



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

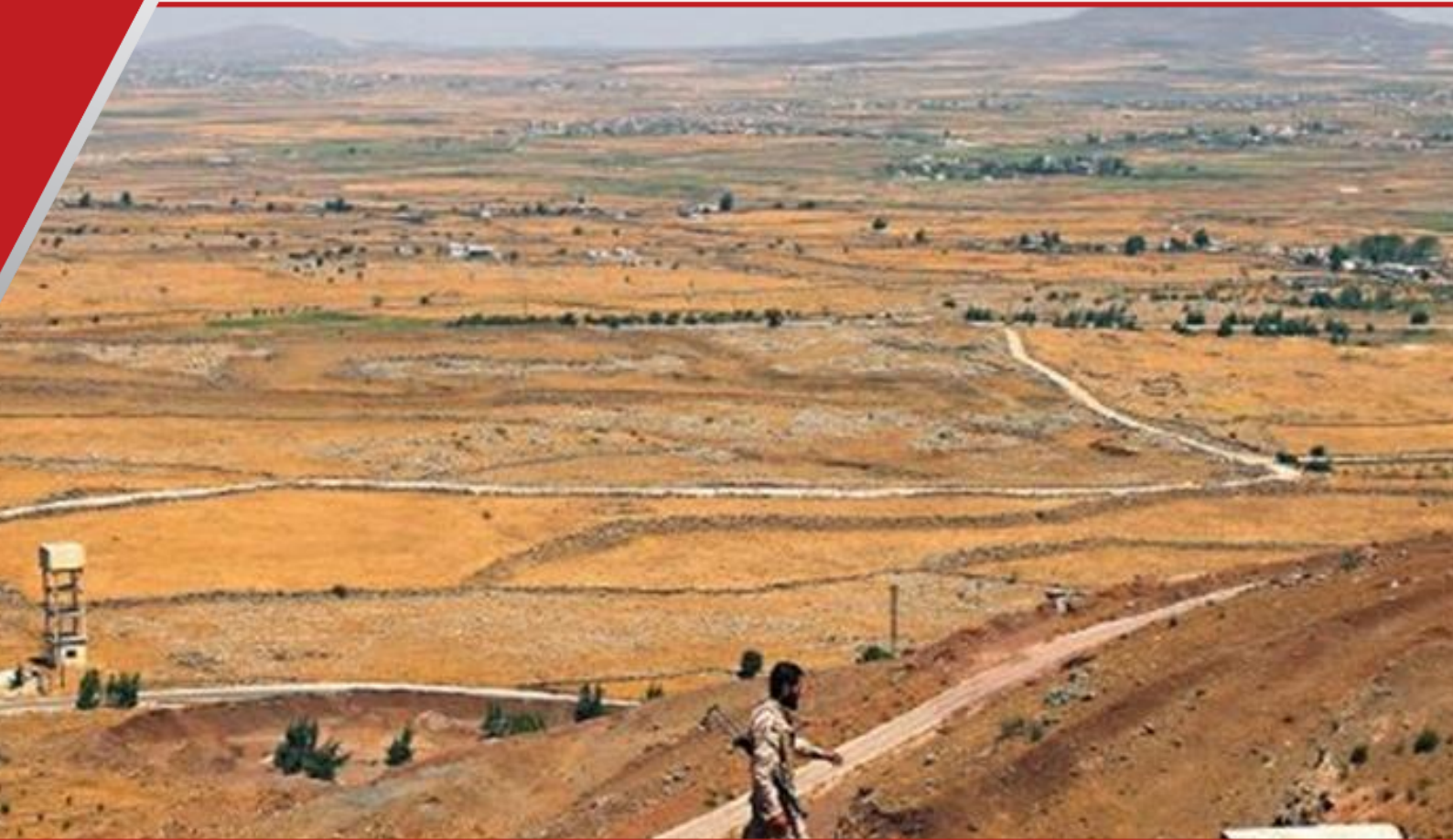
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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Families Displaced from Yarmouk Enduring Abject Situation in Syrian Desert"

- PLA Fighter Killed in Syria Hostilities
- UNRWA: 5.4 Million Palestinians Cannot Simply Be Wished away
- Palestinian Refugee Zuheir Awad Subject to Enforced Disappearance for 6th Year in Syria

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Victims

Palestinian refugee Ihsan Husain Ali AlKhneifas, from AlSayeda Zeinab Camp, died as he fought alongside the Syrian government forces. AlKhneifas had joined the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA).

