



**UNHCR Sub-Office JALALABAD
DISTRICT PROFILE**

DATE: 11/11/02

PROVINCE		Name: Nuristan	Geo-Code: 30
DISTRICT		Name: KAMDESH	Geo-Code 3002
Population in 1990:		Settled 11376 refugees in Pakistan 7724	
CURRENT ESTIMATED POPULATION (ACCORDING TO LA INFORMATION)			
Total (Ind.)	Returned IDPs (Fam.)	Recent Returnees (Fam.)	IDPs (Fam.)
17110	0	0	0
		Children Under 12	Female Households
		40%	More than 200
ETHNIC COMPOSITION: Pashtuns 0%, Hazara 0%, Tajik 0%, Uzbek 0%, Nuristani (Kamozi) 100%			
CURRENT ESTIMATED RETURNEE POPULATION (ACCORDING TO UNHCR RECORDS)			
	Returned IDPs (Fam.)	Update on	Recent Returnees (Fam.)
EXPECTED RETURNING PUPULATION 2002			
IDPS (Fam.)	In case of Kamdesh - Kushtuz conflict resolution some 600 Kushtuz IDP/refugee families, may opt for returning back to Kushtuz village.		RETURNEEES (Fam.)
			20 families from Chitral (Pakistan)
AUTHORITY			
Head of District:	Gul Mohamad		
Other Information:	Gul Mohammad (Nuristani tribe, sub tribe of Kamozi or Kam) is originally from Kamdesh. One of the biggest authorities in the District is Mullah Sadiq, who is the Head of Kamdesh shura. Also Mohammad Omar, who is one of the elders.		
GENERAL SITUATION			
<p>Kamdesh district is located alongside the Kunar River in a very beautiful valley and it borders with Narai district of Kunar (South) and - Bargimatal district of Nuristan (North). To the East, Kamdesh borders with Chitral agency of NWFP of Pakistan and Central Nuristan - to the West.</p> <p>Administration is located in the building (occupied school) on the main road, right at the bottom of the hill, on top of which Kamdesh village itself is situated.</p> <p>The only reported conflict is between two sub-tribes of Nuristani tribe: Kamozi and Kantozi (or Kate). Both live in Kamdesh district. Kantozi tribe is the minority (residing in three villages: Kushtuz, Mandagal and Oja Rostom). Around 600 families of Kantozi tribe were displaced from Kushtuz village after Kamdesh armed attack to the village in 1997.</p>			
SECTORAL INFORMATION			
SHELTER:	Percentage and Number of Houses Destroyed:	Not observed during mission. Reported destroyed houses in Kushtuz village (around 600 houses).	
	Housing Situation of Returning Population :	No returnees reported.	
	Comments: The housing structure and architecture is very different from other Eastern Region provinces i.e. houses are mostly made of timber and stones layers. Timber in general is extensively used by population for shelter as Kamdesh is rich with forest recourses. Many have traditional bukhara stoves for cooking and winter season (wood burning).		
WATER:	Type of Potable Water Sources (and distance):	Streams, river and springs.	
	Sanitation and Drainage:	Self made traditional drainage system. Rarely seen latrines.	
	Comments: Few villages in Kamdesh have access and consume spring water, others who live near the river, consume river and stream water.		

AGRICULTURE :	Main crops:		Corn 90 %, wheat 10 %.	
	Current Land Condition:		Reportedly Kamdesh district has totally 20000 jeribs of land.	
	Existing Irrigation schemes:		Traditional, self-made stream canal systems.	
	Agri/tool Banks:		Local made tools, ploughing is done with cows.	
	Animal Husbandry		Goats, cows and donkeys.	
	Comments: In Kamdesh, like in Eastern Nuristan in general, there is a very limited arable land, however, even for those plots there is shortage of irrigation water i.e. irrigation system. Crops produced in the district are not enough for the entire population, therefore, around 50% of the needed materials are brought in from the Neighbouring District markets (Narai). As reported, out of the total arable land around 9000 jeribs are rain-fed and 11000 jeribs - irrigated by stream canals, build themselves.			
INCOME GENERATION:	Main Sources of Income:	Farming, crops, animal husbandry, forestry, carpentry, shepherding, random daily work (construction)	% of No income in the district	Unknown
	Comments: Many landless families, rent land from land owners and share crops with them. Mostly man are occupied with animal husbandry, daily work and trading. The rest (farming, including all land processing works, household maintenance, children care) women's responsibilities.			
HEALTH:	Health Centre:	Types	Currently functioning	Before 1998
		No. of Clinic:	1	1
		No. of Mobile Clinic:	0	0
		No. of Hospital:	0	0
		Nurses and Mid-wives	0	0

