

16-02-2022

No. 3502

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Humanitarian Situation in Deraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees Exacerbated by Water Dearth"

- Palestinian Refugees in Syria's Jaramana Camp Terrorized by Sexual Harassment
- 2 Palestinian Refugees Win Bronze Medal at Damascus Karate Championship



Latest Developments

Water has been repeatedly cut off across residential neighborhoods in Deraa camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria.

The residents have raised concerns over the repercussions of the water crisis on their children's health condition in light of the swift propagation of the Delta variant.

An AGPS reporter said most of the families sheltered in the camp are cash-stripped and cannot afford to by potable water from privately-owned tanks at up to 6,000 Syrian pounds a cubic meter. A number of houses located in narrow alleyways need small vehicles and water hoses of nearly 75 meters to get water supplies.

A family needs two water tanks a week, costing 12,000 Syrian pounds per week and 48,000 per month, in an area where the majority of families have either lost their breadwinners or their livelihoods.

Palestinian families continue to appeal to the Syrian authorities and the Water Company to take urgent action regarding their appeals to rehabilitate the water network.

All the way through Syria's eleven-year conflict, residents of Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, have been grappling with dire humanitarian conditions owing to the high rates of unemployment and absence of vital facilities.



Deraa camp and its surroundings returned to government control in the summer of 2018. The camp is now largely destroyed. Inside Deraa camp, all UNRWA premises including three school buildings and a clinic need substantial repairs or complete rebuilding.

Along similar lines, Palestinian refugee families sheltered in Jaramana camp, in Syria's Rif Dimashq province, have raised concerns over the increasing abductions and sexual harassment reported in the area, particularly overnight due to chronic power blackouts.

Over recent years, residents of Jaramana Camp have launched cries for help over the dire socio-economic conditions, high unemployment rates, poor infrastructure, steep rental fees, and chronic water crisis rocking the area.

Jaramana camp is 8km from Damascus on the road to Damascus International Airport. The camp was established in 1948.

UN data indicates that before the start of the conflict in 2011, there were over 18,000 Palestine refugees living in Jaramana camp. During the Syrian crisis, the number of Palestine refugees in the camp and the surrounding area increased to 49,000 due to an influx of displaced Palestine refugees from other areas, including the camp of Yarmouk. As a result, Jaramana has become one of the most densely populated areas of Damascus.

Many of the refugees worked as street vendors, government employees or in nearby industrial plants. Some inhabitants find work in the informal sector through collecting garbage for



recycling. The majority of women are domestic workers in Damascus to supplement family income. Like other areas in Syria, displacement, unemployment, inflation, protection and security risks are among the main concerns shared by Palestine refugees and Syrians alike.

Meanwhile, two residents of Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, have won the third places in the Karate Kata and individual fighting premier league championship held at AlJalaa Gymnasium, in Damascus.

Zaher Mukbel, from AlJaleel Club, won the bronze medal in individual fighting for 18-year-old boys while Palestinian refugee girl Malak Mohamed Husain snatched the bronze medal as part of the competition for players aged below 18.