



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

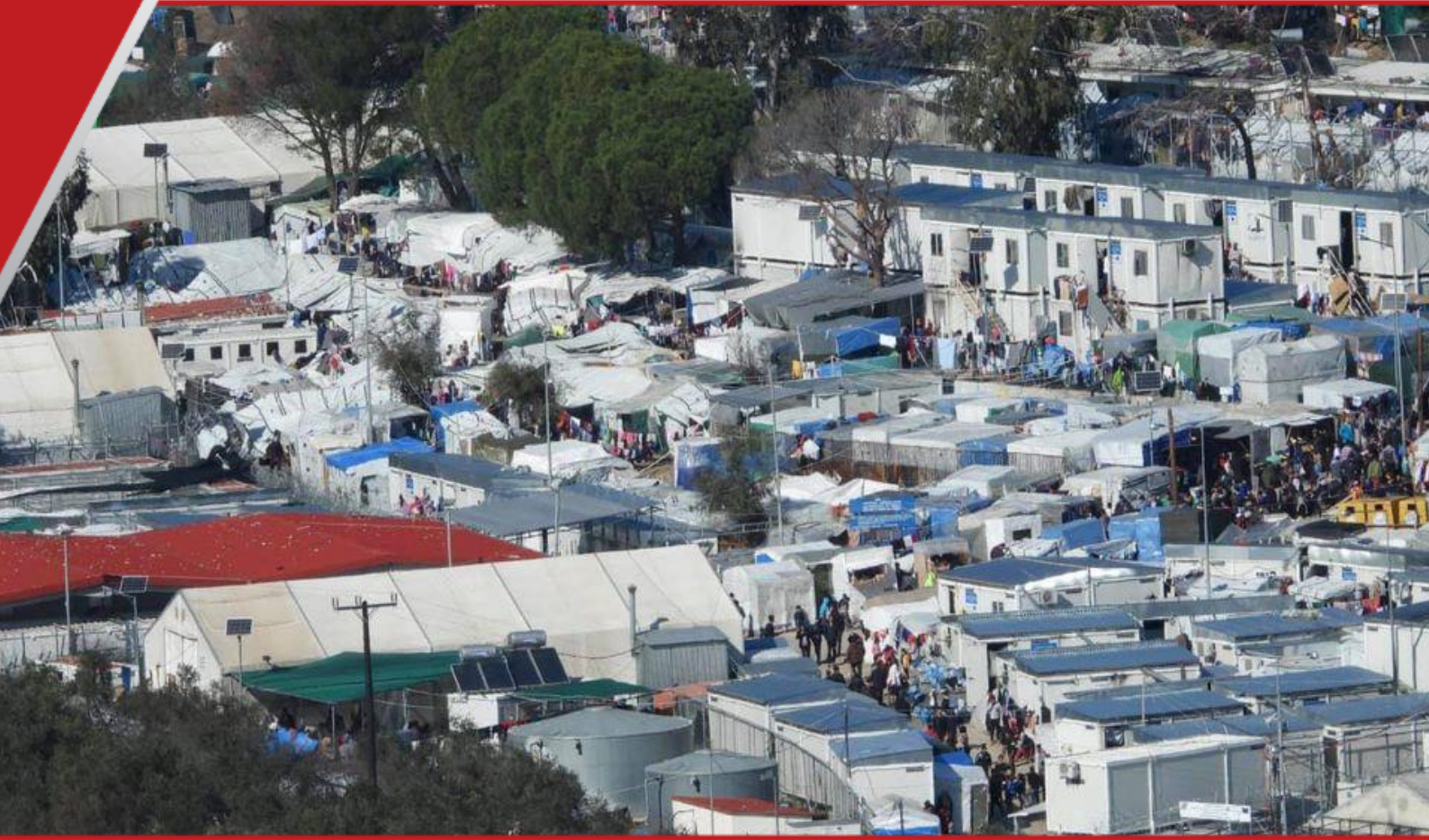
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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"450 Palestinian Refugees from Syria Quarantined in Greek Camp"

- Palestinian Refugee Mysteriously Dies in Aleppo
- Displaced Residents of Palestinian Refugee Camp of Yarmouk Appeal for Urgent Action
- Deraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees Left without Water for 10th Day
- Anti-Coronavirus Drive Held in Jaramana Camp

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Latest developments

Over 450 Palestinian asylum-seekers and thousands of other migrants taking shelter in Moria camp, set up on the Greek island of Lesbos, will be quarantined in the camp following a confirmed coronavirus case.

