



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



**"On Int'l Day of Persons with Disabilities: Palestinian Children with Special Needs Launch Cry for Help in Syria"**

- Thai Authorities Embark on Abduction Sweep against Palestinian, Arab Refugees
- Residents of Handarat Camp Denounce Absence of Basic Services, Poor Infrastructure
- KSA Sings US\$50 Million Agreement with UNRWA

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## Latest Developments

Displaced Palestinian children with special needs have been gripped with dire conditions in the poorly-equipped refugee tents set up north of Syria.

The situation of dozens of children has gone far worse after they lost their parents in the bloody warfare. Others have endured limb amputation owing to the violent onslaughts.

UNRWA said it assists more than 2,300 Palestine refugees with disabilities in Syria have had their lives marred by the unabated warfare and bloody strife rocking the Syrian territories.



Assistance to the most vulnerable Palestinian refugees, including persons with disabilities, is provided by donors like the European Union. The European Commission's civil protection and humanitarian aid department (ECHO) has funded assistance to those with disabilities, as well as female-headed households.

UNRWA has upon more than one occasion sounded the alarm over the tragic situation endured by children with disabilities, among them seven-year-old Aya whom Pierre Krähenbühl mentioned in a



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report published months ago. Aya underwent limb amputation due to a mortar shell offensive.

An AGPS correspondent reached out to the concerned bodies in Lebanon in an attempt to garner data about the number and condition of Palestinian children from Syria with disabilities. However, no information has been provided by the contacted parties to that end. A medic said data in this regard falls outside of the clinic's agenda.

Meanwhile, the Thai authorities launched on Sunday an abduction sweep targeting Palestinian and Arab refugees stranded in Bangkok. Several Palestinian, Syrian, and Iraqi migrants have been detained for overstaying their visas.

The refugees lashed out at the UNHCR for its apathy vis-à-vis the daily crackdowns perpetrated against them in the Thai territories.



The refugees also said the UNHCR demanded that the Thai police arrest migrants involved in a rally staged a couple of days earlier outside of its office in Bangkok and provided photos and addresses of the migrants over allegations of attempted sabotage.



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Activists said UNHCR reached out to the refugees and their spokespersons and demanded that they cease their protest moves, which it said will not help to work out their situation as no other body by the UNHCR is officially mandated to follow up on their condition.

The refugees continue, meanwhile, to appeal to the international humanitarian institutions and NGOs to urgently step in and pressurize the Thai authorities to cease its crackdowns and refoulement threats against migrants and release all those detained in Thai detention centers.

In the meantime, Palestinian families sheltered in Handarat Camp, in Aleppo, appealed, in letters emailed to AGPS, to all concerned parties to work on reconstructing the camp and rehabilitating vital services, including health care and education.

The displaced civilians launched a cry for help over the abject situation they have been enduring due to the water and power crises, along with the price hike, steep rental fees, and high rates of unemployment.

Nearly 90% of civilian buildings and facilities in Handarat have been partially or totally reduced to rubble due to the unabated offensives rocking the camp.

Most families left their homes on April 27, 2013, following heavy onslaughts launched by the Syrian government forces to recapture the opposition-held camp.



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In another development, Dr Abdallah AlRabeeah, Supervisor General of the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSC) and Commissioner-General Pierre Krähenbühl of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) signed, on 28 November, an unprecedented US\$ 50 million agreement which confirmed the pledge of US\$ 50 million made by King Salman bin Abdulaziz AlSaud in support of the Agency's core services.

Expressing his deep recognition and gratitude, Commissioner-General Krähenbühl stated that: "The disbursement of this landmark donation will make a major contribution to the Agency's global mobilization aimed at reducing an unprecedented shortfall this year."



"With Saudi Arabia's donation and the support of our other partners, we have brought the deficit of US\$ 446 million down to its current level of US\$ 21 million, and have been able to open on time the 711 schools run by UNRWA for 530,000 girls and boys in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria", said Krähenbühl.



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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. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank, including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip achieve their full human development potential, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight. UNRWA services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, protection and microfinance.