

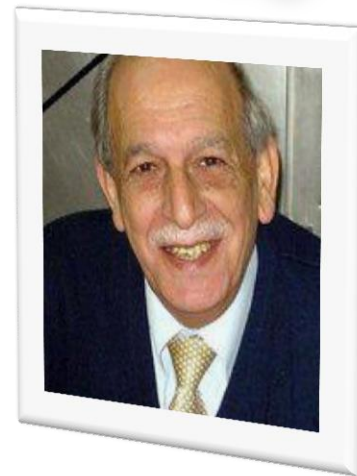
# HOPE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – SPECIAL EDITION



## In Memory of late principal Mr. Solomon Nour

On August 5th, each year, Hope school family, including the BOD's, staff, students and all our school friends locally and overseas, will always remember, the school late principal, Mr. Solomon Nour who passed away while he was on top of his job. This year the BOD's thought of generating and issuing a special edition of the school newsletter in memory of his death.

On behalf of the BOD's and school staff and employees, I would like to convey my heartfelt solidarity and deep feelings to Mr. Solomon's family; to his brothers and sisters, to his daughters, Leila and Sara and to all his friends in Beit-Jala and all over the world.



The death of any loved one is one of life's most difficult experiences.

What if the deceased was the father, the brother and the leader to the teachers, students, visitors, guests and all those who were involved at Hope school?? Mr. Solomon was the main pillar of the school and the whole Ministry.



I am asking our Heavenly Father to keep our late principal in His presence, forgive his sins and anoint him with righteousness and the Holy Spirit. For He said: *"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."* Amen.

*Khader Saba*

*Chairman*

### How he passed away???

On the fifth of August 2011, around 3:00 am Mr. Solomon woke up at his apartment where he used to live alone adjacent to the family house. He left his bed, had his daily shower and shaved his beard. He was deeply thinking and concerned about the school, students and



the difficult financial situation which made him very worry about the future and very nervous with bad-tempered in his recent days. He lay-down again in his bed, lit a cigarette and went through a deep thinking.

In the morning, Mr Solomon was supposed to leave his apartment at 7:00 am; however he didn't, he was supposed to have his breakfast with his sisters

in the family apartment; he didn't, his junior sister and brother tried to knock and open the door, they got no answer. They tried and tried and tried but failed to open the door, everybody was shocked, perplexed and calling for Solomon. They have no choice but to break through the windows from the Southern side. It was very difficult to remove the windows Iron bars of the second floor apartment. Finally his brother Ibrahim was the first to enter his room; "he was lying on his bed, with his cigarette off in his hand, I wonder how the bed was not burned??!" Ibrahim quoted. He was exposed to a sudden heart-attack which left no more space for his life.



### **A faithful Principal:**

Mr Solomon was a faithful principal, who made his best, with no other assistants, to keep Hope Project sustainable. He was the school principal, the project director, the fundraiser and the field worker. His only concern was how to secure and ensure the salaries of the staff and employees by the end of the month; a rotating and repeated dilemma. He believed strongly in God's will. He was always saying: "God will grant his righteousness, don't worry and just trust He will manage our livings". Mr. Solomon was a "faithful principal" as one of his teachers quoted.

### **What did his friends say about him?**

Solomon Nour was a Headmaster and friend to so many people around the world. I remember his welcome, care, concern and appreciation of so many who supported Hope School. His love of people made him someone who so easily attracted support for his beloved school. The last time I visited before he died, I listened to him speaking in the Chapel to a group about his work. His pride in the school shone through and he died, as he lived, working for the benefit of the school he loved. He was a man with an honorable vision and the greatest remembrance to him will be the school continuing to be a place of Hope in the community thought of often! He was a man I am proud to have known and to have called my friend.



which he I. He is missed and thought of often!

**Elaine Edgar**

I had the pleasure of getting to know Solomon from my first visit to the Holy Land back (I think) in 1998. He became a close friend to me and my family. He was a very enigmatic man, who immediately made one feel at ease and at home. Through Solomon, I got to meet many families in the West Bank, including his own. His niece, Nawras, is my goddaughter. When I visited in 2011, his first words to me were "You have come to see me before I die!" Little did I know that in August of that year he would pass away. He has left a lasting legacy in Hope School which, I am sure, will be perpetuated by the new Board of Trustees.

Kind regards and best wishes to the Board.

**Lorraine Scott**

Solomon was the person who encouraged me to come to Hope School as a volunteer in 2009. He was a warm and welcoming person not only to guests, but also to his students. His office door was always open to his students and he would listen patiently to their concerns.

Solomon also had a great sense of humour and was able to bring laughter into any situation with one of his stories.

Many decisions he made were influenced by his faith and at Hope School students could always trust he would treat them fairly. My times at Hope School were affirming and I will always be grateful for having that experience.

**Yvone Turner**

Three years have passed and still live in our memory and hearts, you were not just a principal but a brother who knows how to deal with all his colleagues while smiling.

He was a faithful and respected teacher, his students used to like and obey him. When he became a principal he spared no efforts to lead and develop the school performance and results. Our solidarity feelings are always with his family and daughters. Blessing and mercy be upon his soul.

**Khalil Mukarker**

*Passionate words from his family:*

*Dear Brother, Father and friend,*

*Three years passed since you left our house, though; you still live in our hearts. Your words, smile and face still fill in the place.*

*Your faithful friends, school staff, graduates and the students at Hope school where you lived most of your life, are always remembering you and pray for your soul to rest in peace.*

*It is hard to talk about a dear man in the past tense, and more difficult is to remember that he left his place suddenly and without warning, while there are many who still need him. It is true you left us early; however you left a set of values that enlightened our road and instructed our lives. You armed us with persistence, tolerance, fight against injustice and fight for peace and other precious values derived from our spiritual reference "the Bible".*

*We would like to thank the BOD's for their gesture to issue a special newsletter to commemorate the third anniversary of your departure. They wanted to show recognition of your past work at school, talk about your faithfulness in working and your bias toward deprived and destitute children.*

*We will always remember you, Rest in peace and calmness.*

*God Bless you*

*Your Family*

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Before printing, think about  
the environment

**Vision:**

Hope school is seeking to be a center of excellence in provision and promotion of quality education.

**Mission**

Hope School is a non-government, non-profit, Christian-based organization, was founded in 1962 by the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) to provide suitable and quality education for orphans and disadvantage children in Bethlehem area and the whole Palestinian territories. Fifteen years later, the Arab Charitable Society was founded to replace the Mennonite community in governing the school and the whole project. The Charity along with Hope school are committed to a unique vision based on Christian values of Love, Peace, Tolerance, Human dignity and Justice. These values are the driving force of all the school activities through which Christian message is conveyed to students and local community at large.

**Goal:**

To develop a sustainable project that provides best-quality education to underprivileged children in the West Bank and Jerusalem

It is because of your support Hope school was able to sustain over the past five decades. Please pray for us as we prepare for the upcoming school year. Without your prayers and support, Hope School cannot continue its mission.

God bless you.

Sincerely

*Khader Saba*

Chairman