

>>>>>BINXET=UNDERLINE<<<<<

Western Kurdistan Association

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Charity number: 1066236 Company No: 3454407



Newsletter of BINXET=Underline, No. 43, London 20-8-2008

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Letter of support from Mayor of London Mr Boris Johnson to Mr Jawad Mella

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

Mayor's Office

City Hall
The Queen's Walk
More London
London SE1 2AA
Switchboard: 020 7983 4000
Minicom: 020 7983 4458
Web: www.london.gov.uk

Mr Jawad Mella
WKA, Palingswick House
241 King Street
London W6 9LP

Our ref: MGLA090708-7470

Date: 16-Jul-08

Dear Mr Mella

Thank you for your recent letter to Mr Johnson. I have been asked to respond on his behalf and to thank you for enclosing a book about the Kurdish people.

The Mayor recognises the valuable contribution that Kurdish communities make to the capital. His office will continue to meet with community representatives to discuss key issues and to ensure that the specific needs and concerns of the Kurdish community are reflected in policy development and service delivery.

Thank you once again for your gift and for taking the time to contact the Mayor.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anna Roberts".

Anna Roberts
Senior Project Officer

Refugee Week 2008 at Hammersmith Borough

Nearly 300 people crammed the large hall at Hammersmith Town Hall for the local celebration of Refugee Week on Thursday evening (June 19th)

Organised by Hammersmith and Fulham Refugee Forum the multicultural celebration featured stalls from more than two dozen local organisations bearing a mixture of art, craftwork, and information on refugee groups based in the borough.

On stage meanwhile five of the different nationalities gave a taste of their traditional songs and dance, many of the participants wearing national costume.

Special guests at the event included the Mayor of the borough, Councillor Andrew Johnson who also presented certificates of achievement to recipients nominated by their refugee groups for community work and personal effort. Also present was Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh, Shepherd's Bush MP Andy Slaughter, and senior representatives from Hammersmith Police.

In addition to entertainment, the visitors were served with a range of cuisine provided by ethnic chefs.

Commenting after the event, co-ordinator of the Refugee Forum Emad Al-Hamadani said: "The celebration showed what a tremendous contribution local refugee groups make to the diversity of this vibrant borough. Integration and cohesion are key to successful community relations and this event was able to demonstrate how the wide variety of ethnic groups that make Hammersmith and Fulham their home interact harmoniously and enthusiastically with one another. The celebration was a tremendous success."

Further information contact: Emad Al-Hamadani, Co-ordinator, on: 020 7386 6090 or Phil Cooper, Press Officer, on: 07889 949173

Notes to Editors:

The Refugee Week celebration took place at the large hall, Hammersmith Town Hall, on Thursday 19th June, 2008, from 6pm to 9pm.

Organisations represented included:

1. Bosnia and Hertzegovina Advice Centre
2. Banooda AID Foundation
3. Fulham Somali Women's Association
4. Hammersmith and Fulham Refugee Forum
5. Iranian Association
6. Iraqi Association
7. Iraqi Women's League
8. KANGA
9. Kurdish Association
10. Organisation of HIV Positive African Men
11. Refugee Advice and Support Centre
12. Sahil Housing
13. SOM Centre
14. Somali Women Support and Development Association
15. Sudanese Development Association
16. The African Child
17. **Western Kurdistan Association**
18. Zimbabwe Women Network UK
19. CaVSA
20. Evelyn Oldfield Unit
21. Hammersmith and Fulham Community Law Centre
22. HAFAD (Hammersmith and Fulham Action on Disability)
23. Know 4 Sure@White City (HIV testing clinic)
24. REAP (Refugees in Effective and Active Partnership)
25. London Refugee Voic



Volunteers of WKA at the Refugee Week event

Western Kurdistan Association participated in the State of London Conference and the most conferences connected to the community issue and its cultures



MAYOR OF LONDON

Roundtable Meeting On Specific Barriers to Integration for Kurdish Migrants in the UK

Thursday 26th June 2008

Minutes

In Attendance:

KHRP: Kerim Yildiz, Anna Irvin

Ms.	Monireh	Moftizadeh
Mr.	Dana	Abbas
Ms.	Annet	Henneman
Mr.	Rebwar	Fateh
Ms.	Aygul	Ozdemir
Dr.	Alexandra	Argenti
Dr.	Jawad	Mella
Mr	Giran	Ozcan

The Kurdish Womens Project
Kurdish Housing Association
Teatro di Nascosto (guest of Dana)
Kurdish Media
Kurdish Community Centre
Lecturer in Medical Anthropology at Ucl (guest of Aygul)
Western Kurdistan Association
Kurdish Cultural Centre

