

Tripoli, Lebanon  
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# Clowns without Borders

Nadi Al Kuds - Tripoli - Al Baddawi



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Today the clowns head north for the first time, to the city of Tripoli, to a Palestinian Refugee camp opened in 1953. The first port of call on entering the camp is the kindergarten, which has been open since 1975. The art work was beautiful in the art room.

At the theatre the clowns set up for the first show while the ladies were being charmed by a bunch of Palestinian painter decorators giving a lick of colour to the outside walls.

There has been some tension between the young Palestinian men of the camp, and the newly arrived Syrians. A lot of talk of, "They've taken our jobs.....etc".

So the shows play a good role in bringing the communities together. The two shows had about 440 kids each. Roughly 20% Syrian/Palestinian, 10% Syrian, and 70% Palestinian.

The camp was lovely. Very tidy and spacious and clean and friendly and Daniel introduced the locals to the joy of 'Danny Boy' on the trumpet.

This tour of CWB was made possible through the aid of Culture Ireland who generously support them.