



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 Families Displaced from Yarmouk Distressed as Return Pledges Fade Out"**

- Yarmouk Residents Urge Damascus Governor to Respond to Their Return Demands
- UNRWA Launches E-System to Deliver Cash Aid to Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon
- Palestinian Consulate in Istanbul Re-Opened

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## Latest Developments

Member of the executive office of Damascus Governorate, Samir Jazaerli, denied reports about the projected return of Yarmouk residents to their homes in the camp.

He said reports claiming that families wishing to return to the camp should register their names at AlWaseem Mosque are counterfeit.

He added that efforts have been ongoing by Damascus authorities to secure a safe return of displaced families to their homes, saying the camp is being cleared of dangerous war remnants and house checks carried out to assess the damage wrought on buildings so as to be able to determine whether they are habitable or need reconstruction.

AlJazaerli confirmed that any official information regarding civilians' return to the camp will only be published on the Governorate's website and official state media.

Along similar lines, activists and residents of Yarmouk camp urged Damascus Governor to reply to a memorandum they submitted on February 4, 2019 and which was signed by nearly 3,000 residents.

The petition was handed over by the residents to Damascus governor Adel Anwar AlAlabi, urging local authorities to smooth the return of displaced families to their homes.

The 200-page petition, signed by 3,000 residents of Yarmouk Camp, called on the Syrian authorities to work on facilitating their immediate return to their homes and to rehabilitate destroyed infrastructure and facilities.



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The residents expressed their readiness for voluntary work and to actively take part in reconstruction works.

Last year, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) published the results of an assessment of the damage to Syrian cities caused by seven years of relentless bombardment by the incumbent regime and its allies since 2011.

The analysis found out that as many as 5,489 buildings were destroyed in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees. The damage atlas used satellite-detected damage analysis to identify buildings that are either destroyed, or severely or moderately damaged.

Most of Palestinian families taking shelter south of Damascus fled Yarmouk as a result of the tough blockade imposed by the government troops and also after ISIS grabbed hold of the camp on April 1, 2015.

Scores of other stranded families fled the camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the government forces on April 19, 2018. The Syrian government regained control over the camp and southern Damascus towns following the military operation. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured. Over 80% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed.

On January 07, 2020, Palestinian lawyer Nour AlDeen AlSaman, a resident of Yarmouk Camp, called on Palestinian refugees to file lawsuits in order to return to their homes and retrieve their properties in Yarmouk.





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A number of activists have also warned of ongoing attempts to alter the demographic character of the camp and blur its identity as a living witness to the Palestinian refugee plight.

Meanwhile, UNRWA in Lebanon said it will start implementing an online program to transfer cash grants to Palestinian refugees in an attempt to rein overcrowding outside of the Bob Finance bank.

UNRWA said the e-system will allow the Agency to determine the number of registered refugees pending the delivery of their cash allowances.

Those who received their transaction codes sometime earlier will be able to retrieve their cash grants from Bob Finance bank between 12 and 06 p.m.

A hotline has been established to renew old registration cards obtained before 2009.

UNRWA also said that only those who registered their names before May 1, 2020 will be receiving cash grants.

In the meantime, the Palestinian consulate in Istanbul has reopened its doors, after it had been closed for over a couple of months due to the coronavirus outbreak.

The consulate staff will be available from Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 15:30 p.m.

In a Tuesday statement, the consulate called on Palestinian refugees in Istanbul to stay tuned and follow its Facebook page to catch the latest updates.



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Refugees wishing to meet staff consulate should obtain a fixed rendez-vous, wear face masks, and use detergents made available at the waiting room.

Refugees will be received at the consulate from 09:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Palestinian refugees from Syria in Turkey continue to concerns over their deteriorating condition particularly in light of the new movement clampdown imposed across Turkish provinces as part of anti-coronavirus measures.

A large number of companies, factories, and shops shut their doors for fear of further COVID-19 contaminations. Several Palestinian families have lost their sole sources of income as a result.

The absence of the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) over claims that Turkey falls outside of its map of field operations has made the situation worse.

Palestinian refugees continue to urge the concerned institutions to assume their responsibilities regarding the Palestinian refugee community in Turkey and work on toning down their calamitous state of affairs in light of the socio-economic crises and health setback wrought by the global coronavirus epidemic.