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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"The Action Group addresses the United Nations with a joint message between 54 rights organizations about the victims of torture in Syria"

- Deraa camp bombarded with a number of explosive barrels
- Learning new languages... an obsession haunting the elderly Palestinian-Syrian refugees in Europe



Latest Developments

The Action Group for Palestinians of Syria, along with 54 Syrian rights organizations, sent a joint message to the United Nations about the victims of torture in Syria, in which they demanded the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, High Commissioner for Human Rights Zaid Raad al-Hussein, President of the Human Rights Council Vojislav Šuc, and the international community to shoulder their responsibilities to the thousands of detainees and forcibly disappeared in Syria, and to put pressure on the Syrian authority to take concrete steps towards its legal obligations to the international community, through revealing the places of detention of all detainees, facilitating access of international humanitarian actors to those centers and prisons, announcing the fate of thousands of detainees who are believed to have died under torture, handing over of the remains of those who have died to their parents and families in a humanitarian way that respects the sanctity of their bodies and the feelings of their relatives and religious rituals, holding the Syrian government and the several parties of conflict fully responsible for preserving the areas in which the remains of the victims who died under torture are present, or any other places believed to contain evidence that may contribute to the disclosure of their fate and the identity of the criminals.

The Group and the organizations which signed the letter that was sent on 26th of June, to mark the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, confirmed that thousands of unknown Syrian detainees continue to suffer torture and inhumane treatment in the secret and official detention camps and facilities across Syria.



Among the defenders, are numerous human rights organizations who have made efforts to document disappearance, detention and torture – who are now victims of these very same practices.



The message stressed that the Syrian government continues to detain undetermined numbers of Syrians in inhumane conditions and to exercise institutional and systematic torture, with disregard to its responsibilities to end these unlawful practices and to hold those responsible to account. This is in clear and deliberate violation of all international humanitarian standards, as well as Syria's legal obligations to international treaties and conventions to which it is a party, including the International Convention against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. This represents a stark challenge to the international community and efforts to establish a world free of torture and impunity.

The message also focused on the need for the UN Member States to support victim-led initiatives to self-organize themselves, in pursuit of justice and accountability, calling on the Member States to activate universal jurisdiction within their national judicial systems to enable victims of torture and their families to pursue their right to justice, and to continuously work towards providing the necessary



support at all official and legal levels, especially with respect to the provision of psychological, social and moral support periodically.

The message continues that efforts to resolve the conflict in Syria have now marked their seventh year, with no tangible progress at the political, humanitarian or human rights levels. Efforts to uphold of human rights and international conventions in Syria have proven futile to deter the daily occurrence of arbitrary arrests, torture or war crimes and crimes against humanity.

In its conclusion, the Action Group and the Syrian rights organizations called on the UN Member States to address their responsibility in combating impunity by pursuing the establishment of a Special International Criminal Tribunal for Syria though the UN General Assembly, as a first step towards affirming the international community's commitment to accountability and justice.

In another context, the Syrian regime forces bombarded Deraa camp and the neighboring areas with a number of explosive barrels yesterday evening, causing material damage. This coincided with the outbreak of violent fighting between the Syrian regime forces and members of the opposition, on the edge of the camp.

According to the Action Group's correspondent, Deraa camp was bombarded yesterday with at least eight explosive barrels, while Al-Sad Road neighborhood was bombarded with four explosive barrels, amid the intensification of aerial and land bombardments targeting the neighborhoods controlled by the armed Syrian opposition forces.



This comes in the midst of a severe shortage of basic medical services inside the camp, where the people are suffering from the lack of the availability of primary ambulance services, in addition to a severe shortage of medicines and medical staff.



Meanwhile, hundreds of Palestinian-Syrian refugees who fled to Europe during the past years, are suffering from several difficulties. The most prominent obstacle they are facing is learning new languages, of the countries they have moved to, especially in the north of Europe. This is an obstacle for them in terms of integration and access to employment in those countries, where most occupations require an average level of language while academic professions require a high level of language, which has prevented new refugees from finding suitable employment opportunities for them, making most of them registered on the social service system of countries such as Norway, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands and Germany, while these countries provide basic services only to the refugees such as housing and minimum daily expenditure, and pressure them to join jobs that may not be commensurate with their experience and testimony.