

annual report 2011
the danish house in palestine

البيت الدنماركي في فلسطين



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about DHIP





about DHIP

DHIP works to shorten the distance between Denmark and Palestine and to increase mutual understanding between the two people.

DHIP develops creative frameworks for projects and activities rooted in practical, hands-on collaboration between colleagues across cultures to enable lasting conversations and relationships between Danes and Palestinians.

In addition to encouraging professional dialogue between for instance mechanics, child educators and designers, we facilitate volunteer programs in Palestine, as well as a diverse range of cultural and educational activities.



greeting



dear friends, partners, and colleagues,

I am both pleased and gratified to present The Danish House in Palestine's Annual Report for 2011. In maritime terms, DHIP rode off the waves of a challenging beginning well.*

The main achievement for DHIP in its first year has been the development of a coherent institutional identity. We have worked carefully to ground our projects and activities in their specific, localized context. Rather than prolific outputs, our aim has been to build thoughtful, focused frameworks for intercultural exchange.

One year on, we have created a solid organizational foundation. Looking ahead, we are excited to expand our work and activities and to continue making rings and ripples in the waters between Denmark and Palestine.

I wish to thank the devoted members of team DHIP in Ramallah, past and present interns, our Danish boards, and our local advisory committee. Thank you also to visitors, friends, and partners for your support, inspiration, and encouragement.

*Nathalie Khankan,
Director*

** This is our first annual report. As such it includes mention of all activities since DHIP's inception and covers the period September 2010-December 2011.*



dhippings:
exchange & cooperation





know thy engine: a danish-palestinian mechanics road trip

During a week-long road trip in October 2010, Danish and Palestinian mechanics Henrik Frederiksen, Ivan Lykke, Mai Malhas and Salim Abbadi visited colleagues in refugee camps, villages, and towns around the West Bank. The team's mobile repair clinic offered open-air workshops and on-site diagnostics. Sharing professional experience and ideas, the members of the team gained a unique insight into each others' working lives and some of the cultural

differences that manifest themselves in their profession. As a pioneer project within DHIP's vocational exchange framework, the road trip served to highlight auto mechanics as eloquent cultural ambassadors, as well as the marginal role of women in the field in both Denmark and Palestine. The project was supported by Danish Auto Help, Volvo Palestine, and Abbadi Car Service.

mapping gender and design in palestine - an identification trip

In June 2011 Danish and Palestinian textile designers Sine Andersen, Marie Hugsted, Hamada Atallah, and Omar Joseph Nasser-Khoury embarked on a mapping expedition throughout the West Bank and the Negev. The purpose? To pave the way for an ambitious project that will empower local Palestinian craftswomen economically by helping them

rethink and develop traditional designs into products with broad appeal to consumers abroad. The four designers traveled to women's cooperatives, factories and museums to understand the history and the current situation of Palestinian design and handicraft sectors. The mapping expedition was supported by Kvinno and implemented in collaboration with Sunbula.





reshaping children's spaces in a west bank orphanage

In April 2011 DHIP and Tamer Institute for Community Education worked together to create a stimulating and supporting environment for children at the orphanage *Dar Al Iman Association for Care and Support of Orphans* in Qalqilya in the northern West Bank. The project entailed a professional exchange between Danish and Palestinian child education workers Elsebeth Mie Nielsen, Hanan Asmar, and Baseem Odeh, and volunteers Reyad Abu

Abu Samrah and Raed Omar, who shared experiences about childcare and pedagogy. The Danish and Palestinian professionals and volunteers worked with the children and staff to reshape the physical common spaces of the orphanage. They also set up a small library and introduced educational games and activities to encourage creativity and promote reading. The project was implemented with the support of BUPL.



dhippings:
programs & events



WITH/IN Palestine: international volunteer

DHIP's volunteer program offers Danes a unique opportunity to participate in and support the work of a Palestinian NGO. DHIP's first eight volunteers have worked in areas of human rights, journalism, youth leadership, and child literacy. In addition to gaining increased understanding of the work and inner workings of a Palestinian NGO, the volunteers also experience daily life in Palestine from the vantage point of someone who is a member of a professional community.

Since the beginning of the program, DHIP has cooperated with a number of resourceful Palestinian NGOs including The Media Development Centre at Birzeit University (MDC), Ramallah Center for Human Rights Studies, and Jerusalem Center for Women.

For some of the volunteers, three months in Palestine was not enough. So far four DHIP volunteers have returned to Palestine for shorter or longer periods of work.

Lena Bjornsen

DHIP volunteer Spring 2011

"After only a few weeks, I felt that I was part of the team and very valued by my new colleagues. What made it even better was the fact that my skills and know-how were appreciated so much by The Media Development Centre that they asked me to stay on."



