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# FOREWORD



## ***Dar al-Kalima University College of Arts and Culture: A Year in Review***

*Dear friends,  
The year 2018 was another successful year, filled with accomplishments on so many levels.*

*The number of total beneficiaries reached record highs, with an increase in the number of students applying to the DAK University, a jump in the number of children and youth at Diyar Academy from a previous record of 1000 participants to 1800 participants in 2018, and a landmark 1002 graduates of the Civic Engagement Program.*

*With this major increase in numbers, our focus this year was on quality assurance and curricula development. Several expansions*

*were made in this regard, which served to improve the quality of education provided at Dar al-Kalima. The Jewelry Design and the Culinary Arts Programs are developing new curricula in cooperation with the private sector, aiming at introducing a dual learning system. To facilitate these curricula advancements, Dar al-Kalima participated in a knowledge and ingenuity exchange with two dual system schools in Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany. An initial process has also been launched to develop a civic engagement curriculum. Furthermore, a new curriculum for the Tour Guide Program was developed in cooperation with Bethlehem University and Bethlehem Bible College. Starting in 2019, the three institutions of higher learning will start using the new, jointly-established curriculum for tour guiding.*

*The best testimony to the quality of our programs is the many awards our students won on the national, regional, and international levels. In the Film Program, Nour Abu Ghanieh received the first place at Zayed Student Film Festival. The "Living of the Pigeon" by Baha' Abu Shanab was awarded the best short documentary at Qanadil Film Festival. Salah Abu Ni'meh's film "Area C" received the best short*

*fiction film award at Sun Bird National competition. Three students from the Film and Contemporary Arts Programs also won second and third places at the annual Karimeh Abboud Photography Competition.*

*The Diyar Academy for Children & Youth continued to provide critical services to the community and received several recognitions for these important efforts. The Diyar Soccer Team won the Palestine U15 football championship, and Miral Qassis was named the best U15 player in Palestine. The theater play "Women," put on by the Diyar Theater, was named the best emerging youth performance at the Sharm El-Sheikh International Theater Festival.*

*The year 2018 was also marked by lively cultural exchanges and dialogues. Several renowned international artists were hosted at our university, and a number of students were given a chance to travel, perform, and learn from international peers. This atmosphere of international engagement and exchange enriches and enlivens the education provided at Dar al-Kalima and encourages greater creativity and innovation.*

*Dar al-Kalima also continued to host a number of festivals and conferences on the local, regional, and international levels. Besides the extremely successful Dandanat Youth Festival in Bethlehem, now in its 13th year of existence, we launched in 2018 a pilot Dandanat Festival in Sweden. We also held the Bethlehem International Performing Arts Festival with the participation of over 100 artists from 12 countries. Additionally, for the 5th consecutive year, the Room for Hope: Palestinian Arts Festival was organized in Texas by our partner organization Bright Starts of Bethlehem. Several Dar al-Kalima students and young dancers participated in this festival.*

*Following President Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and to move the Embassy there, we felt an important obligation to focus several of the year's major activities on Jerusalem. To that end, the 2018 Karimeh Abboud Photography Award's theme was "Jerusalem through a Palestinian Lens." Additionally, Dar al-Kalima hosted an international conference entitled "Jerusalem: Religious, National, and International Dimensions" in November 2018. The conference featured over 20 unique contributions,*

*many of which will be published in early 2019. Finally, Dar al-Kalima conducted major research on the issue of Christian organizations in Jerusalem, examining their services, role, and status. The study findings drew the attention of several local, regional, and international actors and were presented at the German Parliament in early 2019. The major proceedings and results are available in a new book published by Diyar Publisher.*

*Together with our partner organization in the United States Bright Stars of Bethlehem, we held another important conference in Houston, Texas entitled "Jerusalem: What Makes for Peace." The conference was organized in partnership with the National Council of Churches in the United States, Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP), and the Proctor Conference. Most of the mainline churches in the United States as well as several of the active Palestinian organizations in North America were included in these discussions. The conference concluded with the release an important statement on Jerusalem.*

*The Religion and State Program also held its annual international conference in Cyprus, titled "Women's*

*Rights in the Middle East Today: Law, Culture & Religion." More than 60 of the most articulate, successful, and influential women leaders in the region and across the globe participate in this conference, which concluded with the release of several important recommendations to advance the gender justice agenda in the Arab World.*

*In adult education, Dar al-Kalima together with DVV International and the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) set forth an intensive process of selecting new adult education providers so that the scope of offering adult education programs can expand to include different communities in different areas of Palestine. After a rigorous process, four new centers were selected as new partner organizations spread across Palestine from the far north including Arrabeh and al-Yamoun in Jenin district to the deep south with Yatta and Hebron.*

*Another important milestone in our journey was the completion of the Art Archive at the newly dedicated Dar al-Kalima Library and Multimedia Resource Center. This archive will be instrumental in collecting,*

*preserving, and documenting major Palestinian art pieces. Additionally, a new state-of-the-art MacIntosh computer lab was established, providing the interior design students with important tools for their learning and practice.*

*However, 2018 was not an easy year by any means. Due to the Trump Administration's decision to embargo all aid projects to Palestine, we lost a million-dollar grant destined for an innovation and exchange lab above the library. We also lost another major European partner due to drastic cuts in their budgets.*

*In spite of all the challenges and attacks, Dar al-Kalima University College continues to be a success story due to its unique vision, clear mission, committed members, dedicated staff, visionary board, faithful friends, and generous supporters. Their commitment made and makes all the difference. We thank the Lord for this success.*

**Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb**  
**Founder & President**  
**April 2019**

# Dar Al-Kalima University

## College of Arts and Culture

In 2018 The Dar al-Kalima University College continued its educational mission and increased the numbers of students. New colleagues, graduates of different programs, joined the staff and several grants were given, including two by the World Bank, to develop the Jewelry Design and Culinary Art programs to become dual system programs. German institutions are partnering with the University College to achieve this aim. The University College shall accredit a number of BA and diploma degrees in 2019 to add to its educational offerings

### Cultural Heritage and Tourism Studies

#### *Culinary Arts Program*

During the 2017-2018 academic year the Culinary Arts Program included thirteen students. Eight of these students were regular students and five were continuing education students. In the full-time program six students were male and two were female, while in the continuing education program four were male and one was female. All the students successfully graduated in August 2018.

In the fall semester, the Culinary Arts program accepted 18 applicants for the 2018-2019 academic

year, among which there eleven males and seven females. At this time, all students are projected to graduate in August 2019.

Additionally, the Culinary Arts Program participated in a number of projects designed to expand Dar al-Kalima's outreach to new sectors of the population, especially in the field of adult education, and provided many opportunities for community learning.

### Academic Program

#### *Expansions and Projects:*

- **Equipment Purchase:** The Culinary Arts Program was able to purchase some necessary utensils, equipment, and furniture for the kitchen by hosting several fundraising projects.
- **Adult Education Course:** The Dar al-Kalima Culinary Arts Program is excited to participate in a new partnership with the German

organization DVV International. This program is designed to develop the adult education centers in Palestine. During the first phase of the project, DAK's Culinary Arts Program hosted an adult education course for twenty adult members of the community, including many graduates of DAK. Based on the needs of the community, the University College decided to offer a course in the culinary sector entitled "Gourmet and Fine Dining." The training course spanned 21 hours.



- Quality Improvement Project (QIF):** In the third quarter of 2018, Dar al-Kalima was accepted in the Quality Improvement Fund of MoEHE, which is funded by the World Bank. Using these funds, DAK conducted a study to define the market needs in the Culinary arts field in order to develop new curricula in dual learning. For this purpose, DAK connected with the State Academy for In-Service Training and Human Resources Development at Schools of Baden Württemberg in Germany. The State Academy contracted two experts in the culinary field to support DAK in developing the new program in dual learning system. In October 2018 members of the DAK Culinary Arts team visited the State Academy. The visit included an introduction about the dual learning system in Germany, observation of lessons at schools, meetings with the contracted experts, and visits to private sector businesses that serve training providers. The Culinary Arts Program delegation also visited the culinary partner school in Bad Uebringer- Baden Württemberg, with which DAK has signed a Memorandum of Understanding.



### **Community Programming:**

- Dar al-Kalima Summer Camp:** From 25 June to 28 June Dar al-Kalima University College hosted a summer camp featuring organized workshops for female governmental school pupils to introduce them to the nontraditional programs offered at DAK. These workshops were funded by the GIZ and held for all programs at the university. A total 29 female pupils participated in the Culinary Arts section. Each of the days of the workshop featured a different focus. By the end of the summer camp, the pupils were able to identify the different units of the kitchen and some of the utensils and equipment used, describe and utilize basic safety measures, prepare different kinds of basic oriental and western recipes, including salads, pastries, and desserts. Ultimately, the students prepared food for the reception ceremony at the end of the workshop in order to highlight their successes and new knowledge.

- **Balfour Declaration Activity Day:** On 2 November, 2018, the date of the Balfour Declaration, DAK organized an activity day for all students, faculty and administration. The culinary arts students gave a presentation on the traditional food and utensils of that period (early 20<sup>th</sup> century). At lunch time the students, together with their instructors, prepared and served a traditional meal to all the students and faculty at al- Jannah, the nature reserve at DAK.
- **Hospitality Services:** Until September 2018, the kitchen offered hospitality services to the faculty, staff, and students of DAK as well as members of the community. A total of around 1,450 meals were served this year.

## Palestinian Tour Guides Program

In the first half of 2018, 26 students were enrolled in classes for the Tour Guides Program. In August, 11 students graduated from Dar al-Kalima. In Fall 2018,

20 new students were enrolled in the program, raising the total number of students in the program to 35.

