



Committees news



Report



WORLD TEACHERS' DAY



The Syrian story

أخبارنا ثقافية - اخبارية - متنوعة

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The Lost Paradise



To be born as Syrian citizens on the Syrian soil ... means that we search for our peace even before we are born, and that we live in the country of «no peace.»

Fifty years of tyranny and dictatorial rule forcibly moved us from our paradise and thrust us into internal battles at the individual, family and society levels.

To be born as Syrian citizens on the land of Syria .. means to assume the responsibility of making peace for our children so that they live in safety; and pushes all of us to dream of a country that contains our weakness, heals our wounds, the homeland of freedom and democracy for all, and pushes us all to work as peacemakers.

Ten years of war that we do not know when to end, has drained our tired souls. we are left with nothing but our first choice, a real peace that guarantees dignity for all Syrians with real rule of law and equality that includes all, a peace that guarantees the end of the era of tyranny and corruption.

Our past years have put us in front of actual merit that forces us all to take the initiative and revived the eternal question that was born with us: what are the real roles that we must play in order to find the key to our lost paradise ... and to live in a homeland.

Nivin Hotary



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The Subcommittee of Women Support Unit in Al-Bab

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The Subcommittee of Women Support Unit in Al-Bab continued the work on the third phase of the “Empowerment for Participation” training program with a workshop held on September 10, 2020 under name of “Nonviolent struggle” which held online through Zoom platform. The workshop took place in cooperation with the Watad Center for Training and Studies and included the definition of the concept of nonviolent struggle, its tools for both “Malcom X” and “Martin Luther

King” and their struggle to defend the rights of the Black in the US. In addition to discussing the cold tracks and hot tracks in the nonviolent struggle of “Gandhi” and “Nelson Mandela”. The trainer as well provided an explanation about the tools that we may need in our nonviolent struggle.



16 women civil activists from the cities of Al-Bab and Qabasin cities participated in the workshop.

The Subcommittee of Women Support Unit in Qabasin

Committees news



On September the 3rd 2020, the Subcommittee of Women Support Unit in Qabasin in cooperation with IhsanRD held a training session entitled «Dialogue Skills». The session was attended by 13 members of the subcommittee. In the session the trainer described the elements of dialogue, the best methods of dialogue with others, in addition to the importance of distinguishing between a person and his behavior, avoiding bias and choosing a positive response.

The session also included a number of practical activities that help in communicating and clarifying the information.



The subcommittee of Women Support Unit in Bzaa

Committees news



The subcommittee of Women Support Unit in Bzaa on September 12, 2020 has held a training session entitled “Zoom Program and its Uses” as usage of online meeting platforms become an urgent need in the light of the spread of the Corona virus to attend trainings and meetings.

The training covered several points, the most important of which are: how to activate the Zoom program/ account, who to use it, the difference between the premium accounts and free accounts the ways for creating groups and introducing the settings that are available for the host of the meetings.



The role of women in building the Syrian peace

Report

September 21 was the International Day of Peace, and because peace is an important part of the sovereignty and stability of any country, our news (Akhbaruna) bulletin team wanted to shed light on the role of women in the peacebuilding process and note the difference in their role before and after the Syrian revolution, based on the opinions of women political activists that the team interviewed.

There is often a difference in issues pertaining to women. How if the topic is as sensitive as the issue of the role of women in the peacebuilding process, which Syria has lacked for several years.

In her turn, peacebuilding activist Fayhaa Al-Shawash tia-

tive, In this regard, Huda Serjawy, the member of the Syrian Constitutional Committee, indicated that despite the sacrifices made by women during the Syrian revolution, they did not take their role in the peace-making/building process, as women have suffered from marginalization during the past period, and the percentage of women did not exceed 15% of the total number of negotiators in Geneva discussions at the end of 2017, this indicates that the role of women in the Geneva talks was not more than observing.

In addition to that, the percentage of women's participation



which confirms their weak participation in decision-making sessions.

In her turn, the dissident judge of the regime, Samar Al-Hussein, emphasized that women have an important role in all aspects and sectors, but since the beginning of the revolution, the role of women in the political process has been marginalized.

Expressing her opinion, she said: «Woman is peace, she is the hand that can make peace, by the actions/efforts she exerts, even the simple ones, she assists the process of building peace and reforming society, and this is what I have/she has worked on and working on to reach peace.»

In turn, Abdullah Zankih in his article on the role of women in the peace building process

emphasized “ We have to know very well that stereotyping based on gender is an obstacle in the face of development and peace, and a violation of the rights of human being in general and women in particular, and that human rights, which include the right of women, are indivisible.

