



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



Yarmouk Camp Returnees Denied Access to Vital Services

- Funds Raised for Family of Fire Victims in AlSabina Camp
- Workers' Union Urge UNRWA to Meet Their Demands
- Family of Missing Palestinian Refugee in Tunisia Appeals for Information



Latest Development

After more than a decade of bloody conflict, families who have returned to Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus, have been grappling with a dire humanitarian situation.

The absence of vital facilities, most notably healthcare services and access to education, along with the poor infrastructure and absence of means of transportation have made the situation unbearable in the camp.

At the same time, the residents continue to grapple with a chronic power blackout and exorbitant electricity bills. Mounds of rubble pile and uncleared garbage have made access out of and into the area quite a difficult task.

Landmines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), which are particularly unpredictable and difficult to detect, also continue to put millions of people, including Palestine refugees, at risk.

The residents have raised concerns over their children's safety as packs of stray dogs have been spotted in and around the camp.

Over recent years, most of Yarmouk's families have lived on sporadic aid handed over to them by UNRWA.

Civilians continue to appeal to the concerned authorities to speed up reconstruction works and rehabilitate infrastructure and vital facilities, including water and power networks.



Thousands of Palestinian refugees were forced out of Yarmouk Camp after the Syrian fighter jets struck the area in late 2012. Dozens were killed and hundreds wounded in the onslaught. The situation went downhill after ISIS militias grabbed hold of the camp in April 2015 and closed off vital thoroughfares to the area. Scores of other stranded families fled the camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the government forces on April 19.

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.

In another development, UNRWA staff in Syria have embarked on a campaign to raise funds for their colleague Mohamed Ismail, whose wife and three children died in a fire that rocked their house on March 24 in AlSabina Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq.

A UNRWA staff worker told AGPS that the Agency's General-Director of Syria Operations, Amany Michael Ibye, pledged to reach out to all department chiefs to help Mohamed reconstruct his house and provide him and his girl with psychological support services to help them recover from the trauma inflicted by the loss of their family.

Along similar lines, members of UNRWA Staff Union in Syria have called on the agency to cancel exceptional and unpaid leaves given under the pretext of funding deficit and to retroactively resume annual bonuses suspended since March last year.



They further urged UNRWA to create labor opportunities, recruit more Palestinian refugees, and to end temporary-work and day labor policy.

The Union denounced UNRWA's monolithic decision-making in reference to the recruitment of first-degree relatives, and called for amending the recruitment law in the upcoming general conference.

In the meantime, the family of Palestinian refugee Jihad Walid Hasan continues to appeal for information about the relative's condition and whereabouts.

Jihad, aged 35, has gone missing in Tunisia since March 04, 2022. The family said the lost contact with him at 06:00 p.m. on that day after he boarded a Europe-bound migrant boat.

A smuggler told the family that one of the boats drowned. Jihad's condition remains unaccounted for.

At least 72 Palestinian refugees from Syria drowned onboard migrant vessels, fleeing war-torn Syria. Scores of others died of cold on route to EU destinations. A number of casualties breathed their last off the Libyan seashore on way to Italy while others sunk in Marmara waters as they tried to reach the Greek coast.