



Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association

CADFA

Charity 1112717



Trustees' Annual Report 2019-20





Najah Ayyad / Afana

We were extremely sorry to hear of the loss of dear Najah, a very old friend of CADFA who was enthusiastic and central in the Camden-Abu Dis twinning from the beginning. At one period she was employed by CADFA as Abu Dis Women's Activities Co-ordinator.

We knew Najah from the first CADFA group visit to Abu Dis in April 2005. From that time onwards, very many of our visitors and volunteers have met her and remember her warm welcome to her house, her husband Younis' beautiful garden, her lovely cooking, her plants, her knitting, crochet and other creative activities with local women, her interest in learning, her ever-present notebook and her writings.

Najah was extremely well-connected in Abu Dis – she had family connections to most of the main Abu Dis families and was a well-known activist on Palestinian issues. She was keen to share her wide knowledge of what was happening with CADFA, our visitors and volunteers, because she wanted people to understand and protest against the human rights violations that Palestinians had been suffering from the Israeli occupation for the whole of her life.

Najah was central in the production of early CADFA women's magazines which came out in Arabic and English and included stories of women under occupation. She contributed stories and writings for several of our books including 'Stories from our Mothers.' She helped with a CADFA youth film project and took the lead on a short film "The New Map of Abu Dis."

Najah was sadly ill for several years and passed away on 25th April 2019. She is very much missed. We send our very best wishes to her children and grandchildren and remember our friendship with her very warmly indeed.

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CADFA's objects

As amended at AGM 21st November 2013

CADFA's charitable objects are to promote human rights (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent United Nations conventions and declarations) and respect for international humanitarian law in Palestine by all or any of the following means:

- Raising awareness of human rights and humanitarian issues relevant to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in general and to the situation of Abu Dis in particular;
- Researching and monitoring abuses of human rights and infringements of humanitarian law in Abu Dis in particular and Palestine more widely;
- Educating the public about human rights and humanitarian law;
- Promoting public support for human rights and the observance of humanitarian law;
- Working to eliminate abuses of human rights and infringements of humanitarian law in Abu Dis in particular and Palestine more widely;
- Working to obtain and promote redress for the victims of human rights abuses and infringements of humanitarian law in Abu Dis in particular and Palestine more widely and their families;
- Providing support to and relieving need among the victims of human rights abuses and infringements of humanitarian law and their families, in Abu Dis in particular and Palestine more widely.

CADFA

CADFA came into being during 2004, was constituted as a charity in June 2005 and gained recognition as a charity in January 2006. CADFA links people from the UK to people in Palestine - in particular to Abu Dis in the Jerusalem suburb – in order to raise awareness of the serious human rights situation in Palestine and encourage people to work for human rights and respect for international humanitarian law. There is more information about CADFA and our activities on our website cadfa.org and our Facebook

CADFA Education

Towards the end of 2016-17, Erasmus+, who had awarded us our new EU-funded project Maan-Together, told us that they needed us to make ourselves into a limited company in order to give us the grant. We therefore created the company '**Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association Education**' in order to manage our big grants. Its objects are the same as CADFA's, its directors are CADFA trustees, and its money is managed by CADFA and this is shown in our accounts below.

Dar Assadaqa

Dar Assadaqa is the centre that we support in Abu Dis, Palestine – Set up in 2006 as Dar Assadaqa ('Friendship House'), it was re-licensed by the Palestinian Higher Council for Youth and Sport under the name 'Dar Assadaqa for Youth Exchange' as in Palestine its distinctive contribution is seen as the way it brings young people from Palestine and other countries together (especially the UK), through exchange visits to and from Palestine and other activities with a focus on twinning and communication to people outside Palestine such as our own CADFA links groups.

Café Palestina

Café Palestina was set up as a social enterprise (CIC) outside CADFA and is a separate organisation. But its aim is to support CADFA. The Café is a wonderful venue for CADFA and a much better home than we ever have had as it provides us with work space, a public face and a lovely events room where we run a programme of regular and occasional events as well as fundraisers which help us to keep going. It brings in new interest and new members all the time. We can spread information to new people through our film nights, speakers, fundraisers and open meetings. We can now offer workshops for school children, college students and others both in the café and its event room.

CADFA's trustees

2019-20

Elected at AGM was on 13 July 2019

Chair	Daniel Guedella
Vice Chair	Mike Fletcher
Secretary	Cristina Piccoli
Treasurer	Hugh Wallis
Trustees	Maha Rahwangi
	Sumiya Hemsy



CADFA trustees' report for 2019-20

An extraordinary year

This was an extraordinary and active year for CADFA. We worked hard to link people at grassroots level in Palestine and the UK, bring Palestinian voices to every discussion and create enthusiasm on both sides to learn more of each other and to maintain contact. We drew on our long experience of running visits and events, workshops and campaigns and worked with many people and groups across the UK and Palestine.



This map shows the places (many of them new to us) where we took our Palestinian visitors to schools, universities, public events in just the second part of the year! During the year, our network of partners expanded in a very happy way and each of our visits/ activities led to new connections and further activities and possibilities for the future.

It was an extraordinary year also because of the context. The first part of the year was the time of Brexit negotiations, a UK general election in which Israel/Palestine featured, strong pressure from Israel on Jerusalem, the E1 area and the Jordan Valley encouraged by Trump's 'Deal of the Century', and by the end of the year we were within the coronavirus pandemic. At the beginning of the year, CADFA had just finished its (presumably) last EU-funded projects and had for the first time for at least ten years, no external grants. This faced us with uncertainty, and we worked hard to find a way to keep on track. We were proud of the success of our many activities and thought we had found a way to survive, continuing our trademark exchanges and events, building new partnerships, improving our systems and noting achievements.

We were pulling together the happy lessons from the year – discussed below - when we found ourselves, along with the rest of the world in the new world of Covid-19. On 7th and 8th March, our group of Palestinian women visitors to the UK joined us in a demonstration in Trafalgar Square and the CADFA celebration of

International Women’s Day – still allowed in Britain at that point – then returned home straight to quarantine in Palestine.

Shortly we were in lockdown in both countries, with our homes in Café Palestina in Camden and Dar Assadaqa in Abu Dis both closed, our health professionals’ visit to Palestine planned for the end of March cancelled, fundraising for another children’s visit to the UK suspended, and the many events and activities of 2019-20 seeming a distant memory.

A year of many exchanges

	CADFA visits to Palestine	CADFA volunteers from the UK in Palestine	CADFA visits to the UK
April 2019	General visit to Palestine		
May 2019			
June 2019	General visit to Palestine	Volunteer with the summer media camp	
July 2019	Arabic-learning visit to Palestine	3 volunteers with the summer youth camp	
August 2019		3 volunteers with the student summer camp cancelled (*)	
September 2019			
October 2019			
November 2019			Girls’ football visit
December 2019			
January 2020			University students’ visit
February 2020	General visit to Palestine		
March 2020	Health professionals’ visit cancelled (**)		Women’s visit

(*) cancelled because of demonstrations and trouble in the Abu Dis area.

(**) cancelled because of Corona virus.



Reviewing 2019-20

Our new home in Café Palestina, its support and the encouragement we got from the ongoing expanding interest in our work, made a real difference to us this year. After several years of worrying about whether we would get external funding for our visits, we took a new approach this year. We decided that we were unlikely to get more EU grants and other funders' doors did not seem open to us. Brexit was looming in any case, and after several tries to get EU funding for our girls' football visit, each time getting an email saying "Success! - You are on the reserve list!", we decided to stop chasing those grants.

We held out our hands to other groups to help us to fund the girls' football visit, and following a slow start, found that many were enthusiastic and we did very well! We learned the importance of a video crowd funder, used raffles and events, and above all appreciated our growing network of friends and partners across the country.

