





## Hayat Center - Rased

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## The Second Conference of RASSED Coalition for Monitoring the Elections

- RASSED's Morning Statement on the Beginning of Polling.
- Cases of public voting and violations of voting secrecy in a number of polling stations were observed.
- 715,076 voters up until 2:00 PM.

March 22, 2022

Amman, Jordan

Hayat - RASED: RASED's results for election observation for the Governorate Councils, the Municipal Councils and Greater Amman Municipality, showed that the number of voters up until 2:00 pm reached 715,067, out of the total number of eligible voters, which is 4,599,602 voters. Compared to the percentage of voting up until 2:00 pm in 2017, we find that there is an increase in the number of people casting their votes, as the number of voters today was 715,076 up until 2:00pm, while the number of voters in 2017 at 2:00 pm was 653,000.

The monitoring results showed an increase in the influx of voters after the morning period. The increase in the voters influx was accompanied by an increase in the number of observations that were recorded, as the total observations received by RASED 's Operations Room amounted to 223 electoral observations, with Ma'an and Jerash topping the number of electoral observations. Jerash recorded more than 65 observations within the Polling Centers of the Greater Jerash Municipality, and Polling Centers in the Greater Ma'an Municipality recorded more than 30 observations. Most of which were passed to the Independent Election Commission (IEC). It is possible to say, based on the observations received, that there are individual errors by some heads and members of the committees, and this requires strengthening the follow-up on these issues in real time.

Speaking of the classification of election observations, the number of observations related to public voting reached 22; for example in Al-Burj School in Jerash Governorate, Ma'an Secondary School for Girls and Shefa'a Bint Awf Elementary Mixed School in Ma'an Governorate. 14% of observations were associated with taking pictures of ballot papers inside the electoral isolation booth, where more than 32 observations were made regarding the capturing of photos of the ballot papers.

8% of total observations were regarding the presence of more than one person at the electoral isolation booth; for example in Juwaideh Elementary Mixed School in Amman Governorate, and Marj Al Hamam Secondary School for Boys in the capital, Amman. Also there were cases of voting outside the electoral isolation booth, in Al-Burj School in Jerash Governorate and Girls' Secondary School in Mu'ata Al-Mazar Municipalities in Karak Governorate. Influencing voters' wills constituted 18% of observations; for example in Khawla Bint Al Azwar Mixed Elementary School in Amman, Al Ghwair High School for Boys in Karak Governorate Abel Mixed Elementary School in Tafleeh Governorate, Taym Mixed School in Madaba Governorate. Attempts of impersonation in many Polling Centers were observed, particularly by women, which were verified by the Elections Committees which prevented them from casting their votes in the Governorate of Ma'an. Regarding instances of violences, a number of cases were monitored in Ma'an, Jerash, Fuheis and Mafraq. Additionally, a number of observations in relation to vote-buying were observed in south Amman, which were directly reported to the IEC.

Regarding the results of observation, all polling committees verified personal identity cards. Regarding admitting unauthorized persons, observers reported that 4% noticed the presence of unauthorized persons. Observers also mentioned that 2.5% voted outside the isolation booth. Regarding abiding with the use of electoral ink, 99% of observers reported Election Committees' compliance with the use of ink, although a case of inking the right index finger of a voter, instead of his left, was reported.

Regarding electronic connectivity, observers noted that the electronic connection system was interrupted at 5% of the Centers, due to power outages or internet disconnection. Regarding the cases of group voting, 4.8% of observers reported cases of group voting. On directing voters by candidates' representatives inside Polling Centers and stations, observers mentioned that 11% of polling stations witnessed such behaviors, for example, in Fawzi Al Mulqi school in Mafraq.

Regarding halting the voting process, 9% of observers said that the voting process has stopped due to Prayer or for lunch, for example, in Rwaiyem Elementary School for Boys, Ajloun Inclusive High School for girls and Al Shamiya Mixed Elementary School in Ma'an. Also, ballot number 52 in Greater Ma'an Municipality is halted currently at the moment of writing this statement.

In the same context RASED's team worked on monitoring social media to identify hate speech in all its forms, where a number of male and female candidates' pages, local media and public pages for Governorates with more than 250,000 followers were monitored. 3096 posts in this category have been observed, with 121 comments including some form of hate speech, while 53% of comments had some sort of cyber bullying. 15% of comments incited violence. While comments encouraging electoral violence constituted 12%. The percentage of comments encouraging citizens to refrain from voting constituted 11%, while the percentage of comments that had swear words or insults constituted 9% of the total of comments observed.