### *Academic Programs:*

- **Field Trips:** The Palestinian Tour Guides Program organized a total of 16 field trips to various historical, archeological, and religious sites in Palestine throughout the year. All of the program's students participated in these field trips, which form a key part of their educational experience.
- **Curriculum Development:** Dar al-Kalima University College, with funding for the PMDP, executed a curriculum development project during the summer of 2018 for the Tour Guides Program, which is 10 years old. The Bethlehem Bible College, Bethlehem University, the MOEHE, MOTA and the Arab Guides Union participated. This new curriculum is intended to address the local market needs, respond to new types of tourism and raise the quality of

the skills the students gain during their two-year diploma program. The program is one that will be taught by all institutions



Nablus- Sebastia 2018



Tul-Karem- Maqam Banat Yacoub 2018

## Visual Arts

### Film Program

During the 2018 academic year, the Film Program hosted a number of film projects, filmmaker talks, and masterclasses, which helped to enhance the students' learning experiences. The Cinema Club likewise greatly expanded its screenings, offering opportunities to view Palestinian cinema classics to an audience of more than 1,500 people.

### Academic Activities

#### Film Projects:

- **"I Love Bethlehem" Film Project:** As a part of this program, six young filmmakers from the DAK Film Program created outstanding short films, which demonstrate the students' ability to work professionally and create films with quality that can compete on an international level. On 18 November, an opening screening for all the films was held in the DAK Theater. More

than 200 people attended the event, including the filmmakers, the cast and the crew of the films, and their families. Additionally, a hiking trip for the filmmakers and their supervisors was organized from the Qelt Springs to Jericho. The films are being submitted to international competitions and are already receiving significant recognition. The short films and their creators are listed below:

- » **"Area C,"** directed by Salah Abu Nima, from Battir, Bethlehem
- » **"Sawsan,"** directed by Saliba Rishmawi, from Beit Sahour, Bethlehem.
- » **"Pink Bike,"** directed by Shada Waleed Vazouz, from Jerusalem
- » **"Coffee Pot,"** directed by Thaer al-Azzah, from Doha City, Bethlehem
- » **"Ambiance,"** directed by Wisam al-Jifari, from Deheisha Refugee Camp, Bethlehem
- » **"Floor 4,"** directed by Shayma' Awawdeh, from Hebron



- **Talk Show Studio Production:** Students of the DAK Film Program's Studio Production course designed and produced a televised talk show concerning the topic of the Boycotts, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement and cultural normalization of the Occupation. The host of the talk show was distinguished Palestinian journalist Walid Batrawi. The guests were Omar Barghouthi and Raed Andoni.

### Filmmaker Talks and Master Classes:

The following film makers were hosted at DAK in 2018

- **Raed Andoni** is an independent producer and co-founder of the leading Palestinian production company, Dar Films, who began working in cinema 15 years ago. He has produced and secured international distribution for a number of award-winning documentaries. Andoni's first feature *FIX ME* (2009) premiered at the Sundance and Cannes film festivals

before its release in European theatres. It won several prizes around the world, most recently the SCAM award for “Best Documentary of the Year.”

- **George Khleifi** studied filmmaking and production in Brussels, Belgium. He has been the line and executive producer of several Palestinian feature films. He was the head of training and production at the Institute of Modern Media at Al Quds University from 1999-2007. Together with Professor Nurit Gertz, he wrote the book *Palestinian Cinema: Landscape, Trauma and Memory* (2008).
- **Kasem Hawal** is an award-winning Iraqi director currently based in the Netherlands. He was born in 1940 in Al Basra, Iraq. He studied theater, acting, and directing at the Institute of Fine Arts in Baghdad. He left Iraq in 1970 and traveled to Lebanon and Syria, where he focused on the making of political films. He has also worked on films by the PLO. In total, Hawal has directed 28 documentaries and five feature films. As a very active member in

the community of arts and culture in the Arab world, he was rewarded with honors at several film festivals and cultural festivals for his role in the Arabic and humanitarian culture.

- **Abdel Salam Shehada** is a film director, journalist, and cameraman who has been producing films and T.V. programs for over 30 years. Hailing from Gaza, he has produced and directed more than 20 documentary films. His films have screened throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, and North America and have won many international awards. His last film, *To My Father*, won the Golden Eagle Award for top film in the documentary category at the Rotterdam Arab Film Festival in 2009.
- **Mohammad Jabali** is filmmaker from Gaza best known for his documentary film *Ambulance*.
- **Firas Khouri** is a Palestinian filmmaker originally from Eilabun. He is known for his work on *Yellow Mums* (2010), *The Promise* (2011) and *The Attack* (2012).

- **Frédérique Bredin**, the head of France’s governmental program for the support of cinema, CNC, visited the college to speak to the students. She outlined how the CNC assist the students in the production of their next project. Several student films were also screened at this event
- **Duncan Campbell**, an Irish video artist based in Glasgow, hosted a master class for the students of the DAK Film Program. Campbell was the winner of the 2014 Turner Prize. This master class and screening is part of DAK’s collaboration with the Yusuf Nasri Jacir House for Art and Research in Bethlehem.

## Exchanges and Partnerships

- **Duke University Exchange Program:** Two students traveled to the United States for a summer course on documentary filmmaking at Duke University Center of Documentary Film. This comes as part of an exchange program initiated this year with Duke University; an

additional two students will participate in the program for the 2019 Exchange.

- **Palestinian Film Institute:** As a part of the DAK Film Program’s partnership with the Palestinian Film Institute, a one-page advertisement for the Film Program was created for distribution at the Palestinian Cinema Industry Catalogue. The catalogue was launched at the new Palestinian wing of the Cannes Film Festival.

## Festivals and Awards

- **Zayed Students Films Festival:** *Visitation*, by Film Program student Noor Abu Ghanieh, who won first place.
- **Qanadeel Film Festival Palestine:**
  - » *The Living of the Pigeons*, directed by Baha Abu Shanab, won the award for Best Documentary Film.
  - » *Shatter*, directed by Bilal Krunz, won the third prize for Best Fiction Film.

- **Malmo Arab Film Festival:** *Waad*, a short documentary film directed by Mohammad Shaloudi, was selected to participate in the festival.
- **Nazra Film Festival in Italy:** *Congratulations on the New Paint*, a short film by Wisam Jafari, was selected to participate in the festival.
- **Palestinian American Research Center:** All six "I love Bethlehem" Films, noted above, were selected to participate in the festival.
- **Palestine Days of Cinema:** *Area C*, an "I Love Bethlehem" Film directed by Salah Abu Nimeh, won the best short fiction film in the festival's Sun Bird Competition.

### Cinema Club

- **Film Screenings:** During 2018, the Dar al-Kalima Cinema Club expanded its screenings from 1 screening per month to one screening per week. The club screened 24 films to a combined audience of more than 1,500 people.

This year's focus was on Palestinian cinema. Many Palestinian filmmakers and screenwriters came to the Cinema Club in order to screen their films and speak to the students about their artistic process. Notable screenings from this year include:

» *Off Frame, AKA Revolution Until Victory:* This film was screened in the presence of its director, Muhannad Yaqoubi, a filmmaker, producer, and one of the founders of the Ramallah-based production house Idioms Film. Yaqoubi is also one of the founders of the research and curatorial collective Subversive Films, which focuses on subversive film practices. This was the opening film of the Revolution Cinema Month. More than 50 people attended the event. A discussion with the director took place after the screening. (11 January)

» *Selves and Others:* This film constructs a portrait of the revolutionary Palestinian thinker Edward Said. His wife, Mariam Said, was present for the film screening, which more than 100 people attended. (15 February)

» *Writing on Snow:* This film was directed by Rashid Masharawi, a significant Palestinian filmmaker and producer born in Gaza. A discussion with the director took place after the screening, which around 50 people attended. (23 February)

» *Wajeb:* This film was directed by Annemarie Jaser, one of *Filmmaker* magazine's 25 New Faces of Independent Cinema. More than 250 people attended the screening. A discussion with the director took place after the screening. (29 March)



» *Al-Mutshael:* Actor and director Mohammad Bakri presented this theater play for the Cinema Club and around 100 guests. (19 April)

» *Bab Al-Shams:* The Cinema Club hosted this two night screening of the film. The director, Yosri Nasrallah, participated in a discussion with the 50 attendees via Skype. Nasrallah's works have dealt with themes of leftism, Islamic fundamentalism, and expatriation. His 2012 film *After the Battle* competed for the Palme d'Or at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival.

» **Collaboration with Zidni:** The Cinema Club made collaboration with Zidni club in the city of Hebron and screened 3 films in Hebron.

### Fine Arts Program and Gallery

In 2018, the Fine Arts Program, which includes Contemporary Art and Interior Design, continued to provide exciting educational opportunities in fine arts. Outside of regular class time, it organized a number of activities for the students of the college

and the surrounding community, including artist presentations, workshops, and screenings. These opportunities allow students to engage with artists and experts on the cutting edge of their fields, greatly enhancing their own knowledge and educational experiences. Additionally, the Dar al-Kalima Gallery exhibition program featured shows focusing on the Palestinian experience by international and local artists as well as by DAK students.

## Educational Activities

### Artist Presentations and Lectures:

- Jerusalem-based, internationally renowned photographer Rula Halawani introduced her photography practice to students, including her techniques and several of her major projects. (February 20, 2018)
- Haifa-based artist Manal Mahamid introduced her research method for art making and presented many examples of projects she creates using various media. Following the

presentation, students engaged with Ms. Mahamid in a lively discussion on various techniques and media. (March 6, 2018)

- French photographer and activist Anne Paq gave a presentation to students on her project "Obliterated Families," which centers on the experiences of Palestinians in Gaza. She also spoke about several of her other projects, (April 10, 2018)
- Australian photographer and Ph.D. candidate Dominique Van De Klundert presented her Ph.D. project "Interpretation and Governance of Heritage in context of Bolivia and Palestine" to a group of students and community members. (November 2018)

### Workshops and Master Classes:

- French artist Céline Lachkar led a workshop for Dar al-Kalima students where the participants created a piece of collaborative artwork during several drawing and painting sessions. The final product, titled "Counterpoints," was

exhibited at DAK and remains in our collection. (July 30, 2018)

- Canadian photographer Yuula Benivolsky led a photography master class focusing on techniques and ideas. (October 27, 2018)
- Photographer Samar Hazboun held and moderated several photography critique sessions, where she provided constructive feedback to students regarding their work. (December 2018)

### Artist Talks and Film Screenings:

- Irish artist Duncan Campbell presented and screened one of his films at DAK theater. A discussion with students followed the presentation. This event was held in coordination with the Film Program and made possible through the collaboration of Emily and Anne Marie Jacir. (November 14, 2018)
- Albanian artist Adrian Paci presented his work focusing on video art then a question and answer period followed with DAK students.

