



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

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الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Cash-Striped Palestinians from Syria Close Off UNRWA Office in Sidon"

- Residents of Jaramana Camp Denounce Mistreatment by Haram Transfer
- Palestinians among Several Migrants Rescued by Turkish Coast Guard
- Palestinian Refugee Wins Karate Championship in Syria

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees displaced from Syria to Lebanon have closed off the headquarters of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in Sidon.

The move comes in protest of the Agency's decision to reduce cash aid for Palestinian refugee families from Syria (PRS).

The protesters strongly condemned the decision which they said is a sign of apathy regarding the abject humanitarian condition already endured by the Palestinian refugee community in displacement camps across the Lebanese territories.

They added that the decision is also a serious breach of UNRWA's humanitarian mission as mandated by the UN and the Agency's promise to assist Palestinian refugees in its five fields of operation, including Lebanon.

Palestinian refugees have urged UNRWA to work on their unconditional return to their homes from which they have been displaced by the Israeli occupation since 1948.

By the end of 2021, UNRWA said that starting 2022, multi-purpose monthly cash grants of 100 USD to every registered PRS will be reduced to 25 USD per person.



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The Agency also said every PRS will receive an additional cash grant of 150 USD on two batches in 2022. UNRWA will suspend its food allowances for PRS in Lebanon.

At the same time, a number of NGOs leveled heavy criticism at UNRWA and urged the Agency to backtrack on the new measures which they said would result in further despair for PRS.

In another development, residents of Jaramana Camp have urged UNRWA to pressurize AlHaram Company for international transfer to cease mistreatment of Palestinian refugees who show up at the company's office in Ra'is Square to withdraw their cash aid.

Speaking with AGPS, a number of refugees said they have been forced to line up for hours in overcrowded queues outside of the company.

“We have been insulted and our dignity attacked as if we were second-class citizens”, a refugee told AGPS. “A woman who wanted to inquire about aid distribution was offended by a staffer”.

The refugees called on UNRWA to reach out to AlHaram Company and pressurize it to take urgent measures in response to their complaints.

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



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PRS continue to launch cries for help over their deteriorating humanitarian condition due to the sharp decrease in the exchange rate of the Syrian pound compared to the USD and their lack of access to the local labor market. The price leap has also overburdened the cash-stripped refugees.

Meanwhile, Turkish coast guard rescued a number of migrants, including Palestinian refugees, on an Italy-bound vessel.

The migrants launched distress signals after the boat engine suddenly went out of operation.

The Turkish coast guard said five fishing vessels with 757 migrants onboard and 16 smugglers set sail from Turkey on way to Italy. One of the boats had its engine broken down. Another boat was pushed back by Greek coast guard after its engine went out of operation. The other boats were intercepted in Turkish waters. At the same time, 16 smugglers were arrested.

Turkey has been a key transit point for asylum seekers aiming to cross into Europe to start new lives, especially those fleeing war and persecution.

Turkey has repeatedly condemned Greece's illegal practice of pushing back asylum seekers, saying it violates humanitarian values and international law by endangering the lives of vulnerable migrants, including women and children.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Mahmoud Mufeed Diab has won the Karate contest held in AlJalaa Club, in Damascus.



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Mahmoud, born and raised in AlSabina Camp for Palestinian refugees, won the gold medal in the tournament.

Over the past couple of years, Mahmoud had won the second and third places in the republic championship.

Dozens of displaced Palestinian refugees have achieved success stories, despite of the traumatic upshots wrought by daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction across the embattled Syrian territories.

This includes scores of refugee students who have obtained the highest scores at their academic institutions; hundreds of refugee sportsmen/sportswomen who snatched the first places in regional and international competitions; dozens of artists who received renowned literary awards for their products and performances; and several housewives who turned trauma into a space of creativity.