



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيين 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



### "10 Palestinians Stranded on Belarus-Poland Border Return to Syria Displacement Camp"

- Palestinian Refugee Appeals for Life-Saving Treatment in Khan Eshieh Camp
- New Initiative Launched in Jaramana Camp to Rehabilitate Water Network
- Clothes Distributed to Orphans in Palestinian Displacement Camps in Syria

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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## Latest Developments

10 Palestinian refugees trapped on the border between Belarus and Poland returned to AlNeirab Camp, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo.

Speaking with AGPS, a number of returnees struggled with abject humanitarian conditions on the Belarusian-Polish borders. Belarusian authorities told them to choose between being pushed back to Syria or staying in a forest on the border area where hundreds of other migrants have been shivering in extremely cold weather.

The refugees attempted to enter the Polish territories to seek humanitarian asylum before they were caught by the army and returned to the border with Belarus.

The cash-strapped groups include women and children who risk to die of cold weather. Food items on the border area are sold at extremely exorbitant prices.

Hundreds of people from places like Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa have been trying to cross the border illegally every day

Poland has declared a state of emergency in the region and plans to build a wall on the border.

The Polish parliament has also passed legislation that human rights advocates say aims to legalise pushbacks of migrants across



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its borders in breach of the country's commitments under international law.

In another development, a resident of Khan Eshieh Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, has launched calls for urgent medical treatment.

The diabetes-stricken refugee told AGPS he risks to get his leg amputated if he does not receive urgent treatment. His neighbours raised funds covering 5% of the treatment fees, estimated at over 7 million Syrian pounds.

Residents of Khan Eshieh Camp continue to call on UNRWA to enhance healthcare services in the area, where only one clinic has been operative.

Palestinian families taking refuge in Khan Eshieh camp have been struggling with squalid humanitarian conditions inflicted by the eleven-year warfare.

According to UN data, Khan Eshieh camp lies beside the ancient ruins of Khan Eshieh, 27km south-west of Damascus. The Khan historically served as an overnight shelter for trade caravans on the road between Damascus and the southwest, and in 1948, it provided shelter for the first refugees from Palestine. The camp was established in 1949 on an area of 0.69 square kilometers with refugees originally from the northern part of Palestine.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. In 2012, the farms and fields



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surrounding the camp became active battlegrounds in which heavy weapons were deployed, often indiscriminately. The population more than halved to 9,000.

The camp's buildings and infrastructure were severely affected, including some UNRWA installations; two UNRWA schools and the community centre were almost razed to the ground. In 2016, UNRWA was able to re-access Khan Esheih and the Agency was able to rehabilitate some of its installations. Residents have also slowly started to return, with the camp now accommodating 12,000 people.

Meanwhile, the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR) has set a new plan to pump potable water from a tank in the vegetables market to civilian homes in Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq.

The new plan comes in response to the chronic power blackout in the camp which has severely affected the flow of water from the local network.

Residents of Jaramana Camp, located a few kilometers away from central Damascus, continue to set off alarm bells over the lack of basic services and dire socio-economic conditions rocking the area as a result of the steep rental fees, high rates of unemployment, the price hike, and poor sanitation.

Jaramana camp is 8km from Damascus on the road to Damascus International Airport. The camp was established in 1948.



UN data indicates that before the start of the conflict in 2011, there were over 18,000 Palestine refugees living in Jaramana camp. During the Syrian crisis, the number of Palestine refugees in the camp and the surrounding area increased to 49,000 due to an influx of displaced Palestine refugees from other areas, including the camp of Yarmouk. As a result, Jaramana has become one of the most densely populated areas of Damascus.

Many of the refugees worked as street vendors, government employees or in nearby industrial plants. Some inhabitants find work in the informal sector through collecting garbage for recycling. The majority of women are domestic workers in Damascus to supplement family income. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

In the meantime, the Charity Commission of the Palestinian People embarked on a campaign to provide winter clothes for orphans sheltered in Palestinian displacement camps and communities across war-torn Syria.

Over 300 children aged 3-14 benefited from the move.

Vulnerable Palestinian children taking shelter in refugee camps in Syria continue to struggle for survival in the war-ravaged country

Scores of children lost their fathers and/or mothers, who served as their sole breadwinners.



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AGPS has kept record of the death of over 250 Palestinian refugee children in war-torn Syria.

The warfare in Syria has had traumatic fallouts on Palestinian refugee children in and outside of Syria. Post-traumatic stress disorders, mental psychosis, sleeplessness and nightmares, eating disorders, and intense fear have all been reported among Palestinian children from Syria.