

# *Hanan Mikhail Ashrawi*

- **Place of Birth:** Palestine
- **Nationality:** Palestinian, Jordanian passport, Jerusalem ID
- **Marital Status:** Married to Emile Ashrawi, two daughters: Amal (b.1977) and Zeina (b.1981)

## Education

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**Doctor of Philosophy [Ph.D.]** - University of Virginia, Charlottesville  
*Medieval and Comparative Literature*

**Master of Arts [M.A.]** - American University of Beirut  
*Renaissance Literature and Textual Criticism*

**Bachelor of Arts [B.A.]** - American University of Beirut  
*Literature*

## Profile of Activities

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- **[2009 - Present]** Elected member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Head of the PLO Department of Culture and Information.
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- **[2006 - Present]** Elected member of the Palestinian Legislative Council – “Third Way”
- **[2006 - Present]** Chair, Executive Committee-The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue & Democracy – MIFTAH
- **[2000 - Present]** Founder and Chair of Executive Committee, the Coalition for Accountability and Integrity – AMAN, Transparency International (TI- Palestine)
- **[2001-2002]** The Arab League – Commissioner of Information and Public Policy
- **[Aug. 1998 – 2005]** Founder and Secretary General of The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue & Democracy - MIFTAH
- **[1997 - Present]** Commissioner, The Independent Commission for Human Rights
- **[1997 – 1998]** Head of Bethlehem 2000 Steering Committee, Secretary General of the Bethlehem 2000 International Committee
- **[1996 – 2006]** Elected member of the Palestinian Legislative Council – Jerusalem District
- **[1996 – 1997]** Elected Head of Political Committee – Palestinian Legislative Council
- **[1996 – 1998]** Palestinian Minister of Higher Education and Research
- **[1994 – to date]** Member of Palestinian Central Council
- **[1994 – 1996]** Founder and Commissioner General – The Independent Commission for Citizens Rights (ICHR) – Jerusalem
- **[1991 – Present]:** Member of the Palestinian National Council (PNC)

- **[1991 – 1993]** Official Spokesperson of the Palestinian Delegation to the Middle East Peace Process; Member of the Leadership / Guidance Committee and Executive Committee of the Delegation
- **[1988 – 1993]** Member of the Diplomatic Committee; Member of the Intifada Political Committee
- **[1981 – 1984]** Chairperson, Department of English, Birzeit University
- **[1986 – 1990]** Dean – Faculty of Arts, Birzeit University
- **[1973 – 1978]** Established and chaired Department of English, Birzeit University
- **[1974 – 1995]** Founded and headed Birzeit University Legal Aid Committee / Human Rights Action Project
- **[1973 – 1995]** Faculty member, Birzeit University

## Partial List of Publications

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- Anthology of Palestinian Literature, PROTA, Editor
- Contemporary Palestinian Literature Under Occupation
- Contemporary Palestinian Poetry and Fiction
- From Intifada to Independence: A Palestinian Woman Speaks Out
- The Modern Palestinian Short Story: An Introduction to Practical Criticism
- This Side of Peace: A personal account. Simon & Schuster, New York, 1995
- In addition to poems, short stories, and several papers and articles on Palestinian culture, literature and politics.

## Languages

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- **Arabic:** (Native Language)
- **English**
- **Old English** (Anglo Saxon)
- **Latin**

## **Selected List of Memberships**

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- **Boards of Trustees**

- Institute of Palestine Studies
- International Human Rights Council
- Palestine Center for Human Rights – Gaza
- Study on The Impact of Armed Conflict on Children – New York
- The Jerusalem Center for Women (Jerusalem Link) – Jerusalem
- The Independent Commission for Human Rights – Jerusalem
- The Palestinian Youth Association – Gaza
- The Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN) – Ramallah
- The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue & Democracy (MIFTAH) – Ramallah
- The Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR) – Ramallah

