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Arab National Hospital Album, [1948]

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the University Libraries, AUB
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Descriptive Summary

Call No.: Ph:ANH:1948

Library catalog ID: [b26009511](#)

Record Creator: Al-Dajani, Mahmud Taher

Collection Title: Arab National Hospital Album

Collection Dates: [1948]

Physical Description: 1 album (23 photographic prints): black and white, 29 x 20 cm. (album)

Language(s): English

Administrative Information

Source: Fuad Sarruf, AUB Vice President for University Relations, Chairman of the Centennial Committee, and Editor of Centennial Publications 1955-1968.

Access Restrictions: The collection can be accessed within the premises of the Archives and Special Collections Department, Jafet Memorial Library, American University of Beirut.

Photocopying Restriction: No photocopying restriction except for fragile material.

Preferred Citation: Arab National Hospital Album, [1948], Ph:ANH:1948, Series no., Photo no., American University of Beirut/Library Archives.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of one album that includes 23 black and white photos (17 x 12 cm.) presenting the work of the hospital staff, doctors, nurses, pharmacy, and other departments of the Arab National Hospital in Beit Jala, near Bethlehem. Founded in 1948 by Dr. Mahmud Taher Dajani, AUB graduate 1932, and his wife Nahil Habboub, also AUB graduate 1931. His brother Subhi was the first visually challenged student to graduate from AUB in 1932 and later founder of the Hebron School for the Blind.

The Arab National Hospital shouldered a tremendous responsibility since its opening. In addition, it was the only remaining national medical institution in the country after the events of 1948.

Historical Sketch

In August 1948, Dr. Mahmud Taher Dajani (1907-1982) AUB M.D. 1932 established with his wife Dr. Nahil Habboub, AUB M.D. 1931, The Arab National Hospital, in Beit Jala, near Bethlehem. A few years earlier. He had a crucial role in the establishment of the Palestine Arab Medical Association in 1944 where he acted as its general secretary. He received the Order of Independence from King Hussein and served as a member of the Board of Trustees, University of Jordan.

Immediately after its founding, the Arab National Hospital was faced with war casualties, (Egyptians, Arab Legion, Jihad Muqaddas, and the Refugee problem) this led to the urgent need to establish an outpatient clinic and dressing departments. Among the founding physicians of the hospital were Dr. Yusuf Hajjar, AUB M.D (Medical Degree). 1915 as a surgeon, and Dr. Nahil Habboub as superintendent.

As of April 1, 1949, the Arab National Hospital registers reports showed that over 2000 casualties were admitted to the hospital, operated on, or treated; and over 21.000 were treated or dressed in the outpatient clinics.

Subject Headings

Hospitals -- West Bank -- Hebron -- 1900-1950.

Health care -- Middle East -- 1890-1960.

Hospitals -- Palestine -- History -- 20th century.

Physicians -- Palestine -- History -- 20th century.

Container List

Photo 1: Hospital Staff: Left to right: E. Khayat (Steward), M. Qubti (Head Nurse), Dr. Yusuf Hajjar (Surgeon), Dr. Nahil Habboub Dajani (Superintendent), Dr. Mahmud Taher Dajani (Director) and H. Jamil (Staff Nurses).

Photo 2: Hospital Doctors: Dr. Mahmud Taher Dajani, Dr. Nahil Habboub Dajani and Dr. Yusuf. Hajjar

Photo 3: Doctors and Head Nurse. [Left to right: Dr. Yusuf Hajjar, M. Qubti, Dr. Naheel Dajani, and Dr. Mahmud Taher Dajani].

Photo 4: Surgeon [Dr. Yusuf Hajjar] and Director of Hospital [Standing Dr. Mahmud Taher Dajani]

Photo 5: Doctors Studying an X-ray Film. [Left to right: Dr. Mahmud Taher Dajani, Dr. Yusuf Hajjar, Dr. Naheel Dajani].

Photo 6: Hospital Steward [E. Khayat].

Photo 7: The Hospital Pharmacy.

Photo 8: The Hospital Laboratory.

Photo 9: Doctors at Morning Round. [Left to Right: M. Qubti, Dr. Mahmud Taher Dajani, Dr. Naheel Dajani, and Dr. Yusuf Hajjar].

Photo 10: Operating Theater.

Photo 11: Round in the Women's Ward.

Photo 12: Men's Ward.

Photo 13: Operating Theater.

Photo 14: Operating Theater.

Photo 15: Nurse at Work.

Photo 16: Men's Ward.

Photo 17: Women's Ward.

Photo 18: Doctors' Examining a Patient.

Photo 19: Children's Ward.

Photo 20: Men's Ward.

Photo 21: Doctors' Examining a Surgical Case.

Photo 22: Nurses on Duty.

Photo 23: Hospital Kitchen.

Related Material

Articles

- Dajani, M. (1949). The Arab National Hospital. *Al Kulliyah Magazine*, 24 (April-May), 9, 30.

Audiovisuals

- [The Palestinian Oral History Archive](#)