We had learned a lot from many years of running formal youth visits and the models we had developed for our exchanges were very strong and continued to inform our programmes this year. However, without external funding we did not have to keep within others' categories and we could involve local twinning and

Palestine support groups in our student visit and run a women's visit for older women.

As we have become more experienced in exchange visits in particular, we have noticed that many of the skills are hidden: a good exchange makes complicated things appear smooth. Partners who are not fully involved often go away with the impression that 'this is easy to do'. We decided to work to train our partners more than before in all stages of exchanges, from fundraising to policies, procedures (including careful checking of risk management practice), so together we could run visits, evaluate and disseminate. Issues of various sorts arose of course (including the wish of groups new to us to donate money to individual participants; of new groups outside Camden wanting to twin with Abu Dis organisations - at every turn we find more things to discuss with new partners), so we decided that we will in future run partner meetings/ trainings separately from the organisation of specific exchanges.

This year we took the time to get many of our procedures on-line (from applications to volunteer or join projects to systems and evaluation forms) and continued with our interest in media for many parts of our work. We added media days to our projects to make sure participants had time to work on dissemination, and a number of short films were made particularly from the visits to the UK. At the very end of the year we began to use Zoom to keep talks, on-line events and cross-country communication going.

Progress on objectives set for 2019-20 (in brackets)

(1) In order to strengthen our organisation and make it sustainable.

- *To increase our membership by another half* (increased by less than half)
- *To properly cost our visits to Palestine and to Britain* (this threatened to put the costs of visits to Palestine up a lot so we put prices up just a little)
- *To increase our income from fundraising events* (yes, we had a lot more)

(2) In order to to strengthen our work and reach more widely

- *To work with partners across London, Palestine, the UK and, if possible, other parts of Europe too* (we concentrated on Palestine and the UK and we made new partners particularly through the visits to the UK; we were very pleased that Al Quds University and the Higher Council for Youth and Sports want to work with us)
- *To fundraise for and run women's and student visits from Palestine to the UK* (yes)
- *To fundraise for and run a girls' football visit from Palestine* (yes)
- *Run several well-run visits to Palestine* (yes)
- *To increase the number of workshops and events run at Café Palestina* (yes)

- *To bring Dar Assadaqa back to life after the quietness of 2018-19 (we set up three summer camps of which two ran* and had many activities in Dar Assadaqa during our visits)*
- *To improve our use of media and social media (media project at Dar Assadaqa in 2019 summer, media days in our visits to the UK, participants produced short films, blog posts etc. We did some work on the website, updated our resource pages, kept our Facebook up to date, did our first Zoom conference at the end of the year)*
- *To publish the book 'A Year in Abu Dis' for the Interpal-project period 2017-18 (We did not manage this)*

CADFA exchanges to Palestine

We ran four group visits to Palestine during the year, in March, June, July and February. Three of them were general fact-finding visits on a typical CADFA model (though each was different as we listen to the interests of the people going). The July visit was a special one for us: an Arabic-learning visit which combined the opportunity to learn Arabic (at two levels) with visits across the West Bank and language partners to help in Abu Dis.

It was an intense and deeply moving trip, and wonderful to be introduced to spoken Arabic language. along with finding out more about Palestine.

I really enjoyed the visit. It gave me a real insight into the daily lives of Palestinians and a taste of the local dialect.
(visitors' evaluations)

We hoped that this would be the first of a number of themed visits. We planned to have a visit specially for health professionals in late March, but had to cancel this owing to Corona virus. When possible, we would like to resume plans for another Arabic-learning visit and a cooking visit which will link Palestine's pride in its food to a human rights fact-finding visit - and also the interests of Café Palestina to those of CADFA.

Our visits continued to be very well-reviewed. They are human rights visits, led by Palestinians, based in Abu Dis at Dar Assadaqa with accommodation at our flat in Abu Dis (and for bigger visits in other rented flats) and packed with experiences and discussion. Visits were separately planned but all involved day trips to other parts of West Bank and Jerusalem for meetings with groups and knowledgeable individuals and programmes made to fit the interests of groups.

Following the visits, most visitors were involved in feedback meetings at CADFA ("Let's Talk About Palestine" meetings) and many at other organisations that they were part of – choirs, Labour Parties, women's groups and other. Visitors were often

involved in subsequent CADFA visits to the UK, arranging meetings for Palestinian visitors and continuing to be involved.

CADFA volunteer projects in Palestine

We organised opportunities for several people to volunteer in Palestine this year. We are still looking back to our EVS projects several years ago which funded four young people for three months at a time to work at Dar Assadaqa and local Abu Dis organisations. We no longer have that funding, but we continue to try to find ways for young people in particular to volunteer even if they have little money. We have not entirely solved this problem. This year, we asked volunteers to do some fundraising as well as to work on Dar Assadaqa projects, and some of them were able to do this. People in Abu Dis are keen to have interested 'internationals' around and would like us to have volunteers all the time – Dar Assadaqa, the local university, local schools and organisations are interested in help with activities, English learning.

This year we recruited groups for three different summer camps in Dar Assadaqa: a media camp for young people aged 14 to 16 (June), a summer camp for younger people from 9 to 14 (July) and a university students' camp (August). We had good feedback from the volunteers and participants on the first two and were particularly pleased to be given short films by the young people who worked so hard in the media camp. However the coincidence of the arrival date of the three volunteers joining the student camp and a strong period of local unrest led us to cancel their arrival on this occasion: obviously disappointing for the volunteers from the UK and for the Palestinian students who were looking forward to working with them, but we have to keep health and safety at the top of our concerns.

We would like to acknowledge the help of a further volunteer from the UK who was in Palestine when she met up with Dar Assadaqa and jumped in to help with English classes. We are open to applications to volunteer in Abu Dis in the future – when Corona permits!

Football 4 Freedom – Girls' Football Visit to the UK

A real highlight of the year was the wonderful girls' football visit which brought eleven girls and four leaders to the UK between 24th November – 2nd December. It was very exciting to us to implement a plan that had been in place from 2016, when Abu Dis Sports Club had begun a girls' football training session each week and we and our visitors to Palestine were excited about this. It took us longer than hoped for

to bring the girls to the UK, but when it happened indeed the outcomes were better than hoped for, and we ended the visit very optimistic, with high hopes of building on the work done and organising a next youth visit in summer 2020 .

Fundraising plans in 2016 had begun with a group of women visitors, but they were unable to raise the sums needed, so we put in an application to Erasmus+ to run this visit, in co-ordination with partners in France and Bulgaria. We were disappointed and tried again three times – each time reaching the reserve list but not being funded. In 2019, we decided that we would somehow do it without Erasmus. We set out to do this via friends, partners, a leaflet, a short video, crowdfunding, events and appeals in both countries – and though a slow start by the summer made us push the date of the visit back, but in the end our appeal reached many generous people and we were extremely encouraged that we could make this happen without the EU funding. The fundraising stage involved many people that we knew and people that we didn't know – there were so many good ideas: we had several showings of a Bristol football team's film about women's football in Palestine, women's and girls' football teams did tournaments, people raised money for boots and shirts or referred us to small trusts ... We set up a committee involving our main partners. The co-operation at this stage was actually a joy.

We made new partnerships in order to run the visit. Palestine groups in Merton and in Waltham Forest became involved, as well as our old twinning-group friends in Pendle-Beit Leed. Each of these groups contacted others in their area in order to build a good programme, while we ran central leadership trainings and made sure that our safeguarding responsibilities would be shared and honoured. Other groups joined in as the programme developed – Knighton and Presteigne (building a new Radnor Palestine group), our new partners in Bedford-Al Walaja (see students' visit below) hosted a match, and many groups in each of the areas took an important role, from schools to sports clubs to youth groups to mosques to trade unions; we hope to remain in touch with many of these.

