

Protracted Displacement for Syrian Refugees in Jordan: Future Intentions

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Abstract

After nearly a decade of protracted displacement for Syrian refugees in Jordan, this paper aims to investigate the conditions of Syrians who lives in limbo and the livelihood (in)security and immobility. This study was conducted in Irbid city, which according to the UNHCR hosts the third highest number of refugees after the capital Amman and Al-Mafraq. The study is based on qualitative approach by conducting 20 semi-structured interviews with persons who experience protracted displacement themselves. The main finding of the study is that most Syrians are facing difficulties due to aid decline and due to the increasing life expenditures in Jordan in general. Other findings related to education revealed that most of the participants' children have access to public schools and schools for Syrians, while on the other hand, some of them prefer private schools. The participants have access to medical and health services in general; however, some of them reported that they have to pay the cost of the treatment due to lack of aid support to medical treatment and/or pressure on the aided services. One of the key findings of this study when the participants were asked about their future plans after having been displaced for a long time in Jordan is that the vast majority of them have no intention to return back to Syria, as they are pessimistic about security and living conditions. Furthermore, few participants indicated their intention to stay in Jordan as their primary choice, while others were hoping to be displaced to one of the European countries or Canada aiming to have more educational and medical services and for better life condition in general.

Keywords: Protracted displacement, Syrian refugees, Jordan, Syria, leave intentions, immigration.

1. Introduction

Since established, Jordan has witnessed several immigration waves, mainly the Palestinian refugees in 1948 and 1967 and then in recent years, Jordan hosts Iraqi and Syrian refugees. Jordan's hospitality policy and tolerance in addition to its geographic location make it the first destination for asylum seekers and refugees. Nevertheless, due to Jordan's hospitality policy and its geographic location, Jordan become the second highest share of refugees *per capita* in the world, which placed huge burdens on its infrastructure and services, including healthcare and education, as well as other natural resources, most importantly water supply (Al-Yakoub, 2018). According to the UNHCR, Syrian refugees form 88% of the total registered refugees in Jordan, then come refugees from Iraq with 8.9%, then 1.95% from Yemen, 0.81% from Sudan, 0.1% from Somalia and 0.21% from different nationalities. In Jordan, there are refugees from 57 nationalities, 83.2% of whom live in urban areas and 16.8% live in three camps: Zaatari camp, Al-Azraq and Emirati-Jordanian camp (UNHCR, 2020 c).

Since the onset of the Syrian crisis in 2011 and its disastrous consequences, millions of Syrians have escaped across borders due to safety reasons. It's estimated that Jordan hosts 1.4 million Syrian refugees; however, according to the UNHCR, only 659,673 are officially registered, where 19.1% of them are living in the camps and 80.9% are living in urban areas, mainly in four governorates (Amman, 29.5%; Al-Mafraq, 24.8%; Irbid, 20.6%; Zarqa, 14.6%) and 10.5% are living in eight

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governorates, ranging from 2.8%-0.3%, (UNHCR, 2020 b). It's estimated that around 78% of Syrian refugees in Jordan are living below the poverty line (USD 96 per month) (UNHCR, 2020 b).

1.1 Problem Statement

Some studies examined the Syrian crisis and its implications in multi-faceted issues. One of these issues which did not get quite considerable attention yet is the Syrian refugees future aspiration. Among the possible reasons are the uncertainty and ambiguity associated with the Syrian crisis itself and the focus on other demanding issues, such as providing services, mainly health, housing and education. However, as the crisis has prolonged, with more than ten years now, it has become essential to investigate issues related to the protracted displacement of Syrian refugees in hosting countries, including Jordan.

1.2 Purpose of the Study

This paper aims to present one of the main results of (Theme 2: **Living in 'limbo' livelihood (in)security and immobility**). This theme focuses on creating a better understanding of the everyday life of displaced people. It aims to assess displaced people's livelihood strategies, networks of support within and beyond families and access to local labour market (TRAFIG, 2019 b).

More specifically, the purpose of this study is to investigate the future intentions of Syrian refugees' resident in Jordan, particularly the Syrian residents in Irbid governorate as the third highest governorate to host Syrian refugees 20.6% (UNHCR, 2020 b).

