



Beit Sahour Municipality

Newsletter of February 2017

Municipal News, Activities, Projects, Achievements, International Participations



8th Meeting of the Bureau of ARLEM

The Mayor of Beit Sahour, and Co-Chair of Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) has participated in the 8th meeting of the Bureau of the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly which was held on the 22nd of February 2017 in Malta, where he discussed the challenges facing both the south and north shores of the Mediterranean regarding the Interior unrest, radicalism, immigration, and the need for economic growth and jobs.



In his speech, Al-Hayek has pointed to the need of stability, reform, progress and growth, and the importance of having the partnership as the way and mean to implement the desired reforms through a system of shared responsibilities and functions, as well as by working closely and together with citizens, as he praised the role of ARLEM in this aspect, as well as the importance of the projects that ARLEM is working on which are "Energy and Climate change in the Mediterranean Region" and the "Cross-border Cooperation in the Mediterranean Region."

The meeting was concluded with a series of important decisions regarding the action plan of ARLEM's priorities for the current year and preparations for the transition process towards a new period, from July 2017 to January 2020.



The Torino Process 2016-17 Regional Forum - Southern and Eastern Mediterranean in the city of Rabat / Morocco

The Mayor of Beit Sahour and the Co-president of ARLEM Mr. Hani Al-Hayek has participated in the Torino Process 2016-17 Regional Forum - Southern and Eastern Mediterranean in the city of Rabat / Morocco on the 15th of February 2017 that was held by the European Training Foundation (ETF) to discuss progress of Vocational Education and Training (VET) policies. ARLEM is considered a platform for knowledge and shared experiences with regards to decentralization and regional development that will also help to encourage projects related to domestic growth and job creation in the context of the Union for the Mediterranean.



In his speech, Al Hayek has pointed to the inability to separate the objective of employment and regional development from each other,

referring to the importance of employment and vocational training as a mainstay in the communities that also helps to raise the level of sustainability in economic development, which is one of the priorities of the regional and local Euro-Mediterranean Assembly.

Al Hayek has also expressed his joy of being part of this important forum that discusses a delicate subject that is of a high importance, as he pointed to the need to reform the dysfunctional balance between youth training and the demand for jobs; and promote equal opportunities in employment for males and females, plus, developing a comprehensive strategy for the integration of the local bodies in training, and developing cooperation between the bodies of the two shores of the Mediterranean for the transfer of expertise and knowledge in both sides.

Visit of Mr. Jean Roche - President of the "World Cultures" Association to the Municipality of Beit Sahour

The Municipality of Beit Sahour has welcomed Mr. Jean Roche - President of the "World Cultures" Association which is a non-governmental organization, and official partner of UNESCO, Commissioner for the exercise of advisory roles to the Intergovernmental Committee for the preservation of spiritual and cultural heritage on the 4th of February 2017, where he was welcomed by the Mayor of Beit Sahour Mr. Hani Al-Hayek, Deputy Mayor Eng. Munjid Al Hawwash and Acting Mayor Mr. George Ghattas Al Bedd and Councilman Mr. Karem Mahmoud.

Mr. Roche was warmly welcomed and given a brief explanation about Beit Sahour and the municipal activities and the upcoming projects as well as the pride that Beit Sahour Municipality takes by being an active member of ICCN institution which is concerned with the spiritual heritage, adding that the municipality of Beit Sahour will host the general assembly meeting of the members of the ICCN in 2019.

Mr. Roche has presented his gratitude and appreciation for the warm welcoming, stressing on the importance of heritage preservation and transmitting it to future generations. At the end of the visit, Mr. Roche was accompanied by Eng. Munjid Al Hawwash on a city tour that included the Old town, the Holy Sites and Edward Said National Conservatory of Music. The visit of Mr. Jean Roche to the municipality of Beit Sahour comes on the sidelines of his visit to Palestine from which a Dabkka group will be chosen to participate in the World Cultures Festival to be held in Jana- France between 19th and 31st of July 2017.





The Visit of the Minister of Local Government to Beit Sahour Municipality

The Municipality of Beit Sahour represented by its Mayor Mr. Hani Al-Hayek along with a number of Municipal Council members has welcomed the Minister of Local Government Dr. Hussein Al-Araj and Mr. Shukri Alrdaydah Director of the Directorate of Local Governance in Bethlehem on the 28th of February 2017, in a visit to check the Municipal and city's conditions, as this visit comes on the sidelines of the weekly cabinet meeting, which was held in the city of Bethlehem.

During the visit, His Excellency discussed during the upcoming elections and the possibility of supporting some infrastructural projects and boosting the local economy in the city

Students from Bethlehem University visiting the Municipality of Beit Sahour

Beit Sahour Municipality represented by its Mayor Mr. Hani Al Hayek has welcomed a group of university students from the university of Bethlehem / College of Nursing and Health Sciences on the 13th of February 2017, as the meeting aimed for introducing Beit Sahour in general and the work of Beit Sahour Municipality in particular.

