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Cover Photo



The graduation ceremony
of the 7th batch of students

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From the President

With this issue of Al-Zahra', AL al-Bayt University celebrates the graduation of its seventh batch of students who are to join the labour market and to contribute effectively and efficiently to the welfare of their community.

As a matter of fact, the paramount goal of any university, nowadays, is not simply imparting knowledge and education to students, but rather, providing quality education that is relevant to the qualifications and knowledge needed in an information society.

AL al-Bayt University was founded with this aim in mind. The university is intended as an institution of high caliber, offering education and services in accordance with the best international practices and standards.

In designing its study plans and introducing new programmes, emphasis is being placed on the skills required by the market place. The competence of students and their employability in the future figure high on the University's agenda of top priorities. To this end, the University tries to instill in its students the importance of lifelong learning and the need to acquire communication and computer literacy skills.

Despite tight budget and severe resources and economic challenges, AL al-Bayt University continued, over the past years, in its declared commitment to enhance its teaching, research, and community services. In keeping with its vision for global education, the University has made strides in expanding and strengthening its relationships with the local, regional and international communities. In this context also, the University has proceeded with initiatives to wire its campus and to integrate state-of-the-art technologies in its course delivery and teaching methodologies. The ultimate objective is to increase the excellence of its teaching and research, to attain an improved balance and diversity of programs and student intake, and to be alert and sensitive to students' demand and accessibility.

The University has made remarkable accomplishments, nevertheless, it will never reach the stage of full satisfaction. It shall always aspire to transform its good accomplishments into better ones, and subsequently, to attain the best possible academic, administrative, research and community services and functions. However, this can be done through the hard and dedicated efforts of each and every member of the University community.

New President Appointed for AL al-Bayt University



President Adel Tweissi

A Royal Decree was issued on June 27, 2005 appointing Dr. Adel Tweissi President of AL al-Bayt University.

Dr. Tweissi obtained the Bachelor's degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Jordan in 1978, the Master's Degree in Linguistics from Michigan State University/USA, in 1984, and the Doctoral degree in Linguistics from the University of Michigan, USA, in 1987.

Before joining AL Al-Bayt University, Dr. Tweissi served as Secretary General of the Ministry of Higher Education (Dec. 2004- June 2005); before that he served as President of Al-Hussein Bin Talal University (1999-2004).

From 1997-1999, Dr. Tweissi was Dean of Student Affairs at Mu'tah University; Dean of its Faculty of Sciences and Arts, from 1996-1997; Dean of its Faculty of Arts, from 1992-1994; and Assistant to the President for Development Affairs from 1995-1996.

Other posts at Mu'tah University included Vice Dean of Student Affairs, in 1991; Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, in 1990; and Coordinator of the English Section: Department of Humanities, from 1987-1989.

During the academic year 1994/1995, Dr. Tweissi went to Oman where he served as Dean of the Technical Industrial College of Nizwa.

While pursuing graduate studies in the USA, Dr. Tweissi worked at the University of Michigan (USA) from 1984-1987 as Teaching Assistant of introductory courses in Linguistics, and as Teaching Assistant of Arabic for speakers of other languages at the same University from 1982-1984.

Dr. Tweissi is member on several committees and his academic research has been published in refereed journals worldwide.

University Celebrates the Graduation of its Seventh Batch of 3457 Students

Under the patronage of its newly-appointed President Dr. Adel Tweissi, AL al-Bayt University celebrated the graduation of its seventh batch of students during the period July 7 - 9, 2005 for approximately 3457 graduates (3223 graduates at the Bachelor's level, 161 at the Master's level, and 73 at the Higher Diploma level).

On the first day of exercises, (287) students from the Faculty of Islamic Jurisprudence and Law, (553) students from the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, and (202) students from Prince Al-Hussein Bin Abdullah Faculty of Information Technology received their certificates.

On the second day, certificates were presented to (1083) graduates from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, (48) graduates from the Higher Institute of the Earth and Environmental Sciences, and (28) graduates from Bayt Al-Hikmah (House of Wisdom) Higher Institute.

The third and final day was devoted for (969) students from the Faculty of Educational Sciences, (53) students from Princess Salma Bint Abdullah Faculty of Nursing, (161) Master's students and (73) Higher Diploma students.

In his address on the occasion, Dean of Student Affairs

Khalil Hajjaj gave an address in which he congratulated graduates on their achievements, and thanked faculty members for the efforts they have exerted over the past years. He also acknowledged the financial and moral support provided by parents.

Dean Hajjaj called on graduates to commit themselves to a process of lifelong learning as this new age of possibilities entails very serious challenges. "You must continue to build upon the level of education you have gained at the University. During the period you have spent at the University, you have acquired the core knowledge and developed the skills and work ethics needed to compete in this new age. But you must make optimal use of what you have acquired. Standing still in a flat world is analogous to losing ground," he said.

Dr. Hajjaj voiced hope that graduates would remain faithful and committed to their Alma Mater in the future, and would serve their community to the best of their abilities.

This year's celebration marked the graduation of the first ever batch of students from the University's Princess Salma Bint Abdullah Faculty of Nursing.

For the Record

Some 575 students (304 at the Bachelor's level and 271 at

the Master's level) graduated during the first ever Graduation Ceremony - Al-Hussein Bin Talal Batch, in the academic year 1998/1999.

The second batch of graduates - Imam Hanifa Bin Nu'man Batch - of the academic year 1999/2000, comprised 985 students (759 at the Bachelor's level, 204 at the Master's level, and 22 at the Higher Diploma level).

The third batch of graduates - Imam Malik Bin Anas Batch - of the academic year 2000/2001 reached 947 students (807 students at the Bachelor's level, 109 at the Master's level, and 31 at the Higher Diploma level).

The fourth batch of graduates of the academic year 2001/2002 reached 1325 students (1144 students at the Bachelor's level, 133 at the Master's level, and 48 at the Higher Diploma level).

The fifth batch of graduates of the academic year 2002/2003 reached 1454 students (1261 students at the Bachelor's level, 141 at the Master's level, and 52 at the Higher Diploma level).

The sixth batch of graduates of the academic year 2003/2004 reached 2400 students (2174 students at the Bachelor's level, 62 at the Master's level, and 164 at the Higher Diploma level).

