



## The Saudi Ambassador to Jordan Delivered a Speech Entitled: "The Saudi-Jordanian Relations: Historical and Strategic"



which explains why both countries have the same identity, history, values, approaches, policies, and supreme interests. Al-Sudairy then pointed to the important role of researchers and academics in studying, documenting, and consolidating such communal features scientifically and objectively, as this contributes to the prosperity of both kingdoms and peoples.

Notably, the Ambassador's lecture was organized by Samir Al-Rifai Chair for Jordanian Studies in cooperation with the Executive Office of the Celebration of Irbid as the Capital of Arab Culture, and it was attended by former Prime Minister Dr. Abdul Raouf al-Rawabdeh, several members of the university's board of trustees, the university's vice presidents, a number of Irbid governorate deputies, former and current university presidents of Jordanian universities in the north, several deans of faculties and faculty members, a crowd of Jordanian and Saudi students at the university, and a number of officials at the university and embassy. Moreover, it is notable that after the lecture, the Ambassador accompanied by the president of the university and a number of officials toured the university campus, where they visited Prince Al-Hussein bin Abdullah II Building (classroom complex), which is one of the projects sponsored by the Saudi Fund for Development. They also visited the Jordanian Heritage Museum at the university, Samir Al-Rifai Chair for Jordanian Studies, Queen Rania Center for Jordanian Studies and Community Service, and some other buildings.

Sponsoring a lecture entitled as "The Saudi-Jordanian Relations: Historical and Strategic" and delivered by the Saudi Ambassador to Jordan, Nayef bin Bandar Al-Sudairy, the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, said that the Saudi-Jordanian relations are always characterized by depth, firmness, and stability, and that the relations between the two countries led by His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al-Hussein and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, have always taken a distinguished and well-established path, which empowers and guarantees the harmony between both kingdoms. He then emphasized that the relationship between the two countries represent the best example and finest model of cooperation, as it crystallizes the permanent meeting of goals, objectives, and ambitions, acknowledging that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has never hesitated to open its doors wide to host distinguished Jordanian competencies, including doctors, teachers, economists, businessmen, and professionals, and that the Saudi Fund for Development supports several projects in Jordan.

For his part and through his lecture, the Ambassador explained that the Saudi-Jordanian relations are historical and strategic, considering their communal roots, history, identity, kinship, challenges, common interests, directions, and destiny. He emphasized that the relations between the two kingdoms are rooted and authentic since the era of the founders of the two countries,



## The Indonesian Ambassador in Amman Visits Yarmouk University



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met with the Indonesian Ambassador in Amman, Dr. Ade Padmo Sarwono, to discuss ways of enhancing academic and cultural cooperation between Yarmouk and Indonesian educational institutions. Massad said that Yarmouk takes much great care of its international students, stating that Yarmouk hosts 119 students from Indonesia. He then affirmed the University's readiness to receive more Indonesian students to complete their studies in various disciplines offered by the university. In return, Sarwono praised the prestigious scientific reputation of Yarmouk University and the distinguished level of its Indonesian graduates who proved their experience and superiority in Indonesia. He further praised the exhibition of the Arab and international communities at the University, as such events facilitate the emergence of Indonesian students with other students and their customs, traditions and cultures.

## 14<sup>th</sup> Scientific Conference: Education and Sustainability Development: Entrepreneurship and Innovation



Yarmouk Faculty of Education organized a conference entitled "Education and Sustainability Development: Entrepreneurship and Innovation" under the sponsorship of the university president, Professor Islam Massad. At the beginning of the conference, which lasted for two days, Massad welcomed the audience to the event explaining that such a serious gathering aims at integrating the university education and scientific developments to enhance students' aspiration and achieve sustainability. Massad stated that the conference focuses on important issues related to education, sustainability, and innovation concerning the skills and psychological health required

for promoting education, among many other issues. He further focused on the importance of education as a tool for development referring to COVID-19 crisis that affected education worldwide. He also called for integrating both education and sustainability and for providing an interactive environment, which requires a shift from education to learning. Finally, Massad thanked all participants and organizers of the conference calling for a positive participation and applicable recommendations.

The dean of the Faculty of Education, Dr. Nawwaf Shatnawi, welcomed the audience to the conference which aims at discussing how to develop education and achieve sustainable development. He called for transforming the challenges into opportunities of innovation, referring to the fact that students no longer need certificates alone, but skills, entrepreneurship, and leadership. He finally thanked the presidency for supporting the event and acknowledged the efforts of the staff of the Faculty of Education as well as other local and global agencies to organize such event.

