



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

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الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"An infant has died and thousands of civilians are in danger due to the siege of Yarmouk camp"

- Clashes in south Damascus after ISIS's infiltration of the opposition
- The education situation in Yarmouk camp deteriorates amid ISIS's control
- Palestinian refugee wounded by shrapnel from a mortar shell in Jaramana, in the suburbs of Damascus
- The Palestinians in Syria Relief Association distributes meat aid in south Syria

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Latest Developments:

A girl from the Yarmouk refugee camp died yesterday, November 1, as a result of the siege and lack of medical care.

AGPS's correspondent said that the one-year-old infant, "Tuqa Youssef," suffered from convulsion and a lack of oxygen, which led to her death, due to the lack of medical care and the siege imposed on Yarmouk camp by the Syrian regime and its affiliated factions.



The Group's reporter noted that the girl's case required her transfer to one of the hospitals in Damascus for treatment, however the unavailability of her transfer and the closure of Al-Orouba crossing between Yelda and the camp, led to the death of the child.

AGPS's statistics reveal that 200 male and female Palestinian refugees have died as a result of malnutrition and the lack of medical care, most of which are from Yarmouk camp, due to the imposed siege.

The closure of all the ports and crossings leading to the Yarmouk camp, south of Damascus, has revived the fear of death due to



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hunger among the residents besieged by all parties, whether on the Syrian regime and its affiliated Palestinian factions side, which have imposed their siege on the camp for more than 1569 consecutive days, or the armed Syrian opposition groups in Yelda on the other hand, which has closed the camp's only crossing over the past 16 days.

The fear expanded after the Syrian regime closed Al-Qadam's crossing - Asaali, two days ago. It is considered one of the most important ports through which food and medicines are brought into the area of south Damascus.

According to AGPS's correspondent, Yarmouk camp's residents resorted to Al-Maazaneya barrier, dominated by the Syrian opposition, to buy food and medicine. He added that after the closure of the barrier, they noticed the disappearance of some food items from inside the camp and saw the return of the manifestations of the previous siege which led to the death of several of the camp's residents, through the availability of weeds in the markets only.

In the meantime, the armed Syrian opposition forces are maintaining the closure of Al-Orouba crossing - Al-Nakhaeel Road, linking between Yelda and Yarmouk camp in south Damascus. The crossing which is considered the only source of food supplies for the camp's residents, has been closed since 17th of October 2017, when clashes broke out between factions from the Palestinian Liberation Army in Yelda and ISIS in Yarmouk camp, after ISIS's snipers targeted the camp.



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This opened the door to greater suffering of the camp's residents, where water and electricity were cut off and as a result, food and medical supplies were banned from entering. The residents have been prevented from leaving and entering the camp from its main entrances, which are controlled by the regime forces and the Palestinian factions affiliated to it. 197 refugees have died due to hunger and the lack of medical care.

More than 3000 families are still living in the camp, under non-humanitarian conditions. 35 of the families have been living under ISIS's siege for more than a month, in the west side of Yarmouk, which is under the control of Al-Nusra Front.

In the meantime, AGPS's correspondent reported clashes between ISIS and the armed Syrian opposition groups at the barrier separating Yarmouk camp and Yelda in south Damascus.



Our correspondent added that the clashes came after the infiltration of members of ISIS, disguised as women, through Al-Orouba crossing. They opened fire randomly at the members at the checkpoint, with some civilians near the crossing, which led to the



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response of opposition groups to the source of fire, followed by the withdrawal of ISIS.

The opposition factions in Yelda began to allow the crossing of some civilians in a limited manner since yesterday. A number of families entered Yelda while ensuring that they will not return to the camp.

On another side of Yarmouk camp's residents' suffering, AGPS published in its most recent report titled "The Palestinian- Syrian Student - "Reality and Prospects," mentioned the deteriorating educational state facing the students in the camp, since the control of ISIS began in April 2015.

With the aid of Al-Nusra Front, ISIS took control of the camp in April 2015 after violent fighting with the "Aknaf Beit Al-Maqdes" battalion. Despite the fighting and the siege imposed by the Syrian regime and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the educational process continued, amid water and power cuts. The alternative schools continued their work and a number of students living in the besieged Yarmouk camp were seen leaving to submit their preparatory and secondary certificate examinations, in coordination with the Palestinian National Authority inside the camp.

