

# University Scholarships in Gaza



*Students supported through FHL's Gaza's university Scholarship programme*

## The situation

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No bigger than the Isle of Wight and home to almost 2 million people, Gaza is the most densely populated country in the world. The Christian community is tiny, numbered at approximately 1,000, and is at risk of disappearing altogether without sustainable investment in the next generation. Life in Gaza is unimaginably hard. Cut off from Israel by a 1km 'no go zone' the population are reliant on international food aid, have no access to clean tap water and have electricity for just a few hours a day. Prospects for young people are bleak, with 65% unemployed.

## How does FHL help?

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Since 2015 FHL have provided £10,000 worth of funding each year in support of this project, enabling 10 students to study university courses in Gaza.

## What impact does FHL make?

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Student life is difficult – our students find coursework enjoyable, but daily commutes, electricity cuts and other social problems make completing degree courses very challenging. Without the support of FHL it is likely these young people would quit their courses and consider emigration. Instead, they are striving to equip themselves to help shape and lead their community in the future.

# Could you support university students in Gaza?

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FHL exists to support the Christian population of the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan, to help them develop a resilient and enduring community. We are grateful for all donations of time and money to help us achieve this mission.

**Sponsor a young person:** Opportunities exist for groups or individuals to sponsor a student in Gaza at £1,000 a year or £85 a month.

**Financial donations** can be made online by visiting [www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](http://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk) and clicking the DONATE NOW button. Alternatively, a cheque payable to 'Friends of the Holy Land' can be posted to the address shown below. Standing order forms are available on our website under the 'GET INVOLVED' tab, on the 'Donate Money' page, or by contacting the office.

**Volunteer with us:** Volunteers are needed to help in our office in Kenilworth or to speak at events across the country, please let us know if you can help.

**Contact:**

Address: Friends of the Holy Land, Farmer Ward Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2DH

Email: [office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](mailto:office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk)

Tel: 01926 512980

## News from Gaza

Joseph Hazboun, at Jerusalem's Pontifical Mission, provides FHL with regular reports on Gaza, and how the situation there affects the Christian population. Joseph suggests three things UK Christians could do to support the tiny beleaguered Christian population on the Gaza Strip:



*"Firstly, we should intensify our prayers; secondly, we must raise Christian voices in the context of the current situation; and thirdly, we must continue to give hope by providing practical support."*

Joseph Hazboun, The Pontifical Mission of Jerusalem, December 2017