

دكتور / أكرم العجلة

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Urban Studies and Public Affairs from the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University (2008). Areas of Specialization: Economic Development, Public Administration

Post-Graduate Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Department of Urban and Regional Planning (2000)

Master's Modules in Historic Preservation and Architecture Design from Plymouth University, England (2002)

Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning, An-Najah National University with distinction and honor Palestinian Authority (1999)

Bachelor of Science in Architecture, College of Engineering, Beir Zeit University Palestinian Authority (1994)

### AWARDS

Fulbright Scholarship Program, Interviewer of 2010 Gaza applicants

USAID, OSI, and AMIDEAST Faculty Grant Award, Palestinian Faculty Development Program, A Training Program for Enhancing Teaching Capabilities for Al Azhar University of Gaza Faculty Members

US State Department/AMIDEAST Palestinian Faculty Development Program Ph.D. Scholarship (Aug 2006 - May 2008)

British Council Cheavening Master's scholarship (July 2001 - May 2002)

Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program, Reviewer and examiner of 2009's Gaza applicants (March 2009)

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

### **September 2008 to Present**

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Al Azhar University of Gaza

### **September 2009 to Present**

Part-Time Assistant Professor, Al Quds Open University

### **Fall 2010**

Part-Time Assistant Professor. University of Palestine in Gaza. Architecture and Urban Development Faculty.

### **June 2010 Researcher- Save the Children- Sweden**

Baseline study of the project: "Protecting the rights of Palestinian children affected by armed conflicts through community-based mechanism in the Gaza Strip"

#### ***Responsibilities:***

- Develop tools for data collection including guidelines for the data collection and analysis process
- Determine the sample groups according to geographical scope and other relevant variables of the project
- Train the dedicated baseline team in tools and guideline for the baseline
- Supervise the baseline process, in particular the qualitative focus group discussions, interviews with parents, community members, MOSA Child Protection Network and Civil Society Organizations
- Supervise the baseline process through developing questionnaires and other recommended tools to quantitatively assess the indicators of the different intervention components of the project
- Ensure that quantity, quality, and validity of data is described and implemented to ensure consistency of the baseline result
- Develop adequate and contextualized database and monitoring systems to ensure that the impact of the programme can be measured
- Identify prevention, detection, reporting, early intervention, response, reintegration and alternative care available services and assess their validity and quality

**November 2009- January 2010: Researcher- Palestinian Family Planning and Protection Association.**

Baseline Survey on Sex and Reproductive Health Youth Friendly Services in Palestine.

***Responsibilities:***

- Develop tools for data collection including guidelines for the data collection and analysis process.
- Determine the sample groups according to geographical scope and other relevant variables of the project
- Train the dedicated baseline team in tools and guideline for the baseline
- Supervise the baseline process, in particular the qualitative focus group discussions, interviews with experts in the field of sex and reproductive health, community non-governmental organizations which are interested and working in the field of family planning and youth health care, Protection Network and Civil Society Organizations
- Supervise the baseline process through developing questionnaires and other recommended tools to quantitatively assess the indicators of the different intervention components of the project
- Ensure that quantity, quality, and validity of data is described and implemented to ensure consistency of the baseline result
- Develop adequate and contextualized database and monitoring systems to ensure that the impact of the program can be measured

**July 2009 to September 2009: Researcher- Ministry of Education/Rammallah, Quality Improvement Fund, World Bank Project.**

Improving The Quality of Technology Education Teacher Preparation Programs in The Universities and Colleges in Gaza Strip. A comprehensive Assessment Study.

A. Develop and administer questionnaires for school administrators, technology teachers, and school supervisors

B. Organize (15) focus group meetings with school administrators, technology supervisors, and other school employees assessing the technology curricula and characteristics of technology education

C. Analysis the student's academic achievement in technology education curricula grade (5-12)

**June 2009 to July 2009: Consultant-Quality Improvement Fund, World Bank**

**February 2009- June 2009: Researcher– AMIDEAST/ USAID Project.**

Local consultant-AMIDEAST/USAID, National Study on Reform in Teaching and Learning Practice of the Palestinian Higher Education.

**October 2008 to April 2009 The American University of Beirut.**

Palestinian Camps' Mode of Governance  
Project, Issam Fares Institute of Public Policy and International Affairs The American University of Beirut.

