



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

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الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"The displaced in Deir Balout camp are without drinking water for the third day"

- Deterioration of the health of two children in Deir Balout camp due to poor medical services
- Abd El-Hady: announces the start of the process of opening the roads and removing the rubble from Yarmouk camp
- The regime bans the residents of Yarmouk camp from removing the furniture of their houses and arrests a number of them
- Initiation of the "settlement" of the Palestinian refugees in the south of Damascus
- The Palestinians in the town of Az Zababeyah in the suburbs of Damascus... between security grips and demographic change

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Latest Developments

The displaced refugees in the Deir Balout camp in Jindiris, Afrin in the north of Syria, are complaining about the lack of water that is suitable for drinking, expressing their anger about the lack of water and especially as it comes amid heavy heat waves witnessed by the region, in addition to the worsening health conditions and low living standards. They indicated that the Turkish AFFAD organization in charge of providing drinking water, has not been distributed any to them for three days.



In the same context, the conditions of two children suffering of dehydration have worsened, due to the lack of medical services in the Deir Balout camp, which is home to thousands of Palestinian refugees. According to the people, the children are now in need to be transferred to hospital, which is difficult at the moment because of the absence of ambulances or normal cars. They expressed their fear of the increase of health conditions that need to be transferred to hospital amid the heat waves and the absence of drinking water in the camp.



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As for the lack of medical services, a number of displaced persons said that there is no specialist doctor in Deir Balout camp providing the appropriate treatment, noting that the camp has only volunteer nurses supervising the treatment of the residents. They pointed out that the nearest medical point or hospital is at least 5 km away, with no transportation available as an ambulance or free transport. This is expensive for dozens of the forcibly displaced families from the south of Damascus, who are suffering from difficult living conditions in camps that were prepared rapidly.

The refugees also called on UNRWA to assume immediate responsibility towards them, since it refuses to provide any services to the displaced Palestinian refugees in northern Syria. They also appealed to the Turkish Red Crescent to provide urgent health care to the patients in the camp.



On his part, the Director General of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Ambassador Anwar Abd El-Hady, announced that the process of open the roads and removing the rubble of Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees, will begin immediately after Eid El-Fetr, noting that the Syrian state will take on this job, before the re-building of the camp is scheduled. He



noted that the Syrian Minister of Local Administration directed the people to start this work.

Abd El-Hady added in a speech he made during his visit to inspect the situation in Yarmouk camp on Saturday, that: “The PLO is supporting our people hand-in-hand and we will work with everyone to rebuild the camp. We are working with the Syrian state for the return of its residents as soon as possible.”

On their part, the members of the Syrian regime banned the residents of Yarmouk camp from removing their remaining personal belongings and furniture from their houses and arrested a number of them of charges of defamation, while turning a blind eye to the major thefts and the systematic looting carried out by the Afisha elements, where large trucks come out in front of the occupants of the land, loaded with their belongings that its soldiers stole from civilian houses in the camp, without even being inspected at the checkpoints first.

In one incident, the Syrian regime arrested several refugees from Yarmouk camp yesterday, carrying some household and plastic utensils that they had taken from their destroyed homes for use in their homes that they were forcibly displaced to.

A number of residents told the Action Group’s correspondent that they saw three large trucks and a number of “Hyundais” loaded with electrical, copper and aluminum tools that came out in front of the members of the regime, where those inside only paid tribute to them and left in front of them without any suspicion or even inspection. They pointed out that the members of the regime force them to pay



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money in exchange for the removal of their personal belongings and the rest of the furniture from their homes.

For their part, the residents of Yarmouk camp called for an end to the theft and looting carried out by the members of the regime of their homes, which they see plundering before their eyes without being able to prevent the thieves from stealing.

In the meantime, the Palestinian refugees living in the towns of Yelda, Babilla and Beit Sahn in south Damascus, began to settle their security situations with the Syrian regime, in particular centers specialized by the Russians, the Reconciliation Ministry and the security authorities of the system. Hundreds of youth went to the centers to fill in the forms, which will then be lifted to the “Palestine” branch, in order to settle the situations of those wanted by the Syrian security systems.



The Palestinian refugees told the Action Group’s correspondent that the Syrian security cancelled the previous settlements that occurred in Sondos Palace in the town of Babilla, and the repetition for them will be at the secondary school for boys located in the town of Babilla, opposite to the roundabout.



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Media sources reported that all the Palestinian youth in the towns of south Damascus are required to fill in these settlement forms, to also perform a statistical survey on the number of Palestinian youth remaining in the region. The reply will come from the “Palestine” branch, after conducting security checks on the owners of the forms. Those who are wanted by security will be settled and the unwanted can resume with their normal lives.

The correspondent of the Action Group noted that the competent security authorities began to resolve the situation of dozens of militants from the towns of Yelda, Babilla and Beit Sahm in preparation for their return to their normal lives in the community, after surrendering themselves and their weapons and pledging not to do any action that could disturb the security and public peace.

Meanwhile, the Action Group revealed in its annual report for 2017 titled “Palestinians of Syria.. Between Promises and Restrictions,” which it issued in the beginning of last February, that the Syrian regime allowed the return of hundreds of the residents of Az Zababeyah town in the suburbs of Damascus, to their houses and properties, however, the population lived a constant fear because of the security grip imposed by the forces of the regime on the region and the demographic change. On 17th of February 2017, the Palestinian refugees assured that after the return of the displaced Palestinians and Syrians to their homes in Az Zababeyah in the suburbs of Damascus, they were surprised by the fact that families belonging to the Syrian regime were taking over their homes, pointing out that families are from the Shiite community. The 146-page report indicated that the Palestinian refugees accused



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the Syrian regime and its loyal sectarian groups in the suburbs of Damascus, of the families loyal to it and the families of the regime's fighters and housing them in homes owned by Palestinian and Syrian refugees. The refugees expressed their anger of the regime's exploitation of their displacement from the area four years ago and storming their homes.

The refugees said that the families that took over their homes refused to leave and said: "The regime is the decision maker and is responsible for the case," while some returnees to the area were able to enter and forcibly share their homes with the families of the Syrian regime.