



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



### "Displaced Palestinian Children Rally outside of UN Office in Bangkok"

- UNRWA: Almost All Installations in Yarmouk and Deraa Refugee Camps in Syria Damaged
- Palestinian Young Man Majdi Hamdan Secretly Held in Syrian Jails for 4th Year
- UNRWA Distributes Aids in Handarat Camp for Palestinian Refugees

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## Latest Developments

Dozens of Arab refugees, mostly Palestinians, who have been stranded in Thailand have maintained vigil outside of the office of the UN Human Rights Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Bangkok, slamming the apathy maintained by the agency regarding their tragic situation.

The refugees called on the UN to recognize their rights as refugees and grant them a safe access to Australia or Canada among other safe countries pending their return to their homeland—Palestine.



Children lifted banners calling for urgent intervention. A refugee lashed out at the Palestinian leadership for their failure to take effective measures in this regard.

AGPS continues to urge the international community to immediately step in, pressurize the Thai authorities to release all detained migrants and treat refugees in accordance with the international humanitarian law.

Some 600 Arab refugees, including 50 Palestinian families from Syria, have been enduring dire conditions in Thailand, where they have become at the risk of arbitrary detention and refoulement.



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Meanwhile, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has conducted a damage assessment of its installations in the refugee camps of Yarmouk, near Damascus, and Deraa, South of Syria.

The Agency said it has 23 premises including 16 schools in Yarmouk. Almost all UNRWA premises need major repairs; 75% need to be completely rebuilt and all three of the Agency's health centers in Yarmouk are completely destroyed.

In Deraa camp, only one distribution centre has been left untouched. The other six installations, including three school buildings and a clinic will need substantial repairs.

UNRWA welcomed the recent decision by the Syrian government to allow Palestine refugees to return to their homes in Deraa camp and to Yarmouk camp in the near future.

Once the government re-establishes basic infrastructure like electricity and water and ensures it is safe to enter by clearing the camp of rubble and possible unexploded remnants of war (ERW), the Agency will aim to repair UNRWA facilities that have been damaged or destroyed in order to serve the refugee population and fulfill its mandate, the Agency vowed.

However, UNRWA is facing a severe funding crisis. The Agency's 2018 Emergency Appeal for Syria is just 16 per cent funded, out of total requirements of USD 329 million.

UNRWA called on the international community to provide support to allow the Agency to provide core services, including health



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services and education, to Palestine refugees in Syria who return to their homes in the camps.

UNRWA is confronted with an increased demand for services resulting from a growth in the number of registered Palestine refugees, the extent of their vulnerability, and their deepening poverty. UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions and financial support has been outpaced by the growth in needs. As a result, the UNRWA program budget, which supports the delivery of core essential services, operates with a large shortfall.

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and mandated to provide assistance and protection to some 5.4 million Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA across its five fields of operation, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Majdi Hamdan Abdah has been kept in Syrian state prisons for the fourth year running.



Majdi, a physical education teacher, was kidnapped at a government-run checkpoint in AlMzzeh town, in Damascus, on January 14, 2014.



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His condition and whereabouts have been unknown. He was formerly sheltered in Khan Eshieh refugee camp, in Rif Dimashq.

AGPS documented the incarceration of 1,712 Palestinian refugees in Syrian state dungeons, among them 108 women and girls.

In another development, UNRWA handed over in-kind aids to Palestinian refugees in the Aleppo-based Handarat Camp.

Palestinian refugees received food items, medical kit, and mattresses.

Over 175 families returned to Handarat Camp, where more than 90% of civilian homes and facilities sustained severe damage or were totally destroyed. The price leap and high rates of unemployment have made the situation far more unbearable in the camp.

According to statistics by the General Authority for Arab Refugees in Syria, nearly 8,000 Palestinian refugees used to take shelter in Handarat Camp.

