

Dear friends and supporters of Rights4Time,

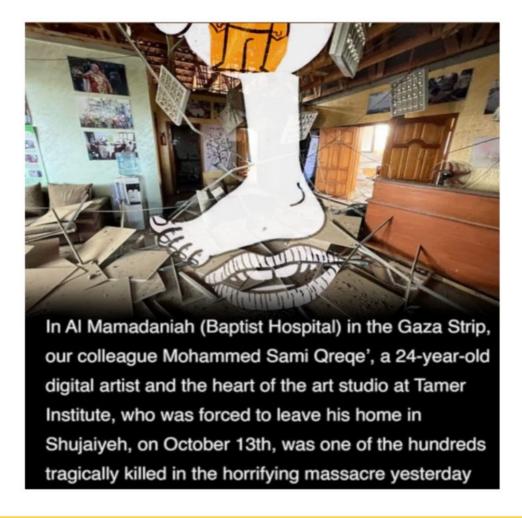
This week we share more updates from our partners in Palestine, and a reminder of our Digital Mentoring Session (Oct 26th, 1-2pm GMT+1, Link to join here), which will be an open platform for a discussion of long-term protection work in a context of crisis. This flips our mandate a little. Rights for Time projects all grapple with the long-term effects of harm and work to remedy the failures of humanitarian protection, our work crucially looks beyond the crisis framework. At our online session we want to hear from you, to learn your own approaches to working beyond crisis frameworks within moments of crisis.

For the moment, the Network understands its role as supporting partners in vulnerable contexts both before and after crisis points. Of course within a crisis we must also act, and our first efforts are to document, amplify, and share the experiences of our partners, in addition to using the moment to amplify what we already see as vital work in the face of ongoing harms.

To this end, over the last ten days Rights for Time leaders have spoken with UK news outlets, to European Parliament, to MPs, to our university leadership, and mobilized our network to showcase the important work of our partners. We have sent out statements, had work translated, and disseminated updates via our social media platforms, and

published on the power of networks to give back to communities. In this newsletter we round up many of these updates.

If any of this work might put you or your projects in danger, please reach out immediately.



RIGHTS FOR TIME NETWORK STATMENT

We unreservedly call for an end to military action in the context of Israel and Palestine. Military action will only exacerbate generations of poverty, inequality, and suffering. Our evidence shows interventions with such a limited view, fail everywhere in the long term. Global policy must change to acknowledge complex trauma and uplift local voices for justice and dignity.



PALESTINE UPDATES NUTSHELL VERSION:

At Rights4Time, we firmly believe that peace and justice can only be realized with an understanding of 'response' that extends beyond immediate crises. To that end, we remain committed to amplifying the voices and stories of our partners who are navigating the realities of the current crisis. Below, we offer insights into the ongoing challenges faced by our partners in the region. As we advocate for a humanitarian protection approach that transcends the limitations of crisis thinking, we stand in solidarity with our Palestinian partners who have been working tirelessly to address the context of harm.

Palestine Trauma Centre

In this edition, we shine a spotlight on the Palestine Trauma Centre and the remarkable "Friday of Joy" initiative. Tragically, the director of this initiative is in critical condition, having lost his wife and daughter in an airstrike. Despite the centre's closure due to damage from recent attacks and the displacement of some staff members, others continue to provide daily advice for families in need.

Palestine Writing Workshop

We also revisit the Palestine Writing Workshop's "Burning Time" project, which captures the memories and experiences of individuals living through conflict. Abu Bakr, one of the participants, shared his poignant story with us, offering a glimpse into the profound impact of past bombardments. We invite you to read his story and reflect on the enduring resilience of those who choose to tell their stories.

Tamer Institute

Additionally, we pay tribute to the Tamer Institute, which tragically lost another colleague in their Gaza office. We remember the dedication of their team and the important work they undertake, including our collaborative project aimed at capturing the stories of children in Jerusalem who have experienced arrest and imprisonment. Author Ahlam Bsharat, who worked closely with these children, was deeply affected by their testimonies, revealing the stark realities they face.

As we navigate through these threads of information, we are reminded of the profound impact of conflict and the importance of understanding the enduring legacy it leaves behind. Our partners in Palestine continue to inspire us with their resilience, and we remain committed to sharing their stories and perspectives.

Thank you for joining us on this journey.



The Palestine Trauma Centre continues to provide support and advice to families despite facing immense challenges.

Palestine Trauma Centre

In heartbreaking news from the Palestine Trauma Centre in Gaza City, the director of their impactful "Friday of Joy" initiative is currently in critical condition. This initiative, which stages weekly plays for children on coping with nightmares, bedwetting, and harm, has been a beacon of hope for many young lives.

Tragically, we have learned that his wife and daughter fell victim to an airstrike that struck their apartment. This devastating event underscores the stark reality faced by many in the region.



اقتربوا من أطفالكم و تحدثوا لهم و اشغلوهم قدر الإمكان عن ما يدور .



Despite the immense challenges, including the closure of the centre due to damage from an airstrike on October 7, the resilience of the Palestine Trauma Centre's team shines through. While two staff members have lost their homes, others find themselves scattered among relatives or shelters in the south. Yet, these dedicated members continue to provide invaluable support by updating the center's social media with daily advice for families in distress.

Their message to parents and caregivers is clear: "Get close to your children, talk to them, and distract them as much as possible from what is going on." This simple yet profound guidance speaks to the enduring commitment of the Palestine Trauma Centre in the face of adversity.

For more information and to gain deeper insights into their work, you can visit the centre's dedicated page: Link to Palestine Trauma Centre's "Days of Joy" Project

Our thoughts are with the director, his family, and all those affected by these recent developments.