In his welcoming speech, the mayor has emphasized on the importance and necessity of such visits to municipalities and gave them a brief explanation about the city's history, cultural and tourism in addition to the services provided by the municipality, as well as the Municipality's achievements and its Strategic Development Plan, projects in addition for the types of services provided to citizens.

Roads Rehabilitation in Beit Sahour

On the 7th of February 2017, a primary round receipt for the roads rehabilitation project in the city of Beit Sahour, funded by Beit Sahour Municipality. The project included the rehabilitation of Al- Rawat Junction Street, and part of Al Sail Street. The project was implemented by Al Hilo Company for Public Undertakings and under the supervision of Beit Sahour Municipality.

Finishing works of asphaltting Al Jabal Street at Al Geneina Area

Al Jabal Street at Al Geneina area was asphalted on the 21st of February 2017 by the contractor Ahmed Ibrahim Jubran Company, knowing that the rehabilitation of this street is part of the rehabilitation of roads project in the city of Beit Sahour - (Phase II), which comes within the Municipal Development Program Phase II / Second Cycle, and funded by the



Municipal Development and Lending Fund, and under the supervision of Beit Sahour Municipality and Advisory Office - Arab Engineers

Finishing the asphalted works of the road that is adjacent to the old building of the Arab Orthodox Club

The road adjacent to the old building of the Arab Orthodox Club in the center of the old town was recently asphalted on the 25th of February 2017 by The contractor Ahmed Ibrahim Jubran Company, knowing that the rehabilitation of this street is part of the roads rehabilitation project in the city of Beit Sahour - (Phase II), which comes within the Municipal Development Program Phase II / Second Cycle, and funded by the Municipal Development and Lending Fund, and under the supervision of Beit Sahour Municipality and Advisory Office - Arab Engineers



Appointing Bishop William Shomali as Patriarchal Vicar in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

February 9th, 2017, The Mayor of Beit Sahour Mr. Hani Hayek, Beit Sahour City Council Members, Municipality staff and workers are honored and pleased to congratulate Bishop William Shomali on the occasion of his appointment as Patriarchal Vicar in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.



Qualitative Research conducted by "global Alpha" Research Foundation on behalf of the World Bank

The Municipality of Beit Sahour represented by its Mayor Mr. Hani Al-Hayek and a number of its councilmembers has welcomed Dr. Bader Al Araj head of the Department of Psychology and sociology at Birzeit University and Ms. Hadeel Odeh his assistant on the 3rd of February 2017 in a meeting regarding the qualitative research conducted by "global Alpha" Research Foundation on behalf of the World Bank, in collaboration with the Ministry of local government in order to identify the needs of a number of municipal and village councils, which was also attended by representatives of the local community and municipal committees and a representative of the local Youth Council.



The meeting aimed to discuss several important topics related to the collection of waste, sewage and water system, roads, transportation and the relationship of citizens with the municipal council and how to cooperate with the local community to solve infrastructure problems in Beit Sahour which was done through focus group formed for this purpose consisting of a number of citizens representing municipal committees, local community, Youth Council as well as the municipal council of Beit Sahour.

During the meeting, the attendees spoke about the problems that face local citizens which are related to water, waste and sanitation, and to discuss solutions on how to avoid future crises of the problems relating to the infrastructure in the city.





Unification of Women's Discourse

The Women Assembly of Beit Sahour has held a vital workshop entitled "The Unification of Women's Discourse" on February 24th, 2017 in the presence of large institutions and feminist organizations in the city, with the participation of the General Union of Palestinian Women as well. A large discussion took place where the obstacles that stand in the face of this unification were fully addressed, as it was agreed to appoint a further meeting to discuss the mechanisms of action to achieve the desired goals and work to strengthen and enhance the role of women and the unification of women's discourse.



Eastern Christianity and Contemporary Challenges

The Cultural Devin of Beit Sahour in association with Christ the King Library have organized a seminar on Eastern Christianity and Contemporary Challenges on the 6th of February 2017, where the Palestinian Writer, Researcher and philosopher Mr. Sameh Ghnadari author of the book "The Arab Cradle" has addressed the modern history of Christianity in the Middle East and the large contributions made by Christians in the era of the Umayyad and Abbasid state, and the leading role of Christians in the beginning of the Renaissance.



Mr. Ghandari has also addressed the modern contemporary challenges facing Christians and the Arab world together as well as the ways through which they can get out of these contemporary crises to curb the immigration of Christian Arabs.

A large audience from Beit Sahour and Bethlehem participated in the seminar. The attendees participated in the dialogue about contemporary issues that disappeared cultural diversity and pluralism in the Arab societies, and the ways in which they can emerge from the current crisis in the Arab world.

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.

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