



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



"Palestinian Refugees Denounce Security Mayhem in Ein AlHilweh Camp"

- Palestinian Refugee Families Facing Squalid Conditions in Khan Dannun Camp
- 700 Palestinian Refugee Families Return to Yarmouk Camp
- Eid Project Launched by Women in Palestinian Refugee Camp in Syria
- Palestinian Refugee Rami Ismail Wins Syria Bodybuilding Championship

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon continue to launch cries for help over the precarious legal status and lack of protection they have been subjected to in the Lebanese territories.

Palestinian refugees in Ein AlHilweh displacement camps continue to voice concerns over the security turmoil and uncontrolled weapon possession in the area.

On Sunday, handmade grenades and light weapons were used in shootouts that rocked the camp, resulting in three injuries.

The vast majority of Palestinians from Syria are grappling with deportation concerns and live in a perpetual fear over their families' safety due to the security mayhem rocking refugee camps in Lebanon.

Ein El Hilweh camp is located south of Saida in south Lebanon. It is the largest Palestine refugee camp in Lebanon.

The camp's inhabitants were displaced in 1948, most from coastal towns in historic Palestine. The camp also hosts a large number of Palestine refugees displaced from other parts of Lebanon, particularly from Tripoli, who came to Ein El Hilweh during the Lebanese civil war and in the aftermath of the Nahr el-Bared conflict in 2007.



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Today, the ongoing Syria crisis has also led to an influx of Syrian refugees and Palestine refugees displaced from Syria.

Along similar lines, Palestinian refugee families taking shelter in Khan Dannun camp, in Rif Dimashq, continue to rail against the poor infrastructure and absence of vital facilities in the area.

Water supplies have been repeatedly cut off across residential neighborhoods in Khan Dannun, forcing civilians to buy drinking water from privately-owned tanks at steep prices. The residents have also denounced the ongoing electricity blackout.

At the same time, civilians continue to appeal to the concerned authorities to secure transportation means to give them daily lifts to their destinations and workplaces. Students, workers, and sick people are made to wait for over two hours daily to reach their destinations.

Living conditions in Khan Dannun have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the unbridled warfare.

According to UN data, Khan Dannun camp was built several centuries ago to give overnight accommodation to trading caravans on the ancient route between Jerusalem and Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). In 1948, the ruins of the city provided shelter for refugees from villages in northern Palestine.

The camp, which lies 23 km south of Damascus, was officially established in 1950-1951 on an area of 0.03 square kilometers. The



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camp was home to 10,000 Palestine refugees by 2011, almost all of whom were living in irregular housing, constructed without any formal approval from the municipality.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was already one of the poorest camps in Syria. The conflict exerted additional pressures. The camp was surrounded by armed opposition groups and many refugee families displaced from other areas of Damascus took refuge in the camp, tripling the number of residents to some 30,000 during the crisis. Currently, the camp is home to 12,650 Palestine refugees. The increase of the camp population has had a negative impact on the camp's infrastructure.

In another development, Secretary-General of the of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front Khaled Abdul Majid said some 700 families have returned to Yarmouk Camp so far.

He added that several measures have been taken to protect civilians' property. Families should submit property ownership proofs to have their houses reconstructed.

Speaking with the state-run SANA news agency, Abdul Majid said there exists significant efforts to rehabilitate the power/water networks and vital facilities in the camp.

He called on UNRWA to speed up reconstruction of its destroyed premises.

Meanwhile, Palestinian women in AlNeirab camp, north of Syria, launched a small project to make cakes at cheap prices.



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The five-day initiative was held at Shams Centre for Women Empowerment run by the Palestinian Red Crescent Organization.

15 women who participated in the project were able to make 90 kilograms of date ring cookies and 80 kgs of cakes.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Rami Haytham Ismail, born in 2004 and raised in Jaramana Camp, in Rif Dimashq, won the bodybuilding championship in the Syrian republic (65 kilograms) held in Damascus.

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.