

YWCA Production. Providing Income for Palestinian Women. Providing Palestinian Wares to the World.

The Young Women's Christian Association of Palestine has been providing work opportunities for women from low income families for many years in the form of small scale manufacturing of various types of products. The YWCA strives to empower women by providing them with skills and training. The YWCA also empowers women with job opportunities within the YWCA's branches and centers.

The projects include a food producing and catering service in Jerusalem; Traditional Palestinian needlework, household items, dolls and puppets, in Ramallah/Jalazon; and food production in Jericho.

Baked Goods and Pastries - Jerusalem

This food production project provides catering to members as well as the general public. Graduates of the home economics course work together with students currently taking the course to make these delicious pastries.

Various kinds of pastries are produced including traditional Palestinian delicacies, as well as international favorites.

Included among these are:

- Sfeha (round pastries topped with meat and either tomato or tahina).
- Sambousek (crescent shaped pastries full of either meat, cheese or spinach).
- Shushbarak (Type of Middle Eastern Pasta stuffed with meat).
- Pizza.
- Ravioli.
- A variety of Cookies.



Handmade Dolls, Puppets, and Traditional Needlework - Ramallah Branch/Jalazon

At the YWCA center in the Jalazon Refugee Camp young Palestinian women are engaged in the production of dolls dressed in traditional Palestinian costumes including nativity sets. This project has been in existence since 1954 providing income generating opportunities for women. Our puppets are a recent addition having first been produced in 2001; they are made to resemble traditional Palestinian costumes as well. Traditional Palestinian

embroidery is another undertaking, as are quilts which are made to order. Olive oil soap is another new addition to Jalazon's wide array of products available in two kinds the traditional type and the herbal aromatic variety. There is also a production line of house ware with a Palestinian theme that was begun in Ramallah. All of the items are handmade and consist of attractive colors and patterns.

Dolls in local costume

These dolls each represent the style of embroidery unique to different towns in Palestine like Bethlehem, Jericho, Ramallah, Bethany, and Beit Dajan. There is also a Bedouin woman and a village chief.



Nativity Set

Consists of Mary, Joseph, The Babe, Shepherds, sheep, a donkey. The Three Kings are also available separately in their own set.



Puppets

Woman in Embroidered Dress, Old Man, Younger Man, Woman, Boy, Girl,

Olive oil Soap

Regular and Herbal types

Household Items

Decorations for home and office, and a variety of purses and pouches, Consists of Mary, Joseph, The Babe, Shepherds, sheep, a donkey,

The Three Kings are also available separately.

Puppets

Woman in Embroidered Dress, Old Man, Younger Man, Woman, Boy, Girl.



Food Production Project – Jericho Products - Jericho

The primary purpose of this project was to create job opportunities for women to support some families which needed assistance due to the difficult political and economical circumstances in the Jericho area.

These products have done quite well in the local market particularly in Jericho since they are produced like traditional homemade goods without any artificial preservatives. The all-natural ingredients are used when the ingredients are at the peak of their seasons to ensure freshness, and are all locally produced in and around the West Bank town of Jericho.

Some of the products are:

- Pure Honey
- Dried Herbs
- Goat Cheese
- Fruit Jams
- Concentrated Fruit Juices
- Maftoul (Couscous)
- Arabic Pastries
- Pizza

The complete line includes over 35 different types of food products



All of these projects are in existence primarily for the benefit of the women who work in them. The products featured in this brochure are of a high standard and the materials and ingredients utilized are of the highest quality resulting in superior workmanship. Although closures and curfews have affected the smooth operation of the various production projects that we have implemented, the YWCA is committed to their long term success in spite of the hurdles that we and the laborers employed in the production processes have had to overcome.

*Thank you for taking the time
to read about our efforts.*

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