Actor Fadi al-Ghoul reading Ghassan Kanafani and H.C. Andersen in Na'lin in October 2011 as part of the activities for DHIP's one year anniversary, DHIP@One.

other DHIP activities I

SPLACES: Contemporary Danish-Palestinian Documentaries

To explore and promote contemporary Danish and Palestinian documentary cinema, DHIP launched a film series titled SPLACES. From North Korea to Haifa, from Bogotá to Gaza, these compelling documentaries take audiences around the world to familiar and unfamiliar **SPLACES** and **SPLACES**. Palestinian film maker May Odeh opened the series with a screening of her 2010 *Diaries*, which was shown at DHIP in November 2011 (60 pers.), and at Dar al-Kalima College in Bethlehem (20 pers). The series will continue in 2012.

Winter Concerts: Middle Eastern Improvisations/Compositions

During the winter of 2010-2011, DHIP hosted a series of monthly candlelight concerts for the Palestinian music ensemble Ramallah Tahta Sharqi Trio/Al-Kamandjati. The trio Ramzi Aburedwan (buzuq), Dimitri Mikelis (oud), and Ibrahim Froukh (percussion) performed Middle Eastern instrumental improvisations and compositions by Abdel Karim, Rawhi Khamash, Resat Aysu, George Batzanos, Marcel Khalife, and others. Each concert featured a new guest vocalist. The concerts were attended by around 150 persons.

DHIP Couch Talks

To facilitate dialogue and conversation about important topics in an informal setting, DHIP initiated the DHIP Couch Talk in October 2011. The first couch talk was a conversation between Bishop Munib Younan, Bishop of the Lutheran Church in the Holy Land and Jordan, and Danish Reverend Kirsten Jørgensen, who discussed a number of compelling topics such as the pressures and costs of Palestinian Christian emigration; the concept, growth and effects of Christian Zionism; Arab Christianity and the Arab Awakening; and Muslim-Christian relations. The first couch talk was attended by around 30 persons.



19 deans from Rektornetværket (the Network of Danish High School Deans) visit DHIP in October 2011

other DHIP activities II

Danish-Palestinian CoM/pOsitions

DHIP CoM/pOsitions showcase Danes and Palestinians collaborating in actual settings, situations and projects. From movies to exhibitions, discussions to workshops, CoM/pOsitions are about Danish-Palestinian connections and cooperation. DHIP has hosted eight CoM/pOsitions since its inception including *Tweet tweet Palestine*, a discussion on the use of social media in Palestine in response to the Arab Spring; *Democracy in the Garden* a photo exhibition and talk about the Danish allotment garden; and *Inside the Palestinian Documentary*, a debate between Danish and Palestinian filmmakers about representing Palestine.

Go Picking: Olive Harvest

DHIP offers Danes the opportunity to gain insight into Palestinian culture and nature by participating in the Palestinian olive harvest – one of the most important annual events for Palestinian agriculture. During the olive harvest of 2010, 11 Danes travelled to Palestine and spent a week picking, pressing, and tasting olives, visiting farmers, and learning about the Palestinian olive oil industry.

Educational Development

DHIP organizes educational development programs for educators, who teach history, international politics, or religion. DHIP organizes visits to grassroots organizations, academic and political institutions, and NGOs to give the participants an increased understanding of the Palestinian situation and culture. In October 2010, DHIP coordinated the visit of a network of 19 Danish high school deans.



organization



danish house in palestine



danish house in palestine the danish house in palestine

staff

Nathalie Khankan, Director
Abeer Habash, Office Manager
Naela Awad, Housekeeper
Karen Nordemann, Coordinator
Mohammad Awar, Accountant

interns

Rumet Cilgin (Fall 2010)
Ahlam Salem (Fall 2010)
Henriette Leopold (Spring 2011)
Samah Qiwi (Spring 2011)
Tom Browne (Fall 2011)
Haneen al-Sheikh (Fall 2011)



*board of the association
DHIP*

Sune Segal (Chair)
Jørgen Bæk Simonsen (Vice-Chair)
Jutta Helles
Ulla Lundberg
Ulla Munch-Petersen
Jørgen Flindt Pedersen
Noman Kanafani
Michael Irving Jensen
Lise Bach Hansen

*board of the independent
institution*

Sune Segal (Chair)
Hanne-Vibeke Holst (Vice-Chair)
Jacob Axel Nielsen
Jens Thodberg Bertelsen
Jørgen Flindt Pedersen
Michael Irving Jensen
Ulla Lundberg

*advisory committee in
ramallah*

Ghassan Abdullah
Yazid Anani
Sam Bahour
Samia Botmeh
Huda Imam
Ali Khilleh
Wafa' Abdel Rahman
Khaled al Sabawi



evaluation



Since its inception in September 2010 DHIP has worked to create positive and mutually enriching Danish-Palestinian grassroots relations introducing creative models of vocational exchange and cooperation.