	<p>Comments: Extracts from UNHCR CSO notes/report: "...The clinic (AMI) serves 12 villages (the furthest village being Pablock, some 4/5hrs walk away) and provides 1 doctor, 1 doctor's assistant, 1 lab technician and 2 health workers. It has TB testing facilities. This disease is reported to be a big problem in the area and includes cases that sometimes the whole family suffers from it. Dr Amin (Head of the Clinic) states that the main causes of the TB could be related to Lack of sanitation, adequate accommodation, poverty and keeping animals at homes. Pulmonary TB can be diagnosed in the AMI clinic but in cases where diagnosis is problematic, the patient is sent to Chitral (Pakistan). Neither clinic (including Kamdesh -GS) has a female doctor. The nearest is Chitral at a cost of 2000 Pk. Rs. for treatment. All gynaecological and obstetric cases are referred to Jalalabad or Chitral. Menstrual Anaemia is a problem amongst the women. UNICEF provides supplementary feeding for pregnant women through the AMI clinic. There is no problem for women to be treated by male doctors. Serious cases are sent to Jalalabad and Chitral. Dr Amin reported that the current recorded health problems in the area (East Nuristan) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Respiratory infection (winter months) • Diarrhoea (summer months) • Dysentery • Malnutrition (a few severe cases, majority are moderate cases) • pneumonia and URI (winter) • TB • Scabies • Impetigo • UTI (Urinary tract infection) • Gynaecological/obstetric problems. <p>In the last 9 years UNICEF has been present for measles vaccinations. WHO has provided, in the last 18 months, vaccinations for Polio irradiation. There are no International or local NGOs present for providing after treatment or mobility for victims of mines. In each clinic (including Kamdesh) there is one health educator but with so many remote villages and long distances between them therefore, it is not possible to provide community based education. People in the mountains delay coming to the clinics until the illness is very serious. Mortality from treatable illnesses are high, children die from chest problems and diarrhoea and older people from respiratory problems and TB. Malnutrition is a problem - many families just eating bread and cheese. In addition mothers do not know how to take care of their children and need education in how to properly feed them..."</p>					
EDUCATION:	Education Centre:	Types		Currently functioning	Before 1998	
		No. of High School:		0	0	
		No. of Primary School:		28	0	
		No. of Home Based Sch:		0	0	
	Teacher:	Female:	12	Pupils:	Girls:	473
		Male:	103		Boys:	1601
	Literacy Rate %:	5				

	<p>Comments: All the school except one, do not have buildings. The school building which was built by MADERA was, afterwards, occupied by the District Authorities. There is only one secondary school in Kamdesh and no high school at all. All schools received the basic stationary and text-books from UNICEF.</p> <p>Extracts from UNHCR CSO notes/report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • " ...Primary school available for 1-4 classes. Boys and girls attend. • 1st and 2nd classes are mixed. 3rd and 4th classes separated. • 20 male teachers, 600/700 students, 1:50 ratio. • No stationary or books available. <p>UNICEF has visited and made an assessment Currently boys and girls attend school, although girls have had access during the last 3 months and only for those aged 6-7yrs. It is reported that still no salaries are provided to the teachers. There are no female teachers.</p> <p>The subjects consist of Pashto, The Holy Quoran and Mathematics (Persian for the 4th class). UNICEF has introduced literacy classes for the students from 1-4pm as previously they left school and are still being unable to read and write..."</p>
<p>WOMEN and CHILDREN</p>	<p>Extracts from UNHCR CSO notes/report:</p> <p>Position of women in the area (general information)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women are not participating in community decisions. Their religious custom (as stated by Dr Amin) was that "if a woman should speak in public she will cause shame for her family" • Women are working in the fields because they are uneducated. • High illiteracy rate, very few girls/women are educated. • The response of the women to training opportunities is positive provided that there is some assistance or incentive. Without this assistance men will refuse to allow the women to attend training as they will be losing an 'income' from working in the fields. • Women who have received health education complain because they have no soaps • 60 women in Mandagal village and 27 women in Ormur village have previously been trained in carpet weaving and sewing by Afghanistanid. They are currently not using these skills due to not having raw materials. Afghanistanid is now considering supplying materials. • Marriage takes place from 12-14 yrs as there are no job opportunities. The dowry is 15-30 cows. • Very few girls attend school, they are being sent for wood collection and working the land. • Schools have recently been opened. The teaching quality is reported to be unsatisfactory as the teachers are not receiving a salary. • Women's training offered by Afghanistanid. Numbers are depleting as there is no longer any assistance/stipend. (currently 15 women in the area volunteer for tailoring and rug making). • Health education is provided as a component of any training it includes - the importance of vaccinations for children. Promotion of Breast feeding, Child development and the re-education of women regarding vaccinations being the causes of infertility. <p>Dr Amin's (Kamdesh Clinic) wife reported that there is a high number of widows/FHOH in the area (approx 300 families, within 4 villages served by the clinic). The majority of mine victims in the area are women and children.</p> <p>They are interested to learn traditional embroidery although they can sew and cross stitch. They told that one or two women in the village could do the traditional embroidery and teach others. They are also interested to learn tailoring in order to be able to make clothes.</p> <p>It should be noted that women clearly said that any education/training could only take place in the winter months as they are too busy in the summer.</p>

