

Medical Aid for Palestinians works for the health and dignity of Palestinians living under occupation and as refugees.

MAP
MEDICAL AID FOR PALESTINIANS

WITNESS

THE HUMAN COST of Israeli access restrictions in the occupied Palestinian territory



RESTRICTING AID

Read about the impact of continued restrictions on humanitarian work

LATEST FROM LEBANON

Meet MAP's new Director, Marta Petagna

MAP COMMUNITY

Hear the latest stories from MAP supporters

SNAPSHOTS FROM GAZA

Gaza today – a photo journalism feature

AUTUMN 2011



DEAR READER

Welcome to the new format for Witness, MAP's biannual newsletter. This new edition allows us to give you a better sense of our work, news from the field, events and highlights from MAP's community of supporters.

I write to you at a time of momentous change and significant upheaval across the region. Demands for freedom and dignity have reverberated from Tahrir Square to Benghazi. However the Palestinians, who have experienced decades of life as refugees or under occupation, remain very much in the shadows of the Arab Spring. Although the Palestinian unity government is a step in the right direction, the ultimate solution is a free Palestine based on principles of justice and dignity.

In this edition you will hear from our Director of Programmes in Beirut. In Lebanon, our Maternal and Child Health work continues to make a huge difference in the lives of refugees in the camps of Nahr-el-Bared and Ein el-Helweh. I hope you can join us in London this September for the launch of MAP's first briefing paper on the health situation for Palestinians in Lebanon.

This summer also marks the 5th anniversary of the blockade of Gaza, the full closure of a territory after years of restrictions on the movement of people and goods. The blockade is enforced by air, land and sea by Israel, and continues to force the people of Gaza into deeper poverty. According to the United Nations, wages in Gaza fell 34.5 percent since the first half of 2006, while unemployment reached 45.2 percent in the second half of 2010. In this edition of Witness, we bring you the related story of how Palestinians in Gaza struggle to cope, Israeli restrictions mean that humanitarian aid and relief workers cannot move freely, leaving vulnerable populations at even greater risk.

Throughout the past six months a series of 'state of emergencies' have been announced in Gaza, largely due to a shortage of drugs and medical supplies. As always MAP has been quick to respond, deploying surgical kits and emergency materials to hospitals across Gaza. Such a rapid response has a life saving impact and can only happen thanks to the continued generosity of our supporters.

STEVE JAMES

Chief Executive
Medical Aid for Palestinians



MAP CEO and Former-President Lord Patten visit our mobile health clinic in the Jordan Valley

IN THIS ISSUE

3 A SEEKER OF SILENCE

Richard Horton, editor of the Lancet, writes about his recent visit to Lebanon

4 MAP INTERVIEW

Meet MAP's Director of Programmes in Lebanon, Marta Petagna

4 APPEAL UPDATE

Born in a refugee camp

5-6 SNAPSHOTS FROM GAZA

Gaza blockade photo montage

7 THE HUMAN COST

Restricting aid to Palestine

7 APPEAL UPDATE

Emergency medical aid desperately needed in Gaza

8 CASE STUDY

Meet the family living near a military no-go zone

8 APPEAL UPDATE

MAP's Emergency care training

9 GETTING INVOLVED

How to put on an event for MAP

10 MY FUNDRAISER

by Aishah Iqbal

11 MAP NEWS

COVER STORY



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Today, there are over 500 checkpoints, roadblocks and barriers across the occupied Palestinian territory. Mothers and infants are often forced to wait for hours, in the heat, to pass. Sick and injured patients are regularly denied safe passage. Through these enforced movement restrictions, the Israeli occupation remains the single biggest determinant of Palestinian health.

GAZA**Patients struggle to access medical care**

May: 92% of patients who applied for a permit to leave Gaza through Israel for medical treatment were approved.

This figure is substantially higher than the average for 2010. Getting permission to leave Gaza remains a horrendous process for many Palestinian patients. In February MAP followed the story of Mahmoud al-Sultan as he struggled to leave Gaza for treatment for his cancer. Mahmoud told us how "every day I would ask my brother about my referral. All I could think about was my radiotherapy treatment."