The model of vocational exchange has proved particular successful. In our first year we have implemented three projects of this kind. Our pairing of Danish and Palestinian auto mechanics, textile designers, and childcare workers resulted in a host of enjoyable and meaningful activities. For everyone involved in these projects, the result was always a new perception and increased understanding of the way culture and politics both shape the way we live and work. Meeting face to face and working side by side, participants turned out to see eye to eye on many professional and non-professional issues. Each project raised important questions and topics relevant to each field and generated lively debate. We hope to address or elaborate on some of these insights in future projects.

While still in its early stages, our volunteer program gained momentum in 2011.

Learning from early experience, we became more and more adept at successfully matching Danish volunteers and Palestinian organizations, and at managing the expectations of both parties. In fact, we felt so proficient that we have tailored a specialized program for nursing and medical students, which will launch in January 2012.

For everyone involved ... the result was always a new perception and increased understanding of the way culture and politics both shape the way we live and work.

In the year that passed, we were also emboldened by our experiences with large visiting groups of Danish educators. The visit in October 2011 by 19 deans from Rektornetværket (Network of Danish Deans) stands out as particularly inspiring. In the year to come, new educational trips are being planned, including a master class on the Palestine conflict for teachers and students from a large number of Danish high schools.

It is always challenging to build up an institution from scratch. It is fair to say, however, that DHIP has been successfully built and mapped. (You may still run into the odd taxi driver who does not know where we are, but we are working on it!). We have created an exciting portfolio of activities that reach out in different ways to both Danish and Palestinian civil society. DHIP has engaged populations, audiences, and project participants in Ramallah, Jerusalem, Qalqilya, Nablus, Bethlehem, Hebron, and many villages and camps. In the year that passed we have received more than 750 local and world guests. More than 170 traveling project makers, students, and artists have spent the night at DHIP.

You may still run into the odd taxi driver who does not know where we are, but we are working on it!

Having a firm platform to stand on, 2012 will be no less promising. Among our house events, we are introducing couch talk series on international development aid and public art issues. Our vocational exchange portfolio for the new year includes exciting

field work for investigative reporters and soccer players. We look forward to creating a green playground next to the Qalqilyan orphanage that we have gotten to know so well. Just as exciting is the prospect of taking a telescope on the road, going stargazing as it is, with Danish and Palestinian astronomy-lovers.

As DHIP matures, we hope public and private donors together will continue to support our work. Our financial strategy now includes more realistic steps to increase income from operating revenue, e.g. through educational development and volunteer programs. A large grant from Kvinno for a two-year Gender and Design project in the Palestinian Territories is perhaps the strongest indication and validation that DHIP has arrived.

We look forward to the dippings of 2012, to strengthening the partnerships we have, and to forging many new ones, as well. One year in, it is still our aim to create Denmark-Palestine linkages in all shapes and sizes. One year in, only the intensity with which we do it has changed. The passion has increased.



financial overview



2011 statement of activities (DKK)

INCOME

Project grants (unspent 2010 and 2011)

BUPL (Copenhagen) 50.000

Kvinfo 70.786

International Media Support 60.000

BUPL (South East) 10.000

Total project grants 190.786

Unrestricted grants/income

DK Min. of Foreign Affairs 280.000

Grundfos 500.000

DHIP Auction 109.035

DHIP Programs 35.000

Accommodation 75.000

Other 37.600

Total unrestricted 1.036.635

Total available income 1.227.421

EXPENSES

Projects/Activities 582.409

Rent and operating costs 250.908

Administration 93.835

Depreciation 11.200

Total expenses 938.352

2011 balance sheet (DKK)

ASSETS

Current assets	533.789
Prepaid expenses	57.000
Fixed assets (net)	12.648
Total assets	603.437

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Accruals and payables	349.680
Net assets	253.757
Total liabilities and net assets	603.437



thank you



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Kirsten Jørgensen
Lisbeth Kaaber
Grethe Weber
Maher Khatib
Dalia Association
Dar al-Iman Orphanage
Al-Kamandjati Association
Dar al-Kalima College
Falafel Abu Khalil
Fadi al-Ghoul
Bjørn Nørgaard
Tejn
Lara Baladi
Erik A Frandsen
Jacob Holm (Fritz Hansen)

Birgit Lendal Beck
Nicole Kruckenberg
Larissa Sansour
Riwaq
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Knud Odde
Erik Hagens
Klaus Titze
Mai Hasager
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International Academy of Art
in Palestine
The Palestinian Centre for
Peace and Democracy
The Teachers' Center in
Na'alín
The Qattan Centre for
Educational Research and
Development
The Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Jordan and the
Holy Land
Tamer Institute for
Community Education
Christina Strand & Niels
Hvass

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