



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



"Palestinian Refugee Schoolgirl Writes Book about Mental Math in Netherlands"

- Palestinian Refugee Child Falls to Death from Building in Lebanon
- Yarmouk Camp Residents Raise Concerns over Unexploded War Ordnance
- Residents of Hindarat Camp Deprived of Humanitarian Aid

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Latest Developments

26-year-old Palestinian refugee Salam Ali Rahma has made the last touches on her book about mental calculations which teaches children the techniques of the four arithmetic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

The book enables children to work out quick and complex arithmetic calculations.

Salam fled the ravaged Yarmouk Camp through a Europe-bound migrant boat. She finally disembarked in The Netherlands, where she studied the Dutch language and got rolled at the Mathematical Institute at the Leiden University. She is the only 1

year student at the department.

Salam was trained by professional coaches. She launched a free online course for children after she opened up her “Little Einstein Mind Math Club”.

She said her new book is a chain in a series of books to be produced in the near future.

In another development, a Palestinian child fell to his death a few days earlier down an elevator shaft in Nahar AlBared Camp for Palestinian refugees, north of Lebanon.



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The child Malek Alya fell from the fourth floor of the under-construction Naji AlAli medical complex as he was playing with his friends.

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon are grappling with increased hardship and vulnerability, due to long-term displacement and difficult socio-economic conditions.

The recent political instability in the country, coupled with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, has made survival difficult for Palestinian refugees.

According to UNRWA, 87% of PRS live in poverty in the Lebanese territories.

Over 470,000 refugees are registered with UNRWA in Lebanon. About 45 per cent of them live in the country's 12 refugee camps. Conditions in the camps are dire and characterized by overcrowding, poor housing conditions, unemployment, poverty and lack of access to justice.

Palestinians in Lebanon do not enjoy several important rights; for example, they cannot work in many professions and cannot own property (real estate). Because they are not formally citizens of another state, Palestine refugees are unable to claim the same rights as other foreigners living and working in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Landmines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), which are particularly unpredictable and



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difficult to detect, continue to put millions of people, including Palestine refugees, at risk in Syria.

Civilians in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees continue to sound distress signals over the threats posed by unexploded ordnance.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has frequently warned that some groups are at higher risk from explosive ordnance due to age, gender, social roles and activity patterns: children who will pick up dangerous items, farm workers who dig up the land, population groups on the move like IDPs, who may enter areas without knowledge of local threats.

In Syria, approximately 1 in 2 people are at risk from explosive contamination and 1/3 of the communities are potentially contaminated. Contamination severely impacts lives, livelihoods and amplifies the social and economic crisis aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

People displaced or returning home are at high risk as they have limited information on safety issues in the areas they are going to.

This threat is particularly high for Palestine refugees in Syria, especially in newly-accessible or difficult-to-reach areas. These include areas that Palestine refugees have recently returned to areas such as Yarmouk, Ein el Tal and Deraa camp.



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Children on their way to and from school are highly exposed to the dangers of explosive ordnance. Tragically, just last month, a 10-year-old Palestine refugee boy in Syria was severely injured by a mine explosion and lost one of his legs.

Palestine refugees living in Syria are not the only Palestine refugees at risk from unexploded ordnance. In the Gaza Strip, unexploded ordnance from the 2014 Israeli offensive continues to pose a direct threat, including to UNRWA students.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees sheltered in Hindarat Camp, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo, have accused UNRWA and the other concerned relief institutions of dragging their feet over their appeals for urgent cash and in-kind assistance, saying they have been denied access to vital services and humanitarian aid.

Palestinian refugees have been grappling with dire conditions in the area due to the lack of humanitarian assistance and life-saving services. The majority of families have been taking shelter in buildings rented at extremely steep costs in the poverty-stricken area. A severe water and power crisis also continues to rock the camp.

Heavy shelling on Handarat and bloody shootouts between the government forces and the opposition outfits led to the destruction of over 90% of buildings in the camp. The confrontations culminated in the government's takeover of the camp along with other zones in Aleppo and the displacement of its residents on April 27, 2013.



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Handarat Camp (also called Ein AlTel Camp) is located to the northeast of Aleppo's Hill, overseeing the Turkey-bound traffic lanes. It stands on a rocky hill and is situated some 13 kilometers away from the city center.

According to data by the General Commission of Arab Palestinian Refugees in Syria, some 8,000 Palestinian refugees used to take shelter in Handarat Camp. Only 200 displaced families returned to the camp following the heavy onslaughts launched by the Syrian government battalions.