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## التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية  
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

### **Palestinian Refugees Alarmed by Increasing Abductions in Syria**

- **Palestinians of Yarmouk Camp Appeal for Urgent Action**
- **Telecommunications Cut Off in AlNeirab Camp**
- **Malaysia Scholarships Granted to Palestinian Students**



## **Latest Developments**

Palestinian refugee families sheltered in government-held zones and displacement camps in Syria have raised concerns over the increasing abductions in the area.

AGPS has documented several cases where Syrian intelligence branches and anonymous gangsters have arbitrarily detained, disappeared, and/or harassed people in areas retaken from opposition groups. The abuse is taking place even when the government has entered into reconciliation agreements with the people involved.

Palestinian refugee families seeking information about their missing relatives are often forced to pay exorbitant arsons that far outlive their capacities to shell them out. Protracted displacement, deteriorating socio-economic conditions aggravated by unemployment, dire humanitarian needs and protection concerns continue to affect the lives of Palestine refugees in Syria.

Tens of thousands of people, including Palestinian refugees, in Syria have vanished without a trace. They are the victims of enforced disappearance – when a person is arrested, detained or abducted by a state or agents acting for the state, who then deny the person is being held or conceal their whereabouts, placing them outside the protection of the law. The disappeared are cut off from the outside world, packed into overcrowded, secret cells where torture is routine, disease is rampant and death is commonplace. Their families are forced to live in desperation with few, if any, safe ways of finding their loved ones.

At the same time, the number of actors seeking to use the system for their own personal gain or advantage has increased. As a result of this opportunism by state security officers, an even greater number of people have been subjected to enforced disappearance in Syria.

Meanwhile, families displaced from Yarmouk and those who have remained in the camp have slammed the Palestinian Baath Party, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the General Authority



for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR) for dragging their feet regarding their appeals for urgent humanitarian assistance and reconstruction projects.

Refugees said instead of paying huge sums of money on celebrations and commemorations, Palestinian factions should rather work on rehabilitating vital services and bringing life back to normal in the ravaged camp.

“I wish that this holy Ramadan month we would be able to gather with our families without homelessness concerns”, an elderly man told AGPS.

Entering its 13th year, the Syrian warfare has had disastrous fallouts on Yarmouk Camp and other displacement camps set up across the ravaged country. In 2014, the Syrian regime cut off water in the camp, leaving hundreds of families at the risk of death.

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.

Along similar lines, Palestinian refugees sheltered AlNeirab Camp, in the northern Syria province of Aleppo, said the telecommunications network has gone out of operation.

The situation has been exacerbated by the chronic power blackout.

The residents called on the concerned authorities to install new batteries to operate network towers.

AlNeirab camp is the largest official camp in Syria and is 13km east of the city of Aleppo near the Aleppo airport.

Before the start of the conflict in Syria, Neirab camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. Like other Palestine refugee camps in Syria, a large number of families, young people, have travelled abroad. The camp has also seen a large influx of more than 900 families from the nearby Ein el Tal camp, which has been mostly destroyed.

With nearly 18,000 registered refugees, Neirab camp is among the most densely populated camps. The camp suffers from overcrowding and a lack of privacy. Like other areas in Syria,





displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

Poor shelters and poor construction of the barracks result in scorching temperatures in summer and freezing conditions in winter. Water leakage and rodent infestation also remain a problem for the refugees.

In the meantime, the Department of Education and Higher Education of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in Damascus announced the launch of registration procedures for PhD scholarships at the University of Technology in Malaysia.

This full-time research opportunity is made available by the Serambi Al-Quds Scholarship Programme. The majors are engineering, science, technology and Computer Science, Social Sciences and Business Administration.

Palestinian refugee students in Syria should show up at the Palestine Embassy in Damascus to submit their application no later than January 25, 2013.