The camp will be locked down for 14 days after a 40-year-old migrant tested positive for the virus.

More than 12,000 people - mainly from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq - live in Moria camp, which has grown to become the island's second largest town in just three years.

Moria, in a former military base, opened in 2015 as a center to register new arrivals but is now at four times its capacity and it has spilled over into a muddy, garbage-strewn olive grove.

In another development, Palestinian refugee Majd Ahmad Salim Darwish was found hanged at his house in Aleppo, north of Syria, on Monday, August 31, 2020.

The motives behind his death remain mysterious. No details have been released by the Syrian security forces about the incident. He was buried in AlNeirab camp cemetery.

Majd worked as a staff member of the Education Directorate in Aleppo. He is the son of the former minister and human rights activist Ahmed Salim Darwish, a native of the Palestinian town of Tershiha, in Akka.



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Meanwhile, a number of human rights activists have called for allowing displaced families to safely return to their homes in Yarmouk Camp.

The calls were launched just a few days after Damascus Governorate issued a decision to suspend Yarmouk's reconstruction plan.

Palestinian families continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes in Yarmouk and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

A number of activists have also warned of ongoing attempts to alter the demographic character of the camp and blur its identity as a living witness to the Palestinian refugee plight.

Unofficial statistics indicate that some 200 families have remained in Yarmouk Camp. Scores of stranded families fled the camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the government forces on April 19, 2018. The Syrian government forces regained control over the area and southern Damascus towns following the operation. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured in the offensive. Over 60% of buildings in Yarmouk have gone either totally or partially destroyed.

Last year, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) published the results of an assessment of the damage to Syrian cities caused by seven years of relentless bombardment by the incumbent regime and its allies since 2011.



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The analysis found out that as many as 5,489 buildings were destroyed in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees. The damage atlas used satellite-detected damage analysis to identify buildings that are either destroyed, or severely or moderately damaged.

Meanwhile, water has been cut off across residential neighborhoods in Deraa camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, for ten days running.

The residents warned of the repercussions of the water crisis on their children's health condition in light of the global propagation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

An AGPS reporter said most of the families sheltered in the camp are cash-stripped and cannot afford to buy potable water from privately-owned tanks.

Palestinian families continue to appeal to UNRWA and the Water Company to take urgent action regarding the alarming humanitarian condition in the camp.

All the way through Syria's ten-year conflict, residents of Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, have been grappling with dire humanitarian conditions owing to the high rates of unemployment and absence of vital facilities.

Civilians continue to sound distress signals over the absence of health services and life-saving medical kit. Most of the clinics and medical centers in the area have gone out of operation in the warfare.



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UN data indicates that Palestinian refugees came to the Deraa area in two waves in 1948 and in 1967.

Deraa camp and its surroundings returned to government control in the summer of 2018. The camp is now largely destroyed. UNRWA was able to return to Deraa camp in November 2018 to conduct a needs assessment. Inside Deraa camp, all premises including three school buildings and a clinic need substantial repairs or complete rebuilding.

Deraa camp was home to 10,500 Palestine refugees before 2011. As of November 2018, 400 Palestine refugee families have returned since the camp returned to government hands. As of February 2020, some 800 families had returned to Deraa camp and 750 students to the UNRWA schools, according to UNRWA.

The older part of the camp was established in 1950-51 for refugees from the northern and eastern parts of Palestine following the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict. Next to the old camp is the newer part, which was set up in 1967 for some 4,200 Palestine refugees who were forced to leave the Quneitra Governorate in the Golan following the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict.

Along similar lines, activists and Palestinian youths launched a cleaning and disinfection campaign in Jaramana camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, in an attempt to curtail the spread of COVID-19.

Disinfectants have been sprayed across residential neighborhoods and UNRWA facilities.



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Confirmed coronavirus cases have been increasingly reported in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria, at a time when residents have been launching cries for help over the absence of hygiene kit and medicines.

Civilians continue to slam UNRWA's apathy, saying an urgent action is needed to save the displacement camps.

Over recent months, AGPS has also warned of a projected outbreak of COVID-19 in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria. Though campaigns to help spread awareness among the camps' residents have recently seen the day, limited access to running water, pharmacies and medical facilities mean displacement camps are more susceptible to the spread of the highly infectious virus.

Displacement camps set up in northern Syria are especially vulnerable as most hospitals and medical facilities have been bombed, rendering them out of order.