



Yarmouk Newsletter

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Yarmouk Launches "Youth Summer 2022"



Massad: "Youth Summer 2022" is a Case that Draws Inspiration from the Royal Visions of Optimal Investment in University Youth

The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, said during the press conference organized by the Department of Public Relations and Media that the activities of "Youth Summer 2022" started with the beginning of summer semester as the university has completed full preparations for launching a number of interactive programs and activities in full partnership with students from various faculties and departments. He said that the university has prepared supervising teams through the Deanship of Student Affairs and the various deanships of the faculties and its departments in coordination with the Department of Public Relations and Media where all the logistical aspects, halls, theatres, amphitheatres, and the necessary arenas have been prepared. Massad then stressed that this unconventional university summer will be a periodic approach in all upcoming semesters, and it comes in a contemporary innovative way. He added that the university was keen to partner with all faculties to offer activities needed by students to lead interactive dialogue sessions with a high level of interaction between students, opinion leaders, and officials.

Regarding the type of activities included in Yarmouk Youth Summer 2022, the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Muhammad Thiyabat, explained that the program is divided into five weeks and includes many events and activities at the level of knowledge, skills, entertainment, and awareness. He mentioned that the first week includes holding the Third National Conference "The Royal Discussion Papers between Study and Implementation" as well as several dialogue sessions on youth and politics empowerment, especially "democracy" and "active citizenship". In the second week,

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two dialogue sessions will be presented in the field of youth and political empowerment covering the themes: "elections and political parties" and eExtremism", in addition to an interactive seminar on "Yarmouk Success Stories", an awareness seminar on the "Awareness of Traffic Accidents", "Working before Employment", an interactive workshop "Discover Yourself", and another on "Cybercrime (defamation and extortion). The third week, he said, includes an area of youth and political empowerment through many dialogue sessions covering the royal discussion papers in addition to an exhibition of "Yarmouk Innovations" that includes projects, innovations, patents, entrepreneurship, exhibitions, plays, music, singing, and other seminars on innovation, harassment, student sanctions, and awareness of the dangers of drug abuse. It also includes a community service activity, which is "Cleaning Islamic and Christian Cemeteries" and a symposium for celebrating the "Jordanian Youth and Sustainable Development". As for the activities of the fourth week, they include empowerment sessions, a number of poetry debates and a number of interactive dialogue sessions with students, a voluntary community activity in one of Bani Obaid schools, a symposium on the "Professional Accounting Certificate", "Dealing with the University Security," and "Sports Intolerance and its Reduction" and a competition entitled "Capturing the Flag/ CTF". The last week includes various dialogue sessions and other activities, such as poetry readings to unleash talents in this field, "Jordanian Cities and Villages (in both Arabic and English), "Youth Empowerment and Volunteer Work", "You are a Leader", "Design Problems and Solutions", a programming competition (YUPCP), and a panel discussion by the eminent preacher Dr. Muhammad Rateb al-Nabulsi.

For her part, the Director of the Dept. of Public Relations and Media, the official spokesperson for the university, Dr. Nawzat Abu Al-Asal, stated that it is expected that the "Youth Summer 2022" will achieve a number of outputs and desired goals, the first of which is that Yarmouk youth leads a cultural movement at the university and outside it and that their opinions, ideas and proposals will be adopted as beneficial decisions. She also stated that this summer comes as a proof that the university youth is a real and influential partner in public life through dialogue, which is a reliable channel for responsible expression in various national issues.

Cooperation with the Malaysian Cultural Attaché



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met the Director of the Malaysian Cultural Attaché, Dr. Radwan Abdul Rashid, to discuss ways of enhancing academic and research cooperation between Yarmouk University and several Malaysian educational institutions.

At the beginning of the meeting, Massad emphasized Yarmouk's interest in supporting its international students,

as they function as ambassadors of the university in their home countries, praising the outstanding level of Malaysian students studying in Yarmouk and stressing Yarmouk's readiness to receive more Malaysian students wishing to complete their university studies. He then called on the officials in the Malaysian Cultural Attaché to build bridges of cooperation between Yarmouk and Malaysian institutions of higher education through exchanging students and faculty members and conducting joint scientific research, especially in the field of applied sciences. Moreover, he pointed to the possibility of activating the cooperation agreement between Yarmouk and the Malaysian State of Pahang to support the Pahang Chair of Islamic studies.

