

**Palestinians Birthright Initiative**

**History**:

Over the past 12 years, the Know Thy Heritage (KTH) Leadership Initiative has grown into a global movement, connecting Palestinian youth in the diaspora to their shared homeland by building a network of advocates to collaboratively work together for the unification of Palestinians. With over **450 alumni** from **25 countries** and **5 continents**. Building on the success of this leadership program, KTH has become a central hub for the Palestinian diaspora **of all ages**, positioning itself as a vital resource and nexus for Palestinians worldwide through its active service and engagement.

**Mission: Empowering the Palestinian Diaspora**

Our mission is to empower Palestinians, especially youth in the Diaspora, by deepening their connection to their identity, culture, and history. We aim to inspire active engagement and service through a comprehensive understanding of Palestine’s landscape. KTH serves as a global hub, uniting the diaspora of all ages, and preserving Palestinian heritage and aspirations.

**Goals:**

* Enhance Diaspora understanding of Palestine to facilitate a network to work together for the betterment of Palestine.
* Create a perpetual link between Diaspora, Allies and Palestine to preserve and enhance Palestinian heritage and culture.
* Foster connections and build relationships between Diaspora and Palestinians who reside in Palestine; strengthen the concept of Palestine as land of opportunity & sanctity.
* Promote Palestine as a priority destination for all Palestinians.

**Key Programs:**

* **Know Thy Heritage (KTH) Leadership Program** offers Diaspora Palestinians aged 18-35+the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge & understanding of their Palestinian identity by traveling to Palestine to learn more about the history, culture, economic and political and social conditions of Palestine.
* **Diaspora Homecoming Journey** invites Diaspora Palestinians of all ages to embark on a family friendly educational tour of Palestine. During the tour, participants explore their identity and expand their understanding of the Palestinian context and reconnect them to their roots.
* **Hand in Hand** an educational tour for those eager to learn about Palestine of all ages, and all nationals, the tour takes a “101” approach, partnering with organizations and institutions to increase awareness of the Palestinian context.
* **Future Business Leaders** works to establish a mechanism that allows structured opportunities for businesspeople and venture capitalists living in the diaspora to invest in Palestinian entrepreneurship and enterprises. Through the program, we seek to educate diaspora Palestinians about investment opportunities in Palestine, promote the import/export of Palestinians products, and gain insight into the nuances of the diaspora markets abroad so as to promote investment and create job opportunities.
* **Annual Palestinian Diaspora Conference** gathers Palestinians globally to help address the challenges of Palestine to help support its continued development.
* **Advocacy Network:** Create a worldwide network of knowledgeable and passionate young Palestinians who support each other and the Palestinian cause. By utilizing media, social media, this network aims to form an online community that highlights Palestinian successes and challenges negative stereotypes**.**
* **Know Thy Heritage, Volunteer Placement Program** offers KTH Alumni the opportunity to intern/volunteer at various organizations throughout Palestine, allowing them to deepen their knowledge of Palestine while also contributing to its development.

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