



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



"Palestinian-Qatari Leadership Push for Reactivating Yarmouk Camp Committee"

- Residents of Khan Dannun Camp Denounce Price Manipulation
- Palestinian Writer Ziad Mona Passes Away in Damascus
- Palestinian Child Wins 3rd Place in Karate Championship

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Latest Developments

Sources close to the Palestinian AlSa'eka Organization, affiliated with the Syrian regime, said that the Qatari Secretary of the Palestinian-Qatari leadership, Mohamed Kays, urged the Syrian Ministry of Local Administration to reactivate the local committee for Yarmouk camp, which was dissolved by a decision of the Syrian Council of Ministers.

Yarmouk's local committee, which was previously tasked with administering civilians' affairs the camp, was dissolved by the former Prime Minister Emad Khamis in late 2018.

Over recent years, civilians have slammed the services department assigned by Damascus Governorate for failing to take note of civilians' needs and hindering the return of displaced families.

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.

Along similar lines, residents of Khan Dannun camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, said prices have skyrocketed at the local market, where expired and smuggled products have been sold at exorbitant prices.

The residents called on local authorities to take serious measures in response to price manipulation and violations of product safety rules.



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Civilians have been forced to purchase vital food and non-food items, including bread, gas and fuel, from the black market at over twice their ordinary price. A gas cylinder is reportedly sold at 100,000 Syrian pounds.

Living conditions in Khan Dannun have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the unbridled warfare.

According to UN data, Khan Dannun camp was built several centuries ago to give overnight accommodation to trading caravans on the ancient route between Jerusalem and Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). In 1948, the ruins of the city provided shelter for refugees from villages in northern Palestine.

The camp, which lies 23 km south of Damascus, was officially established in 1950-1951 on an area of 0.03 square kilometers. The camp was home to 10,000 Palestine refugees by 2011, almost all of whom were living in irregular housing, constructed without any formal approval from the municipality.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was already one of the poorest camps in Syria. The conflict exerted additional pressures. The camp was surrounded by armed opposition groups and many refugee families displaced from other areas of Damascus took refuge in the camp, tripling the number of residents to some 30,000 during the crisis. Currently, the camp is home to 12,650 Palestine refugees. The increase of the camp population has had a negative impact on the camp's infrastructure.



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In another development, Palestinian writer and ancient history researcher Ziad Mona succumbed to an illness at Al-Assad University Hospital in Damascus. Mona, born in 1950, died at the age of 72.

Ziad obtained his PhD from the University of Leipzig, Germany, and continued his research at the University of Humboldt in Berlin in the field of biblical studies.

He established the Cadmus publishing house after his return to Damascus. He was one of the few researchers who carried out in-depth studies about ancient Palestine and subverted the orientalist illusions, relying on his deep knowledge of ancient history and biblical studies.

He is the editor of the “Book I Read” program on Al Jazeera channel. Since the mid-nineties of the 20th century, he has written a number of books, including: The Book of the Ebionites, Warqah Ibn Nofal and Islam; An Introduction to the Ancient History of Palestine; Making the Image of the Other in the Talmud; Balqis: Woman of Riddles and the Demon of Sex; Geography of the Torah; And Egypt And the children of Israel in Asir.

In the meantime, Palestinian child Mohamed AlMesri has won the third place in the Karate championship -12 (35kgs) held in AlJalaa sports hall, in Damascus.

70 candidates took part in the five-day championship, including Palestinian refugees Baraa Husain and Bisan Nadaf, including residents of Jaramana Camp, in Rif Dimashq.



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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.