This event was held in coordination between the Fine Arts and the Film Program and made possible by the collaboration of Emily and Anne Marie Jacir. (December 12, 2018)



## Dar Al-Kalima Gallery

### Local Exhibitions:

- **Intifada** exhibition of the photography of Keith Dannemiller, held in collaboration with the Yasser Arafat Museum. (February 2018)

- **Degree Show**, exhibition of the artwork of the 2018 graduates of the Contemporary Art program. (May-August, 2018)
- **Faces from Erased Places**, exhibition of the work of American based Palestinian artist and professor John Halaka. (August-September 2018)
- **Exile is Hard Work**, exhibition of the work of artist and scholar Aissa Deebi. (October-November 2018)
- **Karimeh Abboud Photography Award, Third Edition**, Exhibition of the finalists of Dar al-Kalima's third annual Photography Award. Alexandra Sophia Handal placed first in this year's competition. Awad Hamad took second place. Alaa Atoun and Raja Barbarawi shared the third-place prize. (November 2018)
- **WOUNDS**, exhibition of the United States-based ARTNAUTS Collective, comprising of 46 artists. (November 2018 - January 2019)



#### International Exhibitions:

- In addition to the above exhibitions, which were hosted at the Dar al-Kalima Gallery, one of our students, Mohamed Obeidallah, and one of our faculty members, Rana Bishara were selected to participate in **Live in Palestine** exhibition in Canada. This exhibition was curated by Stephan St. Laurant, Anna Khimasia, and Rehab Nazzal (head of Fine Arts Program). The exhibition was shown in galleries and artist run centres in Gatineau, Quebec and Toronto, Ontario and is still touring Canada.

## Graphic Design and Applied Arts Programs

Throughout the 2018 year, the Graphic Design and Applied Arts Programs continued to provide the highest level of education to its students. In addition to hiring three additional full-time faculty members to the University College, the programs also brought in a number of guest artists to teach specialized courses. These residencies, along with several new exchange programs and partnerships, greatly enriched the educational experiences of the students.

### Educational Activities

#### Artist Residencies and Lectures:

- **George Lowe**, an artist from the United States, held a residency at DAK from 1 February to 15 April, supervising an advanced course in Ceramic Art.
- **George Snow**, an artist from the United Kingdom, held a residency at DAK from 12

to 26 May, supervising an intensive course in Video Game Design.

- **Sliman Mansour**, a well-known Palestinian artist, presented a public lecture to an audience of students and community members about his works of art on 26 February.

#### Partnerships and Grants:

- **QIF Grant:** The Jewelry Program received a grant from the Quality Improvement Fund (QIF of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education MoEHE). The grant is aimed at developing the curriculum of the program into a dual learning system and covers the period between October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 – August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.
- **Private Sector MOUs:** The programs signed memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with both the Palestinian Union for Precious Metals and the Qawasmi Jewelry Company in order to enhance education opportunities for the students.

- **Partnership with a German Academy:** The Jewelry Program reached an agreement for partnership with State Academy for in-Service Training and Human Resources Development, Esslingen- Germany, through which 2 representatives from the Jewelry program (Ibrahim Bandak & Amir Salameh) traveled for a study tour to Baden-Württemberg between 13 and 20 October. The representatives were introduced to the dual system of education in Germany and experienced how it is implemented at the Jewelry & Watchmaking School in Pforzheim *Goldschmiedeschule mit Uhrmacherschule Pforzheim* and at private sector companies.
- **Graphic Design Study Tour:** The second and third year Graphic Design students participated in a study tour in Ramallah on 21 October. The students visited al-Ayyam Newspaper, al-Funoun Press, SKY Advertising, and Studio Dimensions for Animation & Video Game Production.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

### Competitions and Galleries:



- **Ismael Shammout Competition & Award.** 35 eligible applicants from across Historical Palestine, including the Gaza Strip, the Galilee, and the West Bank. 10 pieces of art were selected for the final stage and exhibited at Dar al-Kalima. Dr. Yazid Shammout attended the ceremony for the announcement of the winners on 2 March. A bi-lingual catalogue were developed and printed for the ceremony.

Importantly, this year's competition was held with the cooperation of the University for the Creative Arts. The UCA provided the winner of the first prize a free scholarship place to attend the International Summer School 2018 at UCA's Farnham Campus near London, UK, including travel, accommodation, and associated costs.

- **Windows of Hope Exhibition:** The Graphic Design Program co-curated the exhibition *Windows of Hope*, held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis, USA, from 18 May to 26 June. The exhibition featured art works by 25 Palestinian artists, both students and graduates of DAK as well as well-known outside artists.
- **Book Publishing:** The Graphic Design Program coordinated with a German publishing house, Aphorism, for the printing of a book by Assaad Elias Kattan with images from DAK graduate Ala'a Suleiman.
- **Balfour Declaration Day:** Graphic Design student Laith Jawareesh designed the poster

announcement and the programs for the Balfour Declaration Remembrance Day event, held on 2 November.



## Performing Arts

### Performances:

- **Ismail Shamout Award:** Several music students performed during the presentation of the Ismail Shamout Award. This added a great deal to the overall effect of the ceremony and enhanced connections between the Performing Arts and Fine Arts programs.

- **Palestinian Student Festival for Art and Culture:** Students from Dar al-Kalima University College joined a large number of students from universities all across Palestine in the Palestinian Student Festival for Art and Culture on 11 April, 2018. The theme of the festival this year was “Jerusalem is the Capital of Palestine” and took place on the campus of Dar al-Kalima University College.
- **May Concerts:** The music students, as a part of their curriculum, put together two extremely successful concerts held at the college during the month of May.
- **Graduation Day Performance:** Many students performed during the graduation ceremony in August 2018 in order to help enhance the environment of the ceremony and celebrate students’ achievements.
- **Ziyara Study Tour:** Three music students participated in the school-wide “Ziyara Study Tour,” which invited students to visit other Palestinian universities as well as important

historical and cultural centers. The students visited Solomon’s Pools, the Irtas village, Jabra Ibrahim Jabra’s house, and the Palace Conference and Convention Center.”

- **Balfour Declaration Day:** Along with students from across the Dar al-Kalima University College of Arts and Culture, music students helped the university to remember the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration. Music students performed patriotic songs at the event.

## Conferences

- **Arabic Music Conference:** Dr. Mutasem participated in the Arab Music Conference, held in Cairo in October, 2018.

## Library

### ***Dar al-Kalima University College Library***

During 2018, the total number of library subscriptions reached 9,773 people, including 112 new subscriptions

to the library. These subscribers included students, faculty, and staff of Dar al-Kalima University College. Over the course of the year, more than 2,250 individual books and materials were loaned to students for their academic study or personal research.

### ***Acquisitions***

During 2018, the Dar al-Kalima Library acquired a large number of new materials for the college, including:

- 960 new books
- 25 new encyclopedias and references
- 16 new DVD and CD films

The library was able to acquire these new titles and materials through both donation and purchase. In 2018, the library participated in the Palestine International Exhibition of Books in Ramallah, where library staff purchased a distinguished collection of newly published and cutting-edge books featured at the festival. Additionally, the library’s participation in the PMDP funded project to upgrade the tour guiding program

provided funds for an additional 600 titles. At the end of 2018, the total value of all new materials at the library (both donated and purchased) reached 51,128 ILS

### ***Cataloguing, Classification, and Administration:***

In 2018, the library purchased and installed a new electronic portal system, which monitors and secures the materials within the library. This also brings the library up to international standards on library monitoring using RIFD. The library will link the computerized library system (LIBSYS) with the e-gate system, which will facilitate and streamline library loans through an online system.

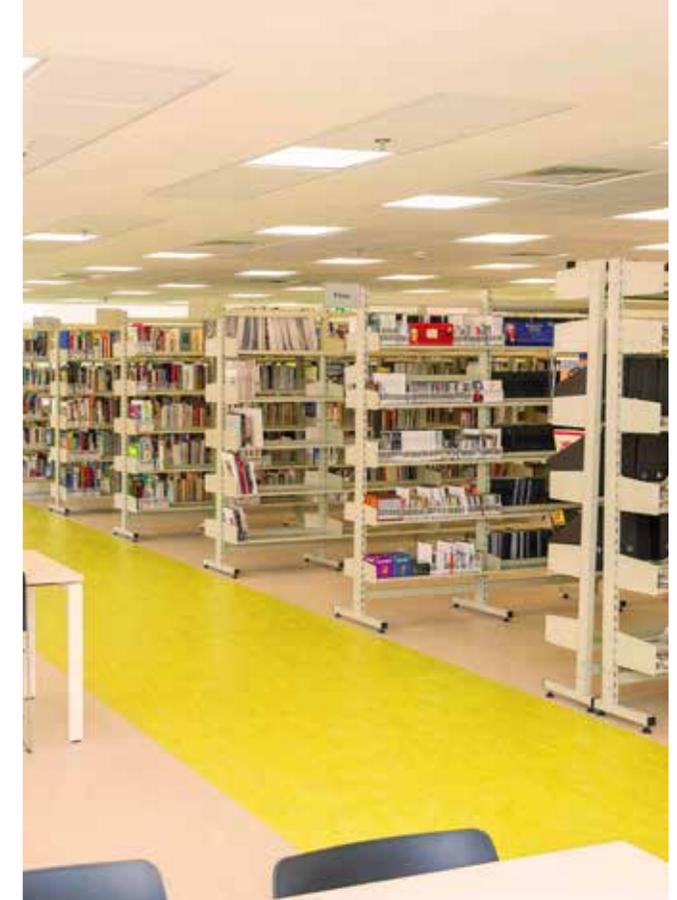
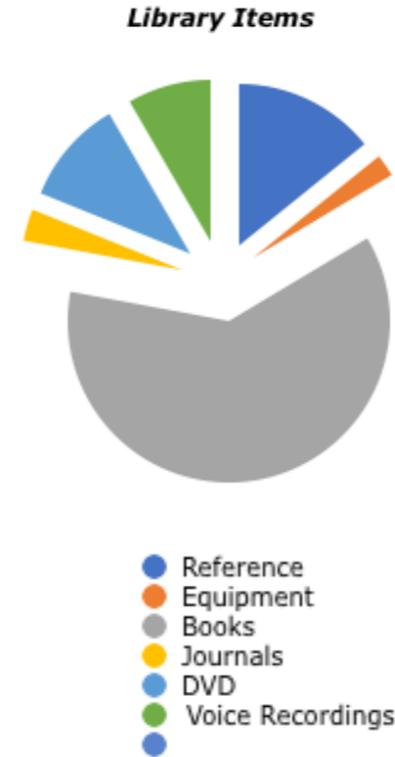


