

A Plea from WFP's Arabic Literacy Project in Jordan

Katarina Connery
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Please read this heartfelt plea from the Director of WFP's Arabic Literacy Project in Jordan.

Consider supporting literacy for refugee children in need. We are only 50% to our goal of raising \$7,000 needed to continue the program.

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To WFP USA Members and Friends,

First of all, We would like to thank you very much for your sincere support. Recently, we had a big demonstration in Jordan, such a demonstration has never happened in the country.

Jordan is similar to other Arab countries in a sense it is a bit of a dictatorship with limited freedom of speech and expression. After the Arab spring things became a little bit better here. But the recent demonstration was completely different as it challenged the education system of Jordan.

The education system is a foundation needed in order to build a strong country. So the present condition of Jordan is partly due to the poor Education system.

The population of children living in poverty areas is very high. These kids coming from a poor background attend public school and the number of students in each class is around 50 students. **Many children are unable to learn.**

For instance, more than 50% of the children in public schools are very weak in studying and with poor learning capabilities. Regardless of this they are promoted to the next grade every year. Its understandable because the schools cannot hold back students due to the large enrollment rate.

After they drop out of school due to aforementioned reasons, some children become laborers with very low salary and many remain unemployed.

Also , families are unable to help children study because of poor family planning and poverty. Teachers in the public schools usually have two jobs per day to make enough income so that they can feed their families.

The future of these children is bleak. Jordan urgently needs to restructure the education system in order to build a strong foundation for the country. This is the reason why we want to thank you, WFP USA, for helping these children through your generous donations.

We urge you with all our heart to help us retain the Arabic literacy program

so that we can continue our work of educating these children.

Sincerely,
Fusayo Irikura
Arabic Literacy Project Director

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