Dr. Asma Husein from Princess Nora University at Saudi Arabia presented a speech on behalf of the participants, thanking Yarmouk University and the Faculty of Education for their support of the conference and interest in such issues. However, the opening session of the conference included the president's honoring of retired members of the faculty staff as well as local and global agencies who supported the faculty of education and the university.

# A Delegation from the German Research Foundation Visits Yarmouk

Discussing possible ways of cooperation in the field of conducting applied scientific research, the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met with a delegation from the German Research Foundation DFG, which included the Director of the International Cooperation Department, Dr. Jörg Schneider, and Dr. Jennifer Gronau from the International Cooperation Department at the Foundation. Massad stressed Yarmouk's keenness to consolidate its cooperation with the German Research Foundation DFG, which is concerned with conducting joint scientific research in applied sciences between researchers from different countries around the world.

In return, the delegation members affirmed the Foundation's endeavor to attract distinguished researchers to participate in conducting scientific research in the field of applied sciences, praising the distinguished level of scientific research conducted by the faculty members of Yarmouk. They also explained that DFG is a German institution that supports research in the fields of science, engineering, and humanities through a large variety of grant and award programs,



infrastructure financing, and seeks to encourage international cooperation concerning applied scientific research programs.

## Research Cooperation between YU and Purdue University



The Vice President of Yarmouk University for Academic Affairs, Professor Muwaffaq Alomoush met with the delegation of Purdue University represented by Dr. Kory Cooper, Dr. Jonathon Day, and Dr. Michele Buzon to discuss possible ways of cooperation between the two universities in areas of mutual interest, especially student exchange in archeology, anthropology and tourism.

During the meeting, Alomoush stressed Yarmouk's keenness to extend bridges of cooperation with Purdue University, which is one of the world's prestigious universities at the academic and research levels. He also expressed Yarmouk's readiness to design programs of cooperation between the two universities in the field of student exchange for graduate levels, especially in the fields of tourism, archeology, anthropology, and museum studies. Alomoush then gave a briefing about the university and its academic faculties and specializations

in BA, MA, and PhD stressing the university's keenness to prepare a program for the summer semester to attract a number of Purdue University students, including intensive training courses in the field of teaching Arabic to non-native speakers. He explained doing this would enable students to learn about the Jordanian culture and get engaged with the civil society, pointing to Jordan's rich environment of cultural heritage and historical sites that bear witness to the succession of civilizations in the region through the ages. He also referred to the possibility of framing such cooperation in form of a memorandum between the two universities in the near future.

The members of the delegation praised the distinguished scientific reputation of Yarmouk University, especially in the fields of scientific studies of archeology, tourism, and anthropology, pointing out that Purdue University is interested in sending a number of its students to spend the summer semester at the Faculty of Archeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk University to learn about excavations and get oriented in other fields agreed upon by both parties.



## The Model School Celebrates the Independence Day



As part of Yarmouk University's celebrations of the Kingdom's 76<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, the President of the University, Professor Islam Massad, sponsored the opening of a special art exhibition for students of Yarmouk University Model School, which was organized by students and their supervisor teacher Ibtisam Yassin. Massad toured the exhibition, praising its creativity, which reflected a delicate artistic sense.

He further stressed the importance of enhancing, developing, and building on the technical skills of such students through refining and directing their skills in a sound technical educational framework. He also praised the efforts of the Model School represented by its principal as well as its teaching and administrative staff, for encouraging students and motivating them to participate in various extracurricular activities.



## Achieving the Second Phase of the Digital Transformation Project in YU

Supported by the US Embassy and in partnership with the American International Institute of Technology "MIT", the second phase of the digital transformation project entitled as "Leadership and Innovation in the Era of Digital Transformation" was concluded at Yarmouk University in the presence of a group of local community leaders including educational and non-educational directors and academics from different governmental and private institutions. The project team consisted of Dr. Mustafa Bani Khalaf, as a principal researcher, and Dr. Khaled Nawasra, who both acknowledged the efforts made by the Director of the Department of International Relations and Projects, Dean of al-Hijjawi Faculty of Technological Engineering, Dr. Mowaffaq Al-Atoum, to complete the project.

It is noteworthy that the project focuses on identifying expertise, skills, and the latest findings of science in the world of digital transformation to train and refine the digital skills of leaders, decision-makers, university students, and school teachers so that they can keep pace with the fourth and fifth industrial revolutions. Thus, the third and final phase of the project aim to train 40 university students on future jobs



in the era of digital transformation and the Fourth Industrial Revolution. However, celebrating this achievement, the University President's Advisor for Quality Affairs, Director of Accreditation and Quality Assurance Center, Dr. Abdullah Al-Khataiba, patronized the graduation ceremony of the participants in the second phase workshop and handed them participation certificates at the end of the workshop.

