



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugee Families in Syria Raise Concerns over Simmering Assassinations, Abductions"

- Palestinian Youths Panic-Stricken as Pro-Regime Armed Group in Syria Calls for Military Conscription
- Thieves Terrorize Palestinian Refugee Camp of Khan Eshieh
- Charcoal Distributed in Northern Syria Displacement Camps
- Bread Packs Handed Over to Cash-Strapped Palestinian Refugee Families in Lebanon

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees taking shelter in AlMuzeireeb town, west of the southern Syrian city of Deraa, have expressed deep concern over the security situation in the area after reports have emerged on new assassination attempts targeting Syrians and Palestinians.

On Tuesday, January 19, Syrian national Munadhel AlSaadi was fatally gunned down by anonymous militiamen boarding a motorcycle.

Dozens of assassination operations have targeted Palestinian refugees sheltered in the area. AGPS data indicates that in 2020 alone, five Palestinians were fatally gunned down in AlMuzeireeb town.

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





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In another development, calls were launched by Liwaa AlQuds, affiliated with the Syrian government forces, to push for military conscription.

The conscription contract will be valid for six months renewable at the conscript's request. Salaries are estimated at 100,000 Syrian pounds. Gunmen tasked with other military missions will receive 75,000 Syrian pounds. Security guards will get a salary of 15,000 Syrian pounds.

Liwaa AlQuds also said that families of people who get killed while fighting alongside the brigade will get a compensation of 25,000 to 50,000 Syrian pounds.

Activists have accused the armed group of forcing Palestinian youths taking shelter in refugee camps across Syria to join pro-government military squads, taking profit from their dire economic conditions.

Nearly 7,000 gunmen are enlisted at Liwaa AlQuds brigade, among them 800 Palestinian refugees taking shelter in refugee camps across the Syrian territories.

AGPS kept record of the death of 90 Palestinian refugees as they fought alongside Liwaa AlQuds forces since 2013.



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In the meantime, activists from Khan Eshieh camp said thieves have been changing shop locks in order to burglarize them overnight.

The residents held local authorities and pro-regime militias responsible for the increasing property-theft and burglary targeting commercial stores and civilian property.

Over recent months, power cables have been stolen from abandoned houses and alleyways in Khan Eshieh Camp refugee camp, where civilians' life has already been marred by the frequent power blackouts.

According to UN data, Khan Eshieh camp lies beside the ancient ruins of Khan Eshieh, 27km south-west of Damascus. The Khan historically served as an overnight shelter for trade caravans on the road between Damascus and the southwest, and in 1948, it provided shelter for the first refugees from Palestine. The camp was established in 1949 on an area of 0.69 square kilometers with refugees originally from the northern part of Palestine.



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Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. In 2012, the farms and fields surrounding the camp became active battlegrounds in which heavy weapons were deployed, often indiscriminately. The population more than halved to 9,000.

Some of the camp's buildings and infrastructure were severely affected including some UNRWA installations; two UNRWA schools and the community centre were almost razed to the ground. In 2016, UNRWA was able to re-access Khan Esheih and the Agency was able to rehabilitate some of its installations. Residents have also slowly started to return, with the camp now accommodating 12,000 people.



In the meantime, the Melhem charity group distributed charcoal to Palestinian and Syrian families sheltered in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout and Muhammadiya refugee camps, in Efrin region, north of Syria.

Hundreds of Palestinian and Syrian families who have been forcibly deported to northern Syria have been grappling with an



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abject humanitarian situation as most of them have been taking cover in underequipped tents and denied access to vital facilities and services.

Along similar lines, activists have distributed 500 bread packs to Palestinian families taking shelter in Lebanon's AlBekaa region.

Some 800 Palestinian families from Syria have been facing squalid humanitarian conditions in AlBekaa region.

According to information collected by UNRWA, more than 80 per cent of PRS indicate that the Agency's cash assistance is their main source of income. 95 per cent of PRS are food insecure, while about 89 per cent of PRS live in poverty. 36 to 57 per cent of PRS youth face unemployment. In August and September 2019, UNRWA conducted a verification exercise of PRS in Lebanon and verified the physical presence of 27,803 PRS in the country.

The number of PRS in Lebanon has been gradually decreasing over the past two years, and UNRWA estimates that in 2020 the country will continue to host approximately 27,700 PRS (8,450 families). UNRWA said PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. According to the Agency's monitoring data, around 55 percent of PRS do not possess valid legal residency documents.

The lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention and being issued a departure order.



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