

بِرَوْدِيْكُونَ دَائِرَةٌ

صَفَّةٌ شَاهِيْهٌ شَهِيرٌ

العدد الثامن
تموز آب ١٩٩٩

لِمَاذَا يَبْتَلِعُ الْبَحْرُ أَبْنَاءُنَا...؟؟؟!



جاهدين لتزويد السياح والمواطنين سطورة... و رغم عدم غرق الناس فيه إلا أن البحر الهمت هو مكان يجب زيارته لأنها من الأغراض صحية وليس للسباحة... أما فيما يتعلق بالبحر الهمت فيقول الهمت كاف لتنسم وقتل رجل بالغ عاشر: إن من ٤-١ يموتون فيه على الذين يسبحون في البحر الهمت

البقاء صفة ٥

طلابين التجدة حضر قارب الإنقاذ بعد ساعة... سدقوني أن هذه الساعة مرت علينا وكانتها عقد من الزمن وعندما وصلنا إلى الشاطئ قام الطبيب بفحص ليقول بعد ذلك إن ناير قد فارق الحياة قبل أربعين دقيقة. لم استطع تصديق الأمر، حيث كان أخي معنا قبل ساعة يدخل ويختنق، وهو الآن في عداد الأموات. غزيرًا جو من الحزن والشعور المزءوج

عندما سألنا ناير عن قيده، أجابنا بأن ناير كان سباحاً ماهرًا حيث كان دوماً يذهب للسباحة في برك YMCA في القدس ولكن ونسوء الحظ فإن البحر لا يميز بين السباحين المهرة وغير المهرة.

نصر الله فرج الهندي

٢٧ عاماً وأب لأربعة أطفال من الجديرة/ القدس

تروي شقيقة نصر الله قصتها الثالثة: "دعينا يوم السبت ٨/٨/١٩٩٩ إلى شاطئ بات يام... مع عمنا بأن التقدين كانوا مصربيين عن العمل، إلا أن شقيقتي أصر على تزوك البحر. بعد وقت قصير خرج نصر الله من البحر ليرويحة ثم زادت حدة الرهاب، وكثافت الأمواج فقررنا العودة إلى المنزل. غير أن نصر الله قرر السباحة مرة أخرى مع بعض أطفاله أخيراً، أما أنا فقد ذهبت للصلاة فجاء سمعت فتاة تصرخ "الأمواج أخذت نصر الله". لم أصدقها في البداية، إلا أن نصر الله هو الذي يعتنى بالاطفال وهم يسبحون في الماء، الخطير كان البحر سحيقاً. بدأنا في البحث عن نصر الله ولكن دون جدوى"



نادر هاشم صندوقة

٤٢ عاماً/ القدس

نادر صندوقة... هو أحد الفلسطينيين الذين ابتكروا البحر مؤخرًا فيما يلي يصف أيمان صندوقة شقيق نادر كيفية غرق الأخير: "في يوم الجمعة الموافق ٤/٦/١٩٩٩ قررت أنا وشقيقائي الانقضاض على الإطلاق لأننا سنعود إلى المنزل بذوق الشفقة". نادر، علماً بأنه كان أكثرنا مهارة في السباحة. كما ذهبنا حوالي الساعة السابعة مساءً، وعندما تعمقت في البحر وجدنا أنفسنا في مواجهة أمواج عالية من الصعب التعامل معها. فذقتنا موجة كبيرة تتجدد أنفسنا على سطح سحرة في البحر صرخنا "لين نادر". وفي الحال رحلنا البحر ثانية للبحث عن شقيقنا المفقود. إلى أن تمكنا من العثور عليه وجربنا الصخور. أخذتنا نصرخ

بقلم: هانيا البيطار وحمدي حمامرة

ما السبب وراء غرق الكثير من الفلسطينيين كل عام؟ وما هي الأخطاء التي يرتكبونها؟

قالا: "إن النتائج كبيرة... لقد جاء إضراب التقدين مع بداية موسم السباحة، وتتجزأ لذلك فإن حالات الفرقع هذا العام أكبر من أيها سنة ماضية. لقد أطلق على سنة ١٩٩٧ وسف ١٣ السنة الثالثة - بسبب غرق ٧٧ شخصاً. لكن العام ١٩٩٩ كسر الرقم القياسي حتى يوصلنا هنا غرق في الشواطئ الإسرائيلية ٣٥ شخصاً. والثور لللاتجاه أن من بين الغرقى ١٧ فلسطينياً إي

النصف تقريباً، أما باقي الغرس

فعظمهم من السياح أو المهاجرين إلى إسرائيل. وعندما سألنا صامر عن حالات غرق حيث تظهر صور الفحاحيا في صفحات الوقائع في الصحف اليومية الفلسطينية

يقول يوسف عاصم رئيس دائرة الإشراف على السباحة في وزارة الداخلية الإسرائيلية: "أن عدد الذين غرقوا ما بين ٤/٦/١٩٩٩ و١٥/٧/١٩٩٩ يبلغ ٣٥ شخصاً منهم ١٧ فلسطينياً".

ويشير العقيد محمد عصافور إلى أن فلسطينيين اثنين غرقاً في برك سليمان خلال هذا العام، إضافة إلى شقيقين على شاطئ غزة. بينما يبلغ عدد الذين ماتوا غرقاً في شواطئ غزة عام ١٩٩٨ حوالي ٢٦ شخصاً.

ما السبب... ما هي الأخطاء

ويضيف عاصم: " رغم توفر ١٤٦ منطقة سباحة في إسرائيل، إلا أن العديد من الفلسطينيين يختارون المناطق غرب المدنية للسباحة فيها. إذ تفضل العائلات العربية المناطق الممزوجة نظراً لطبيعتهم المحافظة، ولكن ونسوء الحظ فإن مثل هذه الشواطئ لا يوجد فيها لا منتقذون ولا خدمات إنقاذ، وتحدث معظم حوادث الغرق في أثنا ٣٧ منتقذاً جديداً لوحجم المدحود".

ويقول: " رغم أن هناك حالات غرق في الوقت الذي لا تتوفر خدمات شاطئ غزة فإننا نعي تماماً أن موسم السباحة في بدايته... ولهذا نعمل

نرونة هيجان."

هارادونا... لاعب الكرة العالمي الامع

يُفضله إلى التهانيات.
وكان أشد ما عانى منه مارادونا هو
تعرّضه للشائعات التي دنّوها أحدهما
بأنه يتعاطى المخدرات، وذلك بعد أن
شارك في تصوير فيلم عن المخدرات
ونفي على أثر ذلك إلى إيطاليا واجه
الي ممارسة كرة القدم بعنقية أخرى
هي: تدريب فريق ماتاديجو الذي
خانس هددة مباريات فاز في بعضها
وخر في بعضها الآخر نتيجة التحكيم
في العادل.

بعيداً عن الكورة والشائعات والصحافة
تزوج مارادونا من مطلقت وشهدت
ابتهاج على زواجه، وقد وعد أسرته
بعدم البكاء والحزن بعد أن تحطم
حياته ومستقبله وحلف أثر الاكتشاف
بقايا مواد منشطة في دمه جراء تناوله
وغيره طعاماً دون انتباهه ودون أحد
الحيطة

اعداد: محمد يوسف عزّات



ولم تتوقف أهداف عند هذا الحد بل
قاد الفريق إلى فوز آخر بعد أن هُلِّ
محققها بالكرة وتحطى بها وبمفردة
خمسة لاعبين وخدع حارس المرمى.
في عام ١٩٩٠ التحق مارادونا بفريق
الأرجنتينيين بطلب من إدارة الفريق،
وذلك خشية الخسارة في نهائيات
كأس العالم، وبالفعل وصل الفريق
نابولي الذي وصل بفضل إلقاء
ومجرد أن وصل مارادونا إلى ستاد
سان باولو أنسد له ما يقارب سنته
ألف شخص نشهدًا خاصًا تقول
كلماته "أنت المسؤول، وإذا لم يكن
الآن فلن يكون أبدا... ولن ننتظر أكثر"
ومن هنا أصبح مارادونا بطل إيطاليا

مارادونا يستدرج الكرة بكمب ومشط
قدمه بمهارة عالمية، وفي أول لقاء،
تلقيتني له تحدث بحماس شديد عن
رغباته في أمريكا: الأول أن يشارك في
بطولة عالمية والثاني أن يصبح بطلاً
من لم يسمع عن ديفيدو مارادونا لاعب
كرة القدم الشهير الأرجنتيني الأصل،
أو يشاهدء عبر شاشات التلفزة في
العالم وهو يصول ويحول في الملاعب؟
ولد مارادونا في 30 تموز 1961 في
يوم ميلاده الثالث تلقى كرة قدم

إنجازات مارادونا

في عام ١٩٧٩ احترف مارادونا اللعب في نادي برشلونة، وأثناء تدريبه تعرض كاحل رجله للكسر مما أثر في نفسه، واعتقد أنه لن يحقق آماله. خضع للعلاج الصيني والعاوادي لمدة سنة، وانتهت فترة العلاج قبل مباراة كأس العالم في إسبانيا ولكن فريقه خسر مما أدى إلى استبعاد الإسبانيين منه فاضطر للعودة إلى بلده وأهل ليمتمد منهم الدعم والثقة من جديد. مارادونا سعيد لوجوده في فريق نابولي في عام ١٩٨٤ التحق مارادونا بفريق الكورة فرق في النوم معانقا إياها بمودة الشلل في اكتشاف موهبة مارادونا إلى المدرب كورينجو من خلال صديقه جوبي كاريزو لم يتصور المدرب كورينجو أن مارادونا صغير السن، وظن أنه مجرد شخص قصير القامة، وذلك حين ظهر برؤاسته ومهاراته خلال لعبه بالكرة وفي تلك الفترة أقنع مارادونا والديه الذين كانوا من أصل إيطالي وهندي بأن ينضم إلى فريق سبيولتياس... وهكذا كان، واستطاع مارادونا أن يقود هذا الفريق إلى الشهرة بعد أن كان معروفا بتدني مستواه. كان

في عام ١٩٨٤ التحق مارادونا بفريق

بعد أن كان معروفاً بتدني مستواه. كان في عام 1984 التحق مارادونا بفرقة

قصة العدد



أريد أن أصبح... !؟



يمكن دراسته في جامعة بيت لحم. أنا شخصيا درست هذا الموضوع لمدة ستين في مستشفى جبل داود في بيت لحم حيث تخرجت كمساعدة، ومن ثم تابعت دراستي في جامعة بيت لحم إلى أن حصلت على درجة البكالوريوس. وللأسف... ليس من الممكن الحصول على درجتي الماجستير والدكتوراه في فلسطين بل في الخارج.

