



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

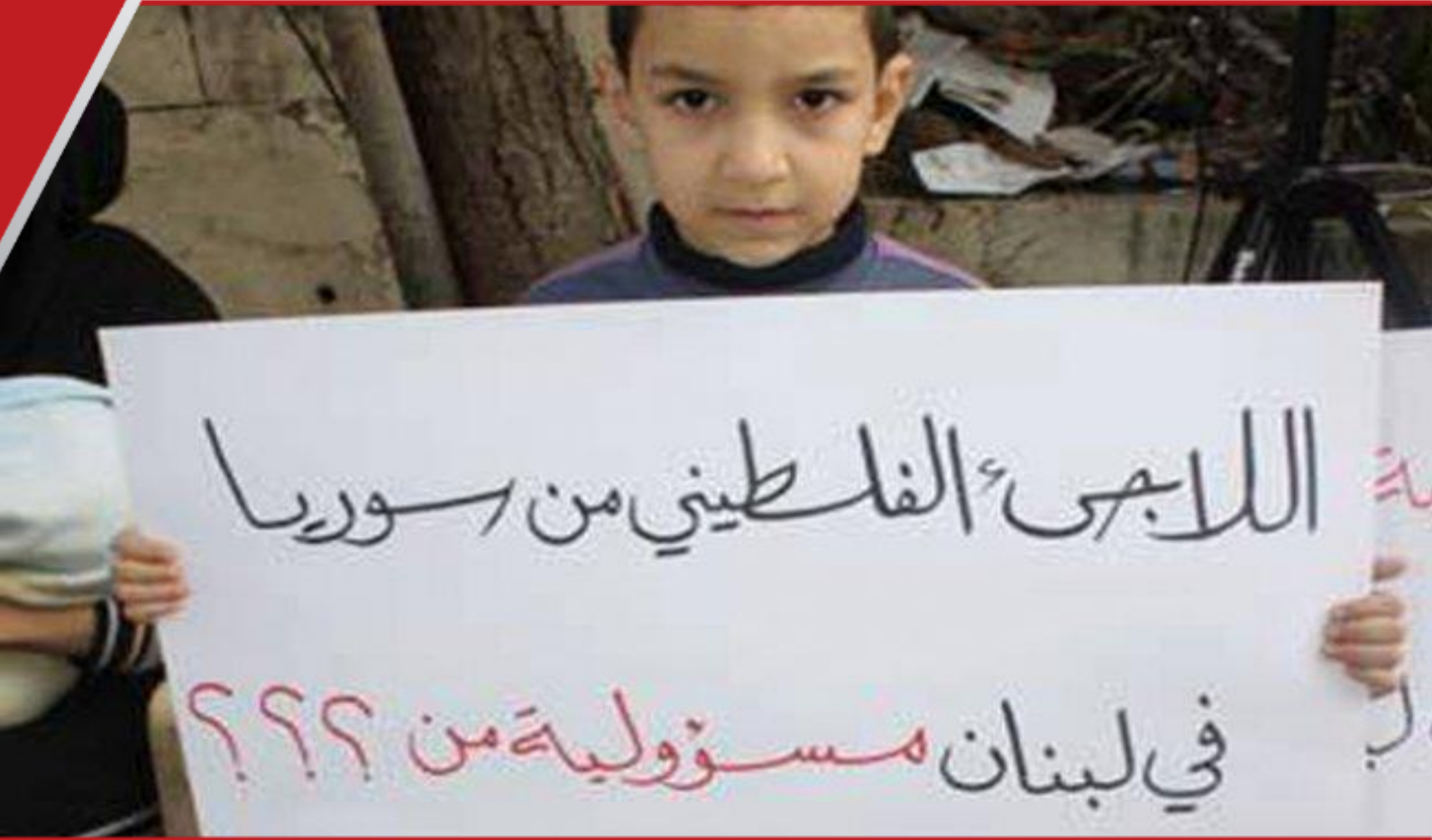
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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon Denied Legal Protection"

- Commission of Palestinians of Syria Established in AlBekaa
- Displaced Families Struggling for Survival in AlSadaka Camp in Aleppo's Northern Outskirts
- Graveyard Headstones Stolen from Palestinian Refugee Camp in Syria
- 4 Members of Palestinian Family Forcibly Disappeared in Syrian Prisons

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees who fled war-torn Syria to Lebanon continue to struggle with an abject humanitarian condition as a result of their precarious legal status and the absence of protection mechanisms.

