



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



"UN: 100% of Palestinian Refugees from Syria in Jordan in Need of Humanitarian Assistance"

- 91% of Palestinian Refugee Families in Syria Suffer Extreme Poverty
- Palestinian Refugees in Syria's AlHusainiya Camp Raise Concerns over Health Risks of Uncleared Garbage, Waste Water
- Palestinian Refugee Mootaz AlKhatib Forcibly Disappeared in Syria for 5th Year

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Jordan are confronted with increased hardship and vulnerability, due to long-term displacement and difficult socio-economic conditions, coupled with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, said UNRWA in a fact sheet entitled “Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal 2021”.

According to UNRWA, 100% of PRS in Jordan are in need of winterization assistance and 17,800 PRS are in need of UNRWA cash assistance.

UNRWA said that in 2021, the Agency requires US\$ 318 million to respond to the humanitarian needs of Palestine refugees in Syria, Lebanon and Jordan.

The number of PRS in Jordan has remained relatively stable for a number of years, with 17,343 PRS recorded with UNRWA as of December 2019. Of these, 349 reside in King Abdullah Park (KAP), facing movement restrictions and a number of protection concerns.

More than 2 million Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA live in Jordan.

There are ten recognized Palestine refugee camps throughout the country, which accommodate nearly 370,000 Palestine refugees. Jordan hosts the largest number of Palestine refugees of all of the UNWRA fields.



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The majority of Palestine refugees have sought humanitarian assistance in Jordan, where they continue to suffer from abject poverty and live in a precarious legal status.

Along similar lines, protracted displacement, deteriorating socio-economic conditions aggravated by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, dire humanitarian needs and protection concerns continue to affect the lives of Palestine refugees in Syria, according to UNRWA's "Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal 2021".

UNRWA said that in Syria, the protracted conflict has devastated human security and left 91 per cent of the 438,000 Palestine refugees estimated to remain in the country in absolute poverty and 40 per cent displaced. In 2020, living conditions deteriorated further as a result of an economic crisis, leading to an increase in prices including of the most basic commodities.

As the coronavirus pandemic has rebounded around the MENA region and the globe, Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria continue to struggle with growing poverty and economic hardship.

Hundreds of Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) have lost their jobs in the warfare and hundreds more have been wondering in the streets as they rummage around for livelihoods to feed their starved families.

The crisis in Syria has been one of the gravest and most demanding emergencies faced in the modern era. The vast majority of PRS families are unable to meet their basic needs.



Many PRS lost their sources of income; refugee camps have seen unprecedented levels of destruction; rental prices have dramatically gone up; undernourishment and poverty have been a daily nightmare.

Due to the serious protection gaps, children have been forced to drop out of school and join armed groups to help feed their starving families.

Hundreds of families have had women as their sole breadwinners; and in several other cases boys and girls are spotted begging in the street for a few pounds.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee students enrolled at UNRWA schools have been affected by cold weather. The situation is exacerbated by the absence of heating installations at UNRWA premises.

Parents whose children are enrolled at Jibreen School in AlSayeda Zeinab refugee camp said the situation has become alarming as school heaters have gone out of operation due to the acute shortage in fuel supplies. As a result, children's academic output and concentration quotient have remarkably gone down.

The parents leveled heavy criticism at the school administration over their apathy regarding their appeals for urgent action.

Palestinian refugee families have frequently denounced the inadequate educational services and poor-quality input delivered



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children in displacement camps set up across the war-ravaged Syrian territories.

Local schools face overcrowding, with over 50 students often crammed in a single classroom. Schoolchildren have also been subjected to bullying and psycho-physical violence by a number of teaching staff.

Upon more than one occasion, UNRWA has raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among the Palestinians of Syria, several among whom left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.

Several UNRWA facilities were destroyed in the Syrian warfare and others have gone out of operation, including two clinics, a vocational training center, a youth development center, and 28 schools, out of 112 UNRWA schools in Syria. Other education facilities have been turned into prisons or field hospitals, imperiling Palestinians' academic careers.

In the meantime, civilians taking shelter in Syria's AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, have voiced deep concern over the health hazards inflicted by the trash mounds piled up across residential alleyways and the standing wastewater flooding the main access roads.

The residents said wastewater and garbage piles have resulted in bed smells and the spread of life-threatening infections and stray dogs.



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Photos circulated on social media network Facebook showed standing wastewater and mounds of trash in AlMadaris neighborhood.

Civilians have appealed to the concerned authorities to take immediate action in order to clear garbage and remove standing wastewater.

All the way through the ten-year Syrian conflict, Palestinians taking refuge in AlHusainiya camp have been grappling with dire conditions. High unemployment rates and the absence of relief assistance by UNRWA and other humanitarian institutions have made survival quite difficult in the area.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Mootaz AlKhatib, a former resident of Khan Dannun camp, in Rif Dimashq, has been forcibly disappeared by opposition squads in Syria for the fifth consecutive year.

Mootaz was kidnapped at a government-run checkpoint in Syria on June 01, 2016. His condition and whereabouts could not be identified.

AGPS has been deeply concerned about the upsurge in the number of Palestinian victims of torture and enforced disappearance in Syria.

Over 1,790 Palestinian refugees have been secretly held in Syrian government dungeons since the outburst of deadly hostilities.



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AGPS also documented the death of over 600 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government lock-ups, including women, children, and elderly civilians.

Affidavits by ex-detainees provided evidence on the involvement of Syrian government officers in harsh torture tactics, including electric shocks, heavy beating using whips and iron sticks, and sexual abuse against Palestinian detainees, in a flagrant violation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, commonly known as the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).