Kerim Yildiz:

- Introduction to the work of KHRP. Outlined main activities and key moments. Work in Iran, Iraq, Turkey, Syria, Armenia and Azerbaijan and to a certain extent with the Kurdish Diaspora. Methods are strategic litigation, trainings, trial observations, fact-finding missions, research and publications
- 2004 feasibility study commissioned by KHRP and carried out by independent experts, to monitor effectiveness and relevance of the organisations work. One of the areas looked at was to measure the effectiveness of the Kurdish Diaspora in recognising and promoting rights, how/if they are able to reach policymakers in government.
- After taking 1-1.5 years researching and interviewing governments and consulting with Kurds and non-Kurds, the study made observations and recommendations for the work of the KHRP. With regard to the Diaspora, the study noted that while the Kurdish community was well-organized and vocal, some organisations lack effectiveness in reaching policy as they do not use available resources.
- KHRP mainly uses international human rights mechanisms and it was decided that there is still a need for KHRP, and a need for the Kurdish Diaspora to work together, or at least support each others' work.
- Clarified that this meeting is more of a consultation to see what areas the KHRP can assist the community groups and work with them in understanding and accessing rights and available mechanisms as this is where it specialises. Studies confirm that KHRP work is effective. Mechanisms used provide us with opportunities to keep touch with governments and communicate with institutions such as UN.

KHRP one of the leading organisations in HR law.

- If the Diaspora effectively organized itself, it could tackle acquiring available funding. Idea is to brainstorm and talk about our respective organizations.

Anna Irvin:

- Outline of our recent activities and what KHRP is planning. Research has been undertaken on the Diaspora in Europe but this meeting is to focus on what problems specific to UK are and strategies to combat obstacles to integration.
- This meeting is a start on consultations that we would like to have to ensure that we don't duplicate work and find out where KHRP expertise fits in with your respective work. Goal is to identify key problems and find out where KHRP overlap or can help.
- Since here we have advantage of legal expertise and extensive advisory board and other resources, KHRP can provide assistance through trainings, meetings, events and so on. To illustrate how this can work, I would like to invite Monireh to tell you all a bit about the recent work that we have been doing with the Kurdish Women's Project.

Monireh Moftizadeh:

- After working in refugee field for many years and establishing a women's refugee organization, specifically for Kurdish women in community centres, we discovered need for accessing mechanisms to enable us to secure Kurdish women's rights and challenge violations.
- Along with KHRP, we drafted Kurdish women's charter. Fearing the government would not pay attention because it was drafted by women, it was suggested to group to make the charter an acceptable legal charter. Charter launched at House of Lords in June 2004. While

this happened, many Kurdish political parties were contacted and they agreed to launch the Charter in Kurdistan. It was presented as the first women's rights presentation at the National Assembly, which promised to try to ensure the Charter was not violated.

- Need for enforcement and implementation of Charter, we should try to make it a recognized document on one side and as an awareness-raiser for Kurdish society.
- With Kurdish Women's Project, we thought we should start with ourselves through training and awareness-raising sessions about mechanisms we can use. After approaching KHRP with request for training workshop, the first one was held 25.06.08. It was very well-received, and we are planning to have further trainings with KHRP.
- KHRP should also approach if people don't come and ask for help. It can help Kurdish people integrate and raise awareness within the British population.

Anna Irvin:

- It is important not simply to look at the situation for Kurdish people here in isolation, but to make links back to Kurdish regions. This is where KHRP can be of use in because of its experience and contacts in the region and internationally. It could also help to make people aware of what their rights are in domestic law and how to address problems.

Rebwar Fateh:

- Questioning KHRP's Diaspora involvement and expertise, and clarifying that it is not a Kurdish organization and nor should it be, as that is not its function. It is not an area that the organisation has been involved in before and would like to know why now and it what way.

Kerim Yildiz:

- We would accept that we are not an organisation with expertise on problems of Kurdish diaspora. Where it does fit in is in its expertise within certain areas such as right to family and anti-terrorism laws, areas that link to the problems facing the Diaspora. We also provide careful advice for lawyers. Our strength lies in our links with regions and internationally. We've learned to not to release information before we have first-hand accounts. For example, before KHRP released anything on increased bombardments between Iraq and Turkey, it sent out a fact-finding mission. So is there need or possibility for us to help each other?

Monireh Moftizadeh:

- While the KHRP is well-known in some circles, it is not known amongst the Diaspora and especially not known as a Kurdish organization. Through recent work, it is clear KHRP works mainly with Turkey. There has

not been much political challenge or campaigning. Perhaps that's why KHRP didn't make that Diaspora connection.

