

Friends

These contactbrief is
a publication of the
Foundation Friends of Nazareth
English edition

www.friends-nazareth.nl

Number 60, June 2017

our students
thank you
for your
donation!

Diptych Lobna

First two loans paid-off

Graduated students write

Ala'a, Amina, Afraa and Nada speaking

Working visit in preparation

Picture: Palestinian market, Bethlehem, 2013

Students and alumni write

Lobna read law at IDC Herzliya in Tel Aviv

'In 2016, I have opened my own small Law Office! I am experiencing a howl new professional world. On one hand, opining a small business is very challenging, but in the same way empowering.

In the past year, I was appointed Capitan of my Volleyball team in Tel Aviv. We have reached an extraordinary achievement and finished in the quarterfinals (first time for the club). It was hard work that was full of tremendous excitement.

The Friends of Nazareth Foundation has a great part of my development, not only via the Scholarship program, but also by the amazing and inspiring people that put together this great Foundation throw the years, and that are constantly working with us on building our (local) Sana Foundation. Although the obstacles, I have to doubt that this great and important project will eventually succeed.

As the world is going crazy, we need to recognize our power and do everything we can to bring equality and peace in our environment.'

Fatma studied medicine in Haifa

'I am very glad to read from you. I just wanted to thank you again for supporting me in my studying years and helping me to be a doctor.

I passed all the exams in pediatrics medicine in the resident ship and I became a professional in pediatrics.

The hospital will send me to do a fellowship in pediatric gastroenterology for two and a half year. You are part of my success that why I want you to know about it. Thank u. The Sana Foundation informed us that Fatma is the first former student to pay off the loan which was part of the grant given by Foundation Friends of Nazareth.

Ala'a is student sociology and anthropology in Haifa

' It wasn't that hard for me to adapt to Haifa as I arrived there for the first time, maybe because of my previous experience at Beer- Sheva. Maybe also because that I understood at some point that it's just courage is what all takes to go on in a life project, academic studies for example. I arrived at Haifa with full desire of learning, which made me look for places and people whom would motivate me to learn and thrive'.

Working for a newspaper

'Volunteering at Al-Madinah newspaper did give me that sense. I spent many of the volunteering work at home, in addition to the hours I did at the newspaper office. For example, Rashad and I wanted to know more about the Arab student movement at the university of Haifa and its history, and what is it its task currently regarding different social and political matters. So, I did about ten different interviews with students whom are also social and political activists in general, the interviews included questions about how important the student's movement in general; how can we benefit from it; where do we see ourselves as Palestinian Arab students in Israeli academies and how do we cope with that.

This project took me a lot of hours to first reach the asked students, and spend time with them talking about the subject of the interview. It was fascinating to see that the faith of a better possible reality is still there; the spirit of the youth also'.

Sense of volunteering work

'So, volunteering at a local newspaper, gave me the possibility to interact more with people, listen to them, learning from them, sharing sometimes their daily struggles; not just that, but also, learn how their struggles interact with yours in some ways'.

Study change

Ala'a broke off the study of psychology and philosophy in Beer Sheva after one year. In August 2016, she started a new study of four years in Haifa with our full support.

She writes: 'As for my studies, they're interesting. Studying art is spiritually filling me. It's nice to have that kind of space in your daily ordinary life.

As for an end, I'd like to thank you for your constant support. I really appreciate it the class'.

NADA studies English in Orogot

'To be honest, so far, I haven't had any bad experiences. It's all positive: I'm stress free, I study more, I'm more relaxed, I feel more alive, I help students that need my help when I volunteer. I can't even begin to describe the difference I feel in myself after having received this scholarship and beginning with the volunteering. I thank god it is all good, since I received the scholarship I fund more time to study instead of running all over the place worrying about money and other stuff, now I have more time and less stress and new lifestyle. I'm very grateful'.