ما هي الصفات التي تجعل الشخص

يصبح معالجا طبيعيا ناجحا؟

أول هذه الصفات هي حب المهنـة، وثـمة صفات أخرى كالصبر والثقة والمهنية والجدية في العمل.

هل تبذلين جهودك في متابعة آخر

تطورات هذا الموضوع؟

أنا عضو في اتحاد العلاج الطبيعي البريطاني، حيث أحـمل على جـمـيع المـنشـورـاتـ. وأـنا عـضـوـ كـذـلـكـ في اـتـحـادـ العـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ الفلـسـطـنـيـ الذي تـأسـسـ عامـ ١٩٩٤ـ. لـكـنـ لـلـأـسـفـ، عـدـ وـرـشـاتـ الـعـلـمـ فيـ هـذـاـ الـمـوـضـعـ مـحـدـودـةـ جداـ، فـهيـ لاـ تـزـيدـ عـنـ ثـلـاثـ وـرـشـاتـ عـلـمـ سنـوـيـاـ.

ما الراتب الذي يحصل عليه المعالج

الطبيعي؟

إن الراتب في الجانب العربي محدود جداً، إذ يصلـ الراتـبـ فيـ المؤـسـاسـاتـ الحكوميةـ حـوـاـيـ ١ـ٣ـ٠ـ٠ـ شـيـكـلـ، بـيـنـماـ يـتـرـاـوـحـ ماـ بـيـنـ ٢ـ٠ـ٠ـ٠ـ وـ٣ـ٠ـ٠ـ شـيـكـلـ فيـ المؤـسـاسـاتـ الخـاصـةـ.

كيف تقيـنـ وـضـعـ أـطـاءـ العـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ

الـفـلـسـطـنـيـ مـقـارـنـةـ معـ ظـرـائـفـ الإـسـرـائـيلـيـ؟

هـنـاكـ العـدـيدـ مـنـ الفـروـقـاتـ. فـنـيـ إـسـرـائـيلـ يـحـلـ المـرضـ علىـ العـلاـجـ فيـ المؤـسـاسـاتـ الخـاصـةـ، أـمـاـ عـنـدـنـاـ فـيـتـمـ العـلاـجـ فيـ الـمـسـتـشـفيـاتـ. وـيـحـلـ أـهـلـهـ العـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ فيـ إـسـرـائـيلـ عـلـىـ حـقـوقـ أـكـثـرـ مـنـ

ما نوع الأمراض التي يتم شفاؤها

بـاستـخدـامـ العـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ؟

يـفـيدـ العـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ فـيـ عـلـاجـ العـدـيدـ مـنـ الـأـمـرـاـضـ مـثـلـ

- آلام الظهر.
- الكسور.
- الأمراض العصبية.
- أمراض الجهاز التنفسـيـ.
- أمراض وراثـيةـ.

تصوـرـ تصـريـ مـقـبـولـ

لـإـتـاحـتهاـ هـذـهـ الفـرـسـةـ الشـيـفـيـةـ فـيـ لـعـلـمـ استـخـدـمـ إـحـدـيـ الأـدـوـاتـ بـالـقـرـبـ مـنـ عـيـنـهـاـ، فـسـالـهـاـ إـنـ كـانـ تـشـعـرـ بالـخـوفـ فـاجـابـتـ: وـلـازـمـ أـخـافـ...ـ

ـتـعـبـيرـ عـنـ اـمـقـاتـيـ لـهـلـيـ حـواـشـيـنـ إـنـكـ تـعـرـفـينـ مـاـ تـقـومـ بـهـ "ـوـأـنـاـ دـائـماـ إـبـدـ جـهـدـيـ لـعـرـفـ سـرـيرـ كـلـ مـرـيضـ حـيـثـ أـسـتـطـعـ السـيرـ إـلـيـهـ مـباـشـرـ،ـ

ـمـهـنـمـ الـمـسـتـقـلـةـ الـاتـصالـ مـعـ صـحـيفـةـ "ـالـبـوـثـ تـايـمـ"ـ

هل يقبل عامة الناس هذه المهنة؟

ـكـانـ النـاسـ فـيـ الـأـنـسـيـ يـقـلـلـونـ مـنـ فـوـانـدـ العـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ،ـ لـكـنـ وـيـالـتـرـدـجـ أـسـبـحـواـ مـقـتنـعـيـنـ بـأـنـ التـارـيـخـ تـقـيـدـ بـعـضـ الـرـضـيـ كـثـيرـاـ.ـ هـنـاكـ مـشـكـلةـ وـاحـدةـ وـهـيـ أـنـ الـرـيـاضـاتـ يـفـضـلـ الـعـرـضـاتـ لـاـ الـرـيـاضـينـ

لـكـلـ وـظـيـفـةـ إـيـجـاـبـاتـ وـسـلـيـاتـ،ـ فـمـاـ

ـهـيـ سـلـيـاتـ وـإـيـجـاـبـاتـ العـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ؟ـ

ـفـيـماـ يـتـمـعـلـقـ بـالـسـلـيـاتـ فـيـاـنـهاـ تـقـلـلـ مـاـ دـامـ

ـالـعـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ يـقـتـعـ بـرـوحـ الدـعـابـةـ وـالـصـبـرـ...ـ وـكـذـلـكـ عـلـىـ الـعـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ وـضـعـ مـاـشـكـهـ الـشـخـصـيـةـ جـانـبـاـ عـنـدـمـاـ

ـيـقـومـ بـعـالـجـ الـرـيـاضـ وـعـلـيـهـ تـطـوـرـ قـدـرـتـ عـلـىـ حـسـنـ الـاسـتـعـامـ لـلـرـيـاضـ حـتـىـ وـاـنـ كـانـ تـعـتـمـ تـأـثـيرـ التـعـبـ أوـ

ـالـصـفـطـ أـمـاـ فـيـماـ يـتـمـعـلـقـ بـالـإـيـجـاـبـاتـ فـيـ كـثـيرـاـ،ـ كـالـوابـطـ الـتـيـ تـشـاـبـهـ

ـالـرـيـاضـ وـالـعـلاـجـ

أـلـيـسـ صـحـيـاـنـ عـدـدـ الـعـالـبـلـاتـ

الـطـبـيـعـاتـ أـكـثـرـ مـنـ الذـكـرـ؟ـ

ـتـعـمـ،ـ وـلـيـسـ هوـ أـنـ الـعـالـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ تـعـالـجـ كـلـاـ مـنـ الذـكـرـ وـالـإـنـاثـ عـلـىـ حـدـ

ـسـوـاـ،ـ بـيـنـماـ يـعـالـجـ الـعـالـجـونـ الذـكـرـ الـرـيـاضـ الذـكـرـ فـقـطـ

أـنـ يـمـكـنـ درـاسـةـ هـذـاـ الـمـوـضـعـ؟ـ

ـعـيـسـيـ السـعـيدـ وـعـرـيمـ دـجـبـورـ

ـفـيـ قـسمـ العـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ

ـلـإـتـاحـتهاـ هـذـهـ الفـرـسـةـ الشـيـفـيـةـ فـيـ لـعـلـمـ استـخـدـمـ إـحـدـيـ الأـدـوـاتـ بـالـقـرـبـ مـنـ عـيـنـهـاـ،ـ فـسـالـهـاـ إـنـ كـانـ تـشـعـرـ بالـخـوفـ فـاجـابـتـ: وـلـازـمـ أـخـافـ...ـ

ـتـعـبـيرـ عـنـ اـمـقـاتـيـ لـهـلـيـ حـواـشـيـنـ إـنـكـ تـعـرـفـينـ مـاـ تـقـومـ بـهـ "ـوـأـنـاـ دـائـماـ إـبـدـ جـهـدـيـ لـعـرـفـ سـرـيرـ كـلـ مـرـيضـ حـيـثـ أـسـتـطـعـ السـيرـ إـلـيـهـ مـباـشـرـ،ـ

ـمـهـنـمـ الـمـسـتـقـلـةـ الـاتـصالـ مـعـ صـحـيفـةـ "ـالـبـوـثـ تـايـمـ"ـ

هل تـعـرـفـ شـخـصـ خـصـصـ لـلـعـلاـجـ

الـطـبـيـعـيـ؟ـ

ـنـعـمـ،ـ لـقـدـ تـعـرـضـ أـحـدـ أـسـدـقـائـيـ إـلـىـ تـهـارـ

ـهـوـانـيـ أـكـثـرـ عـلـىـ الـأـعـصـابـ فـيـ وـجـهـ،ـ

ـفـشـكـراـ لـلـعـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ الـذـيـ أـنـتـهـ مـنـ

