



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



"Palestinians from Syria in Turkey Appeal for Urgent Humanitarian Assistance "

- Activists Warn against Underway Attempts to Turn Yarmouk Camp Property into Bargaining Chips
- Activists Appeal for Urgent Assistance of Orphans in Palestinian Displacement Camp
- Rights Groups Slam UNRWA Aid Distribution Mechanism

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees from Syria in Turkey have expressed concerns over their deteriorating condition particularly in light of the new movement clampdown imposed across Turkish provinces as part of anti-coronavirus measures.

A large number of companies, factories, and shops shut their doors for fear of further COVID-19 contaminations. Several Palestinian families have lost their sole sources of income as a result.

The absence of the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) over claims that Turkey falls outside of its map of field operations has made the situation worse.

Palestinian refugees continue to urge the concerned institutions to assume their responsibilities regarding the Palestinian refugee community in Turkey and work on toning down their calamitous state of affairs in light of the socio-economic crises and health setback wrought by the global coronavirus epidemic.

In another development, lawyers and activists have notified the residents of Yarmouk Camp against ongoing attempts by crooked merchants and profiteers to buy civilian property in the camp at very low prices.

A human rights activist said a number of displaced families who have not been allowed to return to Yarmouk Camp have had their property secretly sold to brokers and real estate dealers.



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Another activist said a number of contractors seeking to take advantage of the projected reopening of the camp have established limited companies to purchase property at cheap prices while spreading rumors that the camp will not be reconstructed and civilians will not be allowed in.

Meanwhile, activists have launched calls for urgently assisting some 200 orphans sheltered in Khan Eshieh refugee camp and who have lost their parents in the warfare.

Activists have lashed out at the concerned authorities for turning their back on the residents' cry for help.

Living conditions in Khan Eshieh have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the raging warfare. A transportation crisis has added bad to worse.

After nine 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, human rights groups in Lebanon have condemned UNRWA's dragging of its feet over the calls launched by Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon for urgent cash grants.



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Association 302 to Defend Refugees Rights strongly condemned the distribution mechanism of UNRWA cash aid, urging the Agency to take serious measures in order to deliver the refugees' cash grants on time.

The refugees have denounced the mistreatment they have been subjected to by bank staff. Hundreds of refugees, including elderly people, have to line up for hours in order to receive their cash grants. Scores of other refugees have not had their allowances transferred.

Director of Thabet Organization for the Right of Return, Sami Hammoud, also said there is a high risk that hundreds of refugees contract coronavirus due to the long queues spotted outside of aid delivery locations.

UN data indicates that the majority of Palestinian refugees, particularly those fleeing war-torn Syria (PRS), continue to face dire conditions and high vulnerability in Lebanon.

According to information collected by UNRWA, more than 80 per cent of PRS indicate that the Agency's cash assistance is their main source of income. 95 per cent of PRS are food insecure, while about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty. 36 to 57 per cent of PRS youth face unemployment. In August and September 2019, UNRWA conducted a verification exercise of PRS in Lebanon and verified the physical presence of 27,803 PRS in the country.

The number of PRS in Lebanon has been gradually decreasing over the past two years, and UNRWA estimates that in 2020 the country will continue to host approximately 27,700 PRS (8,450 families).



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UNRWA said PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. According to the Agency's monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents.

The lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention and being issued a departure order.