



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



**"On Holy Eid, Palestinian Refugees Enduring Squalid Conditions in Syria"**

- Palestinian Camps in Syria Deprived of Eid Festivity
- Displaced Palestinian Families in Northern Syria Spend Eid in Dire Conditions
- Syrian Regime Prevents Civilians from Visiting Yarmouk Camp Cemetery

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## Latest developments

As the holy Eid AlAdha (festival of sacrifice) has been celebrated by Muslims across the globe, Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria have been deprived of the joy ordinarily sparked by such an occasion.

In a place where vital facilities and leisure amenities have been damaged by the warfare, the advent of Eid means that dozens of displaced Palestinian and Syrian families spend the occasion in their poorly-equipped camps and shelters.

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

Palestinian refugees in Syria (PRS) continue to launch cries for help over their deteriorating humanitarian condition due to the sharp decrease in the exchange rate of the Syrian pound compared to the USD and their lack of access to the local labor market. The price leap has also overburdened the cash-stripped refugees. House rents have seen a striking hike from previous years.

The refugees continue to urge UNRWA and all other concerned parties to increase financial aid, help the displaced families return to their refugee camps, and provide much-needed relief services for Palestine refugees.

Over 90 per cent of Palestine refugee households in Syria live in poverty and 40 per cent remain in protracted displacement as a



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result of conflict and the damage and destruction of their homes, warned the UN Agency for Palestine Refugees.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) said in its 2020 Syria regional crisis emergency appeal that 126,000 Palestine refugees in Syria (PRS) are identified as extremely vulnerable; 89% live in poverty; 91% live in extreme poverty; and 80% rely on UNRWA cash assistance as their main source of income.

UNRWA also said that 55% of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents; 100% of PRS are in need of winterization assistance; and 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.

At the same time, photos circulated on social media networks show Palestinian refugee camps as being evacuated. The majority of Palestinian families have fled their houses and shelters for fear of being killed in the bloody shootouts.

A Palestinian refugee from Yarmouk Camp said the majority of families have abandoned their houses in the camp, dubbing the area “a ghost city”.

The situation has been just as tragic in other displacement camps across the Syrian territories, including Handarat and Deraa refugee camps.

Since the start of the crisis in 2011, UNRWA estimates that 120,000 Palestine refugees have left Syria for neighboring countries, and beyond.



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

Palestine refugees from Syria have been severely affected by the ongoing armed conflict. Of the total 438,000 Palestine refugees from Syria, the vast majority require assistance.

Along similar lines, 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.

In an attempt to tone down the suffering wrought by years of war and displacement, the families paid visits to each other and congratulated their campmates on the holy occasion.

In the meantime, a number of Yarmouk residents told AGPS that Syrian security forces prevented them from reaching the old cemetery in the camp to visit their relatives' tombs during Eid AlAdha.

Syrian security forces deployed at a checkpoint pitched near the main entrance to the camp reportedly cracked down on civilians attempting to reach the cemetery.

Civilians also said Russian forces have been spotted around the main entrance to the old cemetery in the camp.





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Over recent years, activists have slammed the Russian and Syrian government forces for ransacking the old cemetery of Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus, in search of the body remains of Israeli soldiers killed in the Battle of Sultan Yaakoob in Lebanon in 1982.

The body of missing-in-action Israeli soldier Zachary Baumel was flown back to Israel in early April 2019. He was one of three soldiers still listed as missing in action since the Battle of Sultan Yaakoub in Lebanon in 1982.

On April 19, 2018, a military operation launched by Syria's government battalions and their Russian abettors led to the destruction of 60% of civilian buildings and premises in Yarmouk Camp. Dozens of civilians were killed and hundreds injured in the offensive.

Heavy damage was wrought on Yarmouk's AlShuhadaa Cemetery as graves were hit with barrel bombs and headstones smashed by missiles and mortar shells.