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## التقرير اليومي



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

### **Syrian Regime Seizes Houses in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian Refugees**

- **Syrian Government to Transfer Cash Aid Via Smart Card**
- **Palestinians among 27 Migrants Rescued off Turkish Coast**
- **AlHusainiya Refugee Camp Gripped with Water Crisis**



## **Latest Developments**

Members of the regime's Fourth Division seized on Friday civilian houses in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

Local sources told AGPS that the seized buildings will be turned into military sites.

An eight-member armed group showed up near AlNuman AlMazani Mosque and grabbed hold of a recently-reconstructed house whose owner was displaced to northern Syria displacement camps due to his involvement in relief work.

The militiamen forced the residents out of the house at gunpoint before they seized another building on the outskirts of the neighborhoods and turned it into an arms warehouse.

In another development, Syrian Minister of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection, Omar Salem, said government subsidy will be grants will be distributed through the smart card.

According to Salem, the financial support amount is 5,000 billion Syrian pounds, which will be distributed to over 4 million people.

According to the minister, the cash grant will be transferred through the smart card designated for the purchase of subsidized items.

A couple of years earlier, the Syrian government issued a system of smart ration cards which provide subsidies to citizens purchasing basic and essential goods. It was set up as an effort to counter the severe shortages of goods, such as wheat and fuel, which hit the country, both in the regime-held and opposition-held territories.

The rationing system established by Damascus has also been especially strict on bakeries throughout regime territory, with bakers who violated the law by possessing extra flour having been arrested by the authorities.



In another development, Turkish Coast Guard Command units on November 30 rescued 27 irregular migrants boarding two life rafts after they were pushed back from Greece.

The rescue operation took place off the coast of Mugla province.

The Rescue and Follow-Up Cell said it received distress signals from a migrant's relative who said he lost contact with the group at around 04:45 a.m.

In recent years, hundreds of thousands have made short but perilous journeys across the Aegean to reach Northern and Western Europe in search of a better life.

Hundreds of people have died at sea as many boats carrying refugees often sink or capsize. The Turkish Coast Guard Command has rescued thousands of others.

Turkey and Greece are key transit points for migrants looking to cross into Europe, fleeing war and persecution to start new lives. Turkey has accused Greece of large-scale pushbacks, summary deportations and denying migrants access to asylum procedures, which is a violation of international law. Ankara also accuses the EU of turning a blind eye to this blatant abuse of human rights.

Pushbacks are considered contrary to international refugee protection agreements that say people should not be expelled or returned to a country where their life or safety might be in danger due to their race, religion, nationality or membership of a social or political group.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees in AlSabina Camp, in Rif Dimashq, continue to sound distress signals over the acute water crisis in the area.

The residents said water has been frequently cut off for several months, forcing civilians to purchase water from privately-owned tanks at 9,000 Syrian pounds a tank (five barrels).

Civilians continue to lash out at the apathy maintained by UNRWA and the local municipality regarding their calls for supplying the area with power generators and filling main water tanks.

Located some 14 kilometers away from southern Damascus, AlSabina Camp has been gripped with an abject situation owing to



the absence of humanitarian assistance, relief aids, proper infrastructure, and vital facilities.

UN data indicates that the camp was established in 1948. Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to 22,600 Palestine refugees. It was taken over by armed opposition groups in 2013. The camp remained closed to civilians for almost four years and houses and infrastructure were damaged in the fighting. In September 2017, civilians were able to return to their homes. All UNRWA installations were in need of repairs.

The whole Palestine population in AlSabina camp suffered from displacement during the crisis and many families left the country and sought refuge in neighboring countries or fled to Europe.

During the conflict, labor opportunities have dwindled and the unemployment rate is still very high with very limited financial resources to help Palestine refugees restore their livelihoods. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.