مـاـ الـوـاقـعـ الـتـيـ تـقـرـرـ إـلـيـهـ الـعـادـةـ وـالـيـ

ـطـلـبـيـنـ إـلـىـ رـوـقـيـهـاـ فـيـ الـمـسـقـلـ؟ـ

ـأـرـضـبـ فـيـ أـنـ أـرـىـ عـلـاجـ اـكـثـرـ

ـبـاسـتـخـدـمـ الـتـبـاتـاتـ،ـ لـيـسـ فـقـطـ لـعـلـاجـ

ـالـعـدـلـاتـ بـلـ فـيـ عـلـاجـ جـمـيعـ أـعـضاـ

مـاـ الـوـاقـعـ الـتـيـ تـقـرـرـ إـلـيـهـ الـعـادـةـ وـالـيـ

ـطـلـبـيـنـ إـلـىـ رـوـقـيـهـاـ فـيـ الـمـسـقـلـ؟ـ

مـاـ الـوـاقـعـ الـتـيـ تـقـرـرـ إـلـيـهـ الـعـادـةـ وـالـيـ

ـطـلـبـيـنـ إـلـىـ رـوـقـيـهـاـ فـيـ الـمـسـقـلـ؟ـ

مـاـ الـوـاقـعـ الـتـيـ تـقـرـرـ إـلـيـهـ الـعـادـةـ وـالـيـ

ـطـلـبـيـنـ إـلـىـ رـوـقـيـهـاـ فـيـ الـمـسـقـلـ؟ـ

مـاـ الـوـاقـعـ الـتـيـ تـقـرـرـ إـلـيـهـ الـعـادـةـ وـالـيـ

ـطـلـبـيـنـ إـلـىـ رـوـقـيـهـاـ فـيـ الـمـسـقـلـ؟ـ

مـاـ الـوـاقـعـ الـتـيـ تـقـرـرـ إـلـيـهـ الـعـادـةـ وـالـيـ

ـطـلـبـيـنـ إـلـىـ رـوـقـيـهـاـ فـيـ الـمـسـقـلـ؟ـ

تقـرـيرـ نـسـرينـ فـرـعونـ وـعـرـيمـ دـجـبـورـ

ـمـاـ سـتـعملـ بـعـدـ الـانتـهـاـ،ـ مـنـ الـدرـاـسـةـ

ـالـثـانـوـيـ؟ـ هـلـ سـتـذهبـ إـلـىـ الجـامـعـةـ؟ـ مـاـ

ـتـحـلـ أـنـ تـصـبـحـ فـيـ الـمـسـقـلـ؟ـ شـرـطاـ،ـ

ـعـالـمـ آـشـارـ،ـ مـصـمـ آـنـهاـ،ـ مـيـكـانـيـكـاـ،ـ

ـطـوارـ،ـ حـلـاقـاـ،ـ صـاحـبـ متـجرـ؟ـ

ـفـيـ كـلـ عـدـدـ مـنـ هـذـهـ الصـحـيفـةـ سـتـخـتـارـ

ـطـالـبـاـ أوـ طـالـبـةـ لـقـصـاـ،ـ يـوـمـ كـامـلـ فـيـ

ـالـمـهـنـ الـتـيـ تـرـغـبـوـنـ فـيـ مـعـرـفـةـ الـمـنـدـ

ـعـنـهاـ.ـ أـكـتـبـواـ لـنـاـ فـقـرـةـ أـوـ رـسـالـةـ قـصـيرةـ

ـتـحـبـرـوـنـتـاـ فـيـهـاـ عـنـ الـمـهـنـ الـتـيـ تـرـغـبـوـنـ

ـفـيـ مـعـارـسـهاـ وـلـمـ اـخـتـرـتـهـاـ،ـ وـذـلـكـ

ـعـرـبـةـ عـنـ رـغـبـتـهاـ فـيـ أـنـ تـصـبـحـ

ـأـخـصـائـيـةـ فـيـ الـعـلاـجـ الطـبـيـعـيـ.ـ وـكـالـمـادـةـ

ـعـلـمـ "ـالـبـوـثـ تـايـمـ"ـ عـلـىـ إـتـاحـةـ

ـالـمـهـنـ الـتـيـ تـرـغـبـوـنـ فـيـ هـذـهـ الـمـهـنـ

ـعـنـ قـرـبـهـاـ.ـ وـيـوـمـ بـعـدـ اـنـتـهـاـ الـمـهـنـ

بِأَقْلَامِهِمْ



لَا تَعْذِلُنِي

أهواك..
والمهوى قدر واتسحار..
أعجوبة النساء رفقة ياعصايني
لا قدرة لي بعد على الدمار
أهرب منك إلى نفسي
وأدري أن هروبي معجزة..
من وحش عييك الكاسرة
وهل ترحل النحوم عن الأقصاد..
أحاول مخنوں احتياج حصنك
لأكشف المأساة: أكي مغامر
لأيملك سلاحاً سوى الانتظار
أعذري بعنف حسي
إن كنت قد أساءت فيك الاختيار
لكن.. لا تعذليني
فالروايات كثيرة
عن اتسحار سفينة من أجل شخار...

أمين طارق السمايعين
جامعة مؤتة
الأردن/عاديا

فَانِي مَا زَلْتُ أَقْوَمْ

سجدة سيفي من محمد
وشهدت جرهيم
ومازلت أقاوم

وضحة أبو شرار
نوراً-الخليل

مسابقة الشارقة للإبداع

تعلن وزارة الثقافة عن مسابقة الشارقة للإبداع لدعم المؤهّلين والمؤهّلات من الشباب في كافة أنحاء الوطن العربي

شروط المابقة

- أن لا تكون المسابقة قد نشرت من قبل
 - أن تتعلق بأحد الوابطين التاليين: القصة القصيرة، الشعر الفصحى، الرواية، المسرحية، أدب الأطفال، التقد
 - آخر موعد للتقديم للمسابقة هو تشرين أول ١٩٩٩
 - وسيتم الإعلان عن النتائج في شهر ديسمبر عام ٢٠٠٠
 - زيد من المعلومات يرجى الاتصال بـ وزارة الثقافة/مديرية الآداب على هاتف ٠٣ - ٩٩٨٥٦٠٤

سفن

حانت دقائق السفر
ودقت ساعات القدس
وجلست أنظر وصولك أنها القدس
ولم يكمن لى بحلول النظر
فمشى تعود يا فخر؟
ذيل على وجهي الزهر
وللاشى عن شفتي السحر
فرشت الأرض عطراً أمرقني طول الـ
وانما زرت أنظر فمشى تعود يا فخر؟
ضاع من عيني النظر
وأقصى متي العمر
وانما زرت أنظر فمشى تعود يا فخر؟
وذات يوم أنا في ذلك المحر
هولون يعود فقد أسرته ألهة البحر

غيداء محمود شنان
مدرسة دار السلام | دورا - الخليل

مذکرات فتاہ

وأمسك القلم... وأروح أفكر فيما سأكتب
هل أكتب أنني مشتاقه إليها الربع إليك؟ أم أنني نسيتك
وأكذب عليك؟
أم أكتب المسؤال للعتاب؟
لماذا رحلت، وماذا جنتي بعد طول الغياب؟
أشعر عيني وتكبر في قلبي الأشواق؟... لأراك بين الأقلام
والآتوات والأوراق... وأفتح العينين... أحارو النسيان،
ولكنني أجد نفسي أفكر فيك، فما بالي أفتح خزانتي
أبحث فيها عن أجمل أثوابي لأرتديها عندما ستاتي؟
وما بالي أنشئ شعري على كتفني لتلمع حملاته كالسدايل
لأقول لها:

سيعود الربيع من جديد، وأدرك أنني فتاة لا تجيد
النسيان، وأكذب بقولي إنني سعيدتك.
الآن عدت إليها الربيع... أما ملأت حقائبك من المسفر؟!
لن أدعك تعاود الرحيل... ستحبني بكل ما أوتيت من
الحب، وتعلم أنني أحب رمي الحروف على الأوراق
وأكره الدموع والفارق:
ستحبني لأنك الوبير الذي أنتظرك والأمل الذي يعيش في
داخلني إلى الأبد.

وسام محمد الحروب
دار السلام-دورا-الخليل

ما زلت أقاوم

أبعدوا علي سموكم
 انحصار تحرمني
 فانا ما زلت أقاوم
 غذبيه صوبته لحوكم
 سمامي في نحوركم



رياح الشوق

مؤتمر "الهيف" من أجل السلام

دارت بعثني وبين بعض المشاركون والتي استنتجت منها أن القومية لا تثل عقبة في البحث عن السلام ونحن، شباب العالم، نستطيع إحداث مساعدة هامة في المستقبل.

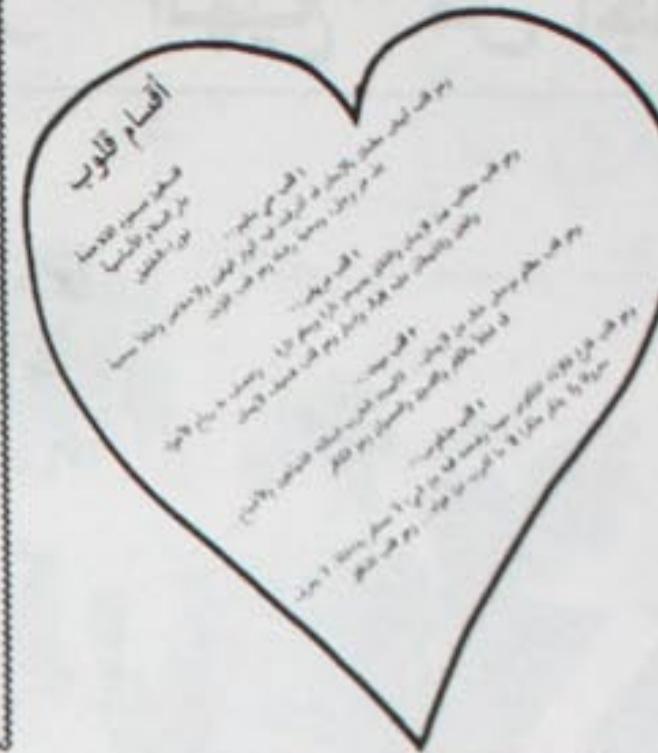
• ماهر حمزة (٢٠ عاماً)
شاب لبناني طالب طب في الجامعة الأمريكية في بيروت وعنوان (الحركة العالمية للقضاء على السلاح النووي) يقول عمار: "يعيش اللاجئون الفلسطينيون في لبنان أوضاعاً مزرية لأن وكالة غوث وتشغيل اللاجئين خلقت من دعمنا لهم".

وعلى طول الندوة المتعلقة بالقضاء على الأسلحة النووية قدمت بذكاء المشاركون بஸوره اليد في تطبيق ذلك على إسرائيل التي إن استخدمت هذا السلاح فسيؤثر على المنطقة برمتها وكانت ردود فعل المسؤولين غمز إيجابية إذ أكدوا أنهم لا يستطيعون اتخاذ إجراءات ضد إسرائيل بسبب الوضع السياسي الراهن في المنطقة!

• خديجة درار (٢٤ عاماً)
خديجة فتاة مغربية تعيش في هولندا وتدرس الطب تتول خديجة: "من المتع المسكن في بلد أجنبى فالناس هنا أحرار ومن السهل الاندماج مع الجنسيات المختلفة رقم صعوبة ذلك على الجيل الأول من المهاجرين. حلمي هو الانسجام إلى منظمة أطباء بلا حدود وأن أصبح طبيبة متقطعة في أفريقيا حيث العدديون هناك بحاجة إليها".

"اليوتو تايمز"... لها أوصاف

- ي: بسوع من الأمانى
- و: وردة بين الورود
- ث: ثمرة حهد وعاء
- ت: نالق مستمر بإذن الله
- أ: أهل وأحلام
- ي: سر وسهولة
- م: خلقة دالما
- ذ: ريشونة من زيتونات الأرض المقدسة
- إهناه من يسرى عصرو
- دورا- الخليل



وهذا ينبع على الفاكهة والخضار،
التي من تناول السكريات والدهون

-7- قللي من الدهون:

إذا كان لا بد من تناول الدهون،
فإنعليها كل الدهون، وتناولها منها
كميات قليلة، وتناول التم ثلا

رات في الأسبوع فقط

-8- الحلويات أيها:

هل تعرفي أن السكر والعلوي عموماً
من بسكويت وخلافه، ترفع من نسبة
الأنسولين في الدم، وأيتها تطرّب
الأوردة والشرايين وتسبب العديد من
الأمراض الأخرى؟

-9- تناولي التفوم:

يحتوى التفوم على مواد ضد التكيس،
كما أنه يساعد على منع النساء
الشرايين. تناولي القليل من التفوم يومياً
نها أو مطبوخها للتهدى عنك شيفوخة
العن



- ٤- أطعمة تحتوي لول الصويا:
تناول الكثير من الأطعمة التي يدخل
في تركيبها لول الصويا، مثل لحم

-5- الإقلال من الدهون الباردة:

الدهون تواجد في بعض الدهون، وفي
مستحضرات الألبان، مثل الكريمة أو
المثلجة، والجبن كامل الدسم،
والمارجرين والبيوت النياتية، والأطعمة
المعالجة بعمليات صناعية مثل الجبن
ويمكن أن نوع العلفيات، وتعرف

بالProcessed Food. وهذه الأنواع

من الدهون لا تقيظ نفسك

الدهون والمواد منها بمواد ضد

النفاس، والنفاس

-6- السعرات الحرارية:

الذكى تعمل على إعاقة تناول حلايا

والشيوخة التعود ضد الصفر على

تناوله قطع من الفواكه والخضار

غيرها من حيث السعرات الحرارية.

