



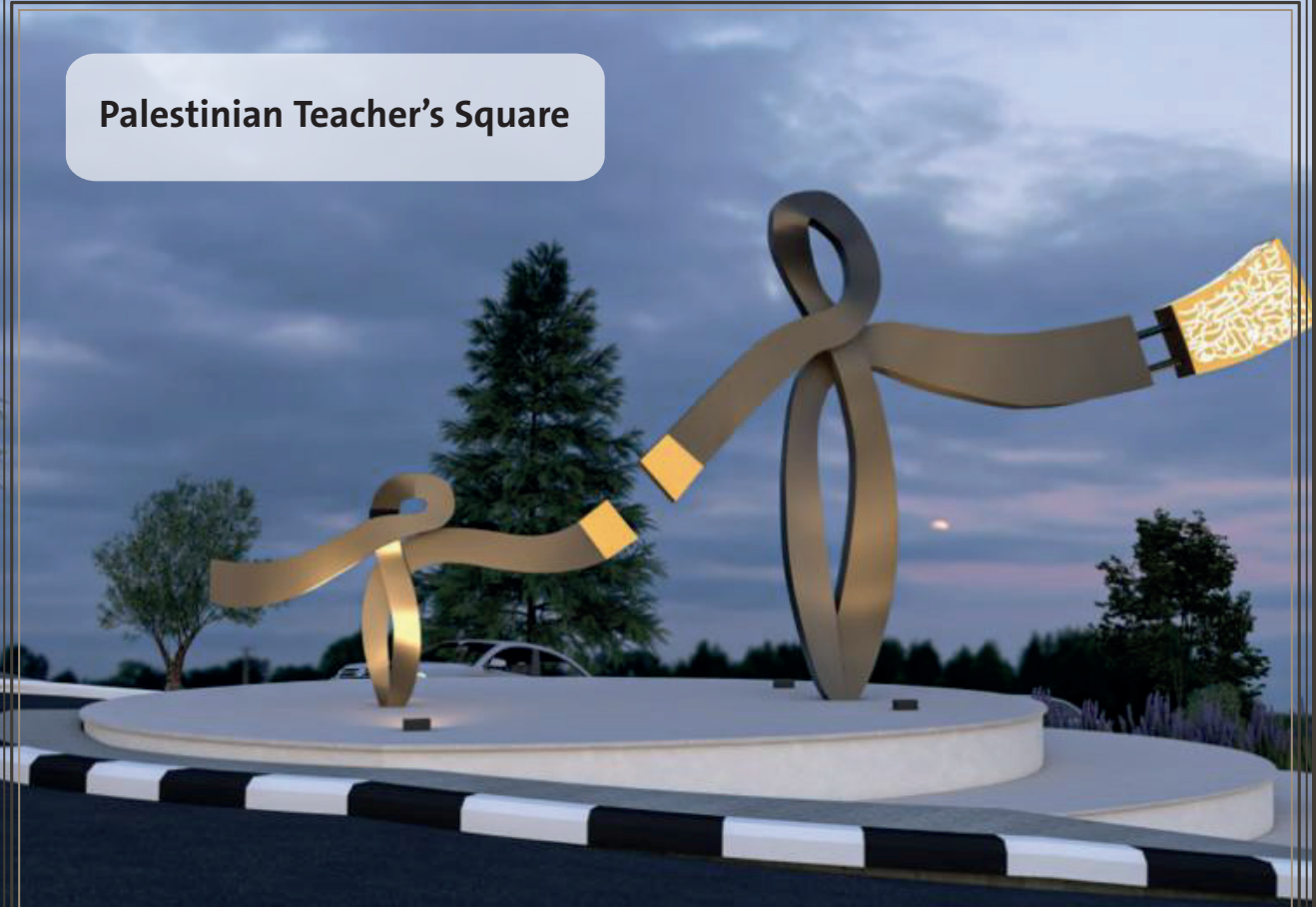
AL BIREH MUNICIPALITY

Annual Report

2023



Palestinian Teacher's Square



Al-Bireh Municipality has begun inaugurating the Teacher's Square, opposite to the Fatima Al-Zahra Mosque, in recognition of the Palestinian teacher's effort and his continuous dedication.

The journey of giving and development continues

The detainee's speech Islam Al-Tawil

Head of Al-Bireh municipality

My family, my great support...

May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you...

«Al-Bireh, the Gateway to Jerusalem» is an expression we have adopted out of our love for Jerusalem, the place of our Prophet's Night Journey (peace be upon him). We are always proud of it and of our city, which represents the northern gateway to our eternal capital (Jerusalem).

This deep sense of belonging always motivates us to do our best to develop our beloved city.

As this year 2023 comes to an end, I am pleased to present to you now a summary report about the most successful achievements of Al-Bireh Municipality during this year. We demonstrate these achievements to be transparent and honest with our people who help us made these achievements, and involve the local community in improving and developing our city.



A year of work, starting with setting a clear vision to improve municipal work in all its fields. This comprehensive vision required great concerted efforts of all parties, from executive staff, the Municipal Council, city institutions, the local community, and even the city's residents. They are all working together on the same path and toward the same goals of improving municipal work and raising the name of our city higher.

Despite all the challenges and the few resources, especially financial ones, the wheels of change and development moves toward all municipal departments, enabling these departments to operate in a professional and way, achieving one accomplishment after another to build and develop the city and provide the best services to our citizens.

This report will show the most prominent achievements we have accomplished, emphasizing that we will continue to invest time and resources to achieve our common goals which lead to an advanced and prosperous city.

Municipal Council:

The municipality is managed by a municipal council whose members are elected according to the approved election law for local authorities. The municipal council’s term is four years, starting from the date of official hand over. The first local council for the city of Al-Bireh was established in 1925. The following names are the lists who participated in municipal council membership and won in the last elections held in March 2022. «Al-Bireh Unites Us» is the name of the category who won the election, getting eight seats out of fifteen.



Islam Al Tawil
(head of Al Bireh Municipality)



Eng, Robin khatib
(deputy head of Al Bireh municipality)



Abdul hakim Mahmoud



Eng, Munif Tarbash



Azam Ali



Raja' Hamayel



Omar Atta



Mohammad Ghandour



Amin Abed



Nader Musleh



Abdul Rahman Tarman



Naser Rumaneh



Jihad Zuhor



Salwa Quran



Sufyan quran

The municipality's work is also implemented and monitored by an executive crew of 350 employees and workers distributed to 9 departments and 4 units managed by the municipality director.

Director of Al-Bireh Municipality: Eng. Dima Joudeh

Internal Control Unit: Laila Amer

Tendering and purchasing section: Ali Al-Sheikh

Economic Development section: Alaa Al-Sabbagh

Strategic Planning section: Eng. Roaa Al-Tawil

Engineering Department: Eng. Yousef Al-Baba

Planning and Construction Department, Acting Director: Eng. Ziad Jallad

Health and Environment Department, Acting Director: Eng. Azzam Zayed

Public Relations and Media Department: Jamila Awawdeh

Administrative Affairs Department: Muhammad Qaraan

Cultural Department: Amer Awadallah

Finance Department: Rana Bani Odeh

Planning Department: Acting Director: Eng. Amna Abu Sharar



If they ask you about Gaza, tell them there is a martyr, helped by a martyr, photographed by a martyr, another martyr bids farewell to him, and another martyr prays for him. «Mahmoud Darwish»

as our Prophet said, «We are like a single body, If one part of it complains, the rest of the body feels pain and fever.»

Our Palestinian people, wherever they are, have suffered and are grieving for our people and children in Gaza. Here in the city of Al-Bireh, citizens have stood by their brothers in Gaza, trying to support their steadfastness with all available means.

Since the beginning of the brutal military aggression, Al-Bireh Municipality has received dozens of workers from Gaza and prepared places for them in Al-Bireh Commercial Building and the central station. Dozens of volunteers and donating families have come to provide their daily needs.

Al-Bireh Municipality also contributed 80,000 shekels to the campaign to support 5,000 children in Gaza. This campaign launched by the Family Revival Association, by transferring the budget allocation of citizens' gifts for the year 2024 to this campaign.

In a related context, Al-Bireh Municipality received a number of released prisoners in the square in front of municipality building. This was attended by the Minister of Prisoners affairs, acting head of Al-Bireh Municipality, Robin Al-Khatib, members of the municipal council, and a large crowd of our Palestinian people who chanted for the resistance and for Gaza.



Strategic Plan 2023-2026

Al-Bireh, the Gateway to Jerusalem, is a safe, attractive, and smart urban city.

Al Bireh is proud of its heritage and authenticity; it provides a decent living for its citizens within a sustainable environment and effective community participation.



As part of the preparation of the developmental plan, Al-Bireh Municipality was keen to prepare the local strategic development plan for the city for the years 2026–2023. This was carried out within the sustainable development approach to meet the needs of the local community, taking into account the available resources, the city's priorities, and its development vision. The plan included a comprehensive analysis of the current situation, identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges focusing on community participation, inclusivity, transparency, governance, and efficiency.

To ensure a participatory approach, variety of people of the local community in general, and marginalized groups, especially women, youth, and people with disabilities, in particular were, were involved in various stages of the planning process. This was achieved through their representation in development committees, on the one hand, and by addressing their needs and priorities in the local development plan, on the other hand. Then, we and turn them into programs and projects within various development fields.

The development plan also paid special attention to the sustainable development goals as they are important factors in developing our society in the time of the increase in unemployment, and the decrease in per capita income. It also highlights the successes achieved, the investment opportunities in the local community, and encourage small enterprises. Such enterprises will develop if we support and pay more attention to them.