While the aforementioned activists agreed that the most important obstacles in front of peace

building process are the existence of the authoritarian regime in power, the proliferation of weapons, the culture of violence, and the unstable bad security situation, in addition to the worsening economic situation, the increase of poverty and the worsening of the humanitarian conditions.

Women and Community Leadership

Article



We see that what is prevalent in eastern societies is the opinion that women do not have the right to national and international leadership and that leadership is a purely male function/ business and that the tasks of women are restricted to getting pregnant, childbearing, raising children and other household works. In some societies, women even do not have the right to express their opinion on family issues, but this situation is now rejected and has become a subject of ridicule and cynicism among others.

Social science researchers have tried to research what is called the female leadership style and found that women are more inclined to democracy than males. They love participation, ask the opinions of their peers, and consult with their teams. Women leaders also focus on establishing and developing relationships with others, and they do not avoid making difficult decisions.

On the other hand, men are inclined towards tyranny, imposing opinions. Regarding political and social issues, women prefer to help vulnerable groups such as women, the poor and ethnic minorities, and support public interests such as issues of health, care and education.

The only difference between male and female is a biological difference, we often see women studying and working at the same time as men. Moreover, she bears extra burdens such as pregnancy, childbearing, and household works.

But what is remarkable is that there are women who have succeeded in community and international leadership, the thing that is approved with the testimony of observers. Also, women in the Islamic world have been able to reach the leadership of countries such as Turkey, Pakistan and Kosovo.

In Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto became prime minister twice. During her reign, Pakistan witnessed an unprecedented political and economic openness, this was in a country that is predominantly male.

As for Rashida Tlaib, (Palestinian originally), she was the first woman to enter Michigan's local parliament in 2008. She said in an interview, "I am a candidate because of injustice, and because my children are wondering about their identity - rights as Muslims). She fiercely criticized the behaviors and opinions of others towards women, and became the advocate of issues related to popular/social classes, and won the elections

for the Democratic Party in a region where blacks are the majority.

As for Ilhan Omar, the veiled Somali refugee woman was the second woman to enter the US House of Representatives in 2018 and the first black and Muslim representative in Congress. Ilhan supports the public wellbeing, including: free university education, securing housing for all, and reforming the criminal justice system

But there are obstacles hindering women's political

advancement and entry into the world of leadership, mainly the norms and traditions that have become a sacred thing over time, the thing that has made them vulnerable to exploitation by other classes.

The issue of women's political participation and community leadership in the Islamic religion is one of the controversial topics from ancient times until now in which Islamic jurisprudence is accused of stagnation and deprivation of women's rights regarding exercising political works. First of all, I would like to say that the basic principle in the Sharia mandate is that women and men are equal, except if there is specific stated in words.

And that evaluating society and reforming it is the duty of both sexes, as in the noble verse "Let there be a group among you who call "others" to goodness, encourage what is good, and forbid what is evil".

It is not part of the concepts and laws of Islam to deny the rights of women and to be ignorant of their rights and entitlements. Rather, the aim of the prohibition in practicing some matters is for their benefit/interest.

The Sharia jurists differed regarding the permissibility of a woman to assume the caliphate, and those who emphasized the prohibition by agreement have inferred to that the main criteria to be caliph is that he be a male because of the hardship and fatigue of the responsibility the thing that women cannot bear. The caliph is the leader of the army, and sometimes he may have to travel for several months, and this does not suit the nature of the woman's biological formation and her ability to bear the burdens of fighting and other things.

As for those who considered permissibility, they saw that the nature of the ruling has changed over the years. The president currently heads an executive authority restricted by laws and constitutions, meaning that business has become administrative.

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As for the international laws that gave women the freedom to practice politics, the General Assembly of the United Nations in December 1945 decided the following:

Article 1 - Women have the right to vote in all elections on conditions that equal between them and men without any discrimination.

Article 2: Women have the eligibility to stand for elections with conditions that equal between them and men without any discrimination.

Article 3: Women have the eligibility to hold public positions and exercise all the public functions with conditions that equal between them and men without any discrimination.

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The woman who has not been broken by the war or weakened

Stories

"Knowledge without work is insanity, and work without knowledge is vanity" With this phrase that Al-Ghazali said, Jumana sums up her life.

Jumana is a Syrian woman, mother of two children, and displaced from Eastern Ghouta.

She immigrated/forcibly displaced with her husband and children from Eastern Ghouta to the city of Afrin in North of Aleppo away from her home, her family, and her memories.