In return, Abdul Rashid called for organizing more student and cultural activities that would facilitate the involvement of Malaysian students in the university community, pointing out that Yarmouk hosts the largest number of Malaysian students in comparison to other Jordanian universities, as it has 600 out of 1,200 Malaysian students in Jordan. Furthermore, he stressed the attaché's readiness to follow up on matters related to the support allocated by the Malaysian State of Pahang, according to the agreement signed between Yarmouk and the State of Pahang.

Research Cooperation between Yarmouk and the British Council

The Vice President of Yarmouk University for Academic Affairs, Professor Muwaffaq Alomoush , discussed with the head of the department of commercial and advertising development in the British Council in the Middle East, Fadi Zbeeb, ways to enhance cooperation between the two parties, especially in the field of accrediting Yarmouk as a regional center for holding the IELTS exam in the northern region of Jordan.

During the online meeting, Alomoush stressed the university's readiness to serve as a regional center for holding the IELTS exam, as it has the logistics and staff to hold the exam, whether paper or computerized, on campus and undertake the tasks of registering students and members of the local community wishing to take the IELTS exam.

In return, Zbeeb praised the prestigious scientific reputation of Yarmouk University at the regional level, emphasizing that there will be a considerable cooperation



between the two sides in the near future concerning holding the IELTS exam on the university campus.

Yarmouk University Participates in an International Training Workshop on Curriculum Development in the Context of Refugees

An academic team from Yarmouk University participated in an international training workshop on “Curriculum Development in the Context of Refugees” at the University of Twente in the Netherlands 26 - 30 June, as part of an international project funded by the Dutch Nuffic Organization and implemented by the Refugees, Displaced Persons and Forced Migration Studies Center of Yarmouk University in partnership with Belink Academy and Amel Foundation. The team included the head of the Department of Sociology and Social Work at the Faculty of Arts, Dr. Ayat Nashwan, and a number of academics and administrators from the refugees’ center and other researchers from various university faculties.

Regarding this participation, Dr. Nashwan, the head of the team, said that such an international training is very significant as it reflects the philosophy of Yarmouk University in activating international academic partnerships, linking the university’s activities with internationally prestigious universities and research institutions, and activating the university’s visions regarding the participation in international projects and the exchange of knowledge and experiences between faculty members in all fields. The training, Nashwan added, is the fifth in the framework of this comprehensive international project, which aims at developing curricula in the context of refugees



including several issues like career development, digital economy, social entrepreneurship, and the NLP.

However, after completing the training, the team visited the Jordanian Embassy in Amsterdam and met the Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Dhaifallah Al-Fayez, and a number of the embassy staff, discussing a number of issues and ideas related to the mechanisms for deepening and strengthening international partnerships that reflect Jordan's scientific and cultural development.

Yarmouk Organizes "The Royal Discussion Papers between Study and Implementation: A Road Map for the Future of Jordan"



The former president of the Jordanian House of Representatives, Lawyer Abdel Moneim Al-Odat, sponsored the Third National Conference entitled "The Royal Discussion Papers between Study and Implementation: A Road Map for the Future of Jordan", which was organized by the late Samir Al-Rifai Chair for Jordanian Studies at Yarmouk University and the Cultural Forum of Irbid, in cooperation with the Executive Office For the celebration of Irbid as the Capital of Arab Culture for 2022 over two days in the Conferences and Seminars Building.

Al-Odat said that Jordan was able to transform the principles and themes tackled in the royal discussion papers into practical reality by making constitutional amendments that established the principle of the rule of law and the integration of powers, and paved the way for a review of the legislation governing the political life. He added that Jordan has withstood regional and international challenges, thanks to the wisdom of its Hashemite leadership and the expertise of His Majesty King Abdullah II bin Al Hussein in managing balances and crises, analyzing facts and developments, and foreseeing the future. He also pointed out that in light of the progress made by the country over the past few years after the publication of the seven discussion papers and the subsequent conferences, seminars and meetings were conducted in substantive discussions on the contents of those papers, which formed the basis for a wide national discussion about the foundations on which we should build our democratic system.