Development Goals:

1. Raise the efficiency of the sewage system and ensure its comprehensiveness.
2. Develop solid waste management, reuse, and automation.
3. Raise the efficiency of the ecosystem and reduce the effects of climate change.
4. Develop the city's street and transportation system.
5. Encourage investment in the alternative energy.
6. paying more attention in the city's tourism and antiquities sector.
7. Create an attractive environment for investment and partnerships with the private and public sectors.
8. Develop services provided to educational facilities.
9. paying more attention in services provided to marginalized groups remote areas.
10. Raise the level of culture, arts, and heritage.
11. Promote belonging, trust, and community participation.
12. Raise the level of emergency preparedness and response to disaster risks and climate change.
13. Enhance financial sustainability and develop the municipality's institutional structure.
14. Develop urban organization and planning, especially in C regions.
15. Raise the level of electronic services/e-municipality



Al-Bireh Municipality is paving new streets and rehabilitating the infrastructure of other streets.



As part of its duty to develop the city's street and transportation network, Al-Bireh Municipality has paved a number of new streets as part of the 2023 annual street's tender. This project will be self-financed from cash flow. The most prominent of these was Street No. 955, located in block 8, Khamlet Al-Salamiya, north of the city, with a length of approximately 250 meters. The new street will connect Al-Bireh - Birzeit Street and the beltway.

Al-Bireh Municipality is also completing the construction of Streets No. 1164, 1166, and 927, with total lengths of approximately 1,000 meters in block No. 9, Al-Salamiya, also located north of the city.

In a related context, Al-Bireh Municipality has rehabilitated a number of streets, the most prominent of which were:

- The Old City Street, with a length of approximately 350 meters, self-financed by the municipality.
- The street passing in front of the Anti-Corruption Commission in the Balou' block: with a length of approximately 200 meters, funded by the Ministry of Local Government.
- Street in the Sha'b Kassab neighborhood: with a length of approximately 1,000 meters, funded by the Ministry of Local Government.

Moreover, the municipality undertook the task of the rehabilitation of infrastructure, sewage networks, sidewalks, traffic islands, and lighting. The municipality crews also implemented the tender of the «City Street Sidewalks» with a length of 3,600 meters in the following streets:

- Al-Rafidain Street
- Jaafar bin Abi Talib Street
- Omar bin Abdul Aziz Street
- Hugo Chavez Street
- Sudan Street
- Imam Malik Street
- Fouad Nassar Street
- Street No. 1028
- Abdul Dayem Street

The municipality is also implementing the rehabilitation of the traffic island on Al-Irsal Street with a length of 1,200 meters, with self-financing from the municipality.

As part of the maintenance work, the municipality completed 800 meters of sewage lines in Al-Hawla Street, Street 900 in Qurtis Al-gharbi, and Beit Nabala Street, and established water house connections in most of the city's neighborhoods.

Al-Bireh Municipality is preparing a comprehensive work plan aimed at developing the road network, which will include paving more roads and rehabilitating many internal roads next year.



New road construction in the Shaab Kasab neighbourhood , north of the city

Developing Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Towards an E-Municipality

The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) development project in Al-Bireh Municipality is one of the most important projects being implemented by the municipality's Planning Department. This is based on the importance of this system, which will provide a geographic database for the municipality and citizens, contributing to facilitating all forms of services and enhancing the municipality's ability to organize and manage its work, such as licensing, infrastructure work, sewage services, health services, coding parks, green places, schools, and distributing other services.

Therefore, building an advanced geographic information system is the first step towards achieving an effective e-municipality.

Based on this, Al-Bireh Municipality contracted with "GIS Plus" company to develop the new version of the GIS system at the beginning of 2024. The development will include activating the application's use on mobile phones and tablets, developing the features and permissions of attachments, developing a mechanism for linking owners to their lands, apartments, buildings, and developing printing machines. The development of the system will also include the following tasks:

- 1- Updating Aerial photography layer for the year 2022 on the electronic map portal system, as well as activating all layers of aerial photography for all years from 1997 to 2021.
- 2- Creating a survey of the lands owned by Al-Bireh Municipality, as well as creating a layer for these lands on the electronic map portal system (GIS Gate) for reviewing them and then present them during sessions and municipal council meetings.
- 3- Receiving databases from the statistics project and linking them to the municipality's GIS system.
- 4- Entering objections into the electronic map portal system (objection data and objection file) and presenting them on the electronic map portal website.
- 5- Signing an agreement with the Land Authority regarding data exchange.
- 6- Following up with the Integrated Cities Project (ICUD), the joint database project for municipalities in the West Bank.
- 7- 3D photography of Al-Bireh in cooperation with the Ministry of Communications as part of the Apple company project.
- 8- Coordinating with the Ministry of Communications regarding postal coding and its implementation in Al-Bireh, the numbers were actually modified on the Ministry of Communications' numbering system for more than 5,000 buildings.
- 9- Updating the layer of lands and subdivisions on the electronic map portal system.
- 10- Entering building permits and their information into the electronic map portal system.



3D visual documentation of the martyrs' cemetery in Al Bireh



Al-Bireh - As part of the «preserving and Reviving the Memory of the Place project», Al-Bireh Municipality is conducting a 3D central survey of the Martyrs' Cemetery (Al-Bireh old Cemetery) east of the city. The company implementing the project, «Access for Advanced Engineering Solutions,» has completed a laser scan of all details in the cemetery which covers approximately 28 acres including fences, chains, buildings, tombstones, models of graves and the surrounding trees, paths, gates, and lamp posts. The company also conducted accurate -80megapixel central photography. A 3D application model will be developed, in addition to an explanatory video of the site, along with the required drawings, including precise surveying details, and linking all the images to the site via GIS.

This project comes as part of the municipality's work to document the historical events that took place in the city's neighborhoods. The Martyrs' Cemetery is considered one of the most important historical sites, as it contains the shrines of Palestinian, Arab leaders and fighters. A number of martyrs from the Jordanian and Iraqi Arab armies are buried there.

This project will also allow citizens and our expatriates to visit the graves of their loved ones via an online application. Soon, we will complete the project by evoking memories throughout the city and highlighting historical events that occurred throughout the ages.

Buildings and facilities survey project



This year, Al-Bireh Municipality launched a buildings and facilities survey project in cooperation with the Central Bureau of Statistics and Ramallah and Al-Bireh Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The teams accomplished their statistical tasks in all of the city's neighborhoods.

The project's main goal is to update and develop the economic database, improve services in the city, and review the requirements needed for developing the infrastructure.

It also aims to update maps and data of citizens, facilities, and buildings, as well as prepare the necessary plan for researches and many vital projects in the city. Updating the municipality's database plays a major role in improving the level of services provided to the citizens.

Documenting Old Buildings and Antiquities in the City of Al-Bireh

Al-Bireh Municipality is implementing a project to document old buildings and antiquities in the city of Al-Bireh, in cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities. The project aims to update the National Registry of Palestinian Heritage and preserve and document the city's ancient antiquities by collecting information from the owners of these buildings, in addition to taking photos of the buildings from the inside and outside.



Maintenance and Rehabilitation of the City's Schools... Towards an Advanced and Attractive Educational Environment

As part of the municipality's policy to support and develop the educational process in the city's government schools such as (Samiha Khalil School, Al-Wahda School, Al-Karamah School, Al-Turkiya School, Amin Al-Husseini School, Bint Al-Azwar Girls School, Al-Bireh Expatriates School, Al-Bireh Elementary School, Al-Bireh Girls Secondary School, Al-Bireh New Girls School, Al-Bireh New Boys School, Al-Fajr Al-Jadeed School, Al-Mustaqbal Al-Saleh School, Al-Espaniya School, Al-Hashemiyya School and Al-Sharia School),

the municipality carried out installing of air conditioning units in 2023 in many schools such as Bint Al-Azwar Girls School, Al-Karamah Al-Bireh Elementary School, Al-Bireh Girls Secondary School, Al-Hashemiyah Boys School, and New Al-Bireh Boys School. We still working on increasing the electrical capacity of the remaining schools in preparation for the installation of air conditioning units in the rest of the city's schools.

The municipality carried out maintenance work in all these schools throughout the current year at a cost exceeding one million shekels from the education tax, including plastering work, stone insulation, beautification of school entrances, replacement of classroom doors, internal and external painting and plastering work, rehabilitation of cafeterias, drainage lines and sanitary units, and installation roof Tiles and aluminum windows replacement.

Ms. Majida Al-Far, Principal of Khawla Bint Al-Azwar School, thanked Al-Bireh Municipality for its continuous efforts and completion of all maintenance and development work at the school, making it an attractive environment for female students, which enhances and develops the academic level of our students.

It is worth mentioning that the Education Committee in Al-Bireh Municipality has allocated two plots of land for the construction of two schools. The first will be in the Al-Salaamiya neighborhood, and its bid has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Local Government. The second will be built in the Umm Al-Sharait neighborhood, south of the city.



Al-Bireh Municipality inaugurates “the July 15th Martyrs Park” and rehabilitates a number of parks in the city



Al-Bireh Municipality, in partnership with the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), opened the July 15th Martyrs Park, located in Um al-Sharait block. The park was officially inaugurated in the presence of the head of Al-Bireh municipality Islam al-Tawil and Municipal Council members; Eng. Robin Khatib, Sufyan Qaraan, and Abdul Hakim Atim. From the Turkish side, many formal figures participate in the inauguration such as, Ambassador Ahmed Reza Demir, Deputy Ambassador Ece Cakir, Director of the Yunus Emre Center Cengiz Eroglu, Director of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) Orhan Aydin, and a number of neighborhood children and their families.

