



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



"Palestinian Refugees Arrested by Syrian Forces Near Turkish Borders"

- Palestinian Refugees Launch Distress Signals from Northern Syria Displacement Camps
- UNRWA Education Chief Shows Up in Jaramana Camp
- AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian Refugees Gripped with Power Crisis
- Palestinian Charity Hands Over Medical Supplies to Palestinian Refugees North of Syria

+442084530978

/Actgroup.palsyria

reports@actionpal.org.uk

www.actionpal.org.uk



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Latest Developments

Syrian security forces arrested a number of Palestinian and Syrian refugees on their way to areas controlled by the Kurdish-led and US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in the northern countryside of Aleppo, where human smuggling networks toward zones led by the Free Army are operative.

Informed sources told AGPS that the Palestinian and Syrian refugees reached out to a smuggler in Damascus in order to enter the Turkish territories in return for \$1,200 per very single person. They reached Aleppo's northern outskirts onboard a private van, after they passed through dozens of security checkpoints.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the sources said the smuggler turned them in to a regime checkpoint near Manbij city, located at a distance of 90 kilometers from Aleppo and 35 kilometers from the Syrian-Turkish borders. They were transferred to the military security branch in Aleppo and later to a security branch in Damascus.

The list of arrestees includes evaders of military conscription with pro-regime militias along with women and children whose condition and whereabouts remain unidentified.

In another development, Palestinian refugees have rallied in Deir Ballout and AlMuhammadiya displacement camps, in the northern



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Syrian region of Efrin, protesting their deteriorating living conditions in the poorly-equipped facilities.

The refugees said they have been deprived of potable water, bread, and fuel along with much-needed relief supplies and life-saving medicines.

The refugees called on AFAD, UNRWA, and all other concerned parties to take up their responsibilities regarding the squalid conditions they have been struggling with in the poverty-stricken area.

They further urged the international human rights institutions, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Turkish authorities to take immediate steps in response to their appeals.

Hundreds of Palestinian families have been struggling for survival in the poorly-equipped Deir Ballout and Muhammadiya camps, after they were forced out of Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns.

For many displaced Palestinian refugees, the perils of winter weather and coronavirus add to the torment already experienced throughout the conflict.

High rates of unemployment and lack of relief assistance have made the situation far worse for the displaced families.

According to data by the Commission of Palestinians of Syria for Relief and Development, as many as 1,488 Palestinian families have been sheltered in the northern Syrian regions of Idlib, Efrin,



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and Aleppo's suburbs. The largest number of families are taking refuge in Idlib.

Some 819 Palestinian families have sought shelter in Idlib, including 226 families in the city center, 152 in Atama, 60 in Akrebat village, and 60 more in Sarmada town. 50 families are taking refuge in Maarat AlNu'man and Jericho, south of Idlib, and also in Ataa village.

Meanwhile, Acting UNRWA Director of Education, Moritz Bilagher and UNRWA Director of Syria Operations Michael Amany Ebye paid a visit to AlKabri School in Jaramana Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq.

The visit comes in commemoration of the World Teachers' Day, which is held annually on 5 October to celebrate all teachers around the globe.

During the event, Amany said that a year and a half after the COVID-19 crisis hit the world, the World Teachers' Day is celebrated under the theme "Teachers at the heart of education recovery". Education is primordial in helping Palestinian refugee children realize their dreams for a better future.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees in AlHusainiya Camp, in Rif Dimashq, continue to denounce the chronic power blackouts rocking the area, saying power has been cut across a number of residential neighborhoods for over 20 hours daily.



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In the best of cases, power is operated every six hours for a one-hour time-span.

Civilians slammed the apathy maintained by the concerned authorities as regards their appeals for urgent action, saying power distribution has been manipulated by the local emergency response office which obliges civilians to pay money before showing up in the area for maintenance works.

They further expressed concern over the uncontrolled explosion of power cables, resulting in electricity-borne threats.

Over recent years, residents of AlHusainiya camp have denounced the absence of vital services in the area. The transportation crisis, price leap, absence of relief assistance and healthcare, power and water crises, and high rates of unemployment have made survival quite difficult for dozens of displaced Palestinian families.

Along similar lines, Igatha48 organization, in cooperation with donors from Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1948 (present-day Israel), distributed medical supplies to displaced Palestinian refugees sheltered in northern Syria.

In late February last year, 25 tanker trucks donated by Palestinians in territories occupied since 1948 entered the Syrian borders through Bab AlHawa crossing point. The trucks were loaded with nearly 625 tons of charcoal.