

Psychosocial Needs of Internally Displaced Persons: A focus on Women and Children

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Abstract

The predicament of internally displaced persons in Nigeria has attracted much attention at the national and international levels and the academia is not left out. The study was carried out with the explanation of vital secondary sources especially books, journals, newspapers and internet sources. Through these sources, the paper examined the psychosocial needs of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) focusing on women and children. The psychosocial needs are the interactions of an individual's emotional and mental wellbeing and the ability to function satisfactorily in the social environment. In contrast, therefore, individuals will experience psychosocial mobility when there is an absence of or insufficient assessment of psychosocial needs. The paper has therefore revealed that this is the plight of most IDPs who have been displaced from their homes as a result of spreading communal conflicts, insurgency or natural disasters. In their sufferings, distress and confused state, their wellbeing will continue to be jeopardized if something is not done urgently. Against this backdrop, some basic recommendations have been suggested. It was therefore recommended that a comprehensive humanitarian action be coordinated to provide women and children in IDP camps with welfare materials, health and educational facilities, vocational training and tools of the trade, empowerment programmes, security that will facilitate their psychosocial satisfaction. The government, international donors and non-governmental organizations should gear their efforts in this direction

Key Words: *Psychosocial Needs, Internally Displaced Persons, Women, Children*

I. INTRODUCTION

The increase in intra and interstate conflict of various sorts including activities of terrorist sects and natural disasters have aggravated the problems of Internally Displaced Persons in Nigeria. Internal Displacement though not a new phenomenon has become a recurrent decimal in Nigeria. The nation since independence has witnessed high records of incidences of internal displacement triggered by violent conflicts, flooding situations and other acts that force a mass of people to hastily abandon their homes in search of safety. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) projects that there are about 2,152,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Nigeria and about 2millions IDPs are scattered in 30 out of 36 states of Nigeria as a result of flood-relatedproblems.

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The massive population of displacement arises from fear of insurgents, assaults, destruction of property and loss of lives (Lenshie & Yenda, 2016, Human Right Watch, 2014; Amnesty International, 2014; Walker, 2012). The insurgency has reportedly forced 1.5 million people to escape to other parts of the country with about 150, 000 taking refuge in nearby Chad, Niger and Cameroon. The counter-insurgency operations of the government have also played a part in worsening the displacement as people feel more insecure amid shooting and counter-shootings (Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, 2014). A huge number of families have also been recently displaced from their homes because of heavy rains and the opening of dams in Cameroon causing overflow in the river banks of the Niger-Benue. Thus, farms and houses have been submerged because of rising water. Many have died and many others have been rendered homeless in Niger, Kogi, Delta, Imo, Anambra, Bayelsa and Rivers States to mention a few. As critical as the situation of displacement is the government of Nigeria does not have up-to-date data on IDPs.

However, The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) have been overseeing the efforts by all concerned agencies-governmental and non-governmental to provide psychosocial support and humanitarian supplies to the IDPs in the affected states. These efforts have, however, been overstretched because of the enormity of the problems and have sometimes been frustrated by inefficient coordination, corruption and limited resources.

As the number of IDPs is on the increase so the social problems emanating from their displacement are on the increase (Kushi, 2018). As reported by Kushi, IDPs have created enormous social problems not only for the states but to the society at large. The specific areas that constitute serious problems are hereby identified as food, accommodation, physical health, death of loved ones, separation from family members, educational setback, security challenges, abuse and addiction of drugs and alcohol in the IDP camps (Medecins San Frontieres, 2018, Kushin, 2018). There has, however, always been a global cry for the endorsement of a humanitarian charter that will make provision for meeting the needs and challenges of the IDPs.

Consequently, their vulnerability has made many to be stranded and most are living in uncompleted buildings, primary schools and other makeshift homes. Kushin (2018) maintained that displaced victims often settle in "forests or jungles" and become affected by contagious diseases or suffer human deprivation. It becomes evident that victims are in economic hardship. Every year, there are cases of hundreds and thousands of people running away from their homes to seek refuge outside their communities "buffer zone".

Since most of them have lost their sources of livelihood, in order not to starve, young children are sent hawking to fend for the family. While others have resorted to various forms of crime and drug addiction, innocent citizens affected are exposed to all forms of abuse and violation of their rights. Young girls are not left out either. Some of them have also resorted into prostitution.