2005 Commencement

Deans of the various faculties



His Excellency Dr. Mohammad Hamdan, member of the Board of Trustees of the University; Dr. Adel Taweisi, President of the University; and Dr. Ahmad Alawneh, Vice-President

Rejoicing students



2005 Commencement



**President Tweissi
presenting graduates
with their graduation
certificates**



President Tweissi Discusses Women Empowerment Issues with Federation

University President Adel Tweissi received in his office on July 19, 2005, a delegation from the General Federation of Jordanian Women/Mafraq Branch.



Part of the visit

High on the agenda of their discussions were means and ways of maintaining channels of constructive and beneficial cooperation between the Federation and the University, especially in relation to holding joint social and educational symposia and lectures, organizing tailor-cut courses in line with the needs of staff from the federation, and undertaking joint research and studies with direct bearing on the welfare of women, children, family and society at large.

Dr. Tweissi informed members of the visiting team of the University's concern to enhance the productivity and employability of members of the local community. To this end, he said, the University has conducted training programmes that reflected on the recruitment, development and promotion of women in society. The University, he added, is organizing a series of lifelong training programmes, on regular basis, to update the skills of employed staff and to equip fresh graduates and job seekers with needed skills and qualifications.

During the meeting, Adv. Reem Abu Dalbouh, Director of the Federation's Mafraq Branch, gave a briefing about the federation's programmes, activities and achievements, over the past years. She voiced her thanks to President Tweissi for welcoming the federation to hold its activities on the University campus, and offering the federation access to available utilities and resources.

Chinese Ambassador Explores Enhanced Links



The Chinese guest exploring relations

Acting President Ahmad Alawneh received in his office on June 7, 2005, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Chinese People's Republic to Jordan.

The two sides explored the possibility of activating cooperative links between AL al-Bayt University and counterpart universities and academic institutions in China, especially in relation to faculty, student and publication exchanges.

Dr. Alawneh voiced the university's keen interest in opening channels of cooperation with universities worldwide, and in admitting students from different nationalities with the objective of enriching the diversity and background of the student body.

Other aspects of cooperation were also discussed, and the two sides pledged to implement them for the benefit of faculty and students from the two countries.

Bulgarian First Secretary Briefed on Arabic Language Programmes



Part of the visit

Acting President Ahmad Alawneh received in his office on April 28, 2005, the First Secretary in the Embassy of Bulgaria in Jordan.

High on the agenda of their discussions were means and ways of promoting bilateral relations between AL al-Bayt University and counterpart universities in Bulgaria in the various domains.

Dr. Alawneh briefed the guest on the various programmes offered by the Language Centre in Arabic for non-native speakers of the language, and voiced the University's willingness to receive Bulgarian students interested in pursuing Arabic studies at the centre.

He informed the guest about the methodology of instruction adopted by the centre and the audio-visual and language laboratories that are used to facilitate students' grasp of the language. He also referred to the extra-curricular trips that accompany the programme to pave the way for students to practice conversation skills in Arabic with their colleagues from different nationalities.

Later, the guest made a tour of the Language Centre where he heard a briefing about its programmes and activities by Director Ali Rabba'i.

British Team Inspects Quality of FEAS's Programs

A team from Al-Hussein Fund for Excellence called at AL al-Bayt University on May 15, 2005, where they were received by Acting President Ahmad Alawneh. Members of the visiting team comprised Dr. Peter Clarke, Dr. Linda Care and Dr. Nick Wiseman.

The objective of their visit was to assess the standard and quality of the programmes offered by the University's Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences (FEAS).

President Alawneh briefed the guests on the University's establishment, philosophy and programmes it offers.

Emphasis was placed on FEAS's programmes, ratio of faculty and students in the various programmes, number of students it has graduated

over the past years, prospects for their job placement in the local market, and the services that FEAS is rendering to the community via its qualified cadres and research and studies orientation.

The meeting was attended by Dean of FEAS and Assistant to the President for Planning, Training and Community Service Oklah Mubaideen; and Assistant to Dean of FEAS Adnan Hayajneh.

Later, members of the visiting team toured FEAS's labs and inspected the facil-

ities it is affording to students.

For the Record

Al Hussein Fund, a non-profit organisation, was established in 1999 by a group of 25 chairmen of Jordanian banks and financial institutions as a tribute to the memory of the late King, and with the mission of promoting excellence and innovation in academic, economic and social aspects. In cooperation with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in the United Kingdom, the Fund has been involved with a project for the enhancement of the quality of Business Programmes in Higher Education in Jordan. Under the programme, members of the visiting team are touring the various public universities operating in the Kingdom, with a view to inspecting their Business programmes and rating these programmes according to quality and a number of pre-set criteria.



Discussions with the British team

French Architects Pave Way for Cooperation



Alawneh receiving the guests in his office

Acting President Ahmad Alawneh received in his office on May 10, 2005, a delegation from the Paris-Lavallette School of Architecture comprising Dr. Jacques Poulet, Chairman of the school's Board of Directors; and Mr. Adel Kinzawi, Director of Graduate Studies at the school.

High on the agenda of their discussions were means and ways of intensifying bilateral cooperative links, especially in relation to exchanging faculty, students and publications; designing joint architectural models along the lines of community needs; conducting joint research and studies; and organizing architectural activities on contemporary topics of common and contemporary interest.

Dr. Abdul-Majid Al-Rjoub, Acting Dean of the Higher Institute for Islamic Art and Architecture was present at the meeting.

***New York Times* Correspondent Briefed on University Mission**



Part of the discussions

Acting President Ahmad Alawneh received in his office on May 14, 2005, Mr. Hassan Fattah, Middle East Correspondent for the *New York Times*.

During the meeting, Dr. Alawneh briefed the guest on the mission of AL al-Bayt University and its role in disseminating the true image of Islam as a religion of tolerance, justice and brotherhood via the various programmes it offers in Islamic Law and Jurisprudence.

He highlighted the diversity of the student body and the ever-increasing number of students the University is attracting from Jordan and Muslim countries.

Later, the guest toured the University campus and met with Dean of the Faculty of Islamic Jurisprudence and Law Ziad Dagameen, Dean of Student Affairs Khalil Hajjaj, and Director of Bayt Al-Hikmah (House of Wisdom) Higher Institute Mohammad Al-Arna'out.

Jordanian Universities Network Discussed



Part of the discussions

Acting President Ahmad Alawneh received in his office on June 15, 2005, Eng. Yousef Turman, Director of the Jordanian Universities Network Company.

