



## التقرير اليومي



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

### Residents of Khan Eshieh Facing Squalid Conditions

- 187 Palestinians from AlAyedeen Camp in Hums Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime
- School Uniforms Distributed in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon Launch Humanitarian Drive



## Latest Developments

Palestinian families taking refuge in Khan Eshieh camp have been struggling with squalid humanitarian conditions inflicted by the twelve-year warfare.

Palestinian families have been overburdened by the price leap, food shortage, and poor services.

According to UN data, Khan Eshieh camp lies beside the ancient ruins of Khan Eshieh, 27km south-west of Damascus. The camp historically served as an overnight shelter for trade caravans on the road between Damascus and the southwest, and in 1948, it provided shelter for the first refugees from Palestine. The camp was established in 1949 on an area of 0.69 square kilometers with refugees originally from the northern part of Palestine.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. In 2012, the farms and fields surrounding the camp became active battlegrounds in which heavy weapons were deployed, often indiscriminately. The population more than halved to 9,000.

Some of the camp's buildings and infrastructure were severely affected including some UNRWA installations; two UNRWA schools and the community centre were almost razed to the ground. In 2016, UNRWA was able to re-access Khan Esheih and the Agency was able to rehabilitate some of its installations. Residents have also slowly started to return, with the camp now accommodating 12,000 people.

Meanwhile, AGPS documented the secret incarceration of 187 Palestinian refugees, including 10 women, taking shelter in AlAyedeen Camp, in Hums, in Syria's state run dungeons since the outburst of the bloody conflict.

AGPS believes the real number is far higher due to the government's reticence to reveal the names and fates of Palestinian detainees' and the families' fears to disclose their relatives' names over retaliation concerns.



AGPS has documented the death of over 700 Palestinian refugees under torture in Syrian government prisons since the outburst of the bloody warfare.

According to data by AGPS, nearly 2,000 Palestinian refugees, among them children, women and elderly refugees, have been enduring unknown fates in Syrian government lock-ups. Toddlers clinging to their mothers' arms have also been spotted in Syrian jails.

According to affidavits by ex-detainees, Palestinian refugees have been subjected to harsh psycho-physical torture tactics in Syrian penitentiaries, including electric shocks, heavy beating using iron sticks, and sexual abuse.

AGPS continues to urge the Syrian authorities to disclose the condition and whereabouts of Palestinian refugees held in its prisons.

AGPS believes that such practices represent flagrant violations of international law, which criminalizes all forms of torture and mistreatment against civilians.

In the meantime, the Palestine Embassy in Damascus distributed 700 school uniforms in Yarmouk Camp in Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

The initiative was launched by ambassador Samir AlRefa'i and head of the Relief Committee Mahmoud AlKhaled.

Along similar lines, Palestinian activists embarked on a humanitarian campaign to raise funds for displaced Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon.

Food items, medicines, and winter clothes will be collected as part of the campaign.

Donors should show up at the PRS centre in Burj AlBarajneh refugee camp.

UN data indicates that some 29,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria (5,800 households) are currently sheltered in Lebanon.

UNRWA has identified Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (PRL) as one of the most marginalized and poorest communities in the region. As the currency depreciates amid the ongoing political



uncertainty and in the absence of a financial rescue package, the purchasing power of households that earn their incomes in LBP continues to weaken.