**LEBANON****New homes arrive**

April: UNRWA handed over newly reconstructed homes to the first group of families in Nahr el-Bared camp.

In May 2007, clashes between Fatah al-Islam and the Lebanese Armed Forces resulted in the destruction of the Nahr al-Bared camp, and the displacement of 27,000 refugees.

GAZA**Medical Supplies Crisis**

June: The Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza declared a state of emergency as 180 types of medicine and 200 medical items ran out, including disposables such as alcohol and needles.

The Ministry announced that pre-scheduled surgeries would be cancelled, including children's operations, cardiac catheterization, laparoscopic surgery and bone and nerve operations.

**EGYPT-GAZA****Rafah crossing open**

May: The new Egyptian authorities announced that the Rafah crossing with Gaza would be opened permanently.

MAP welcomed this development but noted the early trend towards severe delays and further closure. The opening of Rafah will not ease the suffering of the Palestinian civilian population or change the economic situation caused by the strict closure imposed on the Gaza Strip. The Gaza Strip remains an occupied territory controlled by Israel.

occupied PALESTINIAN territory**W.H.O. condemns Israel's occupation**

May: At the World Health Organization's 64th assembly, the body passed a resolution condemning the effects of Israel's occupation on Palestinian health.

The assembly called for Israel to remove road blocks currently causing a shortage of medical supplies and treatment.

WEST BANK**Unemployment rises**

June: UN report revealed that the unemployment rate in the West Bank stood at 25 percent in the second half of 2010, up from 23.5 percent in 2009.

For Palestinians in the West Bank classed as refugees, the unemployment rate was even higher, standing at 27.9 percent, according to the report.

A SEEKER OF SILENCES

RICHARD HORTON, EDITOR OF THE LANCET, WRITES ABOUT HIS VISIT TO LEBANON WITH MAP



This is the story of a people entirely invisible to the world, a people

with no voice and, presently, no future. It is the story of a people to whom many of the great powers, thanks to their colonial histories, owe a special obligation.

Dr Ali Dakwar led us through the Ein el-Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp in Saida. He has spent most of his working life with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), orchestrating care and services for Palestinian refugees who lost their original homes in Israel during the wars of 1948 and 1967. Now, he leads a maternal and child health project on behalf of Medical Aid for Palestinians. About 280,000 Palestinian refugees live across Lebanon in twelve officially designated refugee camps.

Half of this population is under 24 years of age. Families suffer almost complete social, economic, and political exclusion. Housing is Dickensian in its inadequacy. Adults have no right to vote. Education is poor. Unemployment is high (well over 50%). Those who are of working age are prevented from joining anything but the most low-skilled occupations (a bright and promising young Palestinian born in Lebanon is not allowed, for example, to become a doctor working in Lebanese society).

And the health of refugees is precarious. 60% of Palestinian refugee children are anaemic, as are 40% of their mothers.

Ein el-Hilweh camp is the biggest in the country. About 50,000 refugees live within one square kilometre.

The feeling inside the camp is one of extreme intensity – overcrowding, poverty, dangerous and almost slum-like conditions. UNRWA is the main service provider. But the MAP team of Dr Ali, seven midwives, and three nurses bridges gaps where UNRWA lacks resources. Some of the biggest gaps are in maternal and child health.

There is no free passage into or out of the camp to access care in Lebanese health facilities. I needed a permit to enter and my passport was closely scrutinised by Lebanese army guards at one of the camp's checkpoints. 20 doctors work inside the camp. Dr Khaled Abou Shakra and Dr Kassem Mohammad work in one of two UNRWA health centres. They were both born in the camp and completed their schooling there. After finishing medical degrees in Russia, they returned to continue clinical training in the Palestinian Red Crescent Society hospital system that exists for Palestinians in the camps. 300 patients pass through their clinic each day.