The meeting provided an opportunity for Dr. Alawneh to brief the guest on the developments attained by the University, over the past years, in relation to keeping abreast with modern Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and their integration in the various academic and administrative operations. This, he stressed, was aided and facilitated by the dedicated efforts of staff from Al-Hussein Bin Abdullah Faculty of Information Technology and the Computer Centre.

On his part, Eng. Turman noted that the network aims at rendering services to the Jordanian universities and optimizing their performance and functions.

Later, Eng. Turman toured the University's Computer Centre, Al-Hussein Bin Abdullah Faculty of Information Technology, and al-Hashimiyyah Library where he was briefed by concerned staff on the services they render to the University community by employing state-of-the-art technologies.

President Tweissi Opens Channels of Communication with Administrative Staff



President Tweissi holding discussions with administrative staff

Administrative Staff Club Welcomes New University President

The Administrative Staff Club of AL al-Bayt University organized a reception on June 29, 2005 in honour of Dr. Adel Tweissi, who has recently been appointed President of AL al-Bayt University.

In his thank you address, on the occasion, President Tweissi noted that his assignment to this post entails hard work and commitment to the service of the youth generation and the local community at large. He pledged to continue to build on the march of progress and development initiated by previous Presidents and to serve the University to the best of his abilities. The ultimate objective is to help the University remain faithful to its noble and lofty mission in serving Islam and the Muslim nation.

The ceremony was attended by Vice-President Ahmad Alawneh, deans of the Faculties and Higher Institutes, faculty members and administrative staff.

University Mourns Japanese Volunteer

The Japanese expert, Akiyoshi Sugimae, a water pollution expert at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) who was working as a volunteer at AL al Bayt University drowned on Sunday, July 17, 2005, at the King Talal Dam while taking samples of water for tests.

University President Adel Tweissi dispatched the following letter of condolences on his behalf and on behalf of the University community to Ambassador of Japan to Jordan:

His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan,

On behalf of myself, the faculty members, employees, and students of AL al-Bayt University, I send this letter to your Excellency, all employees of the Embassy, and in particular to the family of the late Professor Akiyoshi Sugimae. We would like to express our deep sorrow for the loss of this great man who came from your respectful country to Jordan to fulfill a noble goal-scientific research-leading to the welfare of people. Unfortunately, the power beyond human control prevented him from accomplishing the mission.

Please accept our condolences. May the soul of Professor Akiyoshi Sugimae rest in peace.

**Sincerely,
Dr. Adel Tweissi
President**



Dr. Tweissi conveying University condolences

Later, the Japanese Embassy and the JICA Office in Jordan held a memorial to commemorate their dear colleague.

Dr. Tweissi delivered the following address:

Your Excellency the Ambassador of Japan,

Your Excellency the Secretary General of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation,

Dear members of the family of Professor Akiyoshi Sugimae,

Dear members of JICA,
Ladies & Gentlemen,

It is one of the saddest days for us at AL al-Bayt University, on which we lost a colleague who came to put his remarkable expertise at our perusal. I have come to attend this tribute in order to extend to the family of the late Professor Akiyoshi Sugimae the condolences of everybody at the University: Faculty members, employees and students. They all have all respect to the man who deserted his own family in Japan, and had come to Jordan to accomplish a mission for which he dedicated his life.

The late Professor Akiyoshi Sugimae had just started on implementing a scientific research that would have contributed to the welfare of the people in Jordan had he completed it. But, alas, the power human beings have no control upon stood between Akiyoshi Sugimae and accomplishing the noble goal.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Everybody at the University who had some contact with Professor Akiyoshi Sugimae describes him as a conscientious person who demonstrated sincere dedication to the work he assumed. Thus, they all are stunned by his untimely death.

On this sad occasion, let us all pray that the soul of Professor Akiyoshi Sugimae rest in peace. Let us, as well, pray that God may ease the sorrow of members of his family, his friends, and colleagues of JICA.

**Thank you.
Professor Adel
Tweissi
July 20, 2005**

Faculty of Arts and Science Holds its Fifth Scientific Day

The Fifth Scientific Day of AL al-Bayt University's Faculty of Arts and Science convened on May 4, 2005 under the theme: "Jerusalem: The Past and the Present."

Dr. Azmi Taha Sayyed, Editor-in-Chief of *Al-Manara*, inaugurated the event on behalf of Acting President Ahmad Alawneh. He noted that the special political, religious and spiritual importance attributed to Jerusalem prompted the Department of History, Bayt Al-Hikmah (House of Wisdom) Higher Institute, and the Secretariat General of the Islamic Conference to devote this symposium solely to this holy city.

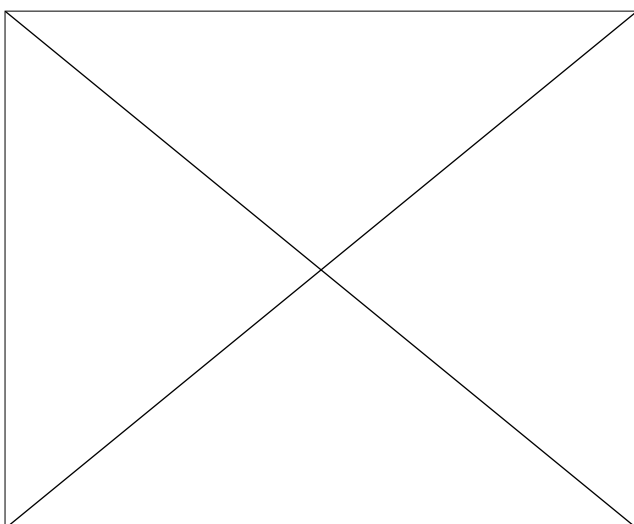
Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science Hind Abu Sha'er remarked in her address that the presence of intellectuals and scholars from the various universities and institutions in Jordan attests

to the fact that Jerusalem is a dear and special city to all Arabs, both Muslims and Christians.