١- الذكى من الطعام واللواحة:

الدهون واللواحة منها بمواد ضد

النفاس، والنفاس

٢- تناول السجق مرتحل أو للاشيء في

الأسبوع

الأساند العفنية، مثل سجق السالمون

والذكي والسردين واللوبه والرجبة،

هي أفضل الأنواع لأنها تحتوي على

ثلاث أنواع من المواد الخففية التي

تعمل على سعة الحلايا، كما تساعد

على إفراز بعض التكميليات في

الجسم، والتي تعمل مثل الهرمونات

لعاماً، وبذلك يفضل الجسم مختلفاً

باتكمال ورشتك

٣- فنجان شاي:

ولست أخر الأبعاد أن الشاي يساعد

على تخلص الجسم من المواد الكيميائية

التي تفسد الحلايا، كما أنه يحرّس

الأوردة ويقلل من نسبة الإصابة

باستثناء البدانة

٤- فنجان شاي:

ولست أخر الأبعاد أن الشاي يساعد

على تخلص الجسم من المواد الكيميائية

التي تفسد الحلايا، كما أنه يحرّس

الأوردة ويقلل من نسبة الإصابة

باستثناء البدانة

٢٠٠٦ - ٢٠٠٥ - ٢٠٠٤ - ٢٠٠٣ - ٢٠٠٢ - ٢٠٠١ - ٢٠٠٠ - ٢٠٠٩ - ٢٠٠٨ - ٢٠٠٧ - ٢٠٠٦ - ٢٠٠٥ - ٢٠٠٤ - ٢٠٠٣ - ٢٠٠٢ - ٢٠٠١ - ٢٠٠٠

الثلاثاء	الإثنين	السبت	الجمعة	الخميس	الأربعاء	الثلاثاء	الإثنين	الأحد	السبت	الجمعة	الخميس
٨/١٠	٨/٩+٨/٨	٨/٧	٨/٦	٨/٥	٨/٤	٨/٣	٨/٢	٨/١	٧/٣١	٧/٣٠	٧/٢٩
الاحتفل	مصطفي	فؤاد	فيوليت	الفرقة	الفرقة	خليل أبو	فرقة ازيد	فرقة ازيد	احلام	الافتتاح	الليل
لهلة	قر	الوشما	سلامة	الفرقة	القومية	لولا	الموسيقى	الموسيقى	مريم	الرمسي	الرمسي
للسقطية	مصر	مصر	و فرقه	القومية	القومية	بن ذكري	العربيه	العربيه	تونق	المربيه	المربيه
مصر	مصر	العموسي	العموسي	التراث	التراث	الشعر	الشعر	الشعر	التراث	التراث	التراث
Heart to Heart		العالمية	الناصرة				شاهر	شاهر	جميل	عرض	الحنونة
							سهام	سهام	العاشر	احلام	احلام
									ستوى		
									الازلن		



Cocktail!

Smile

A young couple got married and went on their honeymoon. When they got back, the bride immediately called her mother. "Well," said her mother, "so how was the honeymoon?"



"Mum," she replied, "the honeymoon itself was wonderful, so romantic! But..." Suddenly she burst out crying. "Mum, as soon as we returned, Sam started using the most horrible language...things I'd never heard before! I mean, all these awful four-letter words! You've got to come get me and take me home...Please Mum!"

"Sarah, Sarah," her mother said, "Calm down! Tell me, what could be so awful? What four-letter words?"

"Please don't make me tell you," wept the daughter, "I'm so embarrassed...they are just too awful! Please come get me!"

"Darling baby, you must tell me what has got you so upset. I'm your mother...tell me these horrible four-letter words!"

Still sobbing, the bride said, "Oh, Mum...words like: wash, iron, dust, cook..."

Palestinian Youth say: "No for drugs...Yes for life"



M. Abu Turk

The Youth Times
extends its appreciation
to all those who took part in the recent march
to combat drug abuse

Baby One More Time

Oh baby baby, how was I supposed to know
That something wasn't right here
Oh baby baby, I shouldn't have let you go
And now you're out of sight yeah
Show me, how you want it to be
Tell me baby, cuz I need to know no, oh because
Chorus:
My loneliness is killing me (and I)
I must confess I still believe (still believe)
When I'm not with you I lose my mind
Give me a sign, hit me baby one more time
Oh baby baby, the reason I breathe is you
Boy you've got me blinded
Oh pretty baby there's nothing that I wouldn't do
That's not the way I planned it
Show me how you want it to be
Tell me baby cuz I need to know now, oh because
CHORUS
Oh baby baby, how was I supposed to know
Oh pretty baby, I shouldn't let you go
I must confess that my loneliness is killing me now
Don't you know I still believe
That you will be here and give me a sign

Unique British band 'STOMP' their way to Palestine



Nasri Maqbul

The unique British band performed at the Palestine International Festival, held in Ramallah recently. Amongst the band's many nonconventional instruments are: trash cans, brooms, water, kitchen tools...

The Enlightenment

IT was summer, the weather was hot, and the sun was shining as if it were a golden plate in the middle of the blue clear sky. Everyone was happy and content, but suddenly everything changed; the weather became windy and up in the sky there appeared a huge black cloud. Why had the cloud appeared in the middle of the blue sky of a beautiful sunny day? Was it merely a fluke of nature or a sign of imminent danger? Could people do anything about it? These were the questions that the people who saw the cloud asked themselves.

Human nature being what it is, most of those who saw the cloud simply put it down to a change in the weather and went about their daily business, but there were others who were scared and who believed that what they were seeing was in some way indicative of what was happening to people's hearts and minds. In the past, they said to themselves, people were always helping one another and offering each other their support and protection. People felt the pain of their friends and neighbors and shared in their sadness and happiness,

and children still respected their elders, who in turn looked after their every need. In short, the world was living in peace and people were happy.

Now, unfortunately, things were different. People had



Rasha Qutteneh

changed, and their lives were characterized by hate and prejudice; people thought only of themselves, and some even delighted in seeing others miserable, while instead of taking care of their young, adults had taken to mistreating them and, consequently, no longer warranted or earned their respect. People thought nothing of telling lies, insulting others and using foul language; in short, their minds and hearts were as black as the cloud.

Fortunately, it was not too late to turn things around. Convinced that the cloud had been sent as a message of warning, the enlightened ones set about trying to explain to others that there was a need to change. It wasn't easy, but slowly and surely people stopped being selfish and started to think once again about others and about the things that really mattered in their lives, not the things that could be bought with money, but good health, family ties, and being part of a decent, law-abiding society. In doing

so, they made many discoveries, such as all wars are evil and should be avoided, that giving can be far more gratifying than receiving, and that love is a multi-faceted emotion that can be expressed in a multitude of ways. And then came the most exciting discovery of all—the black cloud had gone from their midst. They knew almost instinctively that as long as they remained determined to keep on the track they had chosen, it would never return.

Rasha Qutteneh
Schmidt School,
Jerusalem

Life is what you make it

LIFE is difficult, especially nowadays, and its problems appear to increase as time goes by. However, although life is difficult, it is also beautiful. Life is often full of sadness, but there are happy times too, like when you study hard at school and achieve a high mark. With your graded paper in your hand, you automatically forget about all the hours you spent studying and the things that you had to give up in order to do well. Many people simply despair and say they 'hate' life when things go wrong, but they should learn to understand that everyone faces problems and it is up to the individual to find ways to deal with them.

The life of a human being is an opportunity to discover and experience new things, and we would be wrong to view anything it has to offer as bad. We should always try to learn from our experiences and should not assume that happiness is ours for the taking, rather, that we should make the most of any situation, be it good or bad.

Finally, there is a lot of truth to the saying, 'Life is what you make it'. Perhaps if we all tried a little harder, we would succeed in improving our lives and those of others.

Ahlam Fawadbeh
Al-Ahliyyeh College,
Ramallah

LOVE

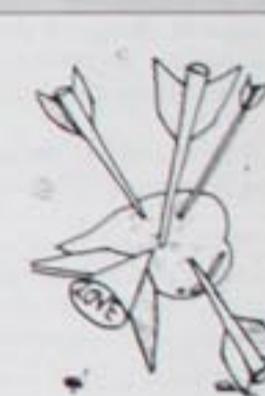
LOVE is one word but it has many meanings, such as sacrifice, loyalty and faith. No one truly understands what love is unless he or she experiences it themselves. What a wonderful thing it is when two people with something in common fall in love, and when you see how happy they are and how well they understand each other. In some cases, people even sacrifice their lives for someone they care for, thereby proving that love is demonstrated not through words but through actions.

Love can change everything in our lives: the way we live, the way we think, the way we talk, and even the way we smile. For this reason, the one who falls in love finds life more wonderful and beautiful than the one who does not.

However, love requires honesty, which is sometimes hard to find. In order to love, we need to find someone we can trust and share our feelings with. If they cannot return our feelings, then the love is doomed, because there is nothing less stable in the world than a relationship in which the feelings of one side are much stronger than those of the other.

Finally, I have to add that it is almost impossible to describe love accurately, simply because it is so powerful an emotion that to put our feelings about love into words is to not do it justice, which is why I will end by giving the following advice: If you really love someone and want them to know it, don't waste your time with words... show it.

Rozleen Raja Rishmawi
Greek Catholic Patriarchate School, Beit Sahour



Common Ground Awards For Journalism

Search for Common Ground is pleased to announce a new annual award to recognize and encourage journalism that contributes to better understanding between Arabs and Israelis.