1.3 Question of the Study

As indicated above, this paper is part of a broader study that aimed to investigate the protracted displacement of Syrian refugees in Jordan. This paper presents the participants' response to the following question: **It is a long time since you have been displaced. Where and how do you see your future?**

1.4 Study Significance

This study examined a vital issue related to the Syrian crisis, which is the future aspiration of Syrian refugees from their own perspective. Some studies in hosting countries, including Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, revealed that Syrians have no intentions to return to Syria in the meantime (ex Içduygu & Nimer, 2020) and some studies and surveys have shown that 85% of Syrian refugees do not intend to return to Syria shortly (MED, 2019). At the same time, the resettlement of Syrian refugees by the most affected countries (Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey) in third countries has notably declined. Furthermore, it is essential to examine the causes that are still deriving the refugees to look for migration from the hosting countries, such as lack of services and lack of support provided to refugees in these countries, which implies the importance of urging international stakeholders, the international community and aid organizations to undertake their responsibility toward the refugees and the hosting countries.

1.5 Study Limitations

The limitations of this study are associated with the method itself, due to the nature of the qualitative method that may not cover wider populations. The results and finding of this study may be limited to Syrian refugees' resident in Jordan, and in Irbid governorate particularly.

2. Review of Related Literature

2.1 Protracted Displacement

The UNHCR defines protracted displacement as the displacement for five years or more; yet, from 1974–2014, no e refugee out of in 40 was resolved within three years. In fact, more than 80 percent of all refugee crises lasted for 10 years or more (Tull, 2019). Protracted displacement is defined "as one in which 25,000 or more refugees from the same nationality have been in exile for five consecutive years or more in a given asylum country" (UNHCR, 2018: 22).

Doubts are increasingly raised that the three normally discussed durable solutions of: 1) resettlement, 2) local integration and 3) repatriation fail to adequately address the challenges posed by protracted displacement situations (pds). Many authors posit that establishing and maintaining a bureaucracy of aid and asylum and providing humanitarian aid for refugees in organized camps over a longer time are not only costly and inefficient but actually contribute to protracting the displacement situation, especially if no adequate perspectives of social inclusion and economic self-sufficiency are built up or if the needs of host communities that are likewise affected by the PDS are not appropriately addressed (Betts et al., 2017; Hyndman & Giles, 2016). More sustainable solutions would thus have to be embedded in clear political and economic strategies and linked to conflict management, peace building and development actions (Loescher & Milner, 2008). Moreover, given the fact that displaced families often lead multi-local lives and rely on mobility and cross-border transfers, transnationalism has now been proposed as a fourth durable solution to forced displacement (Cohen & van Hear, 2017; van Hear, 2006).

Recent literature on transnational migration has emphasized social actors' ability to be mobile (Black and King, 2004: 80; Piper, 2009: 98). This warrants attention not only on return migration, but also on other forms of secondary migration, including onward migration outside of the first country of refuge (Jeffery and Murison, 2011). The TRAFIG project considers displaced persons' mobility as a socio-economic and socio-psychological resources to be draw from and utilized in resilience and through "figurations of displacement". The concept of transnational figurations of displacement, inspired by figurational sociology and combines the figuration model – a meso-level approach emphasizing the networks of interdependent human beings – with the transnationalism approach and state-of-the-art knowledge on forced displacement (Etzold et al., 2019).

Figurations of displacement come into being through people's enforced mobility. They are then sustained and rearranged across interconnected places and territories by the engagement of stakeholders, designated policies and legal frameworks at multiple scale levels. TRAFIG proposes solutions that are networked and transnational, departing from place-based and territorial solutions. Mobility plays a key role in the experiences of displaced persons, the policies and laws that govern them and the organization and delivery of humanitarian aid and development assistance. Frequently, the loss of mobility is a key cornerstone to defining, containing and even controlling and securitizing refugees and displaced persons. However, refugees and displaced persons are not limited to one place when it comes to their network and relation, which spread across multiple places and country borders. This is a key paradox investigated by the TRAFIG project from the theoretical and conceptual perspective of transnational figurations [transfigurations] of displacement. One of the cases in which the role and importance of displaced persons' mobility have been raised is that of Syrian refugees in Jordan.