This research project aims to clarify the relationship between power, sovereignty, and space concerning the case of the Palestinian Refugee Camps in the Middle East, by examining modes of governance inside the camps.

**1997 to 2005** Director General, Directorate of Planning and Development  
Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Palestinian National Authority (PNA).

**May to December 2005** Deputy Chief of Staff, Gaza-Israel Disengagement File,  
Technical Teams. Palestinian Authority.

**2003 to 2006** Coordinator, Palestinian World Heritage Committee.

**1997 to 2003** Representative of Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities Central  
Planning Committee of Gaza, PNA

**1994 to 1996** Head of Department, Technical Cooperation Dept, Ministry of  
Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC), PNA,

**ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING**

- § Plymouth Town Hall, Plymouth, England Jan., 2002.
- § Arts and Crafts Village, Gaza city, 1997 (co designer)
- § King Fahed Housing Project, MOPIC, 1996
- § Main offices and facilities, Palestine Sporting Club, Gaza 1996
- § Shopping centers I and II, ministry of Waqf, 1996
- § Holst Culture Center, Gaza Municipality, Gaza city, 1995
- § Office Building, Gaza Mental Health Program, 1994
- § Gaza Headquarters, Palestinian Preventive Security, 1994
- § Design of the Ethnographic Museum in Gaza.
- § Administrative Building, College of Science and Technology, Khan Younis, 1994
- § Main offices and facilities, School of Agriculture, Zababdeh, Jenin, 1993
- § Housing Project, Bir Zeit Employees society, Ramallah, 1993 (co-designer)
- § Student's Dormitories, Bir Zeit University, 1993
- § Model Designs of schools, PECJAR, 1993
- § Textile factory at Gaza industrial zone, 1994

- § Jenin land use plan, re-planning of the Historical core, 1998
- § Rehabilitation Plan to the city centre of Tul Karem. 1997.
- § Reconstruction plan for Beirut city center, (team work in international competition), 1993
- § Re-planning of Bir Zeit town, 1992
- § Landscape planning and design, Bir Zeit University campus, 1992
- § Sectorial Development Plan for Tourism and Antiquities.

## **RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL REPORTS**

- § Historical Evaluation of Al Pasha Palace in Gaza, University of Plymouth, England December 2001.
- § Contemporarility and Traditionality in Architecture, Plymouth University, England November 2001.
- § Contemporaralisim and Building Conservation Phylosophy, Plymouth University, England, March 2002.
- § Management Of Cultural Resources In Palestine, 1999
- § Physical Planning for Touristic Zone, Gaza Sea Shore, 1993
- § Random Housing In Gaza Strip, How To Upgrade The Environmental Level, 1993
- § The Israeli Settlements' Negative Impact On Palestinian Regional Planning, 1993
- § The Housing Problem In Gaza Strip, 1992
- § Gaza Strip Master Plan, A National Mission, 1994
- § The Impact Of Culture, Religion, And Traditions On House Form, 1992
- § Documentary Study On Mamlouk Architecture In Gaza Strip, 19989
- § City Planning In Europe During The Middle Ages, 1990
- § The Contemporary Creative Art Movement In The Occupied Territories, 1988
- § The Traditional Architecture In Palestine (case studies include buildings in Ramallah)
- § The Israeli Occupation of the West Bank And Gaza Strip, What Is The Solution?, 1998
- § The Impact Of Land And Property Regulations On Planning During The Period From Ottoman To Israeli Occupation, 1997
- § The Human Settlement In Jericho, A Study Of Styles Of Housing Units And Housing Compounds, 1998.
- § Study And Analysis Of Housing Projects In The West Bank:
  - Physicians' Housing Project, Ramallah
  - Austrian Housing Project, Nablus
  - Summer Resort Housing Project, Ramallah
- § Tulkarem Town Planning, Assessment and Future Vision, 1998
- § Planning Theory As A Practical Tools, 1998
- § Inter-action And Breaking Points Relationships Between Gaza Strip Cities, 1998
- § Negotiation And Bargaining As A Practical Approach In Transportation Planning, 1998