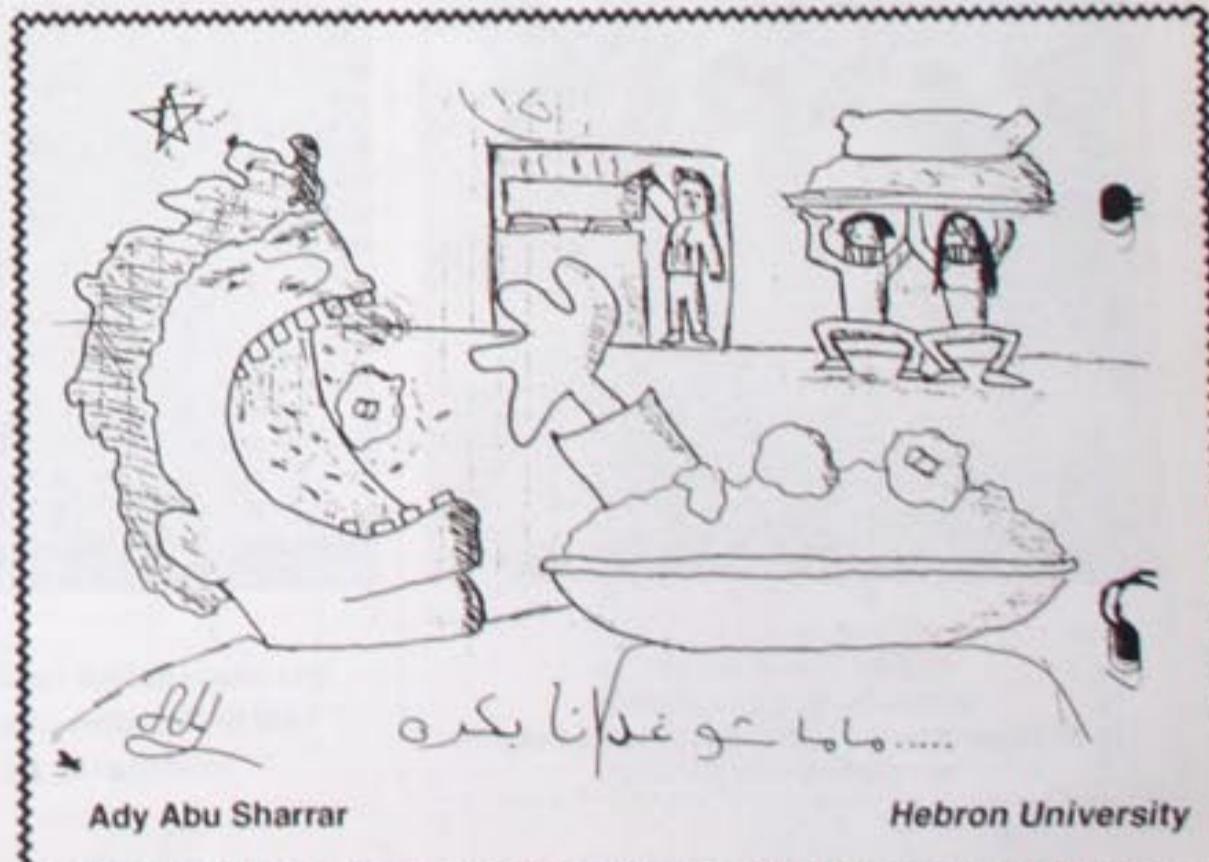
The Common Ground Awards for Journalism in the Middle East are being offered for one Arabic, one Hebrew, and one English-language article that goes beyond the daily headlines to break down myths and stereotypes, open windows into the other's society, provide insight into the ongoing debates in the region, and expose readers to new points of view in the Arab-Israeli context.

Each article submitted for consideration will be reviewed by an international panel of judges representing a variety of perspectives and backgrounds. Articles must be written between January 1998 and September 1999 and have been published in a recognized newspaper, magazine or other periodical. Winners will be announced at Search for Common Ground's annual awards ceremony to be held in December.

Each winning author will receive a monetary award of \$1,000.

Deadline for submission: September 30, 1999.

For more information, please contact The Youth Times
Tel: 02-6264883 / 02-6273293
19 Nablus Road
P.O.Box 20185
Jerusalem



Ady Abu Sharrar

Hebron University

The Hague Appeal For Peace

by Saleem Habash

It all started on 20 April this year when I received a surprise telephone call from Hania Biar, the Editor in Chief of *The Youth Times*, telling me that I had been chosen to attend The Hague Appeal for Peace Conference at the Hague, Netherlands, between 11-16 May 1999.

The idea of flying for the first time and traveling to a different country was extremely exciting, and my only problem - or so I thought - was the fact that I didn't have a passport! With a stroke of luck, my passport was ready in a few days - the visa, however, was another story.

When Hania and I went to apply for my visa, we were told to wait patiently for the reply. So we waited, and waited, and waited... nothing. How, I asked,

would I be able to face all my friends at school to whom I had boasted concerning my forthcoming trip if the visa was not issued? Me and my big mouth. And then, something incredible happened. The day before the conference started, I was sitting in class when suddenly the principal entered and called out my name. Oh God, I thought to myself, what have I done now? I needn't have worried; instead of reprimanding me, the principal brought to me some wonderful news...my visa was ready, and I would be leaving the same day. Unable to believe my luck, I rushed out of the classroom to apply for my Israeli travel permit, made my way back home - where Hania was waiting for me - grabbed a suitcase, and then set off for the embassy in Tel Aviv to get the visa. How I ever made the flight will always be a mystery, but the fact is, that with hardly a minute to spare, I had taken my seat on the plane and knew instinctively that my adventure was only

just beginning.

After arriving in Amsterdam, I took what I thought was the train to The Hague, only to discover that it was going in a different direction, which meant that I had to return to the airport and start all over again. Standing there, waiting for another train, I made a terrible discovery...my handbag was missing, presumably left on the other train, holding my ticket and passport and all the papers related to the conference. In an absolute panic, I decided to take a taxi to The Hague, and after being driven around for two hours looking for the youth hostel where I was supposed to be staying, I finally ended up spending the night in a motel.

The next day I went to the congress building where the conference was taking place, registered and attended the opening ceremony. Although there was certainly an emphasis on the need for peace, none of the various speakers mentioned the Arab-Israeli conflict, which I found a bit upsetting. In spite of this failure, what I heard moved me a great deal: calls for a better nuclear-free world, an end to war and the spreading of peace... noble proposals indeed.

In particular, I cannot forget the words of the President of the Hague Appeal for Peace Foundation, Ms. Cora Wiess, who highlighted the suffering of young people as a result of war and said that people throughout the world should make themselves available to others who are in pain. She also emphasized the role of women in making peace, saying, "If we (women) are important enough to be targeted by weapons of war, then we are important enough to be at every negotiation table." I



In front of the conference building, the Hague

Saleem Habash

should note at this point that amongst those listening to the opening speeches was Archbishop Desmond Tutu, as well as ministers of various countries, diplomats and peace activists.

In the early stages of the conference, I joined a session about the involvement of young people in war, which was attended by UN Secretary General Kofi Anan. During the session, a child from Kosovo, now a refugee made a heart-rending speech, and the fact that his voice was heard at all reinforced my belief - and that of many others - that young people all over the world really have the power to make a difference.

The next day, Thursday 13 May, I attended a session that dealt with the issue of economic sanctions on Iraq. Everyone present expressed sympathy with the people of Iraq and voiced their condemnation of the sanctions. The major session that day was one with the title 'Jerusalem: What Facts, What Vision, What Peace?' during which there were both Palestinian and Israeli contributions, involving those of Uri Avnari, an Israeli from Jerusalem and a member of Gush Shalom, and Rona Salih, a Palestinian living in Sheikh Jarrah in Jerusalem and a member of the Palestinian Center for Human Rights - Law. I was surprised by Avnari, who said that he supported the Palestinian right to establish a Palestinian state but was unable to acknowledge the rights of Palestinians in East Jerusalem.

On Friday, I took part in a session dealing with the ability of youth to turn hope into action and to develop skills for promoting change. The session explored the role of youth leaders in promoting peace and, like everything else in which I participated, was extremely thought provoking and stimulating.

Saturday witnessed the closing

ceremony, during which many important people expressed their thoughts about war, peace, and the abolishment of nuclear weapons and landmines. Speakers included a model fighter, mother and woman, Sheikha Hasina the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan.

As a result of The Hague Appeal for Peace Conference, participants came up with The Hague Agenda for Peace and Justice in the 21st Century, which, whilst calling for peace and justice, deals with the issue of human rights during times of war. Conflicts have existed since the dawn of time, and it is time that all of us, young and old alike, made an effort to ensure that peace and not war prevails all over the world. This entails, among other things, adopting new methods in searching for solutions and settling our differences.

The days of the conference passed quickly. Thanks to the assistance of the Palestinian Ambassador in Holland, Mr. Yousef Habbab, I managed to obtain some temporary documents to get back to Palestine.

Below is a short summary of discussions I had with other participants. I am sure that after reading what they have to say, you the reader will agree that nationality is not an obstacle to the search for peace and that we, the young people of the world, are capable of making an important contribution to the future.

* **AMER KARAM**, 20, from Lebanon, a medical student at the American University of Beirut, and a member of the IPPNU (The International Movement for the Abolishment of Nuclear Weapons):

"I participated in the Hague Conference, the goal of which was to give young people the opportunity to meet each other and shoulder responsibilities that are usually handed to international diplomats in order to maintain global understanding...Peace is not just a state of 'no war', but a state in which people live together and accept, if not respect, each other's presence."

* **KHADIJAH ZERAR**, 24, from Morocco, a medical student living in The Netherlands:

"It is nice living in a foreign country, people here are free and it is so easy to mix with people of other nationalities, even though it was hard for the first generations of immigrants to settle in... My dream is to join the 'Doctors without Frontiers' organization and to become a volunteer doctor in Africa where so many people are in need... I believe that the Palestinians have the right to a state, but I think this requires the unity of the Arab people."

* **PHILIP TERWIEL**, 18, from the United States and living in The Netherlands, a member of THIMUN (The Hague International Model United Nations):

"I participated in the Hague Conference, the goal of which was to give young people the opportunity to meet each other and shoulder responsibilities that are usually handed to international diplomats in order to maintain global understanding...Peace is not just a state of 'no war', but a state in which people live together and accept, if not respect, each other's presence."

Visit the Hague Appeal
website: www.youth.haguepeace.org

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On the Couch



The Terrible Teenage Years

I am a 16-year-old girl from Ramallah. Every day I find myself quarreling with my parents, knowing that I am in the right. Whenever I try to discuss the matter with my parents my younger brothers intervene, even though they have nothing to do with it, and now even my mother refuses to talk to me. It's not as if I am a bad student; I always make studying my top priority, but even so, I always seem to be in the wrong. To make matters worse, I haven't many friends and I haven't been to visit any of the ones that I do have for more than a year.

