



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



Syrian Security Forces Crack Down on Palestinian Refugees

- Judicial Source: Palestinian Refugees in Syria Excluded from Presidential Amnesty
- Activists Warn Yarmouk Residents against Attempts to Turn Their Property into Bargaining Chips
- Palestinian Refugee Earns Coach Diploma in The Netherlands



Latest Development

Syrian border forces arrested a Palestinian refugee and banned others from crossing the borders with Lebanon.

The refugees presented exit permits from Syrian migration authorities in Ein Kersh.

A number of refugees told an AGPS correspondent that Syrian security forces ordered them to obtain a permit from Palestine Branch and the migration department.

Several refugees who booked flights to Turkey and Erbil now found themselves in a tricky situation.

Another refugee said the Syrian security forces cracked down on the passengers and subjected them to heavy questioning as to the reasons for their departure.

Along similar lines, a Syrian judicial source stated that the recently issued presidential amnesty decree includes Syrians exclusively, in accordance with the Syrian Nationality Law. Palestinians or any other nationalities are excluded from the pardon decree.

Military judge Ahmed Tozan told Sham FM radio station that the decree includes Syrians only.

The judge added that efforts have been ongoing by the Justice Ministry and the Military Judiciary until the last person covered by the amnesty is released.

Tozan said that those who were released were handed over to their families and no one was left on the streets. People living abroad



and included in the amnesty will have their search warrants automatically lifted.

A couple of weeks ago, Syrian president Bashar AlAssad issued a decree giving a general amnesty to people convicted on terrorism charges before 30 April 2022. The amnesty excludes acts that have led to killings or kidnappings, and those against whom there are civil personal claims.

Thousands of Palestinians and Syrians have been jailed on terror charges for peaceful opposition to Assad's government since the 2011 Arab Spring protests and subsequent war.

In another development, activists have called on the residents of Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus, to stand on guard to all attempts to force them to forfeit their houses and property at low prices.

With the return of a number of families to Yarmouk, prices of houses and property have skyrocketed in the Camp.

The activists have warned against attempts by crooked real estate brokers to pressurize civilians to sell their homes and properties.

Real estate dealers have reportedly established limited-liability contracting companies to buy real estate from the residents at extremely cheap prices. Civilians who have lost their property ownership documents have particularly come under simmering pressure.

Over recent years, human rights activists have accused dealers affiliated with the Free Palestine Movement, led by Palestinian-Syrian businessman Yasser Qashlaq, of standing behind the



purchase of property from Yarmouk residents. The Nikken Syria company, which was founded with the participation of Iranian investors, has also reportedly been involved in such deals.

UN data indicates that before the eruption of the conflict in 2011, Yarmouk was home to approximately 160,000 Palestine refugees, making it the largest Palestine refugee community in Syria. Located eight kilometers from Damascus, it is one of three unofficial camps in Syria.

In December 2012, fierce clashes erupted in Yarmouk, causing numerous civilian casualties, severe damage to property and the displacement of thousands of Palestine refugees and Syrians. The camp was under siege from July 2013, drastically restricting the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods.

In April 2015, armed opposition groups captured over 60 per cent of the camp, containing over 90 per cent of the remaining civilian population. This not only made relief institutions unable to carry out any distributions inside Yarmouk but also displaced most of the remaining 18,000 Palestine refugees and other civilians to the neighboring areas of Yalda, Babila and Beit Saham (YBB).

Almost all the remaining Palestine refugees left during the final government offensive for Yarmouk in April-May 2018, after which the government retook control of the camp.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Mohammed Marwan Maw'ed obtained a coach diploma from ABC Swim School in the Netherlands.



Mohamed, born in 1984 in Yarmouk camp, is a graduate of the Sports Institute in Damascus. He attended many training and educational courses in body building and swimming. He also obtained many certificates in diving and marine emergencies in Algeria in 2014.

Mohamed dedicated his recent success to slain Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, who was assassinated by the Israeli occupation forces on the outskirts of Jenin refugee camp.

Hundreds of displaced Palestinian refugees in/from Syria have achieved success stories, despite the traumatic upshots wrought by the 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.