Some have been psychologically traumatized and so they either need a psychotherapist (Clinical psychologist) or a psychiatrist and other forms of medical attention. Many of the IDPs in the camps easily develop mental health issues because of the prevailing situations and conditions in these camps. Most of these mental issues are traceable to the dilemma of the future, loss of loved ones, total disconnection from family ties and the relapse due to shortage of medications (IOM – DTM Program, 2015).

The Psychosocial needs of women and children are linked with their negative thought pattern and social malaise associated with them. This could be linked to the desire or willingness to go home and the uncertainty associated with the return or absence of means to go home. In a report of the World Health Organization and King's College London (2011), there was a review of the grievous problems of IDPs and it was revealed that income and means of livelihood were among the problems confronting IDPs.

What about education for the children? In no doubt, their educational achievement has been truncated due to lack of opportunities and this could in future deprive them of the opportunity to contribute positively to the economy of their state or that of the nation.

The IDPs also face diverse security challenges that remain unaddressed by the affected states. Many critics have attributed the failure of Nigeria to handle the continuous increase of IDPs to lack of political will by the states and other politically motivated factors.

The summation of all these is that, if something is not done progressively to alleviate their sufferings, the problems that will emanate eventually will be so enormous that it will boomerang not only on the IDPs but on the larger society. It is against this backdrop that the paper examined the psychosocial needs of IDPs in Nigeria with a focus on women and children.

Conceptualization:

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

According to the United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are persons or group of individuals who have been compelled to run away from their homes or dwelling places because they want to escape the consequences of armed conflicts, outbreaks of generalized violence, excessive human right abuses, natural disasters and man-made calamities and such persons have not fled outside the internationally recognized borders of their own country (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee 2018).

This definition is however just descriptive of the IDP situation and does not in any way bestow a special legal status because Internally Displaced Persons that are inside their own country have all the rights and entitlements as the other citizens of the country. As such, national authorities have the primary responsibility to

prevent forced displacement and to protect IDPs. According to Wikipedia, a person internally displaced is someone who is compelled to run away from his or her home but has not fled outside the internationally recognized border of his or her own country.

Although such persons do not fit into the legal definition of refugees, they are often called refugees. The definition of Internally Displaced Persons stated a while ago specifies some factors that trigger the internal displacement situation. These factors include armed conflict, generalized violence, abuse of human rights, natural disasters and man-made calamities; the list is not exhaustive.

People do not suffer the effects of internal displacement only when the situation forces them out of their homes; many suffer the consequences of anticipating the internal displacement situation. Two very significant elements showed themselves in the definition of Internally Displaced Persons. These two elements are that it is not the desire of the IDPs to move out of their homes and their movement does not exceed the national borders of their country. IDPs are therefore quite different from other individuals who can remain and live safely in their places of residence but have of their own volition decided to move out.

IDPs are also different from refugees because they remain within the borders of their own country; refugees usually cross an internationally recognized territorial border. IDPs therefore do not require any special legal status or protection from other individuals since they have not gone outside their own country. They are therefore still in a position to enjoy all the rights and entitlements as citizens and other habitual residents of their country.

Aduge-Ani, David, Ogezi & Oyoyo (2018) in relating their observations to the capacity, resources and data on the complex nature of IDPs, argues that Nigeria has not witnessed the full scope of displacement at any point in time. However, the report of IDMC (2014) reveals that an accurate survey on displacement has not been done in Nigeria neither does the country have the mechanisms for monitoring and proffering lasting solutions.

Rather, what has existed is a mere estimation of the capacities of IDP camps. Even researchers have not at any time taken into consideration how IDPs relate with their families and relatives outside the camps and the effect this might have on them.

Consequently, despite the growing concern about the IDP situation, no government official report has been able to give the accurate statistics as the situation is often connected with worsening violent conflict increasing level of poverty and low educational attainment especially in the northern part of Nigeria where IDP rate is also high.

The number of recorded cases of internal displacement ascribed to man-made calamities far exceeds those from natural disasters such as flooding, ocean surges, and fire outbreaks. The democratic transition in Nigeria in 1999 clearly showed an increase in the number of persons affected by the incidences. Consequently, the number of IDPs in Nigeria has continued to grow especially from insurgencies. Lenshie and Yenda (2016) observed in their study that the number of IDPs has been on the increase after the implementation of the Sharia law in most parts of the North-East.

