

**Speech by Mr. Jaradeh –**  
**ASCA member and Undersecretary of the Palestinian Ministry**  
**of Finance**

**Ceremony of Handing ASCA Books to Gaza Students who**  
**Benefitted from ASCA Scholarships**

In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Brothers and Sisters,

With an abundance of joy and pride, we meet at this blessed scientific and vocational gathering, which brings together an elite group of sons and daughters of our steadfast fighting people in the Gaza Strip, in order to hand them the curriculum books for the Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA).

These represent a total of 14 books prepared in accordance with the international curriculum as decided by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

On this occasion, I would like to thank and salute, -on my behalf, on yours, and on behalf of all professionals and fighters of our people- the Palestinian Arab knight, Mr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of the Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA), who presented 1000 scholarships in ASCA to the people of Palestine which is so dear to his heart, and did this at his own expense.

I met the great Abu-Ghazaleh and spoke to him over the phone. He was very proud and interested in these scholarships. He was very happy when he learned that hundreds of our people, and in spite of the cruel conditions in the homeland, had joined ASCA as students aspiring to obtain advanced qualification that will enable them to serve themselves, their families, community and country's economy with efficiency and ability.

Yes, we salute and thank him, and I convey to you his greetings and pride in each one of you and each one of the sons and daughters of our people.

Brothers and Sisters,

I would like you to know that you are the first who've received the books for the Society's new curriculum, and the November 2002 session will be the first round of examination sessions according to the international curriculum. Just as your determination has been strong in all stages of life and work despite all the attempts of and conditions imposed by the ugly occupation, I call on you to interact with this generous initiative by doubling your academic effort with these books, so that you will all successfully pass the exam.

Success is an important and basic requirement, because those unfortunate enough not to pass will not be able to sit for the exam a second time. I say this not to discourage you, but on the contrary, in order to urge you to take this matter with the utmost seriousness, since passing the exam makes you eligible to become ASCA members, which is an added benefit.

My brothers and sisters,

Constant training and education has become today one of the basics of developing people's scientific and vocational capabilities and efficiency, which raises their standard of living and their effective participation in society. It also enhances their performance when serving their country and entire nation. We are expected more than others to arm ourselves with science, knowledge and developing ourselves and our professional abilities. This is a basic component of our struggle with our enemies, and is also one of the major goals behind Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh's initiative, as he has focused during various occasions on our cultural struggle.

I will not take long with this speech. I am confident of the extent of your awareness, keenness and shouldering responsibility, in addition to your knowledge of what awaits us and what we are approaching. The homeland, brothers and sisters, needs your enlightened minds that always seek knowledge and science.

Once again, all the appreciation in the world goes out to owner of this initiative Mr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh. I ask that God grants you success in your activities, and look forward to the day that we read all your names in the list of those who've passed their exams.

May peace be upon you, and God's mercy and his blessings.