- A weakness among the Kurds may stem from the political/land divisions, perhaps the 'mind and heart are divided' also. This has led to the lack of cooperation and solidarity.

Dr. Jawad Mella:

- Kurds seem to be working within themselves alone and not engaged across borders. Dialogue between Kurds themselves is needed between Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Syria and elsewhere

Aygul Ozdemir:

- Funding issues are common. Most community centres are looking at looking joint projects, so it's really important for each organization to be familiar with the Kurdish community and their needs and be in constant dialogue with all Kurds. There may be refusal of funding to too specific groups. Community centres should be up to date with demands and this can only be done through dialogue.

Anna Irvin:

- It seems clear that there is more desire for collaborative work rather than internal activity. It would be good to find out where there are common problems or a lack of information, and then we identify what is needed.

Dr. Jawad Mella:

- Agreed that funding is very important, and there seems to be competition within organization. Through cooperation, however, everyone is stronger.

Aygul Ozdemir:

- Mistrust is more prevalent in cases where there has been no communication. It is very important to support each other. Mistrust is natural where there is not constant dialogue, follow-up is necessary.

Monireh Moftizadeh:

- KHRP should work on facilitating communication. Community centres and organizations are not aware of their problems until they face them, KHRP could encourage them at that point or prevent them.

Aygul Ozdemir:

- KHRP may be helpful, but community centres should be independent. That is their point of existence. If they cannot subsist without support, that is dangerous.

Kerim Yildiz:

- We can/should work on that. Many people ask us why Kurdish diaspora doesn't work together and ask for funding.

Dr. Alexandra Argenti:

- Undergraduates here don't have exposure to issues because there are no Kurdish chairs in departments. As a comparison, Kazakhstan has funded certain projects and the government works to raise national awareness. Who will take that responsibility in terms of Kurds?

Anna Irvin:

- Problem between lack of distinction between who would represent Kurds from a cross-regional point of view

Rebwar Fateh:

- KHRP may be able to do that since some institutions are dominated by specific mentalities like Arab and Iranian. A more independent and balanced view needs to be presented.

Dana Abbas:

- My own studies have shown that there are not enough resources or books which can be referred to as Kurdish sources. Whatever is available is usually done by outsiders and includes their biased opinions. We don't have available great resources and this is a barrier. It is a good idea to have a chair funded by the KRG for example. We need a systematic approach to Kurdish studies at universities

Anna Irvin:

- KHRP are currently working its Feeney Centre for Research and Dialogue, to make all of the materials available to be searchable online source. The aim is to provide information on the region and on Human rights from a range of different sources, so that people can make comparisons and see all of the perspectives. The idea is to have an independent multifaceted source of information, and it is important to know where to access a balanced report.

Kerim Yildiz:

- KHRP has a lot of information which not yet been available in the public domain, which can be of great use.

Dr. Jawad Mella:

- The problem between Kurds is that they don't communicate with each other. Each man works for himself alone, not taking others into consideration. Even in Iraqi Kurdistan, Kurds are very strong but there is no cooperation.

Dana Abbas:

- If we have lots of heavy objectives, we will not get very far. We should not be threatened by each other; our existence means there is a need for us.
- We can all link to each other, no obligations, just working together. This would create various contacts and references. We all have British contacts as well, this can make our work practical.

Dr. Jawad Mella:

- Kurdish organizations do not represent themselves well enough. We should work together and make a general partnership. Suggestion of drafting something or listing some steps for ourselves.

Anna Irvin:

- It may be unrealistic within the limits of this meeting to start discussing actions. That can be done through email communication to KHRP, where you see KHRP working for you. Follow-up meetings should take place. From KHRP's point of view, we want to come up with set of actions. This could entail exhibitions or theatre or trainings...this should not be an internal issue; other people should be brought in

Kerim Yildiz:

- As a first step, we should discuss what we *can* do together. From here, we should go to other organizations and do the same thing, incorporating more contacts. Here and now is meant to discuss our needs and how we can be more effective in reaching policymakers.

- Seminars on lots of issues, covering one at a time, would be useful. An example would be discussing anti-terror legislation which may affect the diaspora. KHRP could combine other work with our expertise in human rights.

Annet Henneman:

- The division between Kurds is very strong in Italy; there is very little community there. I have participated in a theatre festival, which takes place every 2 years from all Kurdish participants in Europe. The second time there was enormous communication already.

- European Court should be used, there have been grave changes in Italian human rights legislation and we can address these together. We did something on this level for charta of Volterra (refugee policy). We are trying to promote this in Europe as a European-wide thing. We can combine all documents from people who work on refugee policies.

- As a foreigner or non-Kurd, it is very difficult to access information about Kurds as there is a language barrier. We can use the experiences of different countries because each is on a different level.

