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UNRWA Syria crisis situation update (Issue 29)

Tags: [conflict](#) | [emergency](#) | [Syria](#) | [Yarmouk](#)

Note: Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) will disseminate information about the situation of Palestine refugees in Syria.

02 January 2013

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Damascus and the surrounding area: Airstrikes, shelling and intensive clashes occurred throughout the night and continued throughout the day in the area surrounding **Yarmouk** camp with shells impacting in UNRWA schools causing damage and casualties. 12 are reported dead and several others injured. The camp is under siege with armed elements inside and the Syrian army outside controlling entrances and exits of the camp. All Yarmouk facilities remain closed and staff have been advised not to enter for any reason.

Jaramana and Khan Dunoun were relatively calm throughout the night and day. Schools housed internally displaced persons (IDPs) and health centres were operational in both places.

Airstrikes, shelling and clashes occurred throughout the night and day in the area surrounding Sbeineh camp and all UNRWA facilities are closed there.

Calm throughout the night and day in Rukn Eddin and Dummar with one school operational and another housing IDPs, with Dummar's health centre operational and its school housing IDPs.

Sporadic clashes reported throughout the night and relative calm throughout the day with schools operational in Jobar, Barzah, and Qaboun.

Mezzeh was reportedly calm with schools housing IDPs. Ellianss area was also calm with one school and a health centre operational.

Intensive clashes and shelling including airstrikes were reported throughout the night with less clashes but intensive shelling and airstrikes during the day with all facilities closed in Husseiniyeh.

Clashes occurred throughout the night in the area surrounding Khan Eshieh camp and relatively calm throughout the day with one health centre operational and schools housing IDPs.

Clashes and shelling occurred in Sit Zeinab throughout the night and day reached and all facilities remain closed.

Sounds of heavy weapons firing could be heard from the **Syria Field Office**. Most staff was on duty today.

Cash distribution continued with 40 beneficiaries served today.

UNRWA's **Damascus Training Centre** (DTC) continues to house IDPs and is filled to capacity. IDPs are receiving two meals a day prepared by the Centre's staff, in addition to blankets and mattresses. The Centre's clinic is operational and a medical doctor and a nurse treat medical cases there. People seeking safety and accommodation at the DTC are being directed to UNRWA schools in the surrounding areas.

Dera'a city and camp were calm and operational. Mzerieb and Jillien were calm throughout night and day and all facilities were operational, including schools and health centres. Cash was distributed to 50 beneficiaries, and food baskets were handed to 200 people.

Homs was reportedly calm throughout the night and day with long hours of electricity cuts and problems with mobile network coverage. All facilities were operational.

Hama was also reportedly calm with the distribution of 800 mattresses and blankets to beneficiaries. There are also unconfirmed reports of an increasing amount of IDPs in the camp.


Latakia is calm and all facilities operational with long hours of electricity cuts in addition to problems with mobile network coverage.

Sounds of shelling and explosions could be heard in **Aleppo** city, Leramon, Bustan al-Qasr, and Bustan al-Basha. Clashes were reported throughout the night in Bani Zayd, although it was calm during the day. Sheikh Maqsoud and Hanano were reportedly calm throughout the night and day.

Ein El Tel was relatively calm throughout the night and day and all facilities in the camp were operational. Cash was distributed to 30 families.

Clashes occurred throughout the night near Neirab camp, although the camp itself was calm and all facilities operational.

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Location	Actual Accommodated to date	# of families	Figures Disaggregated		
			Women	Men	Children
UNRWA COMPOUND	1,186	200	309	381	496

Compound					
Jaramana	970	200	396	234	340
Mazzeh (Jabal)	471	131	141	123	207
Khan Eshieh	1,143	210	265	225	653
Ramadan	1086	235	355	293	438
Dummar	385	67	114	106	168
Ruken Eddin	355	70	110	100	145
Khan Danoun	364	87	103	78	183
Total	5,963	1,200	1,793	1,540	2,630

--Ends--

UNRWA-Syria in numbers

- 518,900** registered persons
- 9** camps
- 118** schools
- 63,700** pupils
- 23** primary health-care facilities
- 497,000** annual patient visits
- 35,000** special hardship cases
- 68,000** microfinance loans

To read more detailed information about events throughout the country, sign up to receive weekly updates on our humanitarian response in Syria at www.unrwa.org/syria.

[Click here](#) to read the latest UNRWA statement on the humanitarian crisis in Yarmouk published on 17 December.

[Click here](#) to read about UNRWA’s emergency response in the last situation report published on 16 December.

[Click here](#) to read a profile of Yarmouk describing the scope of UNRWA’s work there before the outbreak of recent hostilities.

[Click here](#) to read about UNRWA’s regular work in Syria.

Background information:

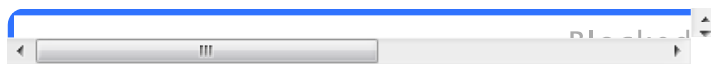
As the Syria conflict and its impact on civilians continue to escalate, UNRWA continues to exert all efforts to respond to the humanitarian needs of Palestine refugees. The Agency is monitoring the situation as it evolves, and its staff will continue to assess the situation and render any needed assistance.

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and is mandated to provide assistance and protection to a population of some 5 million registered Palestine refugees. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip to achieve their full potential in human development, pending a just solution to their plight. UNRWA’s services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, microfinance and emergency assistance.

Financial support to UNRWA has not kept pace with an increased demand for services caused by growing numbers of registered refugees, expanding need, and deepening poverty. As a result, the Agency’s General Fund, supporting UNRWA’s core activities and 97 per cent reliant on voluntary contributions, has begun each year with a large projected deficit.

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