

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

settled in Tilburg in the Netherlands

2017 AND THE FUTURE

In the past year the future of the scholarship project was one of the main topics. We are awarding scholarships to Palestinian students in Israel, mainly to female students. In this way a future is open to them in their own country, that otherwise might be denied to them. In this way they can grow to be effective bridges between all citizens of Israel. This takes effect, already, during the period of their studies at the university of their choice in Israel and later in the field of their profession.

It is a pleasure for us to inform you with this report on our activities in the past year and acquit ourselves of the responsibility of the use of the funds, that have been trusted to us in 2017. We are the guardians of the scholarship project since 1989 as Foundation Friends of Nazareth. Scholarships are awarded to Palestinian students to study at a university or institution of higher education in e.g. Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Nazareth and Beer Sheva. Through this opportunity of further education, we trust, these Palestinian students will be better equipped, to develop their own future and that of their country. At present, already 140 students were able to complete their period of study and after their graduation have found appropriate employment in various fields.

This past year we worked quite energetically to further develop our NGO partner-organization in Israel: SANA Foundation. In December 2017 a working-visit was paid to Israel, to meet with the Board of SANA, contact persons and a number of students. Future co-operation and their empowerment were the leading intentions.

Siny Bootsma 1932-2017

This year Siny Bootsma passed away. The Board, together with family and friends, were at a farewell-ceremony on the 5th of October. She



was our former chair-person and one of the Foundation's initiators. Siny was a remarkable, joyful and energetic woman. She was our chairperson from 1985 until 2008. We owe much to her and to show our lasting respect she was given the title of honorary chair-person from 2009 onwards.

She continued to follow the students with great interest until the

end of her life and she remained involved with the thinking about the future of the scholarship project.

We do thank you for your support and confidence during the past year and hope the reading of this Annual Report will give you pleasure and satisfaction.

FOUNDATION FRIENDS OF NAZARETH

is raised up in 1985 to ask attention for the Palestinian minority in Israel.

The goal of the foundation

To allow Palestinian youngsters, preferable women, to study in their own country by means of scholarships. To draw attention to and ask support for the Palestinian minority in Israel.

Its mean activities are

- **Fundraising** for the scholarship project, keeping close contact with the students, the board of Sana Foundation and the contacts in Israel.
- **Publicity** to give information about 'the other Israel' via FRIENDS, the newsletter and via the website.

The board of the foundation

Amin Ghazal, chairman;
Hanneke Heisterkamp, Pr-Communication; Rens Kessener, treasure;
Els Schots, secretary;
Wil Verheggen, advisor of the board;
Siny Bootsma, honorary president, passed away 01-10-2017.

FRIENDS

is our contact letter filled with the new and important topics for the foundation in the past six months. ISSN: 2452-1183.

Address

Foundation Friends of Nazareth
P.O. Box 2256, 5001 CG Tilburg
The Netherlands.
E: info@friends-nazareth.nl
W.: www.friends-nazareth.nl

SANA Foundation

2nd of Novemberstreet 2/7 Haifa Israel.
W.: www.sanafoundation.org

INCOME in euro's	2017	2016
Gifts Friends	4,202	3,833
Gifts Guaranteed Friends	9,200	9,845
Gifts Funds	20,400	23,137
Donations volunteers	6,800	5,300
Interest	251	689
Total	€ 40,853	€ 42,804
EXPEDITURE		
Scholarships	25,600	27,965
Professionalization Sana Foundation	-	2,000
Publicity	2,680	2,462
Office - depreciation / internet	384	251
Volunteer allowance	6,900	5,400
Accountancy	608	604
Board	-	65
Representation	221	110
Expenses bank to transfer scholarships	93	105
Expenses bank	298	306
Deprecation	962	963
Working visit	519	0
Credit – deficit balance	2,660	2,573
Total	€ 40,853	€ 42,804

BALANCE 31 December		
Debet		
Inventory	911	1,873
Asset	248	2,273
Assets bank	131,163	125,693
Total	€ 132,322	€ 129,839
Credit		
Short term debts	755	932
Promised scholarships	41,500	40,250
Earmarked scholarships via Sana Foundation	14,000	14,000
Professionalization Sana Foundation	3,000	
Reserve fund not promised scholarships	50,000	50,000
Present capital	23,067	24,657
Total	€ 132,322	€ 129,839

Comments on our financial situation

Also in 2017 the Foundation ended with a positive result. The donations we received from our Friends as well as from various Funds contributed that much to this outcome.