In the same context, the City Beautification Department supervised many projects such as, the Mushushar Park project, covering an area of 1,300 square meters, designed by the Palestinian Parks Company. It also carried out the rehabilitation of Al-Wafa Park, covering an area of 1,200 square meters. Besides, it undertook the designs for the upper courtyard of the gardens of Al-Bireh Center for Youth and Childhood Development, covering an area of 400 square meters, as well as the designs for the Al-Karama Educational Park, covering an area of 1,500 square meters. It also supervised the architectural supervision of the rehabilitation of Ain Um al-Sharait Park and supplied Beit al-Mal Gardens, an area of 600 square meters.

Al-Bireh Municipality is moving towards renewable and energy-saving energy.

Al-Bireh Municipality is moving toward the use of renewable and energy-efficient energy. In this context, the municipality has carried out the installation of 10 kilowatt solar cells on the municipality building as a first step.

The Electricity Department crews in Al-Bireh Municipality have also replaced about 1,000 streetlights from regular lighting to energy-saving LED lighting in all neighborhoods and roads of Al-Bireh city. This type of streetlight saves about %40 of the energy used in lighting. To achieve the goal of saving electricity costs, the municipality has installed -10kilowatt solar panels on top of the municipality building, and has also replaced the streetlights at Al-Bireh Municipality Stadium with newer streetlightswhich consumes less electricity.

Besides, Al-Bireh Municipality expanded the city's light network by installing new lamp posts in Al-Balou' neighborhoods in the north and Umm al-Sharait in the south.



Building Permits for About 185,000 Square Meters During 2023

The Building and Planning Department worked within a plan aimed at accelerating the completion of citizens' transactions and reducing their waiting time. It granted permits for about 185,000 square meters during the last year, with a financial return amounting to approximately (12,540,300) shekels, an increase of about 76% compared to the previous year.

Building and organizing department Annual report

Achievements

1. Policies

Building and organization policies of the first stage were approved

- Total hours of the Policies Committee were approximately 40 working hours, representing 10 sessions.
- Number of items of policies in the first stage 42 items

2. Pending files

The number of requests to resolve pending files submitted to the municipality is 45 files

- The number of pending files that were resolved is 20 files
- The number of sessions for pending files is 7, with approximately 21 working hours
- The fees collected from closed pending files are 1918.6 dinars of the original financial value.
- The estimated total for all files is 1,614,369 dinars, 1563 m2 of offices
- The areas in which a decision was made in the pending files are 23618 commercial issues.
- The number of apartments that were resolved in the pending files is 102 apartments

3. Providing a full-time female engineer at the Public Services Center.
4. Commencing work in electronic auditing as one of the first 3 municipalities.
5. Adopting a policy in the Municipal Council to allow excavation work for buildings to begin before obtaining a license.
6. Expedite responses to most engineering requests, including requests for pouring permits, so that they are responded to within 24 hours.

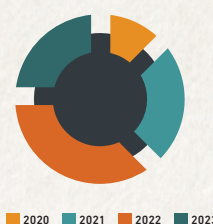
Shortening the initial response time for licensing requests, so that the average time in 2023 is 12 days

Initiatives

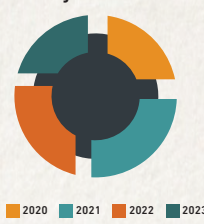
1. Providing more parking spaces in schools
2. Providing a public services center in a commercial building proposed for the Ministry of Endowments (Awqaf).
3. Submitting studies for regulatory requirements.
4. A proposal to collect sewage fees from the proposed buildings in block 8 + 9 without a sewage network, and the municipality directly providing a sewage network in the area.



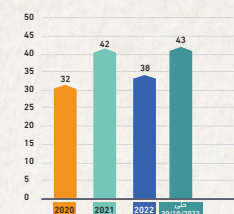
Clearance certificate



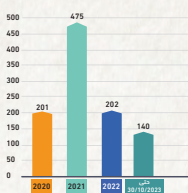
No objection certificate



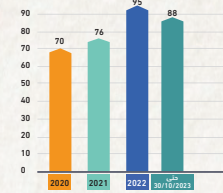
Building completing certificate rate



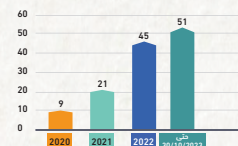
violations rate



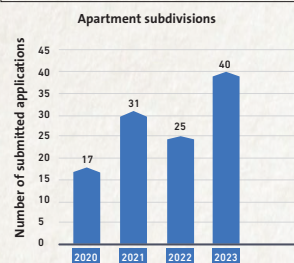
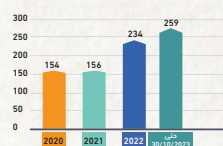
Insurance refund



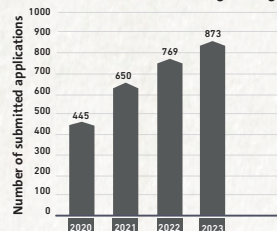
Excavation permits



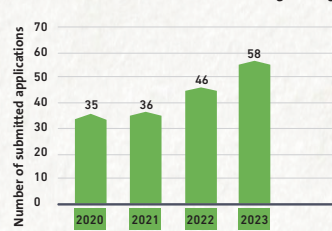
Concrete pouring permits



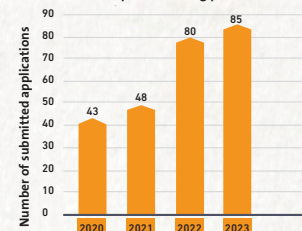
Addition or modification to existing buildings



Addition or modification to existing buildings



Proposed building permit



The Building and Planning Department receives citizens' requests for construction project maps. They study them, and ensure their compliance with the current regulations. they also conduct all transactions related to licensing buildings. Besides they conduct land classification and all regulatory transactions. The department, also follows up the implementation of licensed buildings, checking them to ensure their compliance with the approved plans, and takes legal action against citizens who do not comply with the regulations.

Al-Bireh Municipality intensifies its efforts in health monitoring to ensure health and food security



The health inspection Department's crews have intensified their monitoring efforts in markets since the beginning of this year with the aim of ensuring food and health safety for citizens. They carried out approximately 370 inspection tours in the morning and evening periods during this year, these tours result in:

- The seizure of approximately 150 kg of meat that was not sealed and inspected by the municipal slaughterhouse and was not fit for human consumption. So, we destroyed them according to the proper manner.
- The destruction of approximately 3,500 kg of vegetables since it's not appropriate for human consumption.
- Financial violations were issued for non-compliance with health conditions in facilities and due to the leakage of sewage into the streets and citizens' lands. These Financial violations are amounting to 89,450 shekels.
- 184 financial violations were issued to shops and residences for non-compliance with public health and safety conditions.
- 15 cases were referred to the Palestinian police and the court to take legal actions against them due to their failure to comply with the health prevention system.

Central Meat Slaughterhouse

The health investigation tasks in Al-Bireh Municipality are connected with the work of the Central Meat Slaughterhouse, which provides slaughtering services to the Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governorate and represents a distinct and advanced model for slaughterhouses in Palestine. The 2023 figures indicate that the slaughterhouse carried out slaughter operations under health monitoring:



To maintain safety, the municipality calls on citizens to verify the slaughterhouse’s seal and date stamp. The blue seal is for young animals, the red seal is for animals over a year and a half old, and the green seal is for meat slaughtered in Israeli slaughterhouses and imported to the Palestinian market.

We will inform you the health procedures followed inside the municipal slaughterhouse to spread reassurance, promote a culture of preserving public health, and provide healthy meat ready for human consumption by performing the following tasks every day:

1. Keeping livestock in their designated pens for at least 12 hours before slaughter to give them a rest, improve meat quality, and facilitate the task of the slaughterhouse vet to examine the animals and exclude the diseased one.
2. Visually examining livestock before slaughter to assess the animal’s general health condition (movement, behavior, vitality, breathing condition, temperature, skin and hair, external injuries, apparent diseases, etc.).
3. Examination during slaughter to ensure that the animal has bled well and to get an impression that there is no blood congestion inside the carcass body.
4. Examination after slaughter through examination of the carcass organs (liver, rump, heart, head, kidneys...) in addition to the entire carcass body from the inside and outside.
5. Conducting the final evaluation of the carcass’ condition, either by agreeing that it is fit for eating, or approving the total disposal of the carcasses, if there are any present disease. The disposal is carried out in the presence of the owner, according to the rules, a report and documented disposal report enclosed with pictures and reasons for disposal.

6. Seal the healthy carcass and place it in the slaughterhouse's refrigerators for 24 hours.
7. Distribute the ready carcasses for human consumption to the butcher shops the next morning in a refrigerated and sterilized transport vehicles belonging to the municipal slaughterhouse.
8. Immediately after completing the slaughtering process, the process of cleaning and sterilizing the refrigerators, slaughtering tools and machines as well as the entire slaughtering site, using the best available sterilizers and detergents.



Continuous efforts to achieve a clean city and a healthy environment

The Solid Waste Department is the largest department in terms of the number of workers in Al-Bireh Municipality, with a crew of approximately 115 workers. The crew are distributed every morning to all the city's neighborhoods, cleaning its streets, sidewalks, markets, and all its facilities.

They work on a shift system - morning and evening shifts, even on official holidays and during emergencies, and in all circumstances to ensure a clean and healthy environment.



According to statistics from the Department of Health and Environment, about 115 tons of waste are collected and moved daily from to Zahrat Al-Finjan landfill, at an estimated cost of 15,000 shekels per day.

