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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees Distressed as Abduction Reports Spread across Northern Syria"

- Damascus Committee Carries Out Building Survey in Yarmouk Camp
- UNRWA Schools Opened Up in Daraa Camp
- Greece to Deport 200 Asylum Seekers to Turkey per Week



Latest Developments

Displaced Palestinians and Syrians in refugee camps set up in Atama, north of Syria, have voiced deep concern over the fate of their children as reports have increasingly emerged on disguised child-snatchers.

Activists said unknown gangsters attempted to kidnap women and children from the area.

Two youths boarding a black car and disguised as women have been suspected of abduction attempts.



Some 50 Palestinian families displaced from Yarmouk and Khan Eshieh refugee camps along with other areas in southern Damascus have been taking refuge in Atama, where they have been facing a squalid humanitarian condition.

In another development, a delegation from Damascus governorate headed by member of the governorate's executive committee Samir Jazaerli showed up in Yarmouk camp in an attempt to assess the situation of buildings in the area, reported Yarmouk's education chief Walid AlKurdi.



Palestinian refugees displaced from the camp slammed the Syrian government for its reluctance regarding their appeals to return to their homes, saying organizational plans and reconstruction promises should have rather been translated into action.

Sometime earlier, Jazaerli said the old Yarmouk Camp has a legal specificity and is directly supervised by the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees. Therefore, property ownership in the camp can only be proved by means of official documents, including a residence permit or a court order.



Given the above mentioned conditions, Law 10, which allows the Syrian government to designate zones for redevelopment, cannot be put into effect, he added.

Scores of stranded families fled Yarmouk camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the Syrian government forces on April 19, 2018. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured in the offensive. Over 60% of buildings in Yarmouk have gone either totally or partially destroyed in the warfare.

Meanwhile, UNRWA has opened the Tabaria and AlSafsaf schools in Daraa camp for Palestinian refugees.



Director of UNRWA operations in Syria Michael Amanya and director-general of the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees Ali Mustafa attended the inauguration.

As many as 700 students (from 1st to 9th grade) taking refuge in the area have been deprived of their right to attend school, as the new academic year has seen the day.

Prior to the conflict, back in 2010, six UNRWA schools had been operative in Daraa Camp, before they shut their doors as a result of the bloody shootouts.

A number of homes have been used as alternative schools, where dozens of students are often crammed into one single room that lacks equipment, ventilation and hygiene. Double shift classes are made available in order to boost students' academic output.



The war in Syria has had disastrous fallouts on civilians' intellectual skills and academic performance, with hundreds of Palestine refugees dropping out of school over security concerns or following psychological breakdowns. A number of education facilities have also been turned into prisons or field hospitals, imperiling Palestinians' academic careers.



Founded in 1950-1951, Daraa Camp is home to over 650 displaced Palestinian families. As many as 4,500 families used to take shelter in the camp prior to the outbreak of the conflict, in 2011.

In the meantime, Greece announced Monday that it will begin building closed camps for migrants on its Aegean islands in March and is aiming to send 200 rejected asylum seekers back to Turkey each week.

Migration Minister Notis Mitarachi said the camps will be able to host up to 20,000 migrants for three months at a time.

Mitarachi told Greek radio station Skai that the camps would be ready by the summer and construction will begin on five islands in the eastern Aegean Sea -- Lesbos, Chios, Samos, Kos and Leros.

He noted that the entry and exit of migrants will be limited in the camps and they will be allowed to go out during the day depending on certain rules, while the camps will be closed at night.

Mitarachi said Turkey has fully cooperated with the return of migrants.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) put the number of migrants entering Greece in 2019 at 74,613.

In 2019, Turkish authorities held nearly 455,000 irregular migrants across the country, including about 60,000 trying to cross the Mediterranean.

As many as 268,000 irregular migrants were held in Turkey in 2018, 175,000 each in 2017 and 2016 and 146,000 in 2015.



Palestinian refugees from Syria continue to risk their lives onboard the "death boats" to Greece, rummaging around for a momentary respite from the daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction. AGPS has kept record of the death of dozens of refugees onboard Greecebound ships. Several others have been arrested by Turkish coast guards.

Activists estimate that around 4,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria are taking cover on such Greek islands as Lesbos, Mytilene, Chios, Leros, and Kos, among other areas.