Giren Ozcan:

- The reality of division can be overcome. KHRP can bring people together. Coming up with a list of practical actions is not yet feasible, but we should agree to make the effort to see each other more often.

- Kurds are the most organized Diaspora, but the least effective. Lack of funding comes down to lack of unification. Something which appeals to all Kurds is needed.

Dr. Jawad Mella:

- A partnership is possible. We have already done many seminars; something practical is needed to unite the Kurdish community of Britain.

Dana Abbas:

- This meeting is not fully representative as many groups are not here at the moment. They may feel threatened by our propositions because they were not involved.

- An umbrella organization of sorts already exists. Their experience can be used rather than starting from scratch.

Anna Irvin:

- Many organizations were invited, not just those based in London ones. Minutes can be circulated and we can discuss concrete suggestions to key problems.

Kerim Yildiz:

- Clarification that meeting is not intended to create a new project or to propose that KHRP could become an umbrella organisation. This is a consultation. We want to see what we can offer and what we can do together. We can offer legal assistance and training as we have done globally. If we can combine our experience and expertise in some area, it should be done.

- KHRP does not aim to become a diaspora group. We can involve a number of powerful NGOs with Kurdish Diaspora.

Rebwar Fateh:

- KHRP's role is not to become a diaspora organization, but there are many things in which it could get involved.

- As a worker within Kurdish media, I am aware of human rights violations especially against asylum-seekers. This is an example of something KHRP could help with. KHRP's study suggested that the Kurdish Diaspora could be more effective and could reach policymakers. This was seen after consulting all over the UK and Europe.

Dr. Jawad Mella:

- This meeting represents such diverse subjects. They all start with internal unity. I suggest we write a way of how to cooperate or work with each other as Kurdish community.

- Through cooperation we can tackle each of these subjects, such as women's rights, education, theatre, etc. If we do not cooperate, we will remain where we are. Group work is essential.

Anna Irvin:

- From here, people will be notified that this meeting has taken place. Email communication is good if you want to suggest something concrete in order to bridge gaps between resources and such. We all have raw materials, and we just have to figure out how to use them.

Monireh Moftizadeh:

- This cooperation is effective. We should be aware of the work of others to eliminate duplication. Our respective specializations should be emphasized. For example, women's groups can cooperate. We can refer issues or cases to each other if we know about each other.

- We could send out a letter or proposal to all organizations or community groups

within our contacts, as an open invitation to see what Kurdish people are concerned about.

Anna Irvin:

- Our common factor is inaccessible information, not having a main person to contact. There are many resources out there but often people, Kurds and non-Kurds alike, are not sure of where to turn to for specific advice. We would find it useful for all groups to send us the information they have on their networks and groups, then we can enter these into our central database and have the most up-to-date information for those asking for help and advice.

Dana Abbas:

- Suggestion of having one person to set up website or search engine for every organization relating to Kurds. This person's sole job should be to update website, one who will contact each organization every few months for updates, sort of like a yellow pages.

Monireh Moftizadeh:

- Why were no political parties invited?
- The reality of political pervasiveness must be acknowledged. Even within women's groups, powerful politically motivated men hamper our work. We do want to involve them as they represent the main obstacles. Political parties should not interfere.

Rebwar Fateh:

- Meetings of minutes can be sent, and our group here can start to focus on something.

Kerim Yildiz:

- A Diaspora conference with political parties could take place but Diaspora groups should organise it. We had initiated a plan for such a conference, with the support of the London Mayor, but then we realised that in order to maximise the effect of such a conference, consultations such as that today are needed first.

- Once we have assessed the outcome of this initial meeting, we should meet again soon. Keep in mind the suggestions. Joint trainings for all groups on a specific issue could be useful. Perhaps activities on the side of our meetings would be encouraging.

Anna Irvin:

- Use KHRP as a resource now as much as you can, and KHRP would like to use you. We will be in contact.

Dr. Alexandra Argenti:

- There is research being done on fragmentation that could be applied to the situation for Kurdish communities. Fragmentation is a common problem, not just for Kurds.