As part of the municipality's work to develop the work of the Solid Waste Department, the percentage of workers in it was increased to about 15% during the year 2023, and their wages were also raised to ensure a decent life for those who create beauty and preserve the city's environment.

The department was also equipped with new equipment the street sweepers, which move around the city's streets as part of an organized work program. We were also supplied with Waste containers. and we expanded their distribution area around the city. To promote the culture of cleanliness and volunteer work, the municipality organized intensive volunteer campaigns in all of the city's neighborhoods in several stages, with high community participation. This was in cooperation with numerous institutions, associations,



and schools. cleaning Neighborhood and empty spaces, sidewalks, and street and infrastructure maintenance were carried out within work plans that covered all of the city's neighborhoods.

During his participation in the volunteer cleaning campaigns, the head of Al Bireh Municipality Islam Al-Tawil said that community participation in these campaigns effectively enhances the culture of cleanliness. He also added that cooperative and institutional work, along with the development of the municipality's human and material capabilities, is the guarantee for achieving a clean city and a healthy environment.

Al-Bireh Municipality establishes a center to sterilize stray dogs

With the aim of finding a practical solution to the problem of the spread of stray dogs that annoy the city's residents, Al-Bireh Municipality is working to set up a stray dog sterilization center in Al-Jinan neighborhood, east of the city, near the purification station. This is one of the most modern methods used globally to get rid of stray dogs in a scientific and compassionate manner. People in the center who want to solve this problem are all Specialists in dealing with animals.

Occupation forces close Al-Bireh landfill and prevent the workers from getting there.

Since the very beginning of the war against our people in Gaza, the Israeli occupation authorities have closed the landfill where Al-Bireh Municipality collect the waste in. Al-Bireh landfill is located near the Pasagot settlement which was illegally built on citizens' lands east of the city. The occupation authorities closed the roads leading to the landfill with earth berms, and shot fire on anyone approach the landfill.

The municipality confirms that closing the landfill threatens the city with an environmental and health disaster. The municipality also calls on citizens to cooperate with the municipality in reducing the amount of waste as much as they can.



Looking forward Towards expanding International Relations

Al-Bireh Municipality is eager to expand its international relations and enhance communication and exchange of experience with municipalities and cities around the world, the municipality, through its Public Relations Department, organized meetings and visits as part of an action plan, the most prominent of which during the year 2023 were the following:

1- Representatives of the French municipality of Gennevilliers (several visits and meetings), including organizing a meeting with the mayor of Gennevilliers, Beatrice Leclercq, to develop the historic twinning relationship that the municipality has established with the French city of Gennevilliers since 2003. This year, the municipality of Al-Bireh participated in the French Decentralized Cooperation Conference, which was held over two days aiming at upgrading the capacity of municipal employees. Besides, the municipality coordinated the participation of «delegated employee Mustafa Al-Zeer» to participate in the French city of Gennevilliers for training on the GIS system in the municipality of Gennevilliers. In a related context, the municipality of Al-Bireh participated in the «Sports for All» project, implemented by the French Federation, with the participation of several municipalities that have relations with French cities.



2- Receiving the Brazilian Ambassador to the State of Palestine, Alessandro Candias. The ambassador discussed the fields of cooperation that were achieved with the Al Bireh Municipality years ago, especially capoeira, a martial arts sport. In addition to a course to teach the Portuguese language, and the possibility of repeating the successful experience between us. We are also eager to have a commercial cooperation by networking relations with Palestinian and Brazilian businessmen for investment and trade exchange between Palestine and Brazil. He emphasizes that his country is ready to cooperate to exchange experiences in several areas of related to municipal work.

3- The Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), headed by the agency's coordinator, Ahmed Rafiq Çetinkaya, to discuss ways of cooperation and the possibility of supporting vital projects for Al-Bireh city. Indeed, the cooperation results in the agency's support for the 15th of July Martyrs Park in the Umm Al-Sharit neighborhood, south of the city.

4- Receiving the Ambassador of the Republic of Malta to Palestine, Mr. Franklin Aquilina, and discussing ways of cooperation and creating new relations through twinning with the municipalities of republic of Malta.

5- Slovenian Ambassador: The head of Al Bireh municipality Islam Al-Tawil received the Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to the State of Palestine, Vojko Kuzma. During the meeting held at the municipality, the two parties discussed ways of cooperation and the possibility of developing a twinning relationship between Al-Bireh city and a city in the Republic of Slovenia.

6- Ways of cooperation were discussed with the Honorary President of the Singapore Representation in Palestine, Ms. Shirin Al-Shallah. She welcomed the development of working relations, cooperation, and the exchange of experience in the fields of municipal work between the two countries.

7 - To strengthen friendly relations and cooperation between Tunisia and Palestine, the head of Al-Bireh municipality Islam Al-Tawil met the Mayor of Carthage, Ms. Hayat Bayoud, via Zoom. The meeting aimed to activate the cooperation agreement between the two sides, which was signed in 2016, and the need to reactivate it.

8 - Reactivating and strengthening the communication with municipalities that we have previous relations with, such as Tangier in Morocco, Carthage in Tunisia, Northampton in Britain, and Porvomar in Bulgaria.

Al-Bireh Municipality Officially Joins the United Cities organization and Local administrations

Al-Bireh Municipality has officially joined the United Cities organization and Local administrations in the Middle East and West Asia (UCLG-WEWA). The municipality was informed of the decision that their membership application was approved after the organization's meeting held at the end of last year in Gebze, Turkey. Al-Bireh's joining of this international organization comes within the municipality's efforts to develop its international relations and opening up to the world.



Joining this organization will open up horizons for exchanging experiences with international municipalities and will enhance the municipality's presence at the international level.

It is worth mentioning that the United Cities Organization and Local administrations is the largest local government organization in the world. They It started to work in 2004, dedicated their effort to support the values, goals, and interests of cities and local governments around the world.

Hello Ramadan

Ramadan of goodness ... Ramadan in Al-Bireh is different.

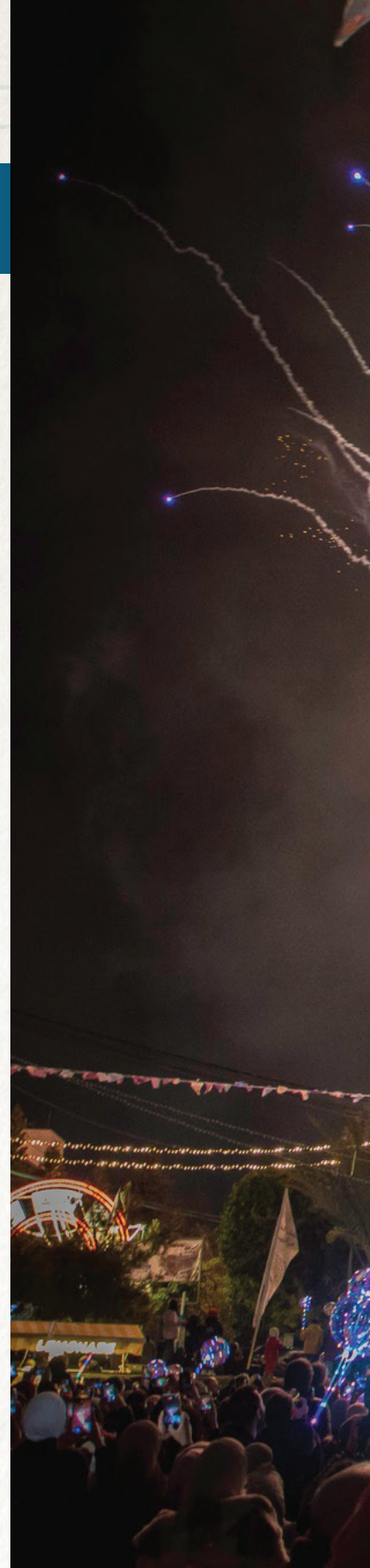
This year, Al-Bireh Municipality succeeded in making the activities of the «Hello Ramadan» campaign, which was organized by the Municipality of Al-Bireh on the holy month of Ramadan. Under the slogan «Ramadan of goodness... Ramadan in Al-Bireh is different,» and with the participation of the city's institutions and activists, the municipality decorated the city's neighborhoods and squares, the municipality building, and the city entrances with lighting and panels with an Islamic shape. The city's beautification department excelled in implementing the decorations for the holy month of Ramadan in a new and creative way.

The «Hello Ramadan» activities received great turnout and widespread public support. The activities began on the eve of the month with the lighting of the Ramadan crescent moon in the square opposite to the municipality building, the launch of fireworks, and the organization of a religious evening by the «Al-Ibaa Religious Anthems» band.

On the second evening, the municipality hosted the well-known singer Kifah Zureiqi and the story teller Hamza Al-Aqrabawi in a national evening commemorating Land Day. During the evening, the film «Do You See Me» was screened in cooperation with the Qamat Foundation, which addresses the issue of the suffering of prisoners in Israeli occupation prisons.

As part of the campaign, the municipality also organized a two-day Eid bazaar with the participation of dozens of local and women's organizations and local producers. The Al-Buraq Band for Islamic Anthems and Folk Art presented artistic performances during the bazaar. Performances were also performed by the Palestine Circus Band, as well as special performances for children. At the end of the bazaar, the municipality honored its partners and campaign supporters: **the strategic partner:** the Palestine Islamic Bank; **the gold partner:** Ooredoo, Masrouji Group, and Al-Quds Pharmaceuticals Group; **the silver partner:** Mada Fiber, Al-Safa Bank, and Peugeot; and the partners: Al-Shumou Mall for Toys and Medicare Laboratories.

At the end of the holy month, Al-Bireh Municipality organized Eid al-Fitr prayers in the square opposite to the municipality building, followed by entertainment for children and the distribution of gifts on the day of Eid.