UNRWA said more than half of Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon do not have valid legal visas, which has exacerbated their vulnerability and their precarious legal status.

According to the Agency's monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents.

UNRWA said the lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention and forced deportation.

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon has been exacerbated by the movement restrictions, closure of vital facilities, and curfew imposed by the Lebanese authorities to prevent a further propagation of COVID-19.

In its 2020 Syria crisis emergency appeal, UNRWA said that PRS in Lebanon continue to face high vulnerability and marginalization, making them heavily reliant on UNRWA humanitarian support to cover their basic needs. The socio-economic hardships and unrest experienced by the country have compounded PRS' already dire living conditions.



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According to a survey conducted by the American University of Beirut in 2015, nearly 90 percent of the PRS population in Lebanon live in poverty, including 9 per cent who are in extreme poverty and unable to meet even their most essential food requirements.

Along similar lines, Palestinian activists in Lebanon announced the establishment of the Civil Commission of Palestinians of Syria in Lebanon's central and western AlBekaa region.

Nearly 28,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria seeking shelter in Lebanon have been subjected to dire socio-economic conditions and a precarious legal status as the Lebanese authorities continue to rebuff their appeals for legal visas and access to the local labor market.

Meanwhile, 35 displaced Palestinian families taking shelter in AlSadaka Camp, west of AlBal village, in Aleppo's northern town of Suran, have sounded distress signals over the dire humanitarian condition in the area due to the absence of vital services and relief assistance.

The families have reportedly failed to secure vital food and non-food items. The spread of the coronavirus pandemic has made the situation far worse.

Located north of Suran city, in the northern countryside of Aleppo, AlBal Camp was established in April 2018 to give shelter to families displaced from Eastern AlGhouta. It is home to nearly 600



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makeshift tents funded by AFAD charity and the Turkish Red Crescent.

In the meantime, an AGPS reporter said tomb headstones have been stolen from AlNeirab camp for Palestinian refugees, in Aleppo.

AlNeirab camp is the largest official camp in Syria and is 13km east of the city of Aleppo near the Aleppo airport.

Before the start of the conflict in Syria, Neirab camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. Like other Palestine refugee camps in Syria, a large number of families, young people, have travelled abroad. The camp has also seen a large influx of more than 900 families from the nearby Ein el Tal camp, which has been mostly destroyed.

With nearly 18,000 registered refugees, Neirab camp is among the most densely populated camps. The camp suffers from overcrowding and a lack of privacy. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

The location of the camp near the military airport means the area was exposed to hazards including mortars and shelling between the start of 2013 and the end of 2018.

Poor shelters and poor construction of the barracks result in scorching temperatures in summer and freezing conditions in



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winter. Water leakage and rodent infestation also remain a problem for the refugees.

In another development, four members of the Palestinian Daoud family have been enduring mysterious fates in Syrian state run prisons.

The four family members are: Nour Ahmad Daoud, born in 1987, a resident of AlHajar AlAswad area, and the father of a young girl. He was kidnapped in 2013; Daoud Ahmad Daoud, born in 1986, a resident of AlHajar AlAswad, and the father of two boys and a girl. He was kidnapped at the AlBatikha checkpoint.

The list also includes the two brothers Mahmoud Mohamed Kheir Daoud, born in 1996, and Ali Mohamed Kheir Daoud, born in 1998. Both are residents of AlHajar AlAswad and were kidnapped in 2014 from AlDweilaa area, in Damascus.

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



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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.