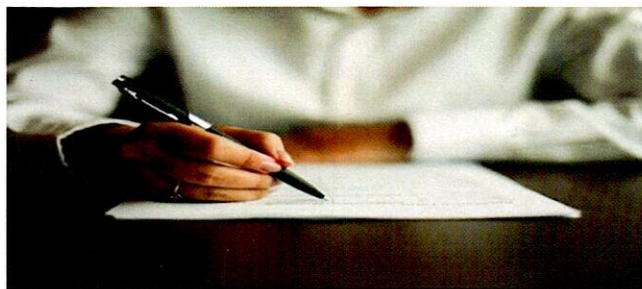


Newsletter

Edition 38

May 2024



Jerusalem – a city between shock and hope



„**Bring them home now!**“ These four words characterize the city and the entire country. The symbol for this desire, the yellow ribbon, can be found everywhere, on the jacket of the mayor of Jerusalem, as graffiti on the streets. As a participant in the Jerusalem Foundation seminar entitled “Future Leadership”, I also found it in the conference documents. Even Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wears it on the lapel of his suit jacket. The fate of the still living hostages of Hamas, which is deliberately using over 100 people as a “defensive weapon” in the war in the Gaza Strip, describes, in my opinion, the still omnipresent trauma of the Israeli population. According to Israeli friends, demonstrations are held several times a week on the streets of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, with large crowds of people taking the fate of the hostages as their theme. There are other demonstrations directed against the current government and calling for new elections to be held at short notice. However, the number of participants in these demonstrations is said to be significantly lower.

A seminar entitled “Future Leadership” led me to expect to learn mostly about plans and ideas for the future. “The day after”, i.e. the time after the war, was the expected focus. The more I was surprised when the seminar presented 20 committed young leaders from a wide range of ethnic, religious and social backgrounds who did not talk about plans and ideas for the future, but for whom the “day after” is now, not just in theory, but in practice. One of these young actors in Jerusalem society put it in a nutshell: “We now want to reshape the Israeli society in which we live. A very important part of this society is that we want to live together peacefully here in Jerusalem with all the people who live here, regardless of where their roots or origins come from and which religion they feel they belong to.”





One of these young “future leaders” is Amal Khayat, who was born in East Jerusalem and grew up under difficult conditions. She studied pharmacology at Al-Quds University in Abu Dis/Palestine up to her bachelor's degree, completed two master's degrees at the Hebrew University and is about to complete her doctorate in public health. She is involved in various peace and social projects on a voluntary basis and is currently the project manager of the project “Training of social workers from and for East Jerusalem”, which we

support. Both as a speaker on a panel at the seminar and in personal conversations, she conveyed a clear and convincing message. The youth of Jerusalem are determined and are taking action to lead the city, and with it the whole country, into a better future.

Commitment to peace at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

What was presented in the Jerusalem Foundation seminar I was able to find in concrete terms at Mount Scopus in the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The Diversity Department there, in cooperation with the Mandel School, runs several scholarship projects to promote joint studies for Palestinian and Israeli students at the university, which we support financially. I was able to speak to several Palestinian students during my visit. For them, the opportunity to study there is an excellent way not only to achieve their educational goals, but also to overcome barriers to peaceful coexistence between Muslims and Jews, Arabs and Israelis. One particular project among them is “The Roof” Research Hub. When the university was still closed due to the war at the end of last year, the idea was born to create an area on the roof of the university buildings to which students waiting for the university to reopen were invited to create a roof garden or to pursue their artistic inclinations together. Spontaneously, 45 students from the most diverse groups, religious Jews, seculars, ultra-orthodox Jews and Arabs, came together. By working together on self-defined results, they got into conversation with each other. This helped to overcome fears and reservations and create constructive cooperation.



Avishag is looking forward to the concert tour to Germany.

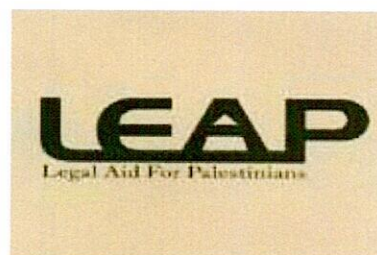


A small time window remained on the 5-day trip to Jerusalem to visit Avishag, her husband and her daughter at her mother's house. Her mother had prepared an Ethiopian coffee ceremony. Avishag is happy to be living with her mother since her husband returned from a six-month war deployment. During my visit, she told me about the inferno she experienced in a kibbutz just a few kilometers away from the Gaza Strip on 7 October 2023 and how she and her family were fortunately able to escape physically unharmed.

Avishag is really looking forward to the concert tour to Germany at the end of September this year, the details of which I was able to clarify with the responsible persons at the Maqamat Music School for Eastern Music during my stay.

LEAP does not give up and keep standing to their mission!