Concerning the future ambiguity of Syrian refugees, local and global stakeholders have already begun to consider the return of the six million refugees, especially as neither the option of local integration in the countries of the first asylum nor that of resettlement to third countries is seen as a realistic possibility. The return of Syrian refugees is problematic, since the conditions of safety, voluntariness and sustainability are not fulfilled at the current time (Içduygu & Nimer, 2020). Several studies and surveys have shown that 85% of Syrian refugees do not intend to return to Syria shortly (MED, 2019).

For most of these refugees, return to Syria or onward migration to the West is not a realistic option (Trapped in Jordan, Syrian refugees see no way home, 2019). Compounded with the severe challenges to building an economically viable and secure livelihood in Jordan, Syrian refugees often find themselves contemplating, imagining and dreaming of better lives elsewhere, with few pathways to realize these ideas.

In this article, we examine the aspirations, desires and intentions of Syrian refugees to leave Jordan, rather than actual migration behaviors. As Caron (2020) discusses, migration intentions are not necessarily good predictors of real behavior (Carling, 2002; Docquier, Peri and Ruysen, 2014;

Carling and Schewel, 2018), in this case because of the legal and political constraints that keep Syrians in Jordan. Such aspirations can sometimes turn into subsequent behavior (Creighton, 2013); however, it is systematically unlikely in this case. We echo Caron's (2020: 822-823) discussion that perhaps it is more important to focus on such dreams and aspirations, because "while actual migrations primarily reflect socio-economic resources, political constraints and the structure of opportunity (Boneva and Frieze, 2001; de Haas and Fokkema, 2011), migration intentions, as they are costless and not binding, reveal different mechanisms." Such a focus on "migration imaginaries" (Bolognani, 2016) merits attention, because "they shed light on identification processes and transnational ways of being and belonging" (Caron, 2020: 823). This article investigates Syrian refugee onward migration ideas as a means to understand their personal transfigurations in both Jordan and the specific country in which they picture themselves.

2.2 Research Background

TRAFIG, Transnational Figurations of Displacement, is an EU-funded Horizon (2020) research and innovation project. From 2019 to 2022, 12 partner organizations investigate long-lasting displacement situations at multiple sites in Asia, Africa and Europe and analyze options to improve displaced people's lives. The project aims to generate new knowledge to help develop solutions for protracted displacement that are tailored to the needs and capacities of persons affected by displacement. TRAFIG looks at how transnational and local networks as well as mobility are used as resources by displaced people to manage their everyday lives. As an evidence-based tool for creating impact, TRAFIG supports policymakers and practitioners to enhance the self-reliance of those in protracted displacement situations (pds) as well as host-refugees' relations through tailored programming and policy development. We closely cooperate with key stakeholders throughout the entire life cycle of the project, building on the state-of-the-art in forced migration and refugee studies, theories and concepts in the fields of anthropology, sociology, political science, human geography and development (Ferreira et al., 2020; Etzold et al., 2019).

TRAFIG project has main five themes: Theme 1: Navigating through governance regimes of aid and asylum. Theme 2: Living in 'limbo' livelihood (in)security and immobility. Theme 3: Following the networks, connectivity and mobility. Theme 4: Building alliances- integration and intergroup relations between refugees and hosts and Theme 5: Seizing opportunities, new economic interactions and development incentives (TRAFIG, 2019 a). The project investigated these themes in the above-mentioned countries, including Jordan, through the mixed-method approach with combining both qualitative and quantitative methods to gain better insights into the transnational figurations of displacement issues.

This paper aims to present one of the main results of (Theme 2: **Living in 'limbo' livelihood (in)security and immobility**). This theme focuses on creating a better understanding of the everyday life of displaced people. It aims to assess displaced people's livelihood strategies; networks of support within and beyond families and access to local labour market (TRAFIG, 2019 b).