«Farmers» Market

To support national products and enhance the steadfastness of farmers on their lands

Al-Bireh Municipality launched the Farmers' Market for its fifth season this year at the Al-Bireh Cultural Center, in cooperation with the Asala Association, the Sharaka Initiative, the Abnaa Al-Bireh Association, and the Inash Al-Usra Association, under the slogan «We eat from our lands.» The Al-Zaytouna Folk Arts Troupe participated in the market's launch ceremony, presenting artistic performances from our authentic heritage.

The launch of the Farmers' Market aims to support local products and enhance the steadfastness of farmers on their lands. It supports Palestinian farmers, charitable societies, cooperatives, and women's initiatives to present their products in a large place weekly in summer months. This place is located in the courtyard of the Al-Bireh Cultural Center, which is distinguished by its strategic location in the city's commercial center, allowing them to market these products and inform consumers of the quality of these local products. These products were made by the farmers with simple means. Finally, the farmers present their products fresh, delicious, without any additives and directly to the consumer.

Dozens of farmers and local producers from all governorates of the country participated in the market this year, and the products were from agricultural crops and food production. The market, which was organized every Thursday, received a distinguished turnout, especially during the summer vacation period and the return of our expatriate family from abroad. The farmers' market is one of the exhibitions organized by Al Bireh cultural center to achieve goals and partnership with many institutions and associations with which it maintains working and cooperative relationships. this year the center organized the following activities:



- Lady of the Earth» Exhibition, organized in partnership with the Union of Women's Committees and Canaan Cooperative.
- The Jerusalem Handicrafts Exhibition, organized in partnership with the Handicrafts and Embroidery Workers' Union
- Dourha Market, in cooperation with the «Durha» platform for marketing second hand products.
- Hawa Women's Center Exhibitions «Creative Women and flower of march»
- «Your Presence is a mark (bassma)» Bazaar, in cooperation with the Al-Quds University Student Union, Abu Dis.

Al-Bireh Cultural Center:

Today, Al-Bireh Cultural Center has become the face of culture, media, and art in Al-Bireh city. after implementing a plan for cultural, promotional, and artistic programs and activities in its strategic location that everyone likes visiting. It has become a main address with which local institutions and associations cooperate in implementing their public activities. To discuss cultural issues and citizens' concerns, the center organized many public awareness seminars, the most prominent of which were the «Traffic Crisis... Where? seminar» and the «Palestinian Women in the resistance Scene seminar».



Al-Bireh Municipality celebrates the Islamic New Year with a religious evening performed by Al-Buraq band, attended by a large audience.



To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Nakba, Al-Bireh Municipality today opened the Kushan Exhibition and launched several events in the courtyard of Al-Bireh Cultural Center, in partnership with the Palestinian Museum, the Family Revival Association, the Committee of the Displaced Villages of Jerusalem, the Sons of Al-Bireh Association, the Palestinian Stature Foundation, and the Movement of Israeli products' Boycott, and the associations of the displaced villages of Lod, Lifta, Deir Tarif, Annaba, Qalunya, and Al-Malha, and the Association of Displaced Villages



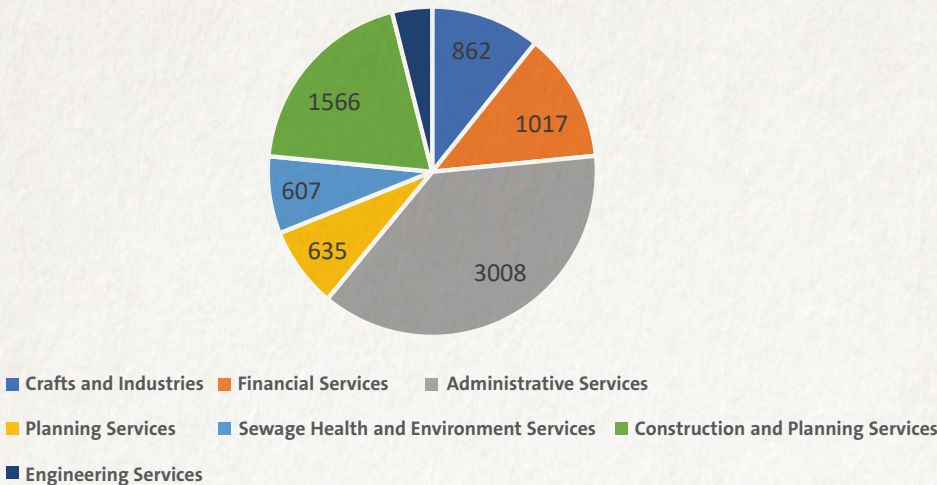
The head of Al Bireh municipality Islam Al-Tawil's participation in the «Traffic Crisis: Where?» seminar, organized by the Cultural Center with the participation of the municipalities of Ramallah and Beitunia, the Joint Cooperation Unit of the municipalities of Ramallah, Al-Bireh, and Beitunia, the Ministry of Transportation, and the Palestinian Police.

The Public Services Center received approximately 8,011 applications from citizens during the year 2023

The Public Services Center received approximately (8,011) applications during this year 2023, approximately %95 were carried out. These applications covered several fields:

Crafts and Industries 862 | Financial Services 1,017 | Administrative Services 3,008
Planning Services 635 | Sewage Health and Environment Services 607 |
Construction and Planning Services 1,566 | Engineering Services 316

Public Service Center Services 2023



At the beginning of January 2023, the Public Services Center has a large turnout that was above our expectation. The municipality launches a motivating discount campaign for paying fees, as every year. The discounts were as follows:

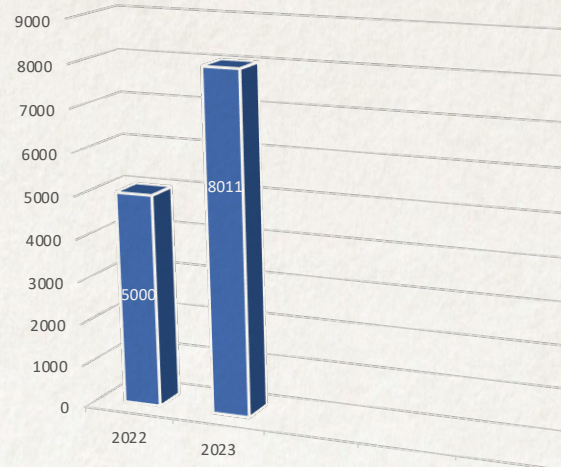
%30 discount for families of martyrs and prisoners | %25 discount on recurring fees for those who have been paying fees for three years | %20 discounts until the end of January | %15 discount until the end of February | %10 discount until the end of March | %5 discount until the end of April.

It continued for approximately four months from the beginning of the year at varying rates. It also provided electronic payment services and the payment of fees installments.

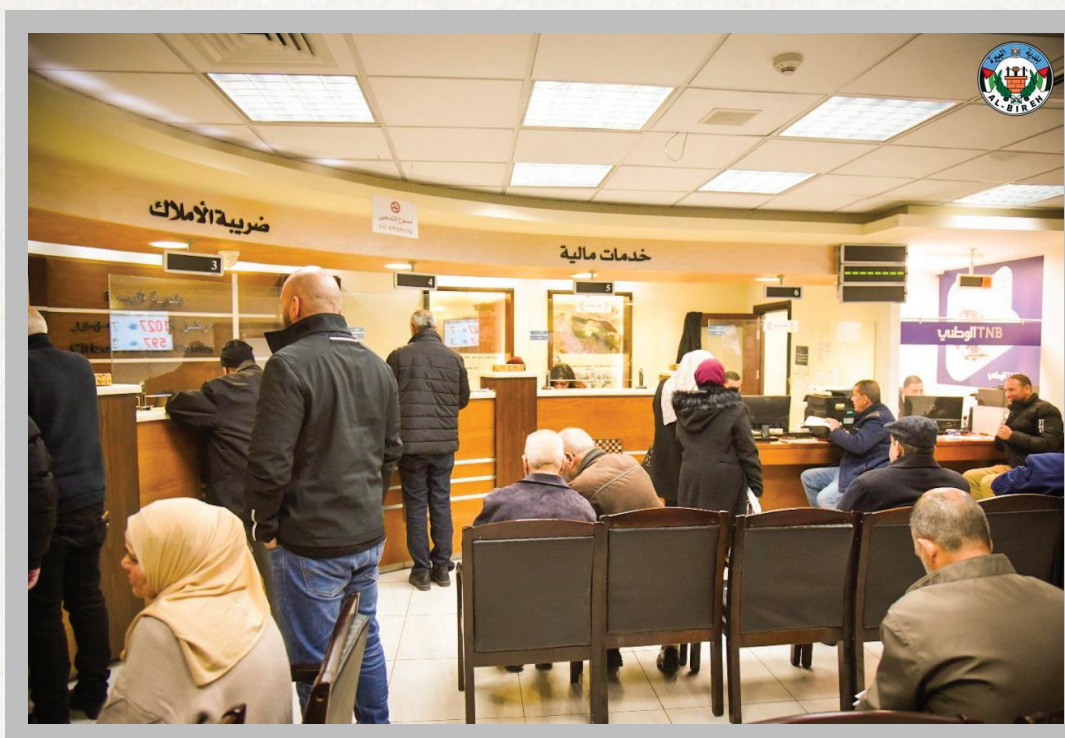
The total number of services this year compared to next year was as follows:

The Public Services Center is considered one of the most important centers of Al-Bireh Municipality, serving as a link between citizens and all municipal departments. It is the responsible body for providing all municipal services to citizens and granting them various certificates and licenses. As the municipality dedicate its efforts to develop, the Public Services Center was established in 2014 to facilitate citizens and enable them to benefit from municipal services, which vary between water, electricity, building, and sanitation services, craft and industry, licenses, fees, and taxes. The center also receives complaints and suggestions from the public related to services.

