

**Announcing
International Camp and Workshops in Palestine
“Cultural Awareness in Youth Exchange”
01st-14th August 2017**

**Zajel International Youth Exchange Program
Public Relations Department
An-Najah National University
Nablus-Palestine**

An-Najah National University in Nablus, Palestine is pleased to announce an International Camp Program for 2017. Facilitated by Zajel, the International Youth Exchange Program of the Public Relations Department will host a two weeks long enculturation and education for our guests that will shed light on the Palestinian experience. An-Najah National University kindly invites people from across the world to explore this opportunity and to engage academically, culturally and socially with our university and the people of Palestine.

The Camp is one of Zajel's promising projects. This year it will offer the opportunity for international volunteers to attend carefully selected lectures by remarkable educators about different fields and issues, in addition to working with Palestinian university students and peers in different fields of professionally-needed skills.

Zajel International Camp and Workshops

"All possible facilities shall be granted to internees to continue their studies or to take up new subjects. The education of children and young people shall be ensured; they shall be allowed to attend schools either within the place of internment or outside."

Fourth Geneva Convention Art.94

The event will be a challenging two weeks experience. The participants will have the chance to discuss relevant issues in the world, particularly in Palestine. All volunteers will have the chance to work and create positive and real impact in our communities through a variety of activities related to social youth development. Living and working together in Nablus, the volunteers will gain a better understanding of themselves, Palestinian socio-political questions, the world around them and the continuing Palestinian struggle for freedom. In addition, participants will have the chance to work and cooperate with Palestinian university students and lecturers on two different themes:

Zajel Camps:

With over sixteen year's experience in youth exchange programs and activities; Zajel is now pleased to invite people from across the world to take part in this new experience of an International Camp. The international participants along with local volunteers will have the chance to attend classes and lectures that include topics selected by remarkable teachers for two weeks at An-Najah National University's campus.

The topics include a variety of issues concerning the Palestinian cause in terms of its history, present and future, in addition to a wide range of subjects listed below. We aim to provide the participants with

a clearer image about diverse aspects of Palestine and the Middle East, as well as, to narrow the gap of misunderstanding and challenge misconceptions, Topics include:

- Cultural differences.
- Comparative religion.
- Stereotypes and images.
- Settlements.
- History of Palestine.
- Human rights in Palestine.
- Palestine and Geneva Convention, UN Resolution.
- Minorities in Palestine.
- Water issues in Palestine.
- Education in Palestine.
- Non violent means of resistance.
- Heritage and Folklore.
- Prisoners and land confiscation.
- Western media and the Palestine Question.

Students' Workshops:

Through international solidarity work and skill sharing, it is possible to help empower young Palestinians to create a better reality for themselves. We try to provide as many positive options as we can in a difficult situation, recognizing that many international volunteers have quite high qualifications and skills to share with our local students, as well as, a willingness to provide assistance. Here is an outline of the workshops comprising this section of the camp:

Public Speaking – Being able to communicate with large groups of people is paramount to any social movement. Possessing discourse skills and the ability to deliver lectures and public speeches is important for any student who wishes to establish self-confidence and build a strong personality. Learning such skills will enhance the individual's linguistic skills especially if he / she is delivering a speech using English. This is considered fundamental training for his / her fluency in a certain language.

English Conversation – English language and conversational etiquette taught by a native speaker is a novelty in Palestine. Having the chance to speak and converse with internationals and native speakers is very important in learning any language. It is the practical side of learning through which the learner could acquire the right accent, pronunciation and new vocabulary.

Debating Skills – This workshop will aim to enhance debating ability through teaching diplomacy skills, confidence, and style of argument. A key learning method will be role-playing because; sustained role-playing can also improve our insight into other people's points of view and the validity of our own opinions and ideologies.

Communication Skills – It is essential that communication between individuals, as well as, in group settings is carried out with respect and professional conduct. Native speakers in English will be able to provide first-hand knowledge and experience about how to interact with others. This workshop will focus on developing the skills and manners in accordance with norms and practices of global culture in communication.

Capacity/ Competency Building/ Communication Skills – Students have few opportunities for extra-curricular activities with which to develop the ‘soft-skills’ employers look for in addition to academic performance. This leaves them under-prepared for the world of work and at a disadvantage when competing in international job markets. This workshop will focus on topics such as CV writing, interview skills, team work, body language and any other skills related to work and communication to help raise students’ abilities, which will make them a more capable, competent and employable graduate.

