



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 in Netherlands Obtains 1st Passport in Her Lifetime"

- Civilians in Handarat Camp for Palestinian Refugees Burn Trash in Residential Alleyways
- Palestinian Refugee Ubaida Alyan Secretly Jailed in Syria for 5th Year
- Greek Govt Pledges Establishment of Migrant Centers

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## Latest Developments

Thousands of Palestinian refugees who fled war-torn Syria were granted citizenship in European destinations, following a mountainous journey in the hunt for humanitarian asylum by holders of Syrian travel documents.

Palestinian refugee Shatha Tamim and her children were recently granted citizenship documents in the Netherlands.

“A passport has become a dream for us, the Palestinians”, says Shatha. “This Dutch passport is the first we’ve ever received”.

Shatha fled the Syrian war to the Netherlands some four years ago, seeking a safe shelter for her children.

She took refuge in the northern Dutch city of Zaandam, where she worked as an officer with NewBees.



On March 23, 2019 she applied for citizenship following a four-year stay in the country. Her demand was approved in October. Her sister Ayeda and son Akram Zaytouni also received Dutch citizenship.



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According to AGPS data, over 100,000 Palestinians from Syria have reached Europe, fleeing the war-stricken Syrian territories. Most of the world's countries have opted for a closed-door immigration policy regarding the Palestinian refugees from Syria.

In another development, residents of Aleppo's Handarat Camp denounced the apathy shown by the local authorities regarding their appeals for clearing garbage.

Civilians said they have been forced to burn trash in the camp alleyways, adding that the Palestinian Red Crescent has reneged on its promises to task a municipality officer to remove garbage from the camp.

Activists and civilians sheltered in Handarat Camp have been appealing to all concerned parties to work on reconstructing civilian homes and facilities that have been reduced to rubble all the way through Syria's eight-year conflict.



Palestinian refugees have also been grappling with dire conditions due to the lack of humanitarian assistance and life-saving services. The majority of families have been taking shelter in buildings rented at extremely steep costs in the poverty-stricken area. A severe water and power crisis also continues to rock the camp.



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Heavy shelling on Handarat and bloody shootouts between the government forces and the opposition outfits led to the destruction of over 90% of buildings in the camp. The confrontations culminated in the government's takeover of the camp along with other zones in Aleppo and the displacement of its residents on April 27, 2013.

Handarat Camp (also called Ein AlTel Camp) is located to the northeast of Aleppo's Hill, overseeing the Turkey-bound traffic lanes. It stands on a rocky hill and is situated some 13 kilometers away from the city center.

According to data by the General Commission of Arab Palestinian Refugees in Syria, some 8,000 Palestinian refugees used to take shelter in Handarat Camp. Only 200 displaced families returned to the camp following the heavy onslaughts launched by the Syrian government battalions.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Ubaida Alyan, aged 24, has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian government lock-ups.

Alyan was kidnapped by the government troops stationed in AlZahira, in Damascus, on March 31, 2014.

AGPS kept record of the names of 1,768 Palestinians secretly incarcerated in Syrian regime penitentiaries, where dozens of other refugees also died under torture.

In the meantime, the Greek government on Wednesday announced plans to set up five closed pre-departure centers for migrants on the Aegean islands of Samos, Chios, Lesbos, Kos and Leros.

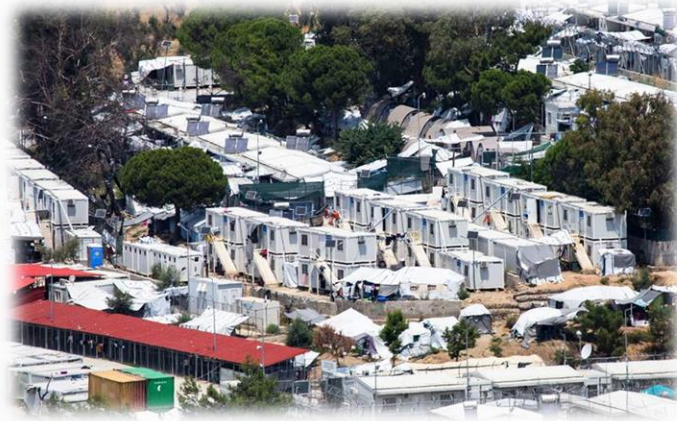




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According to the plan, which was announced on Wednesday by government spokesman Stelios Petsas and Deputy Minister of National Defense Alkiviadis Stefanis, the new centers will host between 1,000 and 5,000 people and they will replace the overcrowded camps such as Moria and Vathy. The conservative government is seeking to manage a recent surge in migrant flows through a mix of measures, including tighter border controls and speeding up asylum procedures and returns.

The old camps, on five Aegean Islands, together hold some 34,000 people, many of them living in squalor. Over recent weeks, and with the cold winter months looming, migrants have protested by setting fires and rioting.



“There is a desperate lack of medical care and sanitation in the vastly overcrowded camps I have visited,” said Dunja Mijatovic, Europe’s top human rights official, last month, warning of impending “catastrophe.”

She said the facilities on Lesbos and Samos had turned life into a “struggle for survival.” Some families had chipped away at rocks to create makeshift shelters on steep hillsides.



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Greece's leaders argue that the blame for the conditions rests also with Europe.

At the summit of European Union leaders in Brussels last month, the Greek prime minister, Kyriakos Mitsotakis, called on the bloc to come up with a "Plan B" to deal with the possibility of a new refugee crisis, saying Greece could not handle the problem alone.