The number of applications compared to the last year



■ Series1



Community Rehabilitation Unit: Ongoing Work to Support the Needy

The Community Rehabilitation Unit in Al-Bireh Municipality continued to implement programs and provide donations to needy families and people with special needs, as part of the municipality's vision to develop social solidarity and support the needy.

The unit's work this year was distinguished by expanding its working relationships with local community institutions, especially relevant ones, and donors from our people. It has also outstanding achievements by the planning and implementation of community activities, including awareness-raising and empowerment activities, integration activities, and prevention and early detection activities, in coordination with relevant authorities and partner institutions and community institutions to benefit from their services.

Contributions and distributed aids:

1,250- food parcels, each containing basic food and two kilograms of lamb meat costing 200 shekels for each parcel.

- Distribution cash aid to a group of families provided by donors.

- Distribution of 500 winter blankets, 400 jackets, winter clothes, and shoes to needy families who has children between the ages of 4 and 14.



- Providing a number of aids, medications, and diapers to a group of elderly people suffering from chronic diseases.

- Providing healthcare and home care, as well as providing food, necessary clothing, and medications to the elderly through the Elderly Care Program, which the unit has been supervising for three years in cooperation with the «Your Surplus (spare) money» Association.

- Visiting associations that care for children with disabilities and presenting them with toys and gifts.

- Contributing to the restoration of some homes for orphans and people with disabilities.

- Providing gifts and toys that were distributed during holidays and special occasions.

University Student Fund to Support Students' fund.

to provide more scholarships for our students, Al-Bireh Municipality developed the "Student Fund" by starting new cooperation with Palestinian universities to include the scholarships provided through this fund, such as: Birzeit University, An-Najah National University, Al-Quds Open University, Palestine Technical College, and the Modern College. Al-Quds University, Abu Dis, was our partner to support students and providing scholarships in 2007 due to the sign of a contract between the university and us to rent the building of the Faculty of Media in Al-Bireh in return of scholarships for the benefit of Al Bireh municipality

Cooperation between the municipality and universities.

number	The name of The university	Form of cooperation
1.	Al quds open university	Partial financial aid + discount from university
2.	Al quds university, Abu dis	Study seats or half of study seats for the entire duration of university study.
3.	Birzeit university	Partial financial aid
4.	Al najah university	Partial financial aid
5.	The modern college	Partial financial aid + discount from university according to his AVG

Number of Students

- For the first semester of the 2024-2023 academic year, scholarships were provided to 65 students as follows:
- 24 students from Birzeit University in various faculties, partial financial aid.
- 10 students from Al-Quds Open University in various faculties, partial financial aid.
- One student from Palestine Technical University/Khadouri, Ramallah branch, partial financial aid.
- 30 students from Al-Quds University, including 17 students studying in the Faculty of Medicine, 4 students from the Faculty of Pharmacy, 4 students from the Faculty of Engineering, 3 students from the Faculty of Information Technology, and 2 students from the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences. They receive a scholarship provided by the municipality for the entire academic period, according to the municipality's standards.
- For the first semester of the 2022-2023 academic year, 75 students were assisted in universities mentioned above.

Municipality Employees

As part of the municipality's policy to raise the educational and professional level of its employees, it provides them with financial, professional, and technical support to advance their level. It provides partial financial assistance to 11 student employees. The municipality also supports its employees by helping employees' children by providing scholarships to their children or providing partial financial assistance according to the university that the student (the employee's son) is enrolled in. The number of employees' sons who get the scholarships is 12 students.

Student's Committee

The Student's Committee is formed from members of the Municipal Council, and the committee has a chairman who follow-up the students' academic and financial situations.

The Committee's Role

The main role is to review the applications submitted for assistance. Majida Jawan reviews the social cases, then nominates those who deserve assistance. She then submits the appropriate list to the Municipal Council. She then contacts with the universities according to the council's selection. The official letter issued by the municipality must be on official letterhead, stamped, and signed by the head of the municipality, and enclosed by a check for the financial value and the names of the students chosen by the committee and approved by the council.

Continuous Work Towards an Educated, Reading Society

The Cultural Department continued to achieve its goals of developing cultural activities in the city, improving the performance of the department's sections, managing and organizing cultural and community programs to various age groups. It also aims at strengthening partnerships with the local community and its institutions, and developing local, Arab, and international cultural relations. The department also insists on achieving many goals that match with the objectives of Al-Bireh Municipality's strategic plan. The most important aims were activating the public library and the children's library, maintaining, operating, and developing Al-Bireh Center for Youth and Childhood Development with all its clubs and halls, and encouraging reading.

It succeeded in achieving a number of these goals by implementing courses, programs, summer and winter camps with the participation of hundreds of residents of the city in the fields of science, technology, entertainment, sports, and fine arts Management and volunteer work.

To develop cultural work, the department organized many cultural seminars, dialogue meetings, book signings, and cultural competitions, such as a research competition entitled «Here is Jerusalem,» which aims to shed light on the displaced villages, towns, neighborhoods, and districts of Jerusalem that are being Judaized day and night. It also organized a dialogue meeting about the prisoner movement in the occupation's prisons, entitled «Oh, the Darkness of the Cell,» another seminar about the Palestinian scene after the Israeli elections was carried out. This seminar is part of the monthly municipality cultural activities that address many political and social issues relating to the city and Palestine in general. It also organized a poetry evening in partnership with the Beit al-Maqdis Center for Literature by for the poet Yousef al-Fuqaha, with the participation of Dr. Nasrallah al-Shaer. Another seminar on the implementation of the «memorizers» written by the prisoner Ramadan Mashahra (from Jerusalem). The department also developed literary skills through creative writing courses, discussing novels and books with their authors, cultural routes, cultural exchange, and visits to several cultural institutions. It also held free courses in the field of scientific research, leadership, entrepreneurship, and creative writing with a huge participation of school students.



On the other hand, the Cultural Department focused on organizing several clubs for boys, such as the Arabic Calligraphy Club, drawing, popular dabke, chess, and mental arithmetic. This is an international program that aims to develop mental and mathematical skills of children, improve their memory efficiency, develop their personalities, and train them to organize their priorities and increase their concentration, imagination, and creative thinking.

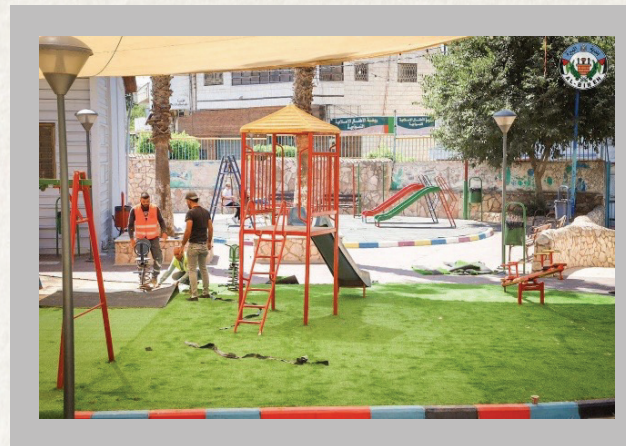
30 children from Al-Bireh and its suburbs, are participating in the program.

A number of camps were organized, including the 16th Farah Recreational Camp for children, which focused on drawing, theater and useful films. While the 7th Technology Camp focused on scientific activities such as robot programming, electrical engineering, and design activities. However, the English Language Camp, aims to develop English language skills. finally, the Discovery Camp, organizes exploratory trips to historical and heritage sites in various Palestinian cities, with a total of 525 male and female students between aged from 17-6 years

Besides, the municipality focused on sport activities by rehabilitating the kickboxing hall which enhances confidence and building an independent personality. This hall will also be used for women in CrossFit. besides, the Palestine Central Chess Championship was organized inside Al-Bireh Center for Youth and Childhood Development in 2023.



It is worth mentioning that Al-Bireh Center of Youth and Childhood Development was rehabilitated «Nosnina Hall» to use it for dabke and karate training. Besides, the children's playground and the outdoor garden were also rehabilitated, and the games located in the courtyard of the Al-Bireh Center of Youth and Childhood Development were maintained. The floors were replaced with grass and sand, and pergolas were constructed for audience. awnings were also installed to provide security and comfort for our children and their families to enjoy the atmosphere of the garden.



Towards an Educated Reading Generation

Believing in the young generation and our ability to improve them, the Children's Library has been built to promote reading through the «Little Explorers Club» and the «Book Friends' Club,» which are organized weekly at the Children's Library in Al-Bireh Municipality which include numerous cultural, artistic, and recreational activities that encourage young generation to read and visit the library. The library also implemented the «Integration» initiative, which aims to create a special corner in the Children's Library entitled «Culture Without restrictions.» the corner will include 50 stories and books in Braille, for those who suffer visual impairment. This corner will include various entertaining topics for children, supported by tangible or prominent images, developing the touch process for the blind and expanding their imagination. In addition, it includes teaching blind children the Arabic alphabet in Braille, so that they learn how to write the letters.



A puppet theatre titled «Goodbye to Bullying» was also on show. along with it, they show another film which was about traffic lights . A group of children were trained in creating stories about jungle animals and artistic skills using wool. Weekly activities continued with the participation of many children. A special club for the mothers of the library's children, called «Friends of the Children's Library,» was established which consists of 40 mothers. Several summer camps were also organized during this year.

