



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

20-04-2021

No. 3197

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees in AlNeirab Camp Denounce Poor-Quality Bread"

- AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian Refugees Gripped with Power Crisis
- Palestinian Refugee Released from Syrian Prison
- Palestinian Refugee Succumbs to Coronavirus in Syria
- UNRWA Distributes Food Aid to Palestinian Refugees
- UNRWA Launches Centralized Digital Learning Platform for Palestine Refugee Students

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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

Latest Developments

Three bakeries in AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees have been selling bread made out of stale bread instead of baking powder.

Following complaints filed by the residents, the Directorate of Internal Commerce and Consumer Protection toured the camp and found out that three bakeries—AlHourani, AlRafe', and Hasan Hamida—have been using stale bread.

Residents of AlNeirab Camp have frequently sounded distress signals over the poor quality of bread packs sold in the area.

Hundreds of civilians continue to line up on a quasi-daily basis in long queues outside local bakeries in the hunt for a bundle of bread loafs to feed their starved families.

A number of residents told AGPS that plastic strips have been spotted inside bread loafs and urged the Syrian government to control bread sales and production in the area.

AlNeirab camp is the largest official camp in Syria and is 13km east of the city of Aleppo near the Aleppo airport.

Before the start of the conflict in Syria, Neirab camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. Like other Palestine refugee camps in Syria, a large number of families, young people, have travelled abroad. The camp has also seen a large influx of more



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

than 900 families from the nearby Ein el Tal camp, which has been mostly destroyed.

With nearly 18,000 registered refugees, Neirab camp is among the most densely populated camps. The camp suffers from overcrowding and a lack of privacy. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

The location of the camp near the military airport means the area was exposed to hazards including mortars and shelling between the start of 2013 and the end of 2018.

Poor shelters and poor construction of the barracks result in scorching temperatures in summer and freezing conditions in winter. Water leakage and rodent infestation also remain a problem for the refugees.



Along similar lines, residents of Haifa Street in AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, said power has been cut



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

off across residential alleyways for the fifth consecutive day after power cables fell on the ground.

The residents urged the Syrian authorities to carry out the necessary maintenance works and repair electricity poles.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Omar Mohamed Mahawesh, born in 1993, was released from Syrian prisons on April 19.

Omar, a resident of Deraa refugee camp, south of Syria, had been locked up for over two years and a half in Syrian regime prisons.

AGPS has documented the secret detention of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in state-run penal complexes across war-torn Syria, among them 110 women and girls.

AGPS also documented the death of over 550 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).

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Ahmad Abu Naser, sheltered in AlSabina Camp, in Rif Dimashq, has succumbed to COVID-19.



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

Over recent months, hundreds of Palestinians in/from Syria have contracted the virus.

In its “Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal 2021” issued earlier this year, UNRWA said that over 8,000 coronavirus cases, including 465 deaths, were recorded among Palestinian refugees in Syria (PRS) as of 10 December 2020.

Hundreds of 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.

In the meantime, UNRWA, in cooperation with the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR), began on Tuesday, April 19, the distribution of food baskets to vulnerable Palestinian refugees in Syria.

Every registered Palestinian family member in Syria received 20 kilograms of flour, 1 kg of rice, 1 kg of bulgur, 2 liters of vegetable oil, 1 kg of sugar, 2 kgs of chickpeas, 2 kgs of lentils, 1/4 kg of milk, and a can of sardines.



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

After ten 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.

Along similar lines, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) has launched a new centralized digital education platform designed to improve education access for more than 540,000 refugee students in 711 schools across the Middle East.

UNRWA said in a press release that in emergency situations -- such as the COVID-19 pandemic or periods of armed conflict -- Palestine refugee children are often unable to physically access their regular schools, risking interruption of their education.

In order to ensure learning continuity, the Digital Learning Platform (DLP) was developed to provide UNRWA students (and their parents) with access to age-appropriate, relevant, and safe self-learning material that is in line with UN values and humanitarian principles.

UNRWA is committed to providing quality, inclusive and equitable education to all its students, both in times of relative stability and in emergencies, said the press release. The DLP is the newest component of the routine systems UNRWA has in place to quickly operationalize programs and resources during crises.



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

A first of its kind for the Agency, the platform provides a safe, accessible, and centrally monitored system for teachers and administrators to upload and host instructional materials customized across grade, subject and host country. Moreover, it will ensure Agency-wide coherence and alignment with education objectives and UN values of neutrality, human rights, tolerance, equality and non-discrimination with regard to race, gender, language and religion.

Acting UNRWA Director of Education, Moritz Bilagher, said, “The new UNRWA digital platform for distance learning is crucial for the continuation of learning in times of crisis, including the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and associated school closures”.

“While the DLP is a big step forward toward streamlining educational accessibility for students, it is only the first step. Thousands of UNRWA students still face unequal access to the tools and infrastructure, particularly reliable internet, which is essential to succeeding in the 21st century”, added Bilagher.

For the past 70 years, UNRWA has been the main UN body responsible for delivering assistance, education and protection to Palestine refugees across the Middle East. Over 20,000 staff – the majority of whom are refugees themselves – teach students. In addition, technical vocational training and higher education are provided at eight vocational training centers for approximately 7,700 Palestine refugees in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, the West Bank (including East Jerusalem), and Gaza, and for about 1,600 students in two educational science faculties.



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

The new mobile-friendly UNRWA education platform hosts a wide range of materials, including PDFs, quizzes and educational games, providing students with a comprehensive, consistent educational experience. In addition, parents are given access to resources that can help them support their children's learning. The content management system includes a process for rigorous neutrality review of all content prior to release.