

18-03-2021

No. 3164

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees Struggling for Survival in War-Torn Syria"

- House Detonated by Regime Forces in AlMuzeireeb
- Palestinian Refugee Families Denounce Bread Dearth in Northern Syria Displacement Camp
- Teachers in AlHusainiya Camp Facing Squalid Condition
- Palestinian Refugee Woman Forcibly Disappeared in Syrian Prisons for 6th Year



Latest Developments

More than ten years into the Syrian conflict, Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria (PRS) continue to struggle with growing poverty and economic hardship.

The crisis in Syria has been one of the gravest and most demanding emergencies faced in the modern era. The vast majority of PRS families are unable to meet their basic needs.

Many PRS lost their sources of income; refugee camps have seen unprecedented levels of destruction; rental prices have dramatically gone up; undernourishment and poverty have been a daily nightmare.

AGPS data indicates that 4,048 Palestinian refugees have died of war-related incidents since the outbreak of the Syrian conflict. Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus, topped the list with 1,472 victims, followed by Deraa Camp with 268 victims.

The list of casualties also includes 203 Palestinians from Khan Eshieh camp, 181 from AlNeirab Camp, 127 from AlHusainiya Camp, and another 192 refugees in unknown locations.

1,220 refugees died under shelling; 1,097 were fatally gunned down while 620 refugees died under torture in Syrian prisons.

UNRWA said that in Syria, the protracted conflict has devastated human security and left 91 per cent of the 438,000 Palestine



refugees estimated to remain in the country in absolute poverty and 40 per cent displaced.

In 2021, living conditions deteriorated further as a result of an economic crisis, leading to an increase in prices including of the most basic commodities.

As the coronavirus pandemic has rebounded around the MENA region and the globe, Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria continue to struggle with growing poverty and economic hardship.

Due to the serious protection gaps, children have been forced to drop out of school and join armed groups to help feed their starving families.

Hundreds of families have had women as their sole breadwinners; and in several other cases boys and girls are spotted begging in the street for a few pounds.

In another development, panic flared up among Palestinian refugees taking shelter in AlMuzeireeb town after Syrian government forces blew up a house they mined in the area on claims that a wanted man called Mohamed Sbeihi has been hiding inside the building.

AGPS has documented the death of dozens of Palestinian refugees in AlMuzeireeb town, home to 1,700 Palestinian families displaced from Daraa Camp.

Meanwhile, displaced Palestinian and Syrian families in Deir Ballout and AlMuhammadiya camps, in northern Syria, have



denounced the sharp decrease in bread quantities distributed by AFAD organization.

Every person receives two and a half bread loafs per day, down from four and a half in previous months.

Palestinian refugees sheltered in Idlib, AlMuhammadiya Camp, and Deir Ballout Camp, in northern Syria have been enduring a tragic situation. Most of them have been crammed in poorly-equipped tents and denied their rights to vital services.

Hundreds of Palestinian families have been struggling for survival in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout and Muhammadiya camps, after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns.

For many displaced Palestinian refugees, the perils of winter weather add to the torment already experienced throughout the conflict.

High rates of unemployment and lack of relief assistance have made the situation far worse for the displaced families.

According to data by the Commission of Palestinians of Syria for Relief and Development, as many as 1,488 Palestinian families have been sheltered in the northern Syrian regions of Idlib, Efrin, and Aleppo's suburbs. The largest number of families are taking refuge in Idlib.

Some 819 Palestinian families have sought shelter in Idlib, including 226 families in the city center, 152 in Atama, 60 in



Akrebat village, and 60 more in Sarmada town. 50 families are taking refuge in Maarat AlNu'man and Jericho, south of Idlib, and also in Ataa village.

In the meantime, instructors in AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, have been facing dire conditions due to salary decreases at government-run schools, where a tutor receives no more than 70,000 Syrian pounds.

Hundreds of teaching staff and university graduates have sought other jobs to earn a living and meet their families' basic needs. Scores of other teachers have been laid off by government or UNrun academic institutions.

At the same time, dozens of instructors have been forced to join pro-government battalions and serve in the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA), affiliated with the Syrian regime, for a period of four years and a half.

Palestinian refugee families have frequently denounced the inadequate educational services and poor-quality input delivered children in displacement camps set up across the war-ravaged Syrian territories.

Local schools face overcrowding, with over 50 students often crammed in a single classroom. Schoolchildren have also been subjected to bullying and psycho-physical violence by a number of teaching staff.



Upon more than one occasion, UNRWA has raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among the Palestinians of Syria, several among whom left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.

Several UNRWA facilities were destroyed in the Syrian warfare and others have gone out of operation, including two clinics, a vocational training center, a youth development center, and 28 schools, out of 112 UNRWA schools in Syria. Other education facilities have been turned into prisons or field hospitals, imperiling Palestinians' academic careers.

Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Bayan Jumu'a, aged 19, has been forcibly disappeared in Syrian prisons for the 6th consecutive year.

Bayan was arrested on March 17, 2015 at Palestine Street checkpoint in Yarmouk Camp as she headed for an aid distribution center to get relief items.

AGPS has documented the secret detention of 1,797 Palestinian refugees in Syrian prisons, among them 110 women and girls.