



**UNHCR Sub-Office JALALABAD
DISTRICT PROFILE**

DATE: 31/12/2002

PROVINCE	Name: Laghman	Geo-Code: 9			
DISTRICT	Name: Alishing	Geo-Code 907			
Population in 1990:	Settled 52358 refugees in Pakistan 5577				
CURRENT ESTIMATED POPULATION (ACCORDING TO LA INFORMATION)					
Total (Ind.)	Returned IDPs (Fam.)	Recent Returnees (Fam.)	IDPs (Fam.)	Children Under 12	Female Households
69595	18	400	47	33000	1300
ETHNIC COMPOSITION: Pashtun 25% Hazara 0% Tajik 15% Uzbek 0% Other: 60%					
CURRENT ESTIMATED RETURNEE POPULATION (ACCORDING TO UNHCR RECORDS)					
	Returned IDPs (Fam.)	Update on		Recent Returnees (Fam.)	Update on
	24	12/31/2002		751	12/31/2003
EXPECTED RETURNING POPULATION 2002					
	IDPS (Fam.)	0	RETURNEES (Fam.)	0	
AUTHORITY					
Head of District:	Mohd Arif Babakar Khil				
Other Information:	Significant influence in the district is exercised by Nezamudin, Head of Security. In addition, some areas of the district are outside the control of the provincial and district authorities. For example, it was reported that Saigul is effectively under the control of Commander Sadiq Haqani, and Commander Juma Khan controls the Shanakat are.				
GENERAL SITUATION					
Alishing District is located 21 km from Mehterlam, the provincial centre, and borders Kabul Province. It has 12 zones, each with around 12 to 14 villages located in the valleys and mountains. The Alishing river crosses the district and is the main source of irrigation. It is a mountainous district, and many villages are extremely isolated. The economy of the district is poor. Security in the district is reportedly good during the day, but there are some reports of robberies at night.					
SECTORAL INFORMATION					
SHELTER:	Percentage and Number of Houses Destroyed:	80 %			
	Housing Situation of Returning Population :	The houses of almost returnees are destroyed, and they are currently living with host families.			
	Comments: Many houses were completely or partially destroyed during the Russian war, or by earthquake or flooding. Previous returnees have succeeded in rebuilding their houses.				
WATER:	Type of Potable Water Sources (and distance):	River, spring, streams and shallow wells. The distance is from 100m to 5km.			
	Availability of Potable water (%):	60%			
	Sanitation and Drainage:	Local system			
	Comments: According to DACAAR (Coverage report, March 2003), there is a need for a further 81 shallow wells and 5 tube wells in the district. DACAAR has already provided a total of 101 water points. The district elders reported that the majority of these are located in the plains, and that in some valleys and mountain areas the residents have to bring water long distances by donkey. Women and girls also carry long distances. It was reported that some of the wells are internally destroyed, and that some become dry during the dry season.				
AGRICULTURE:	Main crops:	Wheat, rice, corn, beans and vegetables.			

SECTORAL INFORMATION						
	Current Land Condition:		400 Jerebs of land is arable.			
	Existing Irrigation schemes:		River, intakes, streams and rain.			
	Agri/tool Banks:		70% shovel and 30% oxen.			
	Animal Husbandry		Cows, goats, sheep, donkeys and hens.			
	<p>Comments: There is not much agricultural land because Alishing is a mountainous district. Some rainfed land is cultivated in the hills, however during the dry season these fields are left fallow. Arable land in the plains is irrigated by river and by intakes (which are frequently damaged by flood). Elders stated that there was a need for reconstruction of intakes and protective walls, and also for a free / low-cost veterinary clinic, as there is a high level of animal husbandry. They requested water pumps for irrigation in three locations (Meal, Gona Pal, Saigal) as irrigation there is seasonal, and also expressed a need for fertilizer, proved seeds and tractors for agriculture.</p>					
INCOME GENERATION:	Main Sources of Income:	Farming, animal husbandry, daily wage labour and remittances from abroad.	% of No income in the district	60 %		
	<p>Comments: As Alishing is a mountainous district, there is little arable land. It was reported that many young men join armed groups as their only source of income. Elders stated that there was an urgent need for income generation projects.</p>					
HEALTH:	Health Centre:	Types	Currently functioning	Before 1998		
		No. of Clinic:	2	2		
		No. of Mobile Clinic:	0	0		
		No. of Hospital:	0	0		
		Nurses and Mid-wives	8	7		
<p>Comments: There are 2 female and 2 male doctors, 3 male and 2 female nurses, 1 male pharmacist, 1 lab technician, 4 vaccinators, 20 traditional birth attendants, 2 female and one male health educator. one delivery room and 4 emergency beds in the district. There are 2 EPI centres and 1 MCH facility (Data: Health Resources by District, WHO, May 2001). More than 3500 people use the central clinic (funded by IIRO), often travelling long distances. The other clinic (supported by the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan) is in Islamabad village, however access is limited because the bridge across the river is destroyed. Main diseases reported are malaria, diarrhea, dysentery and T.B. There is a need for an expansion of health facilities and also ambulances are required.</p>						
EDUCATION:	Education Centre:	Types	Currently functioning	Before 1998		
		No. of High School:	1	1		
		No. of Primary School:	17	12		
		No. of Home Based Sch:	15	0		
	Teacher:	Female:	39	Pupils:	Girls:	2287
		Male:	190		Boys:	6681
Literacy Rate %:		8				

SECTORAL INFORMATION					
	<p>Comments: Data on number of schools, teachers and students provided by UNICEF (January 2003). Community representatives stated that the number of schools (particularly girls' schools) was grossly insufficient. It was reported that there are female teachers in Kaseger Village, but there is no girl's school for them to teach in. All school buildings are either partially or fully destroyed, and classes are generally held outdoors. Teachers reported that they had not received their salaries for 8 months.</p>				
MINE/UXOs:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Existence of mines & UXOs:</td> <td>None reported</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Identified priority villages to clear:</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Existence of mines & UXOs:	None reported	Identified priority villages to clear:	
	Existence of mines & UXOs:	None reported			
	Identified priority villages to clear:				
<p>Comments: It was reported that mines laid during the Russian war have now been cleared, but there are still some UXOs (locations not recorded).</p>					
PROTECTION					
Population Movement:	Alishing is a district of relatively low return - just 751 families in 2002.				
Minority Issue:	The ethnic breakdown of the district is 60% Pashai, 25% Pashtun, 15% Tajik. Relations between the three groups are reportedly good.				
Land Ownership:	Land is reportedly registered in the land reform department. There were some reports of family land disputes among the Pashai tribes.				
House Occupation:	There were some reports of house occupations in the valleys, however, community elders stated that these would be resolved through a jirga.				
Others:	It was reported that there are some disputes amongst the Pashai tribes, mainly related to kidnappings of women and land disputes.				
NGOs Working in the District					
<p>DACAAR has provided wells , SCA has worked in health and education. NCA has worked in schools and health, MADERA has had agricultural and veterinary projects. GAA has provided protective walls.</p>					
Other Comments (including accessibility)					
<p>There are no accommodation facilities at all in the district. Travel at night is not advised for security reasons.</p>					