



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



"Rights Group: 100 People Diagnosed with Leishmania Left without Treatment in Deir Ballout Camp"

- Debris Clearance Kick-Started in Daraa Camp
- Palestinians in Khan Dannun Camp Denounce Lack of Vital Services
- Palestinian Refugee Ali Hammouda Held in Syrian State Prison for 5th Year

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Latest Developments

Syrians for Truth and Justice Organization (STJ) said at least 100 persons have caught Leishmania in Deir Ballout Camp, in Afrin, in Aleppo, and are left without treatment in the poverty-stricken area.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a medic in Deir Ballout Camp was quoted by STJ as stating that pentostame medicines needed to treat Leishmania disease do not exist in the camp.

The doctor added that though Leishmania can be healed by drugs that should be taken in by the patient for one year nonstop, disfigurements are usually left on the body and the risks for the reemergence of infections and ulcerations remain high.



According to the medic, treatment is not available in the camp and those seeking therapy should head for Idlib. One dose of medicines is worth 5,000 Syrian Pounds (\$10), which far outlives the residents' capacity to shell it out.

Umm Mohammed, he mother of a Leishmania-stricken child, said that she does not have enough money for transportation to reach Idlib in order to treat her son and that she is unable to secure the treatment costs.



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Coetaneous Leishmaniasis is a type of skin disease caused by *Leishmania Tropica*, also known as the “Aleppo Evil”, “Aleppo ulcer”, “Aleppo boil”, “Aleppo button” or “habbat halab”. It can produce permanent disfiguring scars on the body, especially of young people.

Coetaneous Leishmaniasis is mainly found in areas associated with poor waste disposal. Water shortage, poor sanitation, and lack of other public services in Deir Ballout combine to create ripe conditions for the transmission of the disease. It is a vector-borne disease transmitted by infected sandflies.

Some 600 families, including 300 Palestinian families, taking shelter in Deir Ballout, have been shorn of their right to health care and medical treatment.

Meanwhile, local authorities continue to remove debris and unblock access roads in Daraa Camp, south of Syria.

Municipal trucks and bulldozers have began works to clear the mounds of rubble piled up in Daraa alleyways.





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Families who have returned to the camp have launched distress signals over the poor infrastructure and water and power blackouts rocking the area. The residents also said their homes have remained unreconstructed after they were intensively damaged in violent shootouts between the government forces and the opposition outfits.

Along the same line, residents of Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian refugees spoke out against the absence of a municipal council to keep tabs on the dire conditions endured by the refugees and take note of their most urgent needs.

“How come that a camp which is home to over 30,000 people is left without a municipal council?” wondered a refugee as he lashed out at the concerned authorities for dragging their feet as regards the calamitous situation endured by the Palestinians in the area.

He added that the rights and needs of Palestinians in Khan Dannun have remained at the mercy of local authorities in the nearby towns of AlKiswa, AlTiba, and AlKheyara.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Ali Mohamed Hammouda has been secretly locked up in Syrian government prisons for over five years.

Ali, a native of the occupied Palestinian city of Haifa, was kidnapped on March 1, 2013, on his way out from AlShaghour area, trying to reach Jaramana in Damascus. His condition and whereabouts remain mysterious.



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According to AGPS data, 1,711 Palestinians have been incarcerated in Syrian state jails, including 108 female refugees.