Noted:

- KHRP is not a Diaspora organisation and is not as well known in this field
- Research and experience from groups has shown that the Diaspora is active but not as

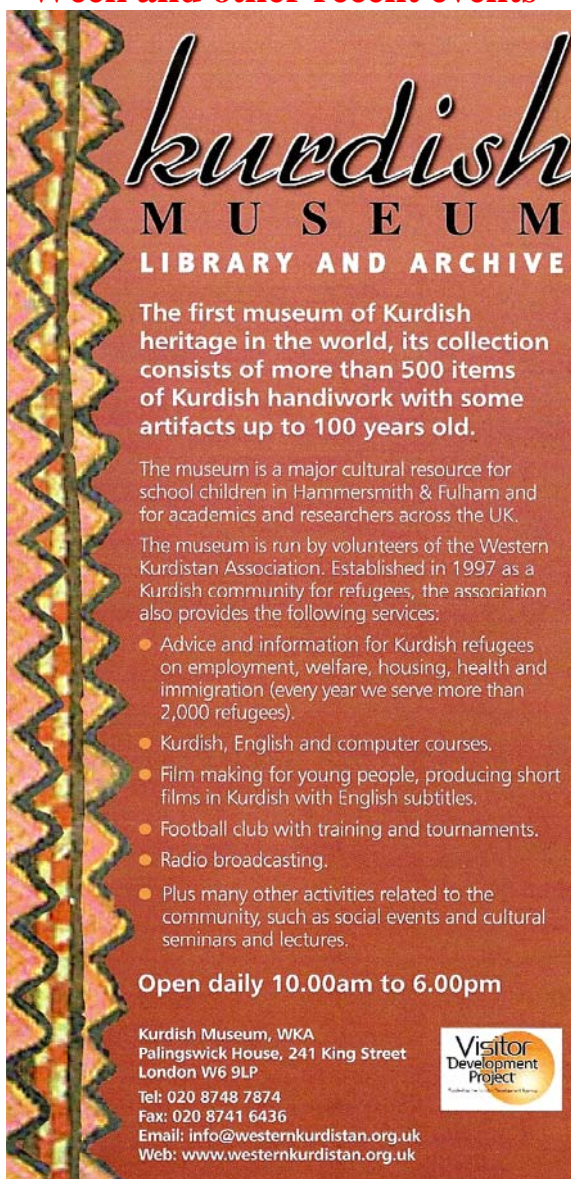
effective as it could be, and this is due to a lack of co-operation and communication

- Funding is available from various sources, but joint applications may need to be made. Communication here is important in order to keep up to date with requirements from potential funders
- KHRP knows what help it could potentially give, but wants to know how this can fit in with the work of Diaspora groups. Would like to present ourselves as a potential resource that community groups can use
- KHRP could help to raise awareness. If people don't know we are here then they won't know we can help
- There is a need for an independent and unbiased source of information, as many groups are divided by political and regional differences.
- There is not Kurdish Chair in any university, in the same way that other countries have. This is an effective way of raising awareness and also for funding.
- Should not overreach our capabilities in collaboration, but focus on what we can practically achieve together
- Many organisations do not represent themselves well enough. This can be done through a number of different methods
- Should think about cross-national collaborations as well and communicate effectively with communities internationally
- Political parties should not be excluded from consultations but neither should they dominate them
- The problem of fragmentation should be addressed

Action Points

- Anna Irvin to circulate minutes among attendees and then to all of those groups invited
- A list of Kurdish UK groups will be circulated and each person should add to this any org that they think will be of use
- All those attending this meeting should email Anna Irvin with their main concerns and areas that they think that the KHRP can be of use to them.
- KHRP will continue to discuss with each organisation how they can provide assistance through trainings, consultations and advice incorporating the feedback provided.

Leaflet of the Kurdish Museum, Library and Archive was delivered widely at the Refugee Week and other recent events



kurdish
MUSEUM
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE

The first museum of Kurdish heritage in the world, its collection consists of more than 500 items of Kurdish handwork with some artifacts up to 100 years old.

The museum is a major cultural resource for school children in Hammersmith & Fulham and for academics and researchers across the UK.

The museum is run by volunteers of the Western Kurdistan Association. Established in 1997 as a Kurdish community for refugees, the association also provides the following services:

- Advice and information for Kurdish refugees on employment, welfare, housing, health and immigration (every year we serve more than 2,000 refugees).
- Kurdish, English and computer courses.
- Film making for young people, producing short films in Kurdish with English subtitles.
- Football club with training and tournaments.
- Radio broadcasting.
- Plus many other activities related to the community, such as social events and cultural seminars and lectures.

Open daily 10.00am to 6.00pm

Kurdish Museum, WKA
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Email: info@westernkurdistan.org.uk
Web: www.westernkurdistan.org.uk

Visitor Development Project

Mr Ahmed Dado (solicitor) with his wife and kids are one of the Kurdish families in west London which are visiting the Kurdish Museum every day




Every day the Kurdish Museum, Library and Archive receives books, documents and Kurdish hand made items, the publisher of the book of Fever and Thirst (which published in Chicago-USA on March 2008 about the Christian Kurdish Tribes in Kurdistan), the publisher sent a copy as a present to the Kurdish Museum, Library and Archive, many thanks to him on his excellent gift which will enrich the history & biography section of the Library.


