



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



### "Hundreds of Displaced Palestinian Refugees Flee Beleaguered Idlib to Turkish Border"

- Swiss Delegation Inspects Deteriorating Situation of Palestinian Refugees in Northern Syria
- Vaccination Campaign Kick-Started in Hums Palestinian Refugee Camp
- Food Items Handed Over to Displaced Palestinian Families in Daraa Camp

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## Latest Developments

With tensions and bloodshed reaching a zenith in Idlib, dozens of displaced Palestinian families fled the embattled northern Syrian province to the Turkish borders, as they rummaged around for a safe shelter.

As snow fell on northern Syria this past week, it covered thousands of fleeing families unable to find even a piece of tarp to shelter themselves.

An AGPS reporter said some 250 Palestinian families taking refuge in Idlib headed for the Turkish borderlands for fear of being killed in the ferocious strikes launched by the Syrian government forces and their Russian abettors.



The wintry weather, along with the bloody onslaught by the forces of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, has turned the flight of displaced civilians in Idlib and Aleppo toward the Turkish border into the biggest humanitarian crisis yet in a war that for almost a decade has normalized mass atrocities.

The lucky among them stay with relatives or rent a home, but very few can afford this. Homeowners in areas abutting the Turkish border are charging the displaced exorbitant sums in rent.



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A number of families who attempted to illegally enter the Turkish territories have been caught on the border after the Turkish gendarmerie tightened security grip on migrant crossings.

According to new data from the United Nations, since Dec. 1, 2019, 689,000 civilians have been displaced by the government's offensive against the last opposition holdout in Idlib, most of them women and children. Some 100,000 have been displaced only in the past week.

In another development, a Swiss delegation and a representative of the International Red Cross Committee in Syria paid a visit to Handarat camp for Palestinian refugees, north of Syria, on February 11, in an attempt to scrutinize living conditions in the camp.

The delegation assessed the condition of vital facilities, infrastructure, and water network.



Palestinian refugees have been grappling with dire conditions in Handarat camp due to the lack of humanitarian assistance and life-saving services. The majority of families have been taking shelter in buildings rented at extremely steep costs in the poverty-stricken



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area. A severe water and power crisis also continues to rock the camp.

Heavy shelling on Handarat and bloody shootouts between the government forces and the opposition outfits led to the destruction of over 90% of buildings in the camp. The confrontations culminated in the government's takeover of the camp along with other zones in Aleppo and the displacement of its residents on April 27, 2013.

Handarat Camp (also called Ein AlTel Camp) is located to the northeast of Aleppo's Hill, overseeing the Turkey-bound traffic lanes. It stands on a rocky hill and is situated some 13 kilometers away from the city center.

According to data by the General Commission of Arab Palestinian Refugees in Syria, some 8,000 Palestinian refugees used to take shelter in Handarat Camp. Only 200 displaced families returned to the camp following the heavy onslaughts launched by the Syrian government battalions.

Meanwhile, a campaign was launched in AlAyedeen Palestinian refugee camp, in Hums and surrounding areas in order to vaccinate children aged five and below against poliomyelitis.

The campaign is slated to be kick-started on February 16 and concluded on February 20.

Scores of Palestinian and Syrian children who have gone displaced from their homes in war-torn Syria have been left without life-saving vaccination. Hundreds of children died as a result of medical



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negligence, medicine dearth, undernourishment, and the spread of fatal diseases in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria.

Along similar lines, the Syrian Red Crescent Society distributed food baskets to a number of Palestinian families in Daraa camp, south of Syria.

The move makes part of a relief campaign launched by the organization to assist vulnerable families.

Humanitarian conditions have gone remarkably worse in Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees due to the price leap, poor infrastructure, and absence of vital services.

Activists attributed the situation to the fallouts of the military operation launched by the Syrian government forces in mid-June 2018 using internationally-prohibited weapons in an attempt to recapture the area. 80% of civilian homes and property were destroyed.



Most of Daraa's schools have also been destroyed or put out of operation in the raging warfare as a result of heavy shelling using missiles and barrel bombs. A number of education facilities have also been turned into prisons or field hospitals, imperiling Palestinians' academic careers.



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Founded in 1950-1951, Daraa Camp is home to over 650 displaced Palestinian families. As many as 4,500 families used to take shelter in the camp prior to the outbreak of the conflict, in 2011.