



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



Yarmouk Camp Families Slam Apathy of Damascus Governorate

- Palestinian Refugee Provides Testimony about His Incarceration in Syria
- Turkish Foreign Ministry: UNRWA Services Contribute to Regional Stability
- Turkey Imposes New Measures for Temporary Protection Card



Latest Development

Activists and residents of Yarmouk Camp continue to slam Damascus authorities over their apathy regarding their appeals to reconstruct destroyed premises and facilitate civilians' return to the camp.

The refugees said none of the pledges made by Damascus Governorate regarding the rehabilitation of Yarmouk Camp have been materialized on the ground.

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

The unabated warfare has had disastrous fallouts on Palestinian refugee camps across the Syrian territories. Palestinians who remained in Yarmouk or returned to the camp sometime later have been struggling for survival, in an area that has been severely affected by the deadly hostilities.

Before the crisis started in 2011, Yarmouk was a bustling home to almost 30 percent of the Palestine refugee population in Syria. Today, the weight of displacement, hardship and the loss of loved ones add to the difficult living conditions in Yarmouk.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Thaer Abdul Razak Abdul Rahim has revealed shocking details about his secret detention in a Syrian regime prison.

Speaking with Zaman Al Wasl news site, Thaer said his tragedy started following the blockade imposed on Aleppo's eastern



corners and the deadly strikes targeting civilians and their property. Thaer fled the area with his family seeking a safe shelter before he was arrested by regime militias near AlNeirab Gate and transferred to a military branch over reconciliation claims.

“After being detained for one month and a half in a military branch in Aleppo I was transferred to Palestine Branch in Damascus”, said Thaer. “Because I was a Palestinian I’d been subjected to brutal torture. I wished every moment of torture would be the last in my life”.

Thaer said investigators had been motivated by “extremist sectarianism”. Over 125 prisoners would be crammed into a single cell most of them sustained war-borne intoxication. Scores of prisoners died under torture and of undernourishment and medical neglect. “Imagine that every three prisoners are provided with a small potato or an olive as their daily meal”.

“I saw with my own eyes how women would be raped”, he added.

Following brutal torture, Thaer was forced to put his fingerprint on unknown documents while he was blindfolded, before he was taken to Adra prison and then to Al Basa prison in Latakia. He had been denied the right to perform his prayers and to fast.

Thaer was released in 2021 and headed for northern Syria with his family. He is currently sheltered in AlBab city, where he has been struggling for survival.

In another development, On Tuesday, 7 June, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for



Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Philippe Lazzarini, concluded a two-day visit to Ankara, Türkiye. During the visit he met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, and senior representatives from Turkish aid institutions and Turkish parliamentarians to raise awareness of the current challenges facing Palestine refugees and discuss expanding UNRWA- Türkiye relations.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Çavuşoğlu said, “The essential services provided by the Agency contribute to the stability and security of the region. Our political and financial support to UNRWA will continue.”

The Commissioner-General meeting discussions focused on the deteriorating situation and increasing needs of Palestine refugees, including the impact of the pandemic and the Ukraine crisis, particularly on the cost of UNRWA delivery of emergency food assistance in Gaza, and ways in which the robust cooperation and partnership with Türkiye can be further strengthened.

“Türkiye’s generosity and unwavering political and financial support has once again helped to ensure the continued delivery of UNRWA services to Palestine refugees at a time of increasing needs and rising costs. I remain deeply appreciative of the Government of Türkiye for their continued efforts and look forward to further developing our important partnership to the benefit of Palestine refugees served by the Agency,” said UNRWA Commissioner-General Lazzarini.

The Government of Türkiye has been a steadfast partner to UNRWA and since 1949 has played a critical role in supporting the



Agency. Türkiye's support in multilateral platforms, including the UN, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Organization of Turkic States, as well as its direct financial contributions to UNRWA, are highly appreciated. Over the last four years, Türkiye has made annual contributions in the amount of US\$ 10 million in support of the Agency's core budget and in 2021 made an in-kind donation worth US\$ 10.3 million for Palestine refugees in Gaza.

In the meantime, the Syrian-Turkish Joint Committee announced on Tuesday that the Turkish Immigration Department has started adopting new procedures in order to grant the temporary protection card (kimlik) to new refugees coming from Syria.

The new procedures stipulate that refugees demanding a temporary protection card should be housed in designated places pending a study of the social and security reasons behind their asylum.

Last month, the Directorate of Integration and Communication run by the Turkish migration authorities suspended applications for protection cards (kimlik) and visas in 15 provinces, including in Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, Antalya, Gaziantep and Urfa. Procedures for temporary and international protection cards along with visas were also halted in 781 neighborhoods.

Unofficial statistics indicate that 10,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought shelter in Turkey, where they have been facing dire socio-economic conditions and denied access to the local labor market.



Turkish embassies continue to prevent Palestinian refugees from Syria from obtaining visas. As a result, hundreds of Palestinians have embarked on life-threatening journeys via illegal immigration roads to reach Turkey, fleeing war-tattered Syria, among other war-stricken zones.