The war in the Middle East and the Israeli government's closure policy against the West Bank are hitting the Palestinians working in Israel on the West Bank particularly hard, including the peace initiative LEAP (Legal Aid for Palestinians). As Prof. Kenneth Mann told me at a meeting shortly before my departure, LEAP is currently unable to continue its efforts to obtain or regain denied or revoked border crossing permits, especially as European Union funding approved for this purpose has also been frozen. However, there is another field of activity in which the lawyers of LEAP can and will continue their peace-building support for the people living in the West Bank. Recently, property has been and continues to be confiscated from Palestinians by the Israeli military, often without sufficient legal basis. LEAP's lawyers help Palestinians to recover their property. The Palestinians' experience that it is also Jewish Israelis who help them is of great importance for regaining the mutual trust that is so vital. We are doing what we can to help.



Lisa lets nothing stop her!

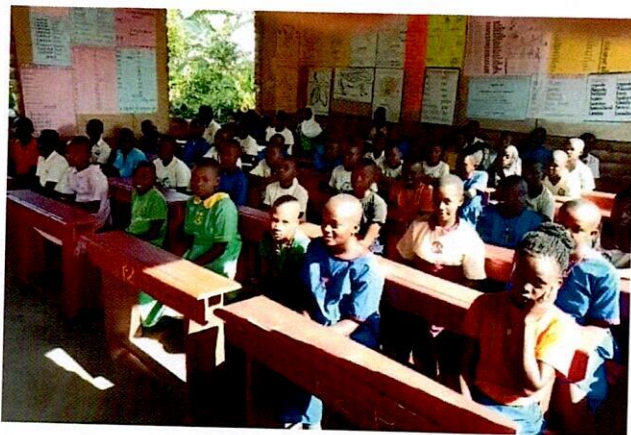


There are young people in this world who never cease to amaze us with their perseverance and courage to face life. 15-year-old Lisa from Kasese/Uganda has had anything but an easy time fulfilling her desire for education. As an orphan after losing the necessary financial support from relatives, it is only thanks to her strong will to learn and not give up that she is now in the 3rd grade of secondary school with very good academic results and is still on her way to becoming a surgeon or software developer (Plan B). A few weeks ago, she wrote us the following:

„Anyway, shortly after our meeting in Masaka, I slipped and fell in a bathing area of our school and got an injury near my left knee cap. I was admitted into a sick bay at our school and would spend several weeks recuperating from the injury. I even did the exams while still feeling some pain. I am now feeling much better. Thanks a lot for all that support going towards my education. I have been reading the monthly Newsletters you keep sending. I feel much encouraged by the stories of success happening in different parts of the world shared through the Newsletters as a result of your philanthropic efforts.“

Lisa's report for the first term of the current school year, which we received, shows excellent grades in all subjects.

Kikondo – First school fee sponsorships and the sanitation project



Following our first appeal for sponsorship of school fees for the children at St. Jude School in Kikondo/Uganda, we were able to register sponsorship of school fees for 13 children and transfer much-needed support for the purchase of food for school meals, outstanding teachers' salaries and learning materials. However, this is just the beginning. More sponsorships are needed to ensure that the school

can continue to operate. If you can decide to do this or would like to contact friends/acquaintances, you will find a form at the end of this newsletter or on our website www.fam-hoene.de under Downloads.



In the investment area of this school project, the “sanitary project” is currently on the agenda. We are very pleased that we have been able to persuade another private foundation in conjunction with the St. Magnus relief organization of the Catholic parish in Wernau/Baden-Württemberg to make a substantial financial contribution to this project. We are currently exploring the technology in question, which should lead to a significant and necessary increase in sanitary standards in the school. The global organization “Engineers without Borders” has kindly agreed to help us with their expertise.

