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التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

Palestinian Refugees in War-Torn Syria Launch Distress Signals

- **Frontex Accused of Complicity in Migrant Pushbacks from Greece**
- **Transportation Crisis Ongoing in Khan Dannun Camp**
- **2 Palestinian Refugees Win Syria Sports Competition**



Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees in/from Syria have leveled heavy criticism at UNRWA over its reluctance regarding their cries for help.

“We’ve been receiving a few dollars from UNRWA every three or four months in a country where most of us, Palestinian refugees, lost our livelihoods”, a refugee told AGPS.

A refugee said they have been forced to line up for over six hours in overcrowded queues outside of AlHaram Company for international transfer to withdraw their cash aid.

A number of refugees who live at a considerable distance from UNRWA distribution centres said they wake up at the crack of dawn and walk for several kilometers to receive their food aid.

“We have been insulted and our dignity attacked as if we were second-class citizens”, said a refugee.

Palestinian refugees have also denounced the poor healthcare services. Recently, UNRWA has reportedly purchased poor-quality and expired medicines and equipment from the Syrian Health Ministry following a contribution from the government of India.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a medical source said the items are not fit for human use and do not match safety standards.

UNRWA healthcare grants are also limited to patients with chronic diseases. The refugees are often forced to pay 2,000 USD for laboratory tests pending disbursement by UNRWA.

The refugees also said UNRWA has been involved in corrupt recruitment procedures as non-Palestinians affiliated with the Syrian regime have reportedly been recruited by the Agency.

At the same time, in-kind aid items are distributed once or twice a year in a country where price inflation has reached a zenith.

Eleven years after demonstrations started in Syria, some 438,000 Palestinian refugees remain in the war-torn country, where they have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation.

UNRWA data indicates that over half of the Palestine refugees in the country have been displaced at least once because of the brutal



conflict that ensued, including 120,000 who have sought safety in neighbouring countries, mainly Lebanon and Jordan, and beyond.

Over 80% of PRS live in extreme poverty and rely on humanitarian assistance as their main source of income. 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.

In another development, Europe's border agency Frontex routinely covered up illegal "pushbacks" of migrants by the Greek coastguard, media reports said Thursday (28 July), citing a leaked internal review.

A 129-page investigation by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) found that Frontex, under former executive director Fabrice Leggeri, was complicit in Greek efforts to force migrants and asylum-seekers crossing the Aegean Sea to return to Turkey, German magazine Der Spiegel wrote.

The confidential report was also seen by France's Le Monde newspaper and investigative outfit Lighthouse Reports. It follows repeated allegations by aid groups that Frontex was turning a blind eye to Greek human rights violations at sea.

"Instead of preventing the pushbacks, Leggeri and his people covered them up. They lied to the EU Parliament and concealed the fact that the agency even supported some pushbacks with European taxpayers' money," Der Spiegel wrote.

The OLAF review found that at least six pushbacks involved Greek coastguard ships that had been co-financed by Frontex, the magazine said.

In one incident in August 2020, Frontex Surveillance Aircraft filmed the Greek coastguard towing a dinghy with around 30 migrants on board towards Turkish waters — when they should have been taken to Greece.

Instead of confronting Greek authorities, Frontex stopped patrolling the Aegean by air, saying the planes were needed elsewhere, Der Spiegel wrote.

A hand-written note found later by OLAF investigators said that Frontex management withdrew the aircraft "so as not to become a witness" to Greece's illegal actions.



Meanwhile, a transportation crisis has been rocking Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, since the outburst of the Syrian warfare.

Reporting from Khan Dannun Camp, located some 23 kilometers away from southern Damascus, AGPS news correspondent said civilians' access out of and into the area has almost been blocked. Workers and students have had difficulties getting to their workplaces and universities.

Khan Dannun residents have spoken out against the steep and unfixed transportation fees. Civilians are often forced to catch another means of transportation as bus drivers change the lines, stops, and fees quite unpredictably. Others have found no other way-out than to walk for thousands of meters in order to reach their workplaces.

Bus drivers reportedly sell fuel bought to operate their vehicles on the black market.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees Ahmad Mazen Awad and Mohamed Naji Hasan, residents of Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, have won the first and second places in martial arts for self-defense in Syria.

Ahmed Awad won the first rank in the youth kickboxing contest in Syria while Mohamed Hassan snatched the second place in sanshou.

Hundreds of displaced Palestinian refugees in/from Syria have achieved success stories, despite the traumatic upshots wrought by the daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction across the embattled Syrian territories.

This includes scores of refugee students who have obtained the highest scores at their academic institutions; hundreds of refugee sportsmen/sportswomen who snatched the first places in regional and international competitions; dozens of artists who received renowned literary awards for their products and performances; and several housewives who turned trauma into a space of creativity.