



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



"51% of Yarmouk Camp Residents Express Distrust in Syrian Gov't"

- Palestinian, Syrian Residents of Damascus Neighborhood Denied Property Reclamation
- Vigil Held in AlHusainiya Camp over Israeli Aggression on Gaza
- Fires Break Out in AlAyedeen Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- Nationwide Protests Held in Denmark over Deportations to Syria

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Latest Developments

A poll conducted by AGPS about the situation in Yarmouk Camp showed that 51.9% of the residents expressed their distrust in the promises made by the Syrian government to reconstruct the camp.

Only 18.6% of respondents said they are hopeful that these promises would be made true.

Last month, AGPS published a new report comprising the findings of an opinion poll about the reconstruction of Yarmouk Camp and the developments which occurred in the area after the Syrian government recaptured it.

264 people participated in the poll between March 15 – 31. The poll is made up of ten questions about the situation in Yarmouk Camp, the destruction wrought upon it, and civilians' standpoint regarding reconstruction projects.

Palestinian families continue to call on the concerned authorities to allow them a safe return to their homes in Yarmouk Camp, in Damascus, and to press ahead with reconstruction projects.

Most of Palestinian families taking shelter south of Damascus fled Yarmouk as a result of the tough blockade imposed by the government troops and also after ISIS grabbed hold of the camp on April 1, 2015.

Scores of other stranded families fled the camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the government forces on April



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19, 2018. The Syrian government regained control over the camp and southern Damascus towns following the military operation. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured. Over 80% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed.

Along similar lines, Damascus Governorate Council took an undeclared decision outlawing the return of the residents of the Damascus neighborhood of Jober, including dozens of Palestinian families, to their houses and the retrieval of their property.

Sawt AlAsima news site said the decision saw the day following the discovery of floor tunnels allegedly made by opposition forces in the area prior to the reconciliation accord.

Search operations conducted by Russian forces using advanced devices dubbed the area “uninhabitable”.

Almost all of Jober’s structures, buildings, mosques, and groceries have been reduced to rubble in the military operations launched by the Syrian government forces and their Russian partners.

In the best of cases, displaced families are allowed to stay for 15 minutes in the neighborhood to inspect their homes and property in return for money given to government officers deployed at checkpoints pitched around the area.

Nearly 10,000 Palestinian refugees, mostly from northern occupied Palestine, have been taking shelter in Jober neighborhood.



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In another development, Palestinian refugees sheltered in AlHusainiya displacement camp, in Syria, have expressed deep anger over Israel's escalating violence and state terrorism in the occupied Palestinian territories and deadly aggressions on besieged Gaza.

In a march held on Wednesday, May 19, Palestinian refugees lifted the Palestinian flags and chanted slogans condemning Israeli crimes against children and innocent civilians.

The marchers called on the international community and world's parliaments to take urgent action in response to Israel's unabated violence and apartheid policies against the Palestinians.

In another development, fires broke out on Thursday, May 20, at a restaurant in AlAyedeen camp for Palestinian refugees, in Hums.

The fires rocked a so-called "Shawarma Express" fast food in Jerusalem Street. Material damage was reported.

Palestinians taking shelter in AlAyedeen Camp in Hums have been facing a deteriorating humanitarian situation as a result of the price leap, sharp shortage in fuel supplies, the frequent power blackouts, and absence of humanitarian assistance. High rates of unemployment and the security turmoil rocking the region have made the situation far more alarming.

In the meantime, thousands of protesters turned up for demonstrations and protests in 25 cities across Denmark on



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Wednesday to say no to the Danish government's withdrawal of residence permits for Syrian refugees.

Activists and organizations joined forces in a joint protest against the Danish government's plans for returns of Syrian refugees. Haifaa Awad, Mellempfolkeligt Samvirke, Dansk Flygtningehjælp Ungdom and Amnesty International Denmark convened demonstrations across the country on Wednesday.

The message is clear: The Danish government should immediately stop plans to withdraw Syrian residence permits.

Hundreds of Syrian refugees, including children, have been told by the Danish Immigration Service to return to Syria, assessing that Damascus and the surrounding areas are safe to return to. At least 39 Syrians have received their final assessment in the Refugee Board - and are now in a deportation position.

But Syria is far from a safe country. Although military hostilities have diminished in most of the country, Syrian citizens continue to risk persecution and human rights abuses - including in Damascus and the surrounding area.

"In Damascus, the Assad regime has consolidated its power now, not with bombs, but with horrific human rights violations, extremely arbitrary arrests and extensive torture laboratories. Can our Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen guarantee the lives of Syrian refugees when they cross the border when the UN and the United States cannot? " said activist, Dr Haifaa Awad.



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"It is difficult to comprehend how the Danish authorities have reached the conclusion that Damascus and the surrounding area are safe enough for asylum seekers to return to," said Dan Hindsgaul, Acting Secretary General of Amnesty International Denmark.

"Our research shows that Syrians who have been send back are routinely subjected to interrogation by Syrian security forces. The security forces are known and notorious for being behind arbitrary detention, torture and murder. Wanting to send people back to such a risk is contrary to Denmark's human rights obligations."

"Denmark was once a pioneer internationally in the UN's protection of refugees. Now the Danish government, unlike all other countries, will send back Syrians and thus de facto legitimize President Assad's regime. We must say the opposite, and fortunately there are now also members of the Social Democratic governing party who are doing this," said Secretary General of Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke, Tim Whyte.

"Young people who have fled to Denmark, and who after a few years in the country, have begun to dream and think in Danish, are now facing another violent trauma caused by the Danish government's current deportation policy. No one should be deported to the same dictator that they fled from," said Natasha Al-Hariri, Director of DFUNK - Danish Refugee Council Youth.