

التقرير اليومي الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

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"Dozens of Families Go Homeless as Rampant Shelling Swamps Deraa Camp, Al-Sadd Road"



- Residents of Al-Sbeina Camp Denied Access to their Homes via Gov't Checkpoints for 1,185 Days Running
- Palestinians from Syria in Sweden Subjected to Thorny Family Reunification Procedures

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Latest Developments

Dozens of Palestinian families fled the Deraa Camp and the Al-Sadd Road due to the unabated onslaughts launched by the Syrian government forces on the area and the deadly hostilities between the regime troops and the opposition outfits.

A couple of days earlier, a surface-to-surface missile hit the Deraa Camp, at the same time as Al-Sadd Road neighborhood was targeted with heavy machineguns and gas cylinders, resulting in material damage. A state of panic swamped civilians in the process.



AGPS news correspondent said several displaced families have sought shelter in Al-Muzeireeb town for fear of being killed under shelling.

80% of civilian buildings and structures in Deraa have been reduced to rubble while 244 residents were killed in the raging warfare.

According to preliminary data, 149 Palestinian families only have remained in Deraa Camp, down from 4,500 families up to 2011.

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Meanwhile, residents of Al-Sebeina Camp for Palestinian refugees in Rural Damascus have been denied access to their homes via government-run checkpoints for 1,185 consecutive days.

Bloody hostilities between the government troops and the opposition battalions in and around Al-Sbeina forced dozens of families to seek shelter elsewhere. The clashes culminated in a tighter cordon by the regime squads on all corners of the shelter.

According to eye-witnesses, 80% of Deraa buildings have been subjected to partial or total destruction, particularly in the area stretching from Muadh Ibn Jabal Mosque to the Kurds Oven, which makes the western entrance to the shelter.

Without roofs over their heads, Al-Sbeina residents have been wandering down and out in streets, having no safe shelter to hide into. High rates of unemployment and lack of financial resources have added insult to injury for Al-Sbeina displaced community.



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Al-Sbeina residents appealed to the Syrian regime army and its war accomplices to allow them a safe access into their homes, as has been the case with the residents of Al-Husseiniya Camp.

In another development, hundreds of Palestinian families from Syria in Sweden have been shorn of the right to family reunification.

In the best of cases, family reunification procedures last for a period of up to two years, aggravating even further the refugees' traumatic state of loneliness in the new asylum.

Speaking with AGPS, Palestinian refugee from Syria in the southern Swedish city of Malmo, Yasser, attributed the dilemma to the belated appointments for family reunification applications arranged at the Swedish embassies in Turkey and Lebanon.

"My appointment to meet my family in the Swedish embassy in Lebanon has been scheduled for February 2018," added Yasser. "The appointment does not systematically herald that the refugee will be granted residency rights. Many of us wait for a period of up to one year to receive the authorities' consent over family reunification requests."

Another refugee—Mahmoud—raised alarm bells over the entry bans slapped by the Turkish authorities against the Palestinians from Syria.

"We, the Palestinians of Syria have done it all to reach Turkey as we sought a safer place to take cover in," Mahmoud told AGPS. "We have embarked on journeys fraught with deadly danger and endured shooting attacks by border cops to disembark in the Turkish territories, having no other place to run to."

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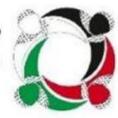
"The situation has been just as worse on the Lebanese borders, where admission procedures are often subjected to the officers' whims. One can miss an appointment at the embassy just because a Lebanese officer is in a black-mood," the refugee further stated.

The Swedish authorities have tightened the noose around Palestinian refugees' necks, suspending permanent visas and ruling that they be entitled only to temporary stays of a maximum of three years.

Palestinians of Syria: February 11, 2017 Statistics:

- At least 3,435 Palestinians, including 455 women, were killed in war-torn Syria.
- 1,164 Palestinian refugees, including 83 women, are incarcerated in Syrian government lock-ups.
- Yarmouk refugee camp has been blockaded by the Syrian regime army and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command (PFLP-GC) for 1,332 days in a row.
- 190 Palestinians died of undernourishment and medical neglect in the blockaded Yarmouk Camp.
- Water supplies cut off in Deraa and Yarmouk camps respectively for 1,036 and 843 days.
- Residents of Handarat Camp, in Aleppo, denied access to their homes for 1,380 days. Government battalions have been holding sway over the camp for more than 114 days.
- Government troops ban residents of Al-Sbiena Camp from returning to their homes for 1,185 days running.

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- Over 79,000 Palestinian Syrian refugees fled to Europe until mid 2016.
- 31,000 Palestinians from Syria are housed in Lebanon.
- 17 Palestinians from Syria are taking refuge in Jordan.
- 6,000 Palestinian-Syrian refugees are sheltered in Egypt.
- 8,000 Palestinian-Syrian refugees are taking shelter in Turkey.
- 1,000 Palestinian-Syrian refugees are sheltered in the blockaded Gaza Strip.