«The Presence of Jerusalem, the Eternal Capital of Palestine» Exhibition

Under the patronage of the head of Al-Bireh municipality Islam Al-Tawil, and in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Nakba, Al-Bireh Municipality inaugurated the second stage of the visual art exhibition entitled «The Presence of Jerusalem, the Eternal Capital of Palestine» in Al-Bireh Municipality Park Hall. The exhibition features 100 paintings by 100 artists from Palestine and Jordan about the capital city of Jerusalem, in partnership with the Ministry of Education in the Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governorate, the Yaish (live) Center for Fine Arts, the Talented Artist Forum, the Jordanian Fine Artists Association, the Palestinian Society for Contemporary Art, the Higher Islamic Council - Jerusalem, the Palestine Liberation Organization - Department of Refugee Affairs, Ajyal Radio Network, Wafa News Agency, and the Jerusalem Employees Club.



Freedom Prisoners Square: An artwork in support of our brave prisoners

Al-Bireh Municipality inaugurates a number of city squares



Al-Bireh Municipality inaugurated the Freedom Prisoners Square in the Umm al-Sharait neighborhood of al-Bireh, with the attendance and participation of the Governor of Ramallah and al-Bireh, Dr. Laila Ghannam, the Head of the Commission of Prisoners' and Freed Prisoners' Affairs, Qadura Fares, the head of Al Bireh municipality Islam al-Tawil, a number of members of the Municipal Council, and a number of prisoners, freed prisoners, and their families.

Al-Tawil welcomed our brave prisoners, stressing that inaugurating this square in the name of the prisoners is a small effort compared to the great sacrifices they do to free our country. He added that this inauguration aims to highlight the issue of the prisoners and keep it in our highest priority. On the other hand the municipality wanted to develop the aesthetic landscape of the city. This included the inauguration of several squares, such as, al-Khulafa Square in Satrah Marhaba neighborhood, at a cost of 10,000 shekels. The aesthetic landscape of Palestine Square, north of the city, was also developed with the slogan «Al-Bireh, the Gateway to Jerusalem.» Currently, we're working on developing Al-Moallem Square at a cost of up to 60,000\$.

Al-Bireh Municipality is developing the functions of the Central Bus Station

In September 2022, Al-Bireh Municipality handed over the central bus station from the private company that was managing it. The municipality worked to improve the station's condition by installing a drinking water pump and maintaining public facilities on all floors. It also installed an electronic gate on the parking floor, installed cameras on all floors of the station, and installed new, energy-saving lighting. moreover, we increased the number of security personnel and cleaners. Therefore, We got financial returns from stamps and rents.

The station (bus complex) was built in 2000 with the aim of reducing traffic congestion and regulating the movement of public vehicles in Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governorate. Its total area is 23,000 square meters, and it consists of eight floors, two of which are commercial. These floors receive approximately 8,000 visitors daily, including passengers in public and private vehicles, and visitors who came to shop on the commercial floors. Four floors are for parking lots, including approximately 180 private vehicles and approximately 570 public vehicles and taxi offices. The sixth floor is a warehouse floor for the station's traders. The central station is important for traffic movement in the governorate and a major center for public vehicles and cars.



Enhancing and Motivating Employees' Performance

Based on the Municipal Council's belief that the foundation of this institution's success depends on the employees. when work environment is better, all employees are treated equally, and when they have sense of belonging to the city and the citizens, all of this will make them feel more comfortable and the quality of their performance will be much better. Accordingly, the Human Resources Department began to achieve this goal, beginning with updating and developing job descriptions for approximately 110 different positions of all specialties and departments. They granted permanent positions to 20 workers and employees of the municipality.

This helps employees and workers understand their responsibilities and duties towards the municipality particular and toward the city in general.

The Municipal Council also approved an integrated plan to build and develop the skills and competencies of employees, including several training courses in engineering, administrative, and service fields. Such these trainings and courses will be effective in the quality and accuracy of the services provided by the municipality to the city and citizens.



Part of this plan was implemented this year, 2023, and the plan will be completed over the next year. 50% of office employees were trained during 2023. About 100 employees were attending local and international courses and workshops to learn new experiences, the skills and how to apply them in the municipality. The department worked to raise the academic qualifications of employees by providing 11 scholarships to employees at Palestinian universities, in addition to granting 12 scholarships for employees' children during 2023.

To honor and motivate municipal employees, specifically the labors' category. we launched "The best Employees of the Month program" to give them financial reward due to their outstanding work performance. The department also organized several social activities and practices that enhance constructive communication between employers and workers of various job categories, with the participation of the head of Al Bireh municipality and members of the municipal council. These activities included organizing competitions and prizes during the month of Ramadan, participating

with workers in greetings and field visits during holidays and congratulating them on their personal successes in scientific, athletic, artistic, and other fields. A ceremony was also organized to celebrate municipal workers on international labors' Day, giving them gifts, and providing them with cash rewards that are granted from the local community, in appreciation of their efforts in serving the city of Al-Bireh and its citizens.



In addition, we celebrate female employees on Women's Day, highlighting the important role women play in managing the municipality's various activities. This enhances the concept of social participation for employees. To ensure the success of municipal events and activities implemented for citizens, we bring in a volunteer group from municipal employees.

The department also cares about employees' safety and it works to achieve safety and health needs of workers by providing them with protective clothing to protect them from any danger they may be exposed to while working. We also organized workshops in coordination with the Labor Office and the Red Crescent to raise awareness of the importance of general safety while working and provided them and their families with health insurance.

A Story of Challenge and Success

This picture represents part of the participation of the head of Al-Bireh city Islam Al-Tawil in discussing the graduation project of the student Hamza Atatreh entitled (Cancer between Ambition, Challenges, and Achievements) at Birzeit University.

It is worth mentioning that Atatreh, a graduate of the Islamic School in Al-Bireh, lived a story of challenge on social and educational levels. He has suffered from brain cancer since childhood. Being ill was not an obstacle to his progress and success. We appreciate this will and determination, and we wish him a full recovery and success in the next stages of his life.

#Al Bireh the Gateway to Jerusalem



The Economic Development Section Supports Youth and Entrepreneurial Projects

Al-Bireh Municipality is one of the first municipalities to establish an Economic Development section, this was in 2015 sponsored by the Association of Dutch Municipalities. The Municipality also established the Economic Development Forum, which includes a group of experts and consultants from economic sectors and representatives of local community institutions.

The section focused on three main groups: investors, youth, and women. We signed a protocol between the municipality and the Palestinian Investment Promotion Agency to provide incentives and motivations to investors. Any investor can now submit an application to benefit from the incentives through the municipality's Economic Development section. As for the youth group, more than 50 young men and women were linked with institutions that support entrepreneurial ideas and small projects, such as the Agricultural Projects Accelerator, the Palestinian Employment Fund, and the Korea International Cooperation Agency. At least 50 young men and women were assisted in obtaining jobs by connecting them with local and foreign companies.

The section works to empower women economically by holding numerous meetings and workshops in coordination with the Palestinian Businesswomen's Forum. Some of them received support for their projects within the «Abdar» program, funded by the Canadian government.

In the agricultural sector, we cooperate with World Food Organization (FAO) and the Union of Agricultural Cooperatives to establish the «Mawaris» Comprehensive Marketing Center for Agricultural Products project, funded by the Canadian government to support farmers in the West Bank. The project was inaugurated on March 2022 ,26.

In cooperation with the Union of Dutch Municipalities we made feasibility study analysis for the project of rehabilitate and develop the municipal park, and we got a grant of 60,000 euros to support businesses in the park.

additionally, the department of Development participated in numerous external conferences and workshops to present the municipality's experiences and promote the city internationally. We also participated in preparing the strategic plan for Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governorate in cooperation with the Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governor. Finally, we took part in the course on local economic development and its decentralized applications, which was held in Amman and in cooperation with the Palestinian Economic Council (PECDAR). We presented our experience in the field of economic development, and obtained a certificate of excellence.

Economic Empowerment of Palestinian Women

Strengthening the Hawa Women's Department comes within the vision of Al-Bireh Municipal Council, which calls for supporting Palestinian women and developing their capabilities in all fields because they have fundamental role in Palestinian society. We also seek for organizing educational and health courses and workshops in various fields, in addition to economic empowerment by learning skills by specialist trainers, and organizing various exhibitions to showcase women's products.

The Hawa Women's Center has organized women's exhibitions throughout the year to promote women's products, starting with the March Exhibition on Palestinian Women's Day, the Creative Women Exhibition, and ending with the Autumn Exhibition. Approximately 70 women from the country participate in these exhibitions with their small projects and various products. These exhibitions contribute to promoting and introducing the products and the achievements of women either registered in the center or not. The center also worked during the year on a number of professional training workshops in food manufacturing courses, such as cheese making, chocolate making, pickles, juices, pastries, biscuits, Ramadan sweets, and professional salads. Various courses were also organized in candle making, traditional jewelry making, and balloon decoration.



The center also aims to upgrade women's awareness through a group of different workshops, such as enhancing the political participation of Palestinian women and increasing their influence on Palestinian society, a workshop on how to deal with earthquakes, violence against women, and an Arabic calligraphy course. Regarding women's physical health, there were awareness workshops in this field, such as women's health after forty, a workshop on lipedema, early screening activities in Pink October, and psychological relief workshops for girls and women.

Hawa Women's Center established a section in Al-Bireh Municipality in 2017 to empower women economically, socially and psychologically. Beside, it's established to support them to participate in social and political life through giving them educational and health courses and workshops in various fields. The center was named after Hawa Abu Obeid, the great woman who was the first one who founded the oldest association in Al-Bireh city, namely "the Women's Union".



