



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



"As Syrian War Enters 9th Year, Palestinian Refugees Fall Prey to Killing and Enforced Disappearance"

- Water Crisis Rocks Syria's AlSabina Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- Awareness-Raising Campaign Held in Palestinian Refugee Camps to Combat COVID-19
- UNRWA in Lebanon Urges Refugees to Stand on Guard to COVID-19 Symptoms

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Latest Developments

The unabated shelling and deadly shootouts rocking the Syrian territories for the ninth-year running have claimed the lives of thousands of Palestinian refugees and resulted in the abduction, torture, displacement, and enforced disappearance of thousands more.

AGPS has documented the death of 4,039 Palestinian refugees in Syria, including women and children, since 2011, as a result of war-related incidents.

Yarmouk Camp topped the list with 1,470 casualties, followed by 268 in Daraa Camp, 203 in Khan Eshieh Camp in Damascus countryside, 181 in Aleppo's AlNeirab Camp, and 126 in AlHusainiya Camp.



190 Palestinians also died in unknown locations while hundreds of others were pronounced dead in refugee camps and communities across Syria.

AGPS found out that 1,217 refugees were killed under shelling; 1,094 were fatally gunned down, while 619 others were tortured to death in Assad regime detention centers.



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Scores of Palestinian refugees have also been left wounded, including dozens who have undergone limb amputation or eye loss.

1,790 Palestinian refugees have, meanwhile, fallen prey to enforced disappearance across the embattled Syrian territories. Hundreds of families continue to appeal for information over the condition and whereabouts of their missing or secretly detained relatives in Syria.

Thousands of children continue to glimpse through the windows of hope, awaiting their parents, brothers, sisters, and siblings whom they have not seen for years and whose pictures are only present in frames hung on the walls of their ruined homes.

Since the start of the crisis in 2011, UNRWA estimates that 120,000 Palestine refugees have left Syria for neighboring countries, and beyond. Of the total 438,000 Palestine refugees from Syria, 280,000 have become internally displaced.

According to UNRWA, over 90 per cent of Palestine refugee households in Syria live in poverty and 40 per cent remain in protracted displacement as a result of conflict and the damage and destruction of their homes.

In its 2020 Syria regional crisis emergency appeal, UNRWA said that 126,000 PRS are identified as extremely vulnerable; 89% live in poverty; 91% live in extreme poverty; and 80% rely on UNRWA cash assistance as their main source of income.

UNRWA also said that 55% of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents; 100% of PRS are in need of winterization assistance; and 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.



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UNRWA said that the continuous depreciation of the Syrian pound and the deteriorating socio-economic conditions experienced by all civilians in Syria during the last year have increased the hardship faced by Palestine refugees, whose resilience is at breaking point.

In these circumstances, any interruption to relief services for PRS would inflict major suffering, depriving vulnerable communities of their main – and often – sole source of assistance.

In another development, Palestinian refugees in AlSabina Camp, in Rif Dimashq, continue to sound distress signals over the acute water crisis in the area.

The residents said water has been cut daily for nearly 18 hours, forcing civilians to purchase water from privately-owned tanks.

Civilians continue to lash out at the apathy maintained by UNRWA and the local municipality regarding their calls for supplying the area with power generators and filling main water tanks.

Located some 14 kilometers away from southern Damascus, AlSabina Camp has been gripped with an abject situation owing to the absence of humanitarian assistance, relief aids, proper infrastructure, and vital facilities.

Meanwhile, civil society institutions and Palestinian volunteers in the refugee camps of AlNeirab and Handarat, in Aleppo and AlAyedeen in Hums embarked on awareness-raising campaigns in an attempt to help civilians take precautionary measures against coronavirus.

Volunteers cleaned up streets, removed garbage, and sprayed disinfectants.



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Over recent days, Palestinian refugees in Syria have appealed to UNRWA to take precautionary measures in order to prevent a swift propagation of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).



Along similar lines, Claudio Cordone, director of UNRWA Affairs in Lebanon, addressed Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and announced “a state of emergency because of coronavirus.”

He said UNRWA is ready to help those who need testing or treatment at Rafik Hariri University Hospital.

He called on Palestinian refugees to reach out to the Ministry of Public Health as soon as they catch coronavirus symptoms, including fever, coughing, and respiratory disorders.

UNRWA also said it will cover the expenses of all COVID-19 tests only for those who get transferred to hospital following instructions to that end by medics contacted via the helpline.

Lebanese troops began patrolling city streets and major roads on Sunday, setting up roadblocks and urging people to stay at home amid official warnings that the country is struggling to contain the coronavirus outbreak.



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After the number of coronavirus cases in the country rose to 248, an increase of 18 on the previous day, Interior Minister Mohammed Fahmi said: “The situation is worrying. We must save ourselves, our families and our country before it is too late.”

Army helicopters circled Beirut and other major cities, using loudspeakers to urge people to stay home.

Lebanon’s Ministry of Health said that people waiting on test results for the virus should commit to home quarantine.

Lebanese army and security forces, together with police, set up checkpoints on major and secondary roads to deter people from traveling. Troops are also keeping watch to prevent overcrowding in bakeries, pharmacies and grocery stores.

