



December 2016

With best wishes from the AEI in Bethlehem...



AEI's latest news:

Financial campaign

Support AEI's commemoration of 50 years of occupation, June 2017

Help us to distribute this information about two financial campaigns:

In Germany:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7G7NeFv9EN8>

For the crowdfunding action, see:

<https://www.startnext.com/sumudforfreedom>

In the Netherlands:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPi4TfOd32s&t=4s>

<http://www.fofyb.org/> (Friends of Young Bethlehem)

Arts campaign

Call to international artists

Call to artists worldwide to show their work on the so-called Separation Wall in Bethlehem, as part of the commemoration of 50 years of occupation next year.

In English:

http://www.aeicenter.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=282%3Aarts-and-50-years-of-occupation&catid=42&Itemid=209

German:

http://www.aeicenter.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=283%3Aarts-and-50-years-of-occupation&catid=42&Itemid=209

Christian-Moslem encounters

Living Together

For photos and impressions about the inter-religious school project 'Citizenship and Diversity: Christian-Moslem Living Together', see the Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Citizenship-Diversity-Christian-Muslim-Living-Together-in-Palestine-545063149025832/>

As part of this project, AEI compiled a new book with short stories about Moslem-Christian living together collected and written by students from West Bank schools in the Bethlehem and Ramallah regions. See here the complete 130-page book in PDF: http://www.aeicenter.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=288:hand-in-hand-pdf&catid=42

This Week in Palestine

Border-crossing Celebrations

In a world often afflicted by a sense of exclusivism between religions, Palestine knows many instances of Muslim-Christian mutual openness and conviviality surrounding religious celebrations. Palestinian students collected stories about such openness during religious celebrations. See this article by AEI staff in the December issue of *This Week in Palestine*, accessible until 31/12/2016:

<http://thisweekinpalestine.com/cross-border-celebrations/>

Brief news

AEI Annual Report, year 2015-2016

The Arabic concept of *sumud*, literally steadfastness, guides the youth' and women's work at AEI:

http://www.aeicenter.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=286:annual-report-arab-educational-institute&catid=42:front-page&Itemid=209

Blogs from Bethlehem

Games

Bethlehem is becoming increasingly surrounded by settlements. A blog from the vantage point of the Sumud Story House:

http://www.aeicenter.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=285:games&catid=46:blogs&Itemid=206

A Trump Presidency and Palestine

What to expect? A speculative blog written a week after Trump won the US elections:

http://www.aeicenter.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=284:a-trump-presidency-and-palestine&catid=46:blogs&Itemid=206

Resources and more

A 20-minute **documentary** about children's life near the Wall made last year by Rinske Bosch for Dutch TV (IKON, series Mensjesrechten), English subtitled, in cooperation with AEI and Al-Rowwad in Aida camp:

<https://vimeo.com/143601177>

Helpful for school lessons.

For an overview of AEI's **wall posters**, see:

http://www.aeicenter.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=193

Scroll down for the 'dream' posters by youth and last year's expansion to Aida camp.

Supported by ArtLab in East-Jerusalem, AEI facilitated the making of two brief **animation cartoons**, in English, made by Palestinian children from the Bethlehem area:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x1ttfKBifls>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yu-yX5uEIXo>

A 9-minute **video about the Wall Museum** around Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem:

<https://vimeo.com/143457242>

Heather Kiernan, of Pax Christi UK, made two impressive **photo slideshows** about Palestine.

1. What about the children?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6NawvvKJsY>

2. Occupied Walls (about graffiti and stories on the Wall in Bethlehem)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DljvhZ0vz0&feature=youtu.be>

Another slideshow on YouTube is about "The Pigeon," telling a child's story shown on a Wall story poster

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDtMYELs5L8>

And further

Join a Journey to Palestine

Comments on journeys organized by AEI:

*"It has been a very educational experience which gave me more understanding of the situation in Israel and the Palestinian territories." "I now know, that I didn't know anything of the situation here at all." "I'm very much inspired by the friendly people and their optimism." - by **Alfred Keienburg** (67) Essen, Germany*

*"Visiting the Sumud Story House was the best beginning of a very moving, intriguing week." "Through the choir we could really feel what Sumud means." "This trip was so perfectly organised. I was so impressed. The program was amazing." "This trip was very special and unique, as is the country. Through the AEI we really got a very profound insight." "It was very emotional and depressing, but with every encounter we heard: there's hope, there's Sumud!" - by **Katarina** (24), from Germany*

YouTube video about AEI

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xj6z3VTYIXU> (4 min), made by Fadi Abou Akleh.

Wall story posters for sale

AEI has story wall posters for sale in the format 24/34 cm.

It concerns the following stories: Bethlehem, Surfing, The pigeon, I caught his hand, Hug, Laundry, Rescue, Stand-off.

For all posters, see:

http://www.aeicenter.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=193

Youth stories on Wall posters

AEI issued a new publication which includes 44 English-language youth poster stories attached to the Wall around Rachel's Tomb. It is a sequel to an earlier publication with women's stories on Wall posters. Price: 20 shekel or 5 Euro, excl. postage. Copies can be ordered via info@aeicenter.org

AEI Website

Visit [AEI](#) website for more information.

Facebook

See Facebook pages

- Arab Educational Institute (AEI-Open Windows)
- Sumud House – AEI.

YouTube

AEI [videos](#).

Palestine-Family.net

[Palestine-Family net](#) features many visual and written items about Palestinian heritage and history.

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