The report confirmed that ISIS and Al-Nusra Front are imposing their personal agendas on the camp and following volatile policies. In an incident that demonstrates this, on Monday 9-11-2015, they banned students who had passed their secondary examinations from going out through the municipality to join their universities.



ISIS caused clashes with the regime forces and its affiliated factions in those areas, which halted their exit.

The report noted that the restoration and almost complete control of ISIS on the camp, the educational system deteriorated as a result of the unfair decisions taken by ISIS, which tightened procedures on the teachers and negatively affected almost 1500 students inside the camp. On the 3rd of August 2016, it issued a decision to close all schools inside Yarmouk camp and banning the teaching staff from doing their work, unless through ISIS itself. This decision came after it called in all the teachers from Yarmouk to inform them of a number of decisions concerning the educational process for the academic year 2016-2017, asking teachers who would like to work independently, as a civil user away from ISIS, to register their names within a week from the announcement and with a monthly salary of 25000 Syrian Pounds, which are equivalent to \$50.

On December 19, 2016, which marks the first day of school in Syria, ISIS banned the opening of schools in the camp and confined them to one male school near the Ibrahim al-Khalil mosque in the neighborhood of Al-Orouba south of the camp, and a school for girls in Al-Hajar Al-Aswad, ISIS's stronghold in the camp, as well as applying a curriculum of its preparation.

At the beginning of the new academic year 2017, the same practices continued, however, it has intensified in terms of the restrictions on teachers and students and the scrutiny of the vocabulary used in the government school curriculums, describing it as "infidel."



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Despite the siege, shelling, destruction and the thefts that affected the camp's schools, however, the will of life and learning among the people of Yarmouk camp has overcome some of the difficulties that stood before the continuation of their educational process. The bodies operating on the camp's grounds began a campaign to clean the schools and removing the rubble from it. A number of alternative schools opened in order to pursue education within the available possibilities with the efforts of teachers from the camp. ISIS carried out many violations in all areas against the people of the camp and imposed its own agendas on them.

The Palestinian refugee “Wassim Moataz Al-Solty” was wounded with shrapnel from a mortar shell which fell on Jaramana town in the suburbs of Damascus on 31-10-2017, injuring six other civilians.



Media sources close to the regime suggested that its source was the opposition groups. The shell fell in the area in the vicinity of Siyuf Square and Al-Khedr Street in Jaramana.



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Jaramana is considered one of the relatively safe camps, however the families and people displaced to it are suffering terrible economic conditions due to the widespread of unemployment, the expensive costs of living and the high rents.

Local Work Committees:

The Palestinians in Syria Relief and Development Association distributed meat aid in the town of Muzayrib, south of Syria. The Association cooperated with the “Kheir Umma” Foundation to implement a project of slaughtering a hundred sheep from one of the donors. The project will include the town of Yelda, Idlib, north Aleppo and Al-Ghouta.

The residents of Deraa, Muzayrib and Jileen camps are complaining of their dire living situations due to the lack of aid reaching them for a long period of time.

Palestinians of Syria: November 2, 2017 Statistics:

- The total number of victims documented by the Action Group is 3605, including 462 women
- 1640 Palestinians are locked up behind Syrian government's bars, 105 of which are women
- Yarmouk refugee camp is under the Syrian regime army and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine's siege for 1,569 days in a row



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- 201 refugees, mainly in Yarmouk Camp, have died due to lack of medical care and malnutrition
- Water supplies have been cut off Deraa Camp for 1306 days, and 1146 days in Yarmouk Camp
- Residents of Handarat Camp, in Aleppo have been banned from their homes for 1,642 days. Government troops have taken over the camp for more than 393 days.
- Approximately 85 thousand Palestinian-Syrian refugees fled to Europe by the end of 2016
- 31 thousand refugees are located in Lebanon
- 17 thousand refugees are sheltered in Jordan
- 6 thousand refugees are in Egypt
- 8 thousand refugees are staying in Turkey
- One thousand refugees are present in Gaza