



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



"AGPS Addresses UNHRC over Stranded Palestinian Refugees in Deraa"

- Volunteer Teams Take Part in Debris Clearance in Yarmouk Camp
- Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon Rally over Delay in UNRWA Aid Delivery
- Palestinian Refugee from Syria Wins 5th Place in UAE Bodybuilding Championship
- Aid Items Distributed in Hindrat Refugee Camp

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Latest Developments

The Palestinian Return Centre (PRC) and Action Group for Palestinians of Syria (AGPS) sounded the alarm over the situation of Palestinian refugees in southern Syria and the repercussions of the latest round of escalations.

This came in an oral contribution delivered by PRC at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva on Thursday September 23, 2021.

“Over recent weeks, the Syrian security forces have tightened the noose around Deraa city, south of Syria, resulting in mass expulsions and a dire humanitarian condition. Tension has flared up since June 25, when the Syrian army asked the residents and former opposition forces to lay down all light weapons and allow them to search their homes”, said PRC’s representative.

The contribution referred to the city’s two Palestinian refugee camps, which were severely affected by the tough siege and deadly shootouts. The residents have had no access to food and relief supplies. The Syrian war has already led to the destruction of over 70% of the Deraa refugee camps and the recent violence has forced the remaining refugees to seek safety in other areas.

PRC called on the international community to urgently step in to ensure that the inhumane blockade is immediately lifted and civilians regain access to life-saving items.



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“As a host country for Palestinian refugees, Syria should live up to its legal and moral responsibility and ensure the refugees are physically and morally protected pending their return to their Israeli-occupied homeland”, it concluded.

In another development, members of the General Union of Palestinian Students in Syria in partnership with popular committees volunteered for debris-removal in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees.

The volunteers assisted vulnerable families in clearing rubble from their ravaged houses.

Meanwhile, dozens of Palestinian refugees from Syria joined a vigil held outside of UNRWA offices in Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon to protests delays in the transfer of their cash grants.

They further handed over a memorandum to UNRWA’s Director of Lebanon Operations, calling on the Agency to transfer their cash grants in USD and on time.

They demanded that 40 USD be handed over to Palestinian refugee children without exception, to secure the refugees’ right to live in dignity, and work out the legal status of Palestinians recently fleeing war-torn Syria.

UNRWA’s cash assistance represents a lifeline for the cash-stripped Palestinian refugee families who have been struggling with squalid conditions in Lebanon as a result of the multiple



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hardships inflicted by the coronavirus pandemic and the absence of legal protection.

According to UNRWA, 87% of PRS live in poverty in the Lebanese territories.

Over 470,000 refugees are registered with UNRWA in Lebanon. About 45 per cent of them live in the country's 12 refugee camps. Conditions in the camps are dire and characterized by overcrowding, poor housing conditions, unemployment, poverty and lack of access to justice.

Palestinians in Lebanon do not enjoy several important rights; for example, they cannot work in many professions and cannot own property (real estate). Because they are not formally citizens of another state, Palestine refugees are unable to claim the same rights as other foreigners living and working in Lebanon.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee from Syria Shadi AlFar won the fifth place in Fujairah bodybuilding championship in the United Arab Emirates.

400 male and female participants took part in the contest.

Shadi fled Syria's Yarmouk refugee camp in 2012 to AlZahira, in Damascus, before he headed for Jordan, where he had stayed for a couple of years. He then travelled to the UAE and took part in international muscle shows.



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In another development, the Palestinian Red Crescent distributed food items in Hindrat Camp for Palestinian refugees, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo.

Palestinian refugees have been grappling with dire conditions in Aleppo displacement camps due to the lack of humanitarian assistance and life-saving services. The majority of families have been taking shelter in buildings rented at extremely steep costs in the poverty-stricken area.

Heavy shelling on Handarat and bloody shootouts between the government forces and the opposition outfits led to the destruction of over 90% of buildings in the camp. The confrontations culminated in the government's takeover of the camp along with other zones in Aleppo and the displacement of its residents on April 27, 2013.

Handarat Camp (also called Ein AlTel Camp) is located to the northeast of Aleppo's Hill, overseeing the Turkey-bound traffic lanes. It stands on a rocky hill and is situated some 13 kilometers away from the city center.

According to data by the General Commission of Arab Palestinian Refugees in Syria, some 8,000 Palestinian refugees used to take shelter in Handarat Camp. Only 200 displaced families returned to the camp following the heavy onslaughts launched by the Syrian government battalions.



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