One MAP project, begun in 2008, is run with another non-governmental organisation, Naba'a. The team is composed of a GP, gynaecologist, paediatrician, urologist, and nurse.

Part of their work is preventive, educating families to recognise health problems before they become too severe (for example, by using dolls to teach about the functions of blood and the signs of anaemia). They also act as a drop-in clinic, kindergarten, community advice centre, advocacy



Children play in the camp after finishing their day at the UNRWA

"Families suffer almost complete social, economic, and political exclusion."

organisation, and a means to mobilise informal networks of mothers to amplify neglected health messages. This work is often confronted with deep cultural taboos. Educating women about safer sex and condom use may be seen as promoting "promiscuity".

The creation of this MAP/Naba'a clinic has been a huge achievement. As the paintings of children on the walls of the clinic illustrate, this work is a testament to the community's commitment to participation, tolerance, equality, and protection. In a setting of sometimes bleak possibility, the work of MAP, with friends from UNRWA and other NGOs, is offering a vital lifeline to a



school

MAP INTERVIEW



Marta Petagna is MAP's new Director of Programmes in Lebanon. Originally from Italy, Marta has been living and working in Lebanon for eight years.

Witness asked her to share her insights into the situation facing Palestinian refugees in Lebanon today. "The main issue facing Palestinian refugees in Lebanon is displacement, once seen as a temporary fix – today a permanent reality leading to discrimination, and a lack of civil, political and human rights."

Describing Nahr el-Bared, the refugee camp completely destroyed in 2007 "the camp has not yet been rebuilt – despite lots of plans and words – people are still displaced...twice – once from Palestine and then from the camp where most were born. Many families are living another hot summer housed in "temporary" shipping containers. There are efforts being made to address the situation, but unless the pace of reconstruction is sped up things will continue to deteriorate."

We asked Marta whether the Arab Spring was having an impact: "In Lebanon it has had a huge psychological impact in terms of creating the awareness of change, reinforcing the idea that change is indeed possible. Things can change – but on a political level, the Palestinian refugees are incredibly neglected, it is hard to be optimistic on that front. However the Palestinian community is immensely resourceful. For those of us who have had the opportunity to work in the camps, we always wonder how we would cope if faced with the same situation, it is a very humbling experience."

future free of political oppression and international isolation.

How likely is that hopeful future? In truth, it feels distant. But thanks to people who have dedicated their professional lives to the health and futures of a population that has been utterly disenfranchised by their host country and by the international community, it is possible to glimpse a way ahead.

That way might come from providing a voice through science—reporting the realities of camp life to those who might prefer us to be unaware of the existence of not only the camps but also their inhabitants. Journals have a part to play too.

"The creation of this clinic has been a huge achievement."

APPEAL UPDATE

STARTING LIFE IN A REFUGEE CAMP

Starting life as a baby born into a Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon is a tough fight for survival – crumbling health facilities, overstretched clinics, inadequate food supplies and poor housing make every hour a struggle for mothers to care for their babies.

In March we asked for support so we could reach out to help more families cope in the very harsh conditions they endure in the camps.



With your support in June we were able to start training two new teams of home visitors to offer advice and help to mothers including information on child health and development, nutrition and family planning – this work is now established in the refugee camps in both north and south Lebanon.

SNAPSHOTS FROM GAZA

▶ THE ISRAELI BLOCKADE OF GAZA: THE NUMBERS

According to the latest United Nations figures the population of Gaza is 1.6 million, with over 50% under 18.

38% of Palestinians in Gaza live in poverty.

31% of the workforce is unemployed and 47% of young people are unemployed.

54% of Palestinians in Gaza are food insecure and over 75% are aid dependent.

Economic output in 2010 is 20% lower than in 2005.

35% of Gaza's farmland and 85% of its fishing waters are totally or partially inaccessible due to Israeli military measures.

50-80 million litres of partially treated sewage are dumped in the sea each day.

Over 90% of the water from the Gaza aquifer is undrinkable.

