

Zaatari camp, the second largest refugee camp in the world Indicators and figures

Prepared by Syrian Network for Human Rights

Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan, located 12 km south of Syrian-Jordan borders, extends over a distance of 8km, on dry desert land.

Among almost 670.000 Syrian refugees in Jordan, at least 170.000 of them live in Al-Zaatari camp, including more than 75.000 women and at least 45.000 children, they live in temporary tents and caravans (mobile Homs)

The vast majority of the camp's residents are from Daraa governorate, then Damascus countryside and Homs.

SNHR estimates number of wounded and handicapped inside the camp with almost 1200 people.

Camp suffers from several difficulties, most notable:

First: the desert nature and high temperatures caused spread of rodents' heavily which lead to deploy diseases inside the camp.

Second: The toilets and bathrooms are few in number and too far.

Third: careless of water cleanliness and this led to a wide spread of hepatitis among children, women and men.

Fourth: the camp suffers from a lack of medical care due to lack of doctors and lack of availability of all types of medicines in hospitals inside the camp.

Fifth: poor management, regulation and supervision which leads to the spread of thefts, violations and crimes (theft of electricity, water and so on).

Sixth: schools are very few and not prepared to receive students (they are un-equipped tent) and the teaching staff are few, and thus thousands of children abandoned school and education, it led to whole generation who does not know how to read and write.

Seventh: the lack of security control inside the camp, there are no police inside the camp or foot patrols and the inspection is very simple, it led to several incidents of killings, harassment and beatings.

Eighth: there are no authority take care of personal statues such as marriage, divorce, and child registration, it led to spread family problems inside the camp.

Ninth: There are no health control on food shops inside the camp, it led to may several poisoning cases.

Tenth: Most of the camp is not lit with electricity not even the main street, it led to spread of thefts and violations.

In addition to all of the above mentioned, Syrian Network for Human Rights noticed that there is a discrepancy between the international standards for the establishment of camps and between what currently exists in camp Za'tari:

- 1- Every person should have 15 L of water per day, in Za'tari camp persons only have 10.5 L
- 2- Every 20 person should have one toilet, in Za'tari camp every 90 persons have one toilet.
- 3- Every 75 person should have one bathroom, in Za'tari camp every 100 persons have one bathroom.
- 4- Distance to water point should be 15 m, in Za'tari camp it is 100 m which is a stark evidence of the lack of water points.
- 5- Far distance to toilet and another should be 100 m, in Za'tari camp it is 150, that's mean twice the recognized distance.

Recommendations:

UN high commissioner for Refugees As Soon As Possible to redress these affairs that worsening day after day, supported countries should fulfil their obligations and even increase them, other countries should make real contribution to relief refugees from the disastrous situation in which they live.

