



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

27-10-2017

No. 1819

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"More than 1560 days since the Syrian regime imposed its siege on Yarmouk camp and the opposition closes its only crossing for 10 days, demanding its neutralization"

- Calls to UNRWA to increase the amount of food aid to be distributed in southern Damascus
- 168 Palestinians from Yarmouk camp have disappeared since the outbreak of war in Syria
- For the fourth year, Syrian security continues to detain Palestinian refugee "Mohammed Fayyad"
- An exhibition for Palestinian plastics artist "Emad Rashdan" held in the Swedish town of Uddevalla

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Latest Developments

The Syrian regime and the Palestinian factions affiliated to it imposed their siege on the Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees 1562 days ago.

In the meantime, the armed Syrian opposition forces in south Damascus continue to close the only crossing for the residents of Yarmouk camp for the tenth consecutive day.

Our reporter in south Damascus confirmed that the opposition groups is refusing to open the crossing between Yarmouk camp and Yelda until it is neutralized, it is used as a human crossing through which students and teachers are allowed to pass and not a single bullet is shot by ISIS towards the crossing.



AGPS's correspondent in south Damascus added that ISIS's leader "Abu Al-Ezz Tadamon" replied that the crossing will be made into a Palestine roundabout, a step which has been rejected by the Syrian opposition factions.



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For than three thousand families are living in non-humanitarian conditions, of which 35 families have been living under ISIS's siege for more than a month in the western area of Yarmouk which is under the control of "Al-Nusra Front." Their fate remains unknown.

The Yelda crossing is considered the lifeline for these families, as they get their necessary food supplies through it. Closing it makes their lives more difficult, bringing them back to the days of hunger when the regime imposed a total siege, in which 196 people died.

In a similar context, the Relief Office for Yarmouk Camp's residents released a statement yesterday, calling on UNRWA to increase the amount of food aid to be distributed to the displaced Palestinian families in south Damascus, adding that UNRWA has not provided any food aid for a year and a half. About 1000-1500 food baskets are expected to be distributed by UNRWA and according to the Relief Office, this amount will not cover a quarter of the families registered with them. The actual of number of families is much greater and estimated to be 5000.

In the conclusion of its statement, the Relief Office called on UNRWA's administration to consider the difficult humanitarian condition that these Palestinian families are living as a result of the siege, the widespread of unemployment among them and the absence of a stable financial resource that will stop them from needing and waiting for food assistance.

Dozens of Palestinian families have fled from Yarmouk camp to the towns in south Damascus of Yelda, Babilla and Beit Sahm, since ISIS took control of the camp in April 2015.



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AGPS's Monitoring and Documentation Team has revealed that 168 Palestinian refugees from Yarmouk camp have disappeared since the outbreak of the ongoing war in Syria.

The number of Palestinian refugees who have disappeared since the beginning of the ongoing conflict in Syria has reached 300, according to AGPS's documented statistics.

In another context, 46-year-old Palestinian refugee "Mohammed Seoud Fayyad," is under Syrian detention for the fourth consecutive year. The Syrian security services arrested him in October 2013 and no information has been revealed about him since. He was a resident of Jaramana camp in the suburbs of Damascus.



AGPS receives a number of messages and information about the detained Palestinians. The Action Group documents the data, despite the difficulties it faces due to the Syrian regime's secrecy regarding the names, fate and locations of the detained. AGPS has recorded 1640 Palestinian detainees in the Syrian regime's prisons, of which 103 are women.

