

Dundee–Nablus Twinning Association

رابطة توأمة نابلس دندي



Dundee has been twinned with
Nablus for 27 years



Nablus Day 2007

18th November

On 18th November 1980 the then Dundee District Council decided to establish a formal twinning association with Nablus, the Palestinian city on the West Bank.

Contact began when two Dundee councillors met Mayor of Nablus - Bassam Shaka'a – at a meeting in London. The Mayor had lost his legs when his car was blown up. The councillors told him of the Dundee Limb Fitting Centre and he later came to Dundee to be successfully fitted with artificial legs. Contact and friendships have grown and strengthened since then.

In March this year, a delegation from Dundee visited Nablus and during the summer the National Youth Band from Nablus visited Dundee to take part in the Lord Provost's Youth Festival.

The Lord Provost maintains formal links between the cities. The Dundee-Nablus Twinning Association develops connections between people, projects and organisations in both cities.

Projects in Nablus

In supporting projects in Nablus we have chosen groups making a positive contribution to the community. The YMCA has planted olive trees destroyed during the conflict. Project Hope uses international volunteers to work with young people in Nablus. Zajel Youth Exchange builds links between young people in Nablus and abroad.

www.dundee-nablus.org.uk

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What does twinning mean to me?

Nablus and Dundee have a lot in common. They are about the same size, have a long history, have seen times of prosperity and times of famine. Both have modernised to join the modern world.

Why should I join the DNTA?

You are welcome to join the Dundee-Nablus Twinning Association (DNTA) and be part of our growing friendship with the people of Nablus. Twinning is about communication, culture and commerce; it is not about politics. (Dundee is also twinned with Alexandria, USA; Orleans, France; Wurzburg, Germany, Zadar Croatia & Dubai, UAE)

How do I join the DNTA?

Contact our Secretary: Mary Henderson:

maryhenderson@uku.co.uk 01382 775 944

Or visit our Website www.dundee-nablus.org.uk

It costs £10 per year and brings you a newsletter plus opportunities to support the work of DNTA and maybe even to visit Nablus.

Nablus today

Nablus is having a difficult time. It is in the middle of the West Bank occupied by Israel and surrounded by Israeli settlements. People find it difficult to move in and out of Nablus because of Israeli army checkpoints. Commercial life is disrupted by the difficulties of exporting goods such as the famous soap which is made in Nablus from olive oil. Cultural life is difficult because of the frequent clashes between the Israeli army and Palestinian militants.

Religious life continues and Nablus is proud of its mixed heritage. As well as the Muslim majority there is an age-old community of Jews – the Samaritans – and several Christian denominations. All are affected badly by the political situation.

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