

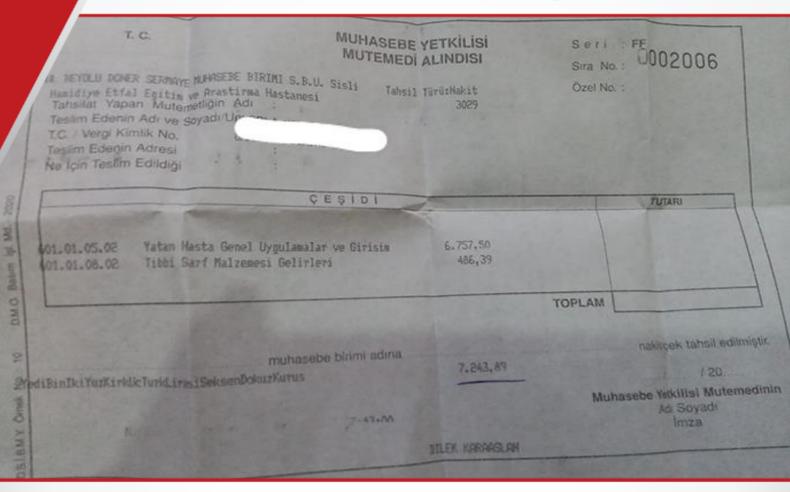
11-06-2021

No. 3249

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugee from Syria Appeals for Urgent Humanitarian Assistance in Turkey"

- Palestinians from Syria Denounce Incitement at Lebanon Refugee Camp
- Palestinian Refugee Succumbs to Coronavirus in Syria Displacement Camp
- Palestinian Refugees to Join Protest in Sweden over New Migration Policy
- Swedish Delegation Shows Up in Burj AlBarajneh Camp



Latest Developments

A Palestinian refugee called Omar and displaced from Syria's Yarmouk Camp to Turkey has appealed to the international humanitarian and human rights institutions to help him secure treatment charges.

Omar suffered from retinal detachment--an emergency situation in which a thin layer of tissue (the retina) at the back of the eye pulls away from its normal position. He underwent an emergency surgery at a clinic in Istanbul after his retinal cells were separated from the layer of blood vessels that provides oxygen and nourishment. Medics had told him the longer retinal detachment goes untreated, the greater his risk of permanent vision loss in the affected eye.

Omar managed to pay 3,200 Turkish pounds of the 7,200 sum (800 USD) asked for by the clinic administration.

Unofficial data indicates that 22,000 Palestinian refugees have sought shelter in Turkey, including 8,000 to 10,000 Palestinians who fled war-ravaged Syria.

In another development, tension has been running high in AlBadawi Camp for Palestinian refugees, north of Lebanon, following the calls launched by preacher Ziad Abdul Ghani to increase house rents for Palestinian refugees.



Palestinian refugees said such calls amount to an act of incitement against hundreds of cash-strapped families sheltered in the camp.

The follow-up committee of displaced Palestinians from Syria in the camp also issued a statement condemning the preacher's calls and calling for rather increasing humanitarian actions in favor of the vulnerable Palestinian refugee families in Lebanon.

In its fact sheet entitled "Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal 2021", UNRWA said 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,

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

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 refugee Rafe' Shahada, from AlNeirab Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Aleppo, has died of the novel coronavirus.

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

Dozens of cases have been reported in the area. Several coronavirus-residents refuse to reveal their names over bullying concerns.

In the meantime, CSOs in Sweden have called on Palestinian refugees who have been denied asylum to join a rally to be held between June 24 – 28 outside of the headquarters of the UNHCR.

Refugees and asylum-seekers who arrived in Sweden hoping to build a better life now find themselves in a precarious situation as the country considers new migration policies that threaten their legal status.

The Swedish government in early April pushed forward a bill that would make permanent several temporary measures that were adopted in the wake of the 2015 migrant crisis, which saw more than 160,000 refugees, primarily from Syria, enter the country.

Before the crisis, migrants and refugees were eligible for permanent residence permits. However, the proposed legislation



would grant refugees only a three-year temporary residence permit.

After the three-year period, they could apply for permanent residency, but the eligibility requirements have been tightened to include knowledge of the Swedish language and culture as well as proof of sufficient income to support not only themselves, but also family members that wish to apply for family reunification.

Along similar lines, a Swedish delegation toured Burj AlBarajneh refugee camp during a visit made on June 10.

The delegation took note of the dire situation in the camp, where Palestinian refugees have been grappling with the impact of the socio-economic crisis in Lebanon along with the upshots of the coronavirus outbreak.

Burj Barajneh camp was established in 1949 by the League of Red Cross Societies and is located in the southern suburb of Beirut, 4 km from the capital's downtown. The initial camp population was approximately 3,500 people. The camp was partially destroyed during the Israeli invasion in 1982 and the Lebanese civil war.

Starting in 1969, the camp population expanded rapidly and the urban design changed. Building work was undertaken randomly, with no opportunity to increase the foundations. Roads became extremely narrow and infrastructure was put under heavy stress. These problems were compounded by the destruction of several Palestine refugee camps in Lebanon during the Lebanese civil war and the ongoing Syria crisis, each resulting in a wave of new



refugees to Burj Barajneh. This has increased the population to 18,351 today.