



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



"Number of Palestinian Refugees from Syria in Lebanon Goes Down"

- Students at Syria's Khan Eshieh Displacement Camp Denounce Unsatisfactory E-Learning
- Residents of AlSabina Refugee Camp Rail Against Poor-Quality Bread

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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## Latest Developments

Available statistics by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) indicates that the number of Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) taking shelter in the Lebanese territories has dropped off.

In its 2020 Syria crisis emergency appeal, in August and September 2019, UNRWA 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).



According to a survey conducted by the American University of Beirut in 2015, nearly 90 percent of the PRS population in Lebanon live in poverty, including 9 per cent who are in extreme poverty and unable to meet even their most essential food requirements.

The UN Agency also said PRS continue to face high vulnerability in the Lebanese territories. PRS's vulnerability is exacerbated 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



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valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention and being issued a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.

In 2019, the decision of the General Security Office of the Government of Lebanon to deport Syrians who entered the country illegally after 24 April 2019, coupled with departure orders issued to PRS without valid residency who entered before that date, have also increased the fear of PRS of being deported to Syria, said UNRWA.

The socio-economic hardships and unrest experienced by all in the country have compounded PRS' already dire living conditions. 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.

In another development, a number of Palestinian refugees in Khan Eshieh refugee camp complained about the unproductive courses taught online after classes have been suspended over coronavirus outbreak.



A former teacher in the camp said the poor telecommunication and internet network and their expensive charges have made students' access to online input quite difficult.



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Another instructor said the provided input does not even meet 50% of student's intellectual and academic needs. However, there is no other choice as schools have recently shut their doors as a precautionary measure to prevent further COVID-19 contaminations.

Upon more than one occasion, the United Nations has raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among the Palestinians of Syria, several among whom have left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.

Meanwhile, residents of AlSabina Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, spoke out against the insufficient quantities and poor-quality of bread sold in the area.

They further lashed out at the poor and unfair distribution mechanisms implemented by government-run distributors.



Civilians said a bread bundle costs between 100 and 200 Syrian Pounds, overburdening even further the cash-stripped families.

The residents added that their appeals to the supply authorities have gone unheeded.



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Located some 14 kilometers away from southern Damascus, AlSabina Camp has been gripped with an abject situation owing to the absence of humanitarian assistance, relief aids, proper infrastructure, and vital facilities. Frequent water and power outages have made the situation far worse.