



## التقرير اليومي



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

### **Palestinian Refugee Actively Engaged in Vaccine Production in Brazil**

- **Palestinian Children with Special Needs Subjected to Multiple Hardships in Northern Syria Displacement Camps**
- **Education Input Improved in Khan Dannun Refugee Camp**
- **Palestinian Refugee Nahed Koshkosh Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime since 2013**



## Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee Mohamed Ibrahim Zaydan has actively contributed to antiviral vaccine production, including coronavirus vaccines, in Brazil.

Along with a plethora of researchers and experts, Mohamed is working on producing efficient vaccines at the Butantan Biological Institute, in the western part of the city of São Paulo, Brazil.

The refugee was born and raised in AlNeirab Camp, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo. He studied chemistry at Aleppo University and got his diploma in biochemistry with an honour. He moved to Lebanon before he reached Brazil to pursue his academic career.

He learned Portuguese in 14 months and worked with Baxter international medicines company. He managed a project to connect advanced analyzers with the United States of America.

Instituto Butantan, where Mohamed was recruited as a researcher, is a public institution affiliated with the São Paulo State Secretariat of Health and considered one of the major scientific centers in the world. Butantan is the largest immunobiologicals and biopharmaceuticals producer in Latin America (and one of the largest in the world). It is world-renowned for its collection of venomous snakes, as well as those of venomous lizards, spiders, insects and scorpions. By extracting the reptiles' and insects' venoms, the Institute develops antivenoms and medicines against many diseases, which include tuberculosis, rabies, tetanus and diphtheria.

Meanwhile, displaced Palestinian refugees with special needs have been gripped with dire conditions in the poorly-equipped refugee tents set up north of Syria.

Palestinian refugee Nawres Haythem AlMesri, who was injured by bullet fire in the then-besieged Yarmouk Camp, is one among hundreds of Palestinians with special needs who continue to appeal for urgent humanitarian action to save their lives.



Nawras, born in 1986, has gone hemiplegic after a sniper bullet penetrated his back and chest. He suffers from ulcers resulting in large holes in his lower back due to immobility and absence of medical follow-up. He has also been exposed to blood poisoning.

Nawras is currently left on his own in al-Bab region, in northern Syria. He has appealed to the concerned humanitarian and human rights institutions to help him enter Turkey for urgent medical treatment.

At the same time, Palestinian refugee “Tareq” was shot and injured during clashes between regime forces and opposition groups in Aleppo’s western outskirts as he tried to flee to Turkey. He has gone hemiplegic.

Tareq lives in an inhabitable building with his two daughters, who have been deprived of access to school.

UNRWA said it assists more than 2,300 Palestine refugees with disabilities in Syria have had their lives marred by the unabated warfare and bloody strife rocking the Syrian territories.

Assistance to the most vulnerable Palestinian refugees, including persons with disabilities, is provided by donors like the European Union. The European Commission's civil protection and humanitarian aid department (ECHO) has funded assistance to those with disabilities, as well as female-headed households.

UNRWA has upon more than one occasion sounded the alarm over the tragic situation endured by Palestinian refugees, particularly children, with disabilities in war-torn Syria.

In the meantime, a field study conducted by AGPS has shown a remarkable improvement in education input/output in Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq.

Over the past few years, students’ academic results had gone downhill in Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian refugees due to the traumatic fallouts of the conflict raging in Syria for over a decade.

Overcrowded classrooms, the lack of teaching staff (many of them have been arrested and/or tortured), along with the absence of school furniture and educational aids have made teaching/learning quite a challenging task in Syria.



Several schoolchildren have dropped out of school due to long shifts, which last for over nine hours daily in an area where the conflict has a heavy toll on students' intellectual output and psychological wellbeing. Success rates at schools had seen a 30% decrease.

The pandemic outbreak had added bad to worse as classes have been interrupted regularly.

According to UN data, Khan Dannun 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.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was already one of the poorest camps in Syria. Most refugees worked as farm workers on Syrian-owned lands, others are wage laborers, while a few commuted to industrial plants.

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. Two UNRWA schools premises were converted into collective shelters to give accommodation to more than 130 families between 2012 and 2018. 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, affecting the electric network and the sewerage system. The camp suffers from sporadic sewage blockages due to the increased pressure on the existent sewerage system, which was designed for only 10,000 inhabitants, while there are now significantly more. Water supply resources have also been affected and the camp suffers from water shortages, especially during the summer months.

Many school children have dropped out or work after school hours to support their families. The camp also suffers from a high incidence of inherited diseases such as thalassaemia and sickle-cell anemia.



In another development, Palestinian refugee Nahed Suleiman Koshkosh has been secretly held in Syria's state-run prisons for the ninth consecutive year.

Nahed, born in 1974, was arrested by Syrian security forces in March 2013 in Nisreen Street, in ALTadhamun neighborhood, east of Yarmouk Camp.