



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



"Palestinian Refugees from Syria Urge UNRWA to Deliver Cash Grants"

- Delegation Tours Deraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- Anti-Normalization Event Held in Palestinian Refugee Camp in Syria
- UNRWA Denies Intent to Assist Refugees Affected by Beirut Explosion

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Latest developments

Palestinian refugees from Syria in Jordan have urged UNRWA to transfer the second batch of cash grants at a time when a lockdown has been imposed across the country as part of the anti-coronavirus fight.

The refugees have expressed deep concern over their humanitarian condition as the Jordanian authorities are considering slapping a full lockdown across the kingdom to help curtail COVID-19 infections.

In appeals emailed to AGPS, a refugee called on the director of UNRWA operations in Jordan, Mohamed Adar, to shell out cash aid so as to enable the refugees to purchase much-needed food items and medicines before a full lockdown is imposed across the country.

So far, 1,756 cases of coronavirus have been reported in Jordan. The death toll stands at 15.

Displaced Palestinian refugees continue to urge UNRWA to provide them with much-needed cash and medical assistance in order to be able to combat the deadly pandemic COVID-19.

The refugees have also called on UNRWA to secure their access to hygiene kit, including disinfectants, gloves, face masks, and medicines.



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UNRWA said Palestinian refugees in Jordan are highly vulnerable and hundreds of recorded refugees are members of female-headed households, which increases their vulnerability.

Palestinian refugees who have entered from conflict zones, including Syria, to Jordan irregularly are living under continuous risk of arrest, detention and potential for forced deportation. Their lack of legal status and corresponding protection risks in Jordan are a source of major concern.

Meanwhile, a Palestinian delegation met with governor of Daraa city, Marwan Sharbak, to discuss ways to enhance service delivery in Daraa camp for Palestinian refugees.

The delegation sounded the alarm over the water and power crises rocking Daraa camp and pushed for debris clearance, road maintenance, and increase of bread quantities.

Daraa Governor pledged to keep tabs on the issues raised at the meeting and to reach out to the concerned authorities to enhance the socio-economic condition of Palestinian refugees.

All the way through Syria's nine-year conflict, residents of Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, have been grappling with dire humanitarian conditions owing to the high rates of unemployment and absence of vital facilities.

Civilians continue to sound distress signals over the absence of health services and life-saving medical kit. Most of the clinics and



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medical centers in the area have gone out of operation in the warfare.

UN data indicates that Palestinian refugees came to the Deraa area in two waves in 1948 and in 1967.

Deraa camp and its surroundings returned to government control in the summer of 2018. The camp is now largely destroyed. UNRWA was able to return to Deraa camp in November 2018 to conduct a needs assessment. Inside Deraa camp, all premises including three school buildings and a clinic need substantial repairs or complete rebuilding.

Deraa camp was home to 10,500 Palestine refugees before 2011. As of November 2018, 400 Palestine refugee families have returned since the camp returned to government hands. As of February 2020, some 800 families had returned to Daraa camp and 750 students to the UNRWA schools, according to UNRWA.

The older part of the camp was established in 1950-51 for refugees from the northern and eastern parts of Palestine following the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict. Next to the old camp is the newer part, which was set up in 1967 for some 4,200 Palestine refugees who were forced to leave the Quneitra Governorate in the Golan following the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict.

In another development, hundreds of Palestinian refugees in Jaramana camp, in Rif Dimashq, took part in a protest event held against the UAE-Israel normalization deal.



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The protesters strongly condemned the deal which they said makes part of a conspiracy targeting the Palestinian people and paving the way for the US “deal of the century”.

Several Arab countries have condemned the UAE-Israel normalization deal, describing it as an infringement of the Palestinian people's rights and a threat to the Arab and Islamic position which rejects normalization.

A couple of weeks ago, Israel and the UAE announced establishing full diplomatic relations in a US-brokered deal that allegedly will see the Jewish state postpone plans for annexation of land it illegally occupies in the West Bank that is sought by the Palestinians for their future state.

Palestinian groups have denounced the normalization deal, saying it does nothing to serve the Palestinian cause and ignores the rights of Palestinians.

In the meantime, UNRWA denied reports about its intent to start providing medical assistance to refugees affected by the blast that struck Beirut’s seaport on August 4, 2020.

UNRWA said in a statement that reports claiming the Agency will start distributing cash and in-kind items, including food and medicines, are counterfeit.

UNRWA said its updates are only released by its official sources and spokespersons, warning Palestinian refugees against electronic malwares and link viruses.



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The Agency pledged to take legal action against parties responsible for propagating rumours and counterfeit pieces of information.

It expressed its solidarity with the Lebanese people and the Palestinian refugees living in the country.

UNRWA is confronted with an increased demand for services resulting from a growth in the number of registered Palestine refugees, the extent of their vulnerability and their deepening poverty. UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions and financial support has been outpaced by the growth in needs. As a result, the UNRWA programme budget, which supports the delivery of core essential services, operates with a large shortfall.