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## 4,000 war-displaced families taking refuge in Balkh

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Nearly 4,000 families displaced from a number of insecure northern provinces have taken refuge in Balkh province during the current year, local officials said on Wednesday.

Balkh refugees' department head, Abdul Saboor, told Pajhwok Afghan News on the sidelines of an IDPs related two-day workshop that the displaced families settled in different parts of Balkh belonged to troubled Faryab, Kunduz, Baghlan, Sar-i-Pul and Takhar provinces.

Over the past one month at least 500 families currently living on the outskirts of Mazar-i-Sharif had been displaced from Faryab and Sar-i-Pul provinces, he added.

A displaced woman, Gul Khanam, said she left Qaisar district of Faryab along with her family and started residing at a refugee camp in Mazar-i-Sharif.

“I am very concerned about my children as winter has arrived and we are living in tents. The government has provided us with some food but still we lead a miserable life.”

A Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation official Mehryar Sabaar, who attended the workshop, said nearly 90,000 families had been internally displaced mostly in Nangarhar, Kunduz, Helmand and Faryab provinces.