



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



"Displaced Palestinian Families Enduring Squalid Conditions in Lebanon"

- Palestinians in Syria Displacement Camp Left with Bread for 3rd Day
- France Supports UNRWA with 20 Million Euros
- Displaced Palestinian Families Receive Meat Aid

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest developments

Association 302 for Defense of Refugee Rights said eight Palestinian families displaced from Syria have been enduring a squalid humanitarian condition in AlRahman shelter in Lebanon's central AlBekaa region.

Association 302 met with a ten-member family sheltered in a canvas tent for the seventh consecutive year. Another nine-member family have been sheltered in a metal-walled tent for four years. The family's father, called Yasser AlKhatib, suffered from a stroke due to the death of his two sons in Syria.

The Association urged UNRWA to follow up the case of four child members of the family—Nada, 13; Ahmad, 10; Mohamed, 9, and Lujain, 7—who have not been able to pursue their studies at UNRWA schools.

Nearly 28,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria have sought shelter in Lebanon, where they have been subjected to a precarious legal status and dire socio-economic conditions owing to their lack of access to vital services, particularly health care.

Data by UNRWA indicates that the majority of Palestinian refugees, particularly those fleeing war-torn Syria (PRS), continue to face dire conditions and high vulnerability in Lebanon.

According to information collected by UNRWA, more than 80 per cent of PRS indicate that the Agency's cash assistance is their main source of income.



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95 per cent of PRS are food insecure, while about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty. 36 to 57 per cent of PRS youth face unemployment.

UNRWA said PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. According to the Agency's monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents. The lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention and being issued a departure order.

Meanwhile, a number of Palestinian families sheltered in Khan Eshieh refugee camp, in Rif Dimashq, said they have been striving to fetch bread loafs as the sole bakery in the area has gone out of operation for the third day running.

The residents called for urgent action regarding the acute dearth in bread and flour, saying civilians continue to line up for hours in the streets to get a loaf of bread.

Over recent years, residents of Khan Eshieh camp have spoken up against the poor-quality bread sold in the area, saying it is unfit for human consumption and holding the government's quality control staff responsible for the crisis.

Living conditions in Khan Eshieh have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the raging warfare. A transportation crisis has added bad to worse.



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After ten years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs.

Survival for the majority of Palestinian families in war-stricken Syria has largely hinged on relief assistance. The vast majority of families have been living below the poverty line.

In another development, the Government of France has disbursed EUR 6 million contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) this July, bringing its total contribution for 2020 to EUR 20 million.

UNRWA said in a press release that of the EUR 6 million, EUR 5 million will contribute to the Agency's core services of education, health and poverty alleviation for all of UNRWA fields of operation, with another EUR 1 million to support the Agency's COVID-19 response in occupied Palestinian territory (oPt).

“This new contribution reflects France's lasting commitment to ensure that UNRWA can deliver its services. France also welcomes the efforts of UNRWA to respond to the COVID crisis. UNRWA services across its five fields of operation remain all the more essential today in order to provide services to over 5.6 million Palestine refugees.” said René Troccaz, Consul General of France in Jerusalem.

“On behalf of the Agency, I thank the Government of France for funding generously UNRWA core services while also contributing



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to ensure the response to the additional challenges that the COVID-19 crisis poses to the Agency”, said Marc Lassouaoui, UNRWA Chief of Donor Relations.

The UNRWA official also commended France “for advancing the majority of its funding to the first quarter of 2020 to help address the constant cash flow shortage of the Agency”.

He said France has provided steadfast support to the Agency and has become, last year, one of the Agency’s top partners.

France has been a dedicated and reliable partner to UNRWA, reaching a total of EUR 41 million in funding for the fiscal year 2019, said UNRWA.

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.

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and mandated to provide assistance and protection to some 5.6 million Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA across its five fields of operation. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank, including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip achieve their full human



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development potential, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight.

In the meantime, the Palestinians of Syria Commission for Relief and Development said thousands of displaced Palestinian and Syrian families sheltered in northern Syria will be receiving meat as part of donations made by charities and Palestinians living abroad. Over 600 Palestinian families living in territories occupied since 1948 (present-day Israel) also took part in the humanitarian campaign.

Hundreds of Palestinian and Syrian families who have been forcibly deported to northern Syria have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation as most of them have been taking cover in underequipped tents and denied access to vital facilities and services.