

Ramallah, Friday 20/02/2004

Dear all,

Since 6 days the Al Kamandjâti is in Palestine and on Wednesday went to a beside Ramallah village: Beit Rima in order to organize the first musical workshops and to perform a concert for 150 children and theirs families

Yesterday 8 musicians made the second activities time of our journey in the UNRWA girls school in the Aida refugee camp (North of Bethlehem), before a short visit of the Bethlehem town centre and a tour in the Nativity Church.

On Friday 20, we rode on the roads lined by centenarian olive trees, which led to Qalqiliah in one of the centres of the Palestinian Red Crescent

Qalqiliah (North of West Bank) is practically surrounded by the « security wall » that the Israeli government is building within the Palestinian lands, the children we met confided our fears for the future and what they were and are living everyday under Israeli occupation to us.

After 2 hours and half and a performance in the Red Crescent school, we drove again until Budrus – a village in the North of Birzeit – where the musicians gave a representation in the cultural and youth centre of Budrus who welcome at the present time some students from the Al Quds (Jerusalem) and Birzeit universities who came to demonstrate against the advancement of the Wall within the city.

Angers, Friday 27/02/2004

Dear friends,

The musicians group came back to France since yesterday evening, after a journey (too short from the general opinion) amongst the Palestinian territories.

February 2004 program in Palestine:

- (Night) from the 14 to the 15: Arrival in Tel Aviv and departure to Ramallah.
- 16 / 17 : Ramallah (practice times for the musicians and organization of the schedule and timetable for the workshops, concerts and meetings with the representatives from the European Commission and the Palestinian associations)
- 18 : Workshops and concert in Beit Rima (Ramallah region)
- 19 : Workshops and concert in the UNRWA girls school of the Aida refugee camp
- 20: Workshops and concert in the Palestinian Red Crescent in Qalqiliah and performance in Budrus village.
- 21 : Workshops and concert in the Old City of Hebron
- 22 : Workshops and concert in Deir Estiah (South of Nablus)
- 23 : Workshops and concert in the American Arab university of Jenin
- 24 : Workshops and concert in Jenin and performance in Jericho
- 25: Day in Ramallah, concert in Al Amari refugee camp and departure to Tel Aviv and to Paris.

This journey should not exist without you, without our partners in France, in Palestine and all over the world (the General French Consulate in Jerusalem, Al Qattan, RIWAQ, HCR, the cultural Palestinian centres...), without the musicians who spent 12 days among the West Bank and of course we thank all the children and theirs families.

We will be sending you as soon as possible the whole report of our trip.

We hope to hear soon from you and we send you our more friendly greetings,