



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



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"On Int'l Day for Eradication of Poverty, Palestinian Refugees Enduring Extreme Poverty in Syria"

- Member of Pro-Gov't Squad Killed in War-Torn Syria
- Palestinian Refugee Rashed Husain Released after 5 Years in Syria Prison
- Refugee Tents Set Up for Displaced Palestinians North of Syria

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Latest Developments

Data released by AGPS on the occasion of the 27th International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, observed by the United Nations General Assembly on 17 October, indicates that the majority of Palestinian refugees in Syria have been living below the poverty line.

A vulnerability assessment conducted by UNRWA in December 2017 estimated that 90 per cent of Palestine refugee households in Syria live in absolute poverty (less than US\$ 2 person/day) prior to receiving UNRWA cash assistance. As a result, it is expected that a large majority of the Palestine refugee population will continue to rely on UNRWA humanitarian assistance to meet their most basic needs in the years to come.



In 2018, UNRWA estimated that 438,000 Palestine refugees remained in the country out of 560,000 individuals registered with the Agency in Syria. Displacement, loss of assets and livelihood, and high levels of inflation have contributed to the increased vulnerability of civilians, including the Palestine refugee population.



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Many families have lost their main breadwinner, whether through death, incapacitation, detention or departure to another country in order to seek protection and asylum.

Almost 60 per cent of Palestine refugees have been displaced at least once since the beginning of the conflict and, according to UNRWA estimates, more than 180,000 have had their homes destroyed or severely damaged due to hostilities. Yarmouk, Deraa, and Ein el Tal (Aleppo) camps, previously home to more than 30 per cent of the Palestine refugee population in Syria, have been almost completely destroyed.

At the same time, about 89 per cent of PRS in Lebanon live in poverty, while 95 per cent of PRS are food insecure and eligible for the Agency's emergency assistance.

UNRWA also said in its 2019 Syrian Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal that the unemployment rate among Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon has hit 52%. Those families can barely manage to secure their livelihood for two family members.

At the same time, 100% of Palestine refugee families from Syria in Jordan need to receive one or more UNRWA emergency assistance interventions especially during winter.

In its 2019 Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal, UNRWA said 30% of Palestinian refugees from Syria are highly vulnerable and 31% of recorded PRS are members of female-headed households, which increases their vulnerability.

After eight years of conflict, Palestinian refugees in and from Syria continue to face significant humanitarian and protection needs. In



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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 severely undermined coping mechanisms.

In another development, young man Ahmad Mahmoud AlNamran AlJamous, from the Free Palestine Movement, affiliated with the Syrian government forces, was fatally shot by anonymous gunmen in Da'el, south of Syria.

According to AGPS data, 1,081 Palestinian refugees have been fatally gunned down in Syria, 14 among whom affiliated with the Free Palestine Movement.



Shortly after the outburst of the deadly warfare, the Syrian government forced Palestinian refugees aged 18 and above to join affiliated militias for varying periods.

Those who refuse conscription are subjected to crackdowns, abductions and even executions. As a result, thousands fled the tension-stricken country in the hunt for a safer shelter.



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Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Rashed Omar Husain, from Khan Eshieh Camp, in Rif Dimashq, was released from Syrian government jails, where he had been kept for five years.

According to data by AGPS, 1,768 Palestinian refugees, among them children, women and elderly refugees, have been enduring unknown fates in Syrian government lock-ups. The list includes 248 Palestinian residents of Khan Eshieh refugee camp.



According to affidavits by ex-detainees, Palestinian refugees have been subjected to harsh psycho-physical torture tactics in Syrian penitentiaries, including electric shocks, heavy beating using iron sticks, and sexual abuse.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian authorities to disclose the condition and whereabouts of Palestinian refugees held in its penitentiaries.

AGPS believes that such practices represent flagrant violations of international law which criminalizes all forms of torture and mistreatment of civilians.



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In another development, The Palestinian-Syrian Authority for Relief and Development has embarked on a project to install 20 tents in Kalili area, in Idlib's outskirts, north of Syria. Concrete layers were set up below the installed tents so as to prevent rainwater flooding during winter.

Hundreds of displaced Palestinian families taking refuge in northern Syria continue to raise concerns over their fate as a freezing winter season has been just around the corner.

The families continue to lash out at the apathy maintained by UNRWA, the Palestinian Authority, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and all other local and international bodies regarding their tragic situation.

Palestinian refugees sheltered in Idlib, AlMuhammadiya Camp, and Deir Ballout Camp, in northern Syria, have been crammed in poorly-equipped tents and denied their rights to vital services.

Last year, tents have been flooded with water as torrential downpours have swamped Palestinian refugee camps in Efrin, north of Syria.

Pictures and videos circulated on social media showed dozens of tents as being swamped by rain deluges while children appear to be shivering of cold.

For many displaced Palestinian refugees, the perils of winter weather add to the torment already experienced throughout the conflict.