



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



### "UNRWA Commissioner-General: Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian Refugees Lies in Utter Ruin"

- Syrian Gov't Forces Strike Daraa Camp with Machine Gunfire & Mortar Shells
- Khan Eshieh Residents Appeal for Waste Clearance
- 518 Palestinian Refugees Tortured to Death in Syrian Gov't Dungeons

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## Latest Developments

UNRWA Commissioner-General Pierre Krähenbühl who visited Yarmouk Camp on Tuesday said: “The scale of the destruction in Yarmouk compares to very little else that I have seen in many years of humanitarian work in conflict zones”.

Once a proud neighborhood home to some 160,000 Palestine refugees, the camp now lies in utter ruin. Wherever one looks, the horror experienced by inhabitants of Yarmouk is all too evident. Yet again, Palestine refugees were exposed to the trauma of displacement, loss of relatives, homes and livelihoods, a statement by UNRWA read.



“In every visit to Syria over the past years - and again during this visit - Palestine refugees have spoken of the pride of what Yarmouk represents in the history of the community”, the Commissioner-General underlined, adding: “Today, they express deep anxieties about what the immediate and longer-term future holds and about the prospect of return and reconstruction”.

Carrying out a three-day mission to Syria from 1 to 3 July 2018, the Commissioner-General also met with Palestine Refugees, UNRWA



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students and staff, as well as with senior government officials and diplomats.

Mr. Krähenbühl visited Yalda, to meet Palestine refugees displaced from Yarmouk, including during the most recent round of fighting in the neighborhood, when Government forces re-established control of the area.

Speaking to refugees during distributions of aid in Yalda, the Commissioner-General heard stories of unimaginable despair, from people who faced extreme conditions, suffering and pain inside Yarmouk over the years: “Being able to access Palestine refugees again in Yalda, was very important for UNRWA. Providing essential assistance to people who have been exposed to such dramatic circumstances, lies at the heart of our mission”.

Meanwhile, the Syrian government forces targeted Daraa Camp with heavy spates of machine gunfire and mortar shells, inflicting material damage.

At the same time fierce clashes burst out on the outskirts of the camp between the opposition outfits and the government forces.





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Over recent days, tension has been running high in Daraa as a result of the fallouts wrought by the military operation launched by the government forces in mid-June in an attempt to recapture the area.

Palestine refugees in and around Daraa have been experiencing significant hardship and risks in light of the months-long power and water blackouts rocking the area, along with the acute shortage in medicines and foodstuff.

In the meantime, residents of Khan Eshieh called on the mayor Omar AlShemali to urgently work on removing the mounds of trash pile accumulated in the streets, expressing fears of the uncontrolled propagation of insects, rodents, and health-threatening smells.

Reporting from Khan Eshieh, a Facebook page released live pictures showing the piles of waste heaped up in residential neighborhoods and near the secondary school.



Residents of Khan Eshieh have been enduring dire humanitarian conditions due to the high unemployment rates and lack of financial



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resources. The Syrian government forces also continue to crack down on free movement inside and out, blocking the residents' access out of and into the camp unless otherwise authorized by the government troops. Students and workers who wish to leave the camp are compelled to put down their names one day earlier on ad hoc lists at government-run branches.

In another development, AGPS documented the death of 518 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government jails, though field reporters believe the real number to be far higher due to the government's reticence to reveal the names and fates of Palestinian detainees' and the families' fears to disclose their relatives' names over retaliation concerns.

According to data by AGPS, 1,680 Palestinian refugees, among them 106 women and girls, have been enduring unknown fates in Syrian government lock-ups.