



General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 February 2017

English only

Human Rights Council

Thirty-fourth session

Agenda item 2

**Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the
High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

Written statement* submitted by the Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[30 January 2017]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

GE.17-02773(E)



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Report on the situation of the syrian refugees and displaced in Iraqi Kurditan

After nearly five years of war, the ominous shadow of war continues over the Middle East countries especially Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq, the two countries in despite of their rich historical and cultural roots, are now burning in the fire of war and bloodshed.

In the meantime, unfortunately we see many children from these countries have been lost or displaced by these ruinous wars. Unfortunately, the lack of active NGOs and human rights bodies in these countries in civil war have caused that there were not exact number of the miserable situation of injuries and refugees condition. In such a situation it must be said, the children and women in noted countries as vulnerable groups are exposed to serious human crisis and disaster.

Based on the observations of Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society NGO and According to the several identification carried out by its members in Iraqi Kurdistan region since December 2015, currently many IDP's specially the Syrian refugees wandered in the street on informal settlements and marginalized areas are in catastrophic and serious condition and without the primitive facilities of living. According to these people and the observations, the number of wandered families is numerous. In a case study performed by the field researchers of IAPSRS NGO on June 2016, in some sections of Erbil city mainly at "Darato" and "Beneslava" districts, 150 Syrian families were recognized and registered during a 5-days mission of identification by walking survey, focus group discussion and observation methods.

According to information obtained in this survey, these identified Syrian families were in poor and serious condition in supplying their primitive needs. Most of them were living in inappropriate tents without any facilities and basic equipment. They all had no standard, safe and secure shelter. These families were involving with shortage of food-stuff while their infants suffering severe malnutrition. Their hygiene status was disastrous, struggling with diseases and hygiene issues due to lack of fresh water and adjacency to sewage and waste disposal.

Many of the residents were ignored in plight of unemployment and deep poverty. Also some were even compelled to send their children peddling on the streets.

Most of these families live in displacement and far from their home for 5 years.

About 20% Syrian IDPs and refugees have run away from war torn cities and fled to safe regions only by walk. More than half of these families walked most section of the route and went through rest of the way by car.

About 50% of individuals among identified Syrian displaced people were under 18.

Our field research illustrates that the most head of Syrian families had formal jobs before the misery of war forced them to leave their homes in Syria, but after the displacement, they are not able to find a relevant job because of lack of occupation and economic recession in Iraqi Kurdistan region. The 53% of Head of families had informal and low-status jobs such as metal and plastic waste gathering or Street Peddling. The 19% of them were unemployed.

The research studies have revealed that 75% of parents were illiterate and 20% only have some primary school background. Unfortunately about 75% of children Syrian refugees were deprived of education during displacement. Additionally due to harsh poverty situation, the education of the children among Syrian refugees has been considered as the lowest priorities of their necessities.

In Addition, The cultural poverty is the main cause of education deprivation of children in these families whose economic poverty aggravates this situation.

Also our survey reveals that the majority of families are struggling with some physical or mental diseases. These families affected by the civil war are suffering acute depression, distress and stress in their life as result of wandering, displacement and losing their loved ones. Also due to the current situation, the families were experiencing a sense of frustration and deep despair.

Most of these families suffering the illness are not able to afford their treatment and medications and also due to the lack of charity hospital and medical centre, they do not get medical services at all.