# The UAE Education and Technology Sciences Attaché Visits Yarmouk



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met with the Emirati Attaché of Education, and Technology Sciences, Sheikh Dr. Ammar Al-Mu'alla, and the accompanying delegation to discuss ways of enhancing scientific and academic cooperation between Yarmouk and Emirati universities in areas of common interest. During the meeting, Massad expressed the keenness of Yarmouk University to meet the aspirations of Jordanian and Arab youth by keeping pace with developments and modernization in various academic programs in line with the requirements of the labor market. He then pointed out that the University started implementing a set of procedures and plans to provide students with the basic skills that refine their personality and open up new horizons for them in the labor market. He also mentioned that Yarmouk University pays careful attention to its international students and their involvement in

several cultural activities and events. For his part, Al-Mu'alla praised the distinguished level of Yarmouk University and the keenness of the UAE Ministry of Education to cooperate with Yarmouk University in the field of establishing joint academic and professional programs, exchanging experiences and scientific visits for faculty members and students, pointing to the keenness of the UAE Education and Technology Attaché Office in Amman to be acquainted with all novel scientific and academic specializations and programs in Jordanian universities. In response, the Vice President of Yarmouk University for Academic Affairs, Professor Muwaffaq Alomoush, gave a briefing about the faculties of the University and their distinguished and unique specializations and degrees, pointing out that Yarmouk University is a comprehensive institute that works to develop specific disciplines and be among the

academic pioneers of the region.

During his visit to the university, the Attaché accompanied by the delegation, toured the University campus, where he visited the business incubators at al-Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering Technology and the Semitic and Oriental Languages Department at the University's Faculty of Arts.

## Yarmouk Faculty of Arts Organizes the Week of Languages

The Faculty of Arts at Yarmouk University organized a week for Turkish, French, German, Chinese and Spanish languages, where a special day was allocated to promote and hold cultural activities and events related to each language. As part of the Turkish Language Day, for example, the Semitic and Oriental Languages Department at the Faculty, in cooperation with the Turkish Embassy and Yunus Emre Turkish Institute in Amman, organized an art exhibition, which included a display of miniatures by Turkish artist Aisha Nour and pictures of Jordan from the Ottoman Archives.

## Cooperation between Yarmouk and the GIZ



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met with the Director of GIZ's branch of Vocational Education directed to the Labor Market, Higher Education, and Training, Wolfgang Friedberg, who was accompanied by Dr. Rainer Herbes from the German University of Bonn Rhein-Sieg, discussing ways to strengthen cooperation between the two parties.

Massad expressed Yarmouk's pride in the distinguished academic and research cooperation relations it has with various German institutions and universities, stressing its keenness to consolidate cooperation with (GIZ) through the implementation of more scientific and research projects that positively reflect on the progress of the educational process. He then pointed out that al-Hijjawi Faculty is keen to update and develop its study plans in line with the needs of the internal and external labor market, acknowledging the outstanding scientific level of the (YU-RL) project implemented by al-Hijjawi Faculty in partnership with the German University of Bonn Rhein-Sieg, which aims at designing and developing methods and tools for teaching practical remote laboratories.

In return, Friedberg reviewed the emergence of GIZ as a service provider in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development, where the Agency's office in Jordan provides services in the main fields of education, economic development, employment promotion, and water and the environment. He also stressed the agency's keenness to strengthen cooperation with Yarmouk due to its researchers' competence and ability to implement outstanding scientific projects and research in various fields.

## Cooperation between Yarmouk and the French Cultural Institute in Jordan



The Vice President of Yarmouk University, Professor Muwaffaq Alomoush, met with the Director of the French Cultural Institute in Jordan, Christelle Boudevin, during her visit to the university to participate in the activities of the French Language

Day organized by the Faculty of Arts at the university. Alomoush stressed the importance of strengthening cultural and academic cooperation between Yarmouk and the French Cultural Institute, which does have a positive impact on the educational process in the field of the French language. For her part, Boudevin confirmed the French Cultural Institute's support and cooperation with Yarmouk University, as evident in its involvement in the review and development of the study plan for French-language courses, stressing that such steps taken by Yarmouk would enhance the dissemination of the French language and culture in the Jordanian society.

Noteworthy here is that during her visit to the university, Boudevin delivered a lecture entitled "Scientific Diaries on Dialects in the Near East" in the presence of a number of faculty members at the Faculty of Arts and a group of students.