- § General Frame Of Setting Distribution Of Population And City Volume In West bank And Gaza Strip, 1999.
- § Spatial Autonomy within the Urban context: E'n Beit Al ma' palestinian refugee camp in Nablus, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, May 2000.
- § Metropolitan Gaza, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, June 2000.
- § Potential Markets for Tourism in Palestine, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, July 2000.
- § Urban Development of Gaza Refugee Camps, Case Study: Beach " Al Shata'" Refugee Camp. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Feb.,2001.
- § Donars and their impact on the Local Government form in Palestine, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, March 2001.
- § Socio economic measurements and its effect on the Urban Fabric of Gaza Settlements, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, April 2001.
- § Globalization and the Social phenomena in the urban context. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, May 2001.
- § The Identity of the Urban Islamic city in its Cultural Context, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, July 2001.

#### **PUBICATIONS AND ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS**

- "Sport facilities as social capital" 2008. In *Sport and Social Capital*, Matthew Nicholon and Russell Hoye, editors, London: Elsevier Publications, London (with Mark S. Rosentraub), pp. 339-358.
- Does Public Space Create Social Capital? The second International Symposium: Crossing Over, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Cleveland State University. October 5-7<sup>th</sup>, 2007.
- "Chicago School and its implication for studying the Palestinian Refugee Camps". *The 38th Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association*, Baltimore, Maryland, USA. April 2008.
- " *The Impacts of Historical Designation on Residential Property Values: An Analysis of three slow growth and three fast growth central cities in the United States*". *The International Conference on Architecture Heritage: The reality and Challenges for Preservation. The Islamic University of Gaza, April 22<sup>nd</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> 2008.*
- "The Higher Education Model in the USA: Where Hither Palestine" *AMIDEAST and USAID Colloquia, Bethlehem- Al Aqsa University, June 26<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> 2008.*
- Ijla, A., Mark Rosentraub, and William Bowen. "Historic Designation and The Rebuilding of Inner City Neighborhoods: Some New Evidence Of The Value Of A Decades Old Policy Tool" (under review).
- "Change the Palestinian Higher Education towards competitive Advantage of Human Capital: The catalyst of teaching Practices."

AMIDEAST and USAID's Third Colloquia, An Najah National University- Al Aqsa University, July 23<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> 2009.

#### **COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES**

- § Member of the International Campaign to Break the Siege on Gaza, representative of the campaign in the USA, 2007-2008.
- § Member of the Palestinian-Israeli Peace Coalition "Geneva Initiative" 2003- to present.
- § Member of advisory committee for Habitat For Humanity Palestine, Gaza office, 1999.
- § Elected Chairman of the board for the Engineering Students Club, Bir Zeit University, 1992, 1993.
- § Coordinating of the Beir-Zeit's University annual voluntary camps in Gaza, 1988, 1999
- § Coordinator of the national campaign for preserving Antiquities in Palestine, 1992.
- § A Forestation campaign for West Bank Mountains, 1993, 1994
- § Organizing group tours to the Archaeological sites throughout Palestine, 1991, 1992.
- § Voluntary work campaigns in Nazareth and Golan, 1985, 1986, 1992, 1993
- § Sharing in organizing the "Architecture Days", 1993, 1994
- § Campaign of cleaning Gaza beach (Gaza Clean), sponsored by PEC DAR, 1994.
- § Member of the founding committee of the "Free Thought Forum", Bir Zeit University, 1992.
- § Member of the founding committee of the League Of Architects in Gaza, Association Of Engineers in Gaza, 1995
- § Board member of the "League Of Architects" in Gaza, 1995, 1997
- § Member of the founding board of Bir Zeit University Graduates in Gaza, 1994
- § Board member of Al-Nawras Culture Center in Gaza, 1996
- § Coordinating for the weekly TV program "This Week" presented by Mr. Marwan Kanafani, (Ex-PLC member and a senior aid to President Arafat), 1994 to 2000.
- § During my study period in The United States, I volunteered with Ishmael and Isaac Peace Organization, CAIR, Middle East Peace Forum, Dialogue: Jewish and Muslim Group for Peace, and Peace Action group in Cleveland.

#### **REFERENCES:**

1. **Professor Mark S. Rosentraub, Bickner Endowed Chair**  
Department of Sports Management  
School of Kinesiology  
University of Michigan  
1402 Washington Heights  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2013  
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