



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 Families Facing Dire Conditions in T'Seil Town"

- Fire Tears Through Greek Migrant Camp
- Humanitarian Initiative Held for Palestinian Refugees in Syria Displacement Camp
- Food Aid Distributed to Palestinian Refugees in Deraa Camp

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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees taking shelter in T'seil town, in the southern Syrian province of Daraa, continue to launch cries for help over the exacerbated socio-economic conditions they have been enduring.

Palestinian families continue to call on all concerned parties, including UNRWA and the Palestine Liberation Organization, to rally around them and help them reconstruct their destroyed homes.

The situation has been made worse by the coronavirus outbreak across the war-torn country.

Palestinian families came to T'seil town following the 1948 catastrophe, after they were forced out of their homes in Palestine by Zionist militias.

Located some 30 kilometers north of Daraa city center, T'seil has been home to hundreds of Palestinian families.

In another development, a day after a fire broke out near a migrant camp on Samos that houses some 4,600 people, 13 migrants were detained on the island.

Also on Wednesday, police arrested six people in connection with the Moria fires from last week. Lockdowns remain in place on at least two of the five Greek Aegean islands, according to InfoMigrants.



Most suspects were later released but three remain under questioning, news agency AFP reported citing a local police source. The officer declined to identify the nationalities of the suspects, according to AFP.

The fire reportedly broke out in a forested area near the Vathy migrant camp late on Tuesday (September 15). However, firefighters were able to bring it under control.

According to Greek publication Kathimerini, more than 4,600 people live in the camp, more than seven times its capacity of 648.

On the same day as the detentions on Samos, Greek police arrested six people in connection with the fires that razed the Moria migrant camp on Lesbos Island last week. The suspects are reportedly Afghan nationals whose asylum applications were rejected.

The series of blazes on September 8 and 9 destroyed large parts of Moria, until then Europe's largest migrant camp. The fires left more than 12,000 asylum seekers homeless.

On Tuesday (September 15), Kathimerini reported that three residents of the Samos camp had contracted the coronavirus. The migrants went to a local hospital "after showing symptoms."

Following the three positive COVID-19 cases, a migration ministry source in Athens said on Wednesday that lockdown restrictions remain in place for migrants camps on Samos and Leros until September 29.



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Tuesday's fire on Samos wasn't the first at a migrant camp on the island this year: Back in April, scores of asylum seekers were left homeless when two fires tore through a migrant camp on the island.

Meanwhile, a humanitarian campaign saw the day in AlSayeda Zeinab camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq.

The campaigners called on expatriates who had been sheltered in the camp to make donations to the cash-stripped residents and vulnerable families.

AlSayeda Zeinab Camp, held by the Syrian government forces and their affiliated popular committees, has been gripped with dire socio-economic conditions as a result of the high rates of unemployment. Scores of civilians have fled the camp while others have been forced to join pro-government battalions.

The Syrian government forces regained control of AlSayeda Zeinab Camp following a seven-month military operation. Heavy material damage has been inflicted on the camp.

In the meantime, the Syrian-Arab Red Crescent Organization distributed food baskets to some 650 displaced Palestinian families in Deraa refugee camp, south of Syria.

All the way through Syria's nine-year conflict, residents of Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, have been grappling with dire humanitarian conditions owing to the high rates of unemployment and absence of vital facilities.



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Civilians continue to sound distress signals over the absence of health services and life-saving medical kit. Most of the clinics and medical centers in the area have gone out of operation in the warfare.

UN data indicates that Palestinian refugees came to the Deraa area in two waves in 1948 and in 1967.

Deraa camp and its surroundings returned to government control in the summer of 2018. The camp is now largely destroyed. UNRWA was able to return to Deraa camp in November 2018 to conduct a needs assessment. Inside Deraa camp, all premises including three school buildings and a clinic need substantial repairs or complete rebuilding.

Deraa camp was home to 10,500 Palestine refugees before 2011. As of November 2018, 400 Palestine refugee families have returned since the camp returned to government hands. As of February 2020, some 800 families had returned to Daraa camp and 750 students to the UNRWA schools, according to UNRWA.

The older part of the camp was established in 1950-51 for refugees from the northern and eastern parts of Palestine following the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict. Next to the old camp is the newer part, which was set up in 1967 for some 4,200 Palestine refugees who were forced to leave the Quneitra Governorate in the Golan following the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict.