gov't Jail since 2013
- Greece Accused of Pushing Back Migrants to Turkey

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Latest developments

Activists from AlNeirab camp, in Aleppo, have warned of the swift propagation of coronavirus and pushed for hygienic funeral procedures.

People taking part in the funeral procession should wear face masks and gloves and use disinfectants to prevent a further propagation of COVID-19.

A number of Palestinian refugees taking shelter in AlNeirab camp, in the northern Syrian city of Aleppo, have died of COVID-19 over recent days.

Recently, Palestinian political factions in Aleppo sent a petition to UNRWA, urging the Agency to take immediate action in response to the coronavirus outbreak in the camp.

The petition called on UNRWA to equip the camp with medical equipment and medicines to help the residents fight the deadly virus.

Confirmed coronavirus cases have been increasingly reported in AlNeirab refugee camp in Aleppo, at a time when residents have been launching cries for help over the absence of hygiene kit and medicines.

Civilians continue to slam UNRWA's apathy, saying an urgent action is needed to save the camp.



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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.

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

Along similar lines, Palestinian refugee Mohamed Yousef Alalouh, a resident of Dumar city, has died of coronavirus. He is the 14th victim among the Palestinian refugee community in/from war-torn Syria.

Over recent weeks, dozens of Palestinian refugees in Syria have contracted coronavirus, several among them refuse to reveal their names over bullying concerns.

In another development, the Documentation Center of Palestinian Refugees in Northern Syria called on Palestinian families coming from Idlib to Aleppo's northern suburbs to show up at the center in order to register their personal information and obtain the necessary identity documents.

The Documentation Center of Palestinian Refugees North of Syria was established in order to keep record of and provide personal data about Palestinian refugees sheltered in northern Syria. The group cooperates with the concerned authorities to that end.



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The center has reportedly seen the day in response to the absence of authentic civil records and official bodies documenting the personal data (including marriage contracts, birth date, death date, number of children and newborns etc...) of the Palestinian refugees who have been taking shelter in northern Syria.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Bakr AlKousi has been secretly held in Syria's state-run jails for the seventh consecutive year.

Baker was arrested by Syrian security forces on August 12, 2013, at a checkpoint pitched in AlHusiniya camp, in Rif Dimashq.

His family continues to appeal for information over his condition and whereabouts.

In the meantime, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis has denied renewed claims of illegal pushbacks of asylum-seekers at sea and accused Turkey of peddling "misinformation" about his country's "tough but fair" border management.

"If there's any incident that needs to be explored, if there's any exaggeration at any given point, I'm going to be the first to look into it," Mitsotakis told CNN late Wednesday.

"Greece is a country that respects the rule of law, we've granted asylum to tens of thousands of people," the PM said.

The New York Times on August 14 said Greece was "abandoning" migrants at sea for the Turkish coastguard to rescue.



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It said it had interviewed survivors from five such episodes, and cited additional evidence from independent watchdogs, two academic researchers and the Turkish coastguard.

Based on its research, the Times said more than 1,000 asylum seekers had been "dropped at sea" since March.

Rights groups including the UN refugee agency have repeatedly called on Greece to investigate pushback claims.

"Such allegations have increased since March and reports indicate that several groups of people may have been summarily returned after reaching Greek territory," the UNHCR said in June.