



مركز إعلام حقوق الإنسان والديمقراطية شمس
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center
SHAMS



Monthly newsletter 2013
www.shams-pal.org http



Hebron / May 2013

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop in Hebron regarding “education on democracy”. The trainer mentioned that the concept of education on democracy as a new kind of education doesn’t stand for an agreed definition, but we can say that education on democracy signifies a set of behaviors, practices and styles which are applied inside educational institutions so as to train the educated people to understand the meaning of democracy.

The workshop also tackled the role of educational institutions in building and enrooting democracy’s values, it also handled a set of difficulties which face education on democracy like weakness of democracy’s culture within the Palestinian community since many people consider this culture as a new issue in the community, and the culture of democracy in Palestine is still low. One of the problems linked with education on democracy including: accordance between internationalism and privacy, the availability of the qualified human resource for performing the tasks of education on democracy in addition to the contribution of media institutions in the field of awareness and education on democracy.

At the end of the meeting. Participants recommended the importance to implement activities and events which aim at exchanging experiences in order to evaluate the experience of civic education, to set new strategies to advance the educational performance of the educational institutions, to enroot the values of citizenship and civic behavior within educated, to build the capacities of youth for enhancing participatory democracy so as to improve their skills and capacities to be involved within societal public life, designing future plans in a positive systematic way, to disseminate the values of democracy among young females and males in addition to identify them with their rights and duties, to activate and reinforce the role of mass media in order to disseminate the democratic concepts and transformations in Palestine.



Qalqilya/ May / 2013

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop titled as “prospects of democratic transformation in the Arab World” in collaboration with Islamic Call College in Qalqilya in the college’s venue.

The workshop tackled the increased approaches toward democracy since the end of the Cold War in 1989, the difficulty to expect the future of democracy in the Arab world although, we can say that future democracy in the Arab world will include kinds of democracies and won’t be a similar Arabic democracy as the Arabic region is still considered as the lease affected by democratic development in the world and the majority of the Arab countries include several opinions about the approach and style of enhancing the democratic development and its objectives.

Participants stressed that democracy is the entry toward respecting human rights and liberation since democracy became a substance in order to preserve the social balance. They also clarified that the lesson isn’t only in achieving the democratic transformation, but also in providing guarantees for its continuity. And regardless of the different meanings of democracy, the concepts is mainly about three dimensions: offering guarantees to respect human rights, respecting the principle of authority’s deliberation in compliance

	<p>with the public willingness and accepting political and intellectual pluralism. At the end of the meeting, participants recommended the significance to develop a democratic political thought and having an agreement on drafting a future vision for the desires democratic pattern, deepening dialogue between all parties, starting a comprehensive process of reform, initiating to accept and understand the new universal events and its local reflections and setting solutions for the present and future.</p>
	<p>Cairo 9-10 May/ 2013</p> <p>Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” participated in the international conference about “development, democracy and building up the Arabic regional system” organized by the Arab League, Arabic Network for National Organizations, Arabic Organization for Human Rights and UNESCO. The conference was conducted in the venue of the Arab League and it included representatives of the Arabic governments, national organization for human rights, more than 30 Arabic non-governmental organizations, High Commission for Human Rights, UNDP, international non-governmental organizations, Arabic parliament, legislators, intellectual leaderships, Arab and foreign diplomatists and international experts beside effective participation from Secretary General of the Arab League.</p> <p>The conference was headed by Dr. Boutros Ghali the previous Secretary General of the United Nations, and it was initiated by Dr. Nabil Alaraby the Secretary General of the Arab League and Dr. Ali Almaree the Head of the Arabic Network for Human Rights in the Arab League and Mr. Ala’a Shalabi the Secretary General of the Arabic Organization for Human Rights Mrs. Maria Alpharez Laso the deputy- director of UNESCO.</p> <p>The conference discussed within seven work sessions the following points: types of development and ways to accomplish social justice, development and citizenship as bases for social justice, applications of governance (good governance”, tasks of democratic transfer and its association with good governance, youth and challenges of Arabic developmental integration and ways of woman’s empowerment in the Arabic situation as well as opportunities for developing the mechanisms of the Arab League in light of changing situation.</p> <p>Participants expressed their complete and strong support for the legitimate, fixed and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, they also stressed the responsibility of the international community towards ending the occupation and the Palestinian people’s right to establish its country with complete sovereignty over its occupied lands for 1967 with Jerusalem as its capital.</p> <p>Participants also expressed their appreciation to the UNESCO for its position in enhancing Palestine’s joining as a member state which represents a diplomatic gain via United Nations General Assembly which will promote the legitimate rights for the Palestinian people and give a space for preserving the Palestinian cultural heritage from the attempts of destruction through Israeli brutal policies.</p> <p>The conference resulted in a set of recommendations including mainly enhancing the Arabic system for human rights with regular development for Arabic Charter of Human Rights, calling Arab countries to complete its ratifications on the Arabic Charter for Human Rights, efficient cooperation with the Arabic Committee for Human Rights and supporting it, promoting the efforts for establishing the Arabic Court for Human Rights, setting an action plan to put it into force and to benefit from other regional European, African and American experiences and enhancing the openness of the Arab League to civil society organizations via revising the conditions of the current organizational relationship taking into consideration the experience of the United Nations and its benefit to the international organizations and non-governmental organizations.</p>