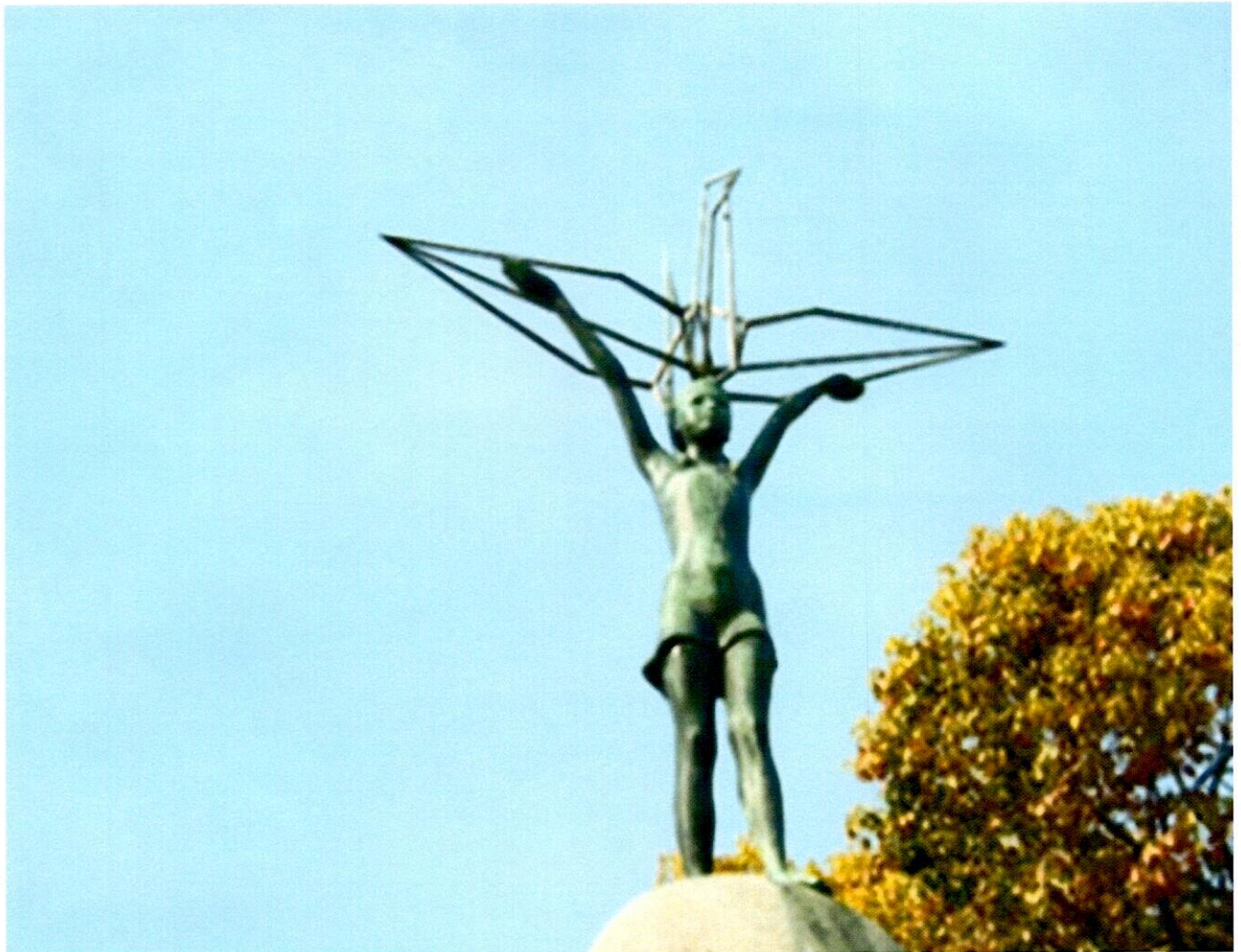
Hala from East Jerusalem studies fashion and jewelry design at Bezalel University



We have known Hala for a while now. She lives in Anata/East Jerusalem and is the younger sister of our scholarship holder Mayar, who is currently completing her bachelor's degree in materials engineering at RWTH Aachen University. Like her sister, Hala attended the Schmidt School in Jerusalem and graduated from there last year. Her original plan was to study architecture at Bezalel University in West Jerusalem. To do this, she first had to take a Hebrew course. As a Palestinian, her mother tongue is Arabic. She studied German (C2) and English as foreign languages at the Schmidt School. During a preparatory course, she discovered that she particularly enjoys fashion and jewelry design. The designs she created during the course are impressive. We have supported her in the Hebrew course and are providing her with a study grant to finance part of her tuition fees.

Our events in the near future:

- **Discussion group “Foundation experiences” with a focus on Israel/Palestine Wednesday, June 12, 2024, from 5:30 p.m. in the Warmbronn community center (meeting room 1st floor),**
- **Information event on Uganda with Teddy Nakanwagi Wednesday, July 24, 2024, in Warmbronn (place and time to be announced)**
- **3rd foundation concert with music ensemble Maqamat/Safed/Israel on September 28, 2024 from 7:30 pm in the Protestant parish hall Warmbronn**



Did we arouse Your interest in our work?

Visit our homepage www.fam-hoene.de ! Get in touch with us at stiftung@fam-hoene.de or by telephone on +49 7152 3537299 !

If you would like to support our work, whether by providing information about educational projects worthy of support or in any other way, we would be delighted to hear from you. If you would like to support us through donations or endowments, you can also do so on a project basis. We guarantee that your donation will go directly and exclusively to the project of your choice. In the case of project-related endowments, we ensure that the income attributable to your endowment is used exclusively for the project of your choice.

If you would like to make this decision, you will find the necessary information on our homepage. Our donation account at Kreissparkasse Böblingen (BIC BBKRDE6BXXX) has the IBAN DE17 6035 0130 00011098 14.

Responsible: T. u. H. Hoene Stiftung, Riegeläckerstr. 44, 71229 Leonberg, Germany, www.fam-hoene.de, stiftung@fam-hoene.de, Phone +49 71523537299, Director: Thomas Hoene, address see above.

Sponsorship declaration
School fees St. Jude School, Kikondo/Uganda

Pre- and Surname of the Sponsor:.....

Adress:.....

E-Mail:.....

Name of the child (if already known):.....

Monthly amount (*): € 20,00 € 40,00

Transfer cycle*: monthly every quarter half year yearly

* I want direct debit procedure IBAN.....

Place/Date.....

Signature:

*Please tick as appropriate