Please suggest what I should do before I die of boredom and frustration.

F.B.S.
Ramallah

Dear F.B.S.,

Like all other teenagers, you are still going through a process of formulating your character. These years of growing up are very critical and we promise to cover the matter in more detail in coming issues.

You need to realize that most young people of your age get annoyed with their siblings and feel confident that their own way of

From p. 1

which is why we are doing our best to provide locals and tourists alike with the very best services, especially in terms of safety."

Talking about the Dead Sea, Amer said that it claims the life of between one and four people per year. Although people don't actually drown there, said Amer, many people do not realize that swallowing the equivalent of half a glass of Dead Sea water is enough to poison and kill a fully-grown adult. "People should only float on their backs and learn to accept the fact that the Dead Sea is somewhere they should visit for health reasons, not for swimming," concluded Amer. For advice on precautions to be taken when swimming, *The Youth Times* interviewed Suleiman Allo, the head of the Palestinian Swimming Union and the coach of the Palestinian national team.

"The trouble is," said Allo, "that people in general are ignorant concerning their own strength in comparison to that of the sea. Just because a person can swim, it does not mean to say that he or she will not face problems when in the water. This arrogance is foolhardy. Some people think that they can swim in any area even if it is not supervised, and this is a fatal mistake."

Allo instructs swimmers to follow the instructions below:

- Pay attention to signs that warn

thinking is the correct one. Your problem becomes worse because you are living in a world of your own; you need to have friends around you and you need to bridge the gap with your mother.

Approach your mother in a way that will attract her attention and get her to listen. Perhaps you could make her realize that you value her opinions by asking her advice on certain matters. As for your lack of friends, try to get friendly with some girls at school or to make more of an effort to be friendly with your sisters or other relatives. Human beings and especially young people need to be able to discuss things with others and it is important that you try to surround yourself with people who are fun to be with but at the same time have your best interests at heart when they give advice.

Another thing that you could do is to take up a hobby. If you like to read, then join a library, and if you enjoy sports, think about joining your nearest YWCA. I think you will be pleasantly surprised when you discover that there are plenty of things going on in our society in which you could participate.

We wish you luck.

Love through the Internet

After hesitating for some weeks, I have decided to write to you in the hope that you can help me. I am a 17-year-old girl from Jerusalem. Approximately two years ago, I started using the Internet and had soon made friends with many people all over the world. Before I knew what had happened, I had fallen in love with one of my pen pals: a 22-year-old Arab guy living

in the United States.

I now speak to my special friend many hours a day and he recently told me that once he finishes studying in two years' time, he intends to return to Palestine and ask for my hand. Of course, I can't say a thing to my family, so my question to you is as follows: Should I believe what he says and wait, or should I put an end to the relationship now?

S.S.
Jerusalem

Dear S.S.,

A few months ago the media reported that a couple had got married after meeting through the Internet, although I would imagine that this is an isolated incident. There is always the possibility that you could be next, but let's be realistic so that you do not find yourself in some serious trouble.

First, let us assume that this guy really loves you. Ask yourself what you know about him, about his character, about his family, about his past and future. If he really loves you, he shouldn't find it that difficult to come for a holiday one summer and visit you and your family. Were he to do this and prove his sincerity, then at least the relationship would be out in the open and you would have nothing to fear from your parents. Should he take such a step, it would then be up to your family to check on his background, possibly by relying on the help of friends or relatives who live in the States.

Romantic love is a wonderful feeling, but it can't compete with the love that you get from God and your parents. You are still fairly young and there is a danger that your feelings and emotions have overwhelmed your old fashioned common sense. You need to open

up your heart to someone in order to hear some sensible advice, and in this respect, there is no one better qualified than your mom. I am sure that she will tell you what I am telling you, i.e., be careful. Women tend to love in a far more passionate manner than men, which means that if a relationship doesn't work out, a man will soon cheer up and get on with his life, whereas a woman will usually take a much longer time to pick up the pieces and forget.

We truly hope that your relationship will be fruitful, but please, be careful, be sensible and don't get carried away.

Good luck.

In Love with My Friend's Cousin

I am a school student and I have fallen in love with my best friend's cousin who is studying at Hebron University. I saw the boy once and the minute I spoke to him, I knew that I was in love. The problem is, how can I let him know how I feel? As you know our habits and customs prevent us girls from talking to males, and even were I to pluck up the courage to talk to him on the phone, I don't have his number.

Please don't mention my name in your reply.

M.M.
Hebron

Dear M.M.,

I think that you have to differentiate between love and infatuation. After all, you only saw your cousin's friend once, and it could be that the fact that he was nice looking and talked to you in a friendly manner has made you feel that you are 'in love'. The truth is, it takes more than one meeting to

From p. 2

The Youth Times contacted Sister Frida Naser, the principal of St. Joseph's, who replied to the above complaint as follows: "I agree that there have been some complaints about this particular Arabic teacher, but I would like to make it clear that the said teacher is strict with all the students for their own good. Were they to think things over carefully, they would come to realize, if not now, then certainly later on, that her style of teaching is actually very beneficial to the student; after all, the majority of students are perfectly happy with her."

Sister Frida continued by saying, "The regulations of the school do not allow students to see their final exam papers. Without such a rule, we would have hundreds of students clamoring to see their papers, which would result in absolute chaos. Nevertheless, I am going to have a word with the members of staff and am considering making some exceptions next year, assuming it is feasible."

The Youth Times also contacted the office of the Ministry of Education in East Jerusalem and was told the following by an official source: "Private schools fall under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and we welcome any complaints regarding teachers. When we receive a complaint, we usually form a committee to carry out a thorough investigation. We also have a supervisory committee, which visits the schools on a regular basis in order to observe and evaluate teachers. When we receive a lot of complaints about a particular teacher, then we always investigate the matter and, assuming that we feel the complaints are justified, inform the teacher that a failure on his or her part to comply with our instructions will result in the taking of harsh measures. As far as exam papers are concerned, the official position is that students are allowed to see their final exam papers, although obviously, this requires a degree of cooperation on the part of the school administrations."

against swimming in certain areas or at certain times

- Do not go beyond the specified area where swimming is allowed
- Consult an expert regarding how to act if you encounter large waves
- Try to swim in groups
- Before swimming, check out whether the area is sandy, stony, rocky etc.
- Check if the water is clean or dirty
 - Avoid swimming when it is dark because if you encounter any problems no one will see you, plus waves are generally more dangerous at night
- Don't leave children wearing swimming aids or using floating beds or boats unsupervised
- Don't swim in areas where there are no lifeguards on duty
- Don't swim on a full stomach

Number of drowning Cases in Israeli Shores

Year	Mediterranean	Tyberias	Dead Sea	Red Sea	Swimming Pools	Total
1990	24	7	1	1	6	39
1991	32	10	0	0	4	46
1992	22	4	1	1	6	34
1993	31	4	0	1	6	42
1994	44	8	2	1	9	64
1995	32	3	1	1	3	38
1996	55	3	1	1	3	63
1997	59	8	2	4	4	77
Total	299	47	8	10	39	403

Source: Israeli Ministry of Interior

Career Watch: Physiotherapist

By Nisreen Far'oun & Maryam Dahbour

WHAT do you want to do after you finish your education? What do you want to be in the future: a teacher, a doctor, a mechanic, a pilot, a hairdresser, a singer, or a TV announcer? Write a single paragraph or a short letter telling us what career you want to pursue and the reasons why, and send it to our address. Each month we will select a letter and arrange for the writer to work in his or her chosen profession for a day.

Mays Al-Sai'd, an 11th grader at the Greek Catholic School in Beit Sabour, contacted *The Youth Times* and expressed her wish to participate in the Career Watch Program. Mays is keen to become a physiotherapist, so *The Youth Times* arranged for her to spend a day at Al-Maqased Hospital in order to gain a better insight into the profession of physiotherapy and gain some practical experience. At the end of the day, we conducted the following interview with Mays.

What can you tell us about your experience at Al-Maqased Hospital?

It was a new and wonderful experience, and I feel I have learnt a lot.

What made you choose this career?

Since my childhood I have been fond of sport and chemistry. I always wanted a career that combines the two and believe that becoming a physiotherapist is the answer.

After spending a day in close contact with a physiotherapist, are you still keen to become one yourself?

By spending a day at Al-Maqased Hospital under the supervision of Laila Hawasheen, I became convinced that this is the profession I am looking for. Believe me, if I could become whatever I wanted, I would still choose to be a physiotherapist. However, if, for some reason, I am unable to become one, I would probably try to get a job as a laboratory technician.

I must admit, I was rather ignorant when it came to the methods used in physiotherapy. I did not know, for example, that many different instruments are employed in the treatments and was under the impression that the physiotherapist relied only on his hands. Now that I am better informed concerning the various



Laila Hawasheen and Mays Al-Sai'd

methods of treatment I am all the more enthusiastic about becoming a physiotherapist myself.

Do you know anyone who has been treated with physiotherapy?

Yes, one of my friends was exposed to a draft that affected the nerves in his face. Thanks to physiotherapy, the damage caused to his face has been repaired.

What kind of things that were missing in the clinic would you like to see introduced in the future?

I would like to see more treatment using herbs and plants, not only for muscles but also for all the parts of the body.

Do you think that introducing psychology in combination with physiotherapy would have advantageous results?

Yes, certainly, the reason being that many patients would appear to be suffering from imaginary rather than real physical problems.

When you become a physiotherapist, would you be willing to treat both male and female patients?

I imagine that I would. If a man came to me for treatment, I

Nasri Maqbul

would feel obliged to provide it.

Do you have anything else to say?

I would like to thank *The Youth Times* for giving me this precious opportunity to learn more about physiotherapy. I would also like to express my gratitude to Laila Hawasheen who hosted me in her clinic in Al-Maqased. I encourage all students who would like to learn more about their chosen career to contact *The Youth Times*.

The Youth Times also interviewed Laila Hawasheen who observed Mays during her training in the clinic.

What, exactly, is physiotherapy?

Physiotherapy is a method of treatment that is based on using resources such as water and electricity, not chemicals or medicine.

How long have you been practicing this profession and what problems have you faced?

I have been practicing this profession for around 17 years. The major problem a physiotherapist faces is her or her occasional inability to diagnose the problem of the patient. The physiothera-

pist should not panic if he fails to come up with a diagnosis. Instead, he should start the treatment using heat and massage, which will not harm the patient in any way, until such time as he discovers the cause of the problem.

Does the fact that you are blind hinder you when you are working?

