No. 3544



# التقرير اليومى

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



**AGPS Report Documents Progress of Reconstruction Works in Yarmouk Camp** 

- Palestinian Refugee Children Deprived of Happy Childhood in War-Torn Syria
- Palestinian Refugees in Syria Grappling with Price Leap
- Tunisian Emergency Chief Visits AlNeirab, Hindarat Refugee Camps

#### **Latest Development**

On April o6, AGPS issued a report documenting the latest developments regarding the return of families to Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus, and the progress of reconstruction works.

The 43-page report includes return permits granted by Syrian authorities to displaced families along with the challenges faced by those wishing to return to the camp and retrieve their property.

The report also underscores the progress of water, power and sewerage networks along with civilians' access to vital services, most notably education and healthcare.

The document also assesses the efforts made by the Palestine Liberation Organization and gives recommendations on the best ways to bring life back to normal in the camp.

Hundreds of reports have been issued by AGPS on a daily basis in an attempt to draw the international community's attention to the abject state of affairs endured by PRS.

AGPS is a London-based human rights watchdog that monitors the situation of Palestinian refugees in war-torn Syria. In seeking to fulfill this goal, AGPS team does its best to uphold the finest standards of historiographic ethics and maintain honesty in sourcing. To that very end, live snapshots, footages, and sworn affidavits are taken directly from the fighting scene across a myriad of flashpoints so as to authenticate AGPS role as a human rights overseer.



Along similar lines, the psychological effects of the prolonged Syrian conflict have been devastating, especially for vulnerable Palestine refugee children.

The eleven-year conflict in Syria has left its mark on the entire country, but for Palestine refugees, already one of the most vulnerable groups in society before the conflict, have been amongst the worst affected. Many Palestine refugee children have lost their homes and in some cases a family member as well. Many have experienced displacement, trauma, intense fear and disruption to their normal lives.

Child labour and child marriage have substantially increased since the conflict began.

The warfare has also had traumatic fallouts on Palestinian refugee children in and outside the Syrian territories.

Speaking with AGPS, a number of Palestinian refugee children said they have been deprived of childhood joy as they can neither buy snacks at school nor ice-cream from local shops. In the best of cases, a Palestinian child in Syria receives a pocket money of no more than 500 Syrian Pounds in a country where a small chips box costs over 1,000 pounds and a sandwich at school costs more than 1,200.

Post-traumatic stress disorders, mental psychosis, sleeplessness and nightmares, eating disorders, and intense fear have all been among the symptoms with which Palestinian children have been diagnosed.



AGPS renews its calls to the international community, human rights institutions, UNICEF, UNRWA, and all concerned bodies to work on protecting Palestinian children in embattled Syria and provide those who fled the war-torn country with physical and moral protection in the host countries.

AGPS has recorded the death of 252 Palestinian refugee children in war-torn Syria. Hundreds more have gone orphaned after they lost one or both of their parents in the deadly warfare.

Meanwhile, as Syria has been engulfed by a devastating war since 2011, the conflict has since brought misery and death to Palestinian refugees sheltered in the country.

Prices of food and non-food items have skyrocketed and the exchange rate of the Syrian pound has further deteriorated.

The price of a one liter of oil has reached up to 17,000 SP while a kilogram of rice is sold at 3,800. A kilogram of dates is estimated at 12,000 to 20,000.

The protracted conflict has devastated human security and left 91 per cent of the 438,000 Palestine refugees estimated to remain in the country in absolute poverty and 40 per cent displaced.

In the meantime, Tunisia's Emergency Chief Mahdi Ben Ammar and UNRWA education chief in Syria paid a visit to the displacement camps of AlNeirab and Hindarat, in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo.

The visit aims to inspect refugees' access to education services and the situation of UNRWA schools in the camps.



AGPS has kept record of a sharp nosedive in access to education for Palestinians sheltered in displacement camps and communities across war-torn Syria. Most of UNRWA schools have been destroyed or put out of operation. Other educational facilities have been turned into prisons or field hospitals, imperiling Palestinians' academic careers.

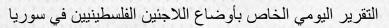
The situation is worse for displaced Palestinian families taking shelter north of Syria. Classrooms established in the area are made up of poorly equipped tents that are not fit to study in and risk to fall into pieces in the winter season. Neither professional training staff nor proper furniture are available at the schools.

AGPS continues to appeal to the Palestine Liberation Organization and UNRWA, among all concerned international institutions, to urgently step in and work on reconstructing destroyed schools, providing civilians with the needed psycho-physical protection, and boosting children's access to education in Syria.

Upon more than one occasion, UNRWA has raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among the Palestinians of Syria, several among whom left schools to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.

Eleven years after demonstrations started in Syria, the majority of Palestinian refugees sheltered in the war-torn country have been grappling with an abject humanitarian situation.

UN data indicates that over half of the Palestine refugees in the country have been displaced at least once because of the brutal





conflict that ensued, including 120,000 who have sought safety in neighbouring countries, mainly Lebanon and Jordan, and beyond.

438,000 Palestine refugees remain in the country – 91 per cent of whom live in absolute poverty -and who have been among those worst affected by the conflict.

Over 80% of PRS live in extreme poverty and rely on humanitarian assistance as their main source of income. 86% of PRS households are reported to be in debt.