Jenin / 7 May 2013

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” and Democratic Control of Armed Forces “DCAF” organized a conference for gender and community safety in Jenin governorate. The conference targeted discussing mechanisms which guarantee respecting woman’s rights as well as deepening the original values within Palestinian community in order to achieve community safety in the governorate and advance it within community, and it included participants and representatives of different sides in Jenin governorate including woman’s organizations, different ministries and activists in social activities. Participants called for formulating results of previous meetings, opening dialogues between parties among the three powers significantly, focusing on gender when setting plans and programs for security institutions or civil institutions, searching and discussing problems which face woman besides kinds of violence against her, amending some prevailing laws which are directly connected with woman, working to establish and open safe homes for women and discussing mechanisms which contribute to providing security to women and preserving her rights.

As well, participants emphasized the importance of networking between civil society organizations as well as security institutions so as to work to apply the principle of rule of law and to break the gap between them in addition to the essence to search for common factors between tribes’ leaders, reform’s committee, governorate and security institution.



Nablus / 4 May 2013

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” in collaboration and coordination with Alquds Open University in Nablus conducted a workshop titled as “citizenship in democratic system”. The workshop tackled the concept of citizenship in its political, social and legal dimensions as well as enhancing the spirit of solidarity among citizens considering them as substantial factor for their efficient participation in managing the state’s affairs.

Attendees stressed that citizenship signifies the values of freedom which is reflected in many rights like freedom of belief, freedom of practicing religious rituals, freedom of movement inside the homeland, right to speak and discuss freely with others about the society’s problems and future, freedom of supporting or opposing against a position, issue or policy and freedom of social and political participation.

At the end of the meeting, attendees recommended the importance to reinforce citizenship as a behavior and concept and to promote political awareness besides political education which should include and establish for the values of citizenship, democracy, collective work, institutions’ system and equality between man and woman. In addition to enroot the culture of tolerance instead of violence, to promote political participation, to respect public and private rights and freedoms besides fair distribution to wealth.



Wednesday / 3 May 2013

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop titled as “freedom of opinion, expression and journalism” at Islamic Call College in Qalqilya. The workshop tackled the definition of freedom and expression considering it as one of the basic rights which signify the essential foundations for the democratic society, it also tackled the role of media in disseminating and promoting the culture of human rights besides the role of media in defending human rights represented in observing violations and its role in enhancing accountability and monitoring besides building partnership’s relationships between media and civil society organizations and raising educational and rights’ organizations in order to disseminate the culture of human rights.

