

CHILDREN'S VOICES

ABU DIS CHILDREN WRITE ABOUT THE WALL.

"It is the cancer which is eating the Palestinian land from the north to the south and from the east to the west. It is hurting and cutting the West Bank and SEPARATING THE STUDENTS FROM THEIR SCHOOLS"

"Look, they are uprooting the trees that we used to play under. We used to go there and the priest used to meet us. I used to hang my swing on one of the trees and relax. Now it is gone. Why is it that every child in the world can enjoy their childhood while mine has been destroyed? I would like to repeat: I want my childhood back; I WANT MY CHILDHOOD BACK."

Year 7 children in Abu Dis, September 2005



PLEASE JOIN US

Name

Address

.....

.....

Email

Tick as appropriate:

- I would like to join the work of Camden Abu Dis Education Links
- I would like to join Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association and enclose £10/ £5 (concession)
- I would like to make a donation of £_____ to the Education Links group (please make cheques payable to Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association)
- I would like to make a standing order to Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association

My bank account number is.....

Sort code is.....

Bank.....

Bank address

.....

To the bank manager:

Please make a monthly payment of

£_____ (sum), with the first payment on

_____ (date), to CADFA at

Co-operative Bank, sort code 08-92-99,

account no. 6518 0334.

RETURN TO:

Education Links,
Camden Abu Dis Friendship
Association,
PO Box 34265,
London NW5 2WD

SUPPORT THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION IN PALESTINE



JOIN
CAMDEN ABU DIS EDUCATION LINKS

EDUCATION IN ABU DIS

Abu Dis is a small Palestinian town in the suburb of Jerusalem. Traditionally strongly connected to Jerusalem for both work and study, it has been cut off from the main part of Jerusalem since 2002 by the illegal Separation Wall built by the Israeli occupation forces.

Palestine is a young society with a large proportion of its population under 20. As work opportunities have been restricted by the military occupation, between 60 and 70% of the population are now unemployed. Military closures and curfews have led to a rise in poverty, and young people's hopes have focused on gaining qualifications. The importance of education to every family is high.



CURRENT PROJECTS

Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association is building links between people across Camden and people across Abu Dis. The Education Links group includes teachers, lecturers, governors and others in Camden.

Our projects include:

- Supporting Abu Dis schools and colleges with teaching material and computer equipment
- Linking students and teachers in Camden and Abu Dis through email and letters so that they can learn about each other's lives
- Fundraising for a visit to Camden for a group of Abu Dis students and teachers.



Abu Dis has 3 secondary schools and 10 primary schools. It also houses the main campus of the Al-Quds university. The huge student population has a difficult time, however, completing the education required within the school year.

Curfews and closures have cut days out of every student's time in education. Checkpoints make it hard for students to get to school on time.

The Wall, combined with the pass laws that divide the west of Abu Dis (and Jerusalem) from the centre and the east of the town, is stopping students and teachers from getting to and from their studies.