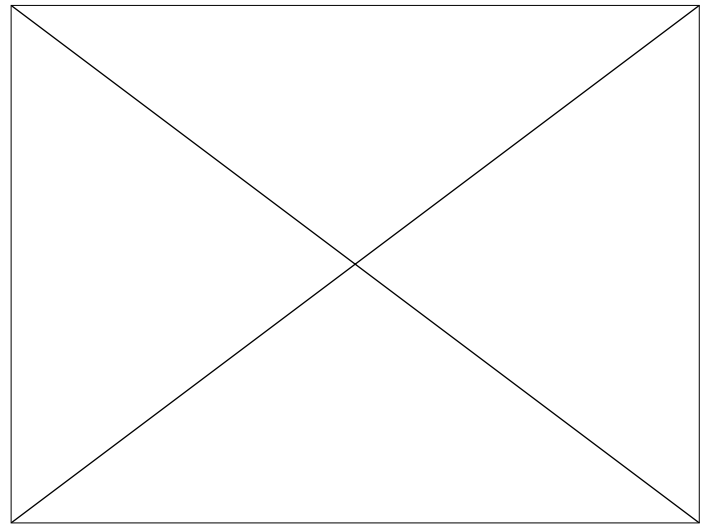
Speakers at the session included Dr. Abdul Aziz Al-Khayyat, the Secretary General of the Royal Commission for Jerusalem Affairs Abdullah Kin'an, and Mr. Yousef Abu Dayyeh, who mentioned in their addresses that the conflict over the status of Jerusalem is often cited as the most sensitive, central and emotive of the conflicts in the Middle East region as a whole. Jerusalem is a unique city. Apart from being home to two peoples, Israelis and Palestinians, it is central to the faith of Christians, Jews and Muslims

alike. There is no city in the world that generates such intense emotions, and complicates any political negotiations over its future.

According to Dr. Elayyan Jalloudi, Rapporteur of the Preparatory Committee of the Scientific Day, activities of the Day included a book exhibition which was held in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture; scientific papers in the various fields of Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, and Biological Sciences; as well as demonstrations of students' scientific experiments in cooperation with some Jordanian firms and local industries.



Students demonstrating their research work



Part of the Jerusalem symposium

Shawqi Dayf Remembered

As part of the activities of the Scientific Day of the Faculty of Arts and Science, linguist and literary critic Shawqi Dayf was honoured and remembered.

The celebration, included the presentation of the following eight papers by intellectuals and scholars on the various aspects of literary life and achievements of the late Shawqi:



Panelists paying tribute to Sawqi Dayf

Shawqi Dayf's effort in Reviving and Documenting Literary Heritage, by Dr. Ali Bawab.

Shawqi Dayf as Historian of Sufi Literature, by Dr. Amin Yousef Oudeh.

Shawqi Dayf as Historian of Ancient Arabic Prose, by Dr. Mohammad Droubi.

Shawqi Dayf and Literature of the Crusades, by Dr. Abdul-Rahman Al-Huwaidi.

Shawqi Dayf as Critic, by Dr. Shukri Madi.

Shawqi Dayf and Contemporary Arabic Literature: Al-Baroudi as an Example, by Dr. Samir Qutami.

Shawqi Dayf and Contemporary Arabic Literature: Ahmad Shawqi as an Example, by Dr. Abdul-Baset Marashdeh.

Shawqi Dayf as a Linguist, by Dr. Hassan Al-Mullak.

Dayf, who passed away recently, was revered as one of the foremost experts on Arabic language and literature. He is the author of 50 books which span the gamut from history of literature, to Arab-Muslim civilisational studies and Qur'anic exegesis, most notable among them being the Encyclopedia of the History of Arabic Literature. He was also President of the Cairo-based Al-Magma' Al-Laghawi (The Arabic Language Academy).

Faculty of Arts and Science Pays Tribute to Excelling Students



Part of the celebration

To mark the end of the academic year 2004/2005, the Faculty of Arts and Science (FAS) paid tribute to its excelling students from the various departments.

Congratulating students on their achievement, Dean of FAS Hind Abu Sha'er, urged them to continue to concentrate on acquiring excellence in their fields, as there is stiff competition in employment at the national and regional level.

Stressing on the need for imparting moral and national values to students, Dean Abu Sha'er remarked that in order to serve their country in a better way, the students should have to shed the individual approach and work for society.

Chairman of the Department of Physics gave an address in which he highlighted the role of FAS in preparing students for the challenges of life beyond the confines of the University campus.

On the occasion, merit certificates were distributed among students.

The celebration included some artistic presentations, contests, and addresses by students.

Faculty of Islamic Jurisprudence and Law Organizes Scientific Day



The inauguration ceremony

Acting President Ahmad Alawneh inaugurated the Scientific Day of the Faculty of Islamic Jurisprudence and Law (FIJL) on May 12, 2005, by stressing that Islam calls on Muslims to demonstrate tolerance and delight in human life, and opposes extremism, terrorism, exaggeration, and intransigence. He called on Muslims to oppose strongly any misconceived and incorrect campaigns that aim at tarnishing its image or misleading the people as to the lofty mission it aims at spreading amongst nations.

In his address on the occasion, Dean of FIJL highlighted the role that the Faculty has played, over the past decade, in presenting a true and correct image of Islam and its noble teachings.

Activities of the day included the following three sessions:

Session of the Department of the Foundations of Religion, entitled: "The Methodology of Islam within the Context of Social Change."

Session of the Department of Islamic Jurisprudence and Law, entitled: "The Interpretation of Judicial and Legal Texts."

Session of the Department of Jurisprudence and its Foundations entitled: "Donation of Body Parts from the Viewpoint of Islam and Islamic Shari'ah (Law)."

Managing Change in an Information Era Topic of Discussion at the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences

Under the patronage of Acting President Ahmad Alawneh, the Third Scientific Colloquy of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences convened at the University on May 23, 2005, under the theme: "Managing Change in an Information Era."



The inauguration of one of the exhibitions that was held on the sidelines of the Colloquy

In his address on the occasion, Dr. Alawneh underscored the importance of lifelong learning and skills maintenance to keep up with the needs and challenges of an ever-changing society. In this information revolution era, he said, universities have to cope up with fast changing situations. A failure to manage change can pose a threat to the very existence of the university. It is imperative for universities to anticipate change and proactively prepare for its management. In that, universities should be wide open to the developments that take place all over the world and should be flexible and amenable to constructive change. This entails constant update in their curricula and methodologies of instruction, with the ultimate objective of ensuring and securing sustainable development in the various domains.

Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences Oklah Mubaideen noted in his address that this colloquy is intended to keep the university community informed about worldwide innovations and trends. The topics of the various sessions were carefully selected to make sure that the colloquy would achieve its desired outcome.

The colloquy's sessions addressed the following themes:

"The Most Notable Achievements of Jordan's Customs Department and its Future Vision: Plans and Strategies," by Eng. Zakaria Nuseirat.

"Managing Change," by Dr. Sa'ad Ghaleb.

"Banks' Role in Financing Small Industries," by Mr. Adnan Shaddad.

