



Palestine Association for Development and Justice PADJ

Annual Narrative Report 2019



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## Introduction

The humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip is the most important challenge facing human rights advocacy in Palestine and the Gaza Strip, especially women and children. Despite these challenges of occupation and blockade that impede the wheel of development, Palestine Association for Development and Justice PADJ launched from the womb of the siege to materialize on the ground and provide quality services targeting the Palestinian community in the homeland in general and in the Gaza Strip in particular, through a set of planned programs to achieve Semitic goals and committed towards marginalized categories to offer the best they can to support and protect their rights and hopes, and strive diligently to open up new horizons that respond to their aspirations for a safe and just future prevailing with democracy and social justice

PADJ still present confident and sincere steps designed to perform its professional function and to serve the Palestinian community in various groups in general and to serve women, children, orphans and people with disabilities in particular. PAD aimed to contribute reducing violence against women and children in the Rafah governorate as well as dealing with its consequences. This is through active and supportive education program. On the other hand, it started its efforts to develop the association's legal protection framework which is one of its strategic goals, through opening the legal clinic that administered by youth graduates lawyers and began working in the field of justice, human rights...

PADJ works in a developmental, social, cultural and relief field, which aims to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian community by empowering the Palestinian family, in addition to meeting the needs of the poor and vulnerable groups of the Palestinian community through charitable and relief assistance. The association works on several Programs including psychological support, supportive education, economic empowerment and a temporary employment program for graduates. It targeted the most marginalized areas of Rafah Governorate, which is considered one of the most vulnerable regions to crises and wars,

Despite the difficulties, the PADJ`s administration committed to play its vital role in the service of society to achieve community justice and equality in our beloved Palestine.

The association has contributed in providing its various program services to nearly 1500 women, men, children and children as direct beneficiaries, through the tremendous efforts of its administrative and technical staff, in addition to many volunteers and trainees, with valuable and urgent directives from the executive management and the board of directors.

#### **Organization`s Brief:**

### **Palestine Association for Development and Justice PADJ:**

The Palestinian Association for Development and Justice PADJ is a non-profit humanitarian organization established in 2017 in Rafah-Gaza Strip, registered in the Ministry of Interior in Ramallah under GA-1176-C, working in the field of development, social and relief.

#### **PADJ`s Vision:**

PADJ aspires to be the leader in development and social justice through planned empowerment, lobbying and advocacy programs that targeting all segments of society to achieve sustainable development and social justice.

#### **PADJ`s Mission:**

Palestine Association for Development and Justice PADJ seeks to institutionalize civil concepts as a sustainable methodology by integrating the Palestinian family and empowering them in the process of development through development programs to reach a civilian democratic community prevailing with social justice.

#### **Organization`s Scope of Work:**

Development, social and Relief

#### **Organization`s Strategic Objectives:**

1. Contribute to alleviate suffering of the Palestinian society by empowering the Palestinian family socially, economically, culturally and legally.

2. Contribute to meet the needs of marginalized groups within the Palestinian society through charitable and relief assistances

### **Organization`s Programs:**

1. Economic empowerment program
2. Psycho-social support program
3. Environment development program
4. Protection and advocacy program
5. Capacity building program
6. Emergency and crisis intervention program

### **Coalitions and Networks:**

1. Child protection working group CPWG- Unicef
2. PINGO Portal membership
3. Sana Network for Protection of Gender-Based Violence GBV – Women's Affairs Center
4. Referral Network for people with disabilities in Rafah – HandiKaps International.
5. Wessal Network – Culture and Free Thought Association

### **Partners:**

1. Gaza Community Mental Health Program
2. Working Women Society
3. Research and Legal Consultation Center for Women Protection
4. Culture and Free Thought Association
5. Women's Affairs Center
6. Aisha Association for the Protection of Women and Children
7. The Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution

## 8. The Palestinian Center for Human Rights

### **Our Pages:**

Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/padj.rafah](http://www.facebook.com/padj.rafah)

### **Contact Numbers:**

Telephone Number: 00972-21532

Mobile Number: 00970-599357286

### **PADJ`s Board Council:**

#### **Board Council and General Assembly Meetings:**

##### **1.1 General Assembly Meetings:**

The Palestine Society for Development and Justice hold on Monday morning 5/8/2019 at the headquarters of the association the second annual general meeting, in the presence of members of its general assembly to discuss and approve the administrative and financial reports for the year 2019,

And choosing the auditor of the association for the year 2020 .