AGPS documented the death of 259 PLA officers since the outburst of warfare in Syria.



Latest Developments

Nearly 100 Palestinian refugees formerly sheltered in Yarmouk Camp and other southern Damascus zones have been grappling with dire humanitarian conditions in Syria's steppe, to which they were deported in May.

Activists said civilians have been stranded on the outer edges of AlSuweida and Damascus in the so-called AlSham Desert area after they were forced by the government forces to leave their homes following a recent military operation on the camp and southern Damascus in May.

The activists said the displaced families continue to sound the alarm over the deadly onslaughts launched by the Syrian government and its Russian abettors, adding that a recent government offensive on



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the eastern outskirts of AlSuweida area claimed the life of a displaced civilian.

The families have also been subjected to an acute dearth in much-needed foodstuff and medicines. Reports have emerged that dozens caught life-threatening diseases in the area and have been left without treatment.



The activists slammed the Syrian opposition forces and human rights institutions for turning their back on the displaced families who have been sheltered in ISIS-held zones.

Dozens of Palestinian families were forced out of their homes and deported to outer reaches onboard of government buses transferring ISIS gunmen outside of southern Damascus.

Meanwhile, Pierre Krähenbühl, Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) in an open letter expressed deep regret and disappointment at the nature of the US decision to end all funding to UNRWA,

“On 31 August, the United States announced that it will provide no additional funding to UNRWA. I express deep regret and



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disappointment at the nature of the US decision - which affects one of the most robust and rewarding partnerships in the humanitarian and development fields - and unreservedly reject its accompanying narrative”, Krähenbühl’s letter read.

“We were created in 1949 to provide assistance and protection of rights of Palestine refugees, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight”, UNRWA’s Commissioner-General added. “The need for humanitarian action arises from the extreme violence, pain, suffering and injustice caused by war. In the case of Palestine refugees, this was caused by forced displacement, dispossession, loss of homes and livelihoods, as well as by statelessness and occupation.”

“No matter how often attempts are made to minimize or delegitimize the individual and collective experiences of Palestine refugees, the undeniable fact remains that they have rights under international law and represent a community of 5.4 Million men, women and children who cannot simply be wished away.”

“The responsibility for the protracted nature of the Palestine refugee-hood, the growing number of refugees and the growth in needs, lies squarely with the parties and in the international community's lack of will or utter inability to bring about a negotiated and peaceful resolution of the conflict between Israel and Palestine. The attempt to make UNRWA somehow responsible for perpetuating the crisis is disingenuous at best.”

At no time over the past eight months were we notified of the specific reasons for the dramatic cut”, the letter proceeded. “It



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appeared clearly related however to the tensions between the United States and the Palestinian leadership following the US announcement on Jerusalem and not to UNRWA's performance. It therefore represented an evident politicization of humanitarian aid. The announcement made yesterday further challenges the notion that humanitarian funding should be depoliticized. It risks undermining the foundations of the international multi-lateral and humanitarian systems.”

“We are still in critical need of over \$200 M to survive this year's crisis and call on donors to sustain the collective mobilization to succeed in this crucial endeavor.”

“I say again to all Palestine refugees: we will not fail you. Our partnership with you is stronger than ever. Your Dignity is Priceless”, the letter concluded.

In another development, the Syrian authorities continue to withhold the fate and whereabouts of the Palestinian refugee Zuheir Saleh Awad, born in 1986, for the sixth year running.

The refugee was kidnapped on his way out of his home in Yarmouk Camp on December 25, 2012. His family continues to appeal for information.

According to AGPS data, 1,693 Palestinian refugees, among them 105 women and girls, have been enduring mysterious fates in Syrian government lock-ups.