"Banks' Strategic Planning," by the Housing Bank Representative.

"Change and Information," by the Jordan Electricity Authority Representative.

"Commercial Pacts and Agreements," by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation Representative.

At the closing session, Acting President Alawneh paid tribute to excelling students in each of the Faculty's departments. He also opened a number of exhibitions held on the sidelines of the colloquy which included a book exhibition, the northern badia development exhibition, and a folklore and ceramics exhibition .

Faculty of Educational Sciences Organises Scientific Day

"One basic mission of the University is to provide adequate training for cadres in the various fields and domains with the objective of turning to the market professional skills and leaders in keeping with the country's need", Acting President Ahmad Alawneh said on June 7, 2005.

Dr. Alawneh noted in his address during the Faculty of Educational Sciences (FES) Scientific Day that state-of-the-art technologies should be employed in course delivery and instruction to keep track of worldwide trends and innovations.

Dean of FES Yahya Shdeifat reviewed the Faculty's achievements, over the past year, and the role it has played, in cooperation with other Jordanian universities and institutions in conducting academic research streamlined to the needs of society. He shed light on the academic symposia and lectures which FES has conducted, and its effort to keep pace with trends of globalisation, educational technologies, and e-learning.

Activities of the Day included the discussion of academic papers which tackled the following topics:

"Instruction in the Governorate of Mafraq: Reality and Aspirations."

Moderator: Dr. Maisoun Zu'bi.

Speakers: Mr. Mohammad Fare' Khaza'leh and Mr. Mohammad Duweiri.

"Educational Development and the Challenges of Globalization."

Moderator: Dr. Salem Khawaldeh.

Speakers: Dr. Ali Olaimat and Dr. Adeb Hamadne.

"UNESCO's Educational Activities."

Moderator: Abdel Hafez Al-Shayeb.

Speaker: Mustafa Issa.

"Special Education in the Governorate of Mafraq."

Moderator: Mr. Ibrahim Al-Otain.

Speaker: Dr. Aslan Al-Masa'eed.

"The Use of Internet in

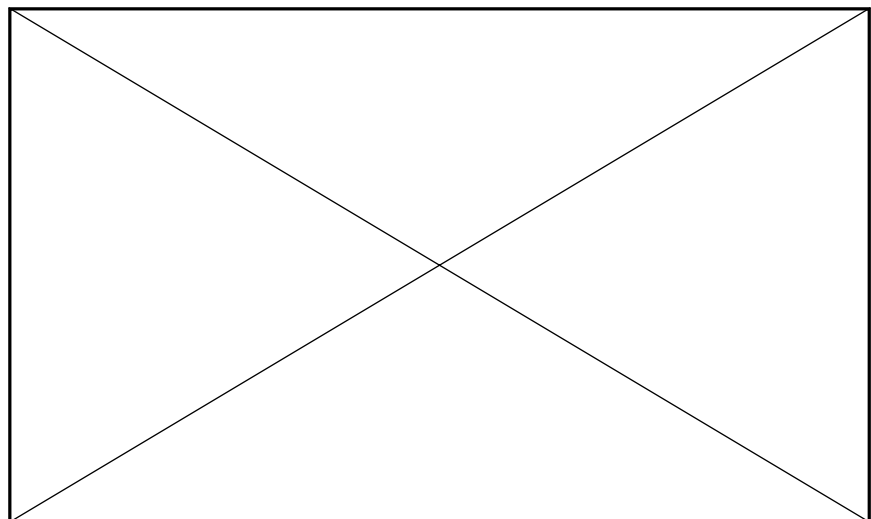
Instruction."

Moderator: Dr. Khalid Al-Qudah.

Speaker: Dr. Sulaiman Al-Qadiri.

A session was also devoted to discussing the translation of a book by Dr. Khalid Al-Qudah entitled: Kindergarten Is Too Late.

A number of labs were opened and presentations of students' research and academic achievements were also held on the sidelines of the Scientific Day.



Part of the activities of the Scientific Day

Panelists Discuss Oman's Foreign Relation



The inauguration ceremony

In the presence of Acting President Ahmad Alawneh, Director of the Department of Arab and Middle Eastern Affairs at the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Saleh Jawazneh inaugurated at AL al-Bayt University on May 22, 2005, activities of the conference on: "Oman's Foreign Relations and Policy."

In his address on the two-day forum, Mr. Jawazneh noted that Jordan was one of the first countries to support the Sultanate of Oman and to maintain, ever since, good working and friendly relations with this country.

The conference, held in cooperation between the Omani Studies Unit of AL al-Bayt University and the Embassy of Oman in Jordan, aimed at highlighting Oman's contemporary cultural, social and economic developments and progress.

His Excellency Mr. Hilal Al-Mu'amary, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Jordan, pointed in his address that Oman's foreign policy is driven by a realistic vision of the world. To understand Oman's foreign policy, he said, is to understand how skilled diplomacy works--how balancing interests, tolerance towards differences, and a determined search for mutual benefits can open international doors of prosperous cooperation.

In their addresses during the opening session, Acting President Ahmad Alawneh and Dr. Elayyan Jalloudi commended the role of the Omani Studies Unit in paving the way for encounters between Jordanian and Omani scholars and intellectuals to debate issues of common interest, and to share experiences and viewpoints.

At the closing session, panelists called for an effective mobilization of contemporary media to convey to the public the true essence of the Omani experience which holds tight to its long-standing Arab and Muslim tradition and civilization, while keeping track of prevalent worldwide developments, trends and innovations.

Also, panelists approved the publication of the proceedings of this conference for the benefit of faculty, students, and researchers who are interested in documenting the various historical, cultural and social aspects of Oman.

Other recommendations suggested during this session was the possibility of holding the coming conference in Oman under the title: "Modern Development in Oman: Reality and Aspirations." Henceforth, this annual event is to be held in Jordan and Oman alternately.

During HIIAA Open Day Alawneh Inspects Graduation Projects of Students of Architecture



The Acting President inspecting students' projects

Acting President Ahmad Alawneh inaugurated at the University on June 5, 2005, some 43 Graduation Projects by final-year students of the University's Higher Institute for Islamic Art and Architecture (HIIAA).

Held as part of the activities of HIIAA's Open Day, the projects, in their major part, emphasized the concept of architecture in a rural environment like Al-Azraq Oasis, thus, reviving the badia region and boosting its status as a source of touristic and economic wealth to Jordan.

