

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

Palestinian Refugee Families Deprived of Heating Equipment in Syria

- Palestinian Child Electrocuted in Syria Displacement Camp
- Activists Call On Displaced Families to Return to Yarmouk Camp
- Humanitarian Situation Exacerbated by Transportation Crisis in AlHusainiya Refugee Camp



Daily report on the situation of Palestinians refugees in Syria

Latest Developments

As weather temperatures have gone down, Palestinian refugee families in Syria continue to struggle with multiple hardships.

Speaking with AGPS, a number of Palestinian refugees said they have no heating equipment except for blankets and mattresses.

The families expressed fear that they won't be able to cook their food or keep the cold out of their homes this year due to fuel dearth, as a freezing winter season is about to unlock its gates.

The refugees have launched into a tirade against the malpractices of Syria's burgeoning black oil market, fuel shortages, and—most of all—the exorbitant prices of wood and fuel charged by corrupt officials and traders.

The price of a ton of wood has been raised to over one million Syrian pounds while a liter of fuel is sold in the black market at over 18,000 pounds.

At the same time, desperate for warmth, displaced Palestinian and Syrian families taking refuge in under-equipped camps and substandard facilities have been burning their clothes and plastic materials to stave off winter cold after they failed to afford firewood and fuel supplies.

This has resulted in heavy smokes engulfing camps from all corners and engendering civilians', particularly children's, health condition.

Activists sounded the alarm over the health hazards emanating from toxic smokes. Scores of children have sustained costochondritis (chest inflammation) and bronchitis due to heavy smoke inhalation.

In another development, a child was electrocuted while playing on the roof of his family house in Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq.

The 12-year-old child sustained burns after he touched a nearby electricity cable. He was rushed to an intensive care unit.

Webs spun from electricity cables and water pipes are suspended the length and breadth of the alleyways of Palestinian refugee



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camps in Syria. The result is deadly. Dozens of fatalities through electrocution have been recorded, many of which are children.

Meanwhile, activists called on families displaced from Yarmouk Camp to return to their homes due to exorbitant rents in and around Damascus.

In Rif Dimashq, houses are rented at up to 6 million Syrian pounds per year. Several refugee families have abandoned their rented houses after they failed to pay the required sums.

UN data indicates that before the eruption of the conflict in 2011, Yarmouk was home to approximately 160,000 Palestine refugees, making it the largest Palestine refugee community in Syria. Located eight kilometers from Damascus, it is one of three unofficial camps in Syria.

In December 2012, fierce clashes erupted in Yarmouk, causing numerous civilian casualties, severe damage to property and the displacement of thousands of Palestine refugees and Syrians. The camp was under siege from July 2013, drastically restricting the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods.

In the meantime, residents of AlHusainiya refugee camp continue to grapple with a transportation crisis which they said has been exacerbated by the poor infrastructure.

Civilians continue to denounce the exorbitant prices of public transportation following the latest surge in subsidized fuel prices.

A number of day labourers and students find no other way than to board private vehicles at a price of up to 2,500 pounds a ticket.

Over recent years, residents of AlHusainiya camp have denounced the absence of vital services in the area. The transportation crisis, price leap, absence of relief assistance and healthcare, power and water crises, and high rates of unemployment have made survival quite difficult for dozens of displaced Palestinian families.

Located some 15 kilometers away from Damascus, AlHusainiya Camp, like other areas in Syria, is overwhelmed by displacement, unemployment, inflation, and lack of protection among other major concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike during the ongoing conflict in Syria.