#### **The Elected Board Council Members: The first elected board members:**

#	Member Name	Position	Scientific Qualification
1.	Mariam Mohamad Abed Kasouha	Head of Board Council	B.A in English & a High Diploma in NGO`s Management
2.	Shahed Mohamad Hassan El-Najar	Deputy of Head of Board Council	Bachelor of Law
3.	Hosam Mohamad Shaat	Treasure	Diploma of Political Science
4.	Niveen Mohamad Jaber Al-Massri	Secretary	Bachelor of English
5.	Abeer Hassan Mohamad Wadi	Member	Master in Leadership and Management
6.	Said Ali Sulieman Abu Shawish	Member	Bachelor of Nursing
7.	Abdel Raouf Ashriqi Youssef Barbakh	Member	

## **1.2 Board Meetings:**

Board meetings: 3 Board meetings were held during the year 2019, in which they discussed the association's affairs, association's partnerships signed with other local partner institutions, the distribution of board members' positions for the first elected board of directors, assignments of board members and formation of committees, as well as volunteers, projects, and the financial position of the association. The Board was keen to ensure Integrity and transparency in all procedures and policies related to all the aforementioned matters, in addition to following up on daily work with the executive management.

## **Human Resources:**

For workers in the association, they reached to 23 volunteers: 21 of them whom are working on temporary job opportunities through the "Gaza emergency and graduate employment" project. The workers are distributed as follows: 12 teachers, 2 social workers, 2 activists, 1 case manager, 2 psychologists and 1 cleaner. Others are volunteers distributed as follow: 2 lawyers, 1 project writing.

# Our Achievements:

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## Achievements of activities implemented by the association during the period from January, 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

### Introduction:

Palestine Development and Justice Society implemented an expanded campaign to raise awareness of the total number of targeted groups (4,577) people, including (3375) children, (51) youth, (1151) women, and it is worth noting that among them: (40) Of those injured by the recent events in Gaza, (50) are people with disabilities and their families,

## 1. Projects Implemented through Partnership with other NGO

**1.1 The first project** / "emergency project for the victims of the current crisis in the border areas in the Gaza Strip", implemented by Mind and Body Center in partnership with Palestine Association for Development and Justice as an incubator for the project, funded by the Office of Humanitarian Affairs OCHA,

**Partner:** Mind and Body Medicine Centre

**implementation Date:** from 1/2/2019– 30/6/2019

**Implementation Location:** PADJ's headquarter

**Target Beneficiaries:** 123 victims of the recent crisis on Gaza Strip ( wounded youth of Great March of Restorations); 40 wounded people and 83 women of their families.



### Project's Activities:

- Provide psychological support services by holding relaxation sessions for the targeted groups through mind and body exercises
- Conduct field visits
- Organize awareness–raising workshops for the wounded and their relatives on important topics, including: violence and its negative effects



- Transfer cases to receive various services from service providers according to their needs.

**2.1 The second project /** project “Employment of graduates to improve the quality of education – education .. my future”, funding by the World Bank, implemented by Center for the Development of Private Associations and Implementation of the Save Children Foundation – Palestine, at the headquarters of the Palestine Association for Development and Justice and a group of institutions operating in the Gaza Strip.

