

30-11-2018

No. 2218

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"New Report on Palestinians from Syria in Egypt Issued by AGPS"

- FIDAR Briefs Istanbul's Deputy Governor about Tragic Condition of Displaced Palestinians in Deir Ballout
- UN War Crimes Investigators Urge Syrian Gov't to Account for Mysterious Custodial Deaths
- Palestinian Refugee Mohamed Abu Shanar Secretly Held in Syrian State Prison for 6th Year



Latest Developments

A new report has been issued by AGPS under the title "Palestinians of Syria in Egypt: In Search of Asylum". The report sheds light on the situation of Palestinian refugees from war-torn Syria for the period from March 2011 to November 2018.

The 20-page study tackles the frail legal status and dire socioeconomic conditions endured by the refugees in the Egyptian territories.

Included in the report is a poll surveying the opinions of and about the Palestinians from Syria in Egypt. Most respondents agreed that Palestinian refugees are treated as foreigners rather than asylumseekers fleeing war-stricken zones. Palestinians have, thus, been denied the right to legal visas, refugee documents, safe accommodation, basic services, and relief assistance.



The report also underscores the situation of Palestinians from Syria who illegally entered Egypt via Sudan and who have failed to



smoothly access the local labor market and freely move across and outside of the Egyptian territories, and have, thus been at the risk of refoulement to Sudan.

The newly-released study covers the role of the Palestinian Embassy in Egypt, the Palestinian Women's Union, and the other Palestinian factions vis-à-vis the Palestinians of Syria.

The report stresses the need to secure the rights of the Palestinians from Syria, who fall outside of UNRWA's fields of operations, to legal and physical protection as per the Refugee Convention of 1951 and to hand them over cash and in-kind aids along with refugee cards in order to enhance their legal status in the Egyptian territories.

To download the report please click here:

http://www.actionpal.org.uk/ar/reports/special/palsyria eg.pdf

Meanwhile, the Turkish Association for Solidarity with Palestine (FIDAR) spoke out against the dire conditions endured by Palestinian refugees deported to northern Syria. This came at a meeting called for by Istanbul governor on Wednesday November 28 at the governorate headquarters in Istanbul.

The meeting shed light on the calamitous situation undergone by displaced Palestinian families in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout Camp with the advent a freezing winter season.

Deputy Governor of Istanbul vowed to take urgent action so as to tone down the crises wrought on Palestinian refugees in Deir Ballout Camp.



FIDAR also sounded the alarm over Palestinians' lack of access to the labor market and the difficulties in obtaining visas and accessing vital services in the Turkish territories.

Palestinian families who were deported to northern Syria have been struggling for survival in the poverty-stricken and almost-abandoned area. No efforts have been made by UNRWA, among other concerned human rights bodies, to reach out to the displaced families and assuage their tragic condition.

In the meantime, UN war crimes investigators on Wednesday called on the Assad government to update families about the fate and conditions of their relatives who have disappeared and provide medical records of those who were executed or killed in custody.

Earlier this year the Syrian government released the names of thousands of prisoners killed between 2011 and 2014. The lists point to a systematic campaign of slaughter of prisoners by the state intelligence services, with the detainees likely tortured to death or executed, the war crimes commission said in a report released before delivery to the UN Security Council.

"Most custodial deaths are thought to have occurred in places of detention run by Syrian intelligence or military agencies. The Commission has not documented any instance, however, where bodies or personal belongings of the deceased were returned," the International Commission of Inquiry on Syria said in a report.



Nearly every death certificate for prisoners provided to families recorded that the cause of death was a "heart attack" or a "stroke", the independent panel, led by Paulo Pinheiro, said.

"Some individuals from the same geographic area share common death dates, possibly indicating group executions," the report said.

"Pro-government forces and primarily the Syrian state should reveal publicly the fates of those detained, disappeared and/or missing without delay," the report said, noting this meant Syrian government forces, Russian forces and affiliated militia.



No progress can be made towards a lasting peace to end the nearly eight-year-old war without justice, the international commission added.

Families have the right to know the truth about their loved one's deaths and be able to retrieve their remains, it said.

In a 2016 report, the panel found that the scale of deaths in prisons indicated that the government of President Bashar AlAssad was responsible for "extermination as a crime against humanity".



Amnesty International estimates that more than 17,723 people died in custody in Syria between March 2011 and the end of 2015. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an opposition monitor, said its sources found that at least 60,000 people had died in custody due to torture, hunger and mistreatment.

In Syria, a family member must register a death within a month after receiving a death notification, the report said. Failure to do so results in a fine which grows after a year. But given that there are millions of Syrian refugees abroad and internally displaced, many are not in a position to meet deadlines.

The calls come as a new study found that ambulances have been intentionally and repeatedly targeted in Syria.

The research, published in the peer-reviewed journal BMJ Global Health, analyzed reports of 243 attacks on ambulances in 2016 and 2017 and found more than half were deliberately targeted.

There have been repeated reports of attacks on medical workers and healthcare facilities during Syria's seven-year conflict, even though both are protected by international law.

Along the same line, Palestinian refugee Mohamed Hasan Abu Shanar has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian government prisons since October 27, 2012.

One month after his detention, his family appealed to the deputy Secretary-General of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, Talel Naji, to work on disclosing their



son's whereabouts and condition. However, Naji's pledges have not been met and the detainee's fate remains shrouded in mystery.

The detainee, a resident of AlTadhamun neighborhood in Damascus and the father of three children, is the son of slain Hasan Abu Shanar, a prominent Fatah leader.