Dr. Alawneh lauded the efforts paid by students to streamline their projects into issues that best address their local community's need. In this context, he called on students to pay special attention to the rich Muslim Architecture, with its unique heritage that respects the traditions of Muslim societies while responding creatively to the changing needs of the Islamic world. The Muslim world, once a remarkable bastion of scientific and humanist knowledge, a rich and self-confident cradle of culture and art, has influenced the whole world, throughout the ages, with its exceptional features, landscape and design.

During the meeting, Dr. Alawneh voiced hope that the University's HIIAA would foster strong cooperative links with the Jordan Environment Society. The objective is to solicit the society's viewpoints, opinion, and feedback with regard to students' projects, and to help in making these projects serve the local community in a constructive manner.

On the agenda of the Day were a series of lectures that tackled issues pertaining to the architectural trend in Jordan and the experiences of some Jordanian architects throughout their long-standing architectural career.

The ceremony was attended by Chairman of the Jordan's Architects' Syndicate Wa'el Saqqa, Acting Dean of HIIAA Abdul-Majid Al-Rjoub; a number of architects from the private sector; and students.

Following are some of the lectures that were hosted by the University recently

Jordan's Foreign Policy

In cooperation between Bayt AL-Hikmah (House of Wisdom) Higher Institute and Al-Hussein Cultural Centre, a symposium was held on May 10, 2005, on: "Jordan's Foreign Policy."

Speaking at the symposium, Senator Nayef Al-Qadi noted that as a small state with limited resources, the primary concern of Jordan, throughout history, was to safeguard the country's immediate national interests. However, the Hashemite leadership has concurrently pursued a number of grand strategic objectives designed to revitalize and reshape the Arab world and the Middle East. Jordan's geostrategic outlook can therefore best be described as operating on two distinct, yet, sometimes, interacting levels. The first involves activities, behavior and decisions that are related to the immediate welfare and survival of the country. The second track is a long-term activist orientation designed to spur a renewal of Arab energies and promote the overall well-being of the Middle East.

Also addressing the symposium was Senator Klibb Al-Fawwaz who said that Jordan's foreign policy is based on the principle of respect for international legitimacy, the UN Charter and resolutions as well as the sovereignty and territorial integrity of other states.

Jordan and its people are an integral part of the Arab nation and its foreign policy has always asserted and encouraged maintaining brotherly relations with all Arab countries with a view to strengthening pan-

Arab solidarity by strengthening the community of interests towards achieving economic prosperity and security.

Architect Addresses Management of Architectural Sites

As part of the academic activities of the Higher Institute for Islamic Art and Architecture, Arch. Rami Taher, Chairman of the Department of Architecture at the Jordan University for Science and Technology spoke at the University, on May 14, 2005, about: "The Management, Conservation and Preservation of Architectural Heritage, Touristic Sites and Attractions."

The lecture, moderated by Dean of the Higher Institute for Islamic Art and Architecture Abdul-Majid Al-Rjoub, was attended by faculty members and students.

Insurance Consultant Speaks on Types of Life Insurance

The Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences invited Mr. Raja'i Dajani, Insurance Consultant at the Jordan Eagle (Al-Nisr Al-Arabi) Insurance Company Ltd. on May 21, 2005, to speak about the various types and forms of life insurance, medical health

insurance, retirement insurance (income), education expenses for children, and other services provided by the company to the local community.

Dr. Adnan Abu Al-Haija, Chairman of the Department of Finance and Banking moderated the lecture which was attended by Dr. Okla Mubaideen, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences; faculty members; and students.

Al-Momani Lectures on Managing First Impressions

"Managing First Impressions" was theme of the invited lecture which Mr. Fazwaz Al-Momani from the Jordan National Centre for Human Resource Development delivered at the University on May 9, 2005.

The lecture touched on topics pertaining to the writing of an impressive curriculum vitae, preparing for an interview in respect of job seekers, as well as statistics about the Jordan job market, and numbers of applications filed by individuals for the various types of jobs and employment.

The lecture was moderated by Dr. Anwar Khalidi, Director of the University's King Hussein Fund for Development.



Arch. Taher delivering his lecture

During The June and July, 2005, The Centre for Consultation, Technical Services and Studies Organized Courses in Administration, Computer, and Languages

The Centre for Consultation, Technical Services and Studies of AL al-Bayt University was established during the academic year 1996/1997 with the objective of rendering services to the local community of the Mafrq Governorate and the communities of Jordan and neighbouring countries as well.

Since then, the centre has been concerned with offering technical and training advice and services to individuals and institutions, and organizing proficiency and training courses to keep them abreast with developmental needs and the requirements of the labour market.

Following is a list of courses organized by the centre during June and July, 2005:

Planning Career Objectives and Upgrading Employees' Skills (20 hours).

Human Resource Management (20 hours).

Modern Strategies in Human Resource Management and Improving Employees' Efficiency (20 hours).

Strategic Planning for Marketing and Purchasing Management (20 hours).

Modern Computer-Based Accounting Applications (30 hours).

Medical and Pharmaceutical Marketing (20 hours).

ICDL (70 hours).

Computer and Internet (40 hours).

Intellectual Property (20 hours).

Remedial Courses in English Language (40 hours).

English Language Listening and Conversation Skills (40 hours).

Computer-Based Typing (40 hours).

President Tweissi Holds an Open Dialogue with Foreign and International Students

University President Adel Tweissi confirmed AL al-Bayt University's keen interest in providing utmost care and attention to foreign students pursuing studies in its various programmes. The objective is to provide a homelike supportive, and safe environment that students are accustomed to in their home country.

Dr. Tweissi was addressing foreign students who joined the University, this Summer, to attend an intensive course in Arabic offered by the University Language Centre for non-native speakers of the language.

Welcoming students to the University, Dr. Tweissi confirmed that this category of foreign and international students who come to study here go back to their countries as unofficial "ambassadors" for the University, in particular, and for Jordan, in general, as they share their experience in Jordan with friends, family, and colleagues abroad.

Their presence, he said, also adds a dimension of diversity to the campus life, thus creating a rich and varied cultural learning environment for domestic students.

He called on students to

make the most of their stay at the University and to sample Jordanian culture and civilization, with a view to gaining better understanding of the various aspects of this civilization. This will enable students to have a clear idea about the many similarities that varied cultures share, and to learn to respect differences inherent in them.

