

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture for the Built environment
Honors theses

Jordan Shelter Summerization

The permanent temporariness in the design of refugee camps

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Jordan Shelter Summerization is an extraction process of knowledge from a project. The thesis starts from an experience of participation to a technical work in international cooperation for emergency field, at FAREstudio, in Rome. The scenario is the refugee camp Zaatari in Jordan, where many people fleeing from Syria live.



Tents and prefabricated shelters in Jordanian refugee camp Zaatari

The aim of the project is the construction of solutions for improving the summer thermal performances of the prefabricated shelters where the refugees live. During the project critical issues arise at different scales, due to bureaucratic, economic, political procedures. The impact of the critical issues on the quality of the built environment in the Zaatari camp is significant, and is the basis of the failure to complete the project. As a result of operational experience the thesis is accomplished through a series of checks for comparison, namely the identification of the nature of the critical structural or contingent assumed, and the reinterpretation of the solutions proposed by the project.



Shade roof and veranda. Prototypes of the kits made in Zaatari by an UNHCR implementing partner

The means to this purpose is a flexible construction kit for a veranda, inspired by the pre-existing behavior, streamlines and facilitates the provision of self-managed prefabricated shelters, or the spontaneous potential and spatial reconstruction of social and community groups. In the end the thesis aims to reflect on the possibility of using architecture with redistributive purposes of resources and rights, from an eccentric and extreme environment, within an international system highly rigid and structured.

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