**Partner:** Save Children-Palestine

**Implementation Date:** from 26/10/2019-30/4/2020

**Implementation Location:** PADJ’s headquarter

**Target Beneficiaries:** Students from the first to the seventh grade. Parents and representatives of the local community



**Beneficiaries Number:** 145 students and 80 women of their parents

**Project’s Activities:**

- Conduct educational sessions for children from one to seventh grade in the major subjects(Arabic, Math's, Science, English)
- Conduct awareness meetings for parents around the problems that children face, which negatively affect their academic achievement.
- Provide psychological support sessions at the group and individual level for target beneficiaries of children.
- Conducting recreational meetings for children for 2 hours 3 days/ group



## 2. The psychological support and awareness raising program for women in some important societal issues:

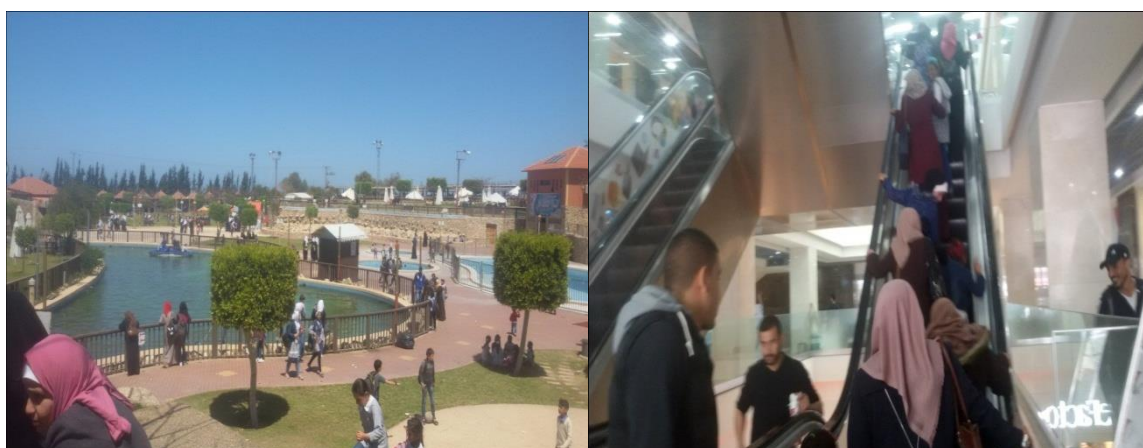
### 1.2 Awareness raising workshop:



Palestine Association for Development and Justice implemented (14) awareness raising workshops, which targeted (771) women and children: (706) women, (65) children. The workshops focused on various topics, including: raising the degree of awareness regarding injury Of breast cancer, and the necessity of early detection, and its importance in achieving recovery. Protection mechanisms and how to deal with children in times of disasters and crises, psychological trauma and its negative consequences, children's speech problems and how to deal with them, enhancing women's political participation and their role in decision-making, election law and the role of women in political participation, gender, extracts from the Personal Status Law, breast cancer And protection mechanisms for women and the importance to early detection of disease, involuntary urination, violence and negative consequences of the phenomenon, electronic extortion within the 16-day campaign against violence against women.

### 2.2 Excursions and entertainment programs organized at the women's level:

With the participation of 55 rural women



PADJ organized an entertaining trip to the most beautiful areas in the Gaza Strip on Thursday, April 11, 2019, accompanied by 55 women from the eastern regions of the Rafah Governorate. It is worth noting that this activity helped to bring joy and pleasure to the hearts of rural women.

**With the Participation of 50 women and girls of disabilities**



PADJ organized, in cooperation with the Aisha Society for Women and Child Protection a recreational trip to the Al-Noor Resort and the Tawfiq Chalet. The trip was accompanied by the category of wounded and disabled women and girls., The participants expressed their deep happiness on this day.

## **Childhood and Activation Program:**

**Winter camp:**

**With the participation of 30 children of both sexes**



PADJ launched the activities of the winter camp which started on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019, and lasted until Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2019. About 30 children from both sexes participated in the camp. The camp focused on integrating children in several angles, including games activation, guidance and awareness, drawing, singing and popular folklore, such as Dabke and Dahiya angels.

The children expressed their happiness at the activities of the camp, and praised the efforts of the activist team in the success of activities.

