مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria
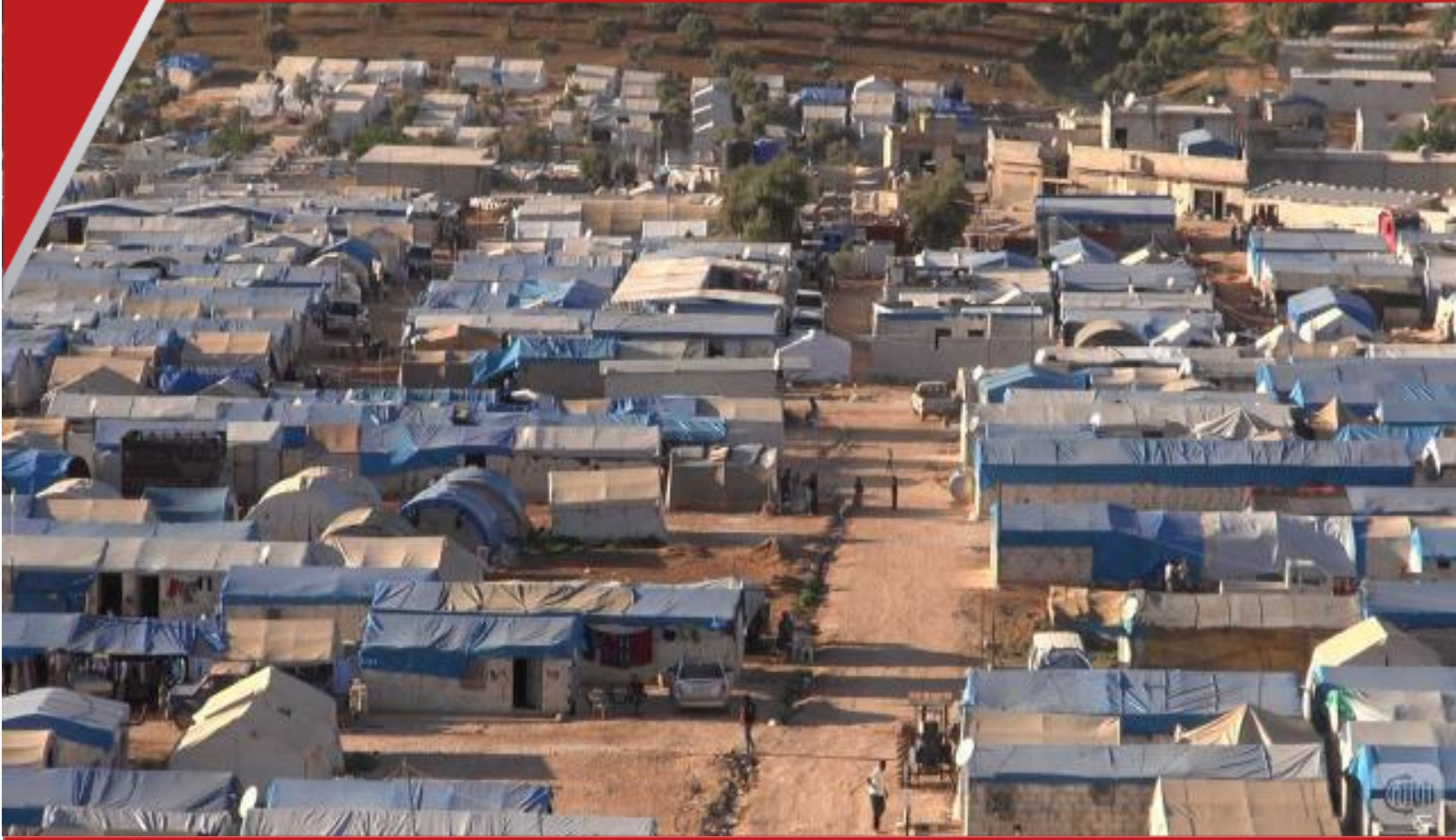
التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

"Palestinians in Northern Syrian Village of Atma Enduring Abject Situation"

- UNICEF Appeals for Aid Delivery in Rukban Camp
- 31 Migrants Rescued off Lebanese Shore
- 2 Palestinian Children from Syria Win First Places at Damascus Competition

Latest Developments

Palestinian refugees in Atma village, in Idlib, north of Syria, have been grappling with dire humanitarian conditions.

