



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



"Russian Officers Jotting Down Names of Palestinian Prisoners in Syria"

- Syria's Khan Eshieh Camp for Palestinian Refugees Grappling with Acute Medicine Shortage
- UNRWA Launches Online-Aid System
- 86% of Palestinian Families from Syria in Jordan in Debt
- Palestinian Refugee Mustafa Ayoub Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Security Forces

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees taking shelter south of Syria have started registering the names and personal data of their relatives who have been held in Syrian government jails at Russian offices in Syria.

The prisoners' names and information have been noted down by Russian forces, affiliated with Syria's incumbent regime.

An AGPS reporter said the required information includes an ID number and/or a personal photo of the detainee. Families should show up at the White Rose hotel and hand over the required documents to the Russian military office.

In another development, residents of Khan Eshieh camp said they have run out of life-saving medicines and urgently-needed medical kit.

A resident told AGPS that sick Palestinians with hypertension and diabetes have to line up in long queues to receive prescribed medicines. Elderly people with chronic diseases have also failed to secure much-needed drugs due to high poverty.

Recently, AGPS has urged UNRWA along with the Syrian Health Ministry to provide the Palestinian refugee community in the war-torn country with hygiene kit and relief items in light of the coronavirus outbreak.

AGPS also stressed the need to supply Palestinian refugee camps with medicines, detergents, and disinfectants in order to help the displaced communities defend themselves against the deadly COVID-19 virus.



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Palestinian families taking refuge in Khan Eshieh camp have been struggling with squalid humanitarian conditions inflicted by the nine-year long warfare.

According to UN data, Khan Eshieh camp lies beside the ancient ruins of Khan Eshieh, 27km south-west of Damascus. The Khan historically served as an overnight shelter for trade caravans on the road between Damascus and the southwest, and in 1948, it provided shelter for the first refugees from Palestine. The camp was established in 1949 on an area of 0.69 square kilometers with refugees originally from the northern part of Palestine.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. In 2012, the farms and fields surrounding the camp became active battlegrounds in which heavy weapons were deployed, often indiscriminately. The population more than halved to 9,000.

Some of the camp's buildings and infrastructure were severely affected including some UNRWA installations; two UNRWA schools and the community centre were almost razed to the ground. In 2016, UNRWA was able to re-access Khan Esheih and the Agency was able to rehabilitate some of its installations. Residents have also slowly started to return, with the camp now accommodating 12,000 people.

In another development, the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has launched an e-system to facilitate sign up process and data updating for Palestinian refugees in its five fields of operations.



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Refugees are now able to apply for a marriage, divorce, or death certificate and to update their family's personal information.

The measure dovetails the Agency's attempts to enhance its relief services for Palestine refugees in light of the lockdown measures implemented as part of anti-coronavirus responses.

Meanwhile, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) said in its 2020 Syria regional crisis emergency appeal that 86% of Palestinian refugee families from Syria (PRS) in Jordan are reported to be in debt.

The number of PRS in Jordan has remained relatively stable for a number of years, with 17,343 PRS recorded with UNRWA as of December 2019. Of these, 349 reside in King Abdullah Park (KAP), facing movement restrictions and a number of protection concerns.

Since the opening of Jabeer-Al Nassib border between Syria and Jordan, in October 2018, UNRWA has registered the return of 624 PRS individuals to Syria. As of November 2019, of those returnees, some 227 individuals were displaced again to Jordan for a range of reasons, including the unstable security situation in Syria, problems with civil documentation, lack of economic resources and livelihood opportunities, and high levels of destruction of homes and property.

A Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment conducted by WFP in 2018 indicated that the majority (67 per cent) of PRS were food-insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity. Twelve per cent of PRS female headed households were found to be food insecure compared to seven per cent of male-headed households. Food insecurity was even higher (78 per cent) in PRS households



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where the head of household was reported to be completely illiterate.

Over 90 per cent of Palestine refugee households in Syria live in poverty and 40 per cent remain in protracted displacement as a result of conflict and the damage and destruction of their homes, warned the UN Agency for Palestine Refugees.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) said in its 2020 Syria regional crisis emergency appeal that 126,000 Palestine refugees in Syria (PRS) are identified as extremely vulnerable; 89% live in poverty; 91% live in extreme poverty; and 80% rely on UNRWA cash assistance as their main source of income.

UNRWA also said that 55% of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents; 100% of PRS are in need of winterization assistance; and 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.

UNRWA said that in 2020, ensuring sufficient and predictable funding to the UNRWA Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal is crucial to prevent Palestine refugees in Syria from slipping into further misery and despair. It is also needed to maintain vital services for PRS in Lebanon and in Jordan, who live in conditions of marginalization and poverty, and are exposed to multiple protection vulnerabilities.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Mustafa Ali Ayoub, born on August 11, 1996, has been secretly held in Syrian government prisons for the 8th consecutive year.



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Mustafa was kidnapped by Syrian security forces at the age of 16 from his family home in AlTadhamun neighborhood on October 05, 2012 over allegations of taking part in anti-government protests.

AGPS has documented the secret detention of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in Syrian government prisons, among them 110 women and girls.