"I studied at the faculty of Libraries and Information in Damascus, but I did not work in my field, as I started my career as a kindergarten teacher in Eastern Ghouta, to be promoted later as a supervisor in the same kindergarten" Jumana.

Jumana has various practical experiences, as she also worked as a leader of a psycho-social support team in an NGO/CSO in Eastern Ghouta.

But she suddenly decided to move from the field of education to the field of health to join the nursing and midwifery school and graduate from it with an excellent grade.

The thing that met with great astonishment in her surroundings, as her move from the field of education to the field of health is a major shift, not only for society but also for her, as she was working and studying at the same time - something exhausting for a married woman with two children.

«I was working as a teacher in a place about an hour away from my home, in addition to caring for my children and husband, and at the same time, I was attending the nursing



their displacement from Eastern Ghouta.

When Jumana was asked about her goals and the reality of the war, she said, «I will never stop at this point. I will continue seeking to achieve the goals that I have set. The war and displacement will not break my wings, but rather I will increase my experience in this field wherever I have the opportunity and I will strive for the best, despite all circumstances.»

Jumana is an example of an iron-strong Syrian woman who has not been broken by the war or weakened

In the north of Syria, there are hundreds of women like Jumana, we will get to know their stories in the upcoming issues Wait for them..

and midwifery school on Fridays and Saturdays, which were the holidays that supposed to be rest days for me,» Jumana.

Jumana believes that science/knowledge is not a means to fill the leisure time or to show off, but rather knowledge is for action and achievement.

Jumana, like any other Syrian woman, met with criticisms of the surrounding community, thinking that she would not be able to balance between her study, her work, and her family, but on the other side, there were some encouraged and supported her when she was weak and exhausted – like her husband.

Her husband was a father, mother, and husband for her after



WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Report

“

The world celebrates this day in recognition of the role of teachers - this day aims to mobilize support and to ensure that the needs of the future generations are/will be provided by teachers efficiently.

This day is in appreciation of the teachers and improving their conditions, it was designed as an opportunity to celebrate the achievements and to consider ways to overcome the remaining challenges to enhance the teaching profession.

International Teachers' Day draws attention to the necessity of raising the profile of the teaching profession, not only in favor of the teachers and students but also for the society and the future, in acknowledgment of the role that teachers play in building the future.

The scientist develops recommendations and indicators related to the rights and responsibilities of the teachers, standards for their preparation, their training, their mobilization and employment, and the conditions of teaching and learning.

On the occasion of the International Teachers' Day, our news (Akhbaruna) bulletin prepared a report on the conditions of the teachers in northern Syria, after a public opinion poll and interviews conducted by our reporter in the cities of northern Syria with a number of teachers regarding the challenges and difficulties they face in light of the current conditions in the country.

In addition to assessing the reality of the teachers and education situation before and after the revolution and whether they are/were getting their rights, and whether the teaching profession rose to the required level?

It is worth noting that the percentage of female teachers in Syria in the last survey was more than 70%, and this indicates a very important thing regarding the work of women, which is that the Eastern society is more accepting of the work of women in the teaching field compared to other professions.

In all the interviews with the male and female teachers, our reporter received common responses, if this indicates anything it indicates the same pain they suffer from, and that the difficulties are continuing until now.

Among the most important difficulties that teachers face and talked to us about are the economic difficulties, as the majority of teachers had to leave the teaching field and travel to other places due to the low salaries and salaries incompatibility with the living conditions and the high prices that the region faces.



stereotyping their role due to not building their capacities with other skills, consequently, the majority of them started/looking forward to work for NGOs as NGOs give them a better salary and provide them with trainings

and capacity building opportunities in different fields. However, this does not exempt local organizations, councils, and administrations from their responsibilities towards the teachers as they have to unite their efforts to support the education sector in an organized and fair manner and not to limit the support by the organizations with Psychosocial Support and protection. Rather the schools and teachers should be supported on a larger scale and implementation of Psychosocial Support programs should be in the schools – thus, the skills of the teachers and the students alike will be developed.

Today the teachers regret the conditions they are living in and how they became just ordinary employees in their country while in other countries the teachers are given the first attention because they are the cornerstone in the advancement and education of an entire nation.

The teachers that our reporter interviewed not only talked about their problems but also suggested some solutions that we have listed below perhaps they reach the concerned persons through our news bulletin and perhaps their opinions and suggestions are taken into account, as it is the case in developed countries.

1- Studying the project to increase teachers' salaries by networking

As for the rights of the teachers, the teachers think that their opinions and requirements are not taken into consideration or not taken seriously, and teachers are still not getting their rights and that education is heading towards a much worse situation, as they say.

