



التقرير اليومي



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

Palestinians of Syria Lash Out at UNRWA

- **Palestinian Refugees Subject to Human Rights Abuses by Bulgarian Border Guard**
- **Initiative Launched to Rehabilitate Health Centre in Yarmouk Camp**
- **Violence Awareness Drive Held in Yarmouk Refugee Camp**



Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees in/from Syria have leveled heavy criticism at UNRWA over its reluctance regarding their cries for help.

“We’ve been receiving no more a few dollars from UNRWA every three or four months in a country where most of us, Palestinian refugees, lost our livelihoods”, a refugee told AGPS.

UNRWA cash grants, which are disbursed to the refugees according to the exchange rate of the Central Bank of Syria, lose 30% or 40% of their real value.

At the same time, in-kind aid items are distributed once or twice a year in a country where price inflation has reached a zenith.

UNRWA healthcare grants are also limited to patients with chronic diseases. The refugees are often forced to pay 2,000 USD for laboratory tests pending disbursement by UNRWA.

Twelve years after demonstrations started in Syria, some 438,000 Palestinian refugees remain in the war-torn country, where they have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation.

UNRWA data indicates that over half of the Palestine refugees in the country have been displaced at least once because of the brutal conflict that ensued, including 120,000 who have sought safety in neighbouring countries, mainly Lebanon and Jordan, and beyond.

Over 80% of PRS live in extreme poverty and rely on humanitarian assistance as their main source of income. 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.

Along similar lines, Palestinian asylum seekers among other migrants have been subjected to violence on the Bulgarian borders.

Many have been violently beaten by border guards and/or have been stripped of their clothes and personal belongings.

A recent investigation by Sky News, Lighthouse Reports and European media partners uncovered allegations of abuses against asylum seekers taking place in a makeshift jail run by Bulgarian border forces.



"When they caught us, they beat the hell out of us... they stripped us naked... shaved our brows with a Gillette razor," said Nackman, a 34-year-old refugee who claims he was detained for several hours in the so-called "cage" in Sredets.

"Then there was this wooden room that could only fit 20 people, but they forced 60 people into it; even an animal couldn't survive in that wooden room. It has the worst odour ever, so if you need to use the toilet, you'll just go to the side. They won't look at you with human eyes."

Other asylum seekers claimed they were held for several days. Some reported they were attacked by dogs, beaten and humiliated by officials before being forced back to Turkey.

"After they threw me in the container, they unleashed the dogs. It was me and a young child. He was 12 years old. He was bitten by the dogs and so was I," one man said.

Bulgaria has also been accused of shooting a refugee after a video emerged showing a young man from Syria being fired at on the border with Turkey.

Meanwhile, Nour Association for Relief and Development has launched works to turn a destroyed building into a health centre for residents of Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus, and adjacent areas.

Before the crisis started in 2011, Yarmouk was a bustling home to almost 30 percent of the Palestine refugee population in Syria. Today, the weight of displacement, hardship and the loss of loved ones add to the difficult living conditions in Yarmouk.

Along similar lines, the Palestinian Red Crescent Organization held a so-called "I'm Here" event to combat gender-based violence.

The event comes in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund, a UN agency aimed at developing national healthcare strategies and protocols, increasing access to birth control, and leading campaigns against child marriage, gender-based violence, obstetric fistula, and female genital mutilation.