Sindbad without borders Ghada Fouad Al Samman

A Lebanese Author

Many fill their history by handing out cheques. Others decorate themselves with elegant ties to look like honorary medals to signify their importance. What I found in Talal Abu-Ghazaleh was something completely different.

I would say that is not chance that allowed me to meet this personality, but destiny. A few years ago during a short visit to Jordan, there was a prominent headline "Talal Abu-Ghazaleh". I did not have the intention to ask about him, but the sheer mention of his name caused a lot of conversation that pushed me to look further. Every person who knew him talked about his love and greatness.

I was amazed and obsessed by all of the words I was hearing about this man. One said, "He is a teacher". Another said, "He is a Professor". A third said, "He is a wise man". A fourth said, "He is a friend". Others people said that he was passionate and a lot more in his favor.

I said in reply, "It seems this person is very unique. How can you describe him with all these attributes?" They said, "Do you know him?" I said, "No". They said, "Then we suggest you take the time to get to know him".

That day, I did not understand what this "Sindbad" gained from his continuous roaming across the planet. I did not understand how he could become such a great name in the area of knowledge, and I was not aware of his remarkable pivotal role in each forum, platform he engaged in! I just understood that thanks to his huge effort, more than a thousand employees and their families made a living.

I found out that he is extremely keen to support learners and help them in their pursuit for knowledge and become competent professionals.

I understood that despite all the certificates that he has, only one thing is of importance to him which is to uphold the truth in every situation.

I understood that his Palestinian identity is of the highest importance to him which he holds with pride and admiration. He is filled with optimism regarding the return of Palestine to its rightful people. With his sense of pride and confidence, he creates hope amongst the Palestinian people, praising the martyrs of the homeland.

I learned that he is a spontaneous individual that dislikes formality and prefers simplicity instead as he is a simple person.

For me, Talal Abu-Ghazaleh represents an exceptional character and commands great respect. He is truly a unique man!