The visit was ten days long. We wished we'd had a few more days, as the programme was really packed, and we wanted to say 'yes' to more ideas for activities than we had time for. However, the girls were already away from home and school for two weeks, as the journey to the UK took them two long days at each end.

Once here, the visitors were in London for most of the time, staying in Camden and based at Café Palestina – we love having our own place for workshops, meals and public events! – but each of our main partners had two days of the programme time for activities in their areas, and the group divided into two for several days so each group got the opportunity to meet people in the countryside and small towns before returning for the final London days including two football tournaments, in Walthamstow and Camden.

The girls prepared presentations while still in Palestine; we put these together with a handout for audiences and the girls enjoyed the public meetings and the positive feedback that resulted. There were many high points in the visit, including a street activity in Camden, wonderful visits to schools, a meeting with the Mayors of Presteigne and Worcester, some good football matches and trainings, watching a women's football match (though it was very cold), visits to football stadiums and to many interesting places across the country.

We were very glad to pick up our work with schools again. This included Camden schools that had had twinning relations with Abu Dis schools for some time. One of the leaders was a teacher from one of the Abu Dis twin schools, so it was particularly nice that she and some of her students could visit their 'twins' in Camden. It also included many new schools across the country where the visit of young Palestinians was a particular surprise. The football theme worked well, as often there were opportunities for sport as well as showing the presentation and talking to students which was a rich experience for students from both countries.

There was plenty of football! And a chance for other sports such as netball which was new to the Abu Dis girls. The public events varied in content though always included a chance for visitors to show their pictures and talk, and these were a way to involve people of different ages who were interested to meet young Palestinians.

Café Palestina was the base for the visit– and we had our evaluation there on the final evening. It was amusing to ask the girls how many people they had met and watch them stretch their minds to a big number and suggest 50! We knew that in just one of the schools they had been to, they had met more than that, and they had been to 13 schools, played many matches including two tournaments (in Walthamstow and Camden), taken part in eight public events – and certainly met and affected several hundred people if not more. The visit was a massive opportunity for the visitors, for the partners and new friends on this side, for the many people who met the girls, played football and heard them speak.

Feedback from UK visit helpers included the following (here they were asked what they had enjoyed about the visit):

*“Hearing the girls speak for themselves
Reaching a huge range of people
Everyone had fun”*

“The excitement surrounding the visit. The interaction between the girls and their local counterparts. The information conveyed by the girls about the reality of their lives under occupation and their lack of freedoms and rights which children in the UK take for granted. The positive image left by the girls about Palestinians being normal people with normal hopes and aspirations.”

"I really enjoyed being part of the project and meeting people who care about the situation in Palestine across London.

**the love and care of the Palestinian leaders, and their relationship with the girls, esp Nibal*

**good variety of activities;*

**the girls were amazing - very well-behaved and positive*

**range of people involved*

**organisation with many people involved;*

**impressive fund raising before they came;*

**voice of young people to schools and other community centres;*

**I was doubtful about the protest but I saw how much the girls really felt positive about this.*

**I saw the girls develop more confidence throughout the week, and tell more deep stories about themselves.*

**i recognise what a challenging task organising all these events and different people was, and in the most part it was very impressively achieved."*

"Fun, successful, met objectives of raising awareness in local community"

Feedback from the girls included (most was written in Arabic and translated)

This was a useful and sweet experience. We managed to visit new places and learn about new cultures. We visited famous historical places in London including places we used to see only in photographs. We visited the wonderful British countryside in Pendle and enjoyed the beautiful nature and the good winter weather.

It was a nice trip with old friends and new friends; we tried new things. In these ten days, I knew what freedom means, in other countries not in mine.

The most interesting thing for me on this visit was visiting schools – it was a great opportunity to learn about the school system there. They are like our schools in the number of students but the schools were bigger and they had more resources. Students in all the schools wore a uniform. There are age differences – their year 11 is our year 12 (towjehi). I enjoyed playing football in the schools. Not many people knew about Palestine. We talked about our country and the difficulties we face under occupation.

I was talking about travelling to Jerusalem to students who didn't understand anything about the situation in Palestine. When they heard about what is happening, they were sympathetic with us.

I enjoyed visiting historical places in London: Westminster, Big Ben, the South Bank of the River Thames. I also enjoyed playing football and famous stadiums and watching a women's football match. We enjoyed being with local trainers at different places during our visit. This visit was really helpful for our English.

Some of the photographs taken and short videos made during the visit are on the blog <https://football4freedom.blogspot.com/>

The visit stimulated a lot of interest and left us with many things to follow up and new things to do, Particularly because we had done this ourselves with the help of our friends and no funding body, we were full of pride in what we had achieved.

Palestinian Voices Matter: Students' visit to the UK

When we got to the end of the football visit, which had been delayed by a month as fundraising was initially slow, the student visit and then the women's visit were just around the corner and seemed much too soon! However, tickets had been bought and arrangements were nearly in place, so we had to go straight on from one to the next. How glad we are that we did. Each of these visits had its own strong character but each one had good visitors, good participants from the UK and produced exceptional results.

We began the planning for this year's student visit with students from several (mainly London) universities and put out an application for students from Al Quds University. Students helped to make a short video which we used for a Crowdfunder; there were events and cake-sales but less was raised this way than hoped. However, we had already some good applicants from Al Quds University who had made a good, short video about the problems faced by Palestinian students – we were determined to find a way to bring them!

We solved this by making links to Palestine groups all over the country including twinning groups and university groups interested to hear from Palestinian students. Our key partner was the Bedford-Al Walaja twinning group who sponsored two students and the Mayor from their partner village. It was a pleasure to work with our Bedford friends and our friends from Al Walaja prepared useful presentations that contributed added to the experiences contributed by the other visitors. In January-February 2020, we brought six students, the CADFA co-ordinator from Abu Dis, the Mayor of Al Walajah and the Head of Students' Activities from Al Quds University to the UK for two weeks to allow for a lot of activities. We took young Palestinian voices to universities and to town groups in Derby, Sheffield, Leeds, Chester, Leicester, Bedford, Northampton, Cambridge as well as several parts of London.

We had an impressive group of young people from both Palestine and the UK taking part in the visit. We began with a useful induction workshop in London which helped to bind the participants into a very positive speaking team. We had a good programme, a good support team, a handbook, presentations by the students, a handout prepared for audience, a series of tasks to do (including learning about the places visited and talking about human rights) s and we set out in a minibus for our tour outside London. Here each day typically involved time visiting a new place,

visiting a university, and talking to students and staff, a public meeting and on-going review of how it was going. In Sheffield, Palestinian students were excited to join a street event in support of Palestinian human rights.

These were purposeful and energetic days and the Palestinian students met hundreds of people including university students, members of twinning and Palestine groups and the general public. It was a fantastic experience for hundreds of people overall, with sharing and learning going in so many directions. We would like to record our thanks to the very good people we met all over the country – helpers, speakers, hosts and now friends.

During these days, the Trump 'Deal of the Century' was finally unveiled. This ignored Palestinian claims, needs and human rights; indeed it had been constructed with no Palestinian input at all. This was an important focus of many of the discussions across the country.



The final part of the visit took place in London, with an opportunity to see the city as well as visits to London universities. We invited others to join the students in a sponsored walk with "Palestinian Voices Matter" banners and leaflets, hoping to deliver a letter to the Foreign Office – but they were unable to take it from us so it reached them via a post box! We had a media workshop that produced a short film - and a student twinning conference. Each of these was very successful. The students and all the visitors spoke well and there were many good discussions. They

contributed enthusiastically to activities and were very interested – sparking great interest and involvement in others.

The conference at King's College was almost sabotaged by a huge storm that shut down London – but still students from many of the universities that the Palestinians had visited managed to come along to discuss how best to make on-going use of this visit. Students from the two countries discussed ways to stay in touch and decided to work to build both a new student visit to Palestine and a future student visit from Palestine.