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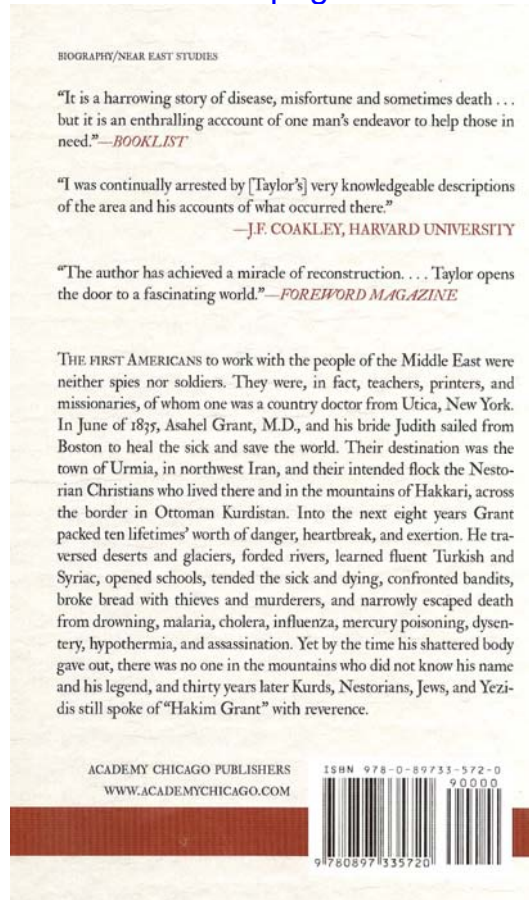
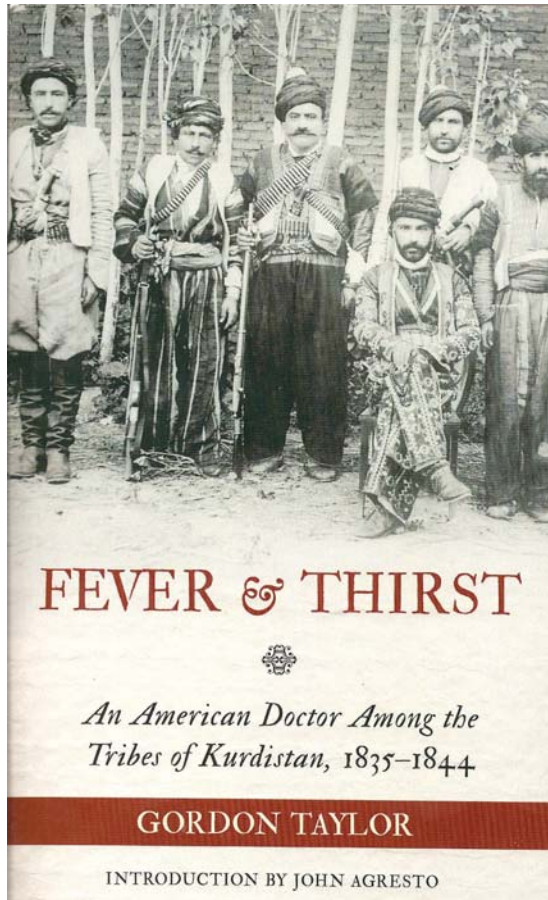
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1	9780897335720 PUBLISHER REQUEST	FEVER AND THIRST: AN AMERICAN DOCTOR AMONG THE TRIBES OF KURDISTAN, 1835-1844 	1

The Cover of FEVER AND THIRST of 354 pages



Every month WKA receives hundreds of letters of thanks and cooperation from Hammersmith and Fulham Borough as Better Government, H&F Homes and Community Liaison, and from other Boroughs as Hounslow Council, and from different national organisations as MLA, Archive for London, FA, Amnesty International and local organisations as BBC outreach, LVSTC-ESF and BME as CAVSA-H&F, REAP and H&F Refugee Forum organisations, below one of these letters of thanks from EBP at Hammersmith and Fulham Borough

28 July 2008

Dr Jawad Mella
Chairman
WKA Web Design
Palingswick House
241 King Street
London
W6 9PL


putting residents first
Education Business Partnership
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
First Floor, 181 King Street
London, W6 9JT
Tel: 020 8753 2803 / 3753
Fax: 020 8753 1207
Email: lucy.white@lbhf.gov.uk
Web: www.lbhf.gov.uk

RE Work experience placements for the new academic year - 2008/09

Dear Jawad Mella

I am writing to you on behalf of all the schools in Hammersmith and Fulham to request your support with our Work Related Learning programme which includes Work Experience. For those of you that regularly take part in our work experience programme I would like to extend my warmest thanks for your support with offering placements and look forward to working with you again this year.

