

Impact of Syrian Asylum on Jordanian Society Education and Health (2011-2017)

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Abstract

The Arab Spring has been shaped by successive episodes of the revolutions of freedom, the largest geopolitical movement that has rocked the Arab world and the Middle East since the 1960s, which witnessed the eruption of the so-called national revolution that sanctified the Arab exodus from the yoke of old colonialism and their aspiration to independence, freedom, dignity and national sovereignty, like other nations. This study aimed at determines the role played by the Jordanian society during the Syrian crisis in all fields, and to identify the impact of the Syrian crisis on Jordanian society (education, and health). In order to achieve the objective of the study, a questionnaire was designed as a main tool for collecting data. It included (54) items divided into four variables (education and health). The sample comprised of (177) individual's that selected randomly from all employees of the Jordanian Refugee Affairs Directorate of the Ministry of Interior. After the distribution of the questionnaire and data collection, the SPSS software was used to answer the study questions through the use of descriptive analysis. The study found that there is great impact of Syrian asylum on Jordanian society in all aspects, the threats facing Jordan, due to Syrian asylum, are not only linked to direct security and military threats Syrian refugees have exhausted economic infrastructure and resources in Jordan, and Jordan faces significant challenges to its economic resources under Syrian asylum. In the light of the results the study recommended that the Syrian crisis, its continuation and its impact on Jordan require a new course through the holistic approach to transform the Syrian refugee crisis into a development opportunity that positively reflected on host communities and refugees.

Keywords: Society, refugees, care, health Revolution.

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INTRODUCTION

In the past years, the Arab region has witnessed many popular movements, which are the first of its kind in contemporary Arab history, where the Arab masses in several Arab countries participated in a real revolution against the Arab regimes in those countries, these revolutions have greatly influenced all areas of life, whether on these countries or on their neighboring [1].

At the level of Jordanian society, after the revolution in Syria, it became clear that the Jordanian society was involved in a debate over this revolution and its results. At the beginning of the crisis, it was clear that most of the votes from the Jordanian street were biased with the popular opposition against the ruling regime, especially the voices of Islamic parties and the voices of many activists who are not affiliated with political parties or movements, but with the presence of some people and leftist parties and

communism, which stood in the camp of the Syrian regime against the popular opposition [2]

Also, the impact of the refugee crisis exceeded residence, education, and health; there was a need for security control on the border by the Jordanian armed forces deployed along the 378 km since 2011 and dealing with terrorists and drug smugglers. Also, to the security and social problems within the Jordanian society, where the crime rate has increased over the past years to more than 12 percent in addition to the spread of begging and prostitution [3].

Therefore, this study came to try to identify the effects of the Syrian crisis on the Jordanian society as a whole, as these effects are varied and different in all areas education, and health.

Problem Statement

The situation in Syria is the most difficult between the revolutions of the Arab Spring on children, especially with the continuation of the Syrian crisis after five years from the beginning, where UNICEF noted that the number of children living in dangerous situations inside and outside Syria has reached (7.5 million). It also warned of the worsening conditions of violence and homelessness, deterioration of the health situation, a drop in education and serious psychological and social effects on millions of children [4].

Syrian families began to come to the territory of the Kingdom of Jordan through the border of Jaber and in legitimate ways, because of the tribal extension and social, economic and historical relations between the population of the Syrian province of Homs and the population of the Mafraq Governorate, as is the case between the Jordanian population of Irbid and the Dar'a Governorate in Syria. In the first six months of the Syrian uprising Jordanian families hosted their relatives from Syrian families displaced by the events, while the civil efforts of some local charities accelerated to provide assistance to the Syrian family residing in Jordanian cities with its modest efforts, or through cooperation with international relief agencies, which distributes aid to Syrian families hosted in the Jordanian governorates.

