

The Palestine Fair Trade Association

Trees for Life

2009 Tree Distribution and Planting report

The PFTA organization and its farmer members extend sincere thanks to everyone who participated in this wonderful program. Our gratitude goes to the organizations that actively support the project in the USA, Canada, and the UK. These groups include Zatoun in Canada; Jewish Voice for Peace, Import Peace, and Canaan Fair Trade in the USA; and the Olive Co-op in the UK.

Contributions collected during 2008 and planted in 2009 were:

Canada:

Zatoun-----\$ 19,084

USA:

Jewish Voice for Peace-----\$ 10,000

Canaan Fair Trade, USA-----\$ 7,288

Import Peace -----\$ 5,250

UK:

Olive Co-op -----BP 8,631

This year the total planting amounted to 14,419 Trees. They were distributed in 19 different villages in the Jenin and Nablus areas. The total number of recipient farmers is 348 farmers.

Special thanks and gratitude goes to Sharif and Tilde (from the UK and Norway) who asked for tree donations as wedding gifts. Their friends planted a total of 486 olive trees in Palestine in their name. The PFTA farmers wish Sharif and Tilde much happiness and prosperity.

Highlight Farmer Stories

Awad Mohammed Milhem and Qadriya Favez Issa. Awad, 47, is a farmer member of the 'Anin cooperative in the Jenin area. He is the head of a family of 11. In 2004 Awad lost a total of 20 dunums of olive trees to the fence of a nearby Israeli settlement - 5 dunums of his olive grove were destroyed by putting up the fence and 15 dunums fell behind the fence leaving him with infrequent access to his orchard. Awad's wife Qadriya received 15 dunums of semi rocky land passed down to her from her fathers' inheritance. Awad and Qadriya prepared Qadriya's land for a new olive orchard and received 200 olive seedlings from PFTA's Trees for Life program.

Awad and Qadriya's land coordinates were drawn on GPS by our friends at Alter Eco. We will pass these coordinates on so individual donors in Europe and North America can watch Awad and Qadriya's olive grove grow.

Emad Qasem Mohammed. Emad, 37, is from the Jenin Refugee Camp. The PFTA is primarily active in rural Palestine and so is pleased to be able to extend olive trees to support a refugee family. Emad supports his family of 6 as well as his parents. During the Israeli invasion of the Jenin Refugee Camp in April 2002, Emad's home was destroyed and he lost his right hand. In 2003 the government of the United Arab Emirates extended support to Camp residents to rebuild their homes. Emad decided to build a smaller house and save some of the funds to acquire land so he could earn a dignified living as a farmer. He later acquired 10 dunums in the village of Beit Qad in the Jenin area. PFTA's Trees for Life program extended 200 Olive trees to Emad and they were planted in his new grove in January 2009.



Distribution

Village	Region	Farmer recipients	Trees planted
Al Jdaydeh	Jenin	5	790
Al Rami	Jenin	13	540
Al Sila	Jenin	38	2445
Al Tayba	Jenin	23	955
Al 'Araqa	Jenin	51	1561
Jalqamous	Jenin	8	375
Jenin Camp	Jenin	1	200
Sanour	Jenin	41	1420
'Anin	Jenin	1	200
'Anza	Jenin	31	705
Faqou'a	Jenin	34	1459
Kufor Ra'I	Jenin	23	1455
Burqin	Jenin	1	240
Al Jalama	Jenin	2	140
'Aroura	Ramallah	1	13
Nisf Jbail	Nablus	16	715
'Asira	Nablus	19	505
Beit Mreen	Nablus	18	701
Totals			
19	3	348	14,419