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## التقرير اليومي

## الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"On Women's International Day, AGPS Calls on Int'l Community to Protect Palestinian Refugee Women in/from Syria"

- Suspected Coronavirus Cases Reported in AlNeirab Camp
- Vaccination Campaign Launched in Palestinian Refugee Camps in Syria
- CSOs Urge Palestine Embassy to Include Palestinians of Syria in Humanitarian Aid
- Palestinians from Syria Rally in Gaza



## **Latest Developments**

AGPS calls on the international community to speak up for Palestinian refugee women in/from Syria and work on securing their basic human rights.

AGPS has documented the death of 487 Palestinian women and the secret detention of 110 others in war-torn Syria. At least 34 women were tortured to death in Syrian prisons.

AGPS also urges all warring parties in Syria to reveal the fate of Palestinian refugee women and girls forcibly disappeared in the country and ensure they are granted the right to a fair trial and a safe accommodation.

Scores Palestinian refugee women sheltered in Syria have served as their families' sole breadwinners.

Entering its 11<sup>th</sup> year, the warfare has forced women to break down gender locks and force their way into the market place to ensure their children can receive food and stay safe.

Several women who lost their husbands in the conflict or whose sons have been forcibly disappeared in the country have found no other way than to work up a sweat in order to survive in the wartorn country.

Meanwhile, dozens of suspected coronavirus cases have been reported in AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo.



Local sources told AGPS that 55 students at the UNRWA-run Akka School have been suspected of being infected with coronavirus. Another ten suspected cases have been reported in Mustafa Abu Dabousa Girls School.

A few months ago, the Akka School administration in AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Aleppo, suspended courses at a classroom after a student tested positive for coronavirus. The student was home-quarantined for 14 days and classes suspended for five days.

In another development, a campaign to vaccinate refugee children aged below five years-old against poliomyelitis has seen the day in displacement camps across the war-ravaged Syrian territories.

In live photos, medics and paramedics appear touring residential alleyways in order to immunize children.

Scores of Palestinian and Syrian children who have gone displaced from their homes in war-torn Syria have been left without lifesaving vaccination. Hundreds of children died as a result of medical negligence, medicine dearth, undernourishment, and the spread of fatal diseases in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria.

In the meantime, the Association of CSOs in Lebanon urged the Palestinian Embassy and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Beirut to include Palestinian refugees from Syria in humanitarian emergency responses and cash aid allotted to COVID-19 cases.



Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon are grappling with increased hardship and vulnerability, due to long-term displacement and difficult socio-economic conditions, coupled with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, said UNRWA in a fact sheet entitled "Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal 2021".

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

Nearly 65% of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (PRL) live in poverty.

UNRWA's factsheet indicates that 257,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon are in need of UNRWA emergency cash assistance.

At the same time, there are 104,409 confirmed COVID-19 cases, including 1,156 deaths, among Palestinian refugees in Lebanon as of December 2020.

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, Palestinian refugees from Syria joined a vigil held outside of the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in Gaza to push for urgent humanitarian action regarding the squalid situation in the besieged enclave.

Shortly after the vigil, the Follow-Up Committee of Palestinians of Syria met with officials from the PLO's refugee affairs department and agreed on preparing a list with the names of Palestinian refugees who returned from war-torn Syria to Gaza.

Some 150 Palestinian refugee families from Syria who returned to the blockaded Gaza Strip have been facing an abject humanitarian situation in the Israeli-blockaded enclave.

The refugees say they have been deprived of humanitarian assistance by UNRWA and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip have been enduring dire living conditions due to the 13-year-long Israeli siege and the devastating upshots of the Israeli onslaughts on the coastal enclave.

Civilians continue to launch cries for help over the high rates of unemployment, lack of financial resources, and movement crackdowns, which they said have made life quite unbearable in Gaza.



The offensives launched by the Israeli military on Gaza have turned the enclave into a hell on earth as most families have lost their sources of incomes, homes, and property.

According to data by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Gaza is one of the world's most densely populated areas, with more than 5,000 inhabitants per square kilometer. The Gaza Strip is smaller than the city of Oslo but is home to three times as many people.

Gaza is described by many Palestinians and humanitarian actors as the world's largest open-air prison, where nearly 2 million Palestinians live behind a blockade and are refused access to the other occupied Palestinian areas and the rest of the world.

NRC said 7 out of 10 Palestinians in Gaza are registered as refugees, and many of these come from families who were forced to leave their villages in 1948. Many have also been forced to leave their homes due to war, violence, and economic hardship.