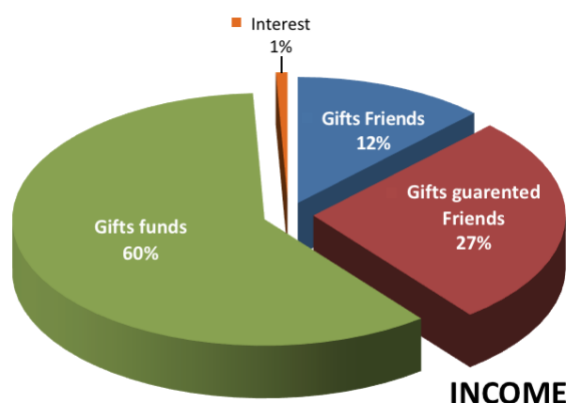
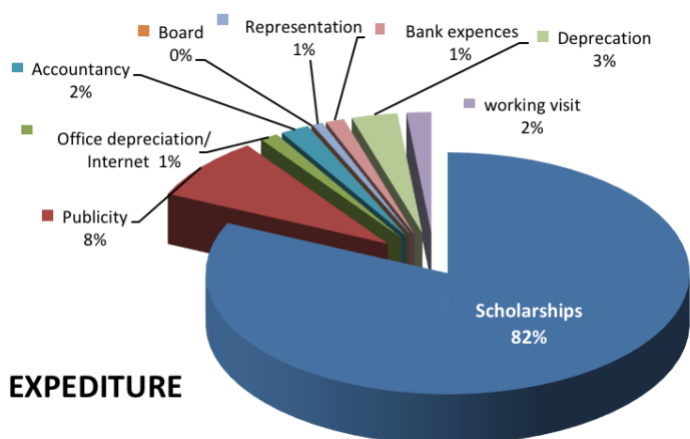
The Board seeks to keep the expenditure for the secretariat, the board activities, representation and internet as limited as possible, so that our resources are almost entirely spent on the scholarship project and publicity.

We kept the costs to less than 2%. From the costs for 'representation' 70% was spent during the working visit to Israel last December. The internet costs included expenditures to realize an https-access, which will make our website more secure.

The work that is done for the Foundation on a voluntary basis knows a remuneration. The volunteers return this money as a gift to the Foundation. Our balance remains equal on this subject.

In 2018 the Board intends to invest substantially in support to Sana Foundation professionally. This should develop and strengthen their work on the scholarship-project in Israel.

Our treasurer, Rens Kessener, handed over his work at the end of 2017. This is because of health-reasons. He served as our treasurer for 7 years and we regret, that he now had to stop in this capacity. Hanneke Heisterkamp took over his office from 1-1-2018 onwards.



THE BOARD'S ACTIVITIES

Board-meetings

The Board in Tilburg met five times during 2017 under our chairman, Amin Ghazal. Moreover, at various times during the year there were consultations through Skype and e-mail, also with the Board of SANA and contact persons in Israel. We regrettably had to take leave from Rens Kessener, our treasurer, who performed so well during the past 7 years. We are grateful for his great concern and commitment towards our students and towards our Foundation!

Contact with our students

For the communication with our students e-mail is indispensable. This is not as simple as it sounds. Our students do not all have their own access to internet and have to use university-facilities instead. Thanks to the patience and resilience of our secretary these contacts can be maintained to a satisfactory level. This contact is essential for information about study-results and the reporting on other work that is done by our students in their environment on a voluntary basis. We also have to keep track on financial transactions, that do not always go smooth and thus take extra effort.

