

# The House of Sisters



## History

“House of Sisters” is a tale from that beautiful time in which French Sisters lived, prayed, loved and dedicated their life for the people of Karak. The site was built in the 1950s and belongs to the Roman Catholic Archdiocese, and it was used as a residence for deported French nuns and was managed by them to help and support the city and its citizens.

The “House of Sisters” is 280m<sup>2</sup> surface was abandoned and left without attention to the construction for several years.

Caritas Jordan –The social arm of the Church and in coordination with Roman Catholic Church, Ministry of Tourism and Karak Municipality took the opportunity to do maintenance and rehabilitation of the construction. The French government through the French embassy funded the required works besides equipping the site with the necessary tools, machines and furniture in order to establish a Clay and pottery workshops which can provide employment opportunities to the local community’s citizen.

The aim of this renovation is to highlight the importance of this historical place as it is considered a vital place and a starting point for Karak’s city tourists’ and the path to Karak’ historical castle, and proceeding to the rest of the city.

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The site was rehabilitated as a result of a joint cooperation between the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the municipality of Karak and will contribute to the economic and tourism development in the city and the desire to place Karak Castle on the UNESCO High Heritage List.

The house of sisters was opened by the French Embassy on February 27, 2020.

**The House includes:**

- Clay and Pottery workshop
- Productive kitchen providing snacks and drinks to the tourists
- Showroom to present the productions of Clay and other Caritas Jordan's BDA productions.
- Visitor's center: giving direction to tourists for the local attractions such as Karak's Castle. An agreement with ministry of tourism regarding the path of the tourists in Karak starting with the house of sisters is signed.

The house of sisters is one among other 4 Business Definition Area which established in Al-Karak governorate, they are located in two other areas, Al-Rabah and Al-Samakia. Al-Rabah area includes an operator of accessories and packaging and employs five beneficiaries, all of them are Jordanian nationals. This operator includes the production of copper and silver accessories.

The second operator is the food processing operator in the Samakia area - north of Al-Karak governorate. The operator employs four beneficiaries of the Jordanian nationality. The operator includes the production of olives, Pickles, Jam, Olive pastes, etc., as this area belongs to Melkite church in Smakiyah that includes (130 olive trees).

## **The Goals**

- Contributing to raising production efficiency by diversifying the clay products in the south.
- Theoretical and practical training was delivered to chosen beneficiaries for 3 months, and 6 qualified participant were identified as skilled and were enrolled in Cash for work modality.
- Marketing: through the registration of products and the development of the packaging process and raise the quality of the product and highlight the brand.

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