The President of the Conference - President of the University, Professor Islam Massad, said that by organizing this conference with the participation of a group of researchers, thinkers and academics, Yarmouk University completes what had been accomplished in previous conferences and keeps pace with new ideas and visions related to the royal discussion papers. He added that since His Majesty King Abdullah II assumed his constitutional powers in 1999, His Majesty has worked to lay down a clear vision for comprehensive reform, development and support for democracy in the Jordanian state, emphasizing this through a series of discussion papers dealing with development and reform issues, thus stimulating national dialogue and democratic transformation. Massad also pointed out that Yarmouk University organized this

conference to confirm its important role in developing various types of science and knowledge and contributing to the history of the Jordanian state referring that the conference is the starting point of the important activities and events of "Youth Summer 2022".

In his speech on behalf of the participants in the conference, the former Minister Dr. Hazem Qashou stressed that societies are formed by geography and themes. As for geography, it is defined for security purposes, and as for the latter, it is built on cognitive values that societies carry through their leadership. He added that in the midst of this expelling atmosphere in the region, everyone was looking for a compass for survival, then His Majesty King Abdullah II presented his vision for the modern state project through his discussion papers, thus opening dialogue tools and activating atmosphere for pluralistic democratic action. Qashou also pointed out that this conference held by Yarmouk University, which is well-established in its role and mission, will not fail to address the issue of cognitive learning, which has become obligatory in light of the acceleration of events and the changing pace of education, indicating that the call for a work strategy for cognitive learning has become a necessity, especially after the state has found work strategies for political, administrative, and economic reform.

The head of the preparatory committee for the conference - holder of the Chair of Late Samir Al-Rifai for Jordanian Studies, Dr. Muhammad Anaqra, said that he hopes that by the end of the conference sessions and dialogues, participants will present several recommendations that will make Jordan a pioneering country in understanding and implementing democracy and a living model in political reform and comprehensive development. He referred that over two days, participants would discuss 54 research papers addressing what was stated in the discussion papers, trying to draw appropriate recommendations for democratic Jordan. Moreover, Anaqra affirmed that the conference attempts to contribute to the political and democratic development of Jordan, indicating that this would not have been possible without the great efforts of His Majesty the King in composing the discussion papers that represent a road map that guides the people, individuals and institutions, and guides successive governments in all their activities.



A Delegation from Shenandoah University, USA Visits Yarmouk



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met with a delegation from the American Shenandoah University headed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Amy Sarch, to discuss ways of scientific cooperation, thus paving the way to sign a memorandum of understanding to enhance academic and research cooperation between the two universities.

At the beginning of the meeting, Massad affirmed Yarmouk University's keenness to consolidate its cooperation with the American Shenandoah University, which will positively reflect on the educational and research process in both universities through joint research and scientific projects in various fields. Such cooperation, he stated, as represented by the zero hunger project through Refugees, Displaced Persons and Forced Migration Studies Center, aims at implementing one of the seventeen sustainable development goals set by the United Nations, which is concerned with eliminating hunger and providing food security. Massad then praised the cooperation of the two universities through the COIL Joint Teaching Project, which included 15 faculty members of Yarmouk besides their counterparts from Shenandoah University. Moreover, Massad affirmed the readiness of the Language Center to offer remote courses and educational programs in the field of Arabic for non-native speakers.

In return, Sarch praised the distinguished scientific reputation of Yarmouk University and its distinguished scientific competencies. She then reviewed the establishment of Shenandoah University in 1875 emphasizing that it offers postgraduate programs in

different specialties and that it includes nearly 4,000 students, 8% of whom are international students.

During the meeting, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the two universities, considering that the memo stipulated the exchange of faculty and administrative staff as well as students between the two universities, conducting research projects in areas of joint interest, establishing joint master's, doctoral and diploma programs, holding lectures, and organizing seminars.