### Library Titles

Symbol	Subject Type	Number of Copies	Number of Titles
C	Reference	1628	351
M	Books	7719	7458
S	Periodicals	426	20
	Total	9773	7829

### Titles According to Language

Language	Number of Copies	Number of Titles
Arabic	4043	3423
English	5538	4244
French	22	19
German	90	85
Greek	4	4
Italian	23	19



## Registration

Distribution of Students by Level and Field

Distribution of Students by Level and Field					
Bachelor	Film Production	32%	Diploma	Music Performance	12%
	Graphic Design	15%		Palestinian Tour Guides	35%
	Interior Design	30%		Documentary Film Production	18%
	Performing Arts - Music	10%		Art Education	1%
	Contemporary Arts	13%		Contemporary Fine Art	8%
	<b>49%</b>			Glass and Ceramic	1%
Cont. Education	Culinary Arts	44%		Jewelry Design	11%
	Music Performance	7%		Culinary Arts	13%
	Documentary Film Production	26%			<b>44%</b>
	Jewelry Design	22%			
	<b>8%</b>				

Distribution of Students by Program

Film	24%
Tourism Studies	16%
Fine Arts	25%
Graphic Design & Applied Arts	13%
Performing Arts	10%
Culinary Art	6%
Theater	0%
Continuous Education	8%

Distribution of Students by Gender

Female	46%
Male	54%

Distribution of Students by Department

Visual Art	61%
Cultural Heritage and Tourism	21%
Performing Art	10%
Continuous Education	8%

Distribution of Students by District

Bethlehem	65%
Hebron	16%
Jerusalem	10%
Ramallah	3%
Nablus	2%
Jenin	1%
Tulkarem	1%
Jericho	1%
Nazareth and the Galilee	1%

# DAK 16th International Conference

## Jerusalem: Religious, National and International Dimensions

Jerusalem is key to peace. Jerusalem, the religious epicenter of the three monotheistic religions and the geographic nexus of the *mappa mundi*, is once again the center of attention in an escalating political struggle in the Middle East. The move of the US Embassy to Jerusalem in May 2018 has sparked many questions surrounding the city's status and the future of the region. While for many the decision meant the end of any viable prospect for peace, the Trump Administration continues to claim that the deal of the century is yet to come. Furthermore, the importance

of the city for Jews is highlighted while its importance for Christians and Muslims in general and Palestinian Christians in particular is ignored. The two evangelical pastors that prayed at the opening ceremony of the American Embassy focused on the importance of the city in the Old Testament, but didn't even mention that it is also the city of the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus and the home of the oldest Christian community in the world. The attempt of the Israeli State to tax church properties in Jerusalem shows just how volatile the situation has become. Palestinian Christians feel abandoned and betrayed by their Western counterparts. Following this, a renewed sense of urgency and importance has been

added to the cause of reaffirming the Holy City as a multicultural and multi-religious center.

Towards this goal of encouraging and supporting a multidimensional and inclusive Jerusalem, Dar al-Kalima implemented a multi-step project. Firstly, DAK conducted research on 61 Christians organizations active throughout Jerusalem. This research focused on the organizations' services, role, and status in the context of the city. Following this, Dar al-Kalima hosted a three-day international conference entitled "Jerusalem: Religious, National, and International Dimensions." Experts from a large variety of countries presented 20 scholarly papers at this conference. Thirdly, DAK supported a lecture given in Berlin, Germany, entitled "Jerusalem: What Makes for Peace," which presented the outcome of the research and the conference. The lecture was given first at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation headquarters, DAK's partner organization, and then at the German Parliament. Finally, experts and scholars compiled a book with the major conference proceedings and research, which is to be published by Diyar Publisher.



# Cyprus Conference 2018

## Women's Rights in the Middle East Today: Law, Culture, and Religion

The topic of women's rights in the Middle East has become increasingly relevant in the face of political unrest and radicalized religious movements throughout the region. Questioning this absence of progress, the Dar al-Kalima University College of Arts and Culture in partnership with the Christian Academic Forum for Citizenship in the Arab World (CAFCAW) organized a conference, entitled "Women's Rights in the Middle East Today: Law, Culture, and Religion."

Over the course of three days, more than 60 scholars, theologians, cultural leaders, activists, and politicians – the vast majority of whom were women -- gathered in Cyprus. Believing that the three factors of law, culture, and religion play a decisive role in the ongoing struggle for women's liberation in the Middle East, they investigated the factors that impair women's movement towards equal rights through presentations, discussions, and dialogues. By initiating this conversation, the conference aimed to form a nuanced and multifaceted picture of women's rights in the Middle East today. Once the issues were outlined, the secondary goal of the conference was to propose innovative solutions to these issues. The conference was an unmitigated success.

Both the Dar al-Kalima University College of Arts and Culture and CAFCAW have demonstrated a long-term commitment to furthering women's rights in Arab society. In fact, explained Dar al-Kalima's Vice President for Development and Outreach Rana Khoury, "Diyar and the Dar al-Kalima University College began with a focus on women's empowerment, raising awareness about personal status laws. The first international conference hosted by Dar al-Kalima, in 1996, focused on women's political participation, especially in Parliament." As a part of this commitment, Dar al-Kalima was the founding member of the CAFCAW initiative. CAFCAW named the cause of women's rights as an integral part of the path to full citizenship. In its founding document, "From the Nile to the Euphrates," CAFCAW identified the empowerment of women as one of ten preconditions towards a better future in the Middle East. The background of these organizing institutions set the stage for a strong and successful conference.

Dar al-Kalima President Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb explained that one of the primary goals of the

conference "was to gather some of the most articulate women in the Arab world who are passionate in promoting women's rights." The vast majority of the participants in the international conference were women from the region, namely Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Morocco, and Palestine. Several other participants from the United States and Europe, including Sweden, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom also joined the conference. Each woman was extremely accomplished, making great strides towards gender justice in their own contexts and environments.

All of the participants were eager to gather together and engage each other on a variety of topics related to the overarching theme. The conference provided an unparalleled opportunity to explore new perspectives, highlight the impact of women's movements on democracy and human rights, and encourage interdisciplinary analysis with regard to Middle Eastern women. Many participants stressed the lack of such forums in their home countries as a key indicator of the struggles women in the region still face. Dar al-Kalima Vice President Rana Khoury

named the gathering together of women from different backgrounds as one of the most important successes of the conference.

Participants were invited to submit papers that highlighted the role of women at the intersection of civic law, culture, and religion. Over the course of the three days of the international conference, more than 20 papers were presented by their authors, inspiring a weekend of dialogue and evaluation of the socio-political, economic, and religious contexts in the region. These papers laid out the varying perspectives of women of diverse backgrounds from the Middle East and examined them in the light of quickly changing socio-political contexts in the region.

A majority of the presentations highlighted the various challenges faced by women and girls in traditional patriarchal societies. These challenges spanned from economic limitations to parallel legal systems, and from lack of representation in the media to religiously inspired inequality. Together, presenters constructed an interdisciplinary vision of

life as a woman in the Middle East. The conference concluded with several recommendations related to personal status laws, civil marriage, and empowerment of women in the public space.

One of the greatest successes of the conference was that women and activists from the Middle East were able to build new connections to each other, creating a network of support where ideas and experiences can be exchanged. Dar al-Kalima Vice President Rana Khoury also noted that “the contribution of young women was huge in the conference. The audience was in awe of how strong and eloquent and articulate these young women were about women’s issues.” The voices of the youth, especially young women, are often not heard in the Middle East, and these participants proved that they have something of great value to say and contribute.

All in all, participants agreed, the conference was an unqualified success. Commented one participant: “Once again, Dar al Kalima University College of Arts and Culture and CAFCAW have succeeded in challenging the intellect and establishing

a dialogue between diverse identities and currents.” Dar al-Kalima President Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb noted that “It was eye opening to look at the situation of women in diverse Middle Eastern countries and to see what they have in common, but also what is specific to certain regions and countries.”

This conference is part of a larger series working to promote greater levels of civic engagement and civil rights. Together, it is the hope of Dar al-Kalima University College and CAFCAW to “empower full citizenship among all peoples in the Middle East: young, old, women, men, Arab, Kurd, Christian, Muslim – everyone.”



