



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

13-03-2022

No. 3527

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Sit-In Suspended in Lebanon as UN Palestine Refugee Agency Pledges Aid Increase"

- Palestinians of Syria in Jordan Call for Urgent Humanitarian Assistance
- Palestinian Refugee Ahmad Khamis Held in Syrian Gov't Jails
- Palestinian Refugee Child Wins 3rd Place in Netherlands Chest Championship

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees have ended a vigil held in Sit-in Tent 194, pitched a few months earlier in Lebanon to protest UNRWA's decision to cut aid for Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS).

This comes a few days after UNRWA pledged to disburse 50 USD as a monthly shelter grant and 25 USD as a food allowance for PRS in Lebanon as of May 1.

The UN Agency further promised to keep up its efforts in order to raise funds that will help it maintain its vital services for PRS.

Spokespersons for Tent 194 said they will follow up on the progress of UNRWA services and urged the Agency to assume its responsibility regarding displaced Palestinian families from Syria.

Palestinian CSOs have also called on UNRWA to set an emergency plan in order to alleviate the dire humanitarian condition endured by Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon.

According to information collected by UNRWA, more than 80 per cent of PRS indicate that the Agency's cash assistance is their main source of income. 95 per cent of PRS are food insecure, while about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty. 36 to 57 per cent of PRS youth face unemployment.

UNRWA said PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. According to the Agency's monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents.



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The lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention and being issued a departure order.

Along similar lines, vulnerable Palestinian refugees in Jordan have called for emergency cash assistance by UNRWA to help them survive the multiple hardships inflicted by the protracted displacement and loss of livelihoods.

In appeals emailed to AGPS, refugees called for shelling out monthly cash aid to Palestinian refugees in addition to the three-month grants and to provide them with in-kind and food items.

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Jordan are confronted with increased hardship and vulnerability, due to long-term displacement and difficult socio-economic conditions, coupled with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to UNRWA, 100% of PRS in Jordan are in need of winterization assistance and 17,800 PRS are in need of UNRWA cash assistance.

More than 2 million Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA live in Jordan.

There are ten recognized Palestine refugee camps throughout the country, which accommodate nearly 370,000 Palestine refugees. Jordan hosts the largest number of Palestine refugees of all of the UNWRA fields.



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The majority of Palestine refugees have sought humanitarian assistance in Jordan, where they continue to suffer from abject poverty and live in a precarious legal status.

In another development, Palestinian ex-prisoner Ahmad Khamis, who was released from Israeli jails as part of an Israel-Russian swap deal and re-arrested by Syrian security forces, has been enduring an unknown fate in Syrian prisons for the third consecutive year.

Khamis was arrested in June 2019 and has been subjected to exhaustive interrogation by Syrian intelligence officers at Palestine Branch 235.

Khamis, a resident of Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus, was released from Israeli jails in early 2019 and was taken back to Syria, in what media sources described as Russian-mediated reciprocation for the repatriation of the body of the long-missing Israeli soldier Zachary Baumel.

Khamis was kidnapped in April 2005, allegedly after he attempted to creep into an Israeli military base and carry out an anti-occupation operation in the occupied Golan Heights. He was sentenced to 18 years in jail and spent 14 years of the term.

An Israeli official speaking on condition of anonymity said at the time that Israel agreed to release the prisoner as a "goodwill gesture" after the return of the remains of Zachary Baumel in mid 2020.



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In the meantime, Palestinian refugee child Beshar Mousa has won the third place in a chest contest held north of The Netherlands.

Last year, Beshar won the first place in the competition.

His family fled Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, and reached The Netherlands some three years ago, seeking a dignified life.