



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

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## التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



### "Over 36 Palestinians Killed by Chemical Weapons in Syria"

- Palestinian Refugee in Northern Syria Displacement Camp Appeals for Urgent Treatment
- 2 Schools to Be Re-Opened in Yarmouk Camp
- Syria Consulate in Turkey Delays Booked Meetings
- Fast-Breaking Meals Distributed to Displaced Palestinian Families in Qudsaya

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## Latest Developments

The Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare serves as a reminder of the “chemical massacre”, perpetrated on August 21, 2013 in Rif Dimashq, and which claimed the lives of dozens of innocent Palestinians.

AGPS warns that the Palestinian refugee community in Syria has been disastrously affected by the onslaughts launched by the Syrian government army using internationally prohibited weapons, namely napalm, cluster grenades, and barrel bombs.

On August 21, 2013 an offensive rocking Zamalqa and Mu'dhamiyat AlSham towns, in Rif Dimashq, took away the lives of hundreds of civilians, among them 36 Palestinians, due to heavy inhalation of toxic gas. Heavy material damage was also inflicted on Palestinian refugee camps and shelters, along with UNRWA facilities.

The list of Palestinian victims includes 18 members of the Ghazi family, in Zamalka, and seven others in Mu'dhamiyat AlSham.

Human rights data indicates that the massacre took away the lives of over 1,450 civilians. The Syrian Network for Human Rights kept record of the death of 1,027 persons, including 107 children and 201 women.



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AGPS continues to call on all warring actors in Syria to abide by their obligations under international law and protect civilians during armed conflicts.

AGPS urges the international community and UNRWA to live up to their duties as regards the situation in war-ravaged Syria and to work on providing Palestinian refugees with physical and legal protection.

AGPS also calls for serious action to bring war criminals in Syria before international courts.

Recent years have seen the erosion of the taboo against chemical weapons, threatening the disarmament and non-proliferation regimes.

The UN says that the use of chemical weapons anywhere, by anyone, under any circumstances, is intolerable and a serious violation of international law. Impunity for their use is unacceptable. It is imperative that those who use, or have used, chemical weapons are identified and held accountable.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Amer Abu Hamda, sheltered in northern Syria, has appealed for urgent medical treatment in nearby Turkey.

Reporting from northern Syria, an AGPS correspondent said Amer, displaced from Yarmouk Camp to Aleppo, suffers from pituitary adenomas (tumors affecting the pituitary gland) and is need of



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chemical doses that are unavailable in the under-equipped health centres set up in northern Syria.

Amer's family claimed that the Turkish authorities have refused to let him in because he does not hold identity documents.

The family appealed to the international humanitarian organizations, the Palestine Embassy in Turkey, the UNHCR, and the Conference of Palestinians in Turkey to work on securing urgent medical therapy to Amer.

In another development, Syria's Education Minister Darem Tabaa greenlighted the rehabilitation of the Yarmouk High School and Abdul Kader AlHusaini School, in Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

The schools are slated to reopen starting the next academic year following reconstruction and maintenance works.

On March 16, Director-General of the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR), Ali Mustafa, handed over to the Education Ministry a memorandum which he received from education chief in Yarmouk Camp Walid AlKurdi calling for the rehabilitation of the two schools.

Palestinian refugee schoolchildren and students continue to struggle with the devastating impact of the ten-year warfare.

Available data by UNRWA indicates that 32 UNRWA facilities have been reduced to rubble in Yarmouk Camp alone, including 16 schools, in the Syrian conflict.



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Several other UNRWA facilities were destroyed in the Syrian warfare and others have gone out of operation, including two clinics, a vocational training center, a youth development center, and 28 schools, out of 112 UNRWA schools in Syria.

Upon more than one occasion, the UN has raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among the Palestinians of Syria, several among whom have left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.

Dozens of Palestinian students, schoolchildren, and teaching staff have been killed or forcibly disappeared in war-ravaged Syria.

Meanwhile, the Syrian Consulate in Istanbul has cancelled all arranged meetings following the total lockdown imposed across Turkish provinces due to the unprecedented surge in coronavirus cases.

Meetings which were scheduled for Friday April 30 will be delayed to May 21. Meetings which were slated to be held on May 3 will be delayed to May 24. Meetings scheduled for May 4 will be postponed to May 25 and those previously scheduled for May 5 will be held on May 26.

In the meantime, Muhjat AlQuds Association in Syria distributed on April 29 some 200 Iftar meals to displaced Palestinian families sheltered in Syria's Qudsaya town.



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Some 6,000 Palestinian families displaced from Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus, continue to face dire socio-economic conditions in Qudsaya.