Not at all. I used to feel alienated but not any more. My patients all put their faith in me, which has helped a lot in making things easier. Some time ago, for example, I was treating a woman suffering from facial palsy and had to use an instrument around the eye area. I asked her "Aren't you afraid?" Why should I be afraid?" she replied, adding, "I am sure that you know what you are doing." In addition, I always make a point of finding out where each patient is located so that I can walk straight toward them, which helps in building up the trust.

Has the general public accepted this profession?

In the past, people tended to belittle the benefits of physiotherapy, but gradually, they have come to accept that exercise can be of enormous benefit to certain patients. There is still one problem, however, namely that female patients always want to be treated by female physiotherapists.

Every profession has its pros and cons. What are the pros and cons as far as physiotherapy is concerned?

As far as the disadvantages are concerned, these become minimal as long as the physiotherapist has a good sense of humor and a lot of patience.

At the same time the physiotherapist must be able to put his personal problems aside whilst treating patients and must develop the ability to listen to patients carefully, even when he is tired or under pressure. The advantages are many, such as the bond that develops between the physiotherapist and the patient, whose confidence in the physiotherapist must be as great as his or her confidence in other medical professionals.

Isn't it true that there are more female physiotherapists than male ones?

Yes, the reason being that female physiotherapists can deal with both male and female patients, whereas their male counterparts only treat men.

How many physiotherapists

are there in your section?

There are five of us all together.

Where can students study this profession?

They can study physiotherapy at Bethlehem University. I myself studied for two years at the Jabal Dawood Hospital in Bethlehem, where I later became an assistant, and then went on to obtain my BA at Bethlehem University. It usually takes two years to become an assistant and four to obtain a BA. Unfortunately, anyone wishing to obtain an MA or Ph.D. in this field must continue their studies abroad.

What are the qualities that a person must possess in order to become a good physiotherapist?

First of all he or she must have a genuine interest in this career. In addition, there are certain qualities that are vital, such as patience, confidence, professionalism and a capacity for hard work.

Do you make an effort to keep abreast of developments in the world of physiotherapy?

I am a member of the British Physiotherapists Union from which I obtain a lot of publications. I am also a member of the Palestinian Physiotherapists Union, which was established in 1994. Unfortunately the number of workshops that are carried out in this field is very limited and does not exceed three per year.

How much do physiotherapists earn?

In the Arab sector, the salaries are very low, and range from NIS 1,300 in governmental institutions to NIS 2-3,000 in private ones.

How do you evaluate the situation of Palestinian physiotherapists in comparison with Israeli ones?

There are many differences. In Israel, patients requiring physiotherapy are usually treated in private institutions, whereas in our case, the treatment usually takes place within hospitals. And of course, physiotherapists in Israel enjoy far more rights than we do.

What kind of patients can physiotherapy benefit?

Physiotherapy can be very useful in helping to treat the following:

- * Lower back pain
- * Fractures
- * Neurological diseases
- * Respiratory diseases
- * Conventional problems

Youth In Focus

Interview conducted by
Hamdi Hamamreh

FROM now on, *The Youth Times* will focus each month on a talented or hard-working youth that provides a shining example to others. This month we met 18-year-old Symon Azazian from Jerusalem. Symon is a student of English literature at Bethlehem University, a volunteer at the Bethlehem 2000 radio station, a music tutor, and a part-time worker in the satellite business.

You seem to have many interests. Please tell us something about them.

Personally, I never get involved in anything unless it is something in which I am really interested. For example, I decided to study English because I like the language - as well as the fact that I am fairly good at it - and then, because I like to write in English, decided to combine English with journalism. As for music, I come from a family of music lovers and my mother started to encourage me to learn to play various instruments when I was still only six years old. By the time I was nine, I was having private piano lessons.

Broadcasting, meanwhile, is something that I also really enjoy because it allows me to be in direct contact with the audience. I would say that I really started getting interested in broadcasting when I was 13 and acted in a movie called 'The Flute Boy'. Since I like media, I also work part-time in the satellite business.



Tell us about your radio program.

The program, which is broadcast in English, is called 'Top 5', and I am glad to say that it has been very well received. I am currently working on another program called 'International Cocktail', which concentrates on international music.

Do you think there is a demand for foreign music and songs?

Yes, Palestinian youth are fully aware of what is going on around them and the majority of them appreciate music very much. Although young people of both sexes listen to music, I would say that there are more females than males in my audience.

As a broadcaster do you imitate other broadcasters?

Not at all. I have my own style and method.

How do you organize your time?

At the beginning it was very difficult but it gradually became easier for me to organize my time in



an efficient manner. Thankfully I am only doing things that I really enjoy, so I never resent being so busy.

Do you think that there are enough specialized media courses available at Palestinian universities?

Unfortunately, the answer is no. I, for example, would like to study to become a cinema and sound technician, but there are no suitable courses available locally.

Do you feel that enough attention is being paid to youth and their activities?

No. As far as the media is concerned, we rarely find a publication that deals with youth and their problems.

I would say that *The Youth Times* is the only paper that touches on their problems and gives them the opportunity to express themselves freely. It annoys me to see that there are some tabloids in the market that have a very negative effect on youth inasmuch as they treat certain matters in a truly unrealistic manner. I personally would like to see some form of censorship.

Do you have a final word for our readers?

More investment must be directed toward youth. Moreover, families should play a greater role in encouraging their children to develop as individuals. Finally, I would like to see far more youth clubs, public libraries, and parks etc., where youth could meet and spend their spare time.

The International Palestinian Youth League

THE International Palestinian Youth League was established in 1997. Temporarily located in Hebron, the league, which consists of 31 members, has only one full-time employee and 30 volunteers. The main goal of the league is directed towards voluntary work, summer camps, which are attended by both Palestinian and European youth who carry out voluntary work in Palestine, and offering training for Palestinian youth both locally and abroad. For this purpose we always select three to four youth to receive the necessary training in an attempt to serve the local community.

"The target group consists of Palestinian youth in the 18-35 age group, whose different abilities we try to develop by providing them with administrative skills and capacity building training. We also offer workshops and seminars on many topics such as democracy, human rights, women, etc. in an attempt to open more job opportunities for them. We concentrate on this particular age group because there is a need to have a generation that is fully aware and able to apprehend social and cultural development both locally and internationally." Adli Daana said: "Apart from developing the abilities of young people, we also encourage them to use their talents and provide them, in some cases, with financial support. In doing this, we are driven by a desire to allow this marginalized societal group to benefit from our projects, which they do not have to pay to join."

With regard to the volunteers, Daana told *The Youth Times* that there are around 30 volunteers in the league, the majority of whom are school and university students who "constantly come up with new constructive ideas" and then sit down together and plan how to develop and implement them. Continued Daana, "These volunteers conduct tours for delegations that visit us from abroad and they coordinate summer camps, etc." He went on to say that although the league's doors are open to volunteers of both sexes, most of the volunteers are male.

The main activities of the league in the coming months are as follows:

- * seven summer camps between July-December 1999 in Hebron, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Jencho, Nablus and Ramallah;
- * a regional 'Cooperation Conference' for youth in October 1999, to be held in Amman, Jordan;
- * the promoting of solidarity with youth in conflict countries in November in Hebron.

For those of you who are interested in joining or volunteering, the league's details are as follows:

The International Palestinian

Youth League
PO Box 618 / Jaffa Road
Al-Israa' Building, 5th floor
Hebron, Palestine,
Telefax: 02-2229131
E-mail address:
Ipy1@hebronet.com
Ipy1@hotmail.com

The Young Scientists' Forum

By Nisreen Far'oun / TYT Reporter

THE Young Scientists' Forum was established in 1996 "to look after talented youth," said Jihad Shuikh, a member of its administrative board. "The forum is supported by many institutions, such as the Association of Cooperation, UNICEF, the UNDP, the Arab Children Committee (United States), the UN, Birzeit University and the Ramallah First Group, etc.," continued Shuikh, who went on to say that the main aim of the forum is to provide a place where talented and distinguished young people can meet and develop their abilities. As Shuikh himself explained, the forum encourages young children to look for information "rather than sit and wait for it to arrive on a silver platter."

As for the teaching methods adopted by the forum, Shuikh said, "The forum does not follow the traditional method of lecturing and dictating that is adopted by many Palestinian schools and universities, but rather introduces problem-solving techniques and gives the children plenty of



Young Scientists at work

opportunity to discuss the problems, compare notes and put forward their individual points of view."

Shuikh continued: "The forum has implemented several projects so far, one of which involved discovering talented children and helping them to develop their talents. The project was sponsored by the

Association of Cooperation and included several workshops, which took place between 1994 and 1998, such as 'Critical Thinking in Science and Math' for children between 10-12 years of age and 'Genetic Engineering' for children in the 12-15 years age bracket."

With regard to future projects, Shuikh

mentioned that the forum is currently planning a trip to the scientific sites of Jordan.

All the students that *The Youth Times* spoke to - Saja Michael, St. Joseph's School, Zienah Amro, Rosary Sisters School, Waseem Qashou', the Ramallah Boys' School, Ayman Abu Sharbi, the Friends' Boys School, and Diema and Rasha Ali from the Friends' Girls School - confirmed that they had benefited a great deal from belonging to the Young Scientists' Forum. When asked how they had come to join, they answered that they had either read about it in the paper or else been invited to join by the Forum itself due to their considerable talents. Could they, I asked, define the Forum in a single word? "Easy," they said in unison... "cooperation." Indeed, cooperation appears to be the name of the game at the Young Scientists' Forum, and in this respect, many other educational institutions could learn a lot by adopting its techniques.

For more information on the Young Scientists' Forum, please call 02-2952726

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Jerusalem
Tel: 02-6264883/6273293
Fax: 02-6287893
e-mail:
youthtimes@jerusalem-times.com

Keeping Palestine Clean

When it comes to looking after the environment, or simply being clean and tidy, we don't have to compare ourselves to the West to realize that a vast gap exists between our behavior and that of others. Merely looking at many Arab countries will make us realize that we Palestinians are truly behind.

A colleague of mine who came back from Dubai a few weeks ago was amazed at the cleanliness that had characterized every city he had visited. "You can't find one single paper thrown in the streets," he said. In Dubai, and in many other countries, people get fined if they litter; this fact, combined with awareness campaigns, ensures that people cooperate and commit themselves to looking after their environment.

In Palestine, women spend hours in cleaning their houses, but throw their garbage in the streets...people build beautiful houses but leave behind piles of stones and cement... drivers throw cans, cigarettes and candy wrappers from their cars...and piles of trash are left burning on every street corner. Years ago it was easy, when littering, to use the argument, "When we get our own state, things will be different." Unfortunately, although parts of Palestine are now under Palestinian control, the mentality of the occupied still determines a good part of what we do and the way we think.

