



## The Palestinian Diaspora

### Diyar's Twelfth International Conference in Bethlehem

#### Introduction

Following its academic and contextual traditions, Dar al-Kalima University College of Art and Culture is planning a conference in 2015 that focuses on the Palestinian Diaspora. This event is part of a series of academic programs launched in 2005 on the topic of "Shaping Communities in Times of Crisis: Narratives of Land, Peoples and Identities".

The idea of having a conference on the Palestinian Diaspora is indeed pertinent. The studies on Diaspora, migration and identity formation outside the "mother land" are increasing in number and scope. In the last ten years several papers, doctoral theses and books were published focusing on certain aspects of the Palestinian Diaspora. The conference aims at providing a forum in Palestine for the sharing of such research, for interaction and dialogue among Palestinians in Palestine with these recent contributions to scholarship, and for assembling results into a comprehensive monograph accessible to a wider public.

The participation of scholars from different parts of the world (e.g., Palestine, Europe, USA, Latin America, Africa and Asia) will bring to the event not only an international scope, persuasions and perspectives, but will foster an ecumenical, interdisciplinary, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural environ, dialogues and philosophy.

The conference will be held from August 10 – 14, 2015, and will consist of five days of lectures and dialogue, and also of socio-political, economic and religious context evaluation.

This program wants to gather a group of scholars, social scientists and anthropologists, artists and experts in migration, religious and political studies of diverse scholarly, denominational, and national backgrounds.

The program will be conducted in English.

#### Title

The Palestinian Diaspora

#### Aim

To spark an intra-Palestinian and international dialogue on the issue of Palestinian Diaspora

#### Goals

- To map the Palestinian Diaspora especially in Europe and the Americas
- To provide a pertinent forum of discussion on the interplay between the Palestinians in the Diaspora with their host countries on the one hand and their "mother" country Palestine on the other
- To analyze the impact of the Diaspora on the formation of Palestinian identity and the impact of context in historic Palestine on the identity of Palestinians in the Diaspora.



- To share with the rest of the academic world some of the papers and recommendations of the conference
- To explore new readings of the Diaspora midst of new sociopolitical contexts
- To encourage some interdisciplinary analysis in relation to Palestinian land and identity

#### Themes

- Palestinian identity in the Diaspora
- Palestinian migration, refugees and “trans-nationalism”
- The role of the Palestinians in their host countries: social, political, economic, religious and cultural
- The relationship of the Palestinian Diaspora with Palestine
- The organization of the Palestinian Diaspora
- The theme of the Palestinian Diaspora in art, film and poetry
- Memory, Narrative & Return in the Diaspora
- Personal accounts, auto-biographies and diaries of Palestinians in the Diaspora

#### Call for Papers

We invite the submission of papers on original and unpublished research on any of the related topics. Please note that:

- Papers are in English
- The only accepted format for submitted papers is word document
- February 28, 2015: paper/panel submission deadline (Max 500 Words)

Please submit to: [events@diyar.ps](mailto:events@diyar.ps)

- March 30, 2015: paper accept/reject notification