Sana Foundation is our partner organization in Israel. Their aim is similar to that of our Foundation: awarding grants to Palestinian female students. A part of their funds come from the repayments of loans previously granted by the Foundation Friends of Nazareth. 25% of the scholarship is a loan.

Publicity

Our FRIENDS, contact-letters number 60 and 61, appeared in June and December. In this way the Board is pleased to make you share in the interesting and sometimes touching stories of our students. Our website, www.friends-nazareth.nl, also serves in this respect.

THE SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

On January the 1st, 2017 nine students in Israel received a scholarship from our Foundation. Their respective fields are: medicine, software engineering, musicology, English/Arab language, optometric, sociology/anthropology, nursing, sciences and MA-level drama and therapy.

We received an earmarked donation, that we were requested to utilize for a scholarship for half a year on behalf of a student in nursing sciences. This served as a kind of emergency measure for a student from Gaza. As an exception

we also rewarded a scholarship to a student from the West Bank for her studies in mathematics.

A new student in nursing sciences was accepted in October 2017, bringing the total of students at that time to eight.

One student in medicine will wind up her studies in this period and then start with her period of practical work under guidance as a physician.



Janan: " Study is our weapon"

SANA Foundation needs support for the scholarship-program. This is possible to: Bank Leumi nr. 10, number: 879 206223 91 in the name of Sana together academic women.

It too is possible to become active to help them by doing some parts of the work that has to be done. If you want to help them, sent an email to: scholarship.sana@gmail.com

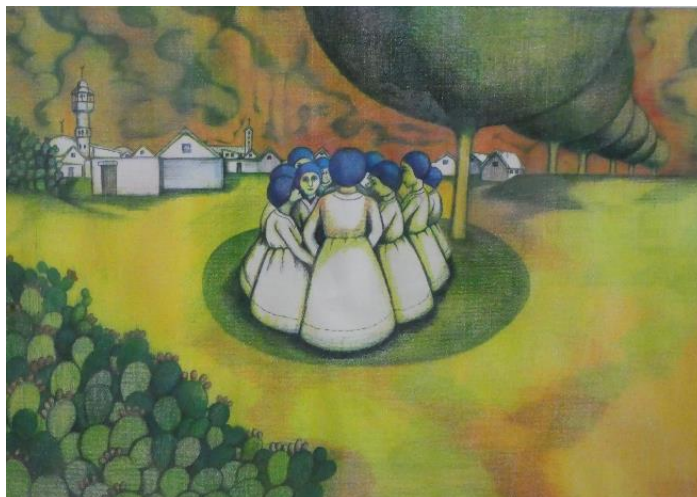
In the past year the Sana Foundation also awarded a scholarship to a new student, in medicine. For the execution of this function professional coaching is deemed necessary.

For 2018 we found a professional who is willing to support the board of SANA Foundation.

THE WORKING VISIT IN 2017

Two Board-members made a working visit to Israel: 6-12 December 2017. They visited Board-members of Sana Foundation, contact persons and a number of students: in Haifa, Sakhnin, Tel Aviv and Beer Sheva. With the members of the SANA Board we discussed the development of their scholarship project and the future of their Foundation. The discussions with our contact persons and students were also useful. Everyone is convinced that Sana Foundation should continue her role fully.

There remains a real need for supporting young Palestinians, to do studies at a university- or higher education-level in Israel. This was the intention of the Foundation in the Netherlands and it now requires very much the role of the counterpart NGO-Foundation in Israel. The project will be sustainable, now that graduates start to repay 25% of their original scholarship (25% was given as a loan) in the bank account of SANA Foundation. That this is now happening, is respectable and gives motivation to us all. Together we will continue to find ways, to secure a strong future for the original intentions and aims of our Foundations.



'In the power of solidarity' a work of art from Sager al Qatil, was a present of the Foundation Friends of Nazareth for SANA Foundation.



Several meetings with board members of SANA Foundation Lana, Lobna, Ola.

Meetings with our contact persons Jafar Farah, Trees Kosterman, Riad Agbaria en Fatmeh Kassem.

Warm meetings with students in Sakhnin, their mothers prepared for all a delicious Arabic meal.

