



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

Palestinian Refugees Arrested by Syrian Security Forces

- **UNRWA Chief Meets With Syrian Official**
- Palestinian, Syrian Refugee Families Rally in Haifa AlKarmel over Dire Conditions
- 3 Palestinians Assassinated South of Syria in 2022

Daily report on the situation of Palestinians refugees in Syria

Latest Developments

Two Palestinian refugees were arrested by Syrian security forces for unknown reasons.

A refugee was arrested on Wednesday, January 18, on his way to a Syrian province. He was born in 1980 in AlNeirab Camp, north of Syria.

The other arrestee was detained one week earlier, on January 09, over claims of draft evasion. He is a resident of Khan Dannun refugee camp, in Rif Dimashq.

The Syrian government forces continue to drag Palestinian refugees to mandatory military conscription, forcing dozens to become internally displaced and dozens more to seek refuge in other countries.

Military dodgers are subjected to crackdowns, abductions and even executions. As a result, thousands fled the tension-stricken country in the hunt for a safer shelter.

AGPS has documented several cases where Syrian intelligence branches have arbitrarily detained, disappeared, and/or harassed people in areas retaken from opposition groups. The abuse is taking place even when the government has entered into reconciliation agreements with the people involved.

In another development, Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Philippe Lazzarini, met on Thursday with Dr. Faysal AlMiqdad, Syrian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates.

Lazzarini Briefed Miqdad on UNRWA's efforts to mobilize donor countries to increase funds in order to enable the Agency to keep up its vital services for Palestinian refugees in Syria.

UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini visited Syria from 15 to 19 January 2023, to meet Palestine refugees and Agency staff in Aleppo and Damascus.

Together with the Director of UNRWA affairs in Syria, Amanya Michael Ebye, Lazzarini engaged with the communities in Neirab,



Daily report on the situation of Palestinians refugees in Syria

Ein el Tal and Yarmouk camps, and had meetings with senior government officials.

Discussions with representatives of the Palestine refugee communities of Neirab and Ein el Tal showed the scope and scale of the hardship of the refugees in and around Aleppo. Their requests for very basic needs ranged from milk and diapers for babies to supporting cancer patients with treatment.

During his visit, the Commissioner-General met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Faysal Miqdad, the Governor of Aleppo, Husien Diab, and the Director-General of the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR), Qasem Hussein.

He briefed the government officials on the Agency's relentless efforts to mobilize additional contributions from donor countries to help respond to acute needs such as the ones he witnessed in Syria.

Meanwhile, dozens of displaced Palestinian refugees sheltered in Haifa AlKarmal village, on Aleppo's outskirts have sounded the alarm over their abject humanitarian condition.

The families said the new apartments to which they have been transferred are underequipped and lack vital services. Neither potable water nor a sewerage network are available in the area.

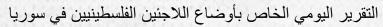
The displaced have also called on the concerned authorities to establish a health centre, a school, and a market in the area.

The new camp in Haifa AlKarmal was built on a one-kilometerheight hill, making access out of and into the area a mountainous journey.

A Palestinian refugee said the new housing units are uninhabitable due to high levels of humidity inflicted by rainfalls and resulting in breathing disorders for children and adults.

Some 700 housing units covering an area of 40 to 70 square meters have been recently established in the area to provide shelter to displaced families from Deraa, Aleppo, and Hums.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees in Syria continue to voice deep concern over the shooting attacks and abductions targeting Palestinians and Syrians alike in southern Syria.





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In 2022 alone, three Palestinian-Syrian refugees were assassinated in the southern Syrian province of Deraa.

The victims are Mohamed Ahmed Khalil, a former opposition affiliate, and two young men Huthaifa Hasan Mandhouri and Mohamed Yousef AlHusain, both from AlMuzeireeb refugee community, near Deraa.

In 2023, Palestinian-Syrian woman Hanan Mohamed AlAbdullah was fatally gunned down as she gave a lift her schoolchild in AlSadd, in Deraa.