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Action Group For Palestinians of Syria



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



Palestine Embassy in Turkey Suspends Cash Grants to Palestinians from Syria

- Residents of Yarmouk Camp Call for Evenhanded Reconstruction Works
- Palestinian Child Killed by Explosive Ordnance
- Residents of Jaramana Camp Denounce Mistreatment by AlHaram Bank



Latest Development

Palestinian refugees who fled war-torn Syria to Turkey have expressed deep anger at a recent decision by the Palestine Embassy to temporarily suspend cash allowances granted by the Palestinian Religious Affairs Ministry.

The measure has been attributed to the overcrowded queues of registered refugees outside of distribution centres. The decision will remain in effect for two days.

Palestinian refugees have denounced the mistreatment by the embassy staff workers. Turkish police also regularly show up at distribution centres.

Palestinian ambassador Faed Mustafa said the distribution will be suspended until further notice.

Unofficial statistics indicate that 10,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought shelter in Turkey, where they have been facing dire socio-economic conditions and denied access to the local labor market.

Turkish embassies continue to prevent Palestinian refugees from Syria from obtaining visas. As a result, hundreds of Palestinians have embarked on life-threatening journeys via illegal immigration roads to reach Turkey, fleeing war-tattered Syria, among other war-stricken zones.

In another development, Palestinian families displaced from Yarmouk Camp said reconstruction works have been launched across a number of residential neighborhoods.



However, other neighborhoods, including Uruba, AlTakadum, and March 8, which cover up 1/3 of the camp area, have not yet been included by such drives. Recently, the rubble-clearance committee run by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) suspended debris-removal works in those areas.

A resident told AGPS that he could not return to his house and retrieve his property due to the mounds of debris piled up on access roads.

The unabated warfare has had disastrous fallouts on Palestinian refugee camps across the Syrian territories. Palestinians who remained in Yarmouk or returned to the camp sometime later have been struggling for survival, in an area that has been severely affected by the deadly hostilities.

Thousands of Palestinian refugees were forced out of Yarmouk Camp after the Syrian fighter jets struck the area in late 2012. Dozens were killed and hundreds wounded in the onslaught. The situation went downhill after ISIS militias grabbed hold of the camp in April 2015 and closed off vital thoroughfares to the area. Scores of other stranded families fled the camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the government forces on April 19.

Entering its 11th year, the Syrian warfare has had disastrous fallouts on Yarmouk Camp and other displacement camps set up across the ravaged country. In 2014, the Syrian regime cut off water in the camp, leaving hundreds of families at the risk of death.



Before the crisis started in 2011, Yarmouk was a bustling home to almost 30 percent of the Palestine refugee population in Syria. Today, the weight of displacement, hardship and the loss of loved ones add to the difficult living conditions in Yarmouk.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee child Khaled Fadi Hasan succumbed on Thursday evening to wounds he sustained last week in a fuel tank blast in Kafr Sabt School, in Jaramana Camp, in Rif Dimashq province.

Residents of Jaramana Camp marched in the child's funeral procession after his family bid him last farewell.

Sometime earlier, Palestinian refugee Ramzi Alyan Ali died as he carried out maintenance works at Kafr Sabt School. A tank explosion left him dead and two students injured, including Khaled.

Landmines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), which are particularly unpredictable and difficult to detect, continue to put millions of people, including Palestine refugees, at risk.

Data by the UN Agency for Palestine refugees indicates that in Syria, approximately 1 in 2 people are at risk from explosive contamination and 1/3 of the communities are potentially contaminated. Contamination severely impacts lives, livelihoods and amplifies the social and economic crisis aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic.



People displaced or returning home are at high risk as they have limited information on safety issues in the areas they are going to.

This threat is particularly high for Palestine refugees in Syria, especially in newly-accessible or difficult-to-reach areas. These include areas that Palestine refugees have recently returned to areas such as Yarmouk, Ein el Tal and Dera'a camp.

Children on their way to and from school are highly exposed to the dangers of explosive ordnance.

In the meantime, residents of Jaramana Camp have urged UNRWA to pressurize AlHaram Company for international transfer to cease mistreatment of Palestinian refugees who show up at the company's office to withdraw their cash aid.

Speaking with AGPS, a number of refugees said they have been forced to line up for hours in overcrowded queues outside of the company.

Other refugees who live at a considerable distance from the company said they woke up at the crack of dawn to receive their cash grants and avoid overcrowded queues.

“We have been insulted and our dignity attacked as if we were second-class citizens”, said a refugee.

The refugees called on UNRWA to reach out to AlHaram Company and pressurize it to take urgent measures in response to their complaints.



After more than 11 years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs.

This year's Holy Ramadan month has been tougher for Palestinian refugees inside and outside the Syrian territories, as the economic crisis rocking the Middle East means that many PRS have not been able to reunite with or provide for their families.