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التقرير اليومي الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinians of Syria Enduring Multiple Hardships"

- Palestinian Refugees in Syria Overburdened by Gas Price Leap
- AGPS at Copenhagen Conf: Situation of Palestinians in Northern Syria Tragic
- Young Man Dies While Clearing Rubble in Yarmouk Camp



Latest Developments

Eleven years after demonstrations started in Syria, the majority of Palestinian refugees sheltered in the war-torn country have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation.

Prices have skyrocketed at the local market, where vital products have been sold at exorbitant costs. At the same time, long queues are spotted daily outside of local bakeries as members of extended families continue to line up for bread.

Scores of Palestinian refugees have been deprived of vital items distributed via smart cards used by the Syrian government to ration bread and a wider range of subsidized goods, namely fuel, rice, tea, and sugar.

UN data indicates that over half of the Palestine refugees in the country have been displaced at least once because of the brutal conflict that ensued, including 120,000 who have sought safety in neighbouring countries, mainly Lebanon and Jordan, and beyond.

Once a vibrant community of over 550,000 people, Palestinians had come to Syria in two main waves in 1948 and 1967 to settle in 12 camps across the country. Yarmouk, the most famous of the Palestine refugee camps, became known as "the capital of Palestine refugees."



438,000 Palestine refugees remain in the country – 91 per cent of whom live in absolute poverty - and who have been among those worst affected by the conflict.

Since the start of the conflict, many UNRWA installations inside Syria, such as schools and health centers, have become inaccessible or sustained severe damage. Forty per cent of UNRWA classrooms have been lost and almost 25 per cent of the Agency's health centres are currently unusable due to the conflict. UNRWA in Syria has also lost 19 staff members during the 10-year conflict.

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 also seen a striking hike from previous years.

Over 80% of PRS live in extreme poverty and rely on humanitarian assistance as their main source of income. 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.

Along similar lines, a gas cylinder is sold through the smart card at a price of 9,700 Syrian pounds, up from 3,800 in previous months.

A gas cylinder of 16 kilograms, used in the industrial sector, is sold at 40,000 Syrian pounds.



Meanwhile, AGPS has raised alarm bells over the squalid humanitarian condition facing Palestinian refugees in displacement camps set up in northern Syria.

Speaking on behalf of AGPS in a conference held in Copenhagen on October 30, journalist Maher Shawish said Palestinian refugees have been twice displaced in Syria, where they continue to grapple with food, social, and legal insecurity and denied their rights as refugees, in violation of the Universal Human Rights Declaration and relevant resolutions.

Earlier this year, AGPS addressed the UNHRC on the dire situation facing Palestinian refugees in northern Syria with the advent of winter.

Nearly 1,450 Palestinian families have been struggling for survival in the poorly-equipped displacements camps set up in northern Syria, after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns. For many displaced Palestinian refugees, the perils of winter weather add to the torment already experienced throughout the conflict.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Husam Abdel Kader Shalabi succumbed to a serious injury he sustained while clearing debris from Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus.

Husam suffered fractures in his rib cage after a concrete pole collapsed while he was clearing rubble. He was rushed to the hospital but died shortly after.



Many buildings risk to collapse in Yarmouk Camp as a result of the heavy bombing by the Russian air forces and the Syrian regime. Two young men were injured after they fell last month from a building while removing rubble from the area.