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## التقرير اليومي

## الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"AGPS: Thousands of Palestinian Refugees Displaced in/from Syria"

- Residents of Yarmouk Camp Long For Reconstruction Permits by Syrian Authorities
- Situation of Palestinian Refugees in T'Seil Town Exacerbated by Absence of UN Premises
- Sister of Forcibly-Disappeared Palestinian Refugee in Syria Appeals for Information
- UN blacklists Syrian Government for Violations against Children



## **Latest Developments**

In a report released on the International Refugees' Day, marked annually on June 20, AGPS said thousands of Palestinian refugees in/from Syria have been displaced from their houses and refugee camps.

Heavy shelling on the displacement camps of Yarmouk, Khan Eshieh, AlSabina, AlHusainiya, Hindarat, and Deraa, among other camps in Syria, forced hundreds of Palestinian families to flee to other destinations.

UN data indicates that the protracted conflict has devastated human security and left 91 per cent of the 438,000 Palestine refugees estimated to remain in the country in absolute poverty and 40 per cent displaced.

In the absence of a durable political settlement, intense hostilities and violence resulting in deaths and injuries, internal displacement, loss of livelihoods, decreases in the provision of public services, and extensive damage to civilian infrastructure have disrupted the lives of civilians and forced thousands to become internally displaced.

Torn from the nourishment of home and warmth of family, Palestinians have been scattered across such destinations as Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, and Europe.



The situation has gone downhill after most of the world's countries opted for a closed-door immigration policy vis-à-vis the Palestinian refugee community from Syria, leaving thousands at the threat of forced deportation.

Hundreds have embarked on life-threatening journeys onboard the death-boats to Europe or to neighboring countries, searching for safe shelters and sources of incomes.

Those who have returned to the Syrian territories have been subjected to arbitrary crackdowns and forced conscription with pro-government battalions.

UN data indicates that as many as 120,000 Palestine refugees have fled war-stricken Syria since 2011, including 28,000 to Lebanon.

The Syrian conflict has impacted Palestine refugees inside and outside the Syrian territories. There used to be 560'000 countrywide, mainly in Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Latakia, Damascus and Deraa.

AGPS calls on the international community and UN bodies to provide urgent assistance to the Palestinian refugee communities in/from Syria, urge the Syrian regime to release prisoners and reveal the condition and whereabouts of forcibly-disappeared refugees, and to push for the reconstruction of destroyed refugee camps.



In another development, UNRWA has expressed its readiness to reconstruct its destroyed premises in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

Palestinian Ambassador Samir AlRefai also said, during his meeting with UNRWA's Director of Syria Operations Michael Amanya, that the rubble-clearance committee is awaiting an official permit by local authorities to finalize its works in the area.

Along similar lines, Palestinian refugees taking shelter in T'seil town, in the southern Syrian province of Daraa, continue to launch cries for help over the exacerbated humanitarian condition they have been enduring.

The situation is made worse by the absence of UNRWA facilities in the area. As a result, civilians are made to walk for long distances or to board expensive means of transport (up to 5,000 - 7,000 per person) to reach UNRWA distribution centres.

At the same time, the residents continue to endure daily struggles to receive medicines and medical treatment as no clinic has been opened up in the area.

Meanwhile, A Palestinian refugee has called upon the Syrian authorities and international human rights organizations to work on disclosing the condition and whereabouts of her brother Abdul Karim Jamal Abu Hashish, forcibly disappeared by the Syrian regime for the eighth year running.



Abdul Karim, aged 40, and his father, Jamal, were both arrested in February 2014 at a security checkpoint near the main entrance of Yarmouk Camp, south of Damascus.

The Syrian regime told the family that the father mysteriously died in prison just a couple of months following his detention. No pieces of information have been released as to the son's condition.

Over 1,790 Palestinian refugees have been secretly held in Syrian government dungeons since the outburst of deadly hostilities.

Palestinian families came to T'seil town following the 1948 catastrophe, after they were forced out of their homes in Palestine by Zionist militias.

Located some 30 kilometers north of Daraa city center, T'seil has been home to hundreds of Palestinian families.

In the meantime, on Friday, UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, included the Syrian Army on the blacklist of countries and groups violating the rights of children in conflict areas.

In addition to Syrian government forces, the UN also blacklisted Myanmar army and Houthi militants in Yemen.

This came hours after re-appointing Guterres, who has been as UN Secretary-General since 2017, for a second term.

Agencies reported that the UN Secretary-General decided not to include Israeli forces on the list, but the UN only urged Israel to



review and strengthen measures to prevent any excessive use of force.

After his endorsement for a second term, Guterres vowed to use his second term to work towards ensuring "the blossoming of trust among nations" and to engage in confidence building, according to UN website.

AGPS said it has recorded the death of 252 Palestinian refugee children in war-torn Syria.

The list of Palestinian victims includes 70 children who died due to the blockade imposed by the Syrian government forces and its armed allies on Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Damascus.

AGPS also documented the secret incarceration of 49 Palestinian minors in Syrian government prisons, where two children died under torture.

Sworn affidavits by ex-detainees confirmed the presence of toddlers swung in their moms' arms in Syrian prisons and whose fates have remained shrouded in mystery.

Thousands of children have gone orphaned after they lost one or both of their parents in the deadly warfare.

The war in Syria has had traumatic fallouts on Palestinian refugee children in and outside of Syria. Post-traumatic stress disorders, mental psychosis, sleeplessness and nightmares, eating disorders,



and intense fear have all been reported among Palestinian children from Syria.

AGPS renews its calls to the international community, human rights institutions, UNICEF, UNRWA, and all concerned bodies to work on protecting Palestinian children in embattled zones.