

13-11-2020

No. 2943

## التقرير اليومي

## الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees from Syria in Kurdistan at Risk of Refoulement"

- Palestinian Refugee Forcibly Disappeared in Syria since 2013
- Street Lighting Initiative to Be Launched in Yarmouk Camp
- UNRWA Pledges to Transfer Aid to Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon on Time
- Palestinian Refugee Student Honored in Syria



## **Latest Developments**

A number of Palestinian refugees taking shelter in Kurdistan region, north of Iraq, have been prevented from renewing their visas.

An AGPS reporter said Palestinians with Syrian travel documents have been forced by the Kurdistan authorities to sign a pledge outlawing the renewal of their visas.

The decision implies that hundreds of Palestinian refugees who overstayed their visas in Kurdistan are at the risk of refoulement.

AGPS database indicates that 700 Palestinian refugees from Syria are taking shelter in Iraq's Kurdistan region, where they have been subjected to squalid humanitarian conditions.

In another development, the family of the Palestinian refugee Ahmad Abu Seyam, a resident of Yarmouk Camp, appealed to the concerned human rights institutions to take serious measures in order to disclose the fate of their son, who was kidnapped from Qudsaya town, in Rif Dimashq, seven years ago.

In appeals emailed to AGPS, Abu Seyam's family said their son has gone missing since October 7, 2013. No information has been provided about his condition and whereabouts.

According to AGPS data, over 330 Palestinian refugees have gone missing in war-torn Syria.



Meanwhile, a donor has pledged to repair lighting in Palestine and Yarmouk Street along with Street 30, in Yarmouk Camp, according to sources from Damascus Governorate.

The drive will see solar energy systems installed across the aforementioned thoroughfares.

Displaced Palestinian families wishing to return to their homes in Yarmouk Camp continue to denounce the complicated red tape slapped by the Syrian authorities.

Yarmouk camp, once home to 160,000 Palestine refugees, suffered devastating destruction because of intense fighting that decimated most of the camp's buildings.

Some 430 families who have returned to Yarmouk in the last few months say they had no option because they cannot afford to rent homes after several years of displacement. Their children go to the nearby al-Zahera schools in Damascus using buses provided by UNRWA. Seventy-five per cent of the Agency's 23 premises, including 16 schools, need to be completely rebuilt and all three of the Agency's health centres in Yarmouk are destroyed.

Meanwhile, the Association of Displaced Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon said UNRWA will be distributing its aid to the refugees despite the lockdown slapped by the Lebanese government as part of anti-coronavirus measures.



Over recent months, Palestinian refugees have kept urging the Agency to increase its cash allowances, in light of the economic hardship and price inflation wrought by the coronavirus pandemic.

They further called for paying their monthly aid in dollars, in light of the deteriorating economic situation in the country and the dramatic drop in the exchange rate of the local currency.

According to UNRWA data, until February 2020, there are 28,000 PRS in Lebanon, making nearly 7,000 families.

PRS in Lebanon continue to face high vulnerability and marginalization, making them heavily reliant on UNRWA humanitarian support to cover their basic needs.

Almost 90 per cent of PRS in Lebanon are under the poverty line and 95 per cent are food insecure, according to a 2015 survey by UNRWA.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Khaled Mohamed Samara, from AlNeirab Camp, in Aleppo, was honored after he won the highest score in the alternative curricula development.

Samara worked as a robotics coach at the Syrian Ministry of Education and is a member of the enhanced curricula committees.

Dozens of displaced Palestinian refugees have achieved success stories, inspite of the traumatic upshots wrought by daily scenes of bloodshed and destruction across the embattled Syrian territories.