“Note”

The workshops focus on English learning. However, even if your first language is not English and you are interested in the camp and want to learn about Palestine, you can still support workshops as an assistant and we also could give you other tasks to support the camp or organize a cultural workshop for you.

Targeted Group:

The Camp will bring together people who are interested in helping to create a better world. We are specifically targeting those who are capable of providing a proper course on specific topics and who also seek a unique and informative experience of Palestine. Most importantly, we seek highly motivated people to contribute to the Program and to study and teach in an academic environment. The Program is intended to involve lots of interaction with our local participants.

If the announcement for this extraordinary opportunity has drawn your interest, we encourage you to request an application and informational packet for the Camp Program. You can do so by contacting us through youthexchange@najah.edu and zajel.camp@gmail.com

Details:

Date: 01st-14th August 2017

Time and venue:

The workshops and lectures will take place in class rooms and meeting halls at the campuses of An-Najah University, which are equipped with needed utilities and tools.

The Program will be divided into two shifts: The morning shift will be concerned with the Camp schedule and lectures and the latter will mainly be dedicated to workshop activities.

Accommodation:

Zajel will be responsible for providing suitable accommodations for the participants at special apartment-dorms outside An-Najah National University's campus: the Program will be in charge of the transportation to and from the apartments.

Age:

No age restrictions

Visa:

There is no need for visa prior to the arrival of the citizens of the US, Canada, Australia, Japan and EU, There is no need to get a visa before coming to the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Instead, you can obtain your visa upon arrival at Tel Aviv Airport where you will be received by a representative of the University who will then take care of you and escort you to the dormitory in Nablus city.

Access to the University's computer labs and internet:

Access to internet at the University is easy, free and accessible for everyone through the many computer labs that are located at the New and Old campuses; there you can access your e-mail and surf the internet freely.

Food:

Food is available for you at the Cafeterias, which are located at both the New and Old campuses. We will provide you with food during the camp. You will have a variety of local food and dishes. Special meals can be prepared for dietary reasons.

Health and safety measures:

The Program will take place at academically-purposed class rooms and halls on the University's campuses: security will be maintained by professional university security systems and personnel, as well as, the assistance of well-trained local volunteers.

The Program is responsible for airport transportations from Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, through the barriers surrounding the West Bank and Nablus city, in addition to being responsible of the local transportations according to the official schedule. The Program will also provide all participants with medical insurance, which would cover most incidents during their stay here with the Program.

Fee:

\$450 USD per person

The fee includes:

- Food & Accommodation.
- Local transportation for trips across the West Bank and from Tel Aviv Airport.
- Administrative cost.
- Health Insurance.

Airfare: Airfare is not provided as part of the Zajel Camp Program. It is expected that airfare is arranged accordingly with participants of the Program. Prices vary, so it is best to book your flights early.

Vision:

The Program's primary objective is to provide a common ground for education and enlightenment through a set of topics that cover major aspects of the Palestinian cause and its people. The Program also seeks to provide a space to share knowledge and expertise between international and local students.

The Program will provide a suitable venue to foster the exchange of ideas and cultures, as well as, to bridge the gap of misunderstanding and misconception.

Zajel ("Dove" in Arabic)

Zajel Youth Exchange Program of the Public Relations Department at An-Najah National University in Nablus, Palestine is pleased to invite you all to take part in the Camp. This project has been designed to

provide international students and professionals with the opportunity to study the Palestinian experience firsthand. This unique opportunity will act as a venue for meeting and discussing the Middle East conflict, sharing ideas, enhancing practical skills, fostering relationships, and giving assistance to members of the Palestinian community.

[An-Najah National University](#), founded in 1977, is the largest university in Palestine. Students come from different regions of the country seeking knowledge and education. A focal point of the university is the active and responsible participation of students in community life. All students are strongly encouraged to perform voluntary work for the University or the community.

In direct conjunction with the University's focal points, Zajel Exchange Program offers the opportunity for local students to participate in camps and other international exchange programs in order to experience intercultural dialogue and enhance social and communication skills. To read more about what the International Youth Exchange Programs have accomplished over the last sixteen years, please refer to this link: <http://youth.zajel.org>

Note: If the date of this camp does not suit you, please [click here](#) to read about the other camps held in 2017.

If you are interested to apply, kindly fill [the application form](#)

Yours Sincerely,
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