**Summer camp:**

**With the participation of 100 children of both sexes**



PADJ implemented a summer camp for (100) children of both sexes from the period 6/6/2019 to 7/8/2019. The camp implemented in cooperation with the activist team and case managers from the Ma'an Development Center. This activity comes within the framework of the "Child Protection and Emergency Psychosocial Support for Children and Families in the Gaza Strip" project that is implemented through the family centers of Ma'an Development Center. The camp included several entertaining, activating and singing angles.

The summer camp period focused on training children on life skills, dialogue sessions, group mentoring sessions, and recreational activities. At the closing day focused on presenting a theatrical performance of children's products, in addition to several entertainment activities attended by children and their mothers, the program aimed to alleviate children's psychological pressures. Also, trying to develop their skills and creative thinking,

## Guidance and awareness sessions for children:

In the presence of more than 65 children of both sexes



PADJ organized a workshop entitled "The dangers of explosives and suspicious objects", in cooperation with the Development Work Centre Ma'an with members of the UNMAS team. This is in the presence of 65 children of both sexes on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2019. The workshop focused on several important points, as the UNMAS team talked about the competence and field of its team which consisted of: clearing and destroying mines and explosive remnants of war, the dangers of mines and suspicious objects and providing assistance to victims of remnants of war. In addition to educating children about the dangers of mines and suspicious objects and the need to stay away from and avoid them.

## Training Children on Life Skills:

With the participation of 60 children of both Sexes



PADJ organized a training program on life skills for 60 children of both sexes, in cooperation with the Ma'an Development Center for a full week. The training aimed to refine and develop children`s capacity on life skills. and the training focused on several important topics, including how to present themselves and some important concepts as leadership, self–confidence, and problem solving ...

### **Organizing Recreational Day through Bus` Games:**

**With Participation of 100 Children of both sexes..**



PADJ organized a recreation day, with participation of 100 children of both sexes. The activity organized in cooperation with Ma'an Development Center through the game bus, where the game bus focused on several angles through a qualified activated team. These angels such as games, singing and popular folklore as Dabkah and Dehia.

### **Organizing a Recreational Activities in partnership with Al- Ahly Hospital Team**

**With Participation of 50 Children of both sexes**



PADJ organized a recreational activities, in cooperation with the Psychosocial Support Team from Al-Ahli Arab Hospital. The activities targeted 50 children aged from 8 – 14 years. The work started with children from 5<sup>th</sup> October to 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019, and the psychological support team aimed to conduct psychological interventions with children aimed at alleviating psychological stresses, that resulted from poverty living conditions that negatively affected children.

It is worth mentioning, that the psychological support team has worked to employ several methodologies in its work with children, including the Kabak methodology through recreational and stimulating activities , dialogue and guidance sessions at the collective and individual level.

**With participation of 1630 students of elementary schools in recreational activities:**



The activist team carried out several recreational days targeting at schools which targeted (1630) children, and the meetings were in coordination with many schools: Khawla Bint Al-Azwar Elementary School and Zahrat Al-Madaen School in Rafah Governorate southern Gaza Strip. The activities aimed to alliviet the difficult and painful conditions that children suffering from poverty and crisis prevailing in the Gaza Strip, which negatively affected the psychological atmosphere of students in schools. The activities focused on employing various games in several angles, including the art and free drawing corner, parachutes, hoops, running competitions, and the dolls corner sparkled that received great admiration from children.

## **The Cultural and Arts Field**

### **Children's participation in drama and theater programs:**

**In the presence of 100 children of both sexes and their mothers**



Palestine Society for Development and Justice concluded the activities of the summer camp on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019, the, which was held over several weeks in cooperation with the Development Work Center – Ma`a, which included several recreational activities for children. The closing day focused on presenting a theatrical performance produced by children, in addition to several recreational activities attended by 100 children and their mother.

