

November 1, 2007

The speech of 'Abir Yassin, representing the ten winners of the first Canaan Scholarship Awards at the second Annual Olive Harvest Festival in 2007. 'Abir is daughter of an olive farmer from 'Anin cooperative, and is attending Arab American University of Jenin, majoring in English Literature.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am very pleased to welcome all of you and to express my feeling of thanks to Canaan Company. A company that founded the opportunity for us to be here and continue our university studies as they donated the university fees.

I think that most of us might not have been able to continue learning if we did not have this scholarship. Some might have been able to but at the cost of their family living.

For me personally, I am very grateful because I am living in a village which was nearly destructed because of the isolation fence which consumed most of our living resources. I really see the difficulties which many families are facing and feel their sorrow because they could not send their sons or daughters to continue their university learning.

Canaan company made a very good step by adopting the project of awarding university fees to some students to build the person future and encourage others not to live on charity.

This step from Canaan company has profound meaning. The simplest, we say, this is an appreciated step towards building the Palestinian person. We are certain that this effort will be successful because building the human lead them to the life battles armed with knowledge to engage the struggles of life hardships. I see that building the human and equipping them with the knowledge to face life is much more important than spending on families to afford food and clothing.

We say may God bless your determination to continue in this path that leads to a noble goal. The goal of building the human.

Thanks to you all.