



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



"Palestinian Refugee Detained at Istanbul Airport for over 30 Days"

- UNRWA to Distribute 3rd Batch of 2020 Food Aid
- Solidarity Drive Launched to Speak Up for Prisoners in Syria
- Waste Water Swamps Residential Neighborhoods in AlHusainiya Camp
- Disinfection Move Held in Deraa Camp
- Hygiene Kit Distributed in Displacement Camps North of Syria

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee Samir Hasan Mohamed Aboud, born in 1970 and raised in Syria's Yarmouk Camp, has been detained at the new Istanbul International Airport for over 30 days running.

Samir was arrested by the end of last month as he attempted to enter Turkey, fleeing economic hardship and persecution in Lebanon. He holds a Palestinian-Authority-stamped passport.

His mother and activists have appealed to the Turkish authorities, Palestinian embassy in Istanbul, and international human rights organizations to pressurize the concerned authorities to release Samir and grant him humanitarian asylum in the Turkish territories.

In another development UNRWA announced its intent to distribute the third batch of food aid as of October 22, 2020 to the most vulnerable families registered with the Agency.

Text messages specifying the date and place of distribution will be sent to the concerned refugees.

Families whose breadwinner is a woman or a person aged above 60 will benefit from the move. Families headed by or one of whose members is a person with disabilities and/or an orphan aged below 18 are also eligible for food aid.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) said in its 2020 Syria regional crisis emergency appeal that 126,000 Palestine refugees in Syria



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(PRS) are identified as extremely vulnerable; 89% live in poverty; 91% live in extreme poverty; and 80% rely on UNRWA cash assistance as their main source of income.

UNRWA also said that 55% of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents; 100% of PRS are in need of winterization assistance; and 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.

The continuous depreciation of the Syrian pound and the deteriorating socio-economic conditions experienced by all civilians in Syria during the last year have increased the hardship faced by Palestine refugees, whose resilience is at breaking point.

Meanwhile, Kesh Malek Organization has embarked on a campaign entitled “A Candle to Remember” in solidarity with victims of enforced disappearance in Syrian prisons.

A so-called “شمعة_لنتذكر #” (Candle_to_remember) hashtag has been circulated on social media to remind the international community of the plight of prisoners secretly held in Syria’s lock-ups.

Lists of hundreds of forcibly disappeared Palestinian refugees and victims in Syria are available on AGPS website, both in English and Arabic. AGPS supplies a database of their names and possible times and places of arrest.

AGPS documented the secret detention of over 1,797 Palestinian refugees, including women and minors, in Syrian government lock-ups. Some 332 refugees have also gone missing in the country.



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AGPS data indicates that 4,047 Palestinian refugees from Syria have died of war-related incidents.

Meanwhile, Palestinian families taking refuge in AlHusainiya have railed against the poor sanitation networks and improper sewage disposal as a result of frequent blackouts and maintenance works in the area.

The residents said wastewater and garbage piles have resulted in bad smells and the spread of life-threatening diseases.

All the way through the ten-year Syrian conflict, Palestinians taking refuge in AlHusainiya camp have been grappling with dire conditions. High unemployment rates and the absence of relief assistance by UNRWA and other humanitarian institutions have made survival quite difficult in the area.

In the meantime, activists in Deraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, in partnership with Fatah-affiliated popular committees disinfected the Quds Mosque as part of anti-coronavirus measures.

Confirmed coronavirus cases have been increasingly reported in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria, 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 displacement camps.

Over recent months, AGPS has also warned of a projected outbreak of COVID-19 in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria. Though



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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, a UN relief body handed over hygiene bags to displaced families in Deir Ballout and AlMuhammadiya camps, in the northern Syrian region of Efrin.

The move makes part of efforts to help the displace families fight the coronavirus pandemic.

Hundreds of Palestinian and Syrian families who have been forcibly deported to northern Syria have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation as most of them have been taking cover in underequipped tents and denied access to vital services.