One Book, Many Communities: *Mornings in Jenin*

The “One Book, Many Communities” project by Librarians and Archivists with Palestine aims to introduce readers to the richness of Palestinian literature, and create a broader awareness and understanding of Palestinian history and the struggle for self-determination. Explore the recommended books and films below for more about the themes and events in Susan Abulhawa’s novel *Mornings in Jenin*.

**Books**

*The Woman from Tantoura* (Radwa Ashour, 2014)
Historical novel about displacement, diaspora, and resistance that focuses on a Palestinian woman whose family flees to Lebanon during the Nakba.

Testimonies, photos, and other materials from the 2002 Israeli attack on Jenin. Susan Abulhawa contributed a chapter.

A collection of essays on the culturally diverse history of Jerusalem from before the Nakba to the present.

*Palestine’s Children: Returning to Haifa and Other Stories* (Ghassan Kanafani, 2000)
Features the novella “Returning to Haifa” (originally published in 1970), which partially inspired the storyline of *Mornings in Jenin*.

Includes history, analysis, testimonies, accounts, and statistics on the Sabra and Shatila massacre that took place in Beirut in 1982.

*Time of White Horses* (Ibrahim Nasrallah, 2012)
Epic novel of a Palestinian community spanning the late Ottoman empire through the Nakba.

*The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine* (Ilan Pappé, 2006)
Detailed history of the Nakba and the planning behind the expulsions and attacks on indigenous Arab Palestinians that resulted in the founding of the state of Israel.

*Touch* (Adania Shibli, 2002)
Novella told from the perspective of a young Palestinian girl growing up in a West Bank village.

**Films**

“500 Dunum on the Moon” (dir. Rachel Leah Jones, 2002)
Documentary about Ein Hod (also spelled Ayn Hawd), the village near Haifa that *Mornings in Jenin*’s Abulheja family was displaced from in 1948. It is now an Israeli artists’ colony.
Documentary that follows the lives of children in a theatre troupe in Jenin, along with the life of Arna Mer-Khamis, the founder of the troupe. Her son Juliano Mer-Khamis (1958-2011) directed the film.

“Jenin, Jenin” (dir. Mohammed Bakri, 2002)
Shortly after the 2002 attacks by Israeli soldiers, a Palestinian actor interviewed Jenin residents about what had happened and compiled their testimonies in this documentary.

Maps

Palestine Maps, Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs (PASSIA)
www.passia.org/palestine_facts/MAPS/0_pal_facts_MAPS.htm

Palestine Maps, Palestine Land Society
plands.org/maps/Palestine%20Maps.html

Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection, University of Texas Libraries
www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/map_sites/hist_sites.html#mideast

source: hippasus.files.wordpress.com/2009/01/palestine_map_pre1948.jpg