## Strengthening Cooperation between Yarmouk University and the (DAAD)



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met with the Director of the Office of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in Jordan, Benjamin Schmäling, to discuss ways to enhance cooperation between the two sides in various fields of scientific exchange at the level of students and faculty members. Massad focused on the importance of strengthening relations of scientific, academic,

and cultural cooperation with various educational institutions, as this contributes to exchanging information and experiences, and strengthening and acquiring the necessary skills needed to qualify and prepare young people with a high degree of responsibility and scientific excellence, as evident in the plan of the University's Language Center to offer a package of foreign language courses, including the German language, for students.

In return, Schmäling praised the distinguished level of Yarmouk University, pointing out that Yarmouk is one of the important partners of DAAD in various fields of cooperation, pointing to the DAAD's readiness to support the university in a way that contributes to the development and modernization of the university as well as the dissemination of the German language and culture in the region. However, the meeting was attended by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University, Professor Musa Rababaa, the head of the Department of Modern Languages at the university, Professor Hussein Rahil, and the director of the Language Center, Professor Lamia Hammad.

## The Faculty of Information Technology Wins the Award of the Best and Most Promising Applied Entrepreneurial Project



Participating in a competition that included twenty projects introduced by over 16 countries, including

Canada, Italy, Romania, Georgia, Bulgaria, Azerbaijan, Jordan, Egypt and Turkey, the pioneering project of the Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science at Yarmouk University entitled "using virtual reality to develop a computerized educational curriculum for pre-school children with special needs" won the first place for being the best promising applied pilot project in the International Academic Cultural Forum (ICAMES'22) for Engineering students, which was held in Istanbul between 10 -16 / 05/ 2022. The student Sohaib Al-Abed represented the project team in this international competition, noting that the project team included, besides Sohaib, the student Maysam Al-Akash, and that the team was supervised by Dr. Rami Malkawi and Dr. Ahmed Saifan.

## Cooperation with the Canadian Embassy



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met the Canadian Ambassador to Amman, Donica Pottie, who was accompanied by the Director of the Immigration Program at the Embassy, Sarah Erlichman, to discuss ways of enhancing cooperation between the two parties. At the beginning of the meeting, Massad reviewed the emergence of Yarmouk and its faculties as well as the specializations it offers expressing the University's keenness to develop more specializations like nursing. He then praised the permanent cooperation between Yarmouk and the Canadian Embassy in Amman, as the Canadian government had already provided support for many projects implemented by Yarmouk University, such as Deir Alla Station for Archaeological Studies and the leading female academics network. He also pointed out that the Refugees, Displaced Persons and Forced Migration Studies Center at the University is in the process of launching a new strategy to strengthen cooperation with international organizations and bodies, which provides an opportunity for faculty members, researchers and students at the university to conduct studies and research related to refugees and migration. For her part, Pottie pointed out that the Canadian government supports a program of cooperation between Canadian universities and several universities in the world, pointing that Yarmouk may benefit from the Expo program for universities 2022 in this field.

Pottie then visited the Refugees, Displaced Persons and Forced Migration Studies Center, where she listened to a detailed explanation from the Director of the Center, Dr. Reem Al-Kharouf, about the establishment of the center, its objectives, activities, and strategic plan. She further met the staff and volunteers of the center to have a look at the mechanisms of the workflow and ways to serve refugees.

## "Dialects of the Arab Orient: Scientific Developments and New Perspectives"



Representing the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Dr. Ghada Sasa', the Head of the Department of English Language and Literature, patronized a symposium entitled "Dialects of the Arab Orient: Scientific Developments and New Perspectives", which was organized by Yarmouk's Departments of English Language and Literature as well as Arabic Language and Literature in cooperation with the French Institute for the Near East.

In her opening speech, Sasa' stated that the symposium is a continuation of the symposium held by the University of Jordan about the various linguistic aspects of the dialects of the Levant.

Dr. Osama Al-Omari from the Department of English Language and Literature, who coordinated the symposium in cooperation with Dr. Khaled Bani Doumi from the Department of Arabic Language and Literature, stressed the keenness of Yarmouk University to function as a platform for science and culture by hosting scientific meetings that shed light on the authentic Arab heritage.

Dr. Salam Diab from Grenoble Alpes University in France and Dr. Pauline Cochet, Head of the Arabic Studies Department at the Institute, gave a brief about the goals and activities of the center in the countries of the region, especially Jordan. After that, Dr. Anam Alwar from the University of Essex in UK, a world-renowned Jordanian researcher in the field of sociolinguistics, interviewed graduate students in the Department of English about their research projects.