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## التقرير اليومي

## الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinian Refugees Rally in Stockholm over Israeli Escalations in Jerusalem"

- Situation of Palestinian Refugees in AlMuzeireeb Exacerbated by Lake Drought
- Palestinian Families in Syria's Khan Dannun Camp Denounce Water Dearth
- Civilians' Life Marred by Motorcycle Accidents in AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- Palestinian Refugee Mohamed AlShehabi Forcibly Disappeared by Syrian Regime for 8th Year



## **Latest Developments**

Thousands of Palestinian refugees from Syria have joined rallies held across European cities, including Stockholm, to voice their firm rejection of the surge in violence by Israeli forces in occupied Jerusalem.

Across war-torn Syria, hundreds of Palestinian refugees sheltered in displacement camps in the ravaged country have also joined protests held in solidarity with residents of occupied east Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah and worshipers at AlAqsa Mosque.

Similar protests have seen the day in Amman, Istanbul, Vienna, Copenhagen, Malmo, Helsinbury, Berlin, Amsterdam, London, and Athens, among other metropolitan cities.

Palestinian refugees and activists who joined the rallies held the Israeli occupation authorities accountable for the ethnic cleansing and forcible transfer of Palestinians from their homes in Jerusalem, calling on the international community to urgently step in and hold Israel to account.

In one incident, last Friday, Israeli police injured more than 200 Palestinians, after authorities cracked down while Palestinians worshippers gathered for prayers at Al-Aqsa mosque in East Jerusalem during Ramadan, the holiest month of the year for Muslims, Israeli newspaper Haaretz reported. Many of the worshippers stayed on after prayers to protest in support of



Palestinians currently facing evictions at the hands of Israeli settlers.

In another development, hundreds of Palestinian families sheltered in AlMuzeireeb town, south of Syria, have been grappling with an acute dearth in drinking water after the local lake—the sole water supplier for families in the area—has dried out as a result of the uncontrolled excavation of artesian water wells.

The manipulation of water prices by the well owners has made the situation far worse for AlMzeireeb community.

AlMuzeireeb is home to 1,700 Palestinian families, who have been enduring dire conditions due to the high rates of unemployment and poverty.

Along similar lines, residents of Khan Dannun Camp for Palestinian refugees in Rif Dimashq have set off alarm bells over the acute water crisis which has been ongoing for years across a number of residential neighborhoods, saying civilians have been forced to purchase drinking water from privately-owned tanks at a price of over 4,000 Syrian pounds a tank.

The residents said the main water line in the area has only been manipulated by water staff and called on the government institutions and UNRWA to urgently step in and take serious measures in response to the crisis.



Living conditions in Khan Dannun have sharply deteriorated due to the lack of financial resources and high unemployment rates wrought by the unbridled warfare.

According to UN data, Khan Dannun camp was built several centuries ago to give overnight accommodation to trading caravans on the ancient route between Jerusalem and Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). In 1948, the ruins of the city provided shelter for refugees from villages in northern Palestine.

The camp, which lies 23 km south of Damascus, was officially established in 1950-1951 on an area of 0.03 square kilometers. The camp was home to 10,000 Palestine refugees by 2011, almost all of whom were live in irregular housing, constructed without any formal approval from the municipality.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was already one of the poorest camps in Syria. Most refugees worked as farm workers on Syrian-owned lands, others are wage laborers, while a few commuted to industrial plants.

The conflict exerted additional pressures. The camp was surrounded by armed opposition groups and many refugee families displaced from other areas of Damascus took refuge in the camp, tripling the number of residents to some 30,000 during the crisis. Two UNRWA schools premises were converted into collective shelters to give accommodation to more than 130 families between 2012 and 2018. Currently, the camp is home to 12,650 Palestine refugees.



The increase of the camp population has had a negative impact on the camp's infrastructure, affecting the electric network and the sewerage system. The camp suffers from sporadic sewage blockages due to the increased pressure on the existent sewerage system, which was designed for only 10,000 inhabitants, while there are now significantly more. Water supply resources have also been affected and the camp suffers from water shortages, especially during the summer months.

Many school children have dropped out or work after school hours to support their families. The camp also suffers from a high incidence of inherited diseases such as thalassaemia and sickle-cell anemia.

Meanwhile, residents of AlHusainiya Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Rif Dimashq, continue to rail against the uncontrolled use of motorcycles in the area, a phenomenon they said poses serious threats to the lives of their children.

Several horrific accidents took place due to inappropriate speed and infringement of road safety rules across residential alleyways.

Palestinian families taking refuge in AlHusainiya Camp have been grappling with dire conditions owing to the poor infrastructure, power and water outages, and lack of hygiene in the area.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Mohamed Hasan AlShehabi has been secretly held in Syrian government prisons for eight consecutive years.



Mohamed, born in 1981, was arrested at a checkpoint in Yarmouk Camp on July 10, 2013.