



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



"UNRWA decision deprives thousands of displaced Palestinians in northern Syria of their rights"

- A Palestinian elderly man dies in Yarmouk camp of hunger and the lack of health care mid-May
- After their detention for 7 days, the Syrian security forces released 20 elderly residents of Yarmouk camp
- Military and pro-regime houses in Yarmouk camp were not spared from looting
- Palestinian students leave Yelda to Damascus to apply for their High School exams
- Residents of Khan Danon camp complain of the accumulation of waste and the lack of infrastructure services
- UNRWA: Our health services for Palestinians in Syria are life-saving
- Palestinian-Syrian Artist Mamoun Al-Shayeb holds an exhibition in Stockholm, Sweden

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Victims

Palestinian refugee “Ahmed Saleh Aly Al-Madbouh,” Abu Maher, from the Samakia clan, as died of hunger and the lack of health care, during the military campaign carried out by the Syrian regime forces on Yarmouk camp that lasted 31 days and led to the death of more than 55 victims.



More than 200 Palestinian refugees have died due to hunger and siege imposed on Yarmouk camp, for the fifth consecutive year.

Latest Developments

UNRWA’s Financial Aid Officer “Yazan Al-Saleh,” has issued a decision to cancel the consignments through which the displaced Palestinians to Idlib or one of the areas of tension in Syria, delegate one of their relatives to receive financial and in-kind aid provided by the Agency.

The decision also requires them to carry out modern funds to receive the financial aid, which means that hundreds of Palestinian families displaced to northern Syria will be denied aid because of fear of being arrested or killed if they go to the areas of the Syrian regime.

For their part, the Palestinians displaced to north Syria appealed through numerous letters to the UNRWA, of which the Action Group received copies, to review its decision and cancel it because it



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would negatively impact their living and economic lives, pointing out that they rely entirely on UNRWA's assistance to them, in the context of the dire economic conditions they suffer as a result of the widespread unemployment among them and the lack of a stable income.



They also called on UNRWA to carried out its duties towards the hundreds of displaced Palestinian families to the north of Syria and to work to deliver financial and relief aid to them, without arguing that the security zone does not allow this.

The residents called on the PLO and the Palestinian factions to work to stop their suffering, as they suffer from harsh living and economic conditions.

Approximately 4500 Palestinian families were displaced from Yarmouk camp and Khan Al-Sheih to the north of Syria, after the conclusion of reconciliation agreements between the factions of the Syrian opposition and the regime, which requires the Syrian opposition fighters and their families leave the areas of their control to the north of Syria.



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Meanwhile, the Action Group for the Palestinians of Syria reported that the Syrian regime released twenty elderly people from the residents of Yarmouk camp in Damascus, on Sunday.

The regime arrested them on the 21st of May, after the regime regained control of Yarmouk camp, and took them to an unknown security zone. According to the sources, the Syrian regime transferred the elderly men to the Hargala shelter center and they are in good health.

Among the detained were “Mr Fawzy Hamid” and ‘Mr Afif Abu Rashed,” who refused to leave the camp for the past several years in order to neutralize Yarmouk and return its people to it.

In another context, the “cruel” forces of the Syrian regime continue to loot and steal the destroyed Yarmouk refugee camp, in front of the eyes of senior Syrian officials and Palestinian groups loyal to the regime.

Local sources in the camp confirmed that military houses belonging to members of the ranks of the regime's army and its loyalists, were not spared from the theft and looting.

A media page on Facebook, close to the Syrian regime, quoted a member of the regime as saying that after "liberating" some areas in Yarmouk camp from the hands of ISIS, he inspected his house and found it sound with the furniture still inside it. When he left, he closed the house with a tight lock and returned to fight on the axes of the confrontation with ISIS.



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A few days later, a video "according to a member of the regime" was released for live defragmentation of his neighborhood in the camp. His house was one of the first to be stolen by the members of the regime and the factions affiliated to it.

It also showed a video of one of the Palestinian elements in the ranks of the groups loyal to the regime, while taking pictures of his neighborhood in the camp, while the "cruel" members stole the furniture of his house without being able to prevent them, after a fight broke out between them.

The looting and robbery in Yarmouk camp is coordinated with the regime's officers and its affiliated Palestinian groups. Dozens of photographs and video clips have been published showing soldiers stealing all the properties of the homes of the residents of Yarmouk camp.

From the village of Yilda, adjacent to Yarmouk refugee camp, the High School Palestinian refugee students left Al-Jaramq alternative school in the town to their centers of residence at the Institute of Martyr Abdel Qader Al-Husseini and the Palestine School in Damascus, to apply for their their general exams.





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One of the students said that they left today for the centers of residence in the capital and presented the first materials of the scheduled exam program.

The exit of Palestinian students from the southern region occurs after coordination and approval of the Syrian security services under the supervision of the General Authority for Refugees and UNRWA.

In the suburbs of Damascus, the residents of Khan Al-Sheih are complaining of the accumulation of waste in the lanes and alleys of the camp, warning of the results of the unpleasant smells and the proliferation of insects, which seep into schools and homes with the high temperatures, denouncing deliberate neglect, which is reflected on public health and the environment in general.

On its part, a Facebook concerned with the news of the Khan Danon camp, published numerous pictures showing the accumulation of waste in the streets and lanes of the camp, calling on the concerned parties and UNRWA to shoulder their service responsibilities towards the residents of the camp and to remove the waste which has become a health hazard to the people.

While the residents accused the municipal of which Danon camp is referred to, of failing to provide basic services to the people and the infrastructure services, adding that the town suffers from sanitation problems, as well as electricity and water cuts for long periods of time.

Within context, the residents of the camp complained about the worsening water crisis in their camp and the lack of it in their homes



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and roads, forcing them to buy water through tanks, compounding their economic hardships.

While the residents of the camp suffer from difficult living conditions due to the lack of financial resources and the spread of unemployment, as well as the ongoing war that cast a negative shadow over them.

Meanwhile, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) confirmed in its annual health report for 2017, that its health services are literally life-saving in the areas such as Syria, where the conflict entered its eighth year, as well as the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, which witnessed in 2017 the 50th anniversary of the Israeli occupation, and in Gaza, which is now under siege for more than a decade.

Dr Akihiro Sita, UNRWA's Health Director, stated that: "Protecting and promoting the health of registered Palestine refugees is central to our mandate and aims to enable them to achieve the highest possible standards of health until a just and lasting solution to the Palestine refugee issue is reached based on UN resolutions and the law."

UNRWA's health report, which it issued on the 70th anniversary of the Nakba of Palestine, provides important information on the health of Palestine refugees in the Agency's five areas of operations - Jordan, Lebanon, the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, Gaza and Syria, as well as information on UNRWA's health program.



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Sweden

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Nakba of Palestine, Palestinian Plastic Artists “Mamoun Al-Shayeb,” “Dalia Yassin” and “Malek Mattar,” organized an art exhibition at the headquarters of the Palestinian embassy in the Swedish capital of Stockholm, on May 26.

The exhibition was opened in the presence of the Ministers of Defense and Foreign Affairs and a number of cultural and literary personalities in Sweden and Arabic in the city, representatives of Arab and Palestinian associations, and a crowd of Arab community residing in Stockholm.

