مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية

Action Group For Palestinians of Syria
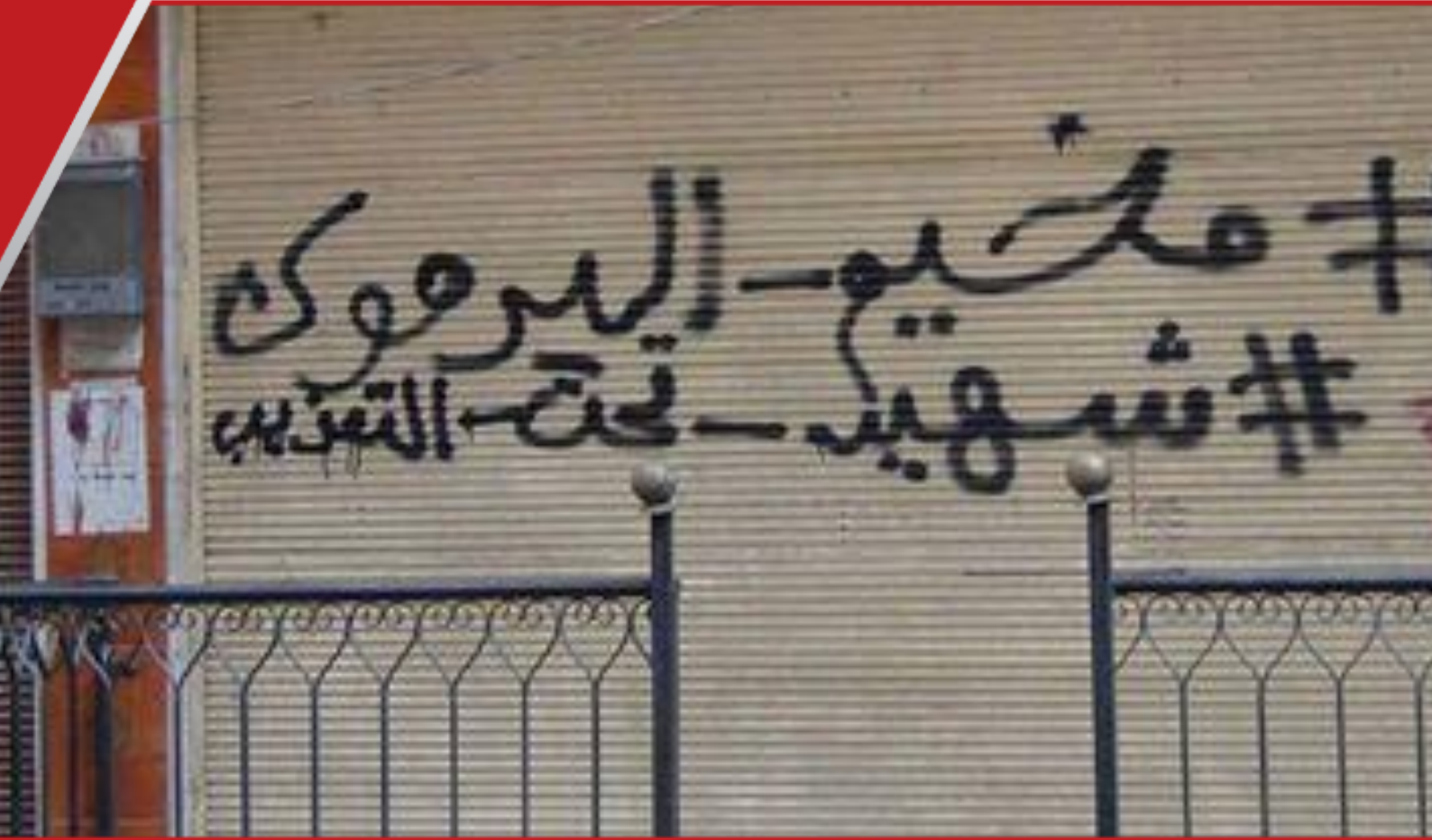
التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

"Palestinian Refugee Tortured to Death in Syrian State Jail"

- Palestinian Refugee Ali Mahmoud Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Gov't
- Russian Forces Recover Body Remains of Israeli Soldier in Yarmouk Camp

Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee Wael Adnan Dirbas was tortured to death in Syrian government prisons, where he had been locked up for years.

