



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية  
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

04-04-2021

No. 3181

## التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



### "Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon Denied Legal Protection"

- Palestinian Refugee Women Arrested by Syrian Intelligence
- Displaced Palestinian Families Slam Damascus Authorities for Blurring Identity of Yarmouk Camp
- Aid Items Distributed in Yarmouk Camp
- Syrian Ministry Issues New Decisions Regarding School Year
- Turkey Rescues 231 Migrants Pushed Back from Greece

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيين سورية  
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

## Latest Developments

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 the region.

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".

At least 175 PRS entered Lebanon through illegal routes; Another 150 have had their identity documents seized by the Lebanese authorities while 75 refugees received deportation orders.

UNRWA said more than half of Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon do not have valid legal visas, which has exacerbated their vulnerability and their precarious legal status.

According to the Agency's monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents.

UNRWA said the lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention and forced deportation.



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيين سورية  
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

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.

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon has been exacerbated by the movement restrictions, closure of vital facilities, and curfew imposed by the Lebanese authorities to prevent a further propagation of COVID-19.

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon are grappling with increased hardship and vulnerability, due to long-term displacement and difficult socio-economic conditions, coupled with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, said UNRWA in a fact sheet entitled “Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal 2021”.

According to UNRWA, 87% of PRS live in poverty in the Lebanese territories.

Nearly 65% of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (PRL) live in poverty.

UNRWA’s factsheet indicates that 257,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon are in need of UNRWA emergency cash assistance.

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



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية  
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

overcrowding, poor housing conditions, unemployment, poverty and lack of access to justice.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Rawan Esam Rustom was arrested by Syrian intelligence forces on Saturday on her way back from a Damascus prison, where her husband has been locked up.

Rawan, a resident of AlMuzeireeb town, south of Syria, was transferred to the Mezzeh airport.

In another development, activists have accused Damascus authorities of attempting to blur the historical and demographic character of Yarmouk Camp as a living witness to the Palestinian refugee plight.

Palestinian Engineer Mohamed Lutfi Salman said efforts have been ongoing by Damascus governorate to “erase” Yarmouk Camp, adding that dissolving the local committee, replacing “camp” with “neighborhood”, and imposing an ambivalent reconstruction plan are all undeniable proofs.

Activists and residents of Yarmouk Camp continue to slam Damascus authorities over their apathy regarding their appeals to reconstruct destroyed premises and facilitate civilians’ return to the camp.

The refugees said none of the pledges made by Damascus Governorate regarding the rehabilitation of Yarmouk Camp have been materialized on the ground.



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيين سورية  
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

Palestinian families continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes in Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus, and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

Meanwhile, UNRWA distributed on March 31 relief items to vulnerable families in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

The distributed items include food baskets, mats, mattresses, blankets, plastic water bowls, kitchenware and detergents.

243 families benefited from the move.

Meanwhile, Syria's Education Ministry on Saturday announced the end of the school year for kindergarten and basic education classes from first to fourth grades, along with the suspension of basic school attendance for fifth to eighth grades as of April 5th, 2021.

The Ministry said that the student attendance of ninth grade and secondary school classes will keep going along a normal pace, and that the exams will be held for 10th and 11th grades from April 25th to 29th.

The Ministry's decision came as a result of the increasing coronavirus cases at schools, especially among teaching staff.

In the meantime, a total of 231 asylum seekers were rescued in the Aegean Sea in seven operations after they were pushed back by Greece into Turkish territorial waters, Turkey's Coast Guard Command said late Friday.



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية  
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

The command said the Greek Coast Guard dumped asylum seekers into the water near the island of Lesbos between 3.30 a.m. (0030GMT) and 12.33 p.m. (0933GMT) local time.

They were saved from rubber boats off Izmir, Balikesir and Canakkale provinces, it added.

Turkey has repeatedly condemned Greece's illegal practice, saying it violates humanitarian values and international law by endangering the lives of vulnerable migrants, including women and children.

Turkey has been a key transit point for asylum seekers aiming to cross into Europe to start new lives, especially those fleeing war and persecution.