### **Organizing recreational trips in partnership with the Ma'an Development Center:**

**With Participation of more than 60 children of both sexes**





The Palestine Society for Development and Justice organized in cooperation with the Development Work Center – Ma`a today, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019, a recreational trip for (60) children to the city of Assdaa, the recreational day included many recreational activities and games that inserted pleasure in their hearts

**Organizing a recreational trip for 55 children in cooperation with the psychological support team of Al-Ahly Arab Hospital:**

**With the participation of 55 children of both sexes**



The Palestine Society for Development and Justice organized in cooperation with the psychological team of Al-Ahly Arab Hospital, 13<sup>th</sup> Sep. 2019, a recreational trip for (55) children to a general park. The recreational day included many recreational activities and games that inserted pleasure In children`s hearts

**PADJ Participation in the celebration of the World Orphan Day:**

**With the massive participation of more than 700 participants of children and their mothers...**



Palestine Association for Development and Justice participated in the "Entertainment Day for Orphaned Children" which was organized by civil society institutions in the Child Protection Network, and supported by the Ministry of Social Affairs – Rafah on Thursday, April 18, 2019. during which, energizing and artistic paragraphs that made children happy and happy in the hearts of children Orphans from the village of SOS. The ceremony was attended by more than 200 orphans of children and their parents.

It is worth noting that the celebration enjoyed the participation of a large number of prominent civil society organizations in the Rafah governorate that affected the celebration of the various paragraphs, and where the Palestine Society for Development and Justice participated in a revitalization paragraph for children through the horse team

#### **Medical Education Program:**



Palestine Association for Development and Justice implemented<sup>3)</sup> free medical days, in cooperation with Al-Ahli Arab Hospital. These activities targeted (296) of the children aged between six months to four and a half years. The children were examined according to the criteria of the health program.

It is worth noting that several comprehensive examinations of the general health status of children were done to compare the degree of child development according to his age. Base on that results, (35) of children were transferred to be included in

the six-month feeding and health program implemented by the Arab National Hospital.

### **Creating an Effective Referral System to Service Providers Institutions:**

Palestine Association for Development and Justice created an effective referral system in cooperation with several partners from institutions and service providers in order to guarantee the beneficiaries 'access to basic social services, where 70 cases were transferred as follow:

- A child was referred to social affairs to help him get treatment from the good people
- Transferring 1 wounded youth was to obtain disabled aids from the Ministry of Social Affairs
- Number of 35 children of low weight were transferred to Al-Ahli Arab Hospital for integration into the nutrition system and receiving treatment and vitamins for a period of six months through doctors and specialists
- Number of 22 women over the age of 40 were referred for early detection of breast cancer
- Number of 10 children aged between 3-14 years were transferred to Al-Ahli Arab Hospital to assist them to perform operations for them such as adenoids, almonds, and tubes in the ear
- Transferring (1) children to the Palestine Children's Relief Society to help him conduct neurosurgery through foreign medical delegation.

### **Legal Protection and Advocacy Program:**



The legal clinic team within the Palestine Association for Development and Justice organized a dialogue meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2019, and the meeting was attended by the director of the society a. Maryam Ksouha, the lawyer of the legal clinic and a group of reconciliatory persons and mukhtars who are majors in arbitration law. The attendees discussed several important issues, including: the formation of a community mediation committee that works under a legal framework in order to make community mediations and interventions to solve some societal issues, in order to mitigate the high degree of divorce among young couples in the community.

The reconciliatory persons and Mukhtars expressed their eagerness to participate in this framework, and their keenness to develop in this regard.

### **Awareness Campaign in the Legal Field:**



### **With Participation of 150 Persons of Youth, Women and men..**

The legal aid team within PADJ association organized a series of legal awareness workshops, which aimed to increase the degree of legal awareness in some important legal issues related to the Personal Status Law. The workshop targeted (150) graduates of both sexes and women, which focused on the following most important legal issues : elimination in Palestine and its types (ordinary judgment, represented in legal, administrative and religious judgment), types of courts (statutory, legal, special), principles and system of litigation in Palestine, the courts,

their origins, their competencies and what their work is (Magistrates Court, Appeals, Supreme Court of Justice, Court of Cassation, its specializations and grades, the alimony suit, its types, and the competent courts.

