



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



"Palestinian Families Flee Blockaded Deraa Camp as Humanitarian Situation Gets Worse"

- Liwaa AlQuds Commander Denies Being Arrested
- Residents of Handarat Camp Appeal for Urgent Humanitarian Assistance
- Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon Displacement Camps Endure Security Threats

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Latest Developments

A number of Palestinian families fled Deraa Camp for Palestinian refugees and AlSadd neighborhood as the Syrian security forces and their Russian allies have tightened military grip around the area.

At least seven families walked out of the camp so far. Security forces prevented them from taking their furniture and belongings.

The Syrian security forces continue to block civilians' access out of and into the area. As a result, families have run out of vital food items and medicines. The power blackout has made the situation worse.

Recently, a tough cordon has been imposed by the Syrian security forces and their Russian allies around Deraa city, after a number of residents refused Russian demands to return their private weapons.

Local sources told AGPS that all access roads to the city centre have been blocked except for the Sajneh road, where three military checkpoints have been pitched.

Palestinian refugees have expressed concerns over a new wave of forced military conscription and arbitrary manhunts in the area.



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At the same time, a power blackout continues to rock Deraa Camp for the eighth consecutive day after Syrian security forces opened fire at the main power generator resulting in a short circuit.

In another development, Chief Commander of Liwaa AlQuds squad, affiliated with the Syrian regime, denied he had been arrested by Syrian security forces in Aleppo.

Mohamed AlSai'd said he is in good health, accusing pro-ISIS media of propagating rumors after they were beaten in the Syrian desert.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees sheltered in Handarat Camp, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo, have been denied access to vital services and humanitarian aid.

Palestinian refugees have been grappling with dire conditions in the area due to the lack of humanitarian assistance and life-saving services. The majority of families have been taking shelter in buildings rented at extremely steep costs in the poverty-stricken area. A severe water and power crisis also continues to rock the camp.

Civilians continue to voice deep concerns over their children's safety due to the spread of unexploded war remnants across and around the camp.

Heavy shelling on Handarat and bloody shootouts between the government forces and the opposition outfits led to the destruction of over 90% of buildings in the camp. The confrontations



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culminated in the government's takeover of the camp along with other zones in Aleppo and the displacement of its residents on April 27, 2013.

Handarat Camp (also called Ein AlTel Camp) is located to the northeast of Aleppo's Hill, overseeing the Turkey-bound traffic lanes. It stands on a rocky hill and is situated some 13 kilometers away from the city center.

According to data by the General Commission of Arab Palestinian Refugees in Syria, some 8,000 Palestinian refugees used to take shelter in Handarat Camp. Only 200 displaced families returned to the camp following the heavy onslaughts launched by the Syrian government battalions.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon continue to launch cries for help over the precarious legal status and lack of protection they have been subjected to in the Lebanese territories.

The vast majority of Palestinians from Syria are grappling with deportation concerns and live in a perpetual fear over their families' safety due to the security mayhem rocking refugee camps in Lebanon.

At the same time, the Lebanese authorities continue to rebuff appeals for renewing the visas of those who entered Lebanon after September 16, 2016, blacklisting them as "illegal immigrants" and ruling for their immediate deportation within a time-span of 15 days.



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Over 470,000 refugees are registered with UNRWA in Lebanon. About 45 per cent of them live in the country's 12 refugee camps. Conditions in the camps are dire and characterized by overcrowding, poor housing conditions, unemployment, poverty and lack of access to justice.

Palestinians in Lebanon do not enjoy several important rights; for example, they cannot work in many professions and cannot own property (real estate). Because they are not formally citizens of another state, Palestine refugees are unable to claim the same rights as other foreigners living and working in Lebanon.