The TRAFIG project in Jordan is implemented in the following areas: Irbid, Al-Mafraq and Ajloun governorates, in addition to Al-Ramtha district using the mixed-method approach.

3. Method and Data collection:

3.1 Participants' Characteristics

In total, the researchers conducted 20 semi-interviews; most respondents were females, who were formulating 80% of the interviewees. Most of the respondents fall within the age groups (20-29) and (30-39) years. The vast majority were from Daraa (19), while one participant was from Hims. As for marital status, the majority were married (80%). All married and divorced participants have children; the results showed that 64.7% have one to three children, while 35.3% have four to six children. The educational background is varied, however; 40% of the participants have primary education. Table 1 presents the participants' characteristics in detail.

Table 1: Participants' Characteristics

Characteristics	Frequency	Percent
Gender		
Male	4	20
Female	16	80
Total	20	100
Age group		
16-19	1	05
20-29	8	40
30-39	7	35
40-49	3	15
50-59	0	00
Above 60	1	05
Total	20	100
City of origin		
Daraa	19	95
Hims	1	05
Total	20	100
Marital status		
Married	16	80
Single	2	10
Divorced	2	10
Total	20	100
Educational background		
None	3	15
Primary education	8	40
Secondary education	5	25
College education	2	10
Still studying for college degree	2	10
Total	20	100
Number of children		
1-3	11	64.7
4-6	6	35.3
Total	17	100

The participants were asked about their occupations; the results revealed that most female participants are not working, only one participant works full time and one female participant works occasionally, with relevance to male participants, where 2 out of 4 are working full-time and one works occasionally. All the participants indicated that they are registered as refugees with UNHCR in Jordan.

3.2 Study Instrument

This paper focuses on Syrians living in Jordan by conducting semi-structured interviews with persons who experience protracted displacement in Irbid governorates. The qualitative method was adopted in this study as qualitative methods aim to give more insights into the study questions and the related issues from the perspective of the participants themselves. Several studies that examined migration issues have adopted qualitative methods (Bolch et al., 2011). Qualitative methods aim to study issues in their natural settings, while researchers conduct the interpretations of the 'meanings' developed by the studied people (Denzin and Lincoln, 2008). Qualitative methods also give the researcher the flexibility of conducting the research and making changes and adjustments when needed (Bryman, 2015). However, some limitations may exist when conducting qualitative research which may be related to subjectivity, flexibility and interpretive nature of qualitative research, as this

flexibility could affect reliability (Bryman, 2015). In addition, it may affect the generalization of results (Bryman, 2015).

Qualitative research has several strengths; most of these strengths lie in its strategies and designs, mainly its study of people, things and events in their natural settings (Punch, 2014). Further, it encounters a sense of flexibility in conducting the research and making changes and adjustments when needed to serve the study's purposes (Bryman, 2015).

3.3 Ethical Considerations

The study followed the ethical guidelines and considerations in all stages. The respondents were randomly selected; the researchers contacted the potential participants to explain the main study objectives; they were provided with a "participant information sheet" to gain more information about the project. After the respondent's initial approval, respondents were requested to set a suitable time for them for the interview. At the time of the interview, the researcher explained to them that their participation is totally voluntary and that they have the right to withdraw from the study at any stage without even being questioned. The participants were handed a "written consent form" to sign it and they were handed a copy signed by the researchers. An oral consent form was also planned to be used in case of any illiterate participants.

3.4 Data Collection and Analysis

The main question of this paper is related to the Syrian refugee intentions and how they see their future. This study was conducted between September and December 2019. The data was collected by senior researchers, in addition to a qualified Syrian researcher. Interviews were conducted in Arabic, was transcribed, and then translated into English. The interviews were transcribed then coded according to the issues that emerged.

3.5 The Study Area "Irbid"

Prior to the influx of Syrian refugees, Irbid was the second largest urban area in the country (after the capital city of Amman) and was well-known for both urban crowding and many institutions for higher education (UNHCR, 2016). Irbid is considered as a link between parts of (Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine). The total area of Greater Irbid Municipality is 310 km² (Tarrad, 2014).

