



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيين 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



"Palestinian Refugee Killed in Syria Blast"

- Palestinian Refugee Children in Syria Denied Access to Food Items via Smart Card
- Humanitarian Condition in Jaramana Camp Exacerbated by Power Installations Theft
- Palestinian Refugee Families Push For Debris Clearance South of Damascus
- Palestinian Writer Ali AlShehabi Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Gov't for 8th Year

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Victims

Palestinian young man Mohamed Ayman Ayesh has died after an explosive device implanted by anonymous militiamen went off in AlSadd neighborhood, south of Syria.

A commercial store sustained massive material destruction. Firefighters rushed to the scene to extinguish the fires.

Latest Developments

Director-General of the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees in Syria (GAPAR) Ali Mustafa said Syrian authorities continue to prevent Palestinian newborns and children aged below 14 from being included on lists of smart card beneficiaries.

Smart cards have been used by the Syrian government to ration bread and a wider range of subsidized goods, namely fuel, rice, tea, and sugar.

Mustafa said he reached out to the Syrian Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources on March 15, 2020 and the Social Affairs Ministry in November 2020 along with the Ministry of Internal Trade on February 24, 2021, but to no avail.

He said the measure contravenes Syrian laws and regulations which insist that Palestinian refugees, including those aged 14 or less, be treated equally to Syrian nationals in accordance with Law 260.

560,000 Palestinian refugees are registered with GAPAR in Syria.



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After ten years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs.

Palestinian refugees in Syria (PRS) continue to launch cries for help over their deteriorating humanitarian condition due to the sharp decrease in the exchange rate of the Syrian pound compared to the USD and their lack of access to the local labor market. The price leap has overburdened the cash-stripped refugees. House rents have also seen a striking hike from previous years.

Protracted displacement, deteriorating socio-economic conditions aggravated by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, dire humanitarian needs and protection concerns continue to affect the lives of Palestine refugees in Syria, according to UNRWA's "Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal 2021".

UNRWA said in its fact-sheet that in Syria, the protracted conflict has devastated human security and left 91 per cent of the 438,000 Palestine refugees estimated to remain in the country in absolute poverty and 40 per cent displaced.

In 2020, living conditions deteriorated further as a result of an economic crisis, leading to an increase in prices, including of the most basic commodities.

As the coronavirus pandemic has rebounded around the MENA region and the globe, Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria continue to struggle with growing poverty and economic hardship.



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Many PRS lost their sources of income; refugee camps have seen unprecedented levels of destruction; rental prices have dramatically gone up; undernourishment and poverty have been a daily nightmare.

Due to the serious protection gaps, children have been forced to drop out of school and join armed groups to help feed their starving families.

Hundreds of families have had women as their sole breadwinners; and in several other cases boys and girls are spotted begging in the street for a few pounds.

Meanwhile, Residents of Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, said power installations have been stolen from the area, exacerbating the humanitarian condition endured by hundreds of Palestinian refugee families.

Over recent years, residents of Jaramana Camp have launched cries for help over the dire socio-economic conditions, high unemployment rates, poor infrastructure, steep rental fees, and chronic water crisis rocking the area.

Jaramana camp is 8km from Damascus on the road to Damascus

International Airport. The camp was established in 1948.

UN data indicates that before the start of the conflict in 2011, there were over 18,000 Palestine refugees living in Jaramana camp.

During the Syrian crisis, the number of Palestine refugees in the



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camp and the surrounding area increased to 49,000 due to an influx

of displaced Palestine refugees from other areas, including the camp of Yarmouk. As a result, Jaramana has become one of the most densely populated areas of Damascus.

Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

In another development, residents of AlZein neighborhood, south of Damascus, called on the Syrian authorities to remove debris and sand barriers from local thoroughfares in order to ease civilians' access out of and into the area.

The residents urged the Yalda municipality to dispatch debris-clearance vehicles to the area.

Dozens of Palestinian families used to take refuge in AlZein neighborhood, near Yarmouk Camp, before they fled the area after opposition outfits and ISIS militias grabbed it. Scores of other families were forcibly displaced from the neighborhood following deadly attacks by the Syrian regime.

In the meantime, Palestinian writer Ali Sa'id Shehabi has been secretly held in Syria government jails for the eighth year running.

Shehabi, an English instructor at a UNRWA school, was kidnapped on December 17, 2012. Prior to his abduction, Shehabi had been taking shelter in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees.



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Frequent calls by international NGOs and activists to unearth Shehabi's fate have gone unheeded by the Syrian regime.

AGPS has documented the secret incarceration of over 1,790 Palestinian refugees in Syrian regime lock-ups, among them children, women, academics, university students, and sick civilians.