



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



"Family of Palestinian Refugee Appeals for Information about Missing Son in Malaysia"

- UNRWA Warns of Service Cut for Palestine Refugees in Syria
- Daraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees Gripped With Poor Hygiene due to Trash Mounds
- Palestinians from Syria Rally in Berlin in Support of BDS

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Latest Developments

The family of Palestinian refugee from Syria Hamam Khaled Diab continues to appeal to the international human rights institutions and the Palestine Embassy in Malaysia to work on disclosing the fate of their son, who has gone missing for the fourth year running.

The father said the family lost contact with Hamam, aged 22, some four years ago, adding that his son worked as a computer scientist.

Hundreds of Palestinian refugees from Syria have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian warfare. Dozens more died on the migration route.



Scores of families have been blackmailed over the release of their missing relatives and have paid large sums of money to brokers, crooked lawyers, or government officials to get pieces of information about their conditions and whereabouts.

In another development, the UNRWA Commissioner-General Pierre Krähenbühl stressed that the Agency's current financial situation will be particularly challenging for emergency operations in Gaza and Syria and for UNRWA schools across the region.



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Food for one million refugees in the Gaza Strip, as well as quality education to Palestine refugee children, but also essential cash assistance to over 400,000 people in Syria, will be severely affected if the Agency's financial requirements for 2019 are not covered, warned the UN official at UNRWA's annual international Pledging Conference, held on 25 June, in New York.

The UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and UNRWA's Commissioner-General Krähenbühl praised the collective mobilization that had allowed the Agency to face immense financial challenges in 2018, and expressed their confidence that the same spirit of solidarity would allow the continuation of education for 532,000 girls and boys and basic health care through to 8.5 million medical consultations this year.

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



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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.

Meanwhile, residents of Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, continue to rail against the mounds of trash and debris piled up in civilian neighborhoods and around the main access roads to the camp, resulting in bad smells and the spread of life-threatening diseases and rodents.

Local activists and civilians lashed out at the concerned authorities for dragging their feet over the exacerbated situation in the area, calling them to urgently step in and work on removing debris and trash without further delay.



Over recent years, UNRWA clinics and health centers have gone out of operation in the government-held Daraa Camp, exacerbating the health conditions of hundreds of displaced Palestinians taking refuge in the area.



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Founded in 1950-1951, Daraa Camp is home to over 650 displaced Palestinian families. As many as 4,500 families used to take shelter in the camp prior to the outbreak of the conflict in 2011.

In another development, dozens of Palestinian refugees from Syria rallied in Berlin to speak up against a motion by the German parliament (Bundestag) defining the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement as anti-Semitic, and thus becoming the first major European parliament to do so.

The rally-goers lifted banners and yelled slogans condemning the simmering Israeli crimes against the Palestinian people and pushing the German government to take an unbiased stance regarding the Palestinian cause.



The motion, “Resist the BDS Movement – Fighting Antisemitism,” was sponsored by the Bundestag’s two largest parties – Chancellor Angela Merkel’s Christian-Democratic Union and the Social Democrat party – as well as the Green Party and the Free Democratic Party.



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Although the motion is non-binding, its significance both within Germany and across Europe is likely to be profound.

On a European level, the motion could serve as a precedent for other parliaments to label BDS anti-Semitic. Several European countries have sought to crack down on the movement in recent years,