

## What will we do on the delegation?

**This will be our fifth delegation and the focus will be on Tubas and the Jordan Valley**

We will spend most of the week visiting Tubas town and region, including the Jordan Valley. We will stay with local families, meet with members of the groups listed overleaf, learn about their town, villages and community, and discuss what we can do when we come back to Brighton. We aim to keep delegations to a maximum of 10 people and try to split up in to smaller groups for as much of the time as possible.

Travelling to Tubas and the Jordan Valley will also give you an overall impression of the situation throughout the West Bank. By witnessing the impact of the illegal Apartheid wall, Israeli Army checkpoints, and the theft of land water and other resources from the Palestinians, you will gain a far greater understanding of the impact of Israel's occupation in the everyday lives of ordinary Palestinians.

Most of the time will be structured, but there will also be the opportunity to have some flexibility to pursue issues that you are particularly interested in.

If you have not been before there may also be the opportunity to do a tour of some other areas of the West Bank.

## I am interested in coming on the delegation

Before the delegation we will arrange meetings for everyone going, so we can be fully prepared for the visit.

Please get in touch by phone, email or post.

**Name**

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**Contact phone number**

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**Email or postal address**

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Return to:

Brighton Tubas Friendship and Solidarity Group  
c/o Palestine Solidarity Campaign,  
Brighton Peace and Environment Centre,  
39-41 Surrey Street,  
Brighton,  
BN1 3PB

You can also contact us by phone or email:

Tel: 07984 438655

Email: [tubas@brightonpalestine.org](mailto:tubas@brightonpalestine.org)

Website: <http://tubas.brightonpalestine.org>

If you are interested in coming to Palestine but cannot make these dates please get in touch.

## Brighton Tubas Friendship and Solidarity Group

# Delegation to Palestine

## March 2008

Delegations provide a unique opportunity to meet local people, and witness the impact of the occupation first hand. We welcome anyone who is interested in supporting the friendship and solidarity work we are involved in both in Brighton and in Palestine.

We also want to send smaller groups of people to Tubas and the Jordan Valley on a regular basis to volunteer or support projects in the local areas.

## Who are we?

The Brighton Tubas Friendship and Solidarity Group was set up in May 2006 following a visit to Palestine by two people from Brighton.

We work with people at a grassroots level in Brighton and Tubas region of Palestine. We aim to develop solidarity and friendship by:

- \* Exchanging experiences, photos and information.
- \* Phone and video links.
- \* Supporting projects in Tubas by providing contacts or fundraising .
- \* Delegations from Brighton to Tubas so we can see the realities of the occupation and local Palestinian initiatives to survive economically and challenge the brutal apartheid system.
- \* Delegations from Tubas to Brighton so far more people can hear the so often silenced stories of ordinary Palestinian people.
- \* Volunteers travelling to Tubas for extended periods of time.
- \* Actively supporting the Boycott, Sanctions and Divestment campaign as a form of non-violent action we can take to pressurise the Israeli government to end its theft and occupation of Palestinian land.

## Why Tubas?

Tubas region is approximately 24km across and 28km north to south. It spreads from Tubas town, in the northern hills of the Israeli occupied West Bank, over to the fertile plains of the Jordan Valley.

Traditionally most of the people are farmers, travelling from the town to their land in the Jordan Valley. However, 95% of the land and 98% of the water in the Jordan Valley has been taken from the Palestinians since 1967 and is now controlled by the Israeli Army and Israeli settlers. Palestinians struggling to survive often have no choice but to work in the Israeli settlements.

In Palestinian villages the people have lost nearly all their land and many have had their houses demolished. There is very little health care, education is limited, there are no phone lines or public transport, often there is no electricity.

The Jordan Valley can only be accessed from Tubas via Israeli Army checkpoints, which Palestinians cannot go through unless they have a Jordan Valley ID (which are only issued to existing residents of the Valley) – a situation reminiscent of the apartheid South African pass laws.

Israel's clear intention is total annexation of the entire Jordan Valley. It is urgent that people know about this and act to prevent it.

## Who is involved?

Our focus is on grassroots activity, and we welcome any groups or individuals who support our aims. So far we have successfully built links with the following groups:

### Groups in Tubas and the Jordan Valley

- \* Tubas Women's Group
- \* Tubas Prisoners' Society
- \* Students and lecturers from Al Quds Open University in Tubas
- \* Palestinian Red Crescent Society
- \* Tubas Co-operative of Livestock Farmers
- \* A cooperative of farmers in the northern Jordan Valley
- \* Stop the Wall
- \* Al Jiftlik tent school
- \* Bardala School
- \* Teachers from Tubas schools
- \* Villagers in Fasayal village

### Groups in Brighton

- \* Amnesty International
- \* Brighton Quakers
- \* UNISON (B&H City Council Branch)
- \* Supplementary Arabic School
- \* Muslim Women's Group
- \* University of Sussex Students Union
- \* Palestine Solidarity Campaign