### **Providing Legal Advice/Consultations through the Legal Clinic Team:**

The Legal Aid Team of lawyers conducted (17) legal advices or consultations in cases related to statutory law related to rights, lands and property.

### **Training and Capacity Building Program:**



PADJ's volunteers participated in several training to develop their capabilities, These training targeted about 12 volunteers of both sexes during the year of 2019. The most important themes of trainings are: training on development projects management, first-aid psychological training, self-concept, communication, life skills, conflict resolution and negotiation skills ,, security and safety Digital, reproductive health, adolescence and personal hygiene, training service providers on gender-based violence, early marriage and legal rights, which covered important topics including (basic concepts: discussing gender issues and power, discussing violence and human rights Definition of gender-based violence, physical, psychological and social effects of gender-based violence, communication skills with survivors / confidentiality and the right to choose and informed consent, challenges and

opportunities in dealing with the issue of early marriage, a profile of early marriage cases management, case studies, the ability of Service providers on imparting knowledge and dealing with cases of early marriage.

### **Participations in workshops, meetings and conferences:**



Palestine Society for Development and Justice participated in many meetings, workshops and conferences during 2019, which discussed various social, psychological, legal and development issues, the most important of which are the following:

- The expanded workshop for women’s affairs staff, which was entitled “Raising the marriage age to 18 years and over
- A meeting to discuss the issue of raising the age of marriage to 18 years and over within the Sana Network
- A workshop entitled "A world without torture" organized by the Gaza Mental Health Program

### **Field Visits:**

PADJ’s executive management hold several field visits to a number of international and local institutions, in order to coordinate and cooperate jointly and open horizons for funding. Among the most prominent institutions visited:

### **On the Level of International Institutions:**



List of international institutions visited by PADJ's administration team: Children of War – Holand, Islamic Relief – Britain, Save the Children–Palestine, European Union Office, Rehabilitation Association for the Disabled, Gaza Mental Health Program, Women's Affairs Center, Center for Legal Research and Consultation and the Protection of Women, Graduate Women Association, Turkish Commission, Spanish Commission Office, Refugee Affairs Office–Gaza, Aisha Association for Women and Child Protection, Development Work Center–Ma`a, Mind and Body Center.

### **On the Local Institutions Level:**

PADJ's administration team visited several local institutions as follow: Gaza Community Mental Health Program, Christian Youth Association, Al–Dameer Association, Aisha Association for the Protection of Women and Children, Center for Consultation and Legal Studies, Working Women Association, Ma'an Development Center, Center for Women Affairs, Union of Health Work Committees, Culture and Free Thought, Yabous Charitable Association, Environment Association, Physically Handicapped Society, Kuwaiti Hospital, Abu Yousef Al Najjar Hospital, European Hospital.

## Emergency and Crisis Relief Program:



Under the patronage of the Palestinian Prime Minister, Dr. Muhammad Shtayyeh, the Palestine Association for Development and Justice participated in the implementation of the Eid clothes project for orphaned children in the Gaza Strip, which was under the supervision of the Arafat Society for Culture and Humanitarian Care and with the participation of civil society institutions. This is conducted in the presence of the Minister of Empowerment and Entrepreneurship Engineer– Osama Al–Saadawi who personally supervised and follow–up the technical procedures of the project , And the society distributed (50) purchasing vouchers to its beneficiaries of orphans and poor children from the total campaign.

Minister Al–Saadawi listened to the different views of the heads of partner institutions and the beneficiaries of the children and their families. In her role. Maryam Ksouha – Director of the Palestine Development and Justice Association expressed her many thanks and gratitude from this kind gesture from the Palestinian National Authority represented by Mr. President Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen that added joy and happiness to the hearts of children in the Gaza Strip, and indicated the need to intensify efforts in this direction of future sustainable development



projects aimed at enabling them economically. The activity has permeated distributing various gifts to orphan children who benefit from the project.

**Palestine Association for Development & Justice**

**Head of Board Council**