



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



"89% of Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon Living Below Poverty Line"

- 2 Palestinian Refugees Pronounced Dead in Raging Hostilities
- Japan Announces New Contribution to UNRWA
- Palestinian Refugee Mohamed Yehya Missing for 7th Year
- Palestinian Refugee Ahmad Darwish Held in Syrian Gov't Jail for 6th Year

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Victims

AlSaeka Brigade has mourned on its Facebook page the death of the Palestinian refugees Mohamed Abdul Rahman Mahmoud and Esam Samir Abdullah AlItawi, from AlSayeda Zeinab Camp, as they fought alongside the Syrian government forces.

AGPS documented the death of 97 Palestinian refugees taking shelter in AlSayeda Zeinab Camp, in Rif Dimashq, since the outburst of the deadly warfare in Syria.



Latest Developments

UNRWA has identified Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon as one of the most marginalized and poorest communities in the region.

Over 80 per cent of PRS cite UNRWA cash assistance as their main source of income; about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty, while 95 per cent of PRS are food insecure, according to the UN agency.

Following a comprehensive verification exercise of PRS in Lebanon, conducted in July and August 2018, UNRWA verified the



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physical presence of 29,145 PRS (8,741 families) in the country, who are eligible for the Agency's emergency assistance. This indicates a gradual reduction of PRS in Lebanon, due to either onward movement or returns to Syria, while the pace of spontaneous and unassisted returns continues to vary. In 2019, it is expected that the country will host approximately 28,800 PRS (8,700 PRS families).



PRS rely heavily on UNRWA support to cover their basic needs and this dependency is expected to remain high in 2019.

Along the same line, the Japanese Embassy and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) held a ceremony in Beirut to announce a US\$ 6.08 million contribution from the Government of Japan to the 2019 UNRWA Emergency Appeal and Program Budget in Lebanon.

The ceremony also recognized the US\$ 3 million contribution by Japan in response to emergency needs and shelter rehabilitation in the al-Tireh in Ein El Hilweh camp following clashes in 2017.



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The new agreement for the contribution of Japan to 2019 Emergency Appeal and Program Budget was announced by the Ambassador of Japan to Lebanon, Matahiro Yamaguchi and the Director of UNRWA Affairs in Lebanon, Claudio Cordone in the presence of the Palestinian Ambassador to Lebanon Ashraf Dabbour.

The contribution enables UNRWA to address environmental health and hospitalization needs for refugees in 2019. Through the 2019 Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal, urgent water and sanitation needs, as well as solid waste management will continue to be supported, in addition to secondary and tertiary hospitalization care for approximately 6,165 Palestine refugees, from both Lebanon and Syria. In addition, this funding will cover the cost of medication for those eligible.

Palestinian refugees from Syria are reported to lack legal status in Lebanon. The absence of specific legislation addressing the unique situation of the Palestinians of Syria has made them vulnerable to marginalization within the Lebanese polity. The crackdowns perpetrated against Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon, along with the poor health services, the lack of humanitarian assistance by such relief organs as UNRWA, costly visa-renewal fees, and lack of access to the local labor market have all made life unbearable for PRS.

UNRWA is confronted with an increased demand for services resulting from a growth in the number of registered Palestine refugees, the extent of their vulnerability and their deepening



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poverty. UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions and financial support has been outpaced by the growth in needs. As a result, the UNRWA program budget, which supports the delivery of core essential services, operates with a large shortfall.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Mohamed Eid Husain Yehya, born in 1986, disappeared with his car from Nahr Eishah in Damascus on February 12, 2012. No data has been revealed so far about his condition and whereabouts. His family continues to appeal for information.

317 Palestinian refugees, including 37 women and girls, have gone missing since the outbreak of the Syrian warfare, AGPS has found out.



Most of those who have disappeared in the country are residents of Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

Activists have accused pro-government militias of targeting Palestinians in arbitrary abduction sweeps carried out under the



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security guise. Scores of families have been blackmailed over the release of their missing relatives. Several other Palestinians have been enduring mysterious fates in Syrian government penitentiaries, according to testimonies by ex-prisoners.

At the same time, Palestinian refugee Ahmad Faysal Darwish, aged 27, has been secretly locked up in Syrian state prisons for the sixth consecutive year.

Ahmad, from Yarmouk Camp, was kidnapped on February 11, 2013. His family continues to appeal for information.

AGPS documented the detention of 1,746 Palestinian refugees in Syrian state dungeons, among them 107 women and dozens of minors.