# Adult Education

In pursuit of becoming a resource center in capacity building for adult education providers to meet the goal of promoting and strengthening adult education in Palestine, Dar al-Kalima University College signed another 30-month partnership agreement with the representative office of the German Adult Education Association in Palestine, DVV International, to cooperate in the field of non-formal youth and adult education. A number of significant activities were completed during the first half-year of the renewed cooperation, among which are the following highlights:

## *Selection of New Partners of Adult Education Providers*

Together with the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), DAK and DVVI set forth an intensive process of selecting new adult education providers so that the scope of offering adult education programs can expand to include different communities in different areas of Palestine. The goal for this phase was to select three governmental centers and one community-based organization (CBO) as new partners in the West Bank. After a rigorous process that involved multiple workshops, including developing guidelines

and criteria for selection based on key performance indicators, orientation sessions after a public call was announced, screenings to review the submitted applications, and field visits carried out to examine 10 short-listed centers (6 MoEHE centers and 4 CBOs), the end result was the selection of the following new partner organizations:

- Nusayba al Mazinyah Center in cooperation with al-Yamoun Municipality in Jenin District (MoEHE).
- Al Karmel Center in cooperation with the Yatta Municipality in the Hebron District (MoEHE).
- Sami Taha Center in cooperation with the Arrabeh Municipality in Jenin District (MoEHE).
- The Center for Communication and Development in Hebron District (CBO).

Plans for 2019 will involve providing consultancy and training in selected fields including development of innovative adult education programs, qualification training to staff and other needs identified by the new selected adult education providers, in addition to the

Saraya center in the old city of Jerusalem, which is a adult education partner since several years.



## *'Dialogue in Adult Education' Study Visit to Belgrade, Serbia*

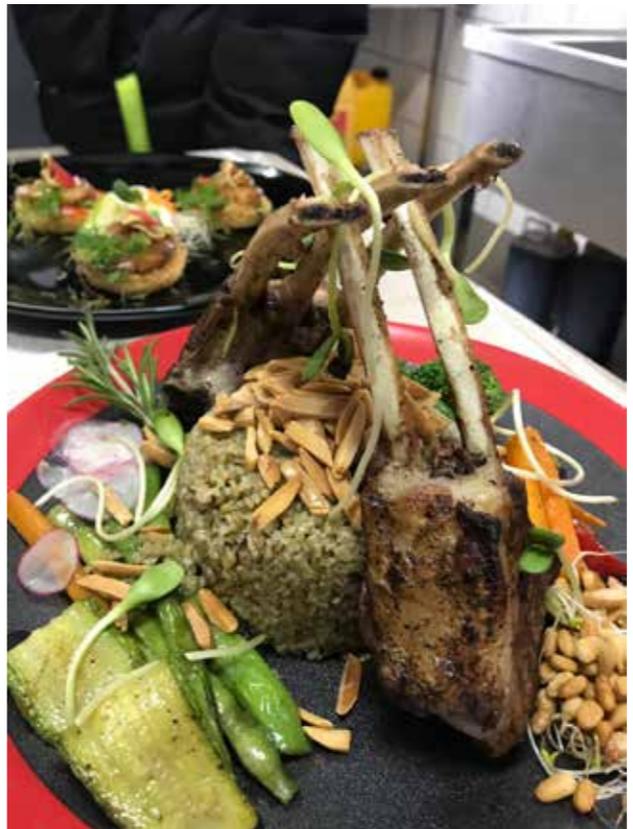
A study visit was organized between December 9-13, 2018 by the Adult Education Society and Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade,

in cooperation with DVV International, with representatives from DAK and MoEHE. The visit was designed to explore prospects of cooperation between Palestinian and Serbian higher education institutions and experts in adult education, since Serbia has an extensive, successful experience in providing *Andragogy* in the higher education level. Continued discussions and further exchange are expected in 2019.



### ***Gourmet Food and Fine Dining Course***

DAK offered a course in gourmet food and fine dining for three weeks, from November 8 to 23, 2018. The majority of participants were chefs or assistant cooks from hotels and restaurants, mainly from the Bethlehem and Hebron regions, who were seeking to develop their skills further and offer new, improved food presentation for their customers. In total, 20 persons completed the course, with 8 women graduates and 12 men.



# Authentic Tourism Program

DAK witnessed a significant increase in the number of groups in 2018 when compared to 2017, with 24 groups coming from Germany, Holland, Denmark, UK and USA. The total number of visitors was 499 persons, with the average group size of 20 to 25 persons. Additionally, the Authentic Tourism Program participated in a number of exchange programs to bring DAK's mission and vision to light on the international stage.

## Visiting Groups and Exchanges:

- **Face to Face Program:** DAK hosted another successful implementation of the "Face to

Face" Study Program from 20 August– 14 September 2018,. The program was organized in partnership with the Council for World Mission. Now in its second year, 12 students from different parts of the world, namely South Africa, Solomon Islands, Australia, the Netherlands, UK, USA, Malawi, Philippines, Myanmar, Samoa, India and Zambia, enrolled in the program.

- **Student Exchange Program:** DAK University College and Augsburg University in Minnesota, USA, signed a partnership agreement in 2018. One manifestation of the partnership is that the

first group of Augsburg students will be visiting in March 2019 as part of an exchange program between the two universities. This exchange will become an annual program between the two universities.

- **Studiosus Groups from Germany:** There was a significant increase in the number of Studiosus groups in 2018. A total of 35 groups with 914 persons participated in the one-day Bethlehem program.
- **Visiting Groups for Lectures:** In addition to the Authentic Tourism Program and Studiosus groups, Dar al-Kalima University College and Diyar received a total of 975 visitors in 2018. The visitors heard a lecture about the vision and mission of the organization as well as current issues in the Palestinian context. These visitors were from the following countries: USA (705 persons), Germany (110 persons), Denmark (36 persons), UK (31 persons), Canada (4 persons), Sweden (9 persons), Singapore (15 persons), The Netherlands (8 persons), Norway (13 persons) Finland (24 persons) and locals (20 persons).



# Civic Engagement Program

- **Civic Engagement Program Alumni Network:** The year 2018 marked an important milestone for the Civic Engagement Program, surpassing 1000 alumni after 8 years of its founding with a total of 1002 young graduates actively engaged as committed citizens in their communities that are spread across multiple areas and localities from the far north to the deep south of Palestine. The program was established in 2011 to provide comprehensive, systematic, year-long capacity building to Palestinian youth in leadership, advocacy, lobbying and campaigning to enhance their civic participation and engagement in the

socio-political and cultural processes, rather than short-term training initiatives that focus only on one aspect of empowerment. Having graduated this number of young civic leaders is a momentous achievement, as these youth carry with them the philosophy, values and ideals of Diyar/DAK, seeking to implant seeds of hope, creativity and innovation among other youth and the society at large.

- **Civic Engagement Curriculum Development:** The process of developing a civic engagement curriculum began in 2018. The nature of the program and being part of an academic structure encourages the efforts of documenting

the results (together with the framework, methodologies, approaches, activities) into a curriculum that will be implemented for years to come in an educational setting embedded with civic engagement elements.

- **The Civic Cultural Network:** Supported by the Olof Palme International Center, the four-year project aims at creating a grassroots youth lobby in Palestine that empowers the young people to actively engage in the development of their communities and practice fully their citizenship rights. A summary of the main activities of 2018 follows:

» *Increased Membership:* The Civic Cultural Network is a national, membership-based structure constituting one of the largest groups of volunteers within the organization. Its potential to create social change is immense since it is comprised of a collective body of youth who are highly trained to organize around critical issues and rights. In 2018, the network's members were 334 persons, with 188 women and 146 men.

» *Training and Capacity Building:* Two types of training workshops were held in 2018; the first was the annual training course on advocacy, lobbying and campaigning that focused on qualifying new young people to join the network while the second was a lifelong learning training on public speaking, public art and management of volunteers, which provided continuing education for some of the network's existing members as well as youth who are not part of the immediate scope of the project. The number of youth who graduated from the 2018 regular training was 91 persons, with 51 young women and 29 young men, while the number of those who completed the lifelong learning training was 62 persons, with 42 women and 20 men.

» *Short-Term 'Exercise' Campaigns:* Two campaigns were organized during the latter half of 2018 across most districts of the West Bank, which reached many segments of society. The first campaign, called "Khaleekom Naymeen" (an ironic title translated "Remain Sleeping"),

focused on reactivating cultural centers that are supported by the Palestinian Ministry of Culture, particularly those that are located away from the city centers, to better serve the youth population and local communities. The second campaign, “Yalla ala al-Bus” (Hop on the Bus), dealt with the critical issue of local travel cost and its impact on youth mobility and activism, by lobbying the Palestinian Ministry of Transport (MOT) to consider youth transportation discounts through issuing special youth travel card. It is important to mention that the second campaign, based on consensus of the Civic Cultural Network members, will be the main national campaign for 2019.

» *Community Service:* 139 graduates and members of the Civic Cultural Network participated in multiple community service opportunities. This is the highest number of participants ever reached within one year. The sense of community is very strong among the youth, and this encourages them to be involved

in their immediate environment when given the space to serve.



» *Town Hall Meeting:* In collaboration with the Dar al-Kalima University College, a town hall meeting was held in April 2018 that was largely attended by young people with more than 180 people participating in the event. The meeting

focused on the issue of cultural normalization and BDS, a topic that is highly debated in the Palestinian society and has wide national and international implications. Organizing town hall meetings is an extremely effective method for engaging young people in civil society not only because they allow for the freedom to openly and directly express their opinions and concerns, but they also highlight the power of collective agency and at the same time raise the awareness of the decision maker, who is more often than not far removed from the realities on the ground including and particularly the realities of the Palestinian youth.

» *Community Events:* At least 12 events were held during 2018 in different communities and places, including public spaces and halls, schools, youth clubs, universities and colleges, and community centers. These events ensure more people to people interaction and the development of deeper relations between the youth and their communities. Among the most noted was a 15-day travelling library called

the “Knowledge Hut” to promote reading among youth in the Bethlehem district, school workshops in Tulkarim district on violence against women in all forms, and a voluntary day with 50 persons where a heritage site at Jifna village near Ramallah was cleaned.



» *Stakeholders Coalition and Alliance Formation:* Cooperation with key stakeholders and inter-sectorial organizations grew in 2018, with a total of 37 partners including local/national

media agencies, local/national civil society organizations and charitable associations, ministerial and semi-governmental bodies, local government authorities, private sector and others. Alliances and coalitions are essential for the success of a grassroots youth lobby.

