



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي 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



"Syrian Regime Lifts Blockade on Deraa"

- UNRWA Committee in Syria Submits Demands to Philippe Lazzarini
- Stray Dogs Sway AlSabina Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- Palestinian Refugee Families Celebrate Eid in Turkey

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest Developments

The Central Committee in Deraa city, south of Syria, has reached an agreement with the Syrian government to lift the noose tightened around the area.

As part of the deal, a number of residents and former opposition forces will lay down their personal weapons in return for a security solution, by the Syrian regime, in favor a 135 wanted residents.

Three military checkpoints will also be pitched in Deraa AlBalad on security grounds and arms will be rescinded from pro-regime committees in the area.

A few days earlier, the Syrian regime has attacked Deraa AlBalad, south of Syria, with anti-aircraft guns, forcing dozens of families out of their homes and shelters.

Syrian regime troops have been deployed at checkpoints pitched around Deraa city, including around the city's Palestinian refugee camp.

As a result, dozens of Palestinian refugee families sheltered in Deraa Camp have fled the area for fear of deadly escalations by the Syrian regime forces and their Russian allies.

Assad regime forces have been blockading the crowded neighborhood of Deraa AlBalad and Deraa Camp, in southern Syria



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for over a three weeks. As a result the humanitarian situation has taken a turn for the worse.

Civilians have had no access to healthcare facilities in the area and have run out of much-needed medicines, including cancer drugs. The life of pregnant women and patients in need of hemodialysis is particularly at risk. There is only one certified midwife in the area.

On June 25, the regime forces asked the residents and former opposition forces to lay down all light weapons and allow them to search their homes. However, the Daraa Central Committee, the main reconciliation center in the area, noted that they were only supposed to hand in heavy weapons as part of the Russian-brokered agreement signed in July 2018. The regime then started imposing a blockade on some 40,000 civilians living in the area.

All entrances and exits from the district have been blocked, and the transportation of all medical and food assistance, as well as fuel, has been prohibited.

Daraa-based activists told Anadolu Agency (AA) that another reason for the regime to impose the blockade was because the region's people had opposed setting up ballot boxes for the regime's so-called elections.

Daraa was one of the main bastions of opposition that came under intense attacks by the regime.

In 2018, Assad regime forces, backed by allied Russian forces, started a massive ground and air offensive to retake Daraa from



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the opposition. The onslaught forced more than 320,000 people to flee and camp in open spaces or makeshift shelters near the border with Jordan or the Golan Heights.

In another development, the committee of UNRWA staffers in Syria handed over a memorandum to the Agency's Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini.

The committee demanded that daily contracts and LDCs be turned into fixed contracts, allowing voluntary early retirement, and revising the salary scale of UNRWA workers.

The committee also called for resuming annual promotions for employees (Steps), securing medical insurance for UNRWA employees in Syria, providing loan facilities to staffers, and delivering salaries on time.

It further called for serious diplomatic action to enable displaced Palestinian refugees to return to Yarmouk Camp.

Meanwhile, residents of AlSabina Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, have raised concerns over their children's safety as packs of stray dogs have been spotted in and around the camp.

The refugees have appealed to the concerned authorities and NGOs to take urgent action over the spread of feral dogs in the camp, a phenomenon that has seen the day after dozens of civilians were forced out of their homes in the unabated warfare.

Located some 14 kilometers away from southern Damascus, AlSabina Camp has been gripped with an abject situation owing to



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the absence of humanitarian assistance, relief aids, proper infrastructure, and vital facilities. Frequent water and power outages have made the situation far worse.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee families sheltered in Ankara exchanged Eid greetings, as part of a gathering held by the Turkish Association to Support Palestine (FIDAR) and the Popular Conference for Palestinians Abroad.

Similar gatherings were held in Gaziantep and Nizip, southeast of Turkey.

Hundreds of Palestinian refugees, including children, were in attendance. Children received gifts and took part in games and competitions held as part of the event.

Some 8,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought refuge in the Turkish territories, where they have been enduring abject living conditions as a result of the lack of access to the labor market and low wages offered by Turkish employers.