

17-12-2022

No: 3792

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



## التقرير اليومي



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

### **Palestinian Refugees in Northern Syria Displacement Camps Deprived of Heating Equipment**

- 2 Palestinian Refugees Released from Turkish Custody
- Displaced Families Call for Rehabilitation of Local Committee in Yarmouk Camp
- Palestinian Refugee Ali Mahmoud Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime for 8th Year



## Latest Developments

Palestinian refugee families sheltered in displacement camps set up north of Syria continue to appeal for urgent humanitarian action by the concerned authorities in Syria, United Nations bodies, and international humanitarian organizations.

Hundreds of Palestinian families have been struggling for survival in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout and Muhammadiya camps, after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns. For many displaced Palestinian refugees, the perils of winter weather add to the torment already experienced throughout the conflict.

Palestinian refugees said they have no heating equipment except for blankets and mattresses.

The families expressed fear that they won't be able to cook their food or keep the cold out of their homes this year due to fuel dearth, as a freezing winter season is about to unlock its gates.

The refugees have launched into a tirade against the malpractices of Syria's burgeoning black oil market, fuel shortages, and—most of all—the exorbitant prices of wood and fuel charged by corrupt officials and traders.

At the same time, desperate for warmth, displaced Palestinian and Syrian families taking refuge in under-equipped camps and substandard facilities have been burning their clothes and plastic materials to stave off winter cold after they failed to afford firewood and fuel supplies.

This has resulted in heavy smokes engulfing camps from all corners and engendering civilians', particularly children's, health condition.

Activists sounded the alarm over the health hazards emanating from toxic smokes. Scores of children have sustained costochondritis (chest inflammation) and bronchitis due to heavy smoke inhalation.



In another development, Palestinian brothers Ali and Yahya Ashmawi were released by Turkish authorities one week after they were detained in Esenler district, on Istanbul's European side.

The two refugees were detained for failing to obtain the temporary protection card known as "kimlik".

Meanwhile, civilians have called on authorities in Damascus to reactivate the local committee which was previously tasked with administering civilians' affairs in Yarmouk Camp and which was dissolved by the former Prime Minister Emad Khamis in late 2018.

Civilians say the services department assigned by Damascus Governorate has failed to take note of civilians' needs and hinder the return of displaced families.

Palestinian families continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes in Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus, and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

Most of Palestinian families taking shelter south of Damascus fled Yarmouk as a result of the tough blockade imposed by the government troops and also after ISIS grabbed hold of the camp on April 1, 2015.

Scores of other stranded families fled the camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the government forces on April 19, 2018. The Syrian government regained control over the camp and southern Damascus towns following the military operation. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured. Over 80% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Ali Mahmoud Mahmoud, aged 35, has been secretly locked up in Syrian state prisons since February 20, 2014.

AGPS has documented the incarceration of over 1,800 Palestinians in Syria's state-run prisons, among them women and children.