The growth of the city of Irbid went through several evolutionary stages starting from the city center towards the outside under the influence of rapid population growth (Tarrad, 2014). The migration waves that Jordan has witnessed influenced the rapid growth of Irbid population since the first migration waves of Palestine in 1948 and then in 1967, including establishing a big refugee camp in Irbid. Later in the 1990s, Jordan has influenced by the Gulf crisis which resulted in receiving Iraqi guests and refugees in addition to the return of thousands of Jordanian and Palestinian who used to work and live in Gulf countries due to the political stand of Jordan at that time. Furthermore, Irbid city is considered an attractive destination for foreign low-skilled labor, particularly Egyptian workers. All these causes have led to a significant increase in the population growth. (Al-Yakoub, 2018; Aldeek, 2017)

According to the Jordanian Department of Statistics, residents in Irbid amount to around 2 million populations, formulating 18.5% of the total population of Jordan (DOS, 2021). Further, it's the highest population-density governorate compared to its area. Residents in Irbid have almost doubled during the last 10 years due to the Syrian influx to Irbid. The residents in Irbid according to the Jordan Statistical Yearbook 2009 amount to (1064400), formulating (17.8%) of the total population (DOS, 2010).

Currently, Irbid governorate is considered as the third highest governorate to host Syrian refugees, 20.6% (UNHCR, 2020 b). Furthermore, registered Syrian refugees with the UNHCR are only 659,673, while it's estimated that Jordan is hosting nearly 1.4 million Syrians. It's estimated that Irbid as the second largest urban area in Jordan is hosting much more than only 20.6% of Syrian refugees in

Jordan, due to the historical relations between Irbid as a border area with Syria. The historical relations resulted in having strong commercial relationships, in addition to family bonds, which resulted in that Syrians have relatives in Irbid, some of whom could be first-degree relatives. Some studies pointed to this issue, stating that some Syrians met with distant Jordanian relatives in Irbid, building on tribal and familial connections that existed throughout the region before the modern border lines were drawn in the 20th century (Simpson and Abo Zayed, 2019). The unique characteristics of Irbid and northern areas in general have facilitated the quick integration of Syrians in Jordan. It is sometimes referred sometimes as a ‘de facto integration’ as Syrians shared language, culture (including food, wedding practices, forms of socializing, market practices, ... etc.) and religion as initial facilitators of local integration into the host society (Tobin et al, 2021).

4. Main Findings

Before presenting the future aspirations and intentions of the participants, a brief about their general status will be summarized as follows: the results indicated that most of the participants and their families came to Jordan in the beginning of the Syrian crisis. Some participants highlighted that the living cost in Jordan is higher than in Syria, which imposes extra burdens on them and some families are living with their extended families. Some participants pointed that apart from the hard financial conditions they are facing, they feel comfortable as the tradition in Jordan are resembled to what they have in Syria. Some of them had inter-marriage relationships before and after the crisis and some of them have family members living in Jordan a long time ago, which facilitated their existence and coping in Jordan. On the other hand, some indicated that they faced some challenges to adapt to the life in Jordan, particularly as they came with no clear plans and finding a good job opportunity with a good salary was not an easy task.

The Participants future aspirations and intentions

A direct question was directed to the respondents: “Where and how do you see your future?” Most of the participants indicated that they do not have intentions to return to Syria soon. Out of 20 participants, only (2) participants indicated their desire to return to Syria when the security conditions improved and (2) indicated that they would like to stay in Jordan, (1) participant has no future yet and (15) participants indicated they would like to migrate to the European Countries and Canada.

The interviewees raised some issues to justify their position for not returning to Syria, which could be classified as follows:

- Males are Exposed to Forced Military Service

Some respondents indicated that when they left Syria, they escaped from the military service and they are afraid of the legal and other implications for this problem. Some females indicated that their sons were young when they came to Jordan and now they are in the age that they should serve in the military and they do not want to expose them to this problem. Some respondents presented their views as follows:

“Going back to Syria is really dangerous. Five years from now, my son will be in the age of Joining the military service in Syria. It is really dangerous” (R-2),

“If I go back, my kids are now at the age of recruitment in the Syrian army. I could not send them back. I had thought of sending them to study at Syrian universities because they are cheaper, but I could not because of the recruitment issue” (R-2).