A series of strange phenomena had emerged on Jordanian society that did not exist before the beginning of the Syrian crisis, for example, the presence of Syrian refugees in Jordan led to the phenomenon of the marriage of minors, the phenomenon of overcrowding in schools. In addition to increasing pressure on hospitals and health centers, overcrowding, and the high rate of crime, disease, and drugs.

All this motivated the researcher to study and analyze the impact of the Syrian crisis on the Jordanian society All this motivated the researcher to study and analyze the impact of the Syrian crisis on the Jordanian society on the health and education,

LITERATURE REVIEW

After more than seven years on the outbreak of the situation in Syria and turning it into a real civil war of different international colors. Also, after the terrorist groups, both Syrian and non-Syrian, succeeded in hijacking the peaceful popular movement and emptying the legitimate political and social demands of the Syrian people. After all these developments, the Syrian crisis came out of its internal scope and turned into a real international crisis after the intervention of regional and international parties directly in this crisis under different reasons, some to support the regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and others under the pretext of supporting the legitimate demands of the Syrian

people for freedom and social justice, and other demands that have become in recent years reason for various regional and international powers to cover up their interference in the affairs of other countries [5].

The events of the Syrian crisis began in mid-March 2011 when demonstrations broke out in several Syrian cities demanding the freedoms, a release of the political prisoners from prisons and lifting the state of emergency and with time gradually increased the demands of the ceiling until it came to overthrow the regime of Bashar al-Assad in full. By July 2011 protest demonstrations had developed into open sit-ins in major areas of some cities. However, according to the opposition, these peaceful demonstrations were subjected to repression and violence by the regular forces. Government sources said that the intervention of the security forces was only to confront gangs Armed and terrorist organizations in Syrian cities, at a time when the events caused the migration of thousands of residents to resort to neighbouring countries, most notably Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan [6].

Effects of Syrian Crisis on Jordan Society

In light of the disintegration and fragmentation experienced by the Arab countries after the beginning of the "Arab Spring" since 2011, so far, Jordan has managed to maintain the unity of its people, and overcome cracks within its components as happened in other countries. In addition, Jordan has adopted a more neutral official policy toward Syria. For this reason, since the beginning of the conflict in Syria, the Jordanian position has been ambiguous and hesitant to make a decisive decision. For the first two years of the Syrian crisis, Jordan has only been able to send letters of advice and receive refugees on its northern border, and politically, Jordan warned, along with other neighbours, such as Iraq and Israel, that the regime in Syria would not emerge easily [7].

However, it is clear that the most important thing that affects the Kingdom of Jordan in relation to the Syrian crisis is not the issue of political positions, but the issue of asylum. Whatever Jordan's is affected by political and security circumstances and the crises that plague the region, the issue of asylum remains the biggest issue affecting the lives of citizens directly, and therefore it is always floating on the surface of any dialogue concerning the Syrian crisis, even the issue of asylum has become the issue representing the Syrian crisis as a whole on a wide according to the Jordanian public opinion, because of its effect on the daily reality whether political or economic [8]

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society, where the crime rate has increased over the past years to more than 12 percent in addition to the spread of begging and prostitution [9].

METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

This research avoids using a survey approach to collect information from employees of the Jordanian Refugee Affairs Directorate of the Ministry of Interior. According to Popper [10] the questionnaire considered as a suitable instrument for this study, because it is the best way to get new information and facts not provided by other sources, it is characterized by the ease and speed of distribution by mail on a wide geographical area, save time and costs, and it gives the respondent the freedom to make any information he wants.

Designing Questionnaire Schedule

The questionnaire used in this research has been adapted from various studies conducted in many countries including [1, 11-14]. The researcher in the current study relied on the questionnaire as a main tool for collecting data. The questionnaire includes a set of different questions that are related to each other in a manner that achieves the objective that the researcher seeks through the problem posed by his research. The number of questions in the questionnaire should be sufficient and appropriate to achieve the research objective.

Study Respondents

The respondents of the current study are employees of the Jordanian Refugee Affairs Directorate of the Ministry of Interior, totalled about (300) employees, where the reasons for choose this respondents stem out from their knowledge and culture about the topic of this study. Also, the researcher considered the significant information that can be collect from this population.

