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Action Group For Palestinians of Syria



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية
The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

UNRWA in Syria Accused of Mismanagement

- Syrian Authorities Order Residents of AlHusainiya Refugee Camp to Renew Entry Cards
- Residents of Khan Dannun Camp Burn Their House Furniture to Get Warmth
- Palestinian-Syrian Woman Joins Referee Panel at Women's World Cup Championship



Latest Developments

Activists and NGOs have accused UNRWA staff in Syria of corruption and mismanagement.

The accusations were made in response to the mistreatment Palestinian refugees have been subjected to during the aid distribution process.

A number of refugees said they have been receiving spoiled food; Others said they have not been able to retrieve their cash grants from transfer companies.

The refugees denounced poor healthcare services at AlAssad University Hospital, among other health facilities which UNRWA has signed contracts with.

UNRWA reportedly purchased poor-quality medical equipment, including catheters and other cardiac surgery items, provided by the Government of India.

Palestinian refugees have also slammed UNRWA recruitment policy and called for a serious investigation into corruption accusations.

The UN has identified Palestinian refugees in Syria as one of the most marginalized and poorest communities in the region as they continue to face high marginalization, making them heavily reliant on humanitarian support to cover their basic needs. The socio-economic hardships and unrest experienced by the country have compounded the refugees' already dire living conditions.

The majority of the Palestinian refugee population in Syria live in poverty and are unable to meet even their most essential food requirements. The refugees' vulnerability is further compounded by their lack of access to healthcare facilities.

In another development, Syrian security forces have called on residents of AlHusainiya Camp to renew their access cards.

Civilians show up at the local municipality to get their entrance cards renewed.



A number of Palestinian refugees sheltered in the area said the measure adds to the daily crackdowns slapped by Syrian security forces in and around the area to further tighten the grip on families entering and exiting the camp.

They further expressed fear that the move would be another means to blackmail them in return for free movement.

Meanwhile, displaced Palestinian families sheltered in Khan Dannun refugee camp, in Rif Dimashq, expressed fear that they won't be able to cook their food or keep the cold out of their homes due to exorbitant prices of fuel, as a freezing winter season has unlocked its gates.

The refugees have launched into a tirade against the malpractices of Syria's burgeoning black oil market, fuel shortages, and—most of all—the exorbitant prices of wood and fuel charged by corrupt officials and traders.

The price of a liter of fuel has been raised in the black market to over 5,000 Syrian pounds, in a country where a civil servant receives 80,000 in the best of cases.

At the same time, desperate for warmth, displaced Palestinian and Syrian families taking refuge in under-equipped camps and substandard facilities have been burning their clothes and plastic materials to stave off winter cold after they failed to afford firewood and fuel supplies.

This has resulted in heavy smokes engulfing camps from all corners and engendering civilians', particularly children's, health condition. Scores of children have sustained costochondritis (chest inflammation) and bronchitis due to heavy smoke inhalation.

In the meantime, on Saturday, December 24, the International Federation of Football Association (FIFA) selected the Palestinian referee Heba Saadia, from Yarmouk refugee camp, among the panel of referees at the 2023 Women's World Cup, to be held in Australia and New Zealand.

FIFA has published a list of international referees at the 2023 Women's World Cup matches. Heba is the first Palestinian-Syrian woman to participate in the event.



Heba began her career as a referee in 2022 at Maurice Revelo tournament for men below the age of 21, which was held in France.

She was previously selected as a referee at the Women's Asian Cup, which was hosted by India last February. She also participated in the 2022 Asian Federation Cup, which was held in Vietnam last June.