Psychosocial Needs

The concept was first applied by Erikson (1954) in his explanation of the psychosocial stages of human development. The concept is a combination of the Psychological need vis-a-vis the social needs within the environment of the individual. But the concept can be defined as the dynamic interaction of the Psychological and social factors in an individual's environment. In furtherance to this, it is the emotional and mental wellbeing of an individual as well as the satisfactory responses he gets from his social environment. The Psychosocial needs, therefore, comprise of an individual's development, emotion, mental health, cognition, sexuality, social-cultural, ethnic identity and belief components.

An individual is psychologically satisfied when he feels loved, accepted, gets adequate care, support and when there are people to share pains, grief or set back with. An individual can experience psychosocial imbalance and when this happens, it can be referred to as psychosocial dysfunction or psychosocial mobility.

The satisfaction of the psychosocial needs has its implications on the wellbeing of people. It builds one's personality, self-esteem, confidence, security, fulfilment and makes one function adequately in every ramification.

THE DEPLORABLE CONDITION OF DISPLACED WOMEN AND CHILDREN

There is no disputing the fact that women and children are in the majority among Internally Displaced Persons in Nigeria. Even though there are different figures concerning the actual number of Internally Displaced Persons in Northern Nigeria, all the sources agree on the point that women and children make up over 50 per cent of the IDP camps formation. An assessment of the Internally Displaced Monitoring Centre in December 2015 put the approximate figure of Internally Displaced Persons in Nigeria at 2, 152, 000 (IDMC, 2016).

It is estimated that about 56 per cent of the Internally Displaced Persons in Nigeria are children while the remaining 44 per cent are adults including men and women and that up to 92 per cent of IDPs are displaced by the insurgency. The psychosocial needs of IDP women focus on the major sources of concern that arise from their bodily needs which make them more vulnerable in situations of conflict that displace them out of their homes.

Already, literature is rife with cases of women being abused in different ways during conflict situations resulting in gang rape, forced prostitution, and human trafficking which lead to psychological problems for the individual women and children. These victims suffer from even more complex problems. Some of the women were pregnant before they were forced to move into the camps while others get pregnant inside the camps and deliver their babies without the help of a midwife.

For their part, children in such camp conditions are forced or lured into vices such as stealing, forced labour, active sexual behaviours and denial of formal training (socialization) and education. The experience of raising children in such a camp environment is, for some women, quite exasperating and fearful. For example, absence of health care facilities is a serious problem in Bakassi Camp. The IDPs are compelled to travel about 40km to Calabar to have access to medical treatment for common health challenges such as malaria, cold and catarrh.

In Bakassi camp, there is only one elderly woman who serves as a traditional birth attendant for all the women who get pregnant in a camp accommodating about 2000 persons. Displaced persons in Nigeria have great difficulty returning to the life they used to enjoy in pre-conflict days. The challenges on their way include the stress of long journeys to and from the camps, poor conditions of living, the psychological trauma they go through, pains of sexual abuse, harassment and molestation of children, poor sanitation, safety challenges and forced labour.

All these expose the displaced persons to infectious diseases making them carry infectious bacteria, fungi and virus in their bodies. Poor feeding also exposes them to malnutrition and there are other poor infrastructural conditions such as inadequate power and water supply, bad roads, absence of healthcare, lack of security, absence of effective education platform among others. In all these, the more vulnerable are women and children (Msughter, 2017).

In November 2015, President Muhammadu Buhari visited Malkohi IDP camp in Yola, Adamawa state. In his assessment, he described the condition of IDPs in the camp as unfortunate. In his words: "The children are the worst hit. The situation has caused anxieties especially when we sleep at night". Not only that. The Director-General of NEMA, Mr Sani Sidi, told the President that "at present, the camp has 80 pregnant women and 175 unaccompanied children".

