



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



#### "Syrian Gov't Forces Grab Houses in Palestinian Refugee Camp of Khan Eshieh"

- Palestinian Refugee Children in AlHusainiya Camp Exposed to Delinquency Risk
- Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon Appeal for Urgent Humanitarian Action
- Stray Dogs Sway Deraa Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- Palestinian Refugee from Syria Wins 3<sup>rd</sup> Seat in Bodybuilding Contest

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## Latest Developments

Pro-regime militias in Syria have been ravaging civilian homes in Khan Eshieh camp for Palestinian refugees and grabbing hold of evacuated buildings.

Local sources told AGPS that Syrian security forces seized last week a five-story building whose owners fled to a European destination on claims that they are affiliated with opposition groups.

AGPS has documented several cases where Palestinian property has been confiscated, destroyed, and/or stolen in displacement camps across the war-ravaged country, including AlSabina, Khan Eshieh, AlNeirab, and Handarat camps.

The stolen/destroyed property is owned by Palestinian activists, journalists, or prisoners accused of affiliations with the Syrian opposition or with terror groups.

According to UN data, Khan Eshieh camp lies beside the ancient ruins of Khan Eshieh, 27km south-west of Damascus. The Khan historically served as an overnight shelter for trade caravans on the road between Damascus and the southwest, and in 1948, it provided shelter for the first refugees from Palestine. The camp was established in 1949 on an area of 0.69 square kilometers with refugees originally from the northern part of Palestine.



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Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. In 2012, the farms and fields surrounding the camp became active battlegrounds in which heavy weapons were deployed, often indiscriminately. The population more than halved to 9,000.

Some of the camp's buildings and infrastructure were severely affected including some UNRWA installations; two UNRWA schools and the community centre were almost razed to the ground.

Along similar lines, residents of AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian refugees have called on UNRWA, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and international organizations defending children's human rights to work on securing children's right to physical and psychological protection.

The residents said their children's school grades have gone down gradually over time due to economic hardship and the ensuing trauma inflicted by the eleven-year warfare.

Parents have raised alarm bells over the striking upsurge in the rate of school dropouts among schoolchildren and university students, several among whom left their academic institutions to help feeding their impoverished families in unemployment-stricken refugee camps.

The warfare in Syria, which has now entered its eleventh year, has had traumatic fallouts on Palestinian refugee children in and outside the Syrian territories.



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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 over 250 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, civil committees of Palestinians of Syria in Lebanon have called on the Palestinian Authority and international community to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to Palestinian refugees who have been struggling with squalid conditions in the Lebanese territories.

The committees denied in a statement their involvement in a vigil slated to be held outside of the Palestine embassy in Beirut.

In its fact sheet entitled “Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal 2021”, UNRWA said that Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon are grappling with increased hardship and vulnerability, due to long-term displacement and difficult socio-economic conditions, coupled with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.



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According to UNRWA, 87% of PRS live in poverty in the Lebanese territories.

Nearly 65% of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (PRL) live in poverty.

UNRWA's factsheet indicates that 257,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon are in need of UNRWA emergency cash assistance.

Over 470,000 refugees are registered with UNRWA in Lebanon. About 45 per cent of them live in the country's 12 refugee camps. Conditions in the camps are dire and characterized by overcrowding, poor housing conditions, unemployment, poverty and lack of access to justice.

Palestinians in Lebanon do not enjoy several important rights; for example, they cannot work in many professions and cannot own property (real estate). Because they are not formally citizens of another state, Palestine refugees are unable to claim the same rights as other foreigners living and working in Lebanon.

In the meantime, residents of Deraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, have raised concerns over their children's safety as packs of stray dogs have been spotted in and around the camp.

The refugees appealed to the concerned authorities and NGOs to take urgent action over the spread of feral dogs in the camp.

Palestinian families seeking shelter in Deraa Camp have been facing dire socio-economic conditions in the poverty-stricken area.



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Chronic power and water blackouts along with the acute dearth in gas and fuel supplies have made the situation far more alarming.

Living conditions have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the raging warfare. A transportation crisis has added bad to worse.

After ten years of conflict, Palestine refugees continue to be one of the most vulnerable groups in Syria with immense humanitarian needs.

Survival for the majority of Palestinian families in war-stricken Syria has largely hinged on relief assistance. The vast majority of families have been living below the poverty line.

In another development, Palestinian refugee from Syria Shadi Ahmad AlFar has won the third and fifth seats in the Ajman Bodybuilding Championship, which was wrapped up on April 9 under the auspices of the Ajman Tourism Development Department, in cooperation with the Emirates Body Building and Fitness Federation.

Shadi fled Syria's Yarmouk refugee camp in 2012 to AlZahira, in Damascus, before he headed for Jordan, where he had stayed for a couple of years. He then travelled to the UAE and took part in the international muscle show.