“Tabib Rughm Anfeh”: A French Satirical Theatrical Performance in YU



Supervised by Dr. Nada Al-Nasser, "A Doctor against his Will" by Molière was performed by several students of the department of Modern Languages on the stage of Arar Amphitheater at the University. Explaining that the play is one of the French masterpieces of the seventeenth century, Al-Nasser acknowledged the efforts made by students to perform the play despite the difficulty of pronouncing and memorizing its diction, which reflects the distinguished academic level of students and their mastery of French. She also pointed out that the play belongs to the genre of satirical comedy and was performed for the first time in 1666 on the stage of the Royal Palace in France. Noteworthy is that the performance was attended by the head of the Drama Department at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Dr. Bilal Thiabat, several faculty members, and a crowd of students and their families.

Yarmouk Organizes a Series of Activities on the Occasion of the World Day of Refugee



Representing the President of Yarmouk University, the Vice President for Administrative Affairs, Professor Riad al-Momani, in the presence of the Assistant President of the University, Professor Ziad Zureikat, sponsored the activities of the World Day of Refugee, which were held by the Refugees, Displaced Persons and Forced Migration Studies Center and the ALECSO Chair for Asylum, Displacement and Forced Migration. The activities came in two parts: the first was a theatrical performance carried out by a group of volunteer students

at the Center. The performance dealt with some details related to the journey of refugees, their suffering, and the difficulties they encounter, emphasizing the Jordanian role at various levels in hosting Arab refugees. The second part of the activities included a training workshop entitled "The Basics of Writing International Projects for Asylum and Dealing with Donors" presented by the member of the Center's Board of Directors - CEO and founder of the Edmaj Foundation for Development Consulting and Training, Ms. Mai Olaimat, with the participation of a group of faculty members from various faculties of the university, affiliates of the research network in the Center.



A Student Delegation from Hebron University Visits Yarmouk's Faculty of Archeology and Anthropology



Under the supervision of Dr. Hassan Qaddoumi, Professor

Muhammad Al-Adarbeh, and Ms. Najat Da'na, a student delegation including 42 male and female students from the Departments of Tourism, Archeology and Applied Geography in the Faculty of Arts at the Palestinian University of Hebron visited the Faculty of Archeology and Anthropology and the Jordanian Heritage and Natural History Museums at Yarmouk University.

The Vice Dean of the Faculty, Dr. Ahmed Abu Bakr, gave a brief about the university as well as the Faculty of Archeology and Anthropology, emphasizing their development, aspirations, and undergraduate and graduate programs. Besides, Dr. Hussein Sababha, the museum's curator gave a brief about the museum's exhibits and historical as well as cultural importance.

Al-Hijjawi Develops a Training Incubator for Smart Mobility

Yarmouk University represented by Professor Islam Massad and the American Smart Mobility Company represented by Dr. Amir Mahdavian signed an agreement to establish a training incubator concerned with education, training and development in the field of smart mobility. Massad said that signing this agreement comes in the context of Yarmouk University's participatory approach with specialized international partners to achieve integration of technical education and provide training services to students, which complies with the royal directives to develop and improve higher education outputs and supply the local market with competent graduates. He further pointed to the positive potential impact of such an incubator on the local community.

The Dean of al-Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Dr. Muwaffaq Otoom, stressed the importance of having such partnerships with parties that have practical and technical experience in advanced technical fields related to smart mobility, such as joint mobility, machine-to-machine communication and infrastructure, smart transportation systems and connected vehicles, electric vehicles, shipping infrastructure, supply chain management, and sustainability.

The incubator supervisor, Dr. Ali Shehadeh, from the Civil Engineering Department at al-Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering and Technology, explained that the development of smart mobility is significant for the future of smart transportation and for developing modern and specialized training programs to familiarize engineering students with the latest technologies and technological tools related to smart mobility.

