



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



### "AGPS Issues New Report about Palestine Liberation Army in Syria"

- UNRWA Chief: Palestinian Refugees Grappling With Growing Despair
- Khan Eshieh Camp for Palestinian Refugees Grappling with Bread Crisis
- Palestinian Girl Maryem Jaber Forcibly Disappeared in Syrian Jail for 6th Year
- Greek Coast Guard Push Back 160 Migrants to Turkey

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## Latest developments

AGPS has issued a new report entitled “The Palestine Liberation Army in Syria”.

The report provides a historical overview of PLA’s founding and its branches in Arab countries. It lays emphasis on PLA’s establishment in Syria and involvement in armed fighting alongside the Syrian regime.

The new report also provides statistics about the PLA affiliates killed in war-torn Syria.

AGPS kept record of the death of 280 PLA gunmen in Syria.

To download the report, please click here:  
<https://www.actionpal.org.uk/ar/reports/special/plainsyria.pdf>

In another development, head of the UN Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has warned that Palestine refugees continue to face a growing sense of despair and dejection as a result of the volatile situation in the region and financial instability.

In a statement delivered last week as part of the 154th Session of the League of Arab States Council at the Ministerial Level, of UNRWA Commissioner-General, Philippe Lazzarini. (UNRWA photo) , sounded the alarm over the situation of Palestine refugees and the challenges that UNRWA faces, saying Palestine refugees should continue to be protected and supported as long as their status remains unchanged.



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“Crises in the region remain unresolved and new ones always seem to be unfolding”, he said. “In Lebanon, the devastating explosion in Beirut port has shattered the human security of thousands, including around 200,000 Palestine refugees. Lebanon faces immense financial, economic and political challenges.”

He added that in Syria, nine years of conflict and a freefalling economy pose enormous humanitarian challenges and many Palestine refugee families are said to be cutting on food.

Lazarini referred to Israeli demolitions, incursions, detentions and violence in the occupied West Bank along with the dire conditions in Gaza.

“Whilst the challenges hitting Palestine refugees and UNRWA are multiple, my immediate priority on my appointment as Commissioner-General was to protect the Palestine refugee community from COVID-19”, he said.

“Since July, however, we are racing against the clock, as the number of COVID-19 cases amongst Palestine refugees jumped from less than 200 to over 4,300 last Thursday”, he warned. “And now, COVID-19 is fueling a pandemic of abject poverty”.

“Despair and hopelessness are growing among Palestine refugees and they turn to UNRWA for more assistance”, stated Lazarini. “Despair is a dangerous feeling in a highly volatile region”.

The UN official said that in such an unpredictable and unstable environment, “we need, more than ever, a predictable and stable



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UNRWA. Our greatest challenge is our financial stability. We are operating at full capacity with inadequate resources”.

“Year after year, month after month, UNRWA is on the edge of a financial collapse. This is not a sustainable model. Despite the severity of the financial situation, I do not wish to add to the anxiety and insecurity that refugees feel every day by making alarmist public statements”.

“As of today, I do not know whether we will have adequate resources to run UNRWA operations until the end of the year. Nevertheless, I have taken the decision to make Palestine refugee children going back to learning a priority. I am delighted to announce that last week more than half a million girls and boys started to go back to learning in UNRWA schools. Education is central to all of our efforts to give them hope for a better future”, he stated.

Lazarini also said: “But sustaining education requires a different funding model. Our budgets are prepared ahead of time, they are predictable. Over the last 5 years - with the exception of 2018 - UNRWA’s Programme Budget - the backbone of the Agency - has not been adequately resourced to deliver with the quality that meets the commitments of UNRWA’s mandate. Funding has constantly been unpredictable, with no visibility beyond few weeks”.

The UNRWA chief reiterated his appeals to UN Member States to match their political support for the UNRWA mandate with



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adequate resources. He appealed to Members of the Arab League to do the same.

“In the immediate term, between now and the end of the year, UNRWA urgently needs 200 million US dollars for its Programme Budget, US\$ 95 million to respond to COVID-19, and US\$ 43 million for Syria and the occupied Palestinian territory, primarily to sustain food and cash assistance to one million poor refugees in Gaza and over 400,000 in Syria and Lebanon”, the UNRWA Commissioner-General said.

Lazzarini closed by warning that failing to receive the necessary funds will affect vital services to millions of Palestine refugees.

Meanwhile, A number of Palestinian families sheltered in Khan Eshieh refugee camp, in Rif Dimashq, denounced the acute shortage in bread supplies.

The residents have appealed to the concerned authorities to work on supplying civilians with much-needed bread and to increase bread and flour quantities allotted for AJalil Bakery.

Over recent years, residents of Khan Eshieh camp have spoken up against the poor-quality bread sold in the area, saying it is unfit for human consumption and holding the government’s quality control staff responsible for the crisis.

Living conditions in Khan Eshieh have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates



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wrought by the raging warfare. A transportation crisis has added bad to worse.

After ten years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs.

Survival for the majority of Palestinian families in war-stricken Syria has largely hinged on relief assistance. The vast majority of families have been living below the poverty line.

In the meantime, Palestinian child Myriam Maher Jaber, born in 2011, has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian government prisons for the sixth consecutive year.

The child was arrested on January 05, 2014 in Ali AlWahsh Street, in Hjeira town, south of Damascus, as she attempted to flee the blockaded Yarmouk Camp with her family.

AGPS has documented the secret internment of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in Syria's state-run prisons, including women and minors.

Along similar lines, European Union forces pushed back 160 migrants through Evros River, between Turkey and Greece.

Earlier this year, a report by the Border Violence Monitoring Network (BVMN), with help from its members Mobile Info Team (MIT) and Wave Thessaloniki, provided first-hand testimonies and photographic evidence showing violent collective expulsions of migrants and refugees from Greece.



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The migrants were reportedly beaten, robbed and detained before being driven to the border area where military personnel used boats to return them to Turkey across the Evros River.