

Yarmouk Newsletter

Published by The Dept. of Public Relations and Media

Issue No. 12

Issawi Presents Yarmouk University with Television Production Van



Kafafi stressed that this gesture confirms the Royal interest in science and education, and His Majesty's keenness to advance the media profession as a building tool for the Kingdom.

JRTV Director General Muhammad Balqar affirmed that the corporation "puts all its technical expertise" at the disposal of the Faculty of Mass Communication at Yarmouk University.

He stressed that Jordan TV will provide the faculty with experts to undertake the process of training its technical staff and students in the operation, management and use of the OB van.

Under Royal directives, Royal Court Chief Yousef Issawi on Thursday presented the Faculty of Mass Communication at Yarmouk University with an Outside-Broadcast Van (OB Van) equipped with the latest TV production technology.

Issawi highlighted His Majesty's continuous directives to support students and empower them through qualitative education which provides them with job opportunities, adding that the theoretical sciences they receive should translate into practical application, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

During the ceremony, Issawi expressed his appreciation to the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation (JRTV), from which a team will supervise the training of the university staff and students to manage and operate the OB Van.

For his part, President of Yarmouk University Zeidan

Jordan TV will "continuously follow up" with the faculty to train its staff and students and ensure the "optimal and qualitative usage" of the van in adherence to international specifications, he added.



Yarmouk University Welcomes Jordan's Great Guest, His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani



Acknowledging the great efforts of His Majesty King Abdullah II for strengthening the bonds of cooperation with other Arab countries to confronting the huge challenges facing the Arab and Islamic nation, Prof. Zeidan Kafafi, the President of Yarmouk University, welcomes His Majesty King Abdullah II's guest, His Highness Prince Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Prince of the State of Qatar, who visited Jordan on Sunday 23 Feb. 2020. Kafafi explains that this historical visit reflects the depth and essence of the relationships between Jordan and Qatar who share the same viewpoint regarding the many issues of the region, especially with regard to Palestine and Al-Quds.

Cooperation with the Nigerian Embassy in Amman

The President of Yarmouk University, Prof. Zeidan Kafafi, met the Nigerian Deputy Ambassador in Amman Ibrahim Muhammad Yunus, and discussed ways to enhance collaborative work between the university and the embassy. The two parties conversed about the possibility of attracting Nigerian students to study at Yarmouk University. During the meeting, Kafafi expressed Yarmouk's preparation to receive Nigerian students who wish to study in the various specializations and degrees offered by Yarmouk University. Also, he stated that Yarmouk is interested in collaborating with universities and educational institutions across the world, as the university believes in the importance of exchanging ideas and academic experiences.

Moreover, Kafafi emphasized that Yarmouk University is keen to prepare its students and qualify them with various basic skills necessary to refine their personalities and get involved in



the local and international labor market. Then he pointed out that Yarmouk has approximately three thousand international students representing 43 different nationalities and that it is concerned with involving them in extracurricular activities through the Deanship of Student Affairs so that they can introduce themselves to the Jordanian culture and get integrated in the student body.

In his turn, Yunus praised the distinguished scientific reputation of Yarmouk University and stated that the Nigerian embassy in Amman is willing to strengthen the collaboration with the university in various fields. He also confirmed that several Nigerian students are already sent to Yarmouk University for the bachelor's and master's degrees, especially in the field of Islamic studies and Arabic language.

The 64th Anniversary of Army Arabisation

The president of Yarmouk University, Dr. Zeidan Kafafi, congratulates Jordan, the king and the army on the 64th anniversary of the Arabisation of the leadership of the Jordan Armed Forces-Arab Army, which falls on March 1.

Kafafi recalled this great decision by His Majesty the late King Hussein as an important turning point in the history of Jordan paying tribute to the sacrifices of the Arab Army in defence of the country.

Kafafi also commended the King's continuous efforts to support the Jordan Armed Forces-Arab Army (JAF) as well as the security agencies as protectors of the nation and its values.



Scientific Workshop at Yarmouk



stressed Yarmouk's long experience in dealing with asylum and displacement issues through its Center for Refugees, Displaced Persons, and Forced Migration. The university's strategy, he declared, is concerned with conducting specialized studies and scientific research in this field in cooperation with various international organizations and local institutions.