Two Lectures on the Bedouins in the Ancient Near East



The Faculty of Archeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk University hosted Lorenzo Verdiram, Professor of Assyriology at Sapienza University in Rome, who presented two lectures on the Bedouins in the ancient Near East. The first lecture focused on general terms and concepts related to nomadic, pastoral, and tribal life and their use in various disciplines and their applications to ancient Near Eastern sources through an anthropological and ethnographic comparison perspective. The second lecture included a case study of the so-called Marto/Amorites from cuneiform evidence of the third millennium BC. Noteworthy here is that Verdiram is a professor of Assyriology, and his research topics cover the group of cuneiform cultures of ancient Mesopotamia from the beginning of the third millennium BC to the first millennium BC. He is a member and director of various national and international projects, and a member of the International Association of Assyriology.

The Department of Design and Applied Arts in Yarmouk Wins Three Awards in the DETEX 2022 Design Competition



The Department of Design and Applied Arts at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Yarmouk University achieved advanced

positions in the DETEX 2022 design competition in the category of aesthetic and structural design that was held in The Kempinski Hotel in Amman in cooperation with Amman Chamber of Industry under the patronage of the Minister of Industry and Trade. Supervised by Dr. Khosrov Teff and Dr. Ghada Al-Halsa from the department, the students Tala Al-Toulish, Yasmine Kharbat, and Ahmed Al-Dalahma won the first three places respectively for implementing a set of designs for several cleaning products and cosmetics. Interestingly, the Detex 2022 competition brings together an elite group of experts, technicians, researchers, developers, and marketers in the detergent industry, in addition to suppliers from Europe, China, the Middle East, and Asia to discuss the latest trends, drivers of innovation and the future path of the industry in terms of ways to assess consumers' habits, behaviors, and aspirations.

A Memorandum of Understanding between Yarmouk and Misrata



In his meeting of the delegation of the University of Misrata-Libya headed by Dr. Muhammad Al-Sharkasi, in the presence of the cultural advisor at the Libyan Embassy in Amman, Dr. Ahmed Al-Dweik, the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, affirmed the university's keenness and interest in strengthening academic integration and cooperation with various Libyan academic institutions and universities. He also explained that signing a memo of understanding with the Libyan university represents both parties' permanent aspirations towards the development of education, scientific research, and scientific relations.

Al-Sharkasi expressed his happiness to cooperate with a prestigious Jordanian university like Yarmouk University, pointing out that Misrata University is always striving to achieve its vision of being an educational and academic institution with international reputation. He referred to the endeavor and vision of Misrata University to be distinguished in the field of scientific research and to play its role in the sustainable development of the Libyan society by strengthening its scientific and academic cooperation with various Arab and international universities.

The agreement stipulated conducting joint research between the two universities, raising the efficiency of their research centers, having joint supervision of master's and doctoral theses, and participating in the implementation of joint scientific and research projects supported by the European Union under the Erasmus Plus program. The agreement also stipulated that Misrata University could benefit from the digital transformation and quality systems of Yarmouk University.

The meeting was attended by the Vice President for Administrative Affairs, Professor Riyad Al-Momani, the Dean of al-Hijawi Faculty of Engineering and Technology - Director of the Department of International Relations and Projects, Dr. Mowaffaq Otoom, and the Director of Public Relations and Media Department, Dr. Nawzat Abu Al-Asal.

TURNITIN Software is Now Used



In view of the importance and necessity of supporting scientific research in public universities, the Board of Directors of the Excellence Center of Library Services for Public Jordanian Universities, headed by the Vice President of Yarmouk University for Academic Affairs - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Center, Professor Muwaffaq Alomoush decided to start using TURNITIN software and to make it accessible for the deanship of scientific research, the academic staff, and students in all public universities.

Alomoush said that this software acts as a deterrent against plagiarism and scientific theft, as it provides reports that can help identify cases of scientific theft and offer students and professors a tool to identify and correct potential cases of plagiarism in their work, which improves the academic writing of articles in English as well as Arabic.

Noteworthy here is that the Center of Excellence based at Yarmouk University has already organized in cooperation with TURNITIN several training workshops in Arabic and English for all university technicians.