In the same vein, Marama, Yusuf and Ojeme reported in the Vanguard Newspaper of 18th February 2015 that the IDPs driven into the various camps by the Boko Haram insurgency were having cases of unwanted pregnancies, child labour/trafficking and sexually transmitted diseases. The Guardian Newspaper and the Premium Times News also reported that all the 450 cases of death recorded in 28 IDP camps in Borno State in 2015 resulted from malnutrition and all the victims are children.

According to NEMA Executive Director, Mr Sule Mele, the children were between a year to five years old. He said 209,577 children were diagnosed with various ailments including malnutrition, malaria, and diarrhoea and vomiting. He also revealed that about 6,444 severe cases of malnutrition were recorded in the camps with 25,511 having mild to moderate symptoms while 177, 622 among them were not malnourished.

The security situation in the IDP camps in Nigeria is also alarming and it is getting worse by the day instead of improving. This security situation which saddles the IDPs with the responsibility of protecting themselves in the various camps makes their condition worse (Ibeanu, 2015) especially as they are yet to recover from the psychological trauma of the loss of their families, friends and properties. The lack of security in the camps exposes the IDPs to attacks from terrorists and armed robbers. For instance, in September 2015, IDP camps in Madagali and Yola were attacked by a terrorist group in a suicide mission. The attacks left 12 persons dead. In one of the attacks, bombs were reported to have been detonated inside a tent at the IDP camp.

On the 11th September 2015, the Malkohi IDP camp near Yola was also attacked leaving 7 persons dead. On the 31st of January, 2016, an attack in Dalori about 12 kilometres outside Maiduguri left 86 persons dead and on the 10th of February, 2016, another attack on IDP camp in Dikwa, Borno State took the lives of 80 persons. Using Burton's classification, there is the need for safety and security for women, girls and children in IDP camps in the Borno region.

The analysis of the victimhood of women especially those whose problems began with terrorist invasions in their homes, the assessment of the psychological and social impact of such invasions, reveal that not having sufficient food is a concern for displaced victims, but that is not all.

People in this cadre suffer some psychological loss and are often disenchanted with society.

The fact that they lost their loved ones whom they may never see again if not dead yet is troubling to them, which has made them disillusioned with the society and government for allowing the dole of this inhumanity on them. More so, speaking of the embodiment of IDP women, the experiences of the escaped Chibok schoolgirls who got kidnapped by the Boko Haram sect on the 14th of April 2014 comes to mind.

According to media report (Vanguard, 9th of May, 2015), 57 out of the 276 kidnapped girls after some months escaped from the sect's captivity and were found to have been abused by the members of the sect, leading to many of them being pregnant. Appallingly, medical checkup on some of the girls showed the girls' encounter with the sect has left them susceptible to sexually transmitted diseases (STD).

Therefore, this report shows the bodily vulnerability of the girls and women in this region and even in the camps. Recent reports from the media (Vanguard, 12th of September 2015) showed the bombing of Malkohi IDP camp in Adamawa and there were reports of abuse of the women in the camp.

The overall effects of such gory encounters by women and girls are damage to their reproductive health and, therefore, the recent call to end the lump-sum administration of aids and adopt a gender-sensitive administration, which warrants that women and men be given enough aid that would ameliorate the individual's specific need. A good example is recent news by Premium Times that there are over sixty thousand births in IDP camps across the country.

The news generated mixed reactions from the general public on whether it is good or and for the country since it means that taxpayers' money would be expended servicing the needs of this group. The crux of the matter here for the IDPs, especially woman in maternity is that they are being given the same food rations and medicine as other displaced persons without taking into consideration their conditions which require special attention.

Consequently, these situations of the women and girls both at the camp and in the entire region have shown and confirmed the significance of human need theory especially as advanced by Maslow (1954). Going by the seven elements listed by Burton as being cardinal, we can see how it applies to the women, right up from Distribution, Justice to safety and security and down to self-esteem and fulfilment.

One can see how far the adequate policy enactments safeguarding these right and need elements would go in solving the problem of this group. For distributive justice, it has been observed that IDPs in Nigeria lack access to justice, whether about cases of abuse of human rights such as prejudice against ethnic and religious minorities or about sexual violence and deprivation of means of livelihood.

Other need items on Burton's typology that are also addressed by gender scholars have remained elusive to IDP women. Since their camp is not appropriately secured, food and shelter are insufficient. The forced new identity given to they tagged "Internally displaced persons" and the competitive quest for distributive justice means that self-esteem and personal fulfilment will continue to be out of their reach.