Once again, we finished with a wonderful event at Café Palestina which allowed students from both countries and representatives of twinning groups to do a report back on the visit. This was followed by a positive and useful evaluation session. Students had enjoyed meeting people, taking part in so many activities, felt it was important and "can't wait to do it again." Most said that the visit had exceeded their expectations and that they had learned a lot: one student wrote...

"I learned soooooo very much more about my own country (Palestine), I learned a lot about England, I learned more and more about how to reach people about this case, I learned a lot and a lot of other things, it will be so hard to fill things here, I can say that this was the best experience I have ever had of this kind"

We collected as much feedback as we could from the many meetings that the students went to. Much of it was as follows...

I just wanted to say it was fantastic to meet the people from Palestine yesterday, in (my town).

Thanks so much for sharing your experiences of life..... So interesting.

I think the 'story' about the flag was so touching to all present.

I think you are all brilliant to keep going, to keep learning, to live your lives under such terrible circumstances....

I want you all to know that people do care and want things to change....It's hard to know what to do to help but many want to help.

You have made a big impression on me, everyone seemed so positive and full of life.....

Not to mention your great language skills. I'm sending positive thoughts and love to you all...

From CADFA's point of view, this visit was significant not only in enlivening the student link work but in supporting and encouraging a number of twinning and other groups working on Palestinian issues.

Some of the photographs taken and short videos made during the visit are on the blog <https://cadfastudent.blogspot.com/>

Palestinian Voices Matter: Women's visit to the UK

Our third visit of Palestinians to the UK was also an exceptional success. The visit built not only on our years of running visits, but on many years of CADFA women's links in particular. This time, the visitors six women from Abu Dis who had all previously been involved in different ways in CADFA's work there, some of them for many years: Dr Fadwa Al-Labadi, professor of gender studies from Al Quds University and a trustee of Dar Assadaqa had hosted our visitors and led many groups of women to the UK; Fathea Abu Hilal last came to London with CADFA in 2007 but has done lots of work with CADFA visitors and volunteers in the UK; Roudaina Hamdan, also a trustee of Dar Assadaqa, was involved in our teachers' exchanges in both directions in 2016 and teaches at a school twinned with a Camden school. ImShadi, Eman Salah and Abeer Eriqat have also been involved with CADFA and Dar Assadaqa. This was a great group: they had the experience and knowledge to speak about Palestinian women in many contexts, and they immediately formed a solid group with the CADFA women in Camden, while extending their interest and links to many good people across the country.

This visit, like the others, was not funded except by our efforts, but it was special for us in that there was a joint effort in making the visit happen. The women travelled on Easyjet from Aqaba which was a cheaper route. They helped with their travel expenses. CADFA's women's links in London continued their stall at the Brunswick Centre with the aim of helping with women's visits, but unfortunately this year Saturdays seemed to have many wild winds and rainstorms, causing the stall to be cancelled very often. We ran a sponsored walk but unfortunately because of the number of activities just before the visit we did not make much money from this. We ran a raffle and did appeals at the many public events that the women attended. We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who helped.

The visit began in London with an induction session at Café Palestina, visits to Camden women's centres and a short introduction to London. A cooking session at Café Palestina which worked as a cookery lesson for others was particularly memorable. The group then split into small groups, travelling to the following towns where they met women from Palestine groups, women's centres and other organisations and contributed: Truro, Salisbury, Worcester, Reading, Hastings, Chichester, Whitstable and Bradford.

CADFA had made a handbook, a handout for meetings and the visitors had prepared presentations. Talking, cooking together, visiting and comparing built strong interest on both sides. There were many public events – some were International Women's Day Events for women in particular, but many of them were mixed. There were many

useful exchanges in small and large meetings and an acknowledgement of how much people had learned. There were some reports of the visit in local papers. The outcomes were much optimism and plans for new groups, new partnerships and future activities.

The women regrouped in London for a number of final events. These included a Palestinian Voices Matter walk/demo going into the middle of London where the Palestinian women spoke on the stage at Trafalgar Sq in the Million Women Rise IWD event; talks at SOAS, at Crossroads Women's Centre and a media workshop. It climaxed with a really lovely International Women's Day event at Café Palestina with memorable contributions from the UK too, and from Basma (Palestinian via Lebanon) as well as from our women friends.

Evaluations from the Palestinian women included:

"It was important... It was good to share international women's day with women there... I learned to express myself and describe the situation in Palestine... I found the women there to be active and serious..."

And from the UK:

"There were lots of good points. Pre-comms were clear and the group arrived on time and in good form. The women were happy to be here and responded positively to everything they faced. The meetings went very well ...(our event was) well attended. The women did an excellent job, presenting to audiences and informing them about life in Palestine. We gained support and made useful connections."

"We really enjoyed having the women visitors with us and hearing their moving and brave accounts and their steadfast approach. They are lovely people. It would be good to know how they get on."

The very end of the visit was difficult as Palestine took coronavirus seriously earlier than the UK and our friends rushed back, some worrying about whether they would get across the border to see their children and went back straight into quarantine. However, overall, the visit was extremely positive and led to strengthened links – online meetings between women in Britain and Palestine and plans for future links both cross-country and between CADFA and many new partners in the UK.

Human rights in Abu Dis, Palestine 2019-20

For years, the annual reports of CADFA and the monthly human rights reports on which they are based have listed the human rights violations against people in Abu Dis and Palestine and shown the pressure that people are under.

Palestinians in the West Bank, trying to lead a normal life, concerned with their work and their families' education and future, are forced to struggle daily for their right to be where they are, for their children's right to be in school, for the right to marry whom they want to, for the community's right to put in needed infrastructure for water, electricity or sewage, for their right to see their family members who have become separated from them whether as refugees (and their right to return denied) or on the other side of the Separation Wall, their right to travel round their country and live and work where their parents always have.

These violations continued in 2019-20 in a way that became routine, but it is true to say that over a number of years, the steady ramping up of pressure that each year has left people in a worse position at the end than at the beginning of each year.

The human rights they should have are under such constant threat that our Palestinian friends sometimes do not remark on this. Several generations into occupation, the abnormal has become routine, if not normal. While forced to apply for permission to travel a few miles to the centre of their city or forced to pass dangerous checkpoints – if allowed –

on the way to visit family members, or being used to the grieving when a child is imprisoned or the celebration when a prisoner is freed, or walking daily past the Separation Wall that cuts people off from land, hospital treatment, family, livelihood, sometimes our friends report human rights violations only when the most dramatic things happen: the Israeli military come into town and ransack houses, arrest or wound someone or throw tear gas into the university, for example.



Huthaifa Badr's mother during a demonstration for his release from administrative detention, while he was on hunger strike

But the very set-up in Abu Dis and Palestine under Israeli occupation and systematic expansion is itself a human rights violation of the first order: more and more land has been and is being stolen, local people have been forced into second-class status in their own land to settlers from outside; all sorts of pain has been inflicted on individuals and families, for generation after generation. The Israelis occupied the West Bank in 1967, along with the Gaza Strip and Jerusalem (which latter they immediately annexed), imposed military law on the Palestinian population and began building settlements on the occupied land for their (armed) civilians, which is against international law. And they did not stay still – since that time, more and more settlements, military areas, Israeli-only roads, confiscation orders, house demolitions, deportations and to go with them (from the beginning), human rights violations at every level in a context of strictly enforced apartheid.

Our Palestinian friends (specially youth and children) sometimes see more clearly that this is abnormal when they leave their country. “You mean, there are no checkpoints? What do you mean, you have no IDs?” This year we saw some young visitors to the UK so happy with a lifting of the immediate oppression that after a few days in the UK (which is no paradise), the showing of a film of daily reality in Palestine – which they acknowledged was their daily reality - brought most of them to tears.