In turn, Dr. Fawaz Al-Momani, the project coordinator at the university, explained that this workshop presents the results of the initial research for the TRAFIG project. It also analyzes these results through the participants who are activists in the field of development/ humanitarian work, international organizations, representatives of Jordanian national institutions, and academics. Dr. Fawaz shed some light on how TRAFIG seeks to improve refugee protection and resilience and aims at enhancing confidence and cooperation between refugees and their host communities through investigating four research areas: ruling regimes, living in harsh conditions, tracking the network of relationships, and building alliances. Then he mentioned that the research team for the project includes Dr. Rashid Al-Jarrah, Dr. Tamara Yaqoub, Dr. Raghda Al-Faouri, Dr. Ali Audat, Dr. Rasha Al-Hosban, Woroud Awad, Rola Masad, Ahmed Shdaifat and Khaled Al-Momani.

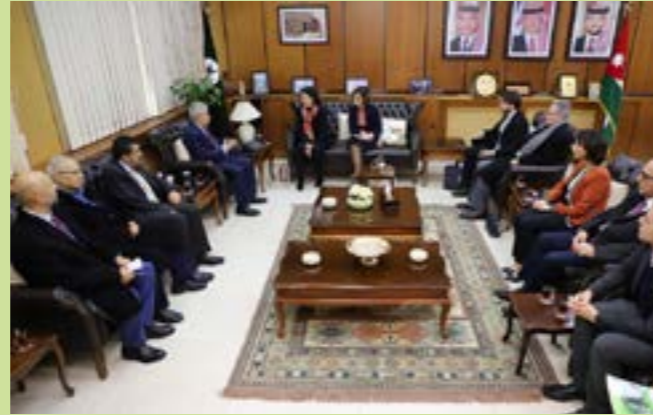
In turn, Marion Nowak of the International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) praised the efforts of the research team from YU, noting that this project will be the beginning of long-term cooperation relations with YU. Noteworthy here that the workshop included a presentation of the project objectives made by Dr. Benjamin Etzold and Marion Nowak, and it also incorporated a discussion of the results of the preliminary research presented by Dr. Sarah Tobin, Dr. Ari John Knudsen, and Dr. Fawaz Momani.

On behalf of the President of Yarmouk University, the Vice President for Administrative Affairs, Prof. Anis Khasawneh, patronized the opening of the scientific workshop, "What are the solutions to the problem of protracted displacement?", which was organized by the university in cooperation with the Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC) and the Michelin Institute (CMI). This event was held as part of the project: "Transnational Figurations of Displacement (TRAFIG)", which is one of the 2020 Horizon projects funded by the European Union.

Prof. Khasawneh emphasized Yarmouk's pride in being a representative of Jordan in participating in this project, which aims at illuminating policymakers by providing them with recent information on the quality of life of the displaced and how to enhance their capacity for self-reliance. He also stated that this project is one of the innovation projects that started in 2019 and will end in 2021 with the participation of 12 organizations and institutions from Europe, Africa, and Asia. Khasawneh then emphasized how the project views local and cross-border networks as sources that benefit the displaced in their daily lives. Moreover, Khasawneh

The French Ambassador Visits YU and Meets its Students

The President of Yarmouk University, Prof. Zeidan Kafafi, met the French ambassador, Veronique Volan and the accompanying delegation, who visited the university to discuss ways to enhance cooperation in several areas of mutual interest. During the meeting, Kafafi reviewed the history of Yarmouk's cooperation relationships with the French embassy and various educational institutions in France. He then stressed Yarmouk's keenness to maintain such cooperation and develop it in the field of exchanging scientific visits particularly, as this will help students learn about the French culture, exchange experiences and knowledge, reflect experiences in the educational process at the university, and transfer new knowledge to colleagues.