The Palestine Writing Workshop, via its 'Burning Time' project, provides a platform for individuals to articulate their experiences of trauma, as exemplified by Abu Bakr's account of the meaning of time in anticipation of death.

Palestine Writing Workshop

In our previous newsletter, we had the privilege of sharing a <u>story</u> written by Abu Bakr, recounting his memories of the 2008/9 Israeli bombardment of Gaza. This moving narrative was crafted as part of the Palestine Writing Workshop's "Burning Time" project, a platform for individuals to express their experiences and perspectives.



Abu Bakr reached out to the project director, and we have been granted permission to share his update with you.

His narrative serves as a powerful reminder of the enduring impact of conflict on individuals and communities. We are immensely grateful to Abu Bakr for sharing his story and allowing us to continue amplifying the voices and narratives that need to be heard.

Our friend Abu Bakr from Gaza sent us a message saying that he and his family are still alive. He then asked us for prayers. Just a month ago, Abu Bakr was a daring teenager, searching for an opportunity to study at a major university in the world, despite knowing it was almost impossible. He was proud, ambitious, and believed that dreams could come true, relying on the self-help books he read daily. Abu Bakr is almost certain that he will die and has completely surrendered. These were the few words he sent, perhaps because they were hurried and he had no time. He was with us in a writing group in the "Wasting Time" program where we were exploring the meaning of time in the midst of wars and how pain can be measured. No one has slept for 12 days. No one has stopped crying, and no one has done anything except wait for death.



The Tamer Institute, amid the loss of another colleague in their Gaza office, shares stories of imprisoned children in Jerusalem.

Tamer Institute

In a solemn update from our partner, the Tamer Institute, we deeply regret to inform you that they have suffered yet another loss within their Gaza office this week. In memory of their colleague, the Tamer Institute pays a heartfelt tribute, which you can view here: <u>Tamer Institute Tribute</u>.

In Al Mamadaniah (Baptist Hospital) in the Gaza Strip, our colleague Mohammed Sami Qreqe', a 24-year-old digital artist and the heart of the art studio at Tamer Institute, who was forced to leave his home in Shujaiyeh, on October 13th, was one of the hundreds tragically killed in the horrifying massacre yesterday Tuesday the 17th. His parting words carried a profound sense of responsibility: "Today, I bear the duty to witness and share the events within the hospital."

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: مؤسسة تامر للتعليم المجتمعي Tribute from the Tamer Institute for Community Education

"In the <u>video</u> of the airport, Mohammad Sami and Tamer Institute's youth teams visit the remains of Gaza's International Airport. Mohammad dreams of seeing Palestine from above, as says in the film "I wish I can see the city from above". How do you see the city today, Mohammad?

Mohammad Sami Qreqe', 24 years old, was the heart of the art studio at Tamer Institute. He was active in every initiative, every step and every activity with us at Tamer. He was the first to arrive and the last to leave. His own art project was connecting technology with art, through creating QR codes that preserve Palestinian art from theft by the "Israeli" occupation.

The occupation displaced you from your home in Al Shuja'yeh on the 13th of October, and now the occupation steals you from us with the atrocious crime they committed when bombing the Baptist Hospital in Gaza. The occupation took you and over 500 souls from which most were children. We lost them all and

sorrow engulfs our hearts and our ability to believe this reality.

We will miss you here at Tamer Institute, in Al Shuja'yeh, and in the art studio. Your colleagues from the youth teams will miss you, and the children and the schools you volunteered in will miss you. We will miss you and all the children, as we declare that your laughter, paintings and voice is here among us. Your soul is rising high, protecting Gaza and Palestine from above where you are looking out on the city with the children around you, flying and smiling.

Freedom, justice and security to all our children and families in Gaza."

https://www.instagram.com/reel/CyeebxmNx4v/?igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA== #SaveChildren #SaveGaza

Our collaborative project with @tamerinstitute was an endeavor to capture the stories of children in Jerusalem who have experienced arrest and imprisonment, shedding light on their often harrowing experiences. Renowned author and children's literature specialist Ahlam Bsharat dedicated herself to working closely with these children, providing them a voice to express their deeply personal encounters. You can explore more about this meaningful project by following this link: Tamer Institute Project.

Ahlam Bsharat's engagement with these young individuals during the summer of 2023 left a profound impact on her. She bore witness to the stories of children who had endured house arrest for as long as six months, and she was struck by their palpable anger and the limited hope some of them held for change.

Currently, the testimonies and artwork from this project are in the process of being prepared for publication, ensuring that these vital narratives and expressions are shared with a wider audience. As a glimpse into this impactful project, we present a part of one of the children's drawings, depicting the soldier who had arrested them.

We remain committed to amplifying these important stories and voices, standing in solidarity with our partners at the Tamer Institute during these challenging times.





Learn More - Link to the full list of R4T research projects

In this newsletter, we've continued to share critical updates from our partners in Palestine, emphasizing the vital work they carry out. While our partners in vulnerable contexts face ongoing challenges, we also recognize the importance of acting swiftly within a crisis and remain dedicated to our mission of providing long-term protection beyond the crisis framework.

Our upcoming digital mentoring session this Thursday is an open platform where we invite you to join the discussion on long-term protection work within moments of crisis. We believe that learning from your unique approaches and experiences is invaluable in the pursuit of a better understanding of humanitarian protection.

As we navigate these challenging times, we reaffirm our commitment to amplifying the voices and experiences of our partners and fostering peace and justice through a nuanced understanding of 'response' that transcends crisis thinking. Together, we work towards a brighter future where lasting change can take root.

Thank you for your continued support and solidarity with the Rights for Time Network.



With hope and determination,
The Rights for Time Team



Please subscribe to our mailing list and continue to share your news with the Network at rightsfortime@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

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