Financial report- 2023, and citizens' budgeting

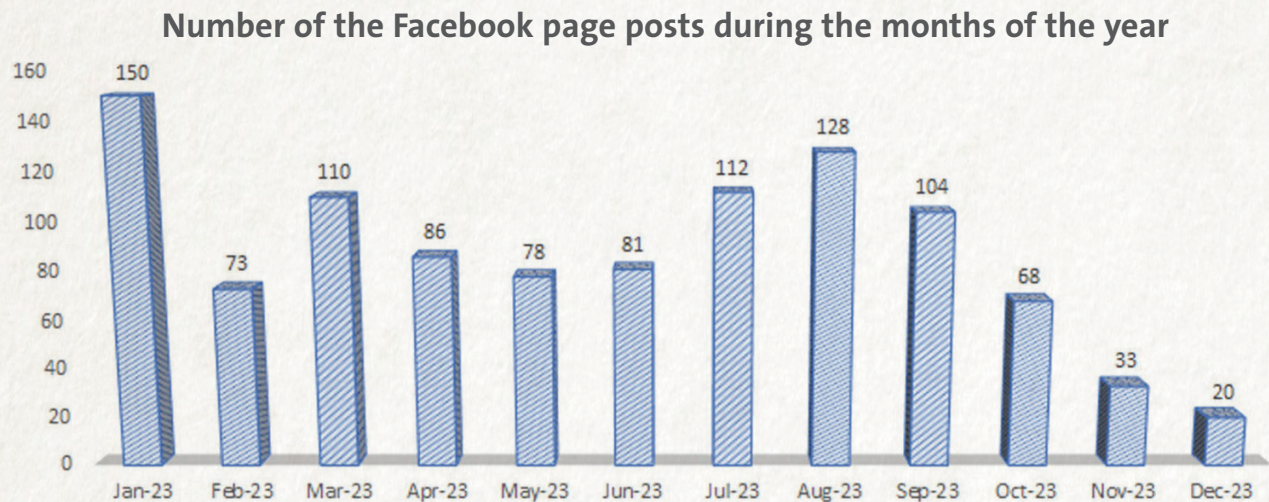


Social Media Page: Distinctive Media visibility and effective Interaction

Today, social media sites have become the most important method to reaching a many people in our society in the fastest time and at the lowest cost. This is why most institutions rely on them to reach their audience. Al-Bireh Municipality has been one of the first institutions to use social media since 2010, with the number of its page followers now reaching 76,000. This page has become a vital link between citizens and the municipality.

Social media pages have grown to create a state of interaction between the municipality and citizens through their interaction with published media materials. Instead of sending letters in about their complaints and suggestion via the tradition old fashioned box, they can easily now chat via the page, and send their suggestions and complaints faster and more easily.

The municipality’s social media pages are currently managed by the Public Relations and Media Department, which attempts to monitor all the municipality’s activities and programs. It also follows up citizens’ interactions to the municipality’s departments. Their work based on a well-prepared plan adapted by the current municipality. they aim to enhance the social media page, increase its followers, and intensify media publishing on it. The number of posts during the year 2023 reached approximately 1,040 posts, including approximately 100 visual works. These various posts were published during the months of work as follows:



2023 pictures



Minister of Local Government, Eng. Majdi Al-Saleh, visited Al-Bireh Municipality and met with the head of Al Bireh municipality Islam Al-Tawil, in the presence of Undersecretary of the Ministry, Dr. Tawfiq Al-Badri, Deputy head of Al-Bireh municipality, Eng. Robin Khatib, and Director of the Public Relations Department, Jamila Awad



A shot during the reception of a delegation from the Palestinian Prisoners' Club, represented by the President of the Palestinian Prisoners' Club, Qaddoura Fares and members of the Board of Directors, and they discussed ways of joint cooperation.



The head of Al Bireh municipality Islam Al-Tawil received a delegation from the Municipalities, the Local Authorities Development, the Lending Fund and the German Development Bank (KfW), to review the progress of work on the project to establish sidewalks in the city streets within the Municipal Development Program in the third Phase, MDP III, and to discuss the Additional Financing for Projects which consists of huge number of workers to review the Economic Impact of the Covid19- Pandemic.



Al-Bireh Municipality crews are working on planting and turfing in the traffic islands and Palestine Square in Al-Balou' neighborhood, north of Al-Bireh



Weeding and cleaning



Cleaning rain water culverts



Al-Bireh Municipality workers are cleaning the culverts, water channels



Streets' maintenance in Al Bireh city



Al-Bireh Municipality workers carried out maintenance work on a number of street sections in the city of Al-Bireh



A shot from the campaign to remove encroachments, launched by the municipality in cooperation with the Palestinian police



Al-Bireh Municipality launches a campaign to remove encroachments in Al-Bireh city



Municipality executive staff is having a municipal tour in the city's markets with the Palestinian police.



A blood donation campaign for the wounded people in Jenin camp, which was subjected to a brutal Israeli invasion.



A shot from Jenin Municipality's visit as part of the Loyalty Campaign to support people in Jenin camp steadfastness.



The head of Al Bireh municipality o, Islam Al-Tawil, and in the presence of Amin Fahmi, member of the Municipal Council and a Sports Committee honor Captain Moamen Al-Aloul, coach of the Be Strong Kickboxing Club located in the city of Al-Bireh



Graduation of two free courses in teaching creative writing and scientific research skills, organized by Al-Bireh Municipality as part of the "Cultural Pen Club" activities.



Al-Bireh Municipality, Be Strong Club, and the Palestinian Kickboxing Federation are organizing the "First Al-Bireh Kickboxing Championship."



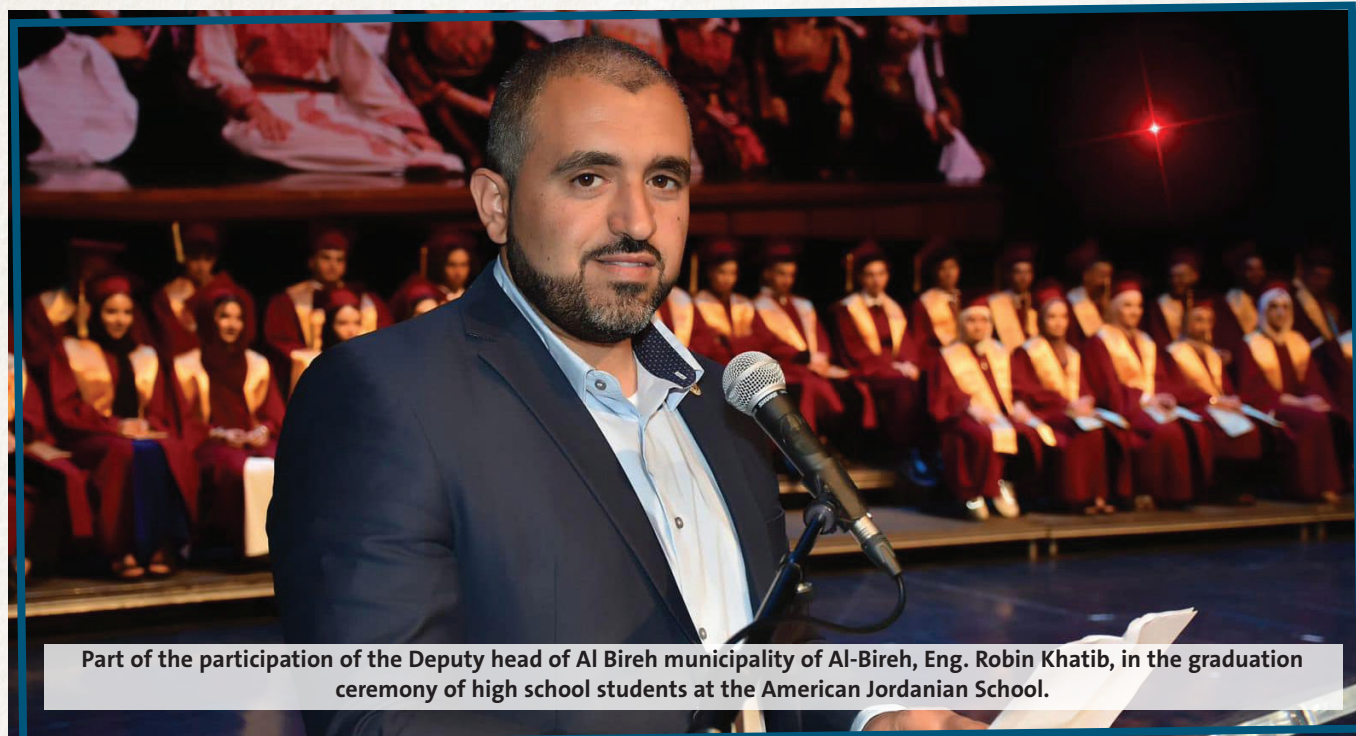
shots from the ninth kite festival "The Land Is Ours", organized by the Al-Bireh Municipality in cooperation with Al-Bireh Sons Charitable Society and the Talented Artists Forum, and in partnership with the Palestinian Red Crescent. It was yesterday on the summit of Mount Qartis in Al-Bireh.



A shot from one of the Discovery Camp organized by Al-Bireh Municipality, to the cities of Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Beit Jala, and Battir



Part of the participation of the head of Al Bireh municipality o, Islam Al-Tawil, in the graduation ceremony of high school students at Al-Bireh Girls Secondary School.



Part of the participation of the Deputy head of Al Bireh municipality of Al-Bireh, Eng. Robin Khatib, in the graduation ceremony of high school students at the American Jordanian School.



Deep-rooted history bright future





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