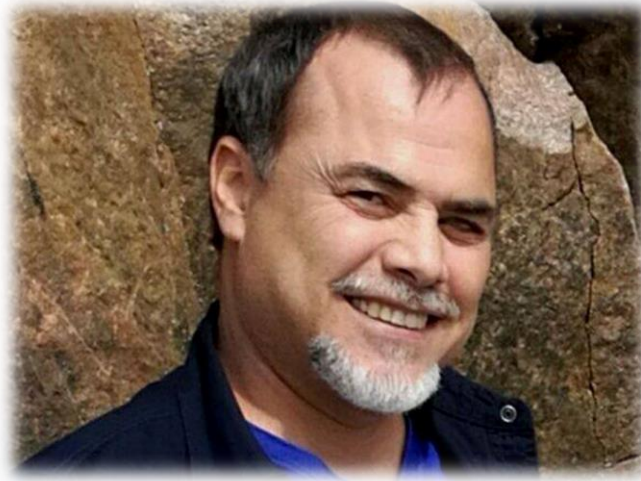
From the Diaspora and in the backyard of the Uddevalla Museum in Sweden, Palestinian Plastics artist "Emad Rashdan" held his exhibition on the 14th of October, as part of the expanded events of the "Biennial Gothenburg" The International Exhibition of



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Contemporary Art, which is held every two years in the Swedish city Gothenburg.

On the exhibition, his participation and its importance, the artist Emad Rashdan said in a statement to the Action Group: “My participation in this exhibition is the most important to me on the professional level and a new experience that has added a lot to me.” This event that was held outdoors, I considered a show more than an exhibition. It takes its importance from its invitation of others to accept and to renounce the political exploitation of religion and identity, as well as the interactive activity and direct dialogue between the artist and the audience. They added colorful strips to the sculptures, where they wrote their messages directly and without any hesitation.



Rashdan added: “In my project titled Tales of the Earth ... Tales of Heaven, I tried to portray the close human interdependence and making the differences a base for building harmonies. This was obvious in the titles of the 12 tales - sculptures - that I participated in: The Flood, The Departure, Lost, the sacrifices that were inspired



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by the daily tragedies such as Immigration, Loss, war crimes in comparison to the daily events, in addition to the stock of knowledge about religion and mythology.”

Last year, Rashdan taught in the Sinclair Academy of Art as an assistant professor for the subject of arts and belonged to the artists' cooperatives in Sweden. In February, he participated in a workshop organized by the Palestinian artist “Ghassan Al-Saadi” at the Virserum Arts Center with the involvement of Palestinian artists from Syria. In March 2017, he held his art exhibition "Tales of Silence" in the Wit Bruce halls in Uddevalla.

Rashdan, who moved to Sweden and the end of 2014 due to the ongoing war in Syria, resumed practicing his art (drawing and sculpture) because of the support and facilitation of the institutions concerned with cultural affairs in the municipality and the region, as well as the encouragement and support of his Swedish artists friends, according to him.

The Palestinian artist “Emad Rashdan” was born in in Damascus in 1968, to a Palestinian family that was displaced from Al-Nasra city in 1948. He graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts - Department of Sculpture - in Damascus in 1992. He is also a member of the General Union of Palestinian Plastic Artists and a member of the General Union of Syrian Artists. Rashdan participated in the first and second Forums of Hope for Young Sculptors 1998-1999, took part in the Jolan Art Forum and engaged in the collective exhibitions of the Culture Association, the Art Syndicate and the Union of Palestinian Artists.



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Palestinians of Syria: October 26, 2017 Statistics:

- The total number of victims documented by the Action Group is 3605, including 462 women
- 1640 Palestinians are locked up behind Syrian government's bars, 105 of which are women
- Yarmouk refugee camp is under the Syrian regime army and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine's siege for 1,562 days in a row
- 200 refugees, mainly in Yarmouk Camp, have died due to lack of medical care and malnutrition
- Water supplies have been cut off Deraa Camp for 1299 days, and 1139 days in Yarmouk Camp
- Residents of Handarat Camp, in Aleppo have been banned from their homes for 1,635 days. Government troops have taken over the camp for more than 386 days.
- Approximately 85 thousand Palestinian-Syrian refugees fled to Europe by the end of 2016
- 31 thousand refugees are located in Lebanon
- 17 thousand refugees are sheltered in Jordan
- 6 thousand refugees are in Egypt
- 8 thousand refugees are staying in Turkey
- One thousand refugees are present in Gaza