And our human rights reports, reports from Palestinian visitors and visits to Palestine over the past few years have brought many of us to tears too. These are punctuated with tales of separation, brutality, humiliation and have shown the difficulties and downright misery to which our Palestinian friends and their families are regularly subjected.

But even this abnormal situation is moving on. The Bedouin in the areas immediately around Abu Dis have been issued with eviction notices so that the Israeli settlements can expand even further into the E1 areas. The settler invasions into the Al Aqsa mosque compound increase. The pressures on the residency rights, the house demolitions and pressures on the people of Jerusalem mount. The complexity of the blue/green ID system shows in many families of Abu Dis and Aizarieh. Where in 2007, we were appalled at our first recounting of the army in schools in Abu Dis, by 2019-20, the school children appear to be a regular target and 19 days were lost to army actions and tear gas around the boys’ schools.

The international level is of relevance to what happens in Israel/ Palestine. The Israeli government now has direct encouragement from the US to push ahead with its colonisation of the West Bank. Last year, Trump moved the US Embassy to Jerusalem, recognising it (in defiance of international law) as the capital of Israel.

This year, the US has recognised the Israeli occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights, issued its pro-Israeli “Deal of the Century” and is looking approvingly at the prospect of Israel annexing the Jordan Valley, building more settlements and possibly annexing big areas of the West Bank. So Israel is pressing ahead.

Calendar of 2019-20 in Abu Dis.

April 2019 – People made a solidarity tent and weekly protests in Abu Dis in support of the hunger strike of Palestinian prisoners protesting against new devices put around jails to spy on telephones. They were worried about their health. They achieved promises to put landlines in jails and improve health services in general in jail.

May 2019 – protests in Abu Dis against the Israeli war against Gaza during which 30 people were killed. The beginning of Ramadan: a major issue was concern to get to Al Aqsa Mosque: many cases of Israelis withholding permissions and shutting terminals – people using ladders to climb the Separation Wall to reach the Mosque.

June 2019 – Trump recognised Israel’s claim to Golan Heights (part of Syria captured in 1967). Many invasions to Al Aqsa Mosque by Israeli settlers and police.

July 2019– Two prisoners from Abu Dis who were being held on administrative detention (imprisonment without trial) went on hunger strike: Huthaifa Badr and Ismail Khalaf. A protest tent was set up in Abu Dis in solidarity with the prison hunger strikers).



Summer 2019 – People in Abu Dis saw the Israelis taking new steps in preparation for an Israeli settlement on Abu Dis land on the west and putting more pressure on the Bedouin to the east to leave their villages so that the settlements can expand. There were many protests and the town was full of clashes, night-time military invasions and imprisonments. The summer saw more of the problems with water that have become more and more frequent in the past few years. People in Abu Dis have water to their area on certain days of the week only and store this in tanks on their rooves, but there is not enough. Meanwhile they are living in sight of the Israeli settlements of Maale Adumim, Qidar etc where there are water sprinklers for lawns and flowers and people have swimming pools and no lack of water at all.

August 2019 – On Thursday 15th, terrible news came in parts from Jerusalem. First came the news that that two boys had been shot and killed by Israeli soldiers at Bab al-Silisileh, near the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. A Palestinian guard from Al Aqsa Mosque had also been shot in the feet. Every family with children was afraid, checking on their children and appalled that this could happen to any Palestinian child. This led to dramatic demonstrations in the whole area – there were clashes, tear gas and soldiers everywhere all day and the following night.

Later the fathers of Naseem Abu Roumi (14) and Mohammed Al Sheikh (16) from Aizariya (the town next to Abu Dis), were contacted by the Israelis and asked to go to the Civil Department and questioned for several hours. They were not given a clear picture of what had happened to their sons. Then video from the incident was released, showing that the two boys had threatened a soldier or soldiers with knives. The local community were still outraged: they believed that the boys could have been disarmed by the soldiers and not killed.

It later turned out that Mohammed Al Sheikh had been seriously wounded but not killed. He was taken to hospital and kept there under guard. His family were not directly told about this.

For the next two days there was a general strike in the whole area in protest about what had happened and clashes with the army. Thirty-three people in the area were wounded including a member of staff of the Red Crescent who received a rubber bullet directly in his head. He and nineteen others were sent to hospital. Many had wounds to their lower bodies from live ammunition. The army clamped down on the whole area, putting checkpoints around the area of Abu Dis, Sawahreh and Aizariyeh and stopping and harassing drivers, taking away some cars with Jerusalem plates, demanding fines from drivers.

September 2019 was the beginning of the new year in Al Quds University and schools and also the beginning of many army invasions of the school/ university area. A new settler put a mobile home on the (E1 area) land east of Abu Dis near Qidar settlement (it is still there).

November 2019– The Israeli army attacked the Bedouin who live in Jabal al-Baba and Abu Nuwar (villages east of Abu Dis, on land that the Israelis want for the E1 settlement) and destroyed houses, a school and electricity installations.

December 2019 – The Israelis demolished two houses in Khalit Abed, the part of Abu Dis currently on the west of the Separation Wall.

January 2020 for Palestinians around Jerusalem had an issue of electricity. The Israeli government was putting pressure on the Palestinian electricity company partly over money and partly preferring an Israeli electricity company to control supply. The Palestinian company in

fact buys electricity from Israeli power stations (nuclear, hydroelectric) while solar

Abu Dis numbers 2019-20	
49	people from Abu Dis were arrested by Israel
20	young people under 18 arrested
9	School students arrested during an army invasion of their school
4	Prisoners held on administrative detention(with no trial)
25	People on average from Abu Dis were in Israeli prisons at any one time
??	Thousands of shekels fine paid by people released from prison – we don't know the total but most were given very large fines and the total will be huge.
69	House were invaded by the Israeli army during last year.
130	People wounded by the Israeli army during demonstrations
2	People seriously wounded with live ammunition
18	School days lost for all the boys' schools because of army activity
10	University days lost for all students because of army activity.
4	Houses destroyed by the Israeli army (two in Khalit Abed, Abu Dis and two in Abu Nuwar)
1	school destroyed (?) (Abu Nuwar) in Bedouin areas and two in Abu Dis on the west of the wall in Khalit Abed

power schemes installed by Palestinians have been repeatedly attacked by Israel. In January, the Israelis started to cut electricity for hours at a time. This went on for about a month and a half.

February 2020 – This was the beginning of the new semester at schools and the university (which run roughly Sept – Jan and Feb – May): once again there were many school invasions by the Israeli army.

In February, Trump’s Deal of the Century was finally released, after planning that included no Palestinians and suggesting that Palestinians would have only a segmented and partial control over a small part of Palestine (see map). No Palestinian was happy with this.



March 2020 – Coronavirus crisis led to a strict lockdown for Palestinians (which seemed better planned and better equipped- with testing/ tracing, PPE than the UK). This did not prevent Israel from moving on with its attempts to extend the settlements, take over more land or prepare infrastructure towards the annexation its politicians were now openly discussing. Israel started work on a new road that would keep Palestinians out of the E1 area, and also on a new part of the Separation Wall that would enable a settler-only road to be kept way from Palestinian villages.- another strong indication of the apartheid situation being built in ever more firmly.

Freedom of speech and human rights

Campaigning work for human rights needs people to be able to tell the truth. In a previous annual report we included a letter that we wrote to Camden Council urging them not to accept the IHRA definition of anti-semitism which conflates legitimate criticism of Israel (which we make ourselves above) with anti-semitism (which is racism and not at all the same thing). We pointed out that we had ourselves had a venue withdrawn by a local community centre on these spurious grounds. Unfortunately, Camden Council and very many other public bodies including universities, did accept this definition. Meetings started to be cancelled, speakers quizzed, organisations smeared. So this definition has as expected, led to a further layer of work that has to be done by human rights campaigners in order to raise their voices about what is happening in Palestine.

