



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



**"The Action Group: The destruction of Yarmouk camp is worse than expected and reports suggest that more than 60% of its buildings have been destroyed"**

- Refugee "Salah Al-Abayat" dies in the bombardment of Yarmouk camp
- Targeting of Yarmouk camp continues and the Palestinian Forces Alliance states: measures will be taken to return the population to it
- A suffocating siege on the south of Damascus, amid reports of an initial agreement between the regime, Russia and the Syrian opposition
- ISIS releases a Palestinian in Yarmouk camp
- Hamas appeals to all parties to neutralize the Palestinians in the camps in Syria
- Palestinian and Syrian journalists and figures: the destruction of Yarmouk camp has killed a witness of the Nakba and is the liquidation of the right of return

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## **Victims**

Palestinian refugee “Salah Hassan Al-Abayat” has died after the area surrounding Palestine Gardens in Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees in Damascus, was bombarded. This raises the number of victims who have died as a result of the military operation targeting the camp, to 31 refugees.

## **Latest Developments**

The Action Group has confirmed that the amount of destruction that has hit Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees has exceeded all expectations, pushing the Action Group and a number of activists to describe the scene as shocking. An eyewitness from Yarmouk camp asserted that lanes and houses were completely destroyed, as a result of the bombardments by explosive barrels, rockets and warplanes, noting that families were buried under the rubble of their homes and that the amount of damage that hit the camp is about 60%, according to him.





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According to the Action Group's correspondent, the lanes of west Yarmouk and Al-Magharba were almost completely destroyed, while the houses and lanes of Streets 15 and 30, the building blocks project and other areas were partially damaged, following their bombardments with air raids and rockets.

The great magnitude of the destruction of Yarmouk camp indicates the extent of the damage that has affected the remaining residents of Yarmouk camp, which are estimated at 3000 refugees. More than 90% of its residents have been displaced to the towns of Yelda, Babilla and Beit Sahm, and if given the opportunity to return, they will not find their homes.

Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees was subjected to air raids and violent bombardments yesterday, targeting the area surrounding Al-Orouba Street, resulting in significant damage to the buildings of the camp. Our correspondent indicated that the Russian and Syrian warplanes launched more than 85 air raids on Yarmouk camp and the southern region, in addition to throwing 30 explosive barrels on Yarmouk camp, Al-Hajar Al-Aswad, the outskirts of Yelda and Al-Qadam, noting that 56 surface-to-surface "elephant" rockets were also fired, in addition to dozens of missiles. This resulted in massive destruction of the infrastructure and buildings, followed by heavy shelling with all types of weapons, and the outbreak of fires in civilian homes in the neighborhoods under attack. This coincided with the outbreak of violent fighting on the fronts of Al-Qadam neighborhood, the Martyrs' Sector in Palestine Street in Yarmouk camp, Al-Hajar Al-Aswad and Al-Tadamon.



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Our correspondent added that a state of sudden calm prevailed in the southern region, yesterday afternoon, where the warplanes stopped bombarding the area, amid reports of negotiations between ISIS and the Syrian regime, however, the Action Group was unable to confirm the authenticity of these reports.

On his part, Secretary of the Alliance of Palestinian Resistance Forces in Syria, Khaled Abd El-Majeed, that the Central Command of the Alliance will continue to work with all parties concerned to arrange for the return of the Palestinian and Syrian families to Yarmouk camp and its vicinity.



In the same context, media outlets close to the Syrian regime reported the initial agreement between the armed Syrian opposition in south Damascus, the Syrian regime and Russia. According to the report, the agreement leads to reconciliation in the south of Damascus and the exit of those who do not wish to settle the situation.



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According to the media outlets, the agreement came after a meeting between the military delegation of the towns of south Damascus (Yelda, Babilla and Beit Sahn) and Russia. It includes stabilizing the areas of the sectors, so as to prevent them from being targeted or stormed by the Syrian regime's army and an agreement to prevent the entry of its members to the Zein neighborhoods, dividing with the areas controlled by ISIS.

In the meantime, the remaining residents of Yarmouk camp and the towns of the southern region of Damascus, are living difficult days, because of the military campaign launched by the Syrian regime on the 19th of April, with the aim of breaking into and controlling the area. They are missing the most important elements of life and lacking other services, because of the suffocating siege imposed by the Syrian regime on that region, especially the towns of Yelda, Babilla and Beit Sahn. The closure of the Sidi Mekdad barrier has prevented the entry of foodstuffs, medicines, fuel and drinking water, resulting in the loss of all foodstuffs and the increase in their prices, as well as the lack of the basic life necessities, despite the fact that the towns of Yelda, Babilla, Beit Sahn and Al-Qadam neighborhood are witnessing a truce with the regime, since 2014.

Meanwhile, activists in the neighboring towns of Yarmouk camp, appealed to all international and national relief agencies, to exert their efforts to provide relief to dozens of displaced families from Yarmouk camp to the towns of Yelda, Babilla and Beit Sahn, to flee the heavy and extensive bombardments targeting the camp, for the sixth consecutive day.



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In another context, ISIS released Palestinian refugee “Bahaa Abu Kharoub” following his arrest for about 4 months. He was arrested in Yarmouk camp, on charges of communicating with Hayat Tahrir Al-Sham.



On its part, Hamas appealed to all parties to neutralize the Palestinian people in the camps of Syria, and ordered to not involve them in any of the events taking place there, as well as working towards an end their suffering. In its statement, which the Action Group received a copy of, the Movement mourned the Palestinian people in Yarmouk camp, stressing that the Palestinians in Syria are refugees, and all their aspirations and hopes are to return to their homes, cities and villages, that they were abandoned from by the Israeli occupation.

Meanwhile, dozens of Palestinian and Syrian journalists and figures issue a press release on the events occurring in Yarmouk camp, in which they condemned the military operation launched by the Syrian regime on the camp and the southern region. They stressed that the destruction of Yarmouk camp is considered the



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murder of a witness of the Nakba and the liquidation of the right of return, holding the Syrian regime accountable for all the destruction, killing and damage in Yarmouk camp, according to the statement, the area has been under military occupation for years and is under siege since late 2012.

The signatories to the statement, which the Action Group received a copy of, called on the Palestinian authorities to raise their voices high, and to speak boldly and openly for one, against the policies of the Syrian regime and the destruction of Yarmouk camp.

### **Palestinians of Syria: April 25, 2018 Statistics:**

- The total number of victims documented by the Action Group is 3727, including 467 women
- 1674 Palestinians are locked up behind Syrian government's bars, 106 of which are women
- Yarmouk refugee camp is under the Syrian regime army and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine's siege for 1,741 days in a row
- 206 refugees, mainly in Yarmouk Camp, have died due to lack of medical care and malnutrition
- Water supplies have been cut off Deraa Camp for 1476 days, and 1325 days in Yarmouk Camp
- The Regime army has been in control of Handarat camp for more than 574 days. More than 80% of its buildings have been completely or partially destroyed.
- Approximately 85 thousand Palestinian-Syrian refugees fled to Europe by the end of 2016, while 31 thousand refugees are estimated to be in Lebanon, 17 thousand refugees are sheltered in Jordan, 6 thousand refugees are in Egypt, 8 thousand refugees are staying in Turkey, and one thousand Palestinian-Syrians are in Gaza.