



PRESS RELEASE
“Colours of Hope “
UNDP/PAPP Unveils its Sixth Annual Art Auction

Jerusalem, December 13, 2007 —*Colours of Hope*, is UNDP/PAPP's sixth annual art auction, featuring a diverse collection of 29 works by young male and female artists from across the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. The art auction was held on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 7pm at the Ambassador Hotel; Jerusalem. The night also exhibited the works of known artist Dr. Ali Qleibo, as well as captivating photos by the promising photographer, Majdi Hadid.

The event opening saw a distinguished gathering of dignitaries from the oPt. “Colours of Hope” offered visitors a dynamic and interactive experience, directly with art illustrations that represent an integral element in cultivation and recognition of Palestinian art. The paintings were reflective of Palestinian artistic and cultural diversity and were carefully selected by committees in the West Bank and Gaza.

“With this exhibition here in Jerusalem, we see once again that art has no borders and brings people of different nationalities and social backgrounds together. The attendance of such a distinguished group signifies our shared commitment and interest in furthering arts and cultural cooperation in the oPt,” said Mr. Jens Toyberg-Frandzen, UNDP Special Representative. “These artists are a very real testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the indomitable will of man - and woman - to overcome unimaginable traumas and rebuild shattered lives”.

The exhibition, exemplified one of the key principles underpinning UNDP's support for Palestinian Culture. The exhibitions are instrumental in further development of art in the oPt, providing a unique opportunity to expose the skills and talents of young artist.

Since 2001, UNDP/PAPP has been organizing this annual art auction, selling over 200 paintings, and raising approximately US\$113,150 that go directly to the artists.

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