



BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY

جامعة بيت لحم

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

28 October 2009

Bethlehem, Palestine

Seeking HELP for a Bethlehem University Student

28 October 2009

Earlier today we learned that Ms. Berlanty Azzam, a 4th year student enrolled at Bethlehem University, majoring in Business Administration with a minor in Translation, is now being held in detention by the Israeli military authorities.



The Israeli Military authorities are holding this 4th year Christian student in the Sharon Detention Center near Netanya in Israel and are threatening to “deport her” to Gaza “for trying to complete her studies at Bethlehem University.” Berlanty is originally from Gaza, but she has been living in the West Bank since 2005, after she received a travel permit from the military to cross from Gaza to the West Bank.

Berlanty is a 4th year student, seeking to complete her bachelors degree – but today she was arrested by the Israeli military at a checkpoint while traveling from one part of the West Bank to another part of the West Bank. The Israeli military has banned Palestinian residents of Gaza from studying at Palestinian universities in the West Bank.

We need your help.

Berlanty needs your help!

What can you do to help? **RIGHT NOW**, please send a letter to the Israeli military authorities by **email** (cogatspokesman@gmail.com) or by **fax** (+972 3 697 6306) and let them know that you demand that they release Berlanty Azzam immediately so that she can resume and complete her last year of studies at the Vatican-sponsored Bethlehem University.

May God Bless You!

With more than 10,800 graduates, Bethlehem University is the first university established in Palestine and the only Catholic university in the Holy Land with courses offered in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Qubebeh, Ramallah and Amman, Jordan. Founded in 1973 as a co-educational institution of higher learning conducted by the De La Salle Christian Brothers, the University is supported by the Vatican, Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre and many benefactors as it strives to foster shared values, moral principles and dedication to serving the common good. The University is open to students of all faith traditions, currently enrolling 3,000 students in its undergraduate and post-graduate master degree and diploma programs in Arts, Business Administration, Education, Nursing, Science and Hotel Management and Tourism, with an additional 1,200 students in professional diploma and on-going education programs through the Institute for Community Partnership. A member of the Association of Arab Universities, International Federation of Catholic Universities, and Lasallian Association of Colleges and Universities, Bethlehem University is one of more than 1,000 Lasallian educational institutions in 84 countries of the world in which nearly 6,000 De La Salle Christian Brothers and 80,000 dedicated religious sisters, priests, and lay women and men of all faith traditions serve.