The most challenging of the psychosocial needs among Internally Displaced Persons especially women and children are inadequate food supply. Among the IDPs, this constitutes a grievous problem. This observation is in tandem with the findings of previous studies among IDPs within and outside Nigeria that the most pressing needs of the displaced persons are food, security and livelihood (INGO Forum in Nigeria, 2015; WHO & King's College, 2011).

Inadequacy of accommodation is an incessant challenge in any crisis worldwide. This is also in tandem with previous studies which revealed that shelter is a serious issue that has engendered negative feelings among Internally Displaced Persons (IOM – DTM, 2015; WHO & King's College, 2011). Non-availability of easy, clean and safe toilets was also a serious challenge within the camps.

In an emergency such as the humanitarian crisis in North-Eastern Nigeria, it is quite a difficult task for both the government and non-governmental organizations to equip the camps with adequate and standard facilities because of the urgency of the situation.

Therefore, lack or inadequate supply of water, soap, laundry facilities and sanitary materials among others has remained a reported challenge in IDP camps. This study also agrees, in this respect, with a related study by INGO forum in Nigeria (2015) which revealed that within a helpless population like IDPs, shortage of essentials such as clothes, beddings or blankets and shoes is a frequently reported issue.

This finding agrees with the earlier study by WHO & King's College (2011) which reported that clothes, shoes, bedspreads and blankets are among the serious challenges of IDPs. Inadequate income, money or resources to live on were also seen as a crucial challenge among IDPs. This the finding also corroborates the earlier study that reported similar finding (WHO & King's College, 2011; INGO Forum in Nigeria, 2015).

Other serious problems reported among IDPs were physical illness, injuries and disabilities. This is also in agreement with the study of WHO of King's College (2011) which reported that physical health is quite elusive in many IDP camps in Nigeria. In many internally displaced camps, inadequate health care, shortage of medicines, poor care during pregnancy or childbirth are frequently reported. Psychosocial services are therefore among the serious challenges of IDPs in Nigeria. This finding also corroborates the study of INGO Forum in Nigeria (2015) which maintained that one of the psychosocial needs of IDPs is healthcare. As the IDPs remain in the camps, they are debilitated in several ways including their inability to care for family members who live with them such as their young children and elderly parents. They are also weakened by physical and mental illnesses, thereby increasing disabilities among family members.

Besides, being removed from the company of family members' results in the inability to perform one's obligation as they are thrown out of the original dwelling place to a strange village or city. This too has done a lot of harm to the displaced persons. This finding agrees with other similar studies which identified separation from family members and displacement from home as serious causes of ill-feeling among displaced person (IOM-DTM Program, 2005; WHO & King's College, 2011).

Every displaced person has one or two issues to tackle personally because of traumatic stress prevailing in the camp environment. Even the humanitarian workers are compelled by the circumstances to overstretch themselves, yet emotional and practical supports are not adequate. Lenshie & Yenda, (2016). In the course of this research work, it has been observed that women and children are more disadvantaged in terms of getting emotional and practical support. This agrees with INGO Forum in Nigeria (2015) that pointed out that psychosocial support services are foremost among the essential needs of the IDP.

There is also the problem of ineffective channels obstructing the flow of information in an emergency setting. This also agrees with the finding of an earlier study that displacement could lead to misinformation about what goes on in the home places of the displaced persons (WHO & King's College, 2011). Inadequate supply of aids is equally a serious concern. Aids in this case refers to the various indicators of psychosocial support that is given to the IDPs as a relief. This is also in tandem with the study of INGO Forum in Nigeria (2015) which maintained that the urgent needs of the displaced persons are food, security, and means of livelihood among others. Another issue of concern to the IDPs in the camps is the restriction of their movement as a way of guarding against unforeseen circumstances.

II. Theoretical Framework

The hierarchy of needs theory postulated by Abraham Maslow (1954) is hereby adopted to explain the craving issues facing women and children in various IDP camps in Nigeria.

