



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيين 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



"Residents of Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian Refugees Denounce Mistreatment at UNRWA Clinic"

- Education Initiative Held in Jaramana Camp
- Transportation Crisis Rocks AlAyedeen Camp in Hama
- Displaced Families Call for Rehabilitation of Local Committee in Yarmouk Camp Committee

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Latest Developments

Residents of Khan Dannun Camp, in Rif Dimashq, have spoken out against the mistreatment they have been subjected to by staff members at a UNRWA-run clinic in the camp.

The residents have urged the UN refugee agency, the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees, and all other concerned authorities to take immediate action in response to the mistreatment they have been facing at the UNRWA clinic.

A number of residents leveled heavy criticism at the dentist staff working in the clinic, saying they have been mistreating patients showing up at the facility.

In a statement emailed to AGPS, the residents slammed the medical staff at the clinic for their apathy regarding the appeals of a number of patients for much-needed treatment and medicines, along with psychological support.

Living conditions in Khan Dannun have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the unbridled warfare.

According to UN data, Khan Dannun camp was built several centuries ago to give overnight accommodation to trading caravans on the ancient route between Jerusalem and Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). In 1948, the ruins of the city provided shelter for refugees from villages in northern Palestine.



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The camp, which lies 23 km south of Damascus, was officially established in 1950-1951 on an area of 0.03 square kilometers. The camp was home to 10,000 Palestine refugees by 2011, almost all of whom were living in irregular housing, constructed without any formal approval from the municipality.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was already one of the poorest camps in Syria. The conflict exerted additional pressures. The camp was surrounded by armed opposition groups and many refugee families displaced from other areas of Damascus took refuge in the camp, tripling the number of residents to some 30,000 during the crisis. Currently, the camp is home to 12,650 Palestine refugees. The increase of the camp population has had a negative impact on the camp's infrastructure.

In another development, residents of Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, have launched an initiative to enhance education services and the learning environment for university students and bachelors.

A campaigner told AGPS that the move aims to assist students at the Palestinian refugee camp of Hama, where frequent power blackouts and the conflict-inflicted trauma have had a heavy toll on academic output/input.

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 have left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.



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Along similar lines, residents of AlAyedeen camp for Palestinian refugees, in Hama, continue to appeal to the concerned authorities to secure transportation means to give them daily lifts to their destinations and workplaces.

Students, workers, and sick people have denounced the overcrowding and unpunctuality of public means of transport, saying they have been made to wait for hours daily to reach their destinations.

Speaking to AGPS, a student said he has been struggling daily to reach AlBaath University in Hums and return to his family house in Hama.

Palestinians taking shelter in AlAyedeen Camp in Hama have been facing a deteriorating humanitarian situation as a result of the price leap, sharp shortage in fuel supplies, the frequent power blackouts, and absence of humanitarian assistance. High rates of unemployment and the security turmoil rocking the region have made the situation far more alarming.

Meanwhile, civilians have called on authorities in Damascus to reactivate the local committee which was previously tasked with administering civilians' affairs in Yarmouk Camp and which was dissolved by the former Prime Minister Emad Khamis in late 2018.

Civilians say the services department assigned by Damascus Governorate has failed to take note of civilians' needs and hinder the return of displaced families.



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Palestinian families continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes in Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus, and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

On February 4, 2019, a petition was handed over by the residents to Damascus governor Adel Anwar AlAlabi, urging local authorities to smooth the return of displaced families to their homes.

Most of Palestinian families taking shelter south of Damascus fled Yarmouk as a result of the tough blockade imposed by the government troops and also after ISIS grabbed hold of the camp on April 1, 2015.

Scores of other stranded families fled the camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the government forces on April 19, 2018. The Syrian government regained control over the camp and southern Damascus towns following the military operation. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured. Over 80% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed.