



Beit Sahour Municipality Newsletter *January 2017*



*President's Christmas Visit to
the City of Beit Sahour on
January 6th, 2017*

Palestinian President Visiting Beit Sahour along with the opening and renaming of two Streets

President Abbas congratulated and greeted the citizens of Beit Sahour wishing them a Merry Christmas and a blessed new year. A year full of love and peace and thanked Beit Sahour's Mayor and Municipal Council as well as the locals for welcoming him.

In his speech, President Abbas referred to the UN Security Council Resolution No. 2334 which confirms and emphasizes on the illegality of the Israeli settlements in Israel as he demanded the execution of this Resolution from the US Administration knowing that the US Administration didn't object or use the veto against that Resolution.

President Abbas emphasized also on his rejection for violence and terrorism and adopting diplomatic and political methods, pointing to the fact that moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem will cancel the political efforts and work of the Palestinian affairs which considers East Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine, which is a capital that is always open for all religions to practice its beliefs freely and peacefully.

The Visit of the Palestinian President Mr. Mahmoud Abbas to the City of Beit Sahour During Christmas

Beit Sahour was honored to welcome His Eminence the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas through an official Christmas invitation from the Mayor and the Municipal Council of Beit Sahour on Friday, January 6, 2017 at Al Nawas Hall, where an honorary luncheon was held by the Municipality of Beit Sahour for Mr. Abbas, with the participation of local families, institutions, local public figures, neighboring municipalities and representatives of the national and political parties.

During a small ceremony and before the honorary luncheon, curtains were removed on a new sign for two new streets that were named after the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Bishop Hilarion Capucci where President Abbas has acknowledged and paid tribute to Bishop Capucci's remarkable stands and actions regarding his support for the Palestinian resistance against the Israeli occupation.

The ceremony was followed by welcoming the Palestinian President and the accompanying delegation by the Mayor and Council Members of Beit Sahour. In his speech Mr. Hani Al Hayek – Mayor of Beit Sahour – conveyed the love, respect and joy of Beit Sahour's citizens for the visit of Mr. Abbas as he warmly welcomed him and the accompanying delegation to the city of Beit Sahour, the city that will remain a strong fortress through the support of the Palestinian President Mr. Mahmoud Abbas.

UfM Forum in Barcelona
On the 24th of January 2017



Representatives from the
USAID / CCHP / Contractors
/ Local Institutions and
Municipality Engineers



Participation in International Conferences

Participation of the Mayor of Beit Sahour and ARLTEM's Co-President Mr. Hani Al Hayek in the Second UfM Forum in Barcelona on the 24th of January 2017 about the Challenges of Connectivity in the Mediterranean

Mr. Al Hayek has taken part in the second forum regarding enhancing the connectivity between youth and providing larger opportunities through maintaining sustainable development which is a responsibility that falls upon Mediterranean Governments to use sustainable development as tools to progress towards developing and improving the connectivity between governments and local private sectors which include youth, women and local institutions, emphasizing on the fact that local and regional authorities in the Mediterranean should play a vital role in sustainable development agenda and produce benefits to all stakeholders' of the Mediterranean Region.

It was agreed during the Forum that sustainable development agenda should genuinely address the needs of youth within the current socio-political and devastating economy such as poverty, unemployment, illegal migration, and fundamentalism. Poverty alleviation, job creation, training and education opportunities will surely create an environment for youth active involvement and participation in local and regional development agendas.

Rehabilitation and Renovation of Buildings in the Old Town by a fund from the USAID through Compete Program

The Municipality of Beit Sahour has handed the keys of Dar Awad Building, Dar Sababa Building and Dar Ishaq Building on January 18th, 2017 to the contractors in the presence of Compete / USAID program representatives as well as representatives from Centre for Cultural Heritage Preservation (CCHP). The construction and rehabilitations works will start on Saturday 21st of January 2017 and is expected to last four months.

It's worth mentioning that Dar Awad Building will be operated as information centre under the management of Peace by Piece Tours, while Dar Sababa and Dar Ishaq Buildings will be used by Bethlehem Fair Trade Artisans (BFTA). These projects are implemented and funded by the USAID through Compete Program, and under the supervision of the CCHP.

Christmas Events of January 2017

After finishing the remarkable Christmas celebration of 2016 which included the Great Joy festival and lighting the Christmas tree in addition for Lamlama Festival and Christmas Market, as well as the Shepherds Nights Festival, Beit Sahour celebrated Christmas for the Eastern Christians. Eastern Christians celebrate Christmas on Jan. 7, while those in the West observe it on Dec. 25 due to differences between the Julian and Gregorian calendars.

Newly Rehabilitated and Asphalted Roads in Beit Sahour

The Municipality of Beit Sahour has privately funded the project of roads rehabilitation in the city where the project included the rehabilitation of Al Rawat Junction and Al Sail Street. This project was undertaken by Al Helo Company for General Contracting and under the supervision of the Municipality of Beit Sahour.

On Wednesday January 25, 2017 the receipt round primary for a project of roads rehabilitation took place in the city of Beit Sahour (the first stage), which is part of the Municipal Development Program Phase II / second session funded by the Municipal Development and Lending Fund, and under the supervision of Beit Sahour Municipality, in the presence of the Project Receipt Commission, which included representatives of the municipal development and lending Fund, the Consultation office - Arab Engineers, Contractor Shreim General Contracting Company and the engineers and Council members Beit Sahour Municipality. The project included Beit Bassa area and the street linking between the plastic factory and the center of the old town.

Beit Sahour Municipality has obtained a grant for the implementation of roads rehabilitation project in the city of Beit Sahour - (Phase II), which is part of the Municipal Development Program Phase II / second session funded by the Municipal Development and Lending Fund, and under the supervision of Beit Sahour Municipality and Consultation office - Arab Engineers. As the general contractor Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim Jubran has completed the work of asphaltting a street in the center of the old town and will continue the works on two more streets in Jabal Addek Area and behind the club in the center of the old town.

Beit Sahour Municipality has obtained a grant from the Arab Monetary Fund managed by Al Aqsa Fund - Islamic Development Bank - Jeddah for the rehabilitation of a group of roads in the city of Beit Sahour within the project of roads rehabilitation in (C) Area s in Beit Sahour, which are: Harasa Mountain Jabal Addek, Roman Orthodox Housing, knowing that this project was implemented by Al Helo General Contracting Company and under the supervision of Beit Sahour Municipality, in cooperation with the General Administration of Projects / Ministry of Local Government, where the project included the excavation work, base course, asphalt renovation.



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Beit Sahour Municipality launches a monthly newsletter that is prepared and done by the Public Relations Department involving the Municipal Achievements, Projects, Local Institutions News and Events that take place in the city so as to share it with all our contacts and International Partners to keep them updated and maintain transparency and discloses.