Director of the Language Centre Ali Rabba'i also addressed students and informed them about the nature of the programme they are enrolled

in and the extra-curricular activities that form an integral part of formal class teaching. In their major part, he said, these activities are intended to provide an opportunity for students to practice the language and to converse with their fellow mates in Arabic.

The meeting was attended by Vice-President Ahmad Alawneh and faculty members.

Students from the U.S.A., Thailand and China joined the Language Centre this Summer.



A collective photo with students

President Tweissi Gives Advice to Foreign Students



Part of the meeting

University President Adel Tweissi called on Arab and foreign students attending the various programmes offered by AL al-Bayt University to adapt to Jordan's culture and civilization and to make the utmost of their stay on campus.

Dr. Tweissi was addressing members of the Foreign Students Club Administrative Board during his meeting with them on July 17, 2005.

Dr. Tweissi noted that in implementation with the directives of His Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein, the University very much cares for the welfare of its foreign student body. In that, each and every member of the University community would be happy to provide students with whatever assistance they may need to help them integrate socially and academically into university life.

He acknowledged with thanks the services rendered by the club, over the past years, in terms of bringing students from different nationalities, languages, and backgrounds together to discuss their problems and to look into ways to ease these problems. However, Dr. Tweissi called on the club members to intensify their efforts with a view to deepening cultural rapprochement between and among students, and to facilitating their integration within campus life. He voiced hope that students would participate actively in a wide variety of social activities within the campus and, subsequently, learn how to enjoy the cross-cultural differences and similarities.

The relationships that students form on campus, Dr. Tweissi noted, may develop into vibrant, mutually beneficial partnerships not only between students themselves, but at the level of the nations and countries they belong to and represent, in the future.

The meeting was attended by Dean of Student Affairs Khalil Hajjaj who gave a briefing about the mission, goals and services of the Foreign Students Offices which was recently established within the premises of the Deanship of Students Affairs.

At the end of the meeting, President Tweissi answered questions raised by students on the various aspects of university life, and gave students assurances that the University personnel and staff are willing to help them to the best of their abilities.

Acting President Briefs Students on University Proficiency Exam



Part of the briefing

Acting President Ahmad Alawneh met with graduating students from across the University faculties on May 15, 2005 to brief them about the newly launched Proficiency Exam which the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research is administering for university graduates, this year.

He informed students that the aim behind the exam, which is obligatory for Jordanian undergraduates, is to evaluate students studying at the Kingdom's public and private universities via one exam, and compare Jordanian graduates and universities with their peers, both locally and internationally.

He explained that an elite group of selected university professors, representing the wide spectrum of disciplines and specialisations offered by the various public and private universities operating in the Kingdom, joined efforts in writing the University Proficiency Exam questions, with the help and support of the US-based Educational Testing Services (ETS). Besides helping in writing the exam questions, ETS offered instruction, consultation, and technical assistance in organizing and conducting the exam.

Dean of Prince Hussein Bin Abdullah Faculty for Information Technology Isma'il Ababneh presented students with samples of exam questions and informed students about the mechanism of answering them in accordance with the instructions laid down by ETS.

The meeting was attended by deans and faculty members from the various programmes offered by the University.

Cross-Cutlrual Exhibition Samples Different Cultures

As part of AL al-Bayt University's celebrations of Jordan's Independence Day, Acting President Ahmad Alawneh inaugurated the Cross-culture and Nations' Civilization Exhibition.

Held in cooperation between the Deanship of Student Affairs and the Embassies of Indonesia, Malaysia, and China in Amman, the exhibition aimed at introducing the culture, heritage and civilization of participating countries to Jordanian and other students attending AL al-Bayt University, and at realizing better cultural rapprochement and understanding amongst the University student body which represents around 36 different nationalities.

On display at the exhibition were traditional costumes, books, samples of traditional cuisine, and artifacts. At the same time, students of each country performed musical songs and dances



Part of the exhibition



Collective photo

representing aspects of their musical and cultural heritage.

The exhibition was attended by Ambassadors of Indonesia, Malaysia, and China to Jordan; Assistant

to the President for Planning, Training and Community Service Oklah Mubaideen; Dean of Student Affairs Khalil Hajjaj; deans; faculty members; students; and invited guests.

Keeping health in mind: 10 steps to keep your memory sharp. After 20 minutes of searching, you finally find your glasses resting on your forehead. You've gone to the basement three times in hopes of remembering why you went there the first time. You just poured orange juice into your cereal. Are you losing your mind? Probably not. Memory loss is a common complaint, and it's typically blamed on aging. People fear that memory lapses are signs of what's in store.

But take note: Dementia a mental decline advanced enough to affect daily activities, the most common form of which is Alzheimer's disease is more than forgetfulness. Only about 10 percent to 20 percent of people older than 65 get dementia, so most people who occasionally forget things simply have too much on their mind.

Though it's impossible to predict memory loss, you can do your best to prevent it. Follow these 10 steps suggested by Paul Takahashi, M.D., a specialist in geriatrics at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn., and an expert on cognitive decline.

Step 1: Exercise your mind

Just as physical activity keeps your body strong, mental activity keeps your mind sharp and agile.

If you continue to learn and challenge yourself, your brain continues to grow, literally. Regardless

of age, an active brain produces new dendrites connections between nerve cells that allow cells to communicate with one another. This helps the brain store and retrieve information more easily, no matter what your age.

How can you challenge yourself? Try:

Learning to play a musical instrument

Playing Scrabble or doing crossword puzzles
Interacting with people

Switching careers or starting a new one

Starting a new hobby, such as crafts, painting, biking or bird-watching
Learning a foreign language
Volunteering

Staying informed about what's going on in the world
Reading

Step 2: Stay physically active

Daily physical activity can help improve blood

flow. Some people find it's easier to get motivated when they exercise with a friend. Some choose a favorite pet to accompany them on walks. However you choose to get moving, include these three activities as important fitness components in your routine:

Aerobic activity. Activities such as brisk walking, bicycling or swimming slow the age-related loss of aerobic capacity the ability of your heart, lungs and blood vessels to deliver adequate oxygen to your muscles during physical activity. The net result of aerobic activity is increased stamina and endurance. It also can decrease high blood pressure, which may reduce your risk of stroke, heart disease, kidney disease and other related conditions.

Strength training. Increasing your strength by using weights or elastic resistance bands can slow or even reverse the loss of

muscle mass associated with aging. Strength training also can slow bone loss, cut your risk of injury and make you feel more energetic.

