



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



### "Hundreds of Palestine Refugees Threatened with Refoulement in Greece"

- Displaced Families Denied Return to Yarmouk Camp, Gov't Officers Allowed In
- Palestinian Refugee Haytham Naji Secretly Jailed in Syria since 2014
- UNRWA Launches Palestinian Olympics in Lebanon

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## Latest Developments

The Immigration Department of Greece announced its decision to force refugees who have obtained Greek visas since July 31, 2017 out of their homes and shelters. Rents will be shelled out via European funds and the refugees' allowances will be suspended in three months.

Sometime earlier, the government of Greece sent notifications to hundreds of asylum-seekers who were granted "refugee status" to evacuate their European-funded shelters.

Activists said the policy dovetails the country's attempt to rein in the influx of migrants and overcrowdings on its islands.



Human rights groups said the new decision comes in line with the EU commitment to fund the UNHCR's relief and housing program for asylum-seekers who have not yet received replies over their applications for asylum.

The activists further warned of the fallouts of the decision, which they said will result in increasing numbers of homeless refugees who will be left with neither food nor shelter and be denied their basic human rights.



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Palestinian refugees who have fled war-stricken zones to Greece have been denied their rights to visas and prevented from accessing vital facilities.

Along the same line, sources close to the Syrian government said security forces have allowed military officers and their families who used to live in Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus, to re-enter the camp and retrieve their homes and property.

Civilians have, however, been denied access to their homes in the camp.



On February 4, a petition handed over by the residents of Yarmouk Camp to Damascus governor Adel Anwar AlAlabi urged 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.

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



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A few months earlier, 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. The Syrian government forces regained control over the camp and southern Damascus towns following the military operation. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured in the offensive. Over 60% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed.

A number of activists and residents attempting to reach their homes in Yarmouk Camp have been denied access into the area by Syrian government troops deployed at the main entrances to the camp. Reports of theft have also emerged after Syrian government forces grabbed hold of the camp and reportedly burglarized civilian homes. Pro-government troops stole electric kit, furniture, and wares, among other equipment.





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Meanwhile, Palestinian refugee Haytham Hamouda Naji, born in 1969, has been enduring a mysterious fate in Syrian government dungeons for five years running.

Naji was kidnapped by pro-government troops on August 28, 2014, as he distributed foodstuff in AlRijah Square, in Yarmouk Camp. His family continues to appeal for information.

AGPS documented the incarceration of 1,759 Palestinians in Syrian government prisons, where 606 others were tortured to death.

In the meantime, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) launched the 11th Palestiniadi (Palestinian Olympics) with the support of the European Union Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, the EU‘MADAD’ Fund, for the second year in a row.



According to UNRWA, the event brings over 285 Lebanese nationals, as well as Palestine refugees from Syria and Lebanon, including 20 students with disabilities, for three days of fun, games and competition. The Palestiniadi takes place between 4-7 July in the Siblin Training Centre, Lebanon.



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The students will compete in six different collaborative and competitive games including football, volleyball, basketball, running, table tennis and chess. The closing day of the games will include a prize giving ceremony for Palestiniadi participants and winners, recognizing their efforts and sporting sprit.

This 11th Palestiniadi event exemplifies community-youth cooperation, with the aim of furthering common values of fairness, tolerance and teamwork.