At the end of the workshop, participants recommended the importance for mass media to give enough spaces for receiving complaints about human rights’ violations, to have TV & Radio programs and articles which tackle human rights, enacting a law about freedom of information which clarifies obviously procedures

to access information as well as procedures which restrict access to certain kinds of documents, to have accordance between new legislations and media in addition to enhance the awareness of media figures regarding the concepts of human rights.

SHAMS press releases

#	Subject	الجريدة	Page	Day	Date
1	SHAMS center expresses its concern about violations against freedom of journalism	Alhayat	5	Friday	3/5/2013
2	SHAMS center calls for punishing whoever infringe upon journalists	Alayyam	4	Friday	3/5/2013
3	SHAMS center expresses its concern about violations against freedom of journalism	Maan	Internet	Friday	3/5/2013
4	Within the ceremony of journalists' syndicate and Coalition for Defending Freedom of Expression in World Press Day	Alquds	30	Friday	3/5/2013
5	Nablus: a workshop about citizenship and democracy	Alhayat	3	Sunday	5/5/2013
6	Two workshops in Alquds Open University / Nablus	Alquds	24	Sunday	5/5/2013
7	Jenin: a workshop about gender and community safety	Alhayat	9	Wednesday	8/5/2013
8	A conference in Jenin recommends to search for mechanisms to secure respecting the woman	Alayyam	6	Wednesday	8/5/2013
9	SHAMS center conducts a workshop about freedom of opinion, expression and journalism	Maan	Internet	Monday	20/5/2013
10	A workshop in Qalqilya recommends producing media programs which tackle human rights	Alayyam	10	Tuesday	21/5/2013
11	Within a meeting for SHAMS center: call for producing media programs which tackle human rights	Palestine 24	Internet	Friday	24/5/2013
12	A workshop at Islamic Call College regarding freedom of opinion and expression	Alquds	13	Saturday	25/5/2013
13	A workshop titled as "human rights between reality and wish"	Alquds	25	Sunday	26/5/2013
14	SHAMS center conducts a workshop about education on democracy	Maan	Internet	Monday	27/5/2013
15	A workshop in Hebron recommends activating the role of mass media to promote and disseminate the concepts of democracy	Alayyam	14	Monday	27/5/2013
16	A workshop in Hebron emphasizes education on democracy	Alhayat	13	Tuesday	28/5/2013

**SHAMS media participations
TV & Radio interviews**

#	inviting organization	Subject	Day	Date
1	Angham radio	The conference of gender and community safety / Jenin	Thursday	9/5/2013
2	Ajyal radio	Which electoral system we want?	Saturday	18/5/2013
3	Watan TV	Findings of researches for media students at Birzeit University	Saturday	18/5/2013
4	Nisa'a FM radio	A workshop about freedom of opinion and expression for students of Islamic Call College	Monday	27/5/2013

SHAMS participations with other organizations

#	Subject	Inviting organization	Place	Day	Date
1	Arabic conference about developing rights' system in the Arab League	National Committee for Human Rights	Retno Carlton Hotel	Tuesday-Thursday	28-30/5/2013
2	Celebrating Argentinean National Day	Argentinean Embassy	Movenpick Hotel	Thursday	23/5/2013
3	Launching the 18 th annual report	ICHR	Movenpick Hotel	Tuesday	21/5/2013
4	Presenting seminars for media students	Media department- Birzeit University	Birzeit University	Saturday	18/5/2013
5	Launching the project of Palestinian youth legislative council	Sharek Youth Forum	PLC	Thursday	16/5/2013
6	Woman after the Arab Spring	PASSIA	PASSIA	Monday	13/5/2013
7	Celebrating World Free Day	British Council	Darna restaurant	Thursday	2/5/2013
8	Celebrating World Free Day	Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate	Palestinian Red Crescent Society's Hall	Thursday	2/5/2013

SHAMS center address

Ramallah, Almsyoun, Louis Favre St. Sindyan 3 building 1st floor

0097022985254Tel :

009702298525Fax :

00972599525094Mobile :

429P.O.Box Ramallah

www.shams-pal.org website:

Email: info@shams-pal.org & c_shams@hotmail.com