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## التقرير اليومي

## الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



"Property-Theft Attempts Reported in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian Refugees"

- 6,000 Displaced Palestinian Families in Qudsaya Facing Squalid Conditions
- Situation of Palestinian Refugees in AlMuzeireeb Exacerbated by Lake Drought
- UNRWA Opens Schools in Syria for over 51,000 Palestine Refugees
- Palestinian Refugee Ahmed Eid Secretly Jailed in Syria since 2012



## **Latest Developments**

Flocks of vehicles continue to be reportedly caught stealing furniture from abandoned buildings and in Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, in Damascus.

Over recent years, pro-government militias have been raking through evacuated homes in Yarmouk and holding sway over furniture, copper, iron, and kitchenware belonging to displaced families.

Reports of theft have emerged after Syrian government forces grabbed hold of the camp and burglarized civilian homes.



The Syrian government forces regained control over Yarmouk Camp and southern Damascus towns following a 33-day military operation launched in April 2018. Dozens of civilians were killed and dozens more injured in the offensive. Over 60% of buildings have gone either totally or partially destroyed in the warfare.

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



Along the same line, some 6,000 displaced Palestinian families seeking refuge in Qudsaya town, in Rif Dimashq, after they were displaced from Yarmouk and southern Damascus towns, have launched cries for help over their exacerbated humanitarian situation due to the price hike, high unemployment rates, steep rental fees, and the decline in civilians' purchasing power.

According to the residents, furnished homes are rented at up to 90,000 Syrian Pounds, down from less than 50,000 in previous years. Hundreds of civilians have been forced out of their rented buildings by house-owners as the latter have strived to increase rental fees.

Thousands of Palestinian families fled Yarmouk Camp in the unabated warfare due to the crackdowns perpetrated by progovernment militias.

Meanwhile, hundreds of displaced Palestinian families in AlMzeireeb town, south of Syria, have been grappling with an acute dearth in drinking water after the local lake—the sole water supplier for hundreds of families in the area—has dried out as a result of the uncontrolled excavation of artesian water wells.





The residents warned of the repercussions of such a phenomenon on the local fauna and flora. Poor hygiene and insect propagation have made the situation worse.

AlMuzeireeb is home to 1,700 Palestinian families, who have been enduring dire conditions due to the high rates of unemployment and price surge.

In another development, this school year, 51,000 Palestine refugee girls and boys have gone back to 103 schools run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in Syria, announced the agency on its official website.

UNRWA Commissioner-General Pierre Krähenbühl visited Syria from 14 to 16 September and took part in an event to celebrate high achievers at Agency schools in Damascus and surrounding rural areas. He also attended a 'Back to School' event at the UNRWA al-Majdal-Haifa School in Damascus, where he met student parliamentarians, teachers and staff.



"By honoring high performing students, we are honoring each and every Palestine refugee girl and boy who studies in UNRWA



schools in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, the West Bank including East Jerusalem and Gaza," said Krähenbühl. "You are all part of a network, a family of students and every high achiever I met today is a source of pride to me, to the Agency and to all students in UNRWA schools."

A total of 42 UNRWA schools in Syria underwent maintenance work during the summer to prepare them to receive the students in time, especially as some of these premises had formerly been used as collective shelters for internally displaced persons fleeing the armed conflict. Where the Agency's schools were destroyed or heavily damaged, afternoon school shifts have been taking place in 41 schools provided by the Government of Syria, to enable all UNRWA students to attend classes.

"Your outstanding academic achievement is a testament to your commitment, hope and aspiration for a better future. We are proud of your remarkable success despite the severity of the displacement and hardship many of you have all lived through. We are here to recognize your unlimited efforts, resolve, and resilience. You should be proud of being Palestine refugees and are a source of inspiration to others," Krähenbühl said.

UNRWA is confronted with an increased demand for services resulting from a growth in the number of registered Palestine refugees, the extent of their vulnerability and their deepening poverty. UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions and financial support has been outpaced by the growth in needs. As a result, the UNRWA program budget, which



supports the delivery of core essential services, operates with a large shortfall.

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and mandated to provide assistance and protection to some 5.4 million Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA across its five fields of operation. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank, including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip achieve their full human development potential, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight. UNRWA services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, protection and microfinance.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugee Ahmed Mahmoud Eid has been secretly locked up in Syrian government prisons for the 6th consecutive year.

Ahmed was arrested by Syrian security forces on February 1, 2013 and dragged to an unknown destination. His condition and whereabouts remain unknown.

AGPS documented the secret detention of over 1,700 Palestinian refugees in Syria's state-run penitentiaries, where hundreds of others have also been fatally tortured.