- **International Advisory Boards (Past and Present)**

- U.S./Middle East Project
- TAKREEM Arab Achievement Awards
- Center for Trans-regional Studies “Advisory Council” – Princeton University
- Council on Foreign Relations – Washington D.C
- Deir Yassin Remembered – New York
- Fund for the Future of Our Children – Washington D.C
- Initiative for Peace and Cooperation in the Middle East – special project of "The Search for Common Grounds"
- International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty
- International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA)- Stockholm, Sweden
- Member of the UN Secretary General’s Group for Dialogue Among Civilizations
- Mercy Corps International – Washington Peace Works – U.S.
- Task Force on Higher Education (A World Bank, Harvard University and UNESCO initiative)
- The Carter Center (Human Rights Center)
- The Dialogues Center – Holland

- The Project on Justice in Times of Transition – New York, U.S.
- The World Bank Middle East and North Africa Region (MENA)
- United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)
- Board member - Palestine Institute for Public Diplomacy
- The Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation – Know Thy Heritage Advisory Board

## Awards & Honorary Degrees

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- **Doctor Honoris Causa**

- **[June 2008]** The American University of Beirut (AUB) – Lebanon
- **[June 2003]** The American University in Cairo (AUC), Doctor of Humane Letters –Cairo, Egypt
- **[October 2000]** Saint Mary's University, Doctor of Civil Law – Halifax, Canada
- **[1999]** Smith College, Doctor of Humane Letters – Northampton, Massachusetts
- **[1999]** Earlham College, Doctor of Humane Letters – Richmond, Indiana
- **[1997]** Vrije University of Brussels – Belgium
- **[1993]** Bath University, Doctor of Laws – Bath, England
- **[1993]** The Virginia Theological Seminary – Alexandria, Virginia

- **Academic Awards:**

- **[2009]** Diana Tamari Sabbagh Fellow in Middle Eastern Studies – Baker Institute, Rice University
- **[2006]** Honorary Fellow – St. Antony's College, Oxford University
- **[2000]** Leo Godwin, Sr. Professor of Law – Nova Southeastern University Law Center
- **[1999]** Beloit College -First holder of the Marvin Weissberg Distinguished Chair in International Studies
- **[1998]** Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award, AUB Alumni
- **[1995]** Distinguished Alumna Award of the University of Virginia Women's Center
- **[1995]** Distinguished Carlson Lecturer – The University of Minnesota

- **[1995]** George Mason University, Global Service
- **[1995]** Harvard Foundation of Harvard University, Human Rights Award
- **[1995]** Henry E. & Nancy Horton Bartel World Affairs Fellow – Cornell University
- **Distinguished Service Awards:** Local and international awards in the areas of women's issues, peace making, international affairs, human rights & higher education, which include:
  - **[2012]** Middle East Institute – Issam M. Fares Award for Excellence
  - **[2005]** The Arab Women Studies Center - Distinguished Arab Woman's Award for Political Involvement – Dubai, United Arab Emirates
  - **[2005]** Mahatma Gandhi International Award for Peace and Reconciliation
  - **[2003]** Sydney Peace Prize
  - **[2002]** Olof Palme Prize
  - **[1999]** Foundation for Middle East Peace – Merle Thorpe Award
  - **[1999]** International Women of Hope “Bread and Roses” – 12 distinguished Women of the Year
  - **[1999]** The Defender of Democracy Award – Parliamentarians for Global Action
  - **[1999]** 50 Women of the Century
  - **[1999]** 100 Personalities of the Century
  - **[1996]** The Jane Addams International Women's Leadership Award
  - **[1996]** The National Arab American Association – Distinguished Service Award  
Birzeit University Special Shield
  - **[1996]** The Pearl S. Buck Foundation Women's Award
  - **[1996]** United Holy Land Fund – Palestinian of the Year Award
  - **[1994]** Al-Hamchari Book Award – Paris, France
  - **[1994]** Foundation for Middle East Peace – Peace Maker Award
  - **[1994]** Pio Manzu Gold Medal Peace Award
  - **[1993]** Palestine Arab Fund – Peace and Democracy Award
  - **[1992]** Marica Bellisario International Peace Award
  - **[1992]** The News Circle – Woman of the Year
  - **[1990]** The American Federation of Ramallah Palestine – Lifetime Achievement Award