

The International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life at Brandeis University

[About the Center](#) | [News](#) | [Events](#) | [Coexistence](#) | [International Justice](#) | [Brandeis Courses](#)
[Fellowships](#) | [Publications & Resources](#) | [Seminars for Professionals](#) | [Partnerships](#)

Forsan Hussein '00, Sha'ab Village, Israel

Working for Human Rights in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

Internship with B'TSELEM:

The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories
 Jerusalem, Israel in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

Project Goals:

To document human rights violations in the Occupied Territories.

To educate policymakers and the general public about the human rights situation there.

Personal Goals:

To educate myself about the human rights situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip;

To support B'Tselem and to make others aware of the human rights situation in the West Bank.



Activities:

Conducting fieldwork: traveling in the West Bank and interviewing Palestinians who suffer human rights violations.

Doing research and gathering data on issues of human rights violations for written reports.

Translating from Arabic into Hebrew and assisting with office work.

Key Dilemmas:

How can we make the Israeli public, the Arab world, and the international community more aware of human rights abuses in the occupied territories and more ready to act and to help?

The people in the West Bank asked: "Are you working for us, or working for them?" As a Palestinian Israeli, what could I say?

I always planned to do peace work for the rest of my life. But when I went to B'Tselem and saw how my people are being treated, I became very angry not just at the Israeli government, but at everything Israeli. I still feel anger toward the government, but I am working with this anger in order to be an effective peacemaker.



Important Learnings:

I was shocked to discover the terrible living conditions of Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

Although there are many violations of human rights by the Israeli government and by Israeli soldiers, the Israeli public is not aware of these violations.

We can never reach a real peace between ourselves and the other party of the conflict (the so-called enemy) as long as we humiliate other people and disregard their humanity.



[Home](#) | [Search](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Contact Us](#)