85% of schools in Gaza run on double or triple shifts.

Since the beginning of 2010, 59 people have been killed in tunnel accidents, including 5 children. 115 have been injured.





THE HUMAN COST OF ISRAELI ACC

MAP, along with over 80 international agencies, has launched 'Restricting Aid' – a report detailing the impact of Israeli restrictions on the delivery of critical humanitarian aid and development projects.

Every month, humanitarian and development agencies in the oPt are spending \$375,000 just to work around Israeli restrictions on movement and access.

While the restrictions add up to an annual cost of at least \$4.5 million for donors and their taxpayers, the highest price is paid by the Palestinian people.

Close to 60 per cent of the West Bank and all of the Gaza Strip is subject to Israeli-imposed restrictions on movement and access.

These restrictions increase fragmentation and dependency, moving Palestinians further from self-sufficiency and hopes for a sustainable, contiguous state. Last April, the IMF warned that any economic growth in the oPt could not be sustained as long as restrictions on access and movement in the West Bank continued and the blockade on Gaza remained.

As the restrictions stifle sustainable economic and social growth, vulnerability and poverty continue to grow. As needs increase, the restrictions effectively hold aid back from reaching isolated communities. Aid agencies find it increasingly difficult to reach people living in access-restricted areas.

Many agencies are reporting that they are unable to run projects where they feel the need is greatest because they are forced to direct their efforts only on those areas of the oPt they are permitted to access.

In the areas international organisations are not free to access, people are particularly vulnerable due to the access restrictions imposed on them. An elaborate system of checkpoints, roadblocks, settlements, and military zones cut Palestinians off from schools, hospitals, and the agricultural land they need to make a living.

People in these areas are left out of the state building process, without access to the essential resources and services they need to move out of poverty and make a better life for themselves and their families.



Ambulance waits for permission to travel at Gaza's Erez Crossing

APPEAL UPDATE

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID APPEAL WEST BANK

The Israeli military occupation in the west bank is using a wide range of controls and restrictions to deny urgent access to medical care for a large proportion of the Palestinian population.

In July we wrote about Palestinians in the West Bank being denied the quickest route to hospital; roadblocks, checkpoints, Israeli-only roads and the whim of Israeli soldiers all causing delays to critically ill patients reaching hospital. A week after writing to you we heard another case of a wounded



Palestinian student, Ibrahim Sarhan, who died as Israeli soldiers refused to let an ambulance through to help.

The MAP appeal to send a specialist team of surgeons from the UK to the West Bank has already raised enough to begin training medical staff in the priority areas. Trained medical workers will now be on hand to provide emergency preventative treatment and to stabilise a patient until they reach hospital.



ACCESS RESTRICTIONS IN PALESTINE



STATISTICS:

US \$4.5mil

increase in costs (per year) of delivering assistance

73.5%

of agencies report problems getting staff permits for Gaza

21%

of agencies have had international staff refused entry into the country in the last three years

To read the full report, please visit www.map.org.uk

APPEAL UPDATE

EMERGENCY TRAUMA CARE

GAZA

The Gaza blockade is now in its fifth year – one and half million Palestinians face an uncertain future. At times of crisis the emergency services are struggling to cope. Over the last six months hospital treatments and operations have had to be cancelled – the most recent reason is due to the shortage of blood because equipment to carry out simple safety procedures is not available. With blood supplies reaching critical level MAP launched an appeal to provide equipment and support to collect and safely store blood donations in all Gaza hospitals. The response was magnificent which was very motivating for MAP staff working with the medical teams in Gaza – knowing that MAP supporters are so dependable at times of need.

CASE STUDY

GAZA 'BUFFER ZONE'

Living in the "Buffer Zone": the Nasser Abu Said family

Israel maintains a military no-go zone ('buffer zone') along the entire northern and eastern perimeter of the Gaza Strip, reaching from 300 meters to 2km inside Palestinian territory.