His family found out in a document recently obtained from local authorities that their son, a resident of Yarmouk Camp and a native of Tirat Haifa in Palestine, died some three years ago.

Dozens of Palestinian refugees figure on a list of detainees tortured to death in war-torn Syria. Sometime earlier, the Syrian government handed over the list of victims of torture to the General Commission for Palestine Arab Refugees.
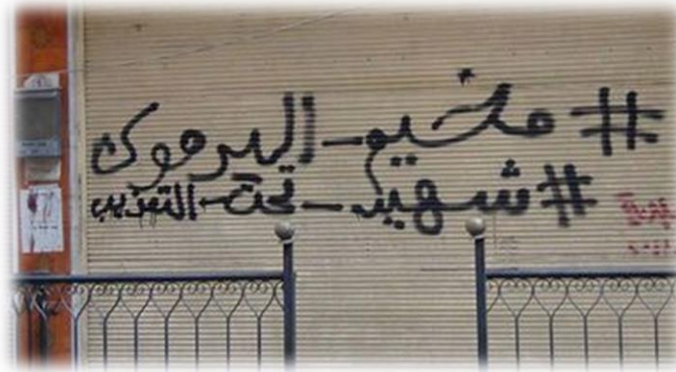
AGPS documented the death of 573 Palestinian refugees, among them children and women, as a result of harsh torture in Syrian state dungeons.

AGPS is deeply concerned about the upsurge in the number of Palestinian victims of torture and enforced disappearance in Syria.

AGPS estimates the real number of victims to be far higher than that disclosed by the Syrian government. Dozens of families have refused to reveal their relatives' names for fear of retaliation.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian government to reveal the exact number and fate of Palestinian detainees, to seriously work on halting harsh torture tactics, including sexual abuse, launch fact-finding probes into crimes of torture, and to bring those involved in such crimes before courts.

Along the same line, Palestinian refugee Ali Mahmoud Mahmoud, aged 33, has been locked up in Syrian state prisons since February 20, 2014.

AGPS documented the incarceration of 1,739 Palestinians in Syrian state dungeons, among them women and children.

In another development, the body of Israeli tank commander Sergeant First Class Zachary Baumel was flown back to Israel a few days ago.

He was one of three soldiers still listed as missing in action since the Battle of Sultan Yacoub in Lebanon in 1982.

The Israeli military would only say on Wednesday that Sgt Baumel's remains had been repatriated via a third country.

During a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Moscow on Thursday, Russia's President Vladimir Putin was

quoted by Russian media as saying: "Our soldiers together with Syrian partners established his resting place. We are very happy that they will be able to give him the necessary military honors at home."

Anwar Raja, an official from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command, a pro-Syrian regime faction which operates from the Yarmouk Camp district in Damascus, told the Lebanese Al-Mayadeen news channel the body was found at a cemetery in the Damascene refugee camp.

Raja held anti-government groups responsible for handing over the body remains of the missing soldier when Yarmouk Camp was controlled by the opposition forces.

Russia is supporting forces loyal to Syria's government in the country's eight-year warfare.

On April 19, 2018, a military operation launched by Syria's government battalions and their Russian abettors led to the destruction of 60% of civilian buildings and premises in Yarmouk Camp. Dozens of civilians were killed and hundreds injured in the offensive.

Heavy damage was wrought on Yarmouk's AlShuhadaa Cemetery as graves were hit with barrels bombs and headstones smashed by missiles and mortar shells. Shortly after, the Palestine Liberation Organization embarked on a campaign to clear debris in an attempt to open an access road to the cemetery.