Some 50 Palestinian families have been sheltered in the area after they were displaced from Yarmouk and Khan Eshieh refugee camps, Eastern Ghouta, AlTadhamun area, along with other southern Damascus towns.

Speaking with AGPS, Palestinian refugee Yaser Mahmoud said Palestinians have sought shelter in refugee camps as AlJazireh, Ataa, and AlKarama in Idlib suburbs while others were forced to rent homes at prices of up to $150.

High rates of unemployment and discriminatory practices have made life far worse for dozens of displaced Palestinian families in the area.

Another refugee said health care services are relatively better as several Palestinians are allowed free treatment at local hospitals. However, most refugee camps have been infected by a poor hygiene.

Civilians have been forced to purchase water in Atma at 1,000 Syrian Pounds per cubic meter.

The same source denounced the poor-quality classes offered at local schools. Several families have failed to afford school furniture to their children, resulting in an increase in school drop-outs.

The refugee slammed UNRWA for failing to live up to its mission as regards the situation of the displaced Palestinians north of Syria.

"We, the Palestinians, have been treated as stateless people. We have neither legal nor humanitarian protection", said the refugee.

Scores of families have crept into the Syrian-Turkish borders in an attempt to reach Europe. Several refugees have been forced to pay up to $1,500 to smugglers.

The refugee called for urgent steps to save the displaced Palestinians who have been struggling for survival north of Syria.

Meanwhile, UNICEF has called for providing immediate sophisticated healthcare services to refugees at the Rukban Syrian camp near the Syrian-Jordanian border.

In a statement to The Jordan Times, UNICEF said that the situation for the estimated 45,000 people, among them many children, will further worsen with the cold winter months fast approaching,

especially when temperatures dip below freezing point in the harsh desert conditions.

"In the past 48 hours, two more children, a five-day old boy and a four-month old girl have died in Rukban, near Jordan's north eastern border with Syria, without access to a hospital," UNICEF Regional Director for MENA Geert Cappelaere was quoted in a UNICEF statement as saying.

"The two children in Rukban are among many, many children in Syria and the region who died in a conflict that they have absolutely no responsibility for. Their lives have been cut short, their families forever broken in grief," Cappelaere said.

"Once again, UNICEF appeals to all parties to the conflict in Syria and those who have influence over them, to allow and facilitate access to basic services including health for children and families. This is the very minimum for human dignity," the regional director underscored.

Jordan has allowed the entry of humanitarian aid to the Rukban camp for a single time to the displaced refugees after the UN presented a plan in which it pledged to deliver future assistance to the camp from Syria.

The international organization resorted to Jordan as Damascus had failed to respond to a request to grant access to the area.

Thousands of displaced Palestinian and Syrian migrants continue to face tragic conditions in Rukban Camp as a result of the blockade

imposed by the Syrian and Jordanian authorities, blocking civilians' access to relief items and humanitarian aid.

Thousands of Palestinians and Syrians have sought shelter in the camp after they fled the bloody shootouts between the Syrian government forces, the opposition outfits, and ISIS militias along with the deadly onslaughts launched by the Russian battalions using barrel bombs.

In another development, the "Liberal" frigate, the current flagship of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) Maritime Task Force (FTM), rescued 31 refugees from a drifting boat in the Coast of Lebanon.

Among those rescued were women and children who had been without food and water for three days. The passengers, very weakened, reported that they were from Syrian and that they were trying to arrive at Cyprus.

The uncharged vessel was located about 41 nautical miles from the Lebanese capital Beirut.

The "Liberal" frigate, which belongs to the Brazilian Navy, was fired by the FTM Command, and immediately began searches for radar and aircraft.

All necessary assistance was reportedly provided by UNIFIL to alleviate the suffering of the people on board, by providing water, food, medical care and some medicines.

According to AGPS data, 51 Palestinian refugees from Syria drowned at sea onboard the "death boats" to Europe, fleeing war-torn Syria.

Meanwhile, Palestinian children from Syria Mohamed Ali Taameh and Moon Rudeini won, respectively, the first and second places in the single combat contest held as part of the Championship of Palestinian Clubs.

The event was staged by the Karate Federation at the Palestinian Sports Federation in Syria.