In the last few years, a series of actions of supporters of Israel, attempting to affect people's understandings and also their will to act to support human rights in Palestine has underscored the importance to them of the international community's view of the situation in Israel/ Palestine. Much has been written elsewhere about the pressure on members of the government, opposition parties and groups working in the community of the work of 'the lobby' (eg in the Al Jazeera film of this name). An important area (which affects us as constituents in a Labour Party area) has been the creation of an issue about alleged anti-semitism in the Labour Party. The importance of the latter was to discredit the policies of the leader of the party at that time and also to rebuild a consensus of approval of Israel which has become damaged by increased public knowledge of its systematic human rights violations against the Palestinians.

When a general election was declared in in the December 2019, smears about anti-semitism became a general election issue – these have now been discredited from the leaking of a Labour party report after the party lost and the leader resigned. When a new leadership campaign was started in the Labour Party, the very first thing that happened was that the Board of Deputies (BOD) offered all candidates support conditional on their signing a number of 'pledges', including accepting the IHRA definition and accepting the authority and judgement of the BOD (and organisations that think their way) for example on definitions of racism. There

have been articulate protests against this by Jewish groups that think in other ways.

CADFA's concern remains human rights, and the ability to freely tell the truth (in a non-inflammatory way) about what is happening in Palestine. We wanted to remind parties that human rights is the issue in Palestine as well as in every other place, and we wrote an alternative list of pledges which we sent to all candidates for Labour party leadership and leaders of other parties in Westminster (see appendix for these pledges).

Human rights advocacy work and campaigning

The human rights situation in Abu Dis and Palestine during this year is discussed above. CADFA has an educational role, raising people's awareness of these issues as well as directly campaigning on current issues during the year.

Our home in Café Palestina was a great help in awareness raising, bringing in new people who were interested in the issue and providing a room that was very useful to us. Through our activities at the Cafe we could give people the taste of Palestinian culture (food, handcrafts, literature and other), meetings with people from Palestine and an understanding of the human rights issues. The Café houses our Palestine library, built of books that people have donated, as well as a place to display our own literature: leaflets and books. We often found that people came in for one reason (possibly coffee!) and then became interested and joining our events, some of them visiting Palestine with CADFA groups and returning to contribute their own experience and skills to our work.

We were very active at the Cafe, and the long list of events this year included weekly film showings, Palestinian and other speakers, workshops, public events on Palestinian themes and art exhibitions. We began a series of feedback meetings after our visits to Palestine called "Let's Talk About Palestine." We had a number of events directed directly at CADFA members, including a meal before our AGM in July, a birthday party in October and a stimulating workshop for CADFA members on being involved in our work on 11th January. Other events such as our conference in July, our student conference in February and International Women's Day event in March drew in new people as well.

During the year our Palestinian speakers included Professor Mazen Qumsiyeh from the Palestinian Museum of Natural History in Bethlehem, Laila Hassan from a women's embroidery co-operative in Hebron, the authors of a Palestinian

guidebook to Jerusalem (Wujood) and Talal Abu Shawish, author and educator from Nuseirat Camp in Gaza. The café was a base for our Palestinian visitors when they were in London and each time we had visitors we had several opportunities for people to come to the Café and meet them including a big final event each time. These events gave people a current picture of life in Palestine and encouraged people to join in work for human rights there.

We took awareness-raising and campaigning on human rights in Palestine out beyond the Café, both in Camden and further afield. The women's links group kept up the weekly stalls at the Brunswick Centre unless the weather was especially ugly. Students from a number of universities joined us to organise events in preparation for and during the student visit from Palestine in Jan/ Feb. We had a series of eye-catching street events for which we prepared with banner workshops –including a demonstration for children's rights in Palestine (when the children from Palestine were with us) and two sponsored walks called "Palestinian Voices Matter" (during the students' and women's visits) which caught the eye and interest of many people as we went from Kentish Town to Westminster; each time we distributed about 1000 leaflets and had many useful conversations.

We took our work across Camden and across the country (see above). We provided speakers for school, universities and other community groups. We held many public meetings which informed and encouraged people already interested in Palestine but in most cases also brought in new people.

Our links across the country brought CADFA new members who then followed up our events – such as "Palestine for Beginners" that ran in 2020-21 – and also new initiatives in the Café. We would like to make a special mention of the art exhibition 'Palestine: Thoughts and Impressions' that was created by the Bedford-Al Walaja group and would undoubtedly have had a larger audience but sadly was put up just at the time that the UK was beginning to take Coronavirus seriously.

We kept up with posts on Facebook and updated our website (we know we have very much more to do with Twitter and Instagram). We found that our leaflets and books were still wanted and useful. We made new materials for schools and public meetings. We wrote to our Camden Councillors and invited them to our events.

The issues that we took up with policy-makers this year were visa equality, the pressures on Palestinians in Jerusalem, Huthaifa Badr (see petition in Appendix), Ismail Khalaf (August), free speech on Palestine (see above), Trump's 'Deal of the Century' and an appeal to release prisoners in the context of coronavirus.

We had letter-writing campaigns and petitions to policy makers at several points in the year. We wrote very many letters to our MP Keir Starmer but feel we should

record that he did not once answer us. We wrote also to the Foreign Office. We asked our members to join us in petitioning for the freedom of hunger strikers on administrative detention.

Objectives for next year 2020-21

This year, corona virus faces us with a unique problem. We start the year with our usual activities on hold and our UK staff on furlough; our Abu Dis co-ordinator, trustees and volunteers are present still. We don't know how long this is going to continue.

Our objectives for 2020-21 must be to keep focus, keep going, keep the human rights reports from Palestine coming, keep UK people in contact with Palestine and continue with our usual activities at the point that we are able to. We hope to improve our communications systems and use of social media. We aim to extend our work with partners and continue to build our membership.

The following is a list of some of the activities that we hope to run as soon as we are able to.

- A programme of exchanges run with the Al Quds University
- A youth workers' exchange to the UK run with the Higher Council for Youth and Sports
- A children's visit, a women's visit
- Follow up our last exchanges with university twinnings, school materials, a women's magazine, etc
- Strengthen our work with new partners in both countries
- Training sessions on Palestine for Beginners, Speaking Out (for Palestinians), running exchanges with Palestine (for groups in the UK)
- More media work (products including video)
- Complete the book that we started

Financial report 2019-20

This year we were worried about the lack of grant funding (as we said in our annual report last year), but we managed to keep going and improved our financial position across the year. With the help of members and friends we did much better than previously in encouraging other donations and our membership income rose by 12%.

Our last big Erasmus project (Ma'an-Together) finished in 2018-19, but we received the project grant for this in April 2019. We therefore repaid the loan that had helped us through 2018-19. This was our last big grant funding this year, and for activities in 2019-20, we were dependent on fundraising with the help of members: appeals, crowdfunding, event income, small stalls and membership standing orders as well as income from the Café.

We have many people to thank for their efforts, including several people who set up birthday fundraisers in benefit of the football visit and to Anthony Walsh who ran a marathon to help. We had active groups raising money and supporting each of our visits; in particular the three Palestinian visits to the UK. The appeals and fundraising for the Palestinian visits to the UK were encouraging. There were imaginative ways raising money –events, leaflets, raffle, appeals, crowd funders. We raised money through events such as film nights and music. Partner groups from across the country raised money towards the visits that brought visitors to their areas. Our general donations were down if compared with general donations from the previous year, but this year, people were donating and working hard to raise money for specific projects and donations to CADFA overall were up by 150%. Growth in membership and donations meant income from Gift aid also went up by 28%.