Also, Prof. Kafafi acknowledged the embassy's support of the master's program in the French language that is managed by the University's Faculty of Arts. He then thanked the embassy for their help in providing the Department of Modern Languages with teachers of the French language. Moreover, Kafafi emphasized Yarmouk's willingness to host French students in several postgraduate programs and fields like media, tourism, archeology, and law. He then pointed out the possibility of providing an opportunity for students of Al-Hijawi Faculty of Technology Engineering to spend a period of field training at a French institution or company. He explained that such a strategy should inform students about the nature of the international labor market, improve their skills, and open major opportunities for them to get involved in the labor market. In addition, Kafafi asked for the possibility of sending a number of the Faculty members of al-Shari'a Faculty to spend the summer semester in one of the French colleges, institutes, or centers that are concerned with the study of Islamic religion.

Also, she appreciated the level of cooperation between the embassy and the Department of Modern Languages and expressed the embassy's willingness to support the master's program of the French language at the department. In addition, she appreciated Yarmouk's interest in collaborating regarding the support of Syrian refugees in Jordan through the Menca project, which aims at encouraging distinguished university students to apply for scholarships offered through the website of the French embassy in Amman to complete their studies in France.

Interestingly, during her visit to the university, the ambassador met the students of the modern languages department. She spoke with them about the educational opportunities available to students wishing to complete their higher university studies in France. She also emphasized the availability of certain training opportunities for students at the French cultural Institute in Amman. However, the meeting was attended by the Vice-Presidents of the University, Prof. Ahmad Al-Ajlouni, Prof. Anis Khasawneh, the Political attaché at the French Embassy in Amman, Julian Cliche, the University Cooperation attaché at the French Embassy in Amman, Katrina Sabatini Cliche, and several deans and directors at the university.



Moreover, Kafafi expressed the possibility of opening new horizons for cooperation with the scientific centers hosted by Yarmouk University like the Refugees, Displaced Persons, and Forced Migration Studies Center. He suggested that partners can implement development projects that provide care, education, and rehabilitation opportunities for Jordanians and Syrian refugees.

In turn, Volan praised the distinguished scientific reputation of Yarmouk University and its cooperative relations with various French universities in the fields of archeology and tourism. Volan then expressed the embassy's willingness to expand cooperation between Yarmouk and French universities by increasing the number of students from Yarmouk studying in France in all academic specializations and hosting professors of Sharia and Islamic studies at French research centers that focus on religions and Islamic studies.

Cooperation between Yarmouk University and the British Council

The President of Yarmouk University, Prof. Zeidan Kafafi, discussed with the Deputy Director of the British Council, Mai Abu Hamdiya, possible means of cooperation and the activation of "Raseed 21", a program that is set to enhance flexibility for meeting challenges on campus.



At the beginning of the meeting, Kafafi stressed the importance of strengthening cooperation with the British Council, which stands as one of the bodies concerned with preparing young people and providing them with various skills that qualify them to engage in the labor market. He also expressed university students' need to be familiar with language and computer skills, which represent the gateway for various employment opportunities. Then he emphasized Yarmouk's readiness to embrace the program proposed by the Council, namely "Raseed 21," which aims at increasing knowledge stock, developing skills, and strengthening absorptive capacity of students.

constructive or violent paths thanks to this stockpile. Therefore, the activities of "Raseed 21" are to enhance the flexibility of students and prepare them to face life challenges in the post-college life period rather than getting stuck in the "waiting period" and other related issues.

In her turn, Abu Hamdiyah indicated that the Council seeks to implement "Raseed 21" program, which is funded by the European Union, at Yarmouk University during the upcoming period. She explained that the methodology of such a program is that the Jordanian youth carries an ample stock of capabilities despite the challenges surrounding them. Young people, she mentioned, were able to avoid the dangers of slipping in non-

The Director of "Raseed 21," Diala Al-Smadi, said that the program includes three tracks: active citizens, building up the stock of young people by addressing the depletion of flexibility arising from the waiting phase, and the path of positive stories. She explained that the mechanism of work in such a program must include an active citizenship for building skills, capabilities, follow-up, and guidance during the development of projects prepared by students.

A Delegation from Yarmouk University Visits the Turkish Academy of Bashak Shahir

Prof. Anis Khasawneh, Vice President of Yarmouk University for Administrative Affairs, accompanied by the dean of the Faculty of Sharia and Islamic Studies, Dr. Osama Al-Faqir, and the Director of the Financial Department visited the Başakşehir Academy for Islamic Sciences and the Arabic Language in Turkey, according to the agreement of scientific cooperation and academic supervision signed between the two sides.