» *Social Media Productions:* Social media is critical to the work of the network because it sheds light on the Palestinian youth's potential, issues and rights and is effective in shifting public attitudes to support the youth in their quest for becoming more involved in the development of their communities. In 2018, the following productions took place:

- 10 episodes of a 55-minute online radio show called Nabad al-Shabab (translated as the Pulse of the Youth), which focused on significant topics that were strategically selected so as to highlight some of the 15 priority areas that are covered by the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY), which guides the UN youth agenda.



- 4 issues of the "Min Haqi" Quarterly e-newsletter/magazine with quality contributions of young people.
- 9 entries published in the multi-author Civic Cultural Network blog. In 2018, there were 8 bloggers (6 women and 2 men) as part of this forum.
- First draft design completed for an interactive website for the network that documents the daily lives of Palestinian youth.



# Culture Program

The year 2018 was a busy year for the culture program, as it organized or helped support the organization of 76 cultural events held at Dar al-Kalima or Diyar, including 36 film screenings, 10 theater plays, standup comedy and dance performances, 3 music concerts, 20 conferences and workshops, 2 book launchings, and 5 festivals and award ceremonies, as well as other types of activities of varying lengths.

## *Festivals and Performances*

- **Dandanat Dance and Music Festival:** Now in its thirteenth year of existence, the Dandanat Dance and Music Festival continues to be a main highlight of the Culture Program. The festival is a Palestinian-Swedish cultural encounter for music and dance groups. In addition to the daily workshops, there were public performances carried out every evening in Bethlehem, Beit Sahour and Beit Jala. Most remarkable about this year's festival is that together with our Swedish partner Bilda, a pilot Dandanat Festival was

launched in Sweden at the end of September and beginning of October 2018. The Swedish program will raise further awareness of the importance of this festival as a cultural and artistic exchange, promoting mutual understanding and deeper cooperation between the two contexts and populations. Several Palestinian artistic groups participated in the Swedish edition of Dandanat, which had significant attendance from the local community.



- **Standup Comedy Performances:** The Culture Program provided space for Palestinian standup comedians, both living in Palestine and abroad, to perform on several occasions during 2018. Standup comedy has become very popular among Palestinians, especially the youth, and these shows are always sold out. Standup comedy is both a form of political satire within the context of the Occupation, but also a positive and creative outlet for the artists' communities' frustrations. Comedy thus serves as tool to voice criticisms and reflections on issues pertaining to their lives and that of their communities.

# Diyar Academy for Children and Youth

The Diyar Academy for Children and Youth had an extremely successful year during the 2018 season. Both the Theater and Dance School and the Art School participated in and hosted a number of events that enhanced the lives and experiences of both the students and the surrounding community. We are hopeful that these successes, highlighted below, will continue into future years of programming for the Diyar Academy.

## The Theater and Dance School

### *International Tours and Exchanges:*

- **Sharm El Sheikh International Theatre Festival for Youth:** Diyar Theatre took part in the Sharm El Sheikh International Theatre Festival for Youth, which was held from April 2 – 8, 2018 in Egypt. The Diyar Theatre performed the production “Women”, which revolved around women under occupation and the similarity between women’s bodies and the conquest of Palestinian land. The production, which was

originally created in 2015, won an award for the best emerging youth performance during this festival.

- **Dabke Performance Tour Switzerland:** “Dances of Hope”: In commemoration of 70 years of al-Nakba, the Diyar Dance Theatre toured Switzerland from June 6 – 16, 2018. The production “Dances of Hope” connected traditional Palestinian Dabkeh dance with contemporary dance. After each performance, the participants discussed a set of points concerning the lives, ambitions, and aspirations of Palestinian youth.
- **Master Class with Palestinian/American Dancer Leila Awadallah:** The Palestinian American Leila Awadallah from Anaya Dance Theatre held a month-long workshop at the Diyar Dance Theatre in July 2018, where she taught the young Diyar dancers contemporary Indian dances. The Anaya Dance Theatre later returned to Bethlehem to perform at the Bethlehem International Performing Arts Festival in October 2018.
- **The Lutheran Protestant Church of Saxony Theater Exchange:** The Diyar Theatre was part of an exchange with Landesjugendpfarramt Sachsen, which is the Lutheran Protestant Church of Saxony in Germany. The week-long collaboration, taking place in Bethlehem, resulted in a production called “Another Hole in the Wall.” It was performed on July 10, 2018. Another exchanged is planned between the two groups in July/August 2019 and will take place in Germany.
- **Bethlehem International Performing Arts Festival (BIPAF):** The Bethlehem International Performing Arts Festival (BIPAF) that was held from October 5-12, 2018 included, for the first time since its founding, international performing art companies. Nearly 100 artists participated, hailing from 12 different countries including the United States, Lithuania, China, Taiwan, Germany, Hungary, Spain and Tunisia. The audience spanned from toddlers, children, and youth to adults and the elderly, with a total of 7000 attendees.

## Production

- Finnish-Palestinian Dance Co-Production: In cooperation with the Finnish choreographer Virva Talonen and lighting designer Nanni Vapaavuori, 4 members of the Diyar Dance Theatre participated in the production "A Portable Home". The production was the third part of a series of dance exchanges between local artists from Japan, Finland and Palestine, which began in 2016 and ended in 2018. The production focused on one's ability to live in his/her homeland, a basic human rights issue. The performance took place in Bethlehem on July 13, 2018.
- Community Performances: There were a total of 10 community performances arranged by Diyar Theatre in 2018, which attracted more than 2500 children. These annual performances inspire joy and creativity among the local community.

- "Taken" Community Dance Production: In cooperation with the English-German choreographer Royston Maldoom, the Diyar Dance Theatre compiled a short production entitled "Taken" about Palestinian children in Israeli prisons. The piece, which was performed as the opening act of the BIPAF 2018, explored the emotions related to the abduction and incarceration of the Palestinian children in Israel.
- Children's Theater Performance: The children's theater trainees performed a production piece called "The Princess's Castle" on November 22, 2018. The children were between 8 and 12 years old, and took part in both the writing and the performing of the piece.
- Christmas Theatre Play: A new Christmas play was produced in 2018 called "A Mysterious, Marvelous Hotel", which was about a hotel located in the old city of Bethlehem and its owners, employees, and guests. The play was performed at 15 different locations, including in major Palestinian cities such as Bethlehem and Ramallah.

## Special Events and Community Courses

- Diyar Summer Camp: The Diyar Summer Camp 2018, entitled "My Hope, My Future" was a great success. The summer day camp was held from June 20 – July 20, with 190 children participating in the daily activities. The activities were carefully chosen and executed to teach the children important social and leadership skills, as well as to provide them with tools for self-expression and critical thinking. The summer camp was planned and supervised by Ms. Marian Bandak who, in addition to being the former captain of the Palestinian Women National Soccer Team, was one of the first female soccer players at Diyar and in Palestine.
- Ballet Class: The pre-ballet course aims to introduce the children of Diyar Academy to dance at an early age. Though all children are

welcome to join the course, it consisted mainly of 148 girls during the year.

- Dabke Class: Learning Dabke folkloric dance is a way for children to connect with their culture and heritage. During the course in 2018, 66 boys and girls came together to dance and have fun.
- Drama and Theater Class: A total of 30 children were provided an opportunity in 2018 to engage in drama and theater, which allowed them to express themselves in multiple ways and nurture their creative self.
- Music Class: The course "Music and More" was a program targeting the youngest children of the community. A total of 11 children ages 2 to 4 years old participated and were introduced to the basics of music through singing, dancing and drumming.

## The Art School

### Community Courses

- **Painting Class:** Painting classes at the Diyar Academy were divided into two sections according to age, with 5 to 8 year olds and 9 to 17 year olds as the two main groups. In total, there were 95 students in 2018.
- **Children's Craft Space:** A crafts program was created at Diyar Academy in 2018. The participating children were encouraged to think outside of the box as they embarked on creating unique pieces, with some made out from recycled material. A total of 44 children between the ages of 5 and 9 years old participated in this program.

## The Sports School

### Soccer

- **Palestine U15 Football Championship:** The Diyar U15 Girls Team participated in the Palestine U15 Football Championship on July 10, 2018. The tournament consisted of 22 teams from different cities and villages in the West Bank. Diyar received first place after winning the final game against a team from Nablus.
  - » Miral Qassis: *The Diyar U15 Girls Team is especially proud of one player in the championship, Miral Qassis. Qassis scored 45 goals in total, and was later awarded the best U15 player in Palestine. She was interviewed on Maan National TV, which allowed many young girls to be inspired and encouraged to follow their own dreams.*
- The Asian Olympic Tournament: Because 2018 was the year of the Asian Olympic Football Tournament qualifications, Diyar was proud

to have 6 of its women soccer players join the Palestinian Olympic team, who played to qualify for the 2020 Summer Olympics Women Tournament in Japan. Palestine did well, and Diyar is looking forward to supporting the national women's soccer team again in April 2019, when the next round of qualifications will be held.

- **New Soccer Team:** Due to increasing demands from the community, a new, additional team for girls was created in December 2018. The new team is for 7 to 10 year old girls.
- **Mixed Gender Team:** Diyar Academy established a new soccer team with a mix of girls and boys, whose ages range between 7 to 14 years old. Having boys and girls play soccer together was intentional so as to promote gender equality. This team was trained by a woman coach, a further emphasis on shifting the traditional image and role of women in society.

