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A statement issued by the "SHAMS" Center on the International Day for Tolerance

Political Reconciliation as An Introduction for Societal Reconciliation

"SHAMS" Center confirms the necessity of spreading the culture of tolerance as the basic pillar of preserving civil peace and community cohesion. Also, "SHAMS" Center confirms that the killings, assaults, and crimes that have come to haunt the Palestinian society are due to the absence of a culture of tolerance, dialogue and acceptance of others in a society that lacks toleration.

Furthermore, "SHAMS" Center emphasizes the necessity of completing the Palestinian reconciliation, and in particular societal reconciliation, which in turn works to overcome the obstacles of deep division in the Palestinian political and societal fabric. Therefore, "SHAMS" Center demands the need to keep going in the path of societal reconciliation and promote the values of tolerance and compatibility among Palestinian children and people through dialogue visions to ensure coming to a solution to address the problem of Palestinian division and activate reconciliation agreements.

"SHAMS" Center confirms that social Palestinian institutions should bear the responsibility of solidifying tolerance values. Also, it is their responsibility to raise, guide, and consolidate love and interaction between individuals. On the one hand, family upbringing is the first social, cultural and psychological cell that works to



develop and educate the individual from infancy to adolescence, because the child acquires the values of tolerance from the environment in which he lives.

As for school upbringing, its task is to develop concepts of freedom of expression within classrooms, as well as spreading cooperation and exchanging ideas among both students and teachers. In other words, the promotion of this love and tolerance comes only through the curricula and methods of dealing with students within the classroom.

Moreover, **"SHAMS" Center emphasizes** the dire need of having effective social tolerance and positive coexistence among the members of society more than ever. Thus, the principle in social and human relations is that they are relationships based on love, affection, and harmony, even if ideas and attitudes differ. Rather, it is this contrast that confirms the need to adhere to these values and principles that the culture of tolerance provides the individual with a social, cultural, behavioral formula that works to form positive social relations, organize society and maintain its stability, and works to create a social cultural awareness of social relations based on cooperation and exchange between individuals.

It also works to help the individual in bearing responsibility in order to stand up to the problems of social life that it develops the feelings of social sense of the community.

"SHAMS" Center calls for creating a national institution on behalf of the Palestinian Institute for Transitional Justice to have a moral personality and have financial and administrative independence. This reveals the truth about the violations



that occurred during the previous years and informs citizens about it, taking into consideration its remedial measure.

Besides, it sets up mechanisms for accountability and accountability that prevent impunity enabling the judiciary authorities to look into human rights violations. that took place with integrity, independence and transparency. Finally, it is necessary to assure that the standards of the international agreements are ratified and referenced by Palestinian official bodies.