



The DSMT was established in March 2005 in memory of Dominic Simpson, who died suddenly in July 2004, aged 40. Family, friends and colleagues decided that a fitting and practical memorial to this extraordinarily talented, much-loved and well-respected person would be a trust dedicated to furthering education to the benefit of individuals and their communities, in the areas of the world that had been the focus of Dominic's professional life.

"Dominic Simpson had, in his brief life, made a profound professional and personal engagement with the Arab world. It stemmed from his strong social concern and sense of morality, his intellectual fascination with the region...but also from the friendships he made in a period of turbulent change."

THE INDEPENDENT 22 JULY 2004

The Trust aims to:

- support education and facilitate access to educational opportunity in the countries of the Middle East
- target areas of need where relatively small interventions can make a difference
- work with partner organisations with an established presence 'on the ground' in the region
- undertake work that otherwise may not be funded
- concentrate on activities that have direct practical benefits to individuals and communities
- establish on-going links with the organisations and communities we work with, for example, between schools in the Middle East and the UK.

Fund raising

Since 2005 the trust has raised over £200,000 to support educational activities in the Palestinian Territories through events and donations.

The trust gratefully acknowledges the on-going and wide-ranging support of Kroll, for whom Dominic worked as Head of Middle East Practice from 1998 until his death. Their sponsorship of fund-raising events means that all profits can be spent on educational activities. Shell, Unilever, Maclay Murray & Spens, the Council of Arab Ambassadors to Britain are amongst a loyal and growing group of corporate and individual supporters who appreciate the DSMT's practical, well-targeted and low-cost ways of working.

Thank you to all our supporters.

How we are run

The Trust is a registered company limited by guarantee (company number 5394759) and a registered UK charity (number 1109452), run by a board of volunteer directors.

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Please contact us for the latest information on our projects, fund raising activities, including our next fund raising event, to make a donation or to enquire about sponsoring the DSMT.

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DSMT

SUPPORTING EDUCATION
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

دعم التعليم في الشرق الأوسط

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The Dominic Simpson Memorial Trust

ESTABLISHED SINCE 2005



“ I want to start my own kindergarten using all I have learnt from my training. ”



“ I am very happy to be at the YMCA's Vocational Training Centre. I look forward to learning a vocation and to be able to find work and contribute to my family's income. ”

The DSMT Scholarship Programme

Established in 2006 with the Dar El Tifl Girls School and Orphanage, East Jerusalem, in partnership with ANERA (American Near East Refugee Aid). Currently funding: six scholarships a year to 2012, to enable disadvantaged pupils complete their schooling; four one year scholarships to support pupils who have lost their fathers; fees for one former pupil studying at Al Quds University.

“Dear DSMT...I'm good and very happy because I'm successful in my final examinations. It's a very beautiful feel when somebody had success. I'm starting to prepare to go to the university to be a good teacher...thank you for all your support.”

“I am very pleased with my marks this semester...I have taken part in many university activities...the best for me was to be a leader at the summer school for excellence for school children and to show them how to do science experiments”.

“On behalf of all of us I would like to thank you for your generosity and kindness...I am sixteen years old in the 11th grade scientific stream. I would like to be a paediatrician in the future because I like kids very much... ”

“ I am Nour from Jerusalem and I'm in 9th grade. I want to thank DSMT for all you are doing for my school. ”

From 2010

The DSMT hopes to extend the range of partnerships in the Palestinian Territories to support educational activity that has the potential to make a real difference.

Training for pre-school teachers

Since 2006, funding for the Early Childhood Resource Centre's 'Teacher to Teacher' programmes, where skilled teachers work alongside inexperienced teachers in poor and marginalised kindergartens across the West Bank to improve the quality of early years education, benefiting 200 trainees and over 2000 children.

In 2009, funding to train kindergarten leaders in effective use of drama, art and music when working with young children and their families living in difficult circumstances.

“Our kindergarten is no longer so isolated and we feel supported by our co-operation with other teachers. We really hope this programme will continue.”

“We have changed our teaching methods from reciting to learning through play, made many new resources to help the children learn, and we have formed a parents council.”

“We anticipate the use of creative arts will improve children's psychological situation and learning readiness and that parents will see the relevance to their own child-rearing.”

Vocational training in non-traditional skills

Since 2007, sponsorship of 25 places for girls and young women on 18-month programmes of training in skills such as computer-aided graphic design and computer maintenance, and 12 places on a 4 month course leading to the International Computer Driving Licence award, as part of a programme by Ycare International and the East Jerusalem YMCA to improve employment prospects of young people in the Palestinian Territories.

Rana (25) from Tulkarem graduated from the programme and now works for a telecommunications company in Ramallah. *“The course has given me financial independence which means I can help my mother who brings up the family on her own.”*

Habibah (20) grew up in Aqabat Jaber Refugee Camp. *“When I joined I was fully broken inside. I was strangled by my circumstances. The training really gave me the confidence to feel that I can make a change. I will work hard to have my own work shop for graphics design, and I will train other girls from my area so we can work together.”*

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