



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

29-05-2021

No. 3236

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"UNRWA Addresses UNSC over Situation of Palestinians of Syria"

- Dead Palestinian Refugee in Syria Left in Refrigerator for 4th Day
- Palestinian Students in Syria Displacement Camp Grappling with Transportation Crisis
- Palestinian Refugee Ibrahim Shaheen Forcibly Disappeared in Syria for 8th Year
- NGO Warns of Unabated Coronavirus Outbreak in Northern Syria Displacement Camps

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Latest Developments

Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) has sounded the alarm over the squalid humanitarian condition endured by Palestinian refugees.

UNRWA's Philippe Lazzarini addressed the UN Security Council (UNSC) from the Agency's headquarters in East Jerusalem, only a few hundred meters from the neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah, where eight Palestine refugee families face the threat of forced eviction from their homes.

"I am also addressing the Council after having spent part of the week in Gaza, listening to countless stories of the tragic loss of loved ones", said Lazzarini. "Following 11 days of airstrikes by the Israeli military forces and rocket attacks launched by Palestinian armed groups, over 250 people were killed in Gaza; 66 of them were children, of whom 19 went to UNRWA schools".

Lazzarini said that despair is spreading in Palestine refugee camps beyond the occupied Palestinian territory. Despair and loss of hope make a dangerous mix in a highly volatile region, particularly for the youth, who feel increasingly disenfranchised and trapped.

"In Lebanon, nearly the entire population in the camps lives under the poverty line. During my last visit, I saw hopelessness growing. I met a young Palestine refugee who said he constantly asks himself



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whether he would die from COVID, from hunger, or while trying to cross the Mediterranean on a dingy”, added the UNRWA chief.

“During my last visit to Syria, I saw children in school uniforms emerging from the rubble of the Yarmouk camp to jump on an UNRWA bus. Their families had come to live amidst debris because they could no longer afford to pay rent”, the statement proceeded.

Lazzarini also said that in Jordan, despite relative stability, the pandemic dealt a huge blow to the economy. Again, the most vulnerable, like Palestine refugees - especially those who have fled from Syria - are hit hardest.

“In closing, no one has asked to remain a refugee seven decades later. Every Palestine refugee I meet wants a “normal life”, wants the right to live without fear and without discrimination”, said Lazzarini. “Like all people, they have an equal right to the enjoyment of their human rights in accordance with international law. This means that children can play and go to school, parents can protect and take care of their children, and young people have dreams.”

He concluded that Palestine refugees derive their status and rights from international law. The same law that strives to promote peace and equality. By seeking to weaken UNRWA, those who attack it only weaken the prospect for peace.

In another development, the family of Palestinian refugee Khaled Mohamed Amin Trabelsi continues to appeal to the concerned



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authorities and institutions to help them secure a sum of 1,700 Euros to bury their relative in Hannover, north of Germany.

Ibrahim died on May 26.

In appeals emailed to AGPS, the family said the social insurance body paid half of the sum.

Meanwhile, students and parents in Deraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, have appealed to the concerned authorities to secure transportation means to give daily lifts to their academic institutions due to steep transportation fees.

The residents called for the need to secure buses to transfer students to and back from their schools.

Palestinian refugee families taking shelter in Deraa camp continue to sound distress signals over the high rates of unemployment, water and power outages, along with the absence of health care and vital items, particularly fuel and gas.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Ibrahim Shaheen has been forcibly disappeared in Syria for the 8th consecutive year.

Ibrahim, born in 1989, was arrested in September 2013 on his way to Damascus back from Aleppo. He was boarding a Mitsubishi car.

Meanwhile, the Syria Response Coordinators group has raised alarm bells over a new COVID-19 wave slated to hit displacement camps set up in northern Syria.



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40 new coronavirus cases have been confirmed in northern Syria camps, the highest daily rate recorded since the outbreak of the second coronavirus wave. So far, 2,489 people have tested positive for the virus in the area.

Over recent months, AGPS has warned of a projected outbreak of COVID-19 in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria, where limited access to running water, pharmacies and medical facilities means displacement camps are more susceptible to the spread of the highly infectious virus.

Displacement camps set up in northern Syria are especially vulnerable as most hospitals and medical facilities have been bombed, rendering them out of order.

AGPS stresses the need to supply Palestinian refugee camps with medicines, detergents, and disinfectants in order to help the displaced communities defend themselves against the deadly COVID-19 virus.

AGPS is deeply concerned that the lack of transparency maintained by the Syrian government regarding the pandemic will result in a catastrophic situation in displacement camps, at a time when the deadly virus continues to claim the lives of thousands of people across the globe.