

# التقرير اليومي الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

### Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

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No. 1447

"6 Refugees Killed in Onslaught on Khan Al-Shih Camp"



- Humanitarian crisis to rock Khan Al-Shih camp after it had run out of food and medicines.
- Rage flares up as the Palestinian Authority (PA) demands the transfer of the bodies of Al-Wazir and Al-Sayel from the Yarmouk refugee camp to the occupied West Bank.
- A mortar shell takes away the life of a female Palestinian refugee.
- Pro-regime militias tighten military grip on Al-Husseiniya camp.

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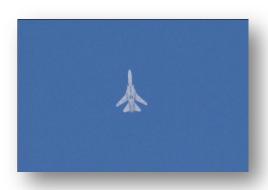
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#### Latest Developments

A massacre perpetrated by the Syrian regime forces at predawn time on Wednesday took away the lives of six Palestinian refugees taking shelter at the Khan Al-Shih camp.

The Syrian regime outfits struck a van evacuating the Khan Al-Shih refugees outside the camp, for fear of being killed by the unbroken shelling and the tough blockade.

The van was struck with a heat-seeking missile while driving near the Khan Al-Shih-Zakiya thoroughfare. Six Palestinian refugees were massacred in the onslaught.



The list of casualties included a displaced woman and her two-year-old toddler. AGPS field correspondents identified three other casualties as Kamal Hussein, a member of the Jafra Foundation for Relief, along with Umm Mahmoud Al-Nader and her daughter Ibaa Said Al-Nader.

The Syrian-Russian fighter aircrafts launched airstrikes on civilian homes in the camp. A refugee's home sustained material damage in the process. Military helicopters also struck the vicinities of the camp with explosive barrels.



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The impoverished Khan Al-Shih refugee camp has been closed off from all sides since 18 days, blocking refugees' movement in and out. In 2013 the camp was subjected to a partial blockade.

Meanwhile, over 15,000 Palestinian refugees, along with a number of Palestinian and Syrian families who have been dislocated from flashpoint areas, have been subjected to dire living conditions due to the tough blockade imposed by the Syrian regime forces. The latter have sealed off all accessroads into the capital Damascus before civilians dwelling in Zakia and Khan al-Sheih for the third week running.

Alarm bells have been sounded over a looming humanitarian crisis to rock the camp after it had run out of basic food items, most notably flour and vegetables. Long-term power and water blackouts execrated the situation even further.

In another development, a group of Palestinian activists and journalists residing in refugee camps in Syria and in the diaspora leveled heavy criticism at the Palestinian Authority (PA) after the latter pushed for exhuming the cadavers of the slain Fatah leaders Khalil al-Wazir, nicknamed Abu Jihad, and Sa'ad Sayel, nicknamed Abu Al-Waleed, and transferring them to the occupied West Bank on claims that the Yarmouk cemetery was leveled by ISIS outfits who snatched the area.

A statement emailed to AGPS spoke out against any attempt to strip the Yarmouk camp of its resistance annals, warning that the PA's request could spark "an explosion" in Yarmouk and other refugee camps in the diaspora.



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"It is a scar on the PA's face that factions have been turning blind eyes and deaf ears to the genocides perpetrated against the Palestinian refugees in Syria," the statement read.

It lashed out at the PA for keeping an eye on the affairs of the dead while turning their back on the tragedies endured by the refugee survivors, many among whom who have been humiliated around the clock by all parties involved in the fighting, without exception.

The statement atributed the havoc wreaked on the cemetery to the heavy blitzes launched by the Syrian fighter airplanes in April 2015 via explosive barrels. The bombardment led to the destruction of over a third of its overall area.

The statement added that ISIS fighters, currently in command of most of the area, pulled down dozens of headstones showing the names of the buried refugees and the dates when they were born and killed. Reports have, meanwhile, emerged on the intent of ISIS squads to raze the cemetery and wipe out the dead corpses.

The statement called on the Palestinian people from all socio-political spectra to rally round the refugees in war-ragged Syria and to take their responsibilities vis-à-vis the refugees' plight.

"The life of the Palestinian children who have been cordoned off in the camp is in no way less precious than the body remnants of slain refugees," it further noted.



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Earlier, on Tuesday, the Israeli occupation authorities rebuffed a PA appeal to bring the bodies of the two Fatah leaders Khalil al-Wazir and Sa'ad Sayel to burial in the occupied West Bank.

In another development, the female Palestinian refugee Manal Sweid, taking shelter in the Handarat refugee camp, was hit and killed by a mortar shell dropped on Damascus.



AGPS has kept record of countless cases of Palestinian refugees killed by mortar shells which were slammed by the Syrian army into Damascus. The city has also been rocked by sporadic blitzes launched by armed opposition outfits using mortar shells.

Speaking to an AGPS on-the-spot correspondent, Palestinian refugees in the Al-Husseiniya camp, in the Damascene suburbs, launched distress signals over the arbitrary roadblocks and barriers pitched by the Syrian regime and its Shiite allies in Al-Sayida Zeinab, blocking refugees' access out of and into the Al-Husseiniya camp. The blockade reportedly falls in line with a series of Shiite celebrations observed in the area.



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AGPS correspondent added that access permits bearing the names of the refugee and his/her family members are inspected and updated at the security checkpoint, in a move that aims to trim down family visits to Al-Husseiniya residents.

Up to the movement of writing, nearly 40% of Al-Husseiniya refugee population could not reach their homes for several reasons, most notably for fear of being kidnapped at the regime-controlled checkpoints.



#### Palestinians of Syria: October 19, 2016 Statistics:

- There are 15,500 Palestinian-Syrian refugees in Jordan.
- 42,500 Palestinian-Syrian refugees are in Lebanon.
- 6,000 Palestinian-Syrian refugees are sheltered in Egypt, according to UNRWA figures covering the period from July 2015 backwards.
- 8,000 Palestinian-Syrian refugees are taking shelter in Turkey.
- 1,000 Palestinian-Syrian refugees reside in the blockaded Gaza Strip.
- Over 79,000 Palestinian Syrian refugees fled to Europe until mid 2016.
- Yarmouk refugee camp has been blockaded by the Syrian regime army and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General



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Command PFLP-GC for 1,219 days in a row. Electricity and water supplies have been cut off, respectively, for 1,280 days and 739 days. The number of those killed due to the blockade has hit 190.

- Sbiena refugee camp: Refugees could not go back to their homes as a result of the blockade slapped by the Syrian regime forces since 1,072 days running.
- Handarat refugee camp: All refugees left the camp since 1,264 days after opposition outfits grabbed hold of the area.
- Deraa refugee camp: Water has been cut off for 922 consecutive days while 70% of its buildings have been knocked down.
- Homs camp, Hama camp, Jaramana camp, al-Sayda Zeinab camp, Al-Raml camp: A of State of relative calm has been reported in the abovementioned areas. However, economic crises have been on the rise.
- Khan al-Shih refugee camp: All access roads to the camp have been closed off, except for the Zakia-Khan Al-Shih passageway.