Curriculum Vitae

Bassem Eid, PHRMG Director

Personal information:

Born	February 5, 1958
Residence	Shu'afat Refugee Camp, East Jerusalem
Place of Birth	Old City-East Jerusalem, Palestine
Nationality	Palestinian
Gender	Male
Marital status	Divorce
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Education:

School	UNRWA elementary School at Shu'afat Refugee Camp
High School	Rashidiyya Secondary School-Damascus Gate-East Jerusalem

Language Skills:

English	Fluent
Arabic	Mother Tongue
Hebrew	Fluent

Work Experience:

1996-present	Founder and Director, Palestinian Human rights Monitoring Group (PHRMG)
1989 - 1996	Senior Field Researcher, B'Tselem, the Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories.
1985 – 1989	Journalist, kol Ha'ir, Jerusalem weekly newspaper

1982 – 1985	Consultant, Tira Social Aid Center

Publications:

1995	**Neither Law Nor Justice.** Extra-judicial punishment, kidnapping, illegal detention and torture of Palestinians in the West Bank by the Palestinian Preventative Security Service. Released by B'Tselem.
1996	**Human Rights in the Occupied Territories Since the Oslo Accords: A Status Report.** Co-written by the PHRMG and B'Tselem.
1997	**The State of Human Rights in Palestine I.** The practice of torture by the Palestinian Authority, violations of freedom of the press and freedom of Expression, deaths in custody, and police brutality. PHRMG.
1998	**The State of Human Rights in Palestine II.** In-depth report on the judicial System, illegal arrests, and long term illegal detention.

Awards:

1992	**Emil Gruenzweig Memorial Award.** Granted by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel. Awarded for unbiased defense of human rights, including the condemnation of collaborator killings during the Intifada.
1996	**McGill InterAmicus Robert S. Litvak Human Rights Memorial Award.** Granted by the Faculty of Law at McGill University and the International Human Rights Advocacy Center InterAmicus. Awarded for leading the struggle for the promotion and protection of human rights in the occupied territories.
1999	**1999 International Activist Award** given by the Gleitsman Foundation –USA. Granted to t have been struggling for decades for reconciliation, and whose actions have been essential to this effort.
2002	**Informazione Senza Frontiere (Information Without Boundaries).** Granted by an Italian organization for freedom of press in the world in Siena-Italy.

Bassem Eid and the PHRMG - A Profile

Bassem Eid became a prominent figure during the Intifada, the Palestinian uprising against the Israeli occupation in the Occupied Territories in his capacity as senior field researcher for B'Tselem, the Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories. B'Tselem's reports were used by the media and international organizations, including the PLO, to highlight the human rights abuses committed by Israel.

Eid's credibility grew after he publicly condemned the widespread killing of collaborators, often for reasons unrelated to the Intifada. In 1995, following the report about the Palestinian Preventative Security Service, Eid was himself called a 'collaborator' for revealing the human rights violations committed by the Palestinian Authority. The evenhanded criticism of both Israel and the practices of the Palestinian security forces was considered to be courageous. Eid's increasing involvement in internal Palestinian affairs, led to many official figures criticizing him for not showing 'national responsibility,' while increasing his credibility in the eyes of people, media, and international organizations.

During the election campaign for the Palestinian Legislative Council and Presidency in 1995-6, Eid openly criticized the Palestinian Authority for muzzling the press and enforcing unfair and undemocratic conditions for the candidates who were not supported by the PLO leadership. This was done in his capacity as representative of Reporters Sans Frontières, which Eid has been affiliated to since 1993. Following his remarks, Eid was arrested by Force 17, the Presidential Guard. After widespread and international condemnation, Eid was released after 25 hours.

In response to the deterioration of the human rights situation under the PA, he founded the PHRMG, a human rights organization that monitors abuses committed by the PA, and to a lesser extent, Israel. The PHRMG is run by a board of trustees and directors that include representatives from the entire political spectrum in Palestine. The PHRMG is a non-partisan human rights organization, dedicated to exposing human rights violations and supporting a democratic and pluralistic Palestine.

THE
WASHINGTON INSTITUTE
for Near East Policy

Dennis Ross
Counselor and
Ziegler Distinguished Fellow

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California Service Center
US Citizenship and Immigration Services
24000 Avila Road, 2nd Fl
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

Dear Official:

I understand that Bassem Eid plans to come to work in the United States for an extended period of time. Having been America's lead negotiator on Middle East peace during the Clinton Administration, I am well acquainted with Bassem's work. He has been a leading human rights activist and educator among Palestinians for a long time. He has sought not only to promote human rights and the rule of law in the Palestinian Authority, but also to foster the development of civil society and the institutions necessary for democracy to flourish.

I have appeared together with him at a special meeting in the Israeli Knesset, and I have seen him in action. He is a remarkable advocate for human rights and for peaceful coexistence. He is an eloquent speaker and a talented organizer. The importance of his work and his effectiveness has been recognized by internationally respected organizations such as the Foundation for Middle East Peace and the Moriah Fund. I understand that the Finish representative to the Palestinian Authority has also provided funding for his efforts. It is not surprising that international foundations and groups have been ready to help finance his work at the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group.

I am quite certain that when Bassem is in the United States he will continue to be in high demand to give lectures and to receive additional fellowships. No doubt, he will receive additional honorarium for such lectures and speeches. While the human rights field is not one in which activists are likely to command high salaries, Bassem's efforts are extremely well known and respected and I am certain he will be very well compensated while in America. He is deserving of such financial support and he is bound to receive it.

I hope this is of help and if there are any other questions, please let me know and I would be happy to respond.

Sincerely,

Dennis Ross

Dennis Ross

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