



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

07-10-2021

No. 3372

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Khan Eshieh Refugee Camp Grappling with Bread Crisis"

- Palestinian Refugees Denounce Poor-Quality Bread in Syria Displacement Camp
- Rubble-Clearance Works Kick-Started in Yarmouk Camp
- Palestinian Refugee from Syria Wins Karate Championship
- Palestinian Girl Salma Abdul Razaq Secretly Held in Syrian Prison for 9th Year

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees sheltered in Khan Eshieh camp, in Rif Dimashq, continue to line up for hours outside of the camp's sole bakery to receive bread via the smart card.

Displaced Palestinian families lashed out at local authorities and bread supplies for manipulating bread distribution, saying they receive only seven bread loafs instead of the allotted 14 loafs.

Speaking with AGPS, a resident said cars parked outside of the local bakery continue to carry large quantities of bread to unknown destinations.

The residents said no special anti-coronavirus measures have been taken in the area, leaving civilians at high contamination risk.

Over recent years, residents of Khan Eshieh camp have spoken up against the poor-quality bread sold in the area, saying it is unfit for human consumption and holding the government's quality control staff responsible for the crisis.

Living conditions in Khan Eshieh have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the raging warfare. A transportation crisis has added bad to worse.



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After ten years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs.

Survival for the majority of Palestinian families in war-stricken Syria has largely hinged on relief assistance. The vast majority of families have been living below the poverty line.

Along similar lines, residents of AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees in Aleppo sounded distress signals over the poor quality of bread packs sold in the area.

Hundreds of civilians continue to line up on a quasi-daily basis in long queues outside local bakeries in the hunt for a bundle of bread loafs to feed their starved families.

A number of residents told AGPS that plastic strips have been spotted inside bread loafs and urged the Syrian government to control bread sales and production in the area.

AlNeirab camp is the largest official camp in Syria and is 13km east of the city of Aleppo near the Aleppo airport.

Before the start of the conflict in Syria, Neirab camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. Like other Palestine refugee camps in Syria, a large number of families, young people, have travelled abroad. The camp has also seen a large influx of more than 900 families from the nearby Ein el Tal camp, which has been mostly destroyed.



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With nearly 18,000 registered refugees, Neirab camp is among the most densely populated camps. The camp suffers from overcrowding and a lack of privacy. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

The location of the camp near the military airport means the area was exposed to hazards including mortars and shelling between the start of 2013 and the end of 2018.

Poor shelters and poor construction of the barracks result in scorching temperatures in summer and freezing conditions in winter. Water leakage and rodent infestation also remain a problem for the refugees.

Meanwhile, efforts have been underway in Yarmouk Camp to clear debris from ravaged buildings and access roads.

Bulldozers and trucks have been spotted in the area as of Wednesday, October 6.

A source from the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) said the process has been supervised and expenses paid by the PLO. Works are expected to be finalized in one month.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Mohamed Majd Shaaban Abdullah won the first place in a karate youth tournament held in Syria.



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Mohamed, born and raised in Yarmouk Camp, participated in several other competitions and won several prizes with AlJaish Sports Club.

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.

In another development, Palestinian student Salma Abdul Razak, enrolled at the Architectural Engineering University in Damascus, has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian government penitentiaries.

Born on March 30, 1990, Salma fled Yarmouk Camp after it was struck with Mig fighter jets. She was kidnapped as she attempted to re-enter the camp on December 30, 2012 via a checkpoint pitched near AlBashir Mosque, after reports emerged that her brother was injured with sniper fire.



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She was transferred, along with Palestinian refugee Husam Maw'ed, to an unknown location and charged with assisting refugees and tending to the wounded.

Several appeals were sent by her family to the Palestine Liberation Organization and Palestinian factions. However, no data has been revealed on Salma's condition and whereabouts.

According to AGPS statistics, 110 Palestinian women and girls figure on a list of 1,797 refugees secretly held in Syrian government dungeons.

AGPS believes the exact numbers to be far higher due to the gag orders slapped by the Syrian government on the fates and whereabouts of the detainees and the families' reluctance to report cases of torture and enforced disappearance over retaliation concerns.