

29-10-2020

No. 2928

## التقرير اليومي

## الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugee Shot Dead South of Syria"

- Explosive Device Goes Off in Deraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- UNRWA to Distribute Cash Aid to Palestinians from Syria
- Palestinian Refugee Esam Husain Forcibly Disappeared in Syrian Prisons for 6th Year



## **Latest Developments**

Palestinian refugee Habib Abdul Jalil Kawamla was gunned down by anonymous gunmen in AlSabil neighborhood, in Deraa, south of Syria.

Reporting from southern Syria, an AGPS news correspondent said the gunshots were fired by gunmen boarding a Kia Rio car.

Two other men—Mohamed Bajbouj and Rami Bajbouj—were also killed in the attack.

In the meantime, an explosive device went off on the access road to Deraa camp, south of Syria, sparking panic in the area. No injuries were reported.

An AGPS news correspondent said anonymous gunmen implanted the explosive device near April 7 School, near a Syrian government checkpoint.

Another explosive device implanted in the same area was dismantled just one day later.

Palestinian families living in Daraa Camp continue to raise alarm bells over the security turmoil overwhelming the area as a result of internal rifts between the Syrian government forces and former opposition affiliates and also due to the increasing assassination attempts in the area.

In another development, UNRWA said cash aid will be handed over to Palestinian refugees as of November 1, 2020,



A sum of 87,000 Syrian liras will be handed over to the most vulnerable and poorest families. Families registered in the "ordinary cases" category will receive a sum of 56,000 Syrian Pounds per every person.

The crisis in Syria has been one of the gravest and most demanding emergencies faced in the modern era. The vast majority of the 540,000 PRS are unable to meet their basic needs.

Many PRS lost their sources of income; refugee camps have seen unprecedented levels of destruction; rental prices have dramatically gone up; undernourishment and poverty have been a daily nightmare.

Due to the serious protection gaps, children have been forced to drop out of school and join armed groups to help feed their starving families.

Hundreds of families have had women as their sole breadwinners; and in several other cases boys and girls are spotted begging in the street for a few pounds.

UNRWA said in its 2020 Syria regional crisis emergency appeal that 126,000 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 and 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.



Hundreds of PRS also have risked their lives onboard "death-boats" bound for Europe, fleeing prosecution and economic hardship.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Esam Mahmoud Husain has been secretly held in Syrian state prisons since 2014.

Esam, born in Jober in 1983 and raised in Khan Eshieh refugee camp in Rif Dimashq, was arrested in Hama city.

His family continues to appeal for information over his condition and whereabouts.

Over 1,790 Palestinian refugees have been secretly held in Syrian government dungeons since the outburst of deadly hostilities.

AGPS also documented the death of over 600 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government lock-ups, including women, children, and elderly civilians.

Affidavits by ex-detainees provided evidence on the involvement of Syrian government officers in harsh torture tactics, including electric shocks, heavy beating using whips and iron sticks, and sexual abuse against Palestinian detainees, in a flagrant violation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, commonly known as the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).

AGPS estimates the real number to be far higher due to the gag orders slapped by the Syrian government on the detainees' names



and fates, along with the families' reluctance to report such cases over retaliation concerns.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to disclose the fate of scores of Palestinians held in its lock-ups, release the bodies of those tortured to death, to seriously work on halting harsh torture tactics, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.