I have attached for your attention a calendar which shows the work experience dates for both our schools and for the college. We really rely on the support of our employers in order to run a successful programme for the students so if you are able to provide work placements this year please do complete the attached form and return it to us. If you cannot offer any support at this time then a "nil" return will help us keep accurate records and stop any future unwanted correspondence.

What happens next?

On receipt of your completed booking form:

- Details will be distributed to the appropriate School-based Work Experience Co-ordinator. **The school will then presume that those placements have been reserved for them for the dates confirmed.**
- Once a school has received an offer of a work placement, either the School-based Work Experience Co-ordinator or a student interested in the placement, will contact you to confirm their details. This normally happens 6 - 8 weeks prior to placement starting.
- We do advise employers to hold a pre-placement interview with the student. The student will normally ring you 2 weeks prior to the placement commencing to arrange a time with you.

We really value your support with our students and will be on hand to assist you in any way we can. If you require further information please do not hesitate to call on **020 8753 2803** or email [**lucy.white@lbhf.gov.uk**](mailto:lucy.white@lbhf.gov.uk)

Best wishes

Lucy White

Lucy White
Education Business Partnership
London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

Hammersmith and Fulham 
Primary Care Trust

Smoking Cessation Service,
1 Hammersmith Bridge Road,
Hammersmith,
W6 9DU
020808466840

www.hf-pct.nhs.uk

To the team at the Western Kurdistan Association, Hammersmith and Fulham,

We are writing to you to ask for your help with publicizing the Stop Smoking Service in Hammersmith and Fulham by putting up posters and leaflets and displaying our business cards in holders.

I hope that you won't mind me sending you these materials, and that you will be able to place these items in areas where as many people as possible will see them!

National figures indicate that 70% of all smokers want to give up smoking at any one time. Only 2% of those who try on their own succeed whereas around 30% of smokers who seek support stay smoke-free in the long-term. So we really do need your help. There are 35,000 smokers out there in Hammersmith & Fulham and we'd like to offer them all help to quit. By displaying these publicity materials, we will be able to reach as many of these people who want to quit and let them know about our service – your help in doing this, will be invaluable.

If you run out of items at any point and would like us to send some more, please do get in touch – we will be more than happy to supply you with them!!

Thanks once again, and best wishes,

Georgie Kane
Stop Smoking Service,
Hammersmith and Fulham PCT.

0208 383 5884



phone : 020 8846 6767
website : www.hf-pct.nhs.uk
main office : 5-7 Parsons Green SW6 4UL

Chair : Mr Jeff Zitron
Chief Executive : Mr Mike Wood
Professional Executive Chair : Dr Josip Car



TROOP OF KURD CAVALRY WHICH THE TURKS ARE HURLING
AGAINST THE RUSSIANS IN THE PASSES
OF THE CAUCASUS MOUNTAINS.

Group of Kurdish cavalry during the World War I

Below three lists of the Kurdish community who support WKA and Kurdish Museum, Library and Archive

Financial support

Last year the Kurdish Museum, Library and Archive faced financial problems, so the Kurdish community collected £4000.- of support, many thanks to our generous members:

1. Dr Jemal Nebez
2. Engineer Bruska Ibrahim
3. Mr. Mohamed Salih
4. Mrs Kouch Hafid
5. Mr. Sardar Rahman
6. Mr. Suleman Mumtaz
7. Mr. Jan Osman
8. Mr. Zara Komo
9. Mr. Ahmed Sheikhmos
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27. Mr. Fawaz Abi
28. Mr. Husein Mustapha
29. Mr. Mohamed Ibrahim
30. Mr. Jano Khalil
31. Mr. Fathi Kobano

Items Donated

Since September 2007 to March 2008 the Kurdish Museum, Library and Archive received 500 items Kurdish hand made from our Kurdish community, many thanks to our generous members:

1. Mrs. Louisa kak Hama Amin Attar
2. Dr Jemal Nebez
3. Engineer Bruska Ibrahim
4. Mr. Kamaran Sheik Gharib
5. Mr Dara Attar
6. Dr. Aziz Fazil Akrawi
7. Engineer Ghiyath Ahmed
8. Engineer Nihad Mella
9. Mrs. Berivan Doski
10. Mrs Dilkesh Murad
11. Mr Ibrahim Khalil
12. Mr. Majid Salayi

13. Dr Sami Khafaf
14. Dr Mohamed Yousef
15. Dr. Jawad Mella
16. Mr. Latif Mohamed
17. Mrs Homa Soghra
18. Mr Lokman Mohamed
19. Dr. Sarkawt Karim
20. Mr Mohamed Saeed
21. Mrs Ashna Shalaw