Sample Size

Sekaran and Bougie [15] defined sampling to be the method by which a sample is selected from a

population in order to make the generalization of the sample of the whole population. The target population of this study are employees of the Jordanian Refugee Affairs Directorate of the Ministry of Interior, totalled about (300) employees. According to Cavana *et al.*, [16], the required sample size for this study will be about 169 founded on the rules provided by Krejcie and Morgan [17] for sample size decisions. According to Leveugle [18] with 95% assurance level and +/-5% margin of error, 177 sets of the questionnaire are going to be distributed to the respondents in case of the occurrence of unused data.

DATA ANALYSIS

For the analysis of the study data will be analyzed by SPSS program (23), through:

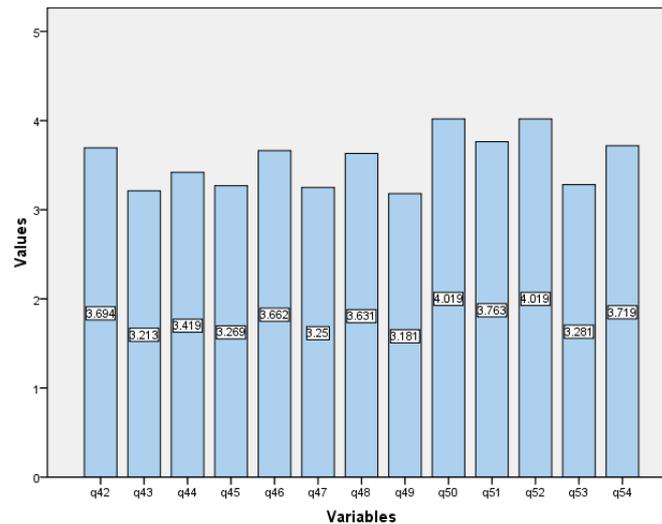
The descriptive statistics (arithmetic mean, standard deviation, frequency, and percentage): Descriptive statistics is a set of methods for describing the main characteristics of a quantitative data set using tables and diagrams. The descriptive statistics with the explanatory statistics are the statistics sections. Unlike descriptive statistics, descriptive statistics are not used in order to generalize the results to the population.

Descriptive Analysis for Health

Table-1 shows the mean and standard deviation for each health items; where the mean for the whole section (health) was (3.54), and the standard deviation was (.24), also the (Pressure on the health care system in Jordan has limited the services available to Syrian refugees) and (Jordan has also seen the emergence of infectious diseases, such as tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, and measles, as a result of Syrian asylum) items got the highest rate of approval among the other items with mean (4.01), while the last item was (The provision of vaccines to Syrian refugees has cost the Jordanian government considerable money) with mean (3.18). The following table and figure explain the mean bar graph of economic.

Table-1: Descriptive Analysis for Health Section

Items	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Pressure from refugee flows threatens health care delivery in Jordan.	160	3.69	.46
Health centres in Jordan face a disproportionate number of patients.	160	3.21	.50
Health centers face shortages of medicines and vaccines as a result of Syrian asylum.	160	3.41	.56
The Syrian crisis has thwarted the government's efforts to stay on track and achieve health sector development goals.	160	3.26	.51
The Jordanian health care system is under pressure in terms of financial resources and the ability to provide services.	160	3.66	.71
Jordanians are increasingly turning to private centers and hospitals for treatment as a result of Syrian refugees.	160	3.25	.51
For some citizens, the influx of Syrian refugees has made health care more difficult and expensive.	160	3.63	.57
The provision of vaccines to Syrian refugees has cost the Jordanian government considerable money.	160	3.18	.38
Jordan has also seen the emergence of infectious diseases, such as tuberculosis, poliomyelitis and measles, as a result of Syrian asylum.	160	4.01	.58
Community tensions are rising in response to pressure on the health care system.	160	3.76	.76
Pressure on the health care system in Jordan has limited the services available to Syrian refugees.	160	4.01	.42
The Jordanian health sector is overstretched and its budget is exhausted as a result of Syrian asylum.	160	3.28	.45
Syrian asylum has exhausted social services in Jordan such as health services and hospitals.	160	3.71	.51
Health	160	3.54	.24



