



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

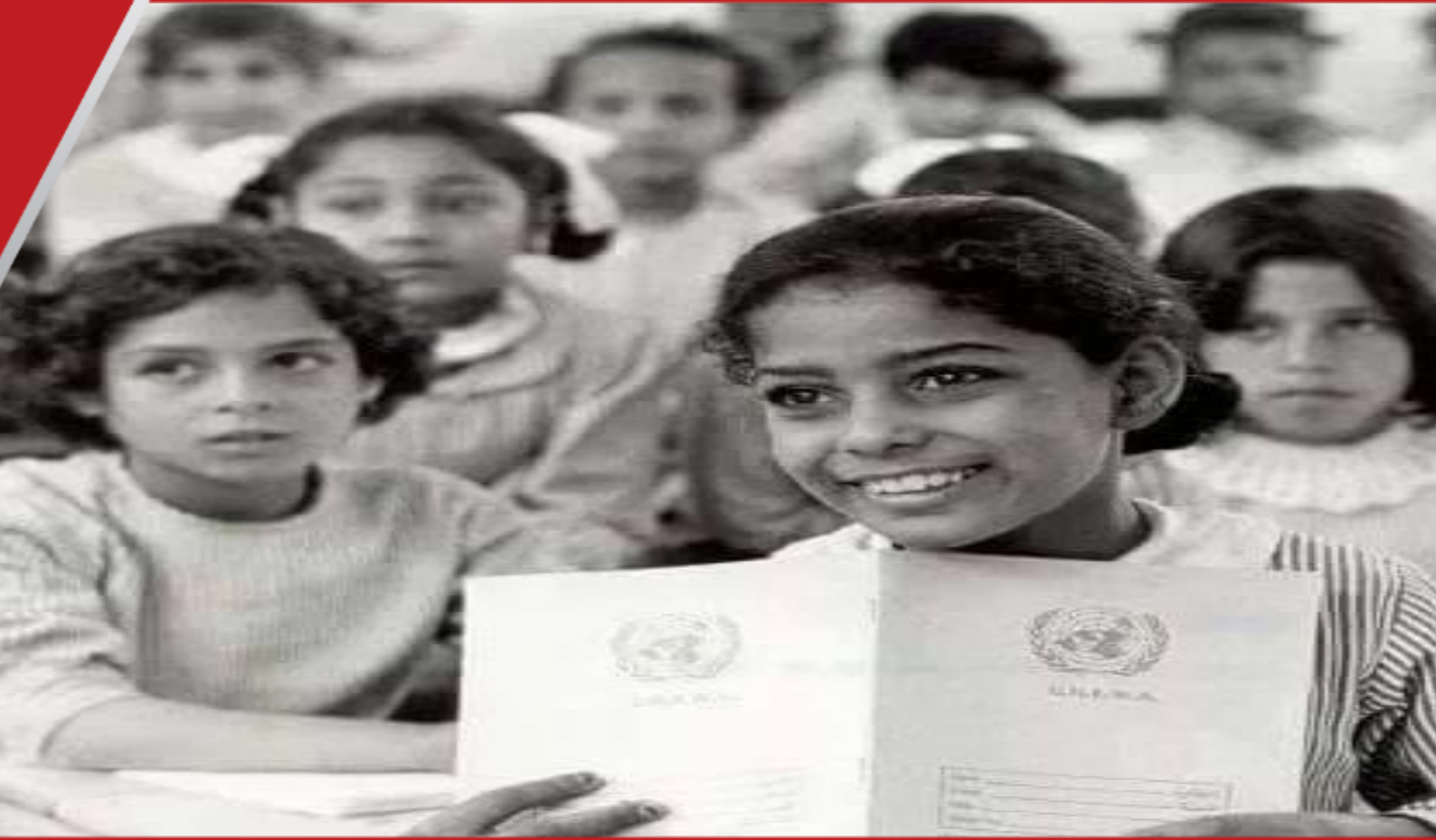
23-10-2020

No. 2922

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugee Children Struggle to Gain Access to Schools in Syria"

- Head of Palestine Refugee Agency in Syria Meets with Education Minister
- Palestinian Refugees from Syria in Gaza to Update Their Personal Information
- Palestinian Refugee Ubaida Alyan Secretly Jailed in Syria for 6th Year

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Latest Developments

AGPS kept record of a sharp nosedive in access to education for Palestinians sheltered in displacement camps and communities across war-torn Syria.

Most of UNRWA's schools have been destroyed or put out of operation in the raging warfare. Other education facilities have been turned into prisons or field hospitals, imperiling Palestinians' academic careers.

The situation is worse for displaced Palestinian families taking shelter north of Syria. Classrooms established in the area are made up of poorly equipped tents that are not fit to study in and risk to fall into pieces in the winter season. Neither professional training staff nor proper furniture are available at the schools.

AGPS continues to appeal to the Palestine Liberation Organization and UNRWA, among all concerned international institutions, to urgently step in and work on reconstructing destroyed schools, providing civilians with the needed psycho-physical protection, and boosting children's access to education in Syria.

Upon more than one occasion, UNRWA has raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among the Palestinians of Syria, several among whom left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.



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In another development, director of UNRWA operations in Syria, Michael Amany Ibye, met with Syrian Education Minister, Darem Taba', in an attempt to discuss bilateral partnership.

The Syrian minister underscored the need for Palestinian refugee children to gain access to education facilities and reconstruct destroyed schools in refugee camps across the country.

The UNRWA official hailed the ministry's efforts to boost access to education for Palestinian refugees in Syria.

In the meantime, the Follow-Up Commission of Palestinian Refugees from Syria in Gaza called on the refugees to update their personal information at UNRWA offices.

This comes just a few days after Director of UNRWA operations in Gaza, Mathias Schemale, promised to increase efforts in order to tone down the calamitous humanitarian condition endured by Palestinian refugees who returned from Syria to the blockaded Gaza Strip.

Schemale promised to reach out to donor parties in order to help construct housing units for Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in the besieged enclave and to secure rental allowances to displaced families.

Some 150 Palestinian refugee families from Syria who returned to the blockaded Gaza Strip have been facing an abject humanitarian situation in the Israeli-blockaded enclave.



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The refugees say they have been deprived of humanitarian assistance by UNRWA and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip have been enduring dire living conditions due to the 13-year-long Israeli siege and the devastating upshots of the Israeli onslaughts on the coastal enclave.

According to data by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Gaza is one of the world's most densely populated areas, with more than 5,000 inhabitants per square kilometer. The Gaza Strip is smaller than the city of Oslo but is home to three times as many people.

A 2012 UN report predicted the Palestinian enclave would be “unlivable” by 2020 if nothing was done to ease the blockade, but in June 2017 a UN report on living conditions in Gaza stated that all the indicators were going in the wrong direction and that deadline was actually approaching even faster than earlier predicted.

Gaza is described by many Palestinians and humanitarian actors as the world’s largest open-air prison, where nearly 2 million Palestinians live behind a blockade and are refused access to the other occupied Palestinian areas and the rest of the world.

NRC said 7 out of 10 Palestinians in Gaza are registered as refugees, and many of these come from families who were forced to leave their villages in 1948. Many have also been forced to leave their homes due to war, violence, and economic hardship



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In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Ubaida Alyan, aged 24, has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian government lock-ups.

Alyan was kidnapped by the government troops stationed in AlZahira, in Damascus, on March 31, 2014.

AGPS kept record of the names of 1,797 Palestinians secretly incarcerated in Syrian regime penitentiaries, where hundreds of other refugees have also died under torture.