Rima Kilani (An-Najah National University)

Psychological Impacts of Involuntary Migration Experience

The experience of involuntary migration to an alien country is shocking and causes psychological and behavioral disturbances due to the cultural shock that accompanies the involuntary migration.

Individuals usually convert such shock into an ego shock resembling the inability to adapt their individual needs and their self assurance.

Children and teenagers are among the sectors that are subjected to such shocking experiences. Children develop detachment conflicts that are difficult to expresses directly. Whereas, teenagers' identity, which is yet in a developmental stage, is greatly affected, because of inadaptability with the new environment.

Studies concerned with the psychology of Palestine Refugee are quite scarce. However, interviews with persons of different ages, mirror such experiences.

It is highly important that society should regard the psychological needs, as well as other services that are of equal importance for refugees, who live in constant worry about the period they are going to stay outside their homeland. The importance of such needs stems from the multiplicity of physical problems that refugees suffer from, and very often, are a true reflection of psychological problems.