Anyone who enters this area risks being shot at, injured, or killed. For Palestinian families who live in or near the 'buffer zone', life has become untenable. Over 30% of Gaza's agricultural land is located in the 'buffer zone', but farmers are unable to plant there. Eighty percent of Gaza's residents rely on humanitarian aid, but in the 'buffer zone' conditions are even more dire.

The nine members of the Nasser Abu Said family still live 300 meters from the border with Israel. In 2010, Nasser's wife Nema was killed by one of three missiles that hit the family's home. He and his five children watched her bleed to death as ambulances were prevented from entering the area.

Now he stays at home, too fearful to leave his children alone. Without income, the family eats food from cans, rarely buying meat or fresh vegetables. The children wet their beds frequently, are doing poorly at school and suffer other effects of experienced trauma. The family has moved out of the house that they associate with their loss, living instead in a nearby tent. But most profound is their sense of abandonment.





HOW TO PUT ON A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR MAP

You will see from reading Aishah's interview opposite that putting on a fundraising event for MAP can be a lot of fun while also being rewarding. Imagine waking up the morning after your successful event, not only have you had a great time but you have also raised money which will help Palestinians gain access to better healthcare.

Your event can be big or small. It can be something simple with just a small group of friends getting together or a large spectacular production. Your event can be something which indulges your passion or something which helps you and your colleagues work closer

together. It can even be something which shows off your talents.

The list of what you can do for your event really is as long as your imagination allows it to be – you could put on a gala dinner, have a music night at home, have a music night, put on a pub quiz, have a tennis tournament, put on a treasure hunt – if you go to the MAP website you will find plenty to inspire you. But no matter what you do, every penny you raise will make a difference to the lives of Palestinians living under occupation or as refugees. You could be raising money which could mean a child who is severely ill is able

“Organisations like Medical Aid for Palestinians need our absolute support, alongside political demands for an end to the illegal occupation of the Palestinian lands.” (Ken Roach, Director and Ricky Tomlinson, Actor)

to receive rapid emergency treatment to save their life. You could be organising a fun event which could allow an expectant mother, living in a refugee camp in Lebanon, to get the medical attention she needs. Your event could raise money so that a child gets support to deal with the trauma of living in a conflict zone.

Once you have decided on your event, you will need to decide when you are going to put it on. If you are holding an event aimed at families with young children and you plan to put it on at 9pm on a Wednesday night, you could be the only person attending! Likewise if you are holding a bake sale in your office you would be unlikely to sell as many cakes as on a Sunday afternoon.

You will need to organise a venue – you could use your home or work, which will keep costs down. Perhaps hold it in a pub, which often have free function rooms. You may find that venues which charge are happy to waive their fee to help you to raise money for MAP – you just need to ask!

Finally, you will need to shout about the fantastic work you are doing – social media websites like Twitter and Facebook are great for this. Send emails to invite people to your event. You might be able to get your employer to put a notice up on their website. Perhaps put some posters up in local businesses and community centers. Maybe contact your local newspaper and see if they will include details about your fundraiser. If you are a member of a community or religious group, you might be able to get a notice read out at your next meeting.

But most importantly have fun! And don't forget to tell MAP so that we can make sure you enjoy that warm fuzzy feeling knowing that your effort is improving lives.

If you want to share your ideas about an event or want advice on putting on an event please contact us on:

**020 7226 4114 or at
info@map-uk.org**

OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you!

Everyday we hear about the weird, wonderful and heroic things our supporters do to fundraise. To all of them we would like to say a big Thank You – here are just a few of those people. If you would like some fundraising ideas or more information contact us on 020 7226 4114 or info@map-uk.org

