

PANEL VI

Pictures without Frames

Photographs are permanent memories and for many it is all they have left as proof of their past lives in Palestine. This panel attempts to capture the human faces and special moments in the lives of Palestinians who have the same dreams and hopes as all people everywhere, but instead, those hopes and dreams and memories have been smashed and ground into the rubble of wanton destruction. Shards of mirrors reflect fleeting glimpses of all who look on, a reminder that we are no different to the humanity staring out at us from a now shattered past. Those pictures, once framed, marked the milestones in the lives of men, women and children who went to school, played sport, studied at university, and got married. Those pictures captured the moments of celebration and gladdened the hearts of loved ones. They were displayed, like yours and mine, on mantelpieces and tables or hung on walls - records of lives, of lives interrupted and lost. Some pictures are preserved in the meagre belongings of those Palestinians who fled the falling bombs and advancing forces, but others have had no chance of saving even themselves against the invading tanks. And so, the frameless pictures lie unclaimed, yet still a testament to the lives once lived in Palestine.



PANEL III

People without Land

This panel shows the movement of people against the permanence of an ancient land. It depicts the flight of the Palestinian people in 1948 as Zionist forces mount their attack and then again in 1967. Those who remain are effectively prisoners in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip – territories allocated to the Palestinians in the Partition Plan of 1947. However, even these territories are overwhelmingly populated by foreign settlers - Jewish immigrants from Europe, America and Africa who are being encouraged and financially assisted to settle in a land denied to the original inhabitants. A copy of a rare map signed by Moshe Dayan clearly shows that Palestine, in fact, was recognised in cartography contrary to assertions by Zionists that it never existed as a land under that name. The horror, disbelief, anguish and despair of a people dispossessed of their land are etched beneath transparent and shifting maps. Despite the will and might of foreign forces, the spirits of a wronged people continue to haunt this troubled land.

