



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

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الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"AGPS: 252 Palestinian Children Killed in War-Torn Syria"

- UNRWA Starts Clinic Rehabilitation in Yarmouk Camp
- Underprivileged Families Launch Distress Signals from Khan Dannun Camp
- GAPAR Delegation Shows Up in Palestinian Refugee Camps in Aleppo

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Latest Developments

AGPS has recorded the death of 252 Palestinian refugee children in war-torn Syria from the start of the conflict, in 2011, until February 07, 2022.

The list of victims includes 70 children who died due to the blockade imposed by the Syrian government forces and its armed allies on Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

The data pointed out that 129 children died under shelling; 15 were fatally shot by snipers; 11 were gunned down; two children were tortured to death; 22 drowned at sea; 26 others were killed in car blasts; and 34 died due to the blockade and medical neglect. Another 12 children died of other causes, including burns, suffocation, run-over accidents, and abduction.

Sworn affidavits by ex-detainees confirmed the presence of toddlers swung in their moms' arms in Syrian prisons and whose fates have remained shrouded in mystery.

Thousands of children have gone orphaned after they lost one or both of their parents in the deadly warfare.

The warfare in Syria has had traumatic fallouts on Palestinian refugee children in and outside of Syria. Post-traumatic stress disorders, mental psychosis, sleeplessness and nightmares, eating



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disorders, and intense fear have all been reported among Palestinian children from Syria.

AGPS renews its calls to the international community, human rights institutions, UNICEF, UNRWA, and all concerned bodies to work on protecting Palestinian children in embattled zones.

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In another development, UNRWA has embarked on the reconstruction of its catering centre in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

The centre will be used as a clinic replacing the automobile clinic used in the area.

The move will further facilitate families' return to the camp and the rehabilitation of vital facilities.

Available data by UNRWA indicates that 32 UNRWA facilities have been reduced to rubble in Yarmouk Camp alone, including 16 schools and seven health centres, since the outbreak of the Syrian conflict.

Meanwhile, activist have launched calls for urgent humanitarian assistance in Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian refugees in Rif



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Diamshq, where poverty and unemployment have reached unprecedented levels.

Palestinian refugee families continue to rail against the poor infrastructure and absence of vital facilities in the area.

Water supplies have been repeatedly cut off across residential neighborhoods in Khan Dannun, forcing civilians to buy drinking water from privately-owned tanks at steep prices. The residents have also denounced the ongoing electricity blackout.

At the same time, civilians continue to appeal to the concerned authorities to secure transportation means to give them daily lifts to their destinations and workplaces. Students, workers, and sick people are made to wait for over two hours daily to reach their destinations.

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



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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.

In the meantime, Director-General of the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees, Kasem Mohamed Husain, met on Sunday, February 06, with Aleppo governor, Husain Diab, as part of a visit he paid to AlNeirab and Hindarat refugee camps, in Aleppo.

Husain underscored the destruction wrought by the Syrian conflict on the two camps and called for the need to reconstruct vital facilities, increase bread quantities, and rehabilitate infrastructure.

GAPAR's chief also called on Aleppo governor to work on enhancing street lighting and repair the water and sewerage networks.

Sometime earlier, Husain paid a visit to AlNeirab Camp and met with unidentified parties.



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Local sources told AGPS that the meeting culminated in recommendations to pressurize UNRWA to assume its responsibilities regarding Palestinian refugees in Syria and increase cash aid.

Husain pledged that GAPAR will take it upon its shoulders to reconstruct destroyed houses and renovate 82 habitable ones in Hindarat Camp.

Palestinian refugee families sheltered in Handarat and AlNeirab camps continue to appeal to the concerned parties to work on reconstructing their homes and facilities that have been reduced to rubble in Syria's eleven-year conflict.

Left without roofs over their heads, a number of families have been striving to reconstruct the destroyed walls of their homes in order to provide their homeless children with safer shelters.

Palestinian refugees have also been grappling with dire conditions due to the lack of humanitarian assistance and life-saving services. The majority of families have been taking shelter in buildings rented at extremely steep costs in the poverty-stricken area. A severe water and power crisis also continues to rock the camps.