



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



### "UNRWA Pledges to Find Solution to Cut Aid for PRS"

- UNRWA to Deliver Food Aid to Palestinian Refugees in War-Torn Syria
- Telecommunications Crisis Exacerbated by Cables Theft in AlHusainiya Camp
- House Burned Down by Thieves in Yarmouk Camp

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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## Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon have escalated protest moves against UNRWA to speak up against the Agency's decision to cut aid for PRS families.

A so-called "Tent 194" has been set up outside of UNRWA headquarters in Beirut, in reference to UN Resolution 194 issued by the UN General Assembly on December 11, 1948 resolving that the refugees wishing to return to their homes and live at peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so at the earliest practicable date, and that compensation should be paid for the property of those choosing not to return and for loss of or damage to property which, under principles of international law or in equity, should be made good by the Governments or authorities responsible;

Palestinian refugees displaced from Syria in Lebanon have called on UNRWA to take urgent action in response to the dire socio-economic condition and abject poverty they have been grappling with in the Lebanese territories.

The refugees denounced UNRWA's latest decision to cut aid for PRS and suspend shelter and food grants, urging the agency to cancel the decision and deliver winter aid to vulnerable families.



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Starting 2022, UNRWA decided that multi-purpose monthly cash grants of 100 USD to every registered family be reduced to 25 USD per person, resulting in further despair for PRS.

Director of UNRWA operations in Lebanon, Claudio Cordone, who showed up on the scene, pledged to take the refugees' humanitarian appeals into serious consideration and to mobilize donors in order to raise funds for PRS.

“For sure, the cash aid handed over to you are insufficient. We'll provide an additional sum of 25\$ per person and 75\$ next month”, Cordone told the refugees. “But I'm not sure whether aid will keep going. This is not my decision. It all depends on funding.”

Cordone added that UNRWA is doing its best to collect funds and warned against politicized moves by a number of governments to suspend the Agency's mandate.

The UNRWA official said that on January 19, the Agency will launch an emergency appeal for additional funding.

He called on the refugees to rather rally outside of the embassies of donor countries to pressurize them to disburse their pledged funds in order to help UNRWA keep up its vital services for Palestine refugees.

Some 27,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought refuge in Lebanon, where they have been enduring exacerbated living conditions and subjected to a precarious legal status.



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Along similar lines, UNRWA announced its decision to distribute emergency food aid for 2022 in partnership with the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR) as of January 12.

Text messages specifying the date and place of delivery will be sent to the registered refugees.

UNRWA called on the refugees to abide by safety protocols, wear their face masks, and keep to social distancing rules in order to help curtail the propagation of coronavirus.

In another development, the telecommunications network in AlHusaniniya Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, has been ravaged by increasing cable thefts.

Civilians said internet and phone networks have gone out of operation for over six days as gangsters continue to steal cables from the camp overnight.

Over recent days, the residents appealed to authorities in AlSayeda Zeinab to rehabilitate the telecommunications network. Their appeals have gone unheeded so far.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees who have recently returned to Yarmouk Camp have spoken up against property-thieves who have been ransacking civilian homes and stealing their belongings.

Recently, unknown persons set fire to a civilian house after they attempted to burglarize it.



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“They are pulling out all the stops to force us to leave our house”, the house owner told AGPS. “Our children were on the verge of being burnt to death had not my husband taken them out of the building”.

A poll issued by AGPS on May10, 2018, indicated that 93.2% of Yarmouk residents got their houses burglarized.

Reports of burglary continue to emerge in Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus, where hundreds of Palestinian refugees had been taking shelter.

Over recent years, pro-government militias have been raking through evacuated homes in Damascus and holding sway over furniture, copper, iron, and kitchenware belonging to displaced families.

Palestinian families displaced from the area continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

The Syrian government forces regained control over Yarmouk Camp and southern Damascus towns following a 33-day military operation launched in April 2018. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured in the offensive. Over 60% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed in the warfare.

UN data indicates that before the eruption of the conflict in 2011, Yarmouk was a bustling home to approximately 160,000 Palestine



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refugees, making it the largest Palestine refugee community in Syria.