The football visit raised very much more than the appeals for the students' visit and the women's visit, which ran at a loss and were subsidised by the football visit money. This was partly no doubt because girl footballers caught the imagination but also because the visits were very close and there was much less time to raise money for the others. We saved money on flights to Britain by buying tickets via Aqaba which this year were cheaper. Our members, friends and partners helped by hosting visitors in their homes. Café Palestina helped with catering for each of the groups. Our women's stall, film nights and regular music events helped to make these visits happen.

This was the second full year of our work in Café Palestina and we felt the effect of its contribution to CADFA. Not only did the Cafe give us accommodation and a base for many events, it also presented and spread interest in our work and brought us in new memberships. The Cafe made income from flourishing Arabic classes and donated this to CADFA: many of our visitors to Palestine found us via the Café and there was a steady stream of small donations to CADFA from the Café.

Last year we decided to cost our visits to Palestine more realistically to take into account the costs of staffing, on-going accommodation etc; this meant that we had to put the prices up a bit. We planned five visits and ran four (the health professionals' visit was due to leave on 23rd March, the first day of UK lockdown, so had to be cancelled). Overall these made a contribution to our core costs.

At the start of the year (having taken into account payments and income that related to 2018-19) we had -£11,518. With the income and expenditure from the whole year taken into account, we finished the year with a base for the coming year of -£1265, an improvement of over £10,000. We were encouraged by our achievement in managing such good projects without external funding and had many plans for the following year. At the end of the year – as with most of the world – these plans were thrown into turmoil by the Coronavirus crisis. We had to cancel planned visits to Palestine and furlough our London workers from mid-March.

Commented [T2]: We're still expecting another £500 from the Womens visit, so this would give £765 if that arrives. My view is we should draw a line at this point and include it in 2020/1 (assuming it comes).

Commented [ND3R2]: Yes, agree

Commented [ND4R2]:

Thank you

The CADFA Trustees would like to thank the many individuals and groups that have helped us during 2019-20.

We would like to thank Erasmus+ for the final payment for a project completed the previous year. We had no other institutional help in the UK in 2019-20.

We would like to thank long-standing CADFA staff and volunteers: Nandita Dowson for leading CADFA in London. Abdulwahab Sabbah for leading our work in Abu Dis. Hugh Wallis for his work on the accounts. Sheila Brightley for keeping the books. Frances B. for her help on the website, Annika for co-ordinating the women's stall and Stuart, Nina, Jane, Emily, Natalie, Carmel and others for regular help there. Les, Anne and volunteer musicians for more wonderful music nights, Cristina for the film nights, friends who have helped with accommodation for visitors including (in North London) Michael and Alison, Ed and Shosh, Carmel and Jonathan, Annika, Geoff and Nancy who have helped many times as well as our friends outside London.

A big thank you to many individuals across the UK and Palestine for efforts of many sorts which enabled this year's exciting programme – in particular for the Palestinian visits to the UK, and to our partners in all the many places in the UK and in Palestine where we went with our visitors. Without you all, this would not have happened, and we and they are very glad that it did!

Appendices

Appendix 1 - CADFA's accounts 2019-20

CADFA ACCOUNTS - 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020

	2018/9	2019/0
CADFA Charity		
Opening Balance	16,637	-10,309
Income		
Project grants - via CADFA Edu	0	19,261
Project grants - Other	0	0
Other project Income	2,787	36,219
Membership	19,739	22,139
Donations	10,564	8,583
Visits to Palestine	17,387	29,245
Income generation (events, stalls etc)	10,309	6,375
Gift Aid	8,896	9,445
Total Income	69,683	131,267
Expenditure		
Abu Dis running costs	7,108	7,909
Camden running costs	16,903	24,483
Staff costs	44,032	47,042
Project expenditure	16,044	22,453
Visits to Palestine cost	8,259	13,555
Income generation costs	4,284	4,425
Total Expenditure	96,628	119,868
CADFA Charity Outturn	-10,309	1,090
Opening Balance	16,637	-10,309
Total Income	69,683	131,267
Total Expenditure	96,628	119,868
Surplus (Deficit) Carried Forward	-10,309	1,090
Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	-26,946	11,399
Reconciliation		
Account Balance at 31st March 2019	676	1,802
Loans Outstanding	-10,000	0
Late Transfers In	0	0
Late Transfers Out	-985	-712

Total		-10,309		1,090
CADFA Edu				
Opening Balance		0		0
Income				
Project grants		0	19,261	
Total Income		0		19,261
Expenditure				
Transfer to CADFA Charity		0	19,261	
Total Expenditure		0		19,261
CADFA Edu Outturn		0		0

BALANCE SHEET

	As at 31st March 2019 £	As at 31st March 2020 £
UK Bank Balances	-2,404.42	-3,087.93
Cash in hand or in transit	2,095.27	4,178.01
Less: Loans	-10,000.00	0.00
	-	-
Net Assets	£10,309.15	£1,090.08
Surplus at 1 April	16,636.57	-10,309.15
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year	-26,945.72	11,399.23
	-	-
Surplus at 31 March	£10,309.15	£1,090.08
Represented by:		
UK Bank Accounts	-2,404.42	-3,087.93
NIS held in Abu Dis	879.84	2,466.90
Jordanian Dinars held in Abu Dis	2.50	1.97
US Dollars held in Abu Dis	3,041.69	1,655.28
Balance on Camden Cash account	-2,192.61	-443.34
Balance on PayPal account	363.85	497.20
Loans to CADFA	-10,000.00	-
	<u>-10,309.15</u>	<u>1,090.08</u>

Appendix 2 - Message from Abu Dis sent for CADFA's 15th birthday celebration

Message from Abu Dis for CADFA 15th birthday, which we're celebrating tomorrow. Thank you to all of our members and friends for your contribution over the years

Greetings to you all

Today we are celebrating together 15 years of twinning and friendship between Camden and Abu Dis, 15 years of knowing and shared work and continuous communication which allowed us to meet hundreds of friends and to give an opportunity to hundreds of the two countries to meet together and to work under the banner of human rights for everybody and balanced relations and respect for each other.

From our point of view in Abu Dis and from the instant that this initiative began, we were happy to have this sort of communication, and our organisations and individuals were encouraged by this unique work. For us, it was continuing in our own direction which was to keep fighting for our human rights and to stop the violations which the Israeli military machine and their rules and racist system are imposing on everyone here.

The aims you communicated with us fitted with what most Palestinians are looking for, that is to spread awareness about our daily life and what we are facing under occupation, to make campaigns and pressure policy-makers by and reaching all sectors in British society so people will learn more about the Palestinian issue both as a national issue and as a human issue.

The last years have seen some memorable points which stay in the minds of hundreds of people who joined this initiative. We still remember the first communications and the first group visit in spring 2005 which opened the road for us to meet each other, and allowed us to see our country through your eyes and to watch your impressions – how astonished people were when they saw the violations, the

checkpoints...That visit encouraged us all to go forward and to make us feel the need to send the facts and encourage you to go forward as our messengers and take it wider.

Also we remember our first visit to London and the huge effort which was made by the twinning volunteers at that time, providing the opportunity for us to talk, to reach so many organisations and individuals in autumn 2005. These first visits were the foundation for our common project and what came after it, creating CADFA as a charity which had the initiative to create Dar Assadaqa and after that Shehadeh Mohsen Clinic in Abu Dis.

It was obvious from the beginning that we were working out a new way of communicating and building relations. There had been initiatives from other organisations previously which had different agendas from ours. For us, the Camden link was a people's initiative which did not have the political agenda that those other initiatives had had. We built CADFA together, we designed it and chose the route together, and, most importantly, we shared the aims to end the unjust situation coming from the ongoing Israeli violations against Palestinian human rights.

We remember that this link started as Israel was working against time to complete their Separation Wall and to isolate us completely from the outside world. But the links opened us a wide window to communicate with the outside world....

