



التقرير اليومي



الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

The situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



UNRWA: Palestine Refugees in Syria Live in Extremely Dire Conditions

- Rights Group Calls for Prosecuting War Criminals in Syria
- Vigil Held in Aleppo in Protest at Israel's Assassination of Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh
- Palestinian Midwives Honoured by Red Crescent in Syria



Latest Development

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) reiterated its call to support Palestine refugees in Syria and in neighboring countries at the VI Brussels conference on “Supporting the Future of Syria and of the Region.”

UNRWA said in a press release that there are nearly 440,000 Palestine refugees who still live in Syria and 50,000 between Jordan and Lebanon, having fled the conflict in search of safety. Almost all of them live under the poverty line and face immense daily challenges, including difficult access to sufficient food to feed themselves and their families. Most of them live on less than US\$ 2 per day.

UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini said: “The Palestine refugees in Syria live in very dire conditions. After 11 years of conflict, some have returned to their destroyed homes because they can no longer afford rent outside. These refugees need schools, clinics and social protection.”

Since the start of the conflict, many UNRWA installations inside Syria, such as schools and health centres, have either been totally destroyed or sustained severe damage. Forty per cent of UNRWA classrooms were lost and almost 25 per cent of the Agency’s health centres are currently unusable. UNRWA in Syria has also lost 19 staff members during the 11-year conflict.

Director of UNRWA Affairs in Syria Amany Michael-Ebye stated: “Some 1200 families have returned to Yarmouk; they live amidst



rubble and possibly around unexploded devices, in very dire conditions. Eleven years of conflict, displacement, soaring inflation, loss of livelihoods and now two years of COVID-19 all make their life untenable. UNRWA assistance to Palestine refugees in Syria and in neighbouring countries is often their only lifeline and their last source of support. The financial challenges that UNRWA faces restrict our ability to truly respond to the needs. Our staff are under tremendous pressure to deliver critical services, with restricted resources,” Amanya added.

UNRWA said it requires US\$ 365 million to secure emergency humanitarian assistance to Palestine refugees affected by the conflict in Syria, Lebanon and Jordan through its Syria Regional Crisis Emergency Appeal. Palestine refugees in Syria and those who fled the conflict to Jordan and Lebanon rely entirely on the Agency’s services to survive their continued displacement. As of now, the appeal remains significantly underfunded.

"Palestine refugees in Syria, and those who fled to Lebanon and Jordan, rely entirely on UNRWA to cover their humanitarian needs and to access education and health care,” said Lazzarini. "Like anyone else, it is their right to have education and health care. As this annual conference brings together all those who support the humanitarian response to the Syrian crisis, this is a reminder that Palestine refugees must be included in the response at all times.

Along similar lines, Fadel Abdul Ghany, Executive Director of the Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), who participated in the VI Brussels conference on “Supporting the Future of Syria and



of the Region”, demanded that persons and parties involved in war crimes in Syria be blacklisted and prosecuted.

During a meeting with a number of ambassadors, Abdul Ghany referred to the private investigation conducted by the British daily The Guardian on the Al-Tadamun neighborhood massacre, where 41 civilians were killed at the hands of the Syrian regime forces.

He said that the amnesty decree issued by the Syrian President is shallow, just like the other 19 previous decrees. The Syrian Network documented the release of only 419 people out of 132,000 detainees or forcibly disappeared persons. AGPS documented the release of no more than 14 Palestinian refugees, including four women as part of the amnesty, out of the 1,800 refugees secretly held behind the regime prison bars.

In another development, Palestinian refugees and activists in AlBab city, on Aleppo’s northern outskirts, north of Syria, joined a vigil held in protest at the cold-blooded murder of veteran Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh by an Israeli sniper.

The protesters raised Palestinian flags and Shireen’s photos and lifted banners condemning Israeli crimes against journalists and against innocent Palestinians.

Shireen was killed last Wednesday in Jenin refugee camp, in the occupied West Bank. Israeli occupying forces shot her in the head. She was murdered while reporting Israel’s crimes. She was wearing her PRESS vest.



This heinous crime was committed in cold blood against a journalist wearing a press-marked uniform, in a flagrant violation of international humanitarian law and international conventions and norms, which stipulate that journalists and media workers must be protected.

This act of murder is not only a sign of Israel's ceaseless endeavors to silence the voices of those who have always stood on the right side of history but is also a sign of its ruthless attempts to cover up its human rights abuses in the occupied Palestinian territory and whitewash its crimes against humanity.

In the meantime, a celebration was held by the Palestinian Red Crescent Organization to honour a number of Palestinian and Syrian midwives and nurses.

The event, held in Hums, comes on the occasion of International Day of the Midwife annually marked on May 05.

Campaigners stressed that the key role Palestinian midwives and nurses play in Syria must be seen against the backdrop of a wider regional context that continues to leave women and girls vulnerable and unsupported when it comes to life-saving healthcare and psycho-physical guidance.