During the visit, Prof. Khasawneh and the accompanying delegation met with the Vice-President of the Academy, Dr. Hassan Al-Shalabi, and the Secretary of the Academy, Asaad Shamsi, and discussed the possible ways for activating the terms of the agreement between Yarmouk University and the Academy, considering that the agreement contributes to serving the educational process in both sides in the fields of Sharia, Islamic studies, and the Arabic language.

The agreement stipulates that Yarmouk University should assume academic supervision and manage the educational process for the academic programs offered by the Başakşehir

Academy in the fields of Sharia, Islamic Studies, and the Arabic language for the undergraduate and graduate degrees. Also, it involves the exchange of the faculty members between the two sides for the purposes of teaching and scientific visits along with exchanging students in fields of mutual interest between the two sides, which serves the educational process in the two institutes.

YU Participates in a Meeting in Sharjah

The President of Yarmouk University, Prof. Zeidan Kafafi, participated in the meeting of the Executive Council of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World in its twenty-third session, which was held at the University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates. During the meeting chaired by Sheikh Fahim Al Qasimi, Director of the Governmental Relations Department, the Council discussed a report of the Secretary-General of the Union on the activities carried out by the Union General Secretariat between the twenty-second and twenty-third sessions of the Union. The Council also reviewed the financial report of the Union for the year 2018, then discussed a report of the Secretary-General on the reality of the Union and its prospects of the future. In addition, it discussed the requests of several universities in the Islamic world that are willing to join the union.

Remarkably, the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World was established in 1987 in Rabat. It operates within the framework of the Islamic Educational, Scientific, and



Cultural Organization and includes 347 universities and higher institutes. For the period 2017 - 2019, Yarmouk was elected as a member of the Executive Council of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World from among 300 Islamic universities.

Memorandum with the National Committee for Women's Affairs



Aiming at opening horizons of exchange of experiences for the institutionalization of work between the two sides, Yarmouk University, represented by Princess Basma Center for Jordanian Women's Studies, signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Committee for Women's Affairs. Such an exchange will help implement the activities of the training program for members of elected councils in the North Region (governorate, municipal, and local councils) at Yarmouk University. The activities will be implemented in their first stage in partnership with the Hayvos Foundation "Women Empowerment for Leadership Project in Trade and Professional Syndicates and Political Parties".

Kafafi stressed that the committee's officials and Yarmouk

University, represented by Princess Basma Center for Jordanian Women's Studies, are all keen to support and implement the goal of empowering, training, and refining women skills in order to qualify them to claiming leadership positions. This in return will contribute to their experiences and knowledge and will eventually contribute to the development of the Jordanian society and motivate Jordanian women in all regions of the Kingdom to strive for their own self-development. Also, he expressed the university's readiness to be the host for such a training program. Then he talked about the possibility of hosting participants in the program at YU to promote a participatory approach and develop relationships with members of the local community, pointing out that serving the local community is one of the main goals of the university.

In turn, Shreddem thanked YU for its permanent cooperation with the National Committee for Women's Affairs, which seeks to promote the integration of gender equality measures through planning national policies and programs. She explained that the Committee adopts a gender equality mechanism in recognition of the importance of gender equality and women's empowerment in achieving national priorities. She then praised the great steps taken by Yarmouk University in the field of supporting women and enabling them to gain access to academic and administrative leadership positions at the university itself.

A Joint Master's Program in Hotel Management between Yarmouk and the French Universities of Sorbonne and Angers



The President of Yarmouk University, Prof. Zeidan Kafafi had a meeting with Dr. Ivano Patrick and Dr. Jean-Michel Chappeau from the French University of Sorbonne, and Dr. Gerald Bayer from the French University of Angers, where ways to enhance cooperation between the three universities were discussed. Kafafi praised the depth of relations that

bring together Yarmouk at the French embassy in Amman as well as the various French universities, institutes, and educational institutions. He expressed Yarmouk's readiness to discuss the mechanisms for establishing a joint program in hotel management with these two prestigious universities, as such a joint program will attract a number of faculty members from France to participate in teaching courses for the students of the program. He added that Yarmouk seeks with all its cadres to overcome obstacles of creating international programs that meet the aspirations of Jordanian and Arab youth. He then added that this program will contribute effectively to upgrading the hotel sector in Jordan and improving hotel services in the country.

