



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



### "23 Asylum Seekers Released by Libyan Authorities"

- Palestinian Refugees Protest Outside of UNRWA Office in Beirut
- Palestinian Refugee Families Grappling with Abject Conditions South of Damascus
- Vaccination Campaign Launched in Khan Eshieh Camp

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## Latest Developments

The Libyan authority to combat illegal migration released 23 asylum-seekers, including 13 Palestinian refugees from Syria, after nearly 48 hours in custody.

Libyan coast guard rescued on January 23 some 23 irregular migrants, including 13 Palestinian refugees, who tried to reach the Italian island of Lampedusa. The coast guard received a distress call from Naval Operations Room, about 70 nautical miles north of Al-Khums shore.

Sometime earlier, Palestinian families appealed for the release of their relatives from a detention centre in Tripoli city.

The brother of a Palestinian refugee detained in Libya told AGPS that 23 asylum seekers, including 13 Palestinian refugees from Syria, mostly from the ravaged Yarmouk Camp, set sail from Mesrata city at 5 a.m. on Friday, January 21, onboard a rubber boat.

However, soon after, the boat engine went inoperative due to bad weather conditions, heavy rain and high sea waves. Water began to leak into the vessel, resulting in a state of panic among the migrants, who immediately sent a distress call to rescue teams. They were rescued by the Libyan Coast Guard at dawn on Sunday 23/1/2022, 48 hours after the call was launched. They were



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transferred to the Center for Combating Illegal Migration in Tripoli, Libya.

In another development, scores of Palestinian refugees joined a rally held outside of the Beirut headquarters of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) protesting the Agency's decision to cut aid for Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS).

Called "A Day of Anger", the protest move seeks to urge UNRWA to continue to provide vital services for Palestinian refugees and cancel its decision to reduce cash aid for PRS.

The protesters handed over a memorandum to UNRWA, calling on the Agency to resume delivery of much-needed shelter and food grants along with winter assistance, to work out the refugees' legal status, enhance access to education and healthcare services, and create labor opportunities.

Along similar lines, Over 5,000 Palestinian refugees taking shelter south of Damascus have been grappling with dire conditions due to the price leap, steep rental fees, and forced military conscription with pro-government forces.

Palestinian refugees taking shelter south of Damascus are also living in distress due to the arbitrary arrest sweeps and crackdowns perpetuated by the Syrian security forces.

Palestinian refugees have been subjected to movement crackdowns and denied free access out of and into southern Damascus towns.



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In the meantime, the Syrian Health Ministry in partnership with CSOs launched on Sunday a vaccination campaign in Khan Eshieh Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq.

This comes following reports of increasing coronavirus cases in the camp.

Refugees wishing to get vaccinated should show up on Sunday and Monday at Khan Eshieh mixed school.

Confirmed coronavirus cases have been increasingly reported in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria, at a time when residents have been launching cries for help over the absence of hygiene kit and medicines.

AGPS has repeatedly warned of an unabated outbreak of COVID-19 in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria. Limited access to running water, pharmacies and medical facilities mean displacement camps are more susceptible to the spread of the highly infectious virus. Displacement camps set up in northern Syria are especially vulnerable as most hospitals and medical facilities have been bombed, rendering them out of order.