

A Statement issued by Center for Human Rights and democracy Media "SHAMS"**On the occasion of World Day to Combat Poverty****"Poverty is a violation of basic human rights"**

"SHAMS" center reminds that, despite the efforts of the United Nations to eradicate poverty in the context of what it called the Millennium Project, the steps of its development programs continue to falter in most third world countries due to several factors, especially the corruption and the absence of political reforms. The extreme and obscene poverty and inequality in standard of living is a torment that threatens human beings, also the suffering of the third world who is still living mostly on charity of the rich nations, still faces death, hunger and disease, the most prominent features of the third world's daily life, where thousands of people are starving, these painful facts are being notable in developing countries of the world making poverty and inequality completely in lieu of slavery and other social ills.

The **center** stresses that poverty is a reality created by a system of factors that are correlated with each other, such as corruption, absence of political reforms, misuse of resources, poor public spending, unstable political and security situation, wars, international disputes and conflicts, foreign interfere in poor countries and exploitation and pillage of their wealth, and colonization and occupation as in Palestine, the Golan Heights, Sheba'a Farms, Libya, Afghanistan, and Iraq. All of these factors were conducive to exacerbate poverty and percentage of the foreign debt of these countries, which has long led to stifle efforts of the United Nations to reduce poverty around the world, and severely hinder poor countries from development opportunities and reform.

"SHAMS" center confirms that the continued Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories and the dependence of the Palestinian economy on the Israeli economy are main attributed factors of poverty in Palestine, and causes for the increased margin of those living below the poverty line, due to the increasing rates of unemployment in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Israeli arbitrary measures against the Palestinians, represented in awful killings, arrests, deportations, destruction of properties, bulldozing and confiscation of land, building of settlements, uprooting of trees, burning of farms, closures, isolation and dismemberment of Palestinian towns, construction of apartheid barriers, and destruction of infrastructure, are all obstacles standing in front of the development process in the Palestinian territories.

"SHAMS" center welcomes the efforts of the Palestinian National Authority, and efforts of NGOs and the Arab and Islamic countries in their fight against the scourge of poverty, and despite the advantages offered by of formal and informal institutions in aid supply for the poor and destitute segments, it is still necessary to develop strategic plans aimed at the long term to create jobs to those of the poor through strategic plan development, and thus it represents one of the most important and most serious responsibilities of the Palestinian National Authority.

"SHAMS" center calls for the need to create appropriate labor market, providing more employment opportunities for women, setting strategies and plans, and firm commitment from the Palestinian National Authority to address the phenomenon of poverty and the need for effective coordination between the various ministries that deal with poverty, to provide fair social protection for citizens and alleviate their suffering, create more employment opportunities, especially families headed by women as a priority, and to enable the public institutions to carry out their role in providing services and social care, and support private sector development, and the development of targeted policies to reduce poverty and formulate relevant policies that will eventually lead to protect the poor, and strengthen the pillars of good governance.

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