	<p>Children's role</p> <p>Children, both boys and girls over the age of 9 years are reported to assist the women in collecting wood and water and helping on the land. Children under this age play and go to school where possible</p> <p>The women gave accounts of men who laid blame of every issue on the women which often resulted in physical violence even where the women understood the source of the problem.</p>
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MINE/UXOs:	Existence of mines & UXOs:	Mines
	Identified priority villages to clear:	Kushtuz village.
	Comments: In the areas in and around Kushtuz village (place of origin) mines are planted continuously. The Kamdesh-Kushtuz violent conflict caused displacement of around 600 families. Mines are also reported to have been existing in the surroundings of Kamdesh village, Papruk mountain and Benoz village. There are many reports on human casualties (death, disability, minor injuries) and animals killing due to the mines planted in the vicinity of villagers' houses. Around 30 human casualties were reported to have taken place during the last 18 months.	

PROTECTION

Population Movement:	600 displaced families (Kushtuz i.e. Kantozi tribe of Nuristani tribe) to Bargimatal and Ghaziabad districts of Nuristan, Kabul and Jalalabad cities and Chitral Agency of NWFP of Pakistan,
Minority Issue:	Kushtuz, or Kantozi is the minority sub-tribe, which is currently forcibly displaced by Kamdesh, or Kamozi sub-tribe, dominating the district.
Land Ownership:	Reported Kamdesh tribe occupied arable lands of Kushtuz for farming and animal pasture. Also, reported Kamdesh forcibly re-possessing water source and access to them.
House Occupation:	No reports.

Others:	<p>As mentioned above the only conflict reported in Kamdesh district is Kamdesh-Kushtuz conflict: as the result of Kamdesh or Kamozi tribe armed and violent attack (<i>human casualties, burning houses, destroying crops, fruit trees, missile and mine assault, mutilations also reported</i>) at Kushtuz village (Kantozi - minority), 600 families (entire population of the village) were displaced to East Nuristan's Bargimatal (Nikmok: 150 families) and Ghaziabad districts (Darain and Waygal valleys: 350 families), Kabul (35 families), Jalalabad (35 families) and Pakistan (NWFP, Chitral: 50 families).</p> <p>Several attempts were made for peace agreement (jirga) including compensation discussions, etc, however, every time agreements were breached by both sides, resulting again in violent attacks using mines, rockets, automatic gun. Currently, UNAMA is involved advocating with both parties for a new peace process.</p> <p>It is worth noting, that Kushtuz temporarily residing in Nikmok of Bargimatal district are prevented from travelling on the road between Mandagal and Barikot (Kamdesh district, controlled by Kamdesh) due to the fear of being arrested and executed by opposing group. This is the only road connecting Bargimatal (Nikmok) to the rest of Afghanistan (Kunar, Nangarhar, etc) and respectively to the basic services: hospital, markets, education, etc.</p> <p>As also reported, Kamdeshiz fear travelling through Ghaziabad district, where one of the Kushtuz I DP groups live.</p>
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NGOs Working in the District

AFGHAN AID – international NGO based in UK. Main donor DFID. AfghanAid keeps offices in Kamdesh (Ormur village) and Bargimatal (Bargimatal village) districts of Eastern Nuristan. It implements the following projects in both districts:

Sector	Subject	Achievements	Village	District	Funding
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Engineering	Road construction/rehabilitation	Ongoing. Anticipated to be finished this year.	Barikot – Ormur road (38 km)	Kamdesh	WFP
	Bridge construction	3 completed	Ormur, Adri, and Nikmok	Kamdesh, Bargimatal	WFP
	Wash construction	2 completed	Kamu and Papudal	Kamdesh	WFP
	Culverts	9 to be completed this year		Kamdesh	WFP
	Retaining walls	3 to be completed this year		Kamdesh	WFP
Community Development	Village Organizations (Shuras)	20 established out of 26 10 established out of 21		Kamdesh Bargimatal	DFID
Promotion of agriculture	Technical advice Demonstration/experimental plots, seed research, multiplication, seed improvement, seasonal seeding, fruit nursery Kitchen Garden Animal husbandry Training in basic vet workers Wheat seed distribution Wheat seed-bank			Kamdesh Bargimatal	DFID
Children Development	Promotion of children's rights			Kamdesh Bargimatal	EU
Basic health education	TB training Public hygiene protection training			Kamdesh Bargimatal	DIFID
Productive Community Infrastructure	Micro Hydro Power stations (MHP)	Completed 2	Agro Bargimatal	Kamdesh Bargimatal	DIFID
Water Supply system		Completed 2	Kamu Merdesh	Kamdesh	DIFID
Water supply reservoir		Completed 1	Sarit	Kamdesh	DIFID