



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

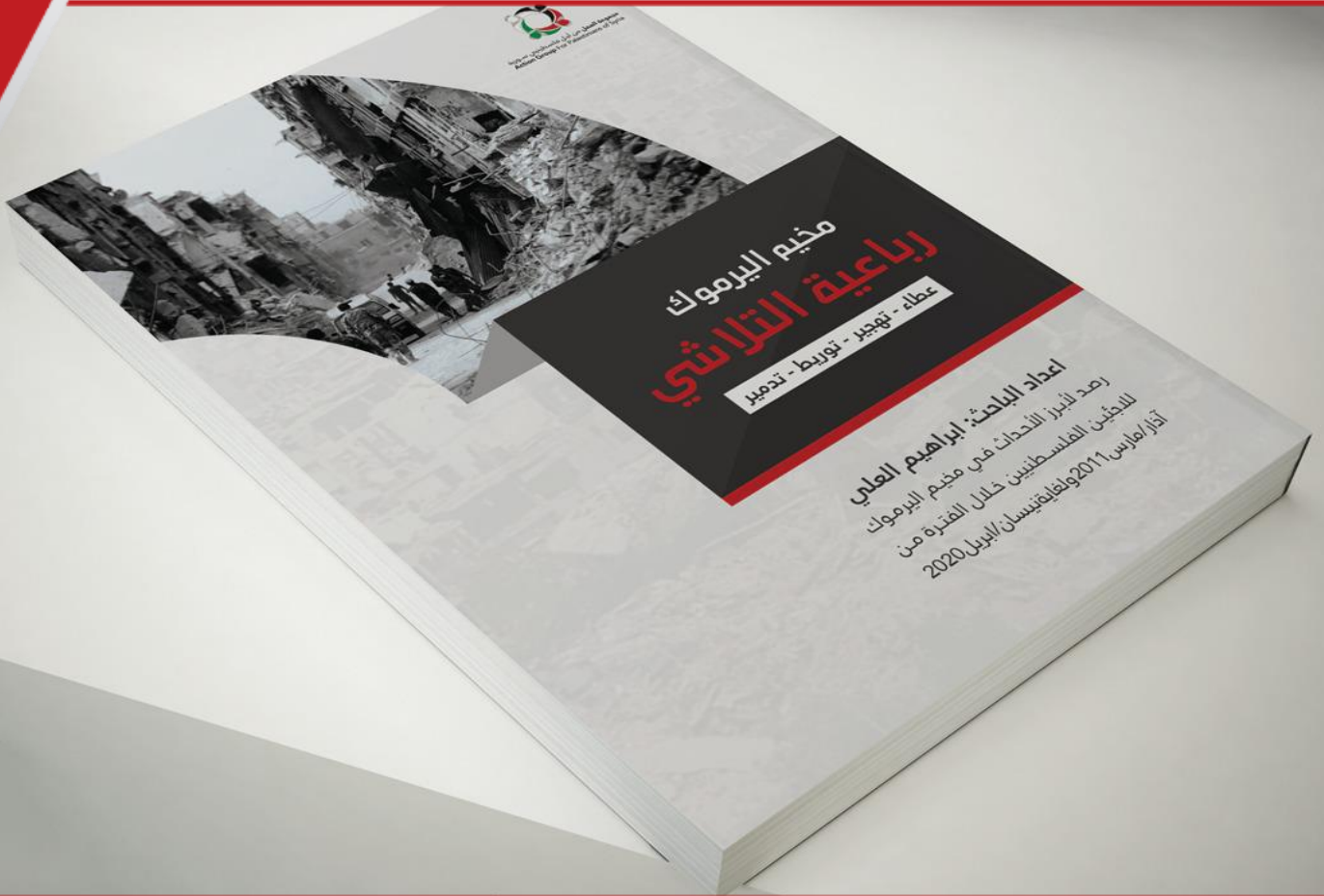
23-06-2020

No. 2800

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



AGPS: 258 Residents of Syria's Yarmouk Palestinian Refugee Camp Killed Prior to Infiltration of Opposition Groups

- UNRWA Delegation Meets With Representatives of Palestinians of Syria in Jordan
- Residents of Khan Eshieh Camp for Palestinian Refugees Denounce Misconduct of Telephone Exchange Staff
- Austria Pushes for Closure of European Borders to Rein In Migrant Influx

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Latest developments

In its latest book entitled “Yarmouk Camp: A Fourfold Tragedy”, AGPS recorded the death of 258 Palestinian refugees taking shelter in the camp in the period from March 15, 2011 to December 12, 2012, a few months before armed opposition groups forced their way into the camp.

The list of victims includes 77 Palestinian refugees who were fatally gunned down and 138 who died under shelling, including in an attack targeting AlJa’ouna neighborhood on August 2, 2012 and another targeting Abdul Kader AlHusaini Mosque on December 12, 2012.

Another 17 Palestinian refugees died as a result of extra-judicial execution, burns, or white-gun assaults. Dozens of other refugees were killed in blasts and assassinations.

“Yarmouk Camp: A Fourfold Tragedy” was released by AGPS by the end of May 2020. It sheds light on the violations which the camp residents have been subjected to since March 2011 until the end of April 2020.

The book tackles four phases undergone by the camp residents during the period under examination and covers the property-theft, displacement, and destruction to which the camp had been subjected.

The study provides a list of victims that were killed or forcibly disappeared during that period.



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To download the book, click here:

<http://www.actionpal.org.uk/ar/reports/special/talashiyarmouk.pdf>

In another development, director of UNRWA operations in Jordan, Mohamed Abdi Adar, met on Sunday, June 21, with Palestinian activists from Syria in Jordan.

During the meeting, held at UNRWA's head office in Amman, the Palestinian refugee delegation updated the UN officials on the dire humanitarian conditions endured by Palestinian refugees from Syria in Jordan.

They urged the UN delegation to pressurize UNRWA to live up to its allotted mission and work out the calamitous situation of Palestinian refugees.

UNRWA representatives vowed to provide the refugees with urgent humanitarian assistance, transfer their cash grants on a monthly rather than trimester basis, and to work on increasing cash aid.

Meanwhile, residents of Khan Eshieh camp for Palestinian refugees continue to rail against the frequent blackouts in telephone exchange systems.

Civilians said maintenance staff rarely respond to their appeals for maintenance works. The residents accused local authorities of bribery and favoritism, saying pro-government officers from the Sa'sa' military branch have been giving preferentiality to



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businessmen and influential people at the expense of civilians' needs.

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

According to UN data, Khan Eshieh camp lies beside the ancient ruins of Khan Eshieh, 27km south-west of Damascus. The Khan 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.



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In the meantime, Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz has said the European Union must not allow Turkey to blackmail the bloc by pushing migrants to the Greek border, the Kathimerini daily reported.

“We cannot allow Turkey to use migrants to blackmail the EU as it has repeatedly tried to do,” Kurz told the daily in an exclusive interview on Sunday.

“This is precisely the reason we sent aid to Evros last March: to help Greece defend its borders, which are also the European Union’s borders, and to send a clear message to Turkey,” he added.

Kurz, 33, is the youngest head of government in the world and is in his second administration, having also been chancellor from December 2017 to May 2019.

“I am very happy seeing the EU helping Greece defend its borders, while frontex played a crucial role”, added the Austrian chancellor.

Kurz himself tweeted about the interview published Sunday in Kathimerini: “I also reiterated that we must not be blackmailed by #Turkey. We must stop illegal migration at our external borders, like the Greek border. This also our responsibility as Europeans”.