The researcher pointed out that the Syrian asylum poses a significant danger to the indicators of public health in the Kingdom, where the spread of diseases that are highly prevalent among refugees, diseases contributed to the cohesion of the medical sector and successive strategies and the work of successive governments to eliminate many of them, which threatens the indicators of public health in the Kingdom, which witnessed the achievements of the largest organizations and the highest global represented by the World Health Organization.

The Syrian asylum has led to an increase in the demand for health services at unprecedented rates and access to the absorptive capacity of the governmental health sector, especially in the Northern Province. About the official health figures and indicators issued by the Higher Health Council, the increase in the number of workers in the health centers from 9 to 50%, and the percentage of family work in the hospital Mafraq and Ramtha government to 100%.

Also, health facilities are facing severe pressure, affecting communities and refugees, which necessitate the provision of equipment and equipment suited to the size of the increase in health sector services due to Syrian asylum, accompanying diseases among refugees and pressure on health institutions. The Syrian asylum has put great pressure on the sector in terms of the consumption of medicines and receives health services in government hospitals and health centers.

Also, the Syrian crisis has exacerbated the weakness in the health care sector in Jordan, where the government allowed the refugees to obtain health services unconditionally, resulting in increased pressure on all types of public health services and overcrowding of health centers with Syrian expatriates who compete (with citizens) for treatment and medicine. Also, health care centers suffer from a shortage of staff and facilities in many communities, especially remote ones, while

some facilities are empty in the afternoons, doctors move between several centers to serve several communities and provide services for limited hours only.

The Jordanian healthcare system is under pressure in terms of financial resources and the ability to provide services. According to the Ministry of Health, Syrian outpatient visits to primary health care centers increased from 68 in January 2012 to 15,975 in March 2013. The number of Syrian refugees who admitted to government hospitals also increased from 300 to 10,330 during that period. As a result of these burdens, Jordanians have increasingly directed to private centers and hospitals for treatment. Thus, for some citizens, the flow of Syrian refugees to health care has become more difficult and expensive.

CONCLUSION

The problem of Syrian asylum no longer confined to its humanitarian or political dimension. The Jordanian sectors, especially the service, are now under great burdens. The international community's promises to support the host countries of the Syrian and Jordanian refugees are still far below the required level, bearing the output of the Syrian crisis which affected many areas of public life, infrastructure, educational institutions, medical institutions, water, electricity, and others.

The Syrian asylum has resulted in great pressures on all aspects of life, especially the sectors of water, sanitation, health, education, municipal services, trade, industry, labor and housing sectors, in addition to the burden on the treasury and the emergence of social problems that were not known to the Jordanian society in the past. These pressures have also been exacerbated by insufficient support from the international community, which has limited the ability of the Jordanian government and host communities to absorb

this wave of refugees that began more than eight years ago and continues.

As a result, the Syrian asylum has thrown a huge cloud on all sectors, including the education sector, the magnitude of the challenges was greater than international assistance and commitments, in light of the late arrival of some commitments committed by donor countries.

The Syrian asylum has had a negative impact on Jordanian society as it has led to the spread of crime, high rates and the spread of new types such as drug crimes and political crimes due to the different political affiliations among non-Jordanians.

The Syrian asylum has resulted in great pressures on all aspects of life, especially the sectors of water, sanitation, health, education, municipal services, trade, industry, labor and housing, in addition to the burden on the treasury and the emergence of social problems that were not known to the Jordanian society in the past. In the absence of sufficient support from the international community, this limited the ability of the Jordanian government and host communities to absorb this wave of refugees that began more than eight years ago and continues.

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