With the approach of the year 2000, the number of visitors visiting Palestine is bound to break all records for previous years. With this in mind, it is important that we start making an effort to 'clean up our act,' not only for the benefit of tourists, but also for the benefit of future generations. Although our government and municipalities should deal with the issue of cleanliness as a priority issue, this does not negate our own responsibilities, both as institutions and as individuals.

Let us all combine forces through campaigns, education, and volunteering to make Palestine a beautiful, clean and environment-friendly place.

Not The Same But Not So Different

As a university student from the United States, I spent the last four months in Jordan, Israel, and the West Bank studying peace and conflict issues. I lived with Jordanian, Israeli, and Palestinian families and also lived in Ramallah on my own. During my time here I met many friendly and interesting people, many of whom are roughly my age. As I prepare to return to America, I find myself reflecting on the similarities and differences between my friends in America and my friends here.

One major difference between American and Palestinian youth is that they have grown up in two very different political contexts with unique national histories. Most Americans grew up in a country where there is no political oppression and where people can express themselves as they choose, travel if they have money for it, and go to any university, assuming they can afford it and have good grades. For most Americans, the main obstacle to following their dreams is money. Palestinian youth, meanwhile, face far more obstacles, and the overwhelming majority must deal not only with money problems, but also with the Israeli restrictions. They cannot travel wherever they want and must endure security checks and long waits to obtain the necessary papers, and Israel often prevents students in Gaza from attending colleges and universities in the West Bank. These are just a few of the examples I personally witnessed; I am sure you know of many more.

Another result of the different political contexts is the degree of political activism. The majority of Americans do not pay much attention to politics, which have very little impact on American daily life. Palestinians, however, are affected by domestic and international politics on a daily basis, which is why they are far more likely to attend demonstrations, join a political party, or participate in other ways.

The family structure in Palestine is also quite different to that in the United States. In the United States, for example, only a very few people live with their parents and children often leave home once

they graduate from high school.

When I began university, I moved to the town in which my university is situated, like most American students. Many Palestinians that I met live at home with their family for a much longer time and want - and often need - the support and company of their parents and siblings.

There are many similarities between young people in America and young people here, which could be said of youth around the world. One is that we all enjoy fun: music, dancing, talking with our friends, and making jokes. All of my Palestinian friends love to dance, be it to American music, like my friends back home, or to Arabic music. The thing is that regardless of the style of music or dancing, both are something that all youth around the world enjoy. We also all want a good future. Americans and Palestinians value education, want to do well in school, and want an interesting and productive job. We each face our own challenges in realizing our dreams, but on a basic level, those dreams are very similar.

I wish that more American and Palestinian youth could meet each other. Unfortunately, another thing we have in common is a tendency to formulate incorrect ideas about each other. Many Americans believe what they see about Palestinians in movies, and many Palestinians believe what they see about Americans on television. I hope so much that we can learn more about each other - the things that make us different and the things that unite us.

A Letter To

Dear Official,



I have been a student at St. Joseph's School since 1993 and ever since starting there, I have been trying desperately to keep my head above water. I have always been told that going to school is fun and that school is a place where you find security and acceptance, but I am sorry to say that all of this is untrue.

In my particular case, my time at St. Joseph's has been characterized by nothing but humiliation, embarrassment and even abuse. The last year in particular was a nightmare, the main reason being that I had an Arabic teacher whose social skills are non-existent and who knows nothing about how to get along with students.

For one reason or another, I have always found Arabic difficult, in spite of having had the benefit of a private tutor, and despite all my efforts, I have never been able to achieve a mark higher than 59. The hardest part for me has been the so-called oral tests, during which I was expected to read an Arabic poem or some other piece of literature in front of the class. Although I made studying hard at home a priority and would always feel, prior to entering the class, that I had mastered whatever it is that I was supposed to learn, the minute I entered the classroom my mind would go blank and I would be unable to remember a single word. The result of this was that the teacher would rant and rave, calling me the most horrible names. After a couple of years of this kind of treatment, I took to playing truant, so scared was I of my

teacher, and on more than one occasion I worked myself up into such a state that my mother was obliged to give me a tranquilizer to allow me to get some sleep. In spite of all the complaints made by my own parents and those of other students, nothing was done about this particular teacher.

The final blow came at the end of the last academic year when I was told that I had failed Arabic. I knew that I hadn't done well, but being told that I had failed still came as a shock, and when I was told that I had also failed math, I became extremely depressed, especially as I thought I had done pretty well in the math exam. When my mother rang the school, the only advice she received was that she should transfer me to another school, and her request to see the math exam paper was refused.

I have two questions. One, do students not have the right to see their exam papers, and two, why is nothing being done to prevent teachers from bullying students? Had I been lucky enough to have a nicer teacher with a more considerate and understanding nature, the chances are that I might have obtained far better results, not only in Arabic but also in math.

Please help me. The last year at school was like a living hell, and I cannot bear the idea of going through the same thing again. Surely someone, somewhere is prepared to stick up for students in a similar situation.



M.A.
St. Joseph's School, Jerusalem

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Kerry Boyd
United States

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BILADI
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Drowning in a Sea of Ignorance

By Hania Bitar &
Hamdi Hamamreh

WHY do so many Palestinians drown every year? What are the mistakes they commit? Who is to blame? And what measures should be taken to decrease the number of deaths caused by drowning?

Every summer, many Palestinians, especially Jerusalemites head towards Israeli beaches in Tel Aviv, Ashdod, Naharia, Bat Yam, and Ashqelon. Unfortunately, for a substantial number, their trip to the beach has tragic consequences. This year, for example, the swimming season has only just started, yet already, reports of cases of drowning are frequent, the pictures of their victims making premature appearances in the death columns of Palestinian dailies.

Between 16 April and 15 July, 1999, 35 people drowned off Israeli shores, 17 of whom were Palestinian," said Yusef Amer, the head of the Swimming Surveillance Department at the Israeli Ministry of Interior. Meanwhile, Gaza-based Lieutenant Colonel Mohammed Asfour said that four Palestinians have



Warning signs with minimal or no instructions in Arabic

already drowned this year at drowned in Gaza.

Solomon's Pools in the West Bank and the sea in Gaza and that in 1998, a total of 26 people

"Although there are 146 official swimming areas in Israel, many Palestinians choose to

**Nader Hashem Sandouka
24, Jerusalem**

NADER Sandouka is one of the Palestinians who recently fell victim to the power of the sea. The following is an account of his drowning by his brother, Ayman:

"On Friday June 6, 1999, my two brothers and I decided to go swimming in the Tel Aviv area. I never imagined that we would be coming home without my brother Nader, especially as he was probably the best swimmer amongst us.

"We went swimming at around 7 p.m., and as we moved further into the sea, we found ourselves facing some very high waves that were extremely difficult to manage. Eventually, a massive wave threw one of my brothers and I on to a rock in the middle of nowhere. "Where is Nader?" we screamed in unison and immediately went back into the sea, looking for our missing brother. Eventually we managed to find him and pull him to the rock. Screaming for help was all we could do. The rescue boat arrived one hour later. Believe me, those 60 minutes or so seemed like a decade."

"When we reached the shore, the medics examined Nader and told us that he had been dead for approximately 40 minutes. I just couldn't believe it. An hour ago my brother had been with us, laughing and joking, and now he was dead. The sadness and sense of loss was overwhelming."

When asked about Nader, his father said that he had been an excellent swimmer. "Nader was always going to the pool at the YMCA in Jerusalem," he said, his eyes unable to hide his grief, "but unfortunately, the sea does not differentiate between good and bad swimmers."

**Nasrallah Faraj Al-Hindi
27-year-old father of four,
Al-Judira, Jerusalem**

THE following is an account of the drowning of Nasrallah Al-Hindi, given by his sister:

"On Saturday 8 May, we went to the beach of Bat Yam, and even though we were told that the lifeguards were on strike and that we shouldn't swim, it was only a matter of minutes before Nasrallah was in the water. After a while, he came and sat down for a rest. By that time it had become rather windy and there were a lot of waves, so we decided to have our lunch and then return home."

"However, Nasrallah decided to go swimming again with some of our relatives' children, while I went to pray. Suddenly I heard a girl shouting, 'The waves have taken Nasrallah!' I didn't believe her at first; after all, Nasrallah was supposed to be looking after the children! Unfortunately it was true. We started to look for him but with no success."

Nasrallah's friend, Jamil Azmi, continued the story: "I went to the police station but the police refused to help and my request for a diver

was refused. In fact, they asked us to leave the premises. We managed to find a diver from Um Al-Fahm, but although he did his best, he was unable to find Nasrallah because of the condition of the sea and all the rocks. At 5 p.m., Nasrallah's body came to the surface."

When asked whether there were warning signs on the beach, Azmi said that there were several signs warning against swimming in the area. "An Israeli even advised us not to swim because the lifeguards were on strike," added Nasrallah's sister, wiping the tears from her eyes. "Unfortunately, we thought mistakenly that we would all be safe."

swim in unlicensed areas," said Yusef Amer. "Arab families prefer isolated beaches because of their conservative nature, but unfortunately, such beaches have no lifeguards and no rescue services. Most drowning accidents occur at night, when there are no rescue services at all, vision is limited, and the sea is at its most dangerous."

In response to a question concerning how the strike by Israeli lifeguards had affected the number of drowning cases, Amer said that the effect was dramatic. "The beginning of the strike corresponded with the start of the swimming season," said Amer. "Consequently, the number of deaths caused by drowning this year is higher than in previous years. The year 1997 was described as 'the killer year,' but 1999 has already broken all records."

While 50 percent of the people who drowned this year were Palestinians, two were Israelis and the rest were either tourists or new immigrants. When asked why relatively few Israelis drown in comparison to Palestinians, Amer replied that all Israelis take swimming lessons from the fifth grade onwards, such lessons being compulsory in Israeli schools. He noted that the Israeli Ministry of Education has a special budget, certified by the Ministry of the Interior, specifically for this purpose and that although Palestinian schools in East Jerusalem could benefit from the scheme, they do not apply for funding "mainly for political reasons."

Another major problem facing non-Israeli swimmers is that the majority of warning signs are printed in Hebrew only. This, said Amer, will be corrected within a matter of weeks, when an order will be issued demanding that all municipalities replace Hebrew only signs with ones that also bear warnings written in Arabic and English or else put up new ones with warnings in all three languages. He added that his department is currently working on a campaign to educate the public concerning the dangers of swimming.

In Gaza, Lt. Col. Asfour said that the Gaza Municipality has recently built new surveillance towers, putting the current number of towers at 11, and has employed another 13 lifeguards, making a total of 37. "Although there have been only two drowning incidents in Gaza this year and another two in the West Bank," said Asfour, "we are aware of the fact that the swimming season has only just started,

contd. P. 5



Nasrallah Al-Hindi