### Community Courses

- **Karate Classes:** The karate classes focused on providing self-defense techniques and enrolled 104 boys and girls in 2018. The course helped in developing a sense of self-worth and raising confidence among the Palestinian children, as well as providing an outlet to release stress and anger.
- **First Annual Diyar Karate Championship:** The Diyar Academy held its first karate championship on December 14, 2018. Diyar welcomed 16 clubs from the Bethlehem and Hebron areas, with the participation of 120 students. Diyar is planning to make the championship an annual event where local, national and even international clubs can participate.
- **Volleyball:** A total of 17 children enrolled in the volleyball course in 2018, where they were taught basic techniques and skills.
- **Soccer Formation Course:** The formation course provides young girls with the opportunity to be

introduced to soccer. It emphasizes developing their basic skills and teaching the girls to see themselves as a united team on the field, instead of as a group of individuals. A total of 47 girls participated in the course, with many signing later on to join a soccer team at the Sports School.

- **Swimming:** Swimming courses are among the most popular activities at Diyar Academy. A total of 800 children and 127 women enrolled in swimming during the period of June 1 – November 15, 2018.

**Table of participants, Diyar Academy for Children and Youth 2018**

Course:	Number of participants:
Diyar Theatre (Dance Theatre)	70 Participants
Diyar Summer Camp	190 Children
Ballet Class	148 Children
Dabke for Children	66 Children
Drama and Theatre	30 Children
Music Class	11 Children
Painting Class	95 Children
Children's Craft Space	44 Children
Women First Soccer Team	18 Women
Girls Youngsters Soccer Team A	12 Children
Girls Youngsters Soccer Team B	10 Children
Girls Youngsters Soccer Team C	8 Children
Mixed Gender Team	15 Children
Karate	104 Children
Volleyball	17 Children
Soccer Formation Course	47 Children
Swimming	800 Children / 127 Women
<b>TOTAL PARTICIPANTS in 2018</b>	<b>1812 Persons</b>

# Intergenerational Program

Intergenerational program is a key part of Dar al-Kalima's mission and vision for a more inclusive community full of abundant life. These program, which brings together community members of all ages, has a special focus on young families and the elderly, two populations often not discussed within the larger community. Dar al-Kalima's Intergenerational Program this year provided many opportunities for people to connect and learn – through theater, the arts, and collaborative workshops and support groups.

## The Ajyal Elderly Care Program

The Ajyal Program continued going strong in 2018, with 122 seniors as members of this unique initiative. The main highlights for the year are as follows:

- **Two Drama Productions:** The first drama production, "The Butterfly," was directed by the famous British choreographer Royston Maldoom. The drama piece highlighted the joys and challenges of the life cycle, experiencing pain but also freedom, drawing parallels between the transformation of the butterfly

during its life and human transformation. A total of 10 senior members performed in the unique production. The second production was a performance developed and directed by one of the female elderly members of the group. The story line of this production revolved around Palestinian traditional songs and Dabke folkloric dance.

- **Two-day Galilee Study Tour:** A two-day trip was organized to the north during the summer, where the seniors toured the different cities up in the Galilee, and engaged in spiritual reflection at the different Christian sites. These study tours are always a highlight for the elderly group members, who enjoy participating in lifelong learning opportunities.



- **Celebrations:** Aside from regular celebrations such as birthdays, two major celebrations took place in 2018. The first was the Elderly Day in October, where Ajyal's drama club performed the two drama productions noted above. Additionally, there was a dinner and music performances. The second celebration took place during the Christmas season, where those gathered sang hymns and exchanged gifts. The young families of the Azwaj Program also joined this Christmas Celebration, highlighting the power of intergenerational connection.

## The Azwaj Young Families Program

**Focus Group Formation:** After the positive feedback from the young families regarding the 2017 "Leadership in Marriage" training course, recommendations were made to discuss the topics introduced during the training course in greater depth in 2018. As a result, a focus group was formed and met over the course of 10 weeks, where the

members felt safe to share their own challenges and personal struggles with the rest of the group. Based on these discussions, each couple took the initiative to work on their marital and parental relationships, with some even committing to counseling as a couple to address the outstanding issues and challenges that hinder their relationships.

- **“Leadership in Marriage – Part Two” Conference:** The annual conference in 2018 focused on continuing the discussion on the leadership in marriage theme. The conference was divided into three sessions: Marital Therapy Models; Love and Intimacy; and Parenting. The conference was led by a professional psychotherapist and marriage counselor from Haifa, Ms. Minerva Mezawy. It included also a two-day study tour to Haifa and Tiberius.
- **Adult Education Workshops:** 10 adult education workshops were delivered to the Azwaj group that focused on different issues including stress management, parenting techniques, and civil society issues and values.

## Intergenerational Activities

- **Ergosoma Program:** Two major highlights emerged in 2018 as part of this unique program:
  - » The first three Ergosoma practitioners in Palestine graduated from the training program on November 27, 2018. The new practitioners are the first to be certified outside of Europe and have become specialized in performing energy field workouts on the seven life-energy cores. A group of Ergosoma teachers and trainers from Germany and Austria, representing the Elijah Association-Germany, attended the ceremony.
  - » Ergosoma also organized two major workshops during the 2018 year. The first was a 4-day workshop held in March, led by two Ergosoma trainers from Germany. The second workshop took place in November, which was led by 17 coaches and trainers from Germany and Austria. Both workshops were powerful as information, training and treatments were

exchanged between the Bethlehem and the German/Austrian teams.

- **Celebrate Recovery Project:** A major highlight in this project was the comprehensive 8-day training workshop that took place in February 2018. The workshop worked with seven leaders from the local congregations in the Bethlehem area, followed by monthly Skype calls for further consultation.



# The Cave Gift Shop

The Cave Gift Shop continued to perform well during the 2018 year, selling a variety of products including books, embroidery, jewelry, olive wood, and recycled glass work. Artwork and ornaments created from pieces of broken glass made up more than half of the total sales in the Cave Gift Shop in 2018. Several new artists began working with the gift shop in 2018, and DAK also installed new display cases in order to better exhibit the products available at the gift shop.

## New Releases and Successes

- **Palestine: A Culinary Destination:** A new cook book by Chef Basem Hazboun for Diyar Publisher titled *Palestine: A Culinary Destination* was released by Diyar Publishers. The cookbook is accompanied by a set of spices and video clips demonstrating techniques for the different recipes. The cookbook was an immediate bestseller.
- **Najwa Ghadban:** A graduate of Dar al-Kalima University College, artist Najwa Ghadban began selling her artwork with wood and mosaics in 2018.

- **Sawsan Rishmawi:** Palestinian craftswoman Sawsan Rishmawi debuted a new design of artwork featuring olivewood with glass insets.
- **Nancy Salsa:** Palestinian artist Nancy Salsa added her mosaic glass work for sale at the Cave Gift Shop

## Sale Statistics

### *Sales by Country*

- **Sweden** ranked #1.
- **Denmark** ranked #2.
- **USA** ranked #3.
- **Germany** ranked #4.
- **France** ranked #5.

### *Top Selling Items*

- Books: "Palestine: A Culinary Destination".
- Ceramics: Christmas Ceramic Balls.
- Felted Lamb's Wool: Dove.
- Embroidery: Stoles – variety of colors and designs.
- Recycled Glass Items: Original Angels; the Glass Eye Drops; the Peace Dove.
- Olivewood: Olivewood Hearts 5cm\*5cm.
- Silver Jewelry: Olive Leaves Earrings.

# Marketing and Media

During 2018, the Dar al-Kalima University College Marketing and Media Department continued its focus on presenting the University College as a superior option for students seeking a post-secondary education. By the University College's participation in a number of events and consistent reporting through traditional and social media outlets, Dar al-Kalima was able to increase its exposure to the larger community in Palestine. These events also have helped to put Dar al-Kalima on the map of Palestinian universities.

## Media Reports:

### News Reports:

- The Media and Marketing Department published a total of 62 news reports on Dar al-Kalima University College's webpage. 43 of these reports focused on the activities of the University College. The coverage was divided between the departments as follows:
  - »15 reports on the Film Production Program
  - »3 reports on the Graphic Design and Applied Arts Program

- »7 reports on the Fine Arts Program
- »1 report on the Tourism Program
- »1 report on the Culinary Arts Program
- »1 report on the Music Performance Program
- »2 reports on the Drama and Theater Program
- »13 reports on general activities of the University College.
- In addition, the Media and Marketing Department published 19 reports on the activities of the Diyar program
  - »8 of these reports focused on the Diyar Academy for Children and Youth
  - »6 reports focused on Diyar's Civic Cultural Network
  - »4 reports covered general programming and events

## Printed Media:

### «منطقة ج» يفوز بجائزة أفضل فيلم روائي قصير في مهرجان أيام فلسطين السينمائية



يعدّ مهرجان أيام فلسطين السينمائية من أبرز المناسبات التي تعقد سنوياً في قطاع غزة، وتحتضن نخبة من المواهب السينمائية الفلسطينية. وقد فاز فيلم «منطقة ج» للفيلم القصير، الذي أخرجه المخرج الشاب محمد أبو بكر، بجائزة أفضل فيلم روائي قصير في الدورة الثامنة للمهرجان. الفيلم، الذي يدور في إطار قصة حب، حصل على إعجاب الجمهور والمهنيين على حد سواء. المخرج أبو بكر، الذي بدأ مسيرته السينمائية في مهرجان أيام فلسطين السينمائية، أعرب عن شكره لفرع جامعة دار السلام، الذي ساهم في دعمه الفني والمادي خلال فترة تصويره للفيلم. المهرجان، الذي يقام سنوياً في قطاع غزة، يهدف إلى اكتشاف المواهب السينمائية الفلسطينية ودعمها، وتعزيز دور السينما في المجتمع الفلسطيني.