We remember the strong position that CADFA had in the very hard situations that we passed through in the past few years, during the wars on Gaza, during the continuous invasions of our town, our schools, universities. CADFA was there through 2007, 2008, 2009 ...2011, 2014, times of particular violations against Palestinians, when CADFA worked hard to raise the pressure on policy makers to try to stop the violations and try to show the world what violations Israel was doing against international law and human rights.

We remember the beautiful initiatives which CADFA took towards the families of the children held in Israeli prison, adopting their cases and

communicating with their families, supporting the hunger strikers through their families, sending encouraging letters of solidarity to their families.

We won't forget the individuals who have made a special mark on our work but have now passed away, people like Salah Ayyad and Najah Ayyad. We remember these people who helped in our work and activities, who hosted and guided our visitors on both sides. Their touch and their contribution is still there and well-remembered.

CADFA's way of communicating and way of building twinning links is its own style, different from other twinning links in the Britain-Palestine network and different from the links built from Palestine to other parts of the world. It was from people to people and gave an opportunity to people whose voice could not reach abroad without this grassroots relation which CADFA adopted as a way of work. It allowed families of people killed by Israel, prisoners, wounded ones, women, students, teachers, doctors, lawyers to take part... It allowed us to go to schools and communicate with young people, and we believe that young people's awareness and interest will shape the future of solidarity work with Palestine. We can see a difference between the beginning and where we are now in relation to the awareness and knowledge and pressure for change.

For us in Abu Dis, we find that CADFA has been building a whole archive about our story from the beginning. CADFA collected stories and faces which even our memories can't manage to hold in CADFA's books of our Nakbeh and Nakseh stories and stories of our refugees and individuals and families who have suffered over the years. CADFA's leaflets which show the size of the damage that the Israeli occupation has caused to everything on our land, and the monthly human rights reports that have documented the daily violations for years. CADFA adopted particular cases and issues through letters, street demos and different public events.

We think it is important that CADFA should keep going– it is still a serious need against the unjust situation that we are living in here, and against the Israeli determination to keep going in violating human

Commented [T5]: ?

rights. We need to keep the hope alive in our coming generations that there will be an end for these violations –we know completely that the way is still long. Having a strong CADFA gives us hope and a light inside this dark tunnel and tells us that there must be an end, and there will be an end.

All respect for all people who are supporting CADFA and making sure that it is continuing, and our best wishes to all of you.

Appendix 3 - Seven pledges for human rights

We sent these to Labour Party leadership/ deputy leadership candidates and leaders of other parties before the general election

- 1 I aim to uphold the universal declaration of human rights (and following declarations) both in my dealings within Britain and other countries.
- 2 I aim to uphold international law including international humanitarian law both in my dealings within Britain and other countries.
- 3 I understand that human rights law applies equally to people of all backgrounds, ethnicities etc.
- 4 I stand firmly for equal rights and against racism. It is not acceptable to argue that one people is superior to another because they are from a different ethnic group. I therefore stand against any hierarchy of racism.
5. I will do all in my power to end the systematic persecution of one racial group by another (such as apartheid in South Africa) - this is seen by the United Nations as a crime against humanity.
6. I support the work of people who are working for equality, fighting racism and aim promote human rights and respect for international humanitarian law.
7. I uphold freedom of speech and believe that people have the right to describe a situation of persecution where it exists.

Appendix 4 - Huthaifa petition text

Huthaifa Badr is in imminent danger and is threatening to stop even water tomorrow if he is still kept in jail with no trial. The issue is...

- 14 months in prison with no trial
- 3rd renewal of 'administrative detention'
- Not allowed visits
- Has never seen his little girl
- Sick with leukemia, and still suffering from childhood burns on his body
- On hunger strike since the beginning of July – only taking salt water
- Has lost 13 kilos weight
- Put in isolation by the prison authorities
- Now not allowed access to his medicines or to get dressed (according to his lawyer who saw him on 19/7/19)

Huthaifa Badr from Abu Dis has been on hunger strike since 1st July along with other people held without trial under 'administrative detention.' He is both protesting at his own imprisonment and calling for an end to the practice of 'administrative detention,' which is a widespread practice. Israel holds hundreds of people in its jails as 'administrative detainees' at any one time.

We are writing to you both in concern for an individual and to raise the wider issue of Israel's use of imprisonment without trial. We are asking for your urgent intervention in the case of Huthaifa Badr and to call for his freedom from jail as he has had no trial. We are also asking for you to express your concern to Israel about its use of administrative detention as it is of course a human right to be brought to trial if there is an accusation of wrong-doing and to be allowed freedom if there is no case to be brought.

**CADFA | 53 Fortess Road London NW5 1AD | cadfa.org |
[@camdenabudis](mailto:contact@cadfa.org) | contact@cadfa.org**



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 March 2020

**Charity no
(if any)**

1112717

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2020.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Peter John Richard Day

Date:

23/02/2021

Name:

Peter John Richard Day

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Retired Chartered Accountant

Address:

53 Uffington Road

London SE27 0NE

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Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Large empty rectangular box for providing details of items to be disclosed.

CADFA ACCOUNTS - 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020

	2018/9	2019/0
CADFA Charity		
Opening Balance	16,637	-10,309
Income		
Project grants - via CADFA Edu	0	19,261
Project grants - Other	0	0
Other project Income	2,787	36,219
Membership	19,739	22,139
Donations	10,564	8,583
Visits to Palestine	17,387	29,245
Income generation (events, stalls etc)	10,309	6,375
Gift Aid	8,896	9,445
Total Income	69,683	131,267
Expenditure		
Abu Dis running costs	7,108	7,909
Camden running costs	16,903	24,483
Staff costs	44,032	47,042
Project expenditure	16,044	22,453
Visits to Palestine cost	8,259	13,555
Income generation costs	4,284	4,425
Total Expenditure	96,628	119,868
CADFA Charity Outturn	-10,309	1,090
Opening Balance	16,637	-10,309
Total Income	69,683	131,267
Total Expenditure	96,628	119,868
Surplus (Deficit) Carried Forward	-10,309	1,090
Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	-26,946	11,399
Reconciliation		
Account Balance at 31st March 2019	676	1,802
Loans Outstanding	-10,000	0
Late Transfers In	0	0
Late Transfers Out	-985	-712
Total	-10,309	1,090
CADFA Edu		
Opening Balance	0	0
Income		
Project grants	0	19,261
Total Income	0	19,261
Expenditure		
Transfer to CADFA Charity	0	19,261
Total Expenditure	0	19,261
CADFA Edu Outturn	0	0

BALANCE SHEET

	As at 31st March 2019 £	As at 31st March 2020 £
UK Bank Balances	-2,404.42	-3,087.93
Cash in hand or in transit	2,095.27	4,178.01
Less: Loans	-10,000.00	0.00
Net Assets	<u>-£10,309.15</u>	<u>£1,090.08</u>
Surplus at 1 April	16,636.57	-10,309.15
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year	-26,945.72	11,399.23
Surplus at 31 March	<u>-£10,309.15</u>	<u>£1,090.08</u>
Represented by:		
UK Bank Accounts	-2,404.42	-3,087.93
NIS held in Abu Dis	879.84	2,466.90
Jordanian Dinars held in Abu Dis	2.50	1.97
US Dollars held in Abu Dis	3,041.69	1,655.28
Balance on Camden Cash account	-2,192.61	-443.34
Balance on PayPal account	363.85	497.20
Loans to CADFA	-10,000.00	
	<u>-10,309.15</u>	<u>1,090.08</u>



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 March 2020

**Charity no
(if any)**

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Signed:

Peter John Richard Day

Date:

23/02/2021

Name:

Peter John Richard Day

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Retired Chartered Accountant

Address:

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London SE27 0NE

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