The reason behind the deterioration of the education situation is not focusing on the development, motivation, support, and rights of the teachers alongside to not focusing on the students, their requirements and conditions, nor on the curricula and striving to develop them.

Discussing the teachers' rights, everyone expressed their resentment at the unjust law that gives priority to choose younger teachers, while the older ones are not taken into consideration, regarding employing them in places that suit them and their diplomas and not letting the younger teachers benefit from their experiences.

In the context of the talk about the rights of the teachers, everyone agreed in their answers

that the teachers did not get their rights financially, psychologically, or morally, and that

their dreams regarding the improvement of their situation and getting their rights after the

revolution have been dispelled - because they are still suffering the same sufferings, in addition to the inexistence of a syndicate or a union that guarantees their rights and gives them the benefits/chances they deserve (health and social care for them and their children etc..).

The teachers no longer carry any advantages and suffer from

with NGOs supporting the education sector to ensure a decent life for them and their families, the thing that will be reflected in their performance at work as they will not be forced to exhaust themselves in another work.

Establishing a teachers' union that guarantees their rights, enacts laws for them, and

2- clarifies their duties.

3- To recruit assistant teachers in schools to reduce the burden on teachers in the classes.

4- Building modern schools that take into account the psychology of the students and the teachers and reduce the number of students within the classes

5- Improving the educational environment and providing teachers with modern technologies in the classroom in addition to the complete educational means that

6- facilitate the education process for them and reflect on the students in a better way.

Subjecting the teachers to sustainable developmental training programs in the field

7- of education and keep them up to date.

Issuing the bylaws regarding rewards/bonuses for distinguished teachers and

8- granting them scholarships, etc..

The Teachers that we have interviewed directed messages to:

- Those who are responsible for the education sector: "Please be kind to the teachers, we are one of you and our duty unites us"

- The parents: Your children are our responsibility, and you are their first teacher before we started to be their teachers. We only want some respect from you. We grow up

with your support and your kind words.

"Despite all the difficulties and all the pressures we face on all levels, we are continuing for the sake of our students and our mission that we carry".

((Did you ever know someone who is much honorable and greater than those who build humans and minds))



The Syrian story

Talents

The Syrian story.... In two words and many colors and feelings, the artist, Salam Hamid, summarized the war in Syria. Salam is a Syrian artist who was born with a need for oxygen of a very special kind, as she says.

With the beginning of the Syrian revolution, Salam stopped her study, but she did not stop pursuing her dreams, so she resorted to brushes and colors as a tool for expressing and documenting the details of the Syrian war.

“My start in drawing was with simple sketches that included a variety of topics, and I began to develop and improve them through my continuous practice” says Salam.

Salam considers drawing to be her childhood friend, as it was with her in all stages of her life, until a very strong relationship developed between them.

She adds, “With the start of the revolution, I stopped pursuing my university education, and devoted myself to my talent, which is oxygen for me and my tool for expression ...

My following up the events of the revolution from its beginnings until now prompted me to make my brush a means of expressing



them (events) and try through my drawings, to convey the voice of the vulnerable Syrian people to the world. «

The Syrian story A painting that summarizes ten years of war, as Salam embodied in it the most of the turning points and events of the Syrian revolution such as sufferings, bombings, arrests and displacements. However, Salam also tried to embody through her paintings the images of steadfastness and persistence, which have become a characteristic that does not leave the Syrians.

When I asked Salam about the society's opinion regarding her art, she answered “ no has criticized me, On the contrary, my art was met with great encouragement and interaction - My husband, family and close friends are among the most supportive and encouraging people to me”.

“I am currently preparing my own exhibition, which is expected to be a turning point for the art and message that I present. « As for the message that Salam is addressing to young women, she says: «Set a goal.. Work to reach it.. With determination, will, persistence and patience, the dream will inevitably be

achieved.. Overcome all obstacles facing you, do not despair, do not give up, do not underestimate your capabilities, believe in yourself.. And always remember that there is no impossible”.



“ Who we are:



Women Support Unit is a civil society organization, concerned with the women related issues (affairs) and seeks to empower them politically, economically, socially and culturally alongside to meet their needs.

Vision:

To create a healthy community in which women are empowered and able to contribute to bulding the community and facing the challenges in partnership with the men.

Mission:

Women Support Unit targets the women who are facing difficulties regarding playing their optimal role in the society and seeks to empower the women in the Northern and Eastern countryside of Aleppo politically, socially, economically and culturally.



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Share your questions, inquiries and suggestions with us by pressing the button

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