- **Ben Smith** has been indulging his passion for cycling by riding 400 miles in 5 days and is on his way to raising £2,000.
- **Elsbeth Shewen and Alan Sharman** raised over £2550 by running the Keswick Half Marathon around lake Dewentwater. (see Alan's picture below)
- **Dominic Lash** held a concert raising £660.
- **Sue and Paul Cooke** put on a special screening of Lawrence of Arabia in York raising over £1,800.
- **Martin Walsh** has been doing a mammoth cycle to Lebanon from the UK. He has raised over £1800.
- **Marion Hunt** and her husband have been spending the summer walking coast to coast from Cumbria to North Yorkshire. They have so far risen over £850.
- 9 year old **Orla Walton** has done a 1,200 meters swim in Bristol raising over £225
- **David Robinson** has been selling stamps, raising £800
- **Irial Eno** ran the Leeds half marathon raising over £1,200
- After 4 years **David McNeish** got his hair cut. His aim was to raise £500 – but he managed to raise £2027



MY FUNDRAISER

BY AISHAH IQBAL, MAP SUPPORTER



Jannath Khanom, Undleeb Iqbal and Aishah Iqbal – organisers of "To the children of Palestine with love" dinner

Last year I was in Pakistan when it was hit by a series of devastating floods. After returning to the United Kingdom, I arranged a fundraising event to help the families who had lost their homes and loved ones that rose over £48,000.

This year, along with three friends, we're putting on an event to support MAP's 'Children of Palestine' appeal. The night will hopefully attract 250 people and will be a mixture of entertainment and awareness raising with speakers including one of MAP's founders – Dr. Swee Ang.

The original idea for the event came after I heard Dr. Swee giving a talk at UCL. Hearing a first-hand account of the situation facing Palestinians in Gaza made me want to stand up and

do something to make a difference. As a medical student studying in London I am particularly interested in how the occupation impacts on Palestinian healthcare. So I did my research and learnt all about MAP's life saving work across the Middle East.

That is what made me want to organise this event. It does not matter who you are, everyone can make a difference. Despite how busy life is, we all have the capacity to contribute positively to what is often seen as an impossible situation. Here in the UK we're so lucky to have the NHS to look after us when we fall sick. In Palestine children who did not ask to be born into conflict are suffering on a daily basis. People deserve to be happy and I hope that our event can help MAP to continue making a real difference.

ASKS:

£25 could help pay for supplies and equipment to train front-line staff in resuscitation techniques

£50 could train front-line medical staff to give emergency treatment in rural regions

£75 could help us to train a senior health-care practitioners who will form the core of our ongoing team

FUNDRAISING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

■ **SCOTTISH MAP DAY**
 Christchurch Church Hall,
 Morningside Road, Edinburgh,
 Saturday 12 November, 10am – 2pm
 MAP supporter Runa Mackay will be hosting a free event complete with Palestinian food and craft stalls. In 1987 Runa worked with MAP in a clinic in a Palestinian refugee camp in the south of Lebanon. Runa told MAP "the horrible injustice of the situation prompted me to stay actively involved with MAP". MAP trustee Professor Graham Watt will be speaking about his recent visit to Lebanon.

■ **FUNDRAISING DINNER: TO THE CHILDREN OF PALESTINE WITH LOVE**
 Starlight Suite, 300 Lea Bridge Road, Leyton, London, E10 7LD,
 Friday 07 October: 6pm
 A fundraising dinner with theatre and music entertainment. This event has been organised by Aishah with her friends – see the interview with Aishah above. Tickets: £15 if booked before 7th September, £20 after then. For more information or to purchase tickets: Call 020 226 4114. Email: tpwl2011@gmail.com.

MAP NEWS

■ LONDON PALESTINE FILM FESTIVAL

At the London Palestine Film Festival, MAP hosted the UK premiere of *My Name is Ahlam*, by Palestinian director Rima Essa. The film is a moving portrait of Aisha, a mother fighting for her daughter's right to receive adequate treatment for leukaemia. Under difficult circumstances, Aisha stands up to the Israeli Authorities hampering her movement and access to essential medical services, but also to the constraints of conservative family norms. Following the screening, MAP held a panel discussion with the director and Dr. John Beavis, a trauma surgeon who works with MAP in Gaza.

■ PALESTINIAN RECONCILIATION

MAP along with eleven humanitarian and development organisations, called on the European Union to actively support Palestinian reconciliation and continue its donor contributions to the Palestinian people.

