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



التقرير اليومي



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

AGPS: 79% of Palestinians Killed in War-Torn Syria Civilians

- Commander of Pro-regime Militia in Syria Meets with Lebanese Drug Trafficker
- Residents of Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian Refugees Denounce Mistreatment at UNRWA Clinic
- Property-Theft Ongoing in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian Refugees



Latest Developments

AGPS data indicates that 79% of Palestinians of Syria killed since the outbreak of the conflict are civilians.

21% of those killed are members of armed groups affiliated with the Syrian regime or opposition forces.

The causes of death vary between shelling, clashes, torture in government jails, drowning, field executions, the blockade, and medical neglect.

The death toll of the Palestinians of Syria has hit 4,121, among them 3,221 civilians.

In another development, residents of Khan Dannun Camp, in Rif Dimashq, have spoken out against the mistreatment they have been subjected to by staff members at a UNRWA-run clinic in the camp.

The residents have urged the UN refugee agency, the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees, and all other concerned authorities to take immediate action in response to the mistreatment they have been facing at the UNRWA clinic.

In a statement emailed to AGPS, the residents slammed the medical staff at the clinic for their apathy regarding the appeals of a number of patients for much-needed treatment and medicines, along with psychological support.

Living conditions in Khan Dannun have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the unbridled warfare.

According to UN data, Khan Dannun camp was built several centuries ago to give overnight accommodation to trading caravans on the ancient route between Jerusalem and Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). In 1948, the ruins of the city provided shelter for refugees from villages in northern Palestine.

The camp, which lies 23 km south of Damascus, was officially established in 1950-1951 on an area of 0.03 square kilometers. The camp was home to 10,000 Palestine refugees by 2011, almost all of



whom were living in irregular housing, constructed without any formal approval from the municipality.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was already one of the poorest camps in Syria. The conflict exerted additional pressures. The camp was surrounded by armed opposition groups and many refugee families displaced from other areas of Damascus took refuge in the camp, tripling the number of residents to some 30,000 during the crisis. Currently, the camp is home to 12,650 Palestine refugees. The increase of the camp population has had a negative impact on the camp's infrastructure.

In the meantime, Lebanese drug trafficker Nuh Zaaiteer met with pro-regime militias in Syria.

In photos circulated on social media, deputy chief of Liwaa AlQuds armed group Adnan Mohamed AlSayed is spotted posing with Zaaiteer.

Over recent years, members of Liwaa AlQuds armed group have been accused of running a network for drug trafficking in AlNeirab displacement camp and adjacent areas. Drug distribution is often carried out by children aged below 18 and members of cash-strapped and vulnerable families who are exploited by illicit drug trafficking networks which are subject to drug prohibition laws.

Nearly 7,000 gunmen are enlisted at Liwaa AlQuds brigade, among them 600 Palestinian refugees taking shelter in refugee camps across the Syrian territories.

A number of Palestinian refugee families have been blackmailed by Liwaa AlQuds brigade affiliated with the Syrian regime, as they appealed for the release of their relatives who have been arbitrarily arrested by the militia.

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

Reports of burglary continue to emerge in Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus, where hundreds of Palestinian refugees had been taking shelter.

Anonymous gangsters have reportedly stolen furniture from abandoned buildings in and around Yarmouk neighborhoods.



Palestinian families displaced from the area continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

Over recent years, pro-government militias have been raking through evacuated homes in Damascus and holding sway over furniture, copper, iron, and kitchenware belonging to displaced families.

The Syrian government forces regained control over Yarmouk Camp and southern Damascus towns following a 33-day military operation launched in April 2018. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured in the offensive. Over 60% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed in the warfare.

UN data indicates that before the eruption of the conflict in 2011, Yarmouk was home to approximately 160,000 Palestine refugees, making it the largest Palestine refugee community in Syria. Located eight kilometers from Damascus, it is one of three unofficial camps in Syria.

In December 2012, fierce clashes erupted in Yarmouk, causing numerous civilian casualties, severe damage to property and the displacement of thousands of Palestine refugees and Syrians. The camp was under siege from July 2013, drastically restricting the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods.

In April 2015, armed opposition groups captured over 60 per cent of the camp, containing over 90 per cent of the remaining civilian population. This not only made UNRWA unable to carry out any distributions inside Yarmouk but also displaced most of the remaining 18,000 Palestine refugees and other civilians to the neighboring areas of Yalda, Babila and Beit Saham (YBB).

Almost all the remaining Palestine refugees left during the final government offensive for Yarmouk in April-May 2018, after which the government retook control of the camp.

UNRWA was able to return to the camp to conduct a needs assessment in October 2018. Of the 23 UNRWA premises in the camp and nearby Hajjar al Aswad, including 16 school buildings, all have been affected by the conflict.