



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

27-10-2019

No. 2849

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees Declare Hunger-Strike on Greek Island over Squalid Conditions"

- Tensions Surge over Security Turmoil in Daraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- 40 Palestinian Refugees Missing in War-Torn Syria
- Palestinian Doctor Hayel Hamid Forcibly Disappeared in Syria for 8th Year

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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

Latest Developments

Dozens of Palestinian refugees trapped on the Greek island of Rhodes have gone on hunger strike due to their deteriorating humanitarian and health conditions.

In a letter emailed to AGPS, Palestinian activists said women, children, and elderly refugees have undergone harsh treatment in a detention center in Rhodes.

Palestinian and Syrian migrants have disembarked on the island in early October. They were sent to custody and denied their basic rights.



Activists also said that the prison administration has prevented the refugees from going out to the prison yard and getting food. Wardens have refused to hand them over winter blankets.

A number of sick refugees have also been spotted in the prison section of male captives. Kidney disorders and skin diseases have been reported due to poor hygiene and inhumane conditions of captivity.



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

Children below the age of 10 and expectant women have also been left without treatment.

The trapped refugees have appealed to all human rights and humanitarian institutions along with the Palestine Embassy to immediately step in and push for their release and treatment.

In another development, Palestinian families living in Daraa Camp have raised alarm bells over the security turmoil overwhelming the area as a result of internal rifts between the Syrian government forces and former opposition affiliates.

Opposition groups have reportedly taken to the street, protesting the crackdowns perpetrated at government checkpoints and mass arrest sweeps launched by pro-government squads in recent weeks.

AGPS documented the secret detention of 42 Palestinian refugees sheltered in Daraa Camp, south of Syria, from March 2011 until mid-October 2019 in Syrian government jails.



Three Palestinian residents of Daraa Camp were also tortured to death in Syrian state lock-ups, where over 600 Palestinian refugees have also died under torture since the outburst of the bloody warfare.



Along the same line, 40 Palestinian women and girls have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian conflict. The list includes nine refugees from Yarmouk Camp and 10 from AlTadhamun neighborhood.

According to activists, several abductions were carried under the security guise. Arrestees' families have often been subjected to blackmail and extortion.

Over 329 Palestinian refugees, male and female, have gone missing in war-ragged Syria, half of whom are from Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus.

According to affidavits by ex-detainees and breakaways, Palestinian women and girls have been subjected to harsh psycho-physical torture tactics in Syrian penitentiaries, including electric shocks, heavy beating using iron sticks, and sexual abuse.

Such practices represent flagrant violations of the Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict of 1974, Article 5, which criminalizes all forms of torture and mistreatment against women and children.

Inherently a taboo misdemeanor in the MENA region, violence against women, be it sexual, physical, or verbal, has remained under-reported among the Palestinian refugee community in Syria, with reasons wavering between fear of retaliation, embarrassment, fear of punishment for those below the age of criminal responsibility, and distrust in law enforcement.



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

AGPS believes that the number is far higher due to the gag orders enforced by the Syrian regime on the detainees' fates and names, along with the reluctance of the casualties' families to reveal the names of their deceased or missing relatives for fear of retaliation.

In the meantime, Palestinian medic Hayel Hamid has been forcibly disappeared in Syrian government prisons for the eight-consecutive year. He was kidnapped on August 13, 2012 from his clinic in Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus, on charges of treating wounded persons.

Hayel, born in 1948 in Dalata in occupied Palestine, worked as a professor at the Damascus Faculty of Medicine and assumed duties as head of the General Surgery Division at Al-Assad University Hospital. His condition and whereabouts have been shrouded in mystery.

