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مجموعة العمل

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

التقرير اليومي



Palestinians among 6 Migrants Hit in Road Accident

- **Palestinian Refugees Left without Livelihoods in Northwestern Syria**
- **Displaced Palestinian Families Appeal for Lower House Rents in AlSabina Camp**
- **Palestine Refugee Agency in Lebanon Warns of Grant Scams**



Latest Developments

Six migrants, including Palestinians, were wounded in traffic accident on the Hungary-Austria border as Austrian police were chasing a car carrying migrants from Hungary.

Police attempted to stop the smuggler van, with 15 migrants onboard, before it hit a school wall. The driver was arrested. Six migrants were transferred to the hospital for treatment.

Hungary is on the so-called Balkan route, which migrants take from Turkey via several south-eastern European countries to Western Europe. Serious accidents involving migrant smugglers are frequent, because the drivers are under a lot of stress, and are sometimes also being chased by the police.

In the meantime, unemployment and poverty rates have increased sharply in northwestern Syria, where dozens of displaced Palestinian refugee families have been taking shelter.

The loss of livelihoods has generated negative consequences on income sources and purchasing power in the area. Access to food remains constrained due to the devaluation of the Syrian pound, high fuel and energy costs, high transportation and living costs, combined with the already rising food prices and economic downturn.

The conflict has pushed more Syrians and Palestinians into unemployment, forcing many to risk their lives onboard the “death boats” to Europe.

Along similar lines, residents of AlSabina Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, have appealed to house owners to decrease monthly real estate rents for residential homes and shops.

House rents have doubled this year for the same properties by more than 100 percent compared to last year.

A number of tenants confirmed that the process of searching for real estate for rent in the city every six months or a year after the end of the lease contract hampers their lives and increases the pressure of demand for real estate, which leads to constantly rising house rents.



A number of residential property owners also require rent payment in advance for a full year or six months.

Located some 14 kilometers away from southern Damascus, AlSabina Camp has been gripped with an abject situation owing to the absence of humanitarian assistance, relief aid, proper infrastructure, and vital facilities.

UN data indicates that the camp was established in 1948. Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to 22,600 Palestine refugees. It was taken over by armed opposition groups in 2013. The camp remained closed to civilians for almost four years and houses and infrastructure were damaged in the fighting. In September 2017, civilians were able to return to their homes. All UNRWA installations were in need of repairs.

The whole Palestine population in AlSabina camp suffered from displacement during the crisis and many families left the country and sought refuge in neighboring countries or fled to Europe.

During the conflict, labor opportunities have dwindled and the unemployment rate is still very high with very limited financial resources to help Palestine refugees restore their livelihoods. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

Meanwhile, UNRWA in Lebanon warned of fake links and message sent to registered Palestinian refugees.

A number of refugees received cash grant scams on whatsapp allegedly sent by UNRWA as a winter allowance.

The Agency said the refugees should not send their personal information and should rather delete the fake messages and block the sender.

According to UNRWA, 87.3% of PRS live in poverty in the Lebanese territories; 95% are food insecure and 80% live on cash aid handed over by UNRWA.

Statistics covering the period until the end of 2021 indicate that nearly 29,000 displaced Palestinian refugees from Syria are taking shelter in Lebanon.



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.