“I see no future for us here in Jordan and I cannot go back to Syria because I have to recruit in the army immediately. I could either kill or be killed; there is no other choice” (R-12).

- Insecurity Situations

The unfortunate situation that still exists in Syria has negative implications on security and safety. Some respondents presented their views as follows:

“I do not wish to go back to Syria because of security/safety reasons” (R-4).

“As for going back to Syria, I cannot do that. I am worried about my husband and my daughters because the situation there is still not safe” (R-19).

“We have no plans to go back to Syria, because we are frightened” (R-18).

- Lack of Services in Syria

Some respondents indicated that the lack of services and the weak infrastructure are among the challenges to return to Syria. Some respondents presented their views as follows:

“... My brother-in-law went back to Syria. The conditions there are still very hard. They regretted going back. The situation is still insecure; electricity is available only for two hours. Life expenses are skyrocketing ... (R-1).

“I have no plans to go back to Syria because of the war there. Some of the members of my family went back to Syria, but advised us not to return. The current situation in Syria is difficult; living costs are now high; our home is already crashed down to earth. In short, there are no future prospects for us there” (R-8).

- Loss of Property

Some respondents pointed that war has destroyed their properties and that they must start again to establish their life, which is difficult under current conditions. Some respondents presented their views as follows:

“... I do not want to go back to Syria, because our house is totally destroyed. Our home had been smashed to earth there” (R-5).

The results indicated that around (75%) of the participants’ main desire is to migrate to the European countries and Canada. The main reasons for their desire are, as indicated earlier, due to the lack of services and lack of security and to avoid the compulsory military service. In addition to that, there are more reasons raised by the respondents, which could be classified as follows:

- Seeking Better Services (Education and Health, ...)

Some respondents indicated that they are looking for a better future for their kids and that this could be found in EU countries and other developed countries. Some pointed that life in Jordan is expensive for them and they are seeking better conditions for them and for their kids in terms of education, health services and employability opportunities:

“I hope that we could migrate to Europe for the sake of my children” (R-20).

“I wish we could migrate to find security somewhere else. This is also needed for my children to continue their education. I do not want to keep living in a rented apartment because we can’t afford it. I could hardly manage my life here but that is all because I do not want to go back to Syria” (R-1)

“I wish we could migrate for the sake of my children; they have to continue their education” (R-5).

“I hope we could migrate to somewhere else, because there is no hope to go back to Syria” (R-8).

“As for the future, we have no future, but we could think of the future in Western countries, because they provide shelter and salaries. Life there is surely better. But in the Arab countries, they do not give such support. I wish I could migrate for the future of my kids. As for Syria, there is no stability. I wish it would be secure enough as soon as possible” (R-9).

“I crossed the borders to Jordan in 2012 through illegal channels. I was single. Then, I got married. Now I have two children (a son and a daughter). I wish I could travel abroad for my children’s future. I cannot go back to Syria, because I am required to recruit immediately in the mandatory military service” (R-13).

“We see no future for us here in Jordan. I wish I could pay instead of being recruited for the military service, so that I could go back and live in Syria for good. ... Currently, I wish I could migrate, because life conditions will be surely better there in terms of health services and work conditions. When we have a child, we have to manage to provide the basic needs, such as diapers and milk, so I prefer travelling abroad” (R-11).

- Some of the Respondents’ Family Members Already Migrated to EU Countries

Some respondents pointed that some of their family members migrated to one of the EU countries and Canada and that they feel very comfortable there compared with their previous situations including ones who have been in Jordan.

“We used to be settled in Syria. I wish I could make it to Canada, because my little son wants to join his father there. God willing, he will make it very soon. His father has already applied for him. The paperwork is almost done. I am eager to go there, so that I could be close to my son. As for the return to Syria, I see no hope and I have no desire to go back because there is no stability there. It is still an insecure place to go to” (R-10).