In return, the members of the delegation expressed the importance of establishing such a joint program with Yarmouk University, which has a distinguished scientific reputation in the field of tourism and archeology. They explained that signing a cooperation agreement in this regard is beneficial for the involving parties.

The First place in the International PISA Test for a Student from Yarmouk's Model School



The President of Yarmouk University, Prof. Zeidan Kafafi, honored the student, Wael Muhammad Al-Momani, from Yarmouk's Model school for getting the first place in the 2018 International PISA Exam at the level of the schools

affiliated with higher education institutions in Jordan. Kafafi expressed his happiness for this achievement, which reflects the quality of the school's educational system. Moreover, Kafafi praised the distinguished level of students and the efforts made by their teachers to help students master the basic skills that enrich their educational outcomes and raise their academic level.

In return, the head of the school, Dr. Ali Al-Omari, thanked the university administration for its continuous support of the school by providing it with all the modern educational means that contribute to preparing students and raising their academic level. He explained that students participating in the exam were randomly chosen by the test administrators and that there were standards through which measurements were made for students' abilities in the fields of reading, mathematics, and science.

The Archaeological Exhibition "Tal-Zarah: A Mirror from the Ancient History of Jordan"



Accompanied by the Director of the Archeology Department, Dr. Yazid Alyan, the Director of the German Institute of Antiquities in Amman, Dr. Katrina Schmidt, and a crowd of Yarmouk staff and students, the President of Yarmouk University, Prof. Zeidan Kafafi, opened the exhibition "Tal-Zarah: A Mirror from the History of Ancient Jordan". The opening was organized by the Faculty of Archeology and Anthropology at YU in cooperation with the Dept. of Archeology and the German Institute Antiquities. The exhibition included a collection of artifacts discovered at the site of "Tal-Zarah" in Wadi Al-Arab region.

After opening the exhibition, Kafafi said that YU has always been keen to building bridges of cooperation with various institutions of heritage and antiquities, as such a strategy helps in preserving the Jordanian heritage. He explained that the scientific projects and academic studies are usually carried out at the Faculty of Archeology to create a generation of Jordanian researchers and professors who are able to explore and preserve Jordan's heritage of ancient civilizations. He added that this exhibition is one of the important exhibitions organized by YU, as it displays a number of important artifacts that have been discovered in Tal-Zarah region, which tell us stories about the daily life of the inhabitants, their ancient religious beliefs, and their handicrafts.

In return, Alyan praised the efforts of YU represented by the Faculty of Archeology and Anthropology in revealing and

preserving the civilizational history of Jordan. He stressed the keenness of the Department of Archeology to document joint cooperation with the university in fieldwork and scientific publications. Alyan also pointed out that future cooperation will include reviewing and reassessing the existing artifacts at Yarmouk University by the Department of Antiquities, something that should help in displaying new magnificent pieces at the Jordanian Heritage Museum at the university.

For her part, Schmidt, the Director of the German Institute of Archeology in Amman, gave a detailed presentation about the artifacts on display and the importance of Tal-Zarah site in understanding the history of civilizations in Jordan. She also shed light on the Institute's keenness to strengthen cooperation links with Yarmouk University, which embraces distinctive scientific competencies in the fields of preserved antiquities and preserving Jordan's ancient civilization.

Dr. Hani Hayajneh, explained that this exhibition is one of Yarmouk's activities that aim at consolidating the existing cooperation between the Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk and other institutions across the globe in the field of heritage and antiquities. He also said that the university is working on preparing a systematic plan for cooperation with the Department of Archeology in the fields of archaeological excavation and joint research, which will contribute to revealing the historical image of Jordan in its cultural context. In addition, he stated that the exhibition will be available to visitors, including school students, until June 2020.