■ LORD PATTEN STEPS DOWN

MAP, President Chris Patten stepped down in May to take over from Sir Michael Lyons as Chairman of the BBC Trust. After becoming President, Lord Patten stated "MAP is a tremendously important charity both because of the huge good that it does on the ground and its role as an advocate of better treatment of Palestinians".



■ MAP FILMS:

BIRTH IN THE SHADOWS

Pregnancy and childbirth are vulnerable times for mothers and their children. But in the Palestinian refugee camps of Lebanon this vulnerability is magnified by poverty and neglect. MAP's new film *Birth in the Shadows* explores how, with no government and few rights in Lebanon, MAP's Maternal and Child Health project provides an opportunity for the protection of young mothers and their babies, giving them support, advice and hope for a better future. To view this, and other films, please go to www.map.org.uk

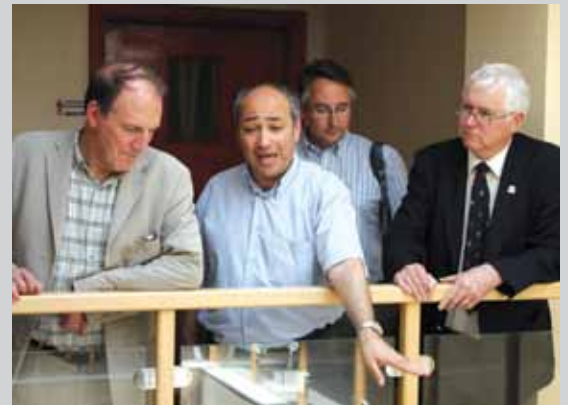
■ EMPOWERING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

On 28 March 2011, MAP launched a project entitled "Empowering people with Disabilities to Claim their Rights and Entitlements" with our partner, Birzeit University's Centre for Development Studies. The project targets Palestinian youth with disabilities in the West Bank and Gaza, supporting them to become advocates for change against the isolation, marginalization and exclusion that they and many other Palestinians with disability face.

■ LANCET PALESTINIAN HEALTH WORKSHOP IN WEST BANK

The third annual meeting of the Lancet Palestinian Health Alliance was held this summer in the West Bank, building on the success of the 2009 series. Underlying MAP's projects in Lebanon and the oPt is a commitment to evidence-based best policy and practice. This is an ongoing collaboration, led by the internationally renowned medical journal, *The Lancet*, MAP and other Palestinian partners. For further information about any of these events please contact us.

DIARY DATES



Simon Hughes MP, Martin Horwood MP and Bob Russell MP visit the Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem on a MAP delegation.

■ MAP AT PARTY CONFERENCES:

MAP is hosting events in conjunction with the New Statesman at all three party conferences this year. The topic to be debated is "Palestine in the shadow of the Arab Uprising: what role should Britain play?" The events are outside the secure zones and free to attend.

■ CONSERVATIVE CONFERENCE.

Manchester Town Hall,
Tuesday 04 October, 6.30-7.30pm

Mehdi Hasan from the New Statesman (chair), Dr. Rosemary Hollis from City University, Chris Doyle from CAABU, Rory Stewart MP and MAP's Chief Executive, Steven James.

■ LABOUR CONFERENCE. LIVERPOOL

Circo Hotel, 26 September, 6.30-7.30pm

Mehdi Hasan from the New Statesman (chair), Professor Avi Shlaim (Oxford), Robin Kealy (MAP), Dr. Laleh Khalili (SOAS) and Rushanara Ali MP.

■ LIBERAL DEMOCRATS.

Birmingham, Novotel Hotel,
19 September, 6.30-7.30pm

Mehdi Hasan from the New Statesman (chair), John McHugo from Liberal Democrat Friends of Palestine, Professor Illan Pappé (Exeter), Ming Campbell MP and the Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats, Simon Hughes MP.

Donate online at

www.map.org.uk

Or call today on

020 7226 4114

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