- 111 articles covering the activities of DAK were printed in a number of different newspapers, including al-Quds, al-Ayyam, al-Hayat, and al-Arab.
- 18 announcements were made through the al-Quds and al-Ayyam newspapers
- 35,184 advertising materials were printed and distributed through media channels throughout the local community

### **Electronic Media:**

- 433 electronic articles on the activities of the Dar Al-Kalima University College were published through a variety of channels, including:
  - »11 articles on Palestinian News and Information Agency - Wafa
  - »38 articles on Ma'an News Agency
  - »34 articles on Radio Hebron Online
  - »46 articles on al-Watan Online
  - »5 articles on Life Press Online

- »43 articles on Life Radio Online
- »26 articles on Radio Bethlehem 2000 Online
- »4 articles al-Quds Net News Agency
- »2 articles on Sama News Agency
- »4 articles on al-Ayyam Electronic Newspaper
- »2 articles Radio 24FM Online
- »6 articles on Raya Media Network
- »61 articles on the DAK website
- »61 articles on the Diyar website
- »An additional 56 articles were published through other electronic news agencies

### **Audio Media:**

- 327 radio ads were distributed covering the programs of Dar al-Kalima University College, including:
  - »99 ads on Radio Bethlehem 2000
  - »93 ads on the Radio Ramallah

- »42 ads on the Radio Nisa' FM
- »93 ads on Radio Baladna
- An additional 95 announcements about the Bethlehem International Performing Arts Festival were aired on Radio Bethlehem 2000.
- 24 radio interviews were conducted with faculty and staff of Dar al-Kalima University College, including:
  - »5 interviews on Voice of Palestine Radio,
  - »6 interviews on Radio Nisa' FM,
  - »3 interviews on Radio Orient,
  - »7 interviews on Radio 24 FM radio,
  - »1 interview on al-Quds Radio
  - »1 interview on Raya FM Radio,
- In addition, 8 live broadcasts of DAK events were aired, including:
  - »2 live broadcasts on Radio Bethlehem 2000, 6 live broadcasts on Radio Baladna.

- Finally, a media partnership was also obtained for the Bethlehem Festival of the Performing Arts, enhancing coverage for the events of the festival.

### **Audiovisual Media:**

- 8 television interviews were conducted on the activities of Dar Al-Kalima University College, including:
  - »3 interviews on the Public Authority for Broadcasting and Television - Palestine Television
  - »3 interviews on Satellite TV
  - »2 interviews on the Palestinian Channel.
- 14 news reports were created on the activities of DAK, including:
  - »4 reports on the Public Authority for Broadcasting and Television - Palestine Television
  - »7 reports on Satellite TV

- » 1 report on Al Jazeera
- » 2 reports on the Christian Media Center
- 11 live broadcasts covering the activities and programming of DAK were conducted, including:
  - » 6 live broadcasts on General Authority for Radio and Television - Palestine TV,
  - » 5 live broadcasts on Satellite TV.

### Social Media:

- All of the above media campaigns and articles were shared on DAK's webpage and on social media sites such as Facebook.
- This year, the Media and Marketing Program live streamed 19 events on various social media sites, including Facebook.

## Visits and Events:

- As a part of the marketing campaign for the University College, Dar al-Kalima received a total of 7 secondary schools for visits and tours of the university. A total of 410 students were introduced to the programs of Dar al-Kalima University College through these visits.
- Dar al-Kalima University College also participated in many informational workshops and camps for students, including a College Fair organized by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. More than 17,700 students were introduced to the programs and activities of Dar al-Kalima University College through these events.



# Houston Summit Document 2018

## “Jerusalem: What makes for Peace?” The US Christian Leadership Summit Houston, TX

### *Our Context*

- We have come together in this unique and ecumenical summit of Christian leaders and leaders of faith-based organizations in the USA, with Palestinian Christian partners, following the example and teachings of our

Lord Jesus Christ for whom Jerusalem was sacred. Jerusalem was the city that made him cry. He wept over the holy city, occupied by the Romans, because its leaders didn't know what makes for peace (Lk 19:42). With this summit we respond, to the call of the Psalmist by praying for and working towards the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6).

- 2018 marks 70 years since the city was divided and over 50 years since the occupation of East Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Today, Jerusalem bears the scars of these wars, ongoing occupation, fragmentation, and systemic discrimination of its native Palestinian

people. And yet and at the same time, Jerusalem is the key to a just peace.

- The increase in the Israelization of East Jerusalem, the move to annex major settlements within the Jerusalem Municipality, and new Israeli Jewish Nation-state Basic Law are in direct defiance of International law and threaten the vision for an inclusive and shared Jerusalem.
- Our meeting location of Houston, the heart of the Bible Belt, is significant. We recognize that, as Christians, we are often part of the problem when we could contribute to the solution. As US Christian leaders, we were disheartened to see our political leaders move the American embassy to Jerusalem in violation of international laws and in spite of previous commitments, thus losing credibility and the leverage of an honest broker in the peace process.

### *Our Purpose in Meeting*

- We have come together for a day of reflection and open dialogue in a spirit of theological and ethical urgency to call for a just peace. Together, we demonstrate our ecumenical unity in action towards the end of occupation and a lasting political solution in the Holy Land. We honor the city that witnessed the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We reiterate the biblical vision of Jerusalem as an inclusive city where people of different cultural, ethnic, and religious background come together in a spirit of unity, equality and mutual recognition (Acts 2:1-13).
- As Christians, we acknowledge the spiritual kinship and ties of the three Abrahamic religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—to Jerusalem, the city each calls holy. We acknowledge also that this is a city important for two peoples, Palestinians and Israelis, and for their national aspirations.

- Thus, together with all churches in the Holy Land we continue to advocate for Jerusalem as an open and shared city for two peoples and three faiths based on equality and mutuality, a cosmopolitan city with an international dimension as well.

Palestinian “living stones” to seek lives of dignity and freedom far from their homes in the troubled Holy Land. A just and peaceful solution is imperative, and will contribute to the wellbeing of all the children of God in the city.

### ***Our Call for Action***

As US Christian leaders, gathered together at this Jerusalem Conference, we:

- We believe that working towards a just and lasting solution in Jerusalem would not only serve the cause of peace and justice in the Holy Land but also promote overall peace in the Middle East region. A reconciled city would diminish the claims of those who exploit this conflict and religion to serve their own motives, exclusivist theologies and racist ideologies.
- As Christian leaders, we commit to work together proactively to protect the threatened presence of Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem and the entire Holy Land. The current absence of a just political solution is eroding the Christian presence and causing many of these

- Urge our President and his administration to recognize East Jerusalem as the Capital of the State of Palestine, thus creating a level playing field for Israelis and Palestinians to negotiate a shared Jerusalem;
- Urge the US Congress, American politicians and public figures to adopt a balanced policy that would pave the way for a just solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and a lasting peace;
- Urge the US Congress to support international laws and reaffirm the critical role of the United Nations in protecting and promoting a just

peace based on recognition of Jerusalem as an inclusive city;

- 12. Call on commercial, governmental, and non-governmental actors—including faith groups and churches—to exert economic leverage to end unfair and unjust practices and policies that violate international laws and conventions; and
- Support inter-religious initiatives that promote an inclusive theological vision for a shared Jerusalem.

### ***Further, we commit to:***

- Educate our constituencies regarding the damaging consequences of premillennial dispensationalist theology (Christian Zionism) and fundamentalist Christian teachings that create obstacles to peace, and peaceful coexistence in present-day Palestine and Israel;
- Increase community-based pilgrimages and authentic tourism to the Holy Land with the intent to stay in East Jerusalem and in Palestinian towns and villages in order to engage with

indigenous communities, to experience firsthand their hopes and fears and to contribute to their communities and economic development;

- Support development in and around Jerusalem through creative social and economic investment, thus demonstrating our commitment to both word and deed, operating at the intersection of faith and finance; and
- Support local churches and faith-based organizations so that they can continue their vital ministries in and around Jerusalem.

We remain committed to work on these issues and to follow up on this Summit and on the issues presented above.

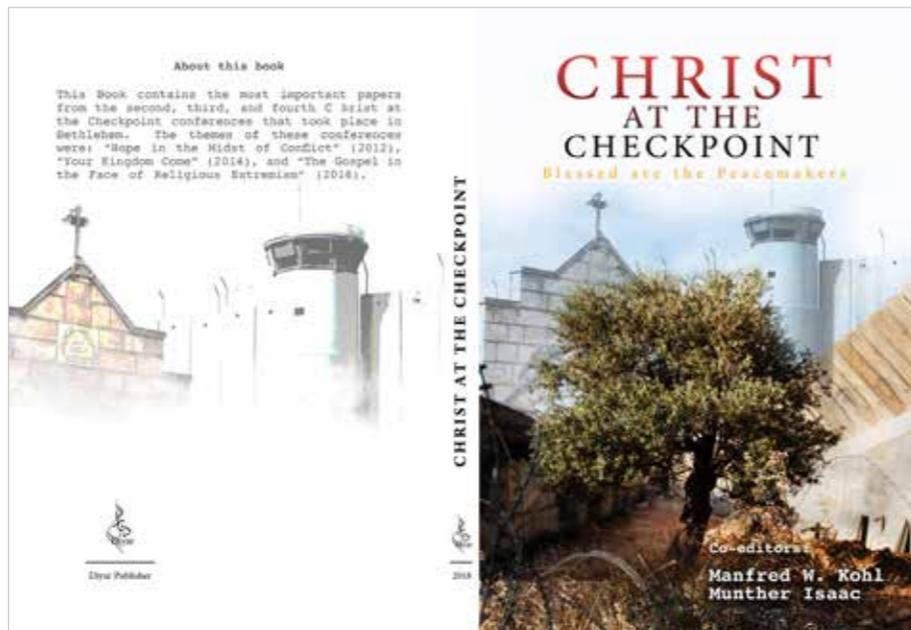
Houston, TX  
October 11, 2018

# Diyar Publisher

One book was made by Diyar Publisher in 2018:

*Christ at the Check Point:  
Blessed are the Peacemakers*

**Co-editors: Manfred W. Kohl  
and Munther Isaac**



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and donors who believe in  
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indirectly to our ministries.*

- Arbeitsgemeinschaft F. Entwick (AGEH)
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- Church of Sweden
- Council for World Mission
- Dan Church Aid/Norwegian Church Aid
- DVV International
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- United Church of Christ / Disciples of Christ
- United Palestinian Appeal, Inc. (UPA)
- World of Reformed Church (WCRC)

## Notes

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