3. Mrs Rola Mannan
4. Mr. Shirwan Rashid
5. Dr. Sami Khafaf
6. Dr Ashti Horami
7. Miss Bana Amin
8. Mr. Jihad Baker
9. Mr. Alan Murshid
10. Mr. Zen Huseino
11. Mr. Rizgar Haji
12. Mr. Rizgar Mella
13. Mr. Sipan Osman
14. Mr. Saer Al Haji
15. Mr. Zakeria Ahmed
16. Mr. Kawa Yousef
17. Mr. Zara Komo
18. Mr. Jan Osman
19. Mr Kahoon Mohamed
20. Mr. Yusuf Gilgil
21. Mrs. Mashkhal Sadiq
22. Mrs Soma Melazade

Volunteers

Western Kurdistan Association has no paid staff and runs all its projects by volunteers for more than 12 years.

Many thanks to the WKA and Kurdish Museum, Library and Archive' volunteers:

1. Dr. Mohamed Mustafa
2. Mr Goran Nawzad Ali

Activities of the WKA: serving the community, Radio Broadcasting, different kind of courses and Football Club



Free English and computer courses for refugees at Western Kurdistan Association



Kurdistan Football Club established by Western Kurdistan Association since 2004



Kurdish Museum, Library and Archive

The first Museum for the Kurdish Heritage in the world, its collections are Kurdish handwork and some of them are up to 100 years old



The Kurdish collections at the Kurdish Museum



The Kurdish Library and Archive

The first Museum for the Kurdish heritage in the world is one of the main culture resources for the school-age children of Hammersmith and Fulham Borough and to the academics and researchers in the UK. Let's make Hammersmith and Fulham Borough more colourful and tourist area for all nations and for the 3 million Kurds living in Europe for the coming London Olympics on 2012.

Recent visitors of the Kurdish Museum, Library and Archives from the Kurdish community, other communities and officials in the UK.



Mrs Freshta Raper, teacher & activist for the community



Mr Motaz Kamel and Mr Amr Shams, Egyptian Embassy

News

Museum's work to lift the lid

THE cultural treasure trove that is Palingswick House contains a growing tribute to Britain's Kurdish Community.

It explores their activities and achievements with photographic records and colourful costumes, which are on display for free in the diverse museum.

Jawad Mella, the son of an activist father, volunteers and supervises visitors at the popular Hammersmith venue, who are curious to find out more about the Kurdish people, their culture and history.

Students in particular have already been flocking there and seem to love being regaled by the guide and his extensive knowledge.

Mr Mella, who himself has penned books and reports about his people's plight for independence, said: "I welcome everyone to visit the museum, which provides a valuable resource for students as well as a friendly and interesting place to visit."

"This is a project which aims to improve links with other communities in west London as well."

Kurds are indigenous to the region known as Kurdistan and live mainly in countries like Syria, Iraq and Iran, with the largest number, up to 15 million, based in Turkey.

They were left without a single state when the borders of the Middle East were redrawn by the allies after the First World War.

Refugees living in the UK are urged to contribute to the museum by donating suitable exhibition material, such as books, written documents, music, painting, sculptures and maps.

The museum is at Palingswick House, 241 King Street, Hammersmith and is open from 10am-6pm each day. Phone 020 8748 7874. Visit www.westernkurdistan.org.uk.



Laura Creaser, 15, Tracey Owusu, 15, Soma Malazada, 20, and Mashkhal Sadiq, 19, all volunteering at the museum.

Pictures by Zute Lightfoot #0219-04



On the left the famous Kurdish singer Ahmed Anwari with his wife Mrs Delkesh Murad, the famous Kurdish fashion designer visit the Kurdish Museum on 24-7-2008, they show their support to the excellent work of the Kurdish Museum in London.

On the right the famous Kurdish musician Mrs Tara Jaff with the Kurdish film director Mr Azad Kerkuky, who visited London from Kurdistan on 22-7-2008 to interview Dr Jawad Mella to use it in his new documentary film on the Iraqi Kurdistan movement and its relation with western Kurdistan movement.

on the struggles of the Kurds



Mr Shaho Amin, UK representative of Kurdistan TV and his wife Heyam Aqil, the UK representative of KDP-Syria have an interesting visit to the Kurdish Museum





Dr Kameran Salihi, professor at Hawler University and Mr Dilshad Asaid



Mr Sheikh Jengi Saleyi, The civil society activist in Hawler-Kurdistan and Mr Adnan Shaswar, director of KANGA organisation-London



The Kurdish Museum has visitors from the Polish community and from many other communities in London