

**Voice of Women
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**Sixty percent of the Palestinian people live below poverty line: women are the poorest
Sana Alasi**

A UN report on the Palestinian situation reveals that 60% of the Palestinian people live below the poverty line, with women constituting the largest segment of the poor. As a result of the occupation policies, many women have lost their breadwinners, whether their fathers, brothers or husbands, due to arrest or injury by Israeli forces or being unable economically to sustain their families. In the absence of a breadwinner, women's duties double. They have to care for the housework and children while trying to secure themselves economically. Many of them do not receive adequate health care, according to the same report. In addition, some suffer the trauma of having to give birth at a military checkpoint.

The occupation has a severe impact on the lives of women. If we do not prioritize empowering women so that they can ensure a decent life for their children, these problems will remain unsolved.

**Attorney Karem Nashwan: A man who supports women's issues
Hayam Hassan, Gaza**

Women need men to show support for their cause in order to dispel the myth that only women care about women's issues, or that the issues faced by women are relevant only to them.

Attorney Karem Nashwan has worked for many years on women's issues and become one of the most important advocates. His career is a testimony to his convictions. He worked through the Mock Parliament project to analyze the personal status law in order to improve women's status. He also volunteers for workshops aiming to raise women's awareness and is active in committees to expand the role of women.