

20-06-2022

No: 3616

مجموعة العمل

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## التقرير اليومي



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

**On World Refugee Day, Thousands of Palestinian Refugee Families in/from Syria Torn from Home**

- **Reconstruction Works Launched in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian Refugees**
- **Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon Slam UNRWA Staff**
- **New Medical Units Opened Up at Yaffa Hospital in Damascus**



## **Latest Developments**

June 20 marks the World Refugee Day, an international day designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe and people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution.

UN data indicates that more than 6.4 million Palestinian refugees are registered in the records of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), sheltered in displacement camps across the Agency's five fields of operations (Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, West Bank including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip).

Tens of thousands of Palestinians in/from Syria have been dispersed by the conflict and torn from the nourishment of home and warmth of family.

Palestinian refugees have been scattered across Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Libya, Sudan, Thailand, Malaysia, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Britain, the Netherlands, Finland, Switzerland, France, Brazil, Chile, and Canada, among other destinations. Hundreds have become internally displaced across the Syrian territories.

The situation has gone downhill as most of the world's governments have opted for a closed-door immigration policy vis-à-vis the Palestinian refugee community from Syria.

Most of the Gulf countries and a number of Arab governments have also outlawed granting visas to Palestinians with Syrian travel documents. Palestinian refugees from Syria are treated as foreigners and often denied access into embassies to obtain visas.

In the absence of a durable political settlement, intense hostilities and violence resulting in deaths and injuries, internal displacement, loss of livelihoods, decreases in the provision of public services, and extensive damage to civilian infrastructure have disrupted the lives of civilians and forced thousands to become internally displaced.



Nearly 200,000 Palestinian refugees left Syria since the outburst of the deadly warfare in 2011. Prior to the war in Syria, 550,000 Palestinian refugees used to take shelter in the country.

At the same time, 1,488 Palestinian families have been sheltered in northern Syria displacement camps, where they have been struggling for survival after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns.

In another development, the Yarmouk Camp municipality embarked on Sunday on maintenance works to rehabilitate the sewerage network.

Local sources said the municipality mayor, engineer Rola Maw'ed, is supervising the progress of reconstruction works.

Over recent years, residents of Yarmouk Camp slammed the Syrian Council of Ministers for dissolving, in late 2018, the local committee for Yarmouk camp, which was previously tasked with administering civilians' affairs in the camp.

Civilians continue to lash out at Damascus Governorate for failing to take note of civilians' needs and hindering 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.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) have accused a UNRWA staff worker in Lebanon of stealing fuel supplies allotted to vulnerable PRS families in AlBekaa Valley.

PRS activists pointed the finger at the UNRWA worker in charge of fuel distribution, saying he has been manipulating fuel supplies in favour of their relatives.

Dozens of displaced PRS families in the Lebanese AlBekaa region continue to appeal to UNRWA to hand them much-needed humanitarian aid as they have been struggling for survival.

Price leap and steep rental fees, along with the absence of relief aid, have made life unbearable for the Palestinian refugees in AlBekaa.





In the meantime, the Palestine Ambassador to Damascus Dr. Samir AlRefa'i inaugurated new medical units at the Yaffa Medical Complex in AlMezzah, west of Damascus.

Director of the Palestinian Red Crescent Organization, Dr. Atef Ibrahim attended the ceremony.

The facility is aimed at providing healthcare services to the local community, including Palestinian refugees sheltered in Syria.

In early April, a complex of specialized clinics was opened up in AlAyedeen Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Hama. The complex provides free access to healthcare services to the camp residents, who have been grappling with abject humanitarian conditions.

Eleven years after demonstrations started in Syria, the majority of Palestinian refugees sheltered in the war-torn country have been facing a dire situation.

UN data indicates that over half of the Palestine refugees in the country have been displaced at least once because of the brutal conflict that ensued, including 120,000 who have sought safety in neighbouring countries, mainly Lebanon and Jordan, and beyond.

438,000 Palestine refugees remain in the country – 91 per cent of whom live in absolute poverty - and who have been among those worst affected by the conflict.

Over 80% of PRS live in extreme poverty and rely on humanitarian assistance as their main source of income. 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.