

11-03-2022

No. 3525

## التقرير اليومي

## الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees in Syria Overburdened by Surging Prices"

- Residents of Yarmouk Camp Push for Reconstruction of Power Network
- Humanitarian Situation in Deraa Camp Exacerbated by Power Rationing
- Food Items Distributed to Vulnerable Families in Istanbul



## **Latest Developments**

The impact of price inflation has been greatest in places like Syria. Food and non-food prices have soared by 40%.

In an interview with the pro-regime AlWatan daily, head of the Association of Consumer Protection said contacts held with Jordan and Algeria reveal that price inflation in Syria is incomparable.

He said prices of food items and vital goods are expected to go through a 50% leap in the next few days.

The protracted consequences of the Syria crisis, coupled with the socio-economic deterioration and the impacts of COVID-19, continue to pose grave humanitarian challenges to Palestine refugees.

Despite the overall reduction in hostilities, insecurity continues to affect the Palestine refugee community in Syria. This situation has not improved in 2022.

According to UNRWA estimates, around 40 per cent of the Palestine refugee population in Syria remain in protracted displacement.

The deteriorating Syrian economy and rising inflation is giving rise to a real threat of hunger. A drastic loss of purchasing power has increased fears amongst the population, including Palestine refugees, about their ability to meet their basic needs, in particular food.



An UNRWA survey found that 82 per cent of the refugees interviewed now live on less than US\$ 1.9 a day and that 48 per cent of total household expenditure was spent on food, indicating severe distress within families.

In another development, residents of Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus, signed a petition urging the Ministry of Electricity to rehabilitate the power network in the camp.

Lawyer Nour AlDeen Salman said some 500 families who returned to the camp and wish that life be brought to normal are entitled to sign the petition.

The lawyer said Damascus Governorate has received greenlight to rehabilitate the power network after four years.

He called on the Palestinians of Yarmouk who currently live inside or outside the camp to show up in AlJa'ouna Street to sign the petition.

Entering its 11th year, the Syrian warfare has had disastrous fallouts on Yarmouk Camp and other displacement camps set up across the ravaged country. In 2014, the Syrian regime cut off water in the camp, leaving hundreds of families at the risk of death.

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.



The COVID-19 pandemic has placed increased hardship on the entire community, affecting Palestine refugees' income and livelihood opportunities.

Along similar lines, residents of Deraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, denounced the electricity rationing imposed by local authorities, saying a five-hour cut/one-hour supply has been implemented in the area.

The residents said power has been unevenly rationed in the area.

Activists said the rationing makes part of a set of measures implemented by the government-run Power Company in response to protests held in Deraa.

All the way through Syria's conflict, residents of Daraa Camp 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. Dozens of sick and elderly civilians face mountainous journeys trying to reach AlKashef area for treatment.

Deraa refugee camp is located inside Deraa City, in southern Syria. Palestinian refugees came to the Deraa area in two waves in 1948 and in 1967.



In the meantime, Khayra Ummah Organization distributed meat portions to displaced Palestinian and Syrian families in the Turkish city of Hatay.

Some 300 families have benefited so far from the food security programme launched by the charity in Turkey.

Hundreds of PRS have been unable to provide for their children and families in Turkey. A large number of companies, factories, and shops shut their doors for fear of further COVID-19 contaminations. Several Palestinian families have lost their sole sources of income as a result.

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.