



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي 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



"36 Palestinian Refugees from Syria Receive Protection Cards in Turkey"

- Palestinian Activists Subjected to Smear Campaign in Lebanon
- New Assassination Attempt Reported in Deraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian Refugees Grappling With Water Crisis
- Qatar Contributes US\$ 1,252,800 to Palestine Refugee Agency

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Latest Developments

The Turkish Association to Support Palestine (FIDAR) said the Migration Department in the Turkish city of Bursa issued on February 3 – 4 the “kimlik” temporary protection cards to 36 Palestinian refugees from Syria.

Recently, Palestinian refugees from Syria in Turkey have expressed concerns over their deteriorating condition particularly in light of the new movement clampdown imposed across Turkish provinces as part of anti-coronavirus measures.

A large number of companies, factories, and shops shut their doors for fear of further COVID-19 contaminations. Several Palestinian families have lost their sole sources of income as a result.

Meanwhile, Palestinian activists in Lebanon have denounced the ad hominem campaign waged against them on social media.

The Association of Popular Committees of Palestinians of Syria slammed, in a statement issued on February 4, the counterfeit accusations targeting Palestinian activists who have been sacrificing their time and energy to speak up for the Palestinian cause.

According to information collected by UNRWA, more than 80 per cent of PRS indicate that the Agency’s cash assistance is their main source of income. 95 per cent of PRS are food insecure, while about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty. 36 to 57 per cent of PRS youth face unemployment. In August and September 2019, UNRWA



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conducted a verification exercise of PRS in Lebanon and verified the physical presence of 27,803 PRS in the country.

The number of PRS in Lebanon has been gradually decreasing over the past two years, and UNRWA estimates that in 2020 the country will continue to host approximately 27,700 PRS (8,450 families). UNRWA said PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. According to the Agency's monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents.

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 being issued a departure order.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees taking shelter in Deraa camp, south of Syria, have expressed deep concern over the security situation in the area after reports have emerged on the fatal shooting of a former opposition affiliate called Ahmad Najeh AlDugheim on February 4.

Dozens of assassination operations have targeted Palestinian refugees sheltered in the area.

In the meantime, hundreds of displaced Palestinian families sheltered in AlHusainiya refugee camp continue to launch cries for help over their tragic living conditions after water pumps broke down due to chronic power blackouts.



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The refugees lashed out at the concerned authorities over their apathy regarding the acute dearth drinking water, saying they have been left without potable water for over five months, forcing civilians to line up in long queues for hours to purchase water from mobile tanks at over 1,300 Syrian Pounds per a cubic meter.

Over recent years, residents of AlHusainiya camp have denounced the absence of vital services in the area. The transportation crisis, price leap, absence of relief assistance and healthcare, power and water crises, and high rates of unemployment have made survival quite difficult for dozens of displaced Palestinian families.

In another development, the Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD) has contributed US\$ 1,252,800 towards the UNRWA Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programme.

UNRWA said in a press release dating February 3 that this generous donation is part of a US\$ 20.7 million agreement with QFFD signed in December 2019.

The Agency said that almost ten years of devastating conflict continue to have distressing humanitarian consequences for civilians in Syria. The estimated 438,000 Palestine refugees remaining in the country are among the most affected ones. Violence, compounded by the recent dramatic economic downturn and public health crisis, have exacerbated existing vulnerabilities. The population, including young Palestine refugees, face a reduction in provision of social services programmes, a contracting job market and lack of opportunities to further education and employment.



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The UNRWA Damascus Training Centre (DTC), established in 1961, has played an important role in providing career opportunities for young women and men. This has now even become more critical and often is the only chance for Palestine refugee youth to foster their talents and, for many of them, to find employment after graduation, as the courses respond to specific needs of the Syrian economy.

Commending this contribution, the Director of Strategic Communications and UNRWA Spokesperson, Tamara Alrifai, said: “We are extremely grateful for the QFFD support towards the UNRWA TVET programme in Syria. The contribution brings hope to a generation that has spent more than half of their lives during conflict and are marked by loss and trauma. TVET provides them with the tools they need to build a better and brighter future.”

Misfer Al-Shahwani, Deputy Director of Development Project Department at QFFD, said: “This contribution is helping UNRWA to ensure Palestine refugee youth have access to vocational and technical training. It is important to QFFD to enable young women and men in Syria to achieve their full potential, despite the very challenging circumstances.”

The QFFD is a regular contributor to the Agency and has always been a strong advocate of UNRWA and Palestine refugees.

UNRWA is confronted with an increased demand for services resulting from a growth in the number of registered Palestine refugees, the extent of their vulnerability and their deepening poverty. UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary



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contributions and financial support has been outpaced by the growth in needs. As a result, the UNRWA programme budget, which supports the delivery of core essential services, operates with a large shortfall.