Fatma



Ala'a



Nada



Lobna

'I am passionate about my work as a lawyer, but also about professional volleyball. There are lots of similarities between them: 'To work together as a team, to stay focused all the time, and not to give up even when you are at the point of exhaustion. In my work as a lawyer I am involved in the cultural and architectural history of properties in Tel Aviv. This gives me a lot of insight and knowledge in the development of the city, which once had large Arabic communities/neighborhoods that now almost have disappeared/vanished.
Lobna 2013

Amina studies medicine in Beer Sheva

I've started my final year in university, so excited about finishing medical school after a long and intense days and nights. The first semester was very interesting and the most important not so intense that allowed me to get a job and work, I did so many small clerck-ships, the main purpose was to see several fields and medicine which can help us know more about our future options.

I started to work as a physician assistant in the emergency room, it's a job for medical students; I must give minimum shifts a month, sometime I could work more, what I do there is examining the patient and then discuss with a senior doctor to decide how to treat him. This way doctor assistants help with the overload hours, and learn how to be a physicians, I know it will be easier to deal with patients when I start my intership next year because of the experience I get from my current job.

Married

I moved to my home town recently for many reasons, the main one I got married in December 2016 and I moved to live with my dear husband in his apartment, it was a wonderful wedding, now we are trying to manage life as a couple. I started to travel daily to university by train from my hometown,

it took two hours to get so I wake up so early to get in time, and unfortunately, I get home very late, but is not so bad, I use the time I spend on road to study and read novels. And soon I'll finish all clerck-ships and I won' t have to do all travel.

AFRAA studies optometry in Jerusalem

Now this my second year doing this volunteering and this thing is getting more amazing than it was.

First the feeling of happiness when I go to the center is indescribable, it is like now

is the time to unload the pressure from the college. The reason I really like to go the volunteering is the beautiful girls that I am learning, they are like my friends, even my sisters.

The experience of volunteering added to my life many things, like how to be responsible of other people, and caring. Beside to that organize my time and deal with many things during my day and my whole life.

My summarization is that I am enjoying this and it make me feel proud about myself and of course I would hope and love that this will accompany me for a long time.



Amina married

Working visit in preparation



Conference Sana Foundation 2013

From 4 until 14 October 2017 the board of the Foundation Friends of Nazareth will pay a work visit in Israel. Besides a meeting with students, former students and contact persons the main objective is the collaboration with and the final transfer of the scholarship project to the Sana Foundation.

Talks on collaboration and a possible transfer were started in 2007. During the work visit in 2008 it was the topic of a meeting with former students and students. They then expressed their willingness to collaborate in the set-up of a partner organization.

In 2009 the first meeting of the provisional board of the Sana Foundation took place. That same year the new foundation was officially registered in Israel. Since then the two boards have gone a long and difficult road to set up a Palestinian NGO in Israel, an idea already put forward at the start of the scholarship project in 1989.

This autumn the board will discuss with the Sana Foundation the progress and plan of action so far. The board will encourage the Sana Foundation and graduated students to take on a greater responsibility for the scholarship project

and ask them to commit themselves to its continuity. Some issues are to use more networks and to involve people other than graduated students in maintaining and expanding an active NGO in view of the transfer of the scholarship project in 2019. Thus the Sana Foundation will be able to continue the initiative of the Foundation Friends of Nazareth to facilitate young Palestinian women to study inside Israel. So far 140 students have graduated from the universities of Beer-Sheva, Haifa, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Nazareth.

First two loans paid-off

After graduation students start to pay off their loans, 25% of the over-all grants. This is a stipulation in the contract made with the Foundation Friends of Nazareth. A small amount in proportion to their incomes is paid back annually. Meanwhile two students, Fatma and

Shayma paid off their loans.

We are pleased to inform you that so far, an amount of over € 18,000, - has been transferred. Thus, Sana Foundation has given a grant of € 14,000, - in all (for 4 years of study) to a new student, Janan, a third-year student of medicine in Tel Aviv.



Donate

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2nd of Novemberstreet 2/7
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FRIENDS contactbrief, appears twice a year.
Our Foundation has an ANBI status.
ISSN: 2452-1183.

Design Metastudio Eindhoven
Print Drukkerij Gianotten bv Tilburg
Dyptich Gerdien Wolthaus Paauw
Board Amin Ghazal (chairman), Els Schots
Rens Kessener, Hanneke