Stretching. Stretching increases the range in which you can bend and stretch joints, muscles and ligaments, helping to decrease stiffness and prevent injury.

"Exercising also helps your mood," says Dr. Takahashi. "People who exercise briefly each day maybe get some sunlight certainly have better moods." During the day, you'll be more awake, more alert and quicker on the mental draw. And chances are if you're exercising regularly, you'll sleep better, too.

Step 3: Eat, drink and be healthy

Eat a diet rich in fruits and vegetables. These contain antioxidants substances that protect and nourish brain cells. As an added bonus, these foods may reduce your risk of cancer, high blood pressure, coronary artery disease, diabetes and osteoporosis.

And you've heard it before drink water. Water is essential to the human body. Water practically is the human body making up about 70 percent of your body weight. Lack of water leads

to dehydration, which can leave you feeling tired, making it hard to concentrate. So drink up. Here are some tips:

Fill up a water bottle and keep it close at hand.

Have a glass of water at lunch instead of soft drinks, coffee or other beverages that may dehydrate you. It's cheaper on the pocketbook and better for your body.

Step 4: Develop a system of reminders and cues

Information comes at you from all directions all the time. Sometimes it's necessary to take extra steps to remind yourself of what's important. Work through the information overload with these memory triggers:

Write it down. Keep a diary, use calendars and make lists.

Establish a routine. Store easy-to-lose items in the same place. Complete tasks in the same order. Change is difficult and takes extra effort.

Set up cues. For instance, put your keys on the ironing board. That way you're more likely to remember to turn off the iron before walking out the door.

Practice repetition. "To help remember a person's name, I'll work it into the conversation several times after being introduced," says Dr. Takahashi. "Repetition ingrains the in-

formation in your mind. It's a great habit to get into because it works."

Step 5: Take time to remember things

Normal aging changes the brain, which makes your mind slightly less efficient in processing new information.

But Dr. Takahashi emphasizes that wisdom can compensate for physical changes. "It's true that we lose some capacity for new memory," says Dr. Takahashi. However, experience compensates for this loss. "Older adults can still operate at an extremely high functional level despite physiologic changes."

Forgetfulness may indicate nothing more than having too much on your mind. Slow down and pay full attention to the task at hand, whatever it may be.

Step 6: Learn relaxation techniques

Do you sit at the table with your shoulders hunched? Do you catch yourself clenching your teeth? Do you tap your foot or your finger while you're idle? If you find yourself fidgeting or feeling tight, even when you're sitting still, chances are you're not relaxing.

Stress and anxiety can interfere with concentra-

tion, so it's important to take time to relax really relax.

One technique involves taking a mental break from the world:

Lie down or sit in a comfortable position with your eyes closed.

Check in with your body mentally. Is it tense? Sore? Imagine the discomfort melting away.

Breathe slowly, regularly and deeply.

Once relaxed, imagine you're in a favorite place or in a spot of beauty and stillness.

After five or 10 minutes, rouse yourself from the state gradually.

Step 7: Keep a positive attitude

"Happiness plays an enormous role in your outlook on life," says Dr. Takahashi. "Happiness makes you more alert and when you're alert, your senses are more open to receiving information."

And there's research to back it up. Studies show that optimists tend to live longer

Step 8: Talk to your doctor.

Many factors unrelated

to aging or genetics can contribute to memory problems. These include the use of certain medications, poor vision and hearing, vitamin deficiencies, fatigue, depression, stress and illnesses unrelated to Alzheimer's disease.

Depression in particular can cause problems with memory and concentration and often is mistaken for Alzheimer's disease in older adults. Depression can be treated, improving memory and concentration.

If you or your family worry about your memory, get evaluated. Your doctor may be able to determine whether the cause is treatable.

Step 9: Check your levels

Know your blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar levels. Also make sure your thyroid gland is functioning normally. These tests are relatively easy to take and are good indicators of what's going on inside your body.

Healthy blood pressure

An optimal blood pressure level is 120 or less systolic (top number) and 80 or less diastolic (bottom number). Be alert to sustained

elevations in either systolic or diastolic pressure.

Healthy cholesterol

Have your cholesterol checked by your doctor every five years more often if you have a problem with your cholesterol level.

Step 10: Keep your perspective

You're not the only one who's placed a coffee cup on the roof of your car and then driven away. You're not the first person to dial a number only to forget whom you're calling. It happens. Take note of it, but unless you feel it's unusually frequent, don't be concerned.

"We all lose a little bit of memory over time," says Dr. Takahashi. "But years of experience often make up for the little bit of mental sharpness we've lost."

Everyone has difficulty remembering things at times. So don't lose sight of how much you do remember. Wisdom is built from a lifetime of memories.

Lovers of the English language might enjoy this.....

There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that is "UP." It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?

We call UP our friends and we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver, we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car. At other times, the little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses.

To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed UP is special. And this UP is confusing :A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP .We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night. We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP! To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary.

In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4th of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions. If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more. When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, it wets UP the earth. When it doesn't rain for a while, things dry UP. One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now my time is UP, so.....Time to shut UP.....!

A Woman's Intelligence

A husband, just before he was to die, said to his wife: "When I die I want you to take all my money and put it in the casket with me. I want to take my money into the afterlife with me". And so he got his wife to promise him that with all her heart, when he died, she would put all his money in the casket with him.....Well he died. He was stretched out in the casket.....his wife was sitting there in black and her friend was sitting next to her. When the ceremony and just before the undertakers were to shut the casket she said: "Wait a minute". She had a box with her....she walked over and put the box in the casket and the undertaker closed and locked the casket and they rolled the casket away.

The wife's girlfriend leaned over and whispered to the wife: "Girl I know you weren't fool enough to put all that money in there with your husband." The wife answered.... I can't go back on my word. I promised him I would put all the money in with him". The girlfriend looks at the wife and says....."you mean you really did put all the money inside the casket with him?!" The wife said: "I sure did....I wrote a check.....and if he can cash it.... he can spend it!!"

Moral of the story?

NEVER EVER underestimate the intelligence of a woman.

News in Photos

President Tweissi chatting with students



President Tweissi inspecting the University restaurant

University's celebration of Independence Day



University's celebration of Prophet Muhammad Birthday Anniversary

President Tweissi receiving members of the Ma-fraq Executive Board in his office.



President Tweissi receiving Former University President Abdel Salam al-Abbad i on campus



President Tweissi signing the form of his membership in the Administrative Staff Club



President Tweissi touring the Language Centre