“When we first came here, we thought it was just a matter of one or two months. Then, we got used to living here, so I got married here. Yet, I only see our future in Canada. My father-in-law is doing the paperwork for us to join them there. Surely, there is no hope of going back to Syria, because there is no security there. Besides, if we went back home, my husband had to recruit immediately. So, migration is our only alternative” (R-14).

- Seeking Better Employability Opportunities

Few respondents who have a university degree or are still studying for their degree in Jordan wish to migrate to one of the EU countries to have better employability opportunities, particularly as one indicated that he is studying “pharmaceutical education” and this specialty is restricted for non-Jordanians:

“I wish I could finally get the PhD degree in my area of specialization”. “I only hope that I could finish the MA degree here in Jordan, but do the PhD degree abroad” (R-4).

“We wish we could go abroad, because we would have a home and a job. I could find a job that is suitable for me, not like any kind of job here in Jordan (because here you just work to earn your living)” (R-16).

5. Conclusion

The results indicated that most of the respondents have the desire to immigrate to one of the EU countries or to Canada for various reasons; mainly to seek better future opportunities for their children and for themselves, which includes better education and health services and better job opportunities, in addition to the pessimistic perception of having secure conditions in Syria in the near future.

These results should attract the attention of local and global stakeholders to have more realistic solutions to the Syrian refugees’ status in host countries. It’s expected that EU countries will not be able to accept all the applicants who desire to live in Europe; thus, one of the solutions could be enhance and support the hosting countries, mainly (Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon) to provide better to services for refugees and their own citizens. More importantly is to work collaboratively to achieve peace in Syria and end the war and to work on reconstructing Syria.

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استقصاء أوضاع اللاجئين السوريين في الأردن: الطموحات والنوايا المستقبلية

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الملخص

بعد ما يقارب من عقد من النزوح طويل الأمد للاجئين السوريين: فإن هذا البحث يهدف الى استقصاء أوضاع السوريين المتواجدين في الأردن وسبل العيش وحرية الحركة لديهم. أجريت هذه الدراسة في مدينة اربد والتي تعد ثالث أكبر مدينة من حيث استقبال اللاجئين السوريين وفقا للمفوضية الأمم المتحدة لشؤون اللاجئين. تستند هذه الدراسة على المنهج النوعي من خلال اجراء 20 مقابلة شبيهة مهيكلة مع 20 شخصا يعاني من النزوح طويل الامل. من أهم نتائج الدراسة ان معظم السوريين يواجهون صعوبات بسبب تراجع المساعدات المقدمة لهم، وبسبب ازدياد تكاليف المعيشة في الأردن بشكل عام. بينت النتائج المتعلقة بالتعليم، أن معظم الأطفال لديهم القدرة على الالتحاق بالمدارس الحكومية والمدارس المخصصة للسوريين، ولكن بعضهم كان يفضل المدارس الخاصة. كما أن المشاركين لديهم القدرة على الوصول للخدمات الصحية والعلاجية بشكل عام، ولكن بالمقابل بين بعضهم انه يضطر لدفع تكاليف العلاج من قبلهم بسبب نقص الدعم الطبي المقدم لهم، وبسبب وجود ضغط على الخدمات الصحية اجمالاً. من أهم النتائج الرئيسية لهذه الدراسة والمتعلقة بتوجيه تساؤل للمشاركين حول خططهم المستقبلية بعد نزوحهم للأردن من فترة طويلة، فقد بين الغالبية العظمى منهم أنهم لا ينون العودة الى سوريا، وهم متشائمون من إمكانية تحسن الامن والظروف المعيشية في سوريا، كما بين بعض المشاركين انهم يرغبون بالبقاء بالأردن كخيار رئيسي لهم، بينما بين اخرون رغبتهم بالسفر والهجرة لأحد الدول الأوروبية أو كندا، وذلك بهدف الحصول على الخدمات التعليمية والطبية، وتحسين ظروف الحياة بشكل عام.

الكلمات المفتاحية: النزوح طويل الأمد، اللاجئين السوريين، الأردن، سوريا، نية الهجرة،

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