Maslow explained that human needs are arranged in a sequence, starting from lower needs to a higher order of needs. At the bottom of the hierarchy are the physiological needs or the lower needs which include; air, food, sex, housing (accommodation) and water. This is followed by others in the hierarchy which include; safety, love & belongingness, esteem and the self-actualization needs. But the lower needs must be satisfied before the satisfaction of the higher needs. Invariably, deficiency in the lower needs would affect the progressive achievement of higher needs. In the hierarchy, women and children in this instance need food, good accommodation, water and adequate comfort for survival.

Irrespective of their plight, the satisfaction of the basic needs is paramount to their wellbeing. The desperation towards these basic needs has created dissatisfaction and as explained earlier they will continue to experience psychosocial dysfunction. As long as they remain in the camps under poor conditions, low support from family and friends, government and non-governmental agencies, attainment and satisfaction of the lower needs is not only a mirage but their emotional and mental wellbeing will not be guaranteed. This is the crux of the study. When lower-order needs are not satisfied and it results in emotional stagnation.

III. Conclusion

The United Nations Human Rights (2012) has declared that all human beings should be able to enjoy the rights to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, life, health, food, water and sanitation. In the absence of these, one will not be able to attain a level commensurate with minimum standards. It is against this backdrop that the conclusion and recommendations of the study have been drawn.

The condition of the IDPs is nothing to write home about. The circumstance surrounding them is quite a deplorable one. Their continuous lamentation over government unwilling to alleviate their sufferings is a clear indication of pains and dissatisfaction. When people do not get support from the government, they will turn around to work against the system. But when people are protected and cared for, they are also able to participate and take decisions in favour of those who were once there for them in the time of need.

IV. Recommendations

To this end, however, considering the serious problems that displaced person face and the vulnerable state of women and children, it is, therefore, necessary to consciously intensify effort geared towards recovering and rehabilitating them especially women and children. This effort, which should be urgent and proactive, should involve federal and state governments, international partners, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

The current predicament of the IDPs especially women and children needs to be reappraised to ascertain the roles the government and the agencies can play towards the provision of shelter, food, water, clothes, sanitation materials, healthcare and security. There is the need to use the means of counselling, skill acquisition and training to prepare and equip them for physical, mental and economic survival while in the camps and when they eventually leave the camps (Kasali, 2016).

IDP women need to be supported for sustainability and improvement of self-reliance to reduce their reliance on aids. The needed support could come in the form of skills training, access to affordable micro-credit for agricultural and business purposes. Support could gradually be expanded to include education, healthcare, agriculture and activities that promote livelihood. There should also be involvement of some long term development programs that are capable of proving certain levels of self-sufficiency and independence.

Suggested skills women could acquire include activities that generate flowing income such as sewing, petty selling, farming and handwork, such as soap making, shoemaking, tie & dye, etc. When it comes to social reintegration into the society, some IDPs prefer to go back to their original area of habitation; this is referred to return home. Some want to be absorbed into the local area where they currently stay and this is referred to as

local integration. There are still others who prefer to be settled in neighbouring states within the country and this is known as outside integration.

To facilitate and make successful the process of return and integration, IDPs need assistance from local, state and federal governments. This help is to be directed towards areas such as construction or repair of water systems, healthcare, schools and transportation routes. The displaced persons need to be involved in the whole process to guarantee acceptance and joint promotion of the program (Kasali, 2016). There is also the need to rehabilitate women and children in IDP camps.

This effort will not only reintegrate them into their various original habitations but will also completely remove tendencies of social vices as a result of idleness. This paper, therefore, recommends that government at all levels, NGOs, communities and the individuals should have proactive roles in the recovery process including preparation and restructuring of environmental conditions that will culminate in successful rehabilitation and reintegration of the IDPs.

The government should ensure that NGOs coordinate their activities specifically in line with their mandates while also taking into cognizance need priorities taking a cue from Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Primary needs should be taken care of before secondary and tertiary needs. This will surely eliminate misplaced priorities in meeting the psychosocial needs of the IDPs and help to prevent interspersing functions among the humanitarian actors.

Also, for those higher needs of displaced persons according to Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs such as belongingness and love needs, esteem needs and self-actualization needs, they should be absorbed into the psychosocial need provisions in the displacement camps. In additions, the United Nation, international and local NGOs should adopt a number of these higher needs as their core mandate because human/psychosocial needs assessment cannot be completely done without taking some of these higher needs into consideration

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