

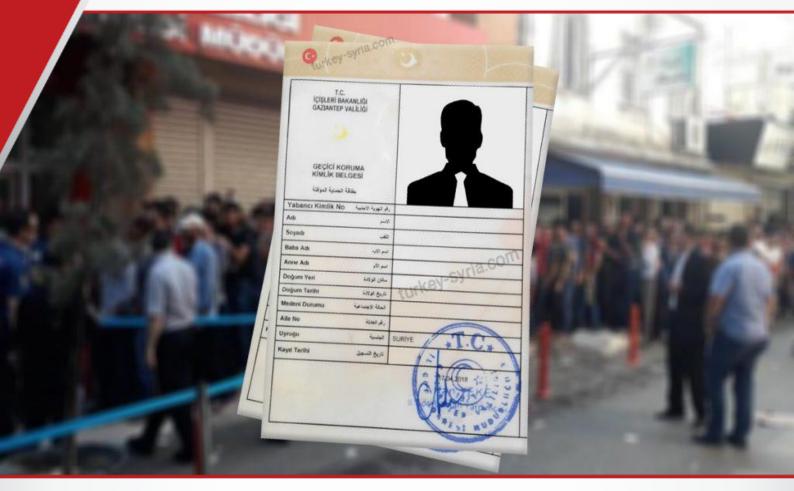
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التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Palestinians Launch Distress Signals as Turkey Suspends Issuance of Protection Cards"

- Palestinian Refugees in Aleppo Appeal for Establishment of Aid Distribution Centre
- Headstones Stolen from Khan Eshieh Camp for Palestinian Refugees
- Water Network Rehabilitated in AlAyedeen Camp in Hums



Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) have appealed to the Turkish authorities and international human rights organizations to help them obtain the temporary protection cards known as the "kimlik".

In appeals emailed to AGPS, a number of refugees said they have made inter-state trips to obtain kimlik cards, but to no avail.

Recently, the Turkish Interior Ministry outlawed inter-state movements by migrants and refugees, saying they should register their personal information in 16 states where refugees make up 25%.

The cities which refugees do not have the right to enter are Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Aydin, Çanakkale, Duzce, Edirne, Hatay, Istanbul, Izmir, Kirklareli, Kocaeli, Mughal, Sakarya, Tekirdag, Yalova. In Istanbul, registration will be closed in Fatih and Esenyurt for all foreigners.

Hundreds of PRS have been unable to provide for their children and families in Turkey. A large number of companies, factories, and shops shut their doors for fear of further COVID-19 contaminations. Several Palestinian families have lost their sole sources of income as a result.

Unofficial statistics indicate that 10,000 Palestinians from Syria have sought shelter in Turkey, where they have been facing dire



socio-economic conditions and denied access to the local labor market.

Turkish embassies continue to prevent Palestinian refugees from Syria from obtaining visas. As a result, hundreds of Palestinians have embarked on life-threatening journeys via illegal immigration roads to reach Turkey, fleeing war-tattered Syria, among other war-stricken zones.

In another development, Palestinian refugees in Aleppo, north of Syria, said the air distribution centre in AlNeirab Camp is located at a considerable distance from their shelters.

A number of families wishing to receive food parcels cannot afford to board private means of transportation to get to the aid distribution centre. Scores of cash-stripped refugees have no option than to sell their aid portion to merchants at low prices.

Palestinian refugees urged UNRWA to establish another distribution centre in order to facilitate aid delivery and receipt in Aleppo.

In another development, headstones in the eastern cemetery of Khan Eshieh Camp have been stolen by anonymous gangsters.

A resident of the camp said he reached out to the police station but the thieves have not been caught so far.

The residents held local authorities responsible for the increasing property-theft and burglary targeting commercial stores and civilian property.



Over recent months, power cables have been stolen from abandoned houses and alleyways in Khan Eshieh Camp refugee camp, where civilians' life has already been marred by the frequent power blackouts.

According to UN data, Khan Eshieh camp lies beside the ancient ruins of Khan Eshieh, 27km south-west of Damascus. The Khan historically served as an overnight shelter for trade caravans on the road between Damascus and the southwest, and in 1948, it provided shelter for the first refugees from Palestine. The camp was established in 1949 on an area of 0.69 square kilometers with refugees originally from the northern part of Palestine.

Before the conflict in Syria, the camp was home to more than 20,000 Palestine refugees. In 2012, the farms and fields surrounding the camp became active battlegrounds in which heavy weapons were deployed, often indiscriminately. The population more than halved to 9,000.

Some of the camp's buildings and infrastructure were severely affected including some UNRWA installations; two UNRWA schools and the community centre were almost razed to the ground. In 2016, UNRWA was able to re-access Khan Esheih and the Agency was able to rehabilitate some of its installations. Residents have also slowly started to return, with the camp now accommodating 12,000 people.

In another development, the Water Company in AlAyedeen Camp in Hums have embarked on works to repair the water network in the camp.



Local sources, said the measure comes following appeals by the residents to carry out maintenance works in order to repair the damaged power lines.

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.