



**UNHCR Sub-Office MAZAR-i-SHARIF
DISTRICT PROFILE**

DATE: 12 September 2002

PROVINCE	Name: Takhar		Geo-Code: 12		
DISTRICT	Name: Chah Ab		Geo-Code: 1209		
Population in 1990:	Settled: 54,313		Refugee in Pakistan : 220		
CURRENT ESTIMATED POPULATION					
Total	Returned IDPs	Recent Returnees	IDPs	Children Under 12	Female Households
76420	1000+	165	1,200-1,500	15,000+	1341
ETHNIC COMPOSITION: % Pashtun % Hazara 96-98% Tajik 2-4% Uzbek % Other:					
EXPECTED RETURNING POPULATION 2002					
IDPS		200-500 families	RETURNEES		600-700 families
AUTHORITY					
Head of District:	Jahandad Yal (affiliated with Shorai Nazar- Masood Group).				
Other Information:	Basher (former senior commander) is still powerful in the district.				
GENERAL SITUATION					
<p>The district is poor economically and badly effected by the drought. The rate of unemployment is around 80%. Authorities are affiliated to Shorai Nazar (Masood Group). District elders expressed their dissatisfaction with the commanders who are now controlling the district, often against the will of the people. For example, representatives sent to the second phase of the Loya Jirga selected by the authorities included two former Mujahedeen commanders and the former head of the district.</p>					
SECTORAL INFORMATION					
SHELTER:	Percentage and Number of Houses Destroyed:		640, of which 350 could be repaired		
	Housing Situation of Returning Population :		No serious problems.		
	<p>Comments: The majority of returnees are single people who went to Pakistan looking for work while their families remained. Therefore they still have houses in the district. The main shelter problem is lack of water for those wishing to rebuild houses that were destroyed. In many villages water must be fetched by donkeys. There are no NGOs working in the district to improve the shelter situation.</p>				
WATER:	Type of Potable Water Sources (and distance):		Wells, springs and rivers.		
	Availability of Potable water (%):		20-30%		
	Sanitation and Drainage:		Poor in general.		
	<p>Comments: There is a shortage of drinking water throughout the district, especially in summer. The villages Ezana, Sijor, Khailan, Warnakha, Darqa Bashir, Hadi-Qazil Bela, Qhanit Dara, Paishaf, Zekrabad Argosa, Khatok, Abi Shokak, Anjir, Nowabad, Kalatok, Darai Ghab Gazam, Chashmaigul, Koshkha, Rabatihamben and Shoor have no drinking water during the summer months. In the villages of Aodi and Qazalbelak villagers do not live there during the summer because of lack of water. The water level in these villages is 40-45 metres, deeper in the summer season, therefore only deep wells will provide adequate water.</p>				
AGRICULTURE:	Main crops:		Wheat, Barley, Chickpeas and Flax.		
	Current Land Condition:				
	Existing Irrigation schemes:		2% irrigated, 98% rain fed.		
	Agri/tool Banks:		Locally made tools are available, not suitable for mechanised agriculture because of steep gradients.		
	Animal Husbandry		30-40% of animals were lost in the last years due to the drought. 70% of population have a cow or donkey.		

SECTORAL INFORMATION						
	<p>Comments: Last year there was no rain, which critically affected the harvest. This year has seen good rain, but 25% of the land has not been cultivated out of lack of seeds and fear of further drought. No NGO is working in the agricultural sector; both the authorities and the local population highlighted the need for assistance – seeds, tools and programmes of market gardening and forestry.</p>					
INCOME GENERATION:	Main Sources of Income:	Farming, animal husbandry, labouring	% of No income in the district	About 60%		
	<p>Comments: Other sources of income include shoe making, leather work and tailoring, but there is a need for supply of raw materials.</p>					
HEALTH:	Health Centre:	Types	Currently functioning	Before 1998		
		No. of Clinic:	1	1		
		No. of Mobile Clinic:	0	0		
		No. of Hospital:	1 with 10 beds	1 with 10 beds		
	Nurses and Mid-wives	3 nurses, 4 doctors and 3 midwives. Besides that there are 21 midwives trained in the villages.				
<p>Comments: Health care in the district is satisfactory. One clinic is Government run another supported by SCA. There are 7 pharmacies in the bazaar, which are sufficient for the district, one dentist and one laboratory. Some villages (Khailn, Santi, Hauza, Shadara, Hauza Paisaf) are 4-5 hours from the nearest clinic by foot or donkey. Malaria and TB are common. The Head of the District Health Authority requested mobile clinics to service remote villages.</p>						
EDUCATION:	Education Centre:	Types	Currently functioning	Before 1998		
		No. of High School:	2 (1 boys 1 girls)	2		
		No. of Primary School:	18 (16 mixed, 2 boys only)	16		
	No. of Home Based Schools:	0				
	Teacher:	Female:	52	Pupils:	Girls:	2552
		Male:	213		Boys:	5847
Literacy Rate %:	10-23% (according to census conducted in 1997)					
<p>Comments: Students study Dari, Pashtu, English and Arabic, science and mathematics, history, geography and religious studies. There is a shortage of books throughout the schools, especially in high schools, which forces the teachers to dictate everything (very time consuming). Other equipment including blackboards and laboratory equipment are also in short supply. All school buildings, except for three, are partly or completely destroyed. UNICEF supplies some schooling materials, which is not enough.</p>						
MINE/UXOs:	Existence of mines & UXOs:		none			
	Identified priority villages to clear:					
	<p>Comments: Halo Trust has visited the district and found no mines or UXO.</p>					
PROTECTION						
Population Movement:	See figures for IDPs and returnees. (Note: Number of returnees is increasing)					
Minority Issue:	No minority problems. The vast majority of the population is Tajik and they enjoy good relations with the Uzbeks.					

SECTORAL INFORMATION	
Land Ownership:	No problems reported.
House Occupation:	As above.
Others:	<p>There are numerous complaints about the behaviour of the local authorities. In particular reports of extortion and violence against villagers. One villager described how returnees from Pakistan and Iran are expected to provide a gift to the local commander or pay somewhere in the region of 2,000,000 – 3,000,000 Afg. Another villager reported being forced to hand over 1,400,000 Afg to soldiers of a local commander. Many other villagers would not give examples of violence for fear of reprisal.</p> <p>There remain a large number of guns in the villages – the local authorities have not collected weapons.</p> <p>Women are treated badly. Many of them work in the fields, but other than that they are not generally allowed to go out of the houses. They, in particular, suffer from food shortages.</p>
NGOs Working in the District	
<p>KADA: Has been distributing food and NFIs to 7,111 families for three months. (Food consists of wheat, beans, sugar and oil).</p> <p>SCA: Has worked in the district since 1997. Established one of the clinics in the district and continue to support it (supplying medicines). It also supports three primary schools, supplying materials and providing teachers salaries.</p>	
Other Comments (including accessibility)	
<p>There are two main roads into the district: one via Rustaq, which is impassable during the rainy season due to flooding and another over the Kukcha bridge, which was destroyed during the fighting. Therefore the district is inaccessible during the spring.</p> <p>Due to the high quantity of rain this year there is a danger of flooding of the river Amo, which could destroy hundreds of houses. Consequently there is a need for flood prevention schemes in the district.</p> <p>Most of the villages are inaccessible by road.</p> <p>There are no accommodation facilities for humanitarian workers, although the guesthouse of Amir Bashir may be available for short periods.</p>	

Name of Staff/Agency: _____ **Signature:** _____