



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 Accused of Granting Loans to Pro-Government Militias in Syria"

- Assassination Reports Reemerge in AlMuzeireeb, Civilians Deeply Concerned
- Palestinians of Syria Grappling with Freezing Weather in Lebanon's Bekaa
- Palestinians from Syria Denied Right to Visa Renewal

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Latest Developments

Daraj news website accused UNRWA in Syria of handing over loans to members and groups affiliated with the Syrian government forces and intelligence service all the way through Syria's eight-year warfare.

Daraj said it has received dozens of documents and affidavits proving UNRWA's involvement in funneling funds to Syrian intelligence officers and militias.



According to the same source, such measures dovetail UNRWA's attempt to keep its microcredit programs ongoing despite of the financial crunch rocking the agency's funds. Loans have reportedly been granted to any person, Syrian or Palestinian, in an attempt to garner customers for the program.

Daraj added that members of Syria's National Defense benefited from UNRWA's microloan program after 1.6 million Euros were funneled to the agency by the European Union. The number of loans granted by the agency has reportedly hit 9,000, among them 3,000 handed over to staff from Syria's Interior Ministry.



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Meanwhile, Palestinians taking shelter in AlMuzeireeb town expressed deep concern over the security situation in the area after reports have emerged on the assassination of the former opposition leader Youssef Mohamed AlHashish.

Activists accused pro-government militias in Syria of assassinating opposition affiliates south of Syria in violation of the reconciliation accords struck between the two sides.



A resident said dozens of assassination operations have targeted Palestinian refugees in the area, warning of the reemergence of such attempts.

In the meantime, dozens of displaced Palestinian families from Syria in the Lebanese AlBekaa region continue to appeal to UNRWA to hand them much-needed humanitarian aids with the advent of a freezing winter season.

Palestinian families taking refuge in AlBekaa have been struggling for survival in the face of the sub-zero temperatures rocking the mountainous region and the rain downpours swamping their poorly-equipped tents.



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Families have been left with no option other than burning plastic bottles to keep their children warm, despite the damage wrought on their vulnerable bodies.

Last year, Palestinian refugees were forced to burn down their clothes and garments to keep warm.



Price leap and steep rental fees, along with the absence of relief aids, have made life unbearable for the Palestinian refugees in AlBekaa.

Some 31,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought refuge in Lebanon, where they have been enduring exacerbated living conditions and subjected to a precarious legal status.

Along the same line, thousands of Palestinian from Syria who have fled to other destinations have been unable to pay the steep fees of visa-renewal processes in the host countries.

Renewing travel documents costs up to \$300. The applicant is required to pay \$800 if he/she expects to have travel documents renewed in no more than three days. In most cases, the refugees receive a two-year renewal.

Palestinian refugees also face difficulties trying to get in touch with Syrian consulates and embassies due to overcrowding. The situation



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is often made far more complicated by the so-called “brokers of appointments” who have close ties with staff members at the consulate or the embassy. A meeting is sold by such parties at \$300.

In order for Palestinians from Syria to obtain visas in new destinations, a valid travel document should be acquired to that end.