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التقرير اليومي



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

Palestinian Refugees in Sweden Appeal for Permanent Residence Cards

- **Rights Group Acclaims Rehabilitation of Yarmouk School**
- **Palestinian Activist Reyad Hamid Pronounced Dead in Egypt**
- **Palestinian Refugee Students Sustain Water-Borne Infections in Syria Displacement Camp**



Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees in Sweden continue to appeal to the Swedish authorities to grant them permanent residence permits and enhance their legal status.

In a feature published by the Swedish platform Aktarr, a Palestinian refugee from Syria said he arrived in Sweden in late 2015 and obtained a permanent residence permit. Asylum seekers with children were, however, granted permanent residence permits.

Upon his arrival, the refugee obtained an internship. Six years ago, he obtained a legal work permit and for two years he received a 63% aid from the labor office. Later, he obtained a one-year contract. When he re-applied for permanent residence some three years ago, the syndicate said his salary is lower than the required wage.

According to the refugee, such a precondition has been canceled in recent years. However, his condition has not been changed and he has been denied the right to social and legal protection.

According to the Swedish law, for those who have a permanent residence permit, the residence permit card is valid for a maximum of five years. Thereafter, the concerned person will need a new card. For those who have a temporary residence permit, the residence permit card is valid for as long as the permit. The residence card is not an identity document or a travel document.

The Swedish Migration Agency also set tough requirements for becoming a Swedish citizen. Applicants are required to prove their identity—quite a difficult task for Palestinian refugees who lost their documents as a result of war and years of displacement.

The applicant should also be 18 years of age or older, have a permanent residence permit (a temporary residence permit is not applicable), or have a right of residence or residence card (applies to the applicant if he/she is an EU citizen or a close relative of an EU citizen).

In order to apply for citizenship, the candidate should have met the requirements for habitual residence (i.e. lived in Sweden for a



certain amount of time) and have conducted him(her)self well while in Sweden.

Such tough conditions make it almost impossible for refugees holding temporary visas and wishing to obtain permanent visas to apply for citizenship in the kingdom.

Since mid-July 2016, the Swedish authorities suspended permanent visa procedures for holders of temporary protection cards.

Over the past few years, thousands of Palestinian and Syrian refugees, among other migrants, who have applied for asylum in Sweden were only granted two-year temporary visas.

In another development, Association 302 for defense of refugees rights acclaimed the upcoming re-inauguration of Assad Ibn AlFourat School in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

Association 302 said in a press statement issued on September 29, the school will reopen its doors on Sunday, October 02.

The group said the move is a fruitful step in the right direction, expressing wish that life would soon be back to normal in the ravaged camp.

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.

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.

Meanwhile, Palestinian-Syrian activist Reyad Hamid Abu Muadh was pronounced dead in Egypt.



Reyad assisted scores of Palestinian and Syrian refugees fleeing war-torn Syria to Egypt in 2013.

Reyad was born and raised in Yarmouk Camp. His family hails from Dalata village, in Palestinian territories occupied in 1948.

He is the brother of Palestinian doctor Hayel Hamid, who has been forcibly disappeared in Syrian government prisons for the eight consecutive year. He was kidnapped on August 13, 2012 from his clinic in Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus, on charges of treating wounded persons.

In the meantime, a number of water-borne intoxication cases have been reported in Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, due to contaminated tank water.

Water tanks at schools have reportedly been contaminated, resulting in infections among school children.

Over recent years, the United Nations expressed concerns that the lack of water in Syria displacement camps could lead to waterborne diseases, particularly among children, and to another financial strain on the families' shoulders.

The UN has also raised alarm bells over the serious upshots of the water crisis on millions of children in Syria, who have been at high risk of disease due to contaminated tank water.

As the Syria crisis enters its twelfth year, Palestinian refugees continue to bear the brunt of a conflict marked by unparalleled suffering, displacement, shelling, and disregard for human life. The swift hike in prices and rental fees, along with the lack of humanitarian assistance, have made the situation unbearable for Palestinian refugees.