

US consul general tours Bethlehem

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Daniel Rubinstein, center, in studio [MaanImages]

Bethlehem - Ma'an – US Consul General to Jerusalem Daniel Rubinstein made a tour of Bethlehem organizations and institutions on Thursday, visiting Ma'an Network's headquarters and Bethlehem University, among others.

At the university, Rubinstein expressed concern over Israel's recent seizure and deportation of 21-year-old student Berlanty Azzam, for whom a court case is pending.

In the newsroom, the consul general said he appreciated Ma'an's coverage, adding that he frequently consulted the website. He also noted Palestine's need for similarly professional media outlets.

"Frankly, we were afraid America would try to control Ma'an through its financial support," editor-in-chief Nasser Lahham told the consul. "But now I can say with confidence that you did not try to intervene in Ma'an's objectivity and I say that Ma'an News will always be professional and keep the same strategy."

Several Ma'an TV Network projects, including talk shows and Ramadan cooking programs, receive funding from various bodies of the US State Department.

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