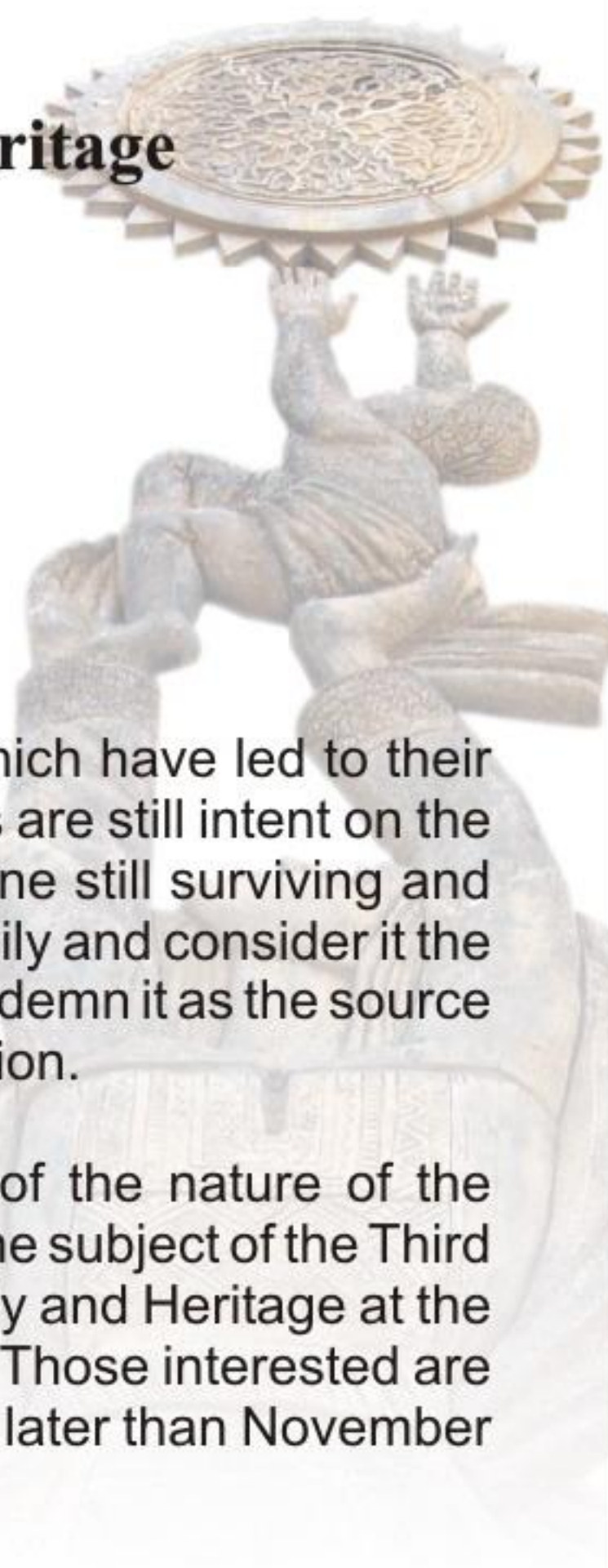




# The Society of Inash El Usra

The Center for the Study of Palestinian Society & Heritage



## Call for Papers Conference on the Role and the Future of the Palestinian Family

Palestinians have gone through conditions, during the last one hundred years, which have led to their dispersal and to the virtual destruction of their society. The same forces and powers are still intent on the complete sociocide, if not genocide, of the Palestinian people. The family is the one still surviving and viable social institution among them. There are those who praise the Palestinian family and consider it the main survival mechanism of the Palestinian people, but there are also those who condemn it as the source of internal division and conflicts among them and work for its destruction and dissolution.

The planning committee believes that there is a need for a critical evaluation of the nature of the Palestinian family and the role it has played in their struggle for survival. This will be the subject of the Third International Conference to be held at the Center for the Study of Palestinian Society and Heritage at the Society of Inash al- Usra, Al-Bireh, Palestine, during the third week of March, 2009. Those interested are invited to submit an abstract of 200-300 words, to reach the planning committee no later than November 30, 2008.

**The following are suggested themes for the conference, which are not necessarily binding:**

◆ **Traditional family structure:**

Was there a uniquely Palestinian traditional family structure? What were its unique characteristics compared to other Arab peoples? How did that uniqueness evolve?

◆ **Points of strength and positive roles**

The role of the family in the absence of central authority at any time in the past. The role of the family in adjustment and survival among the Palestinian diaspora: physical survival, survival of the culture and collective memory, survival of collective identity, maintenance of contact with Palestinian communities and the Palestinian homeland, continuity of the Palestinian national struggle. The role of the family in the resistance against Israeli occupation.

◆ **Weakness and negative roles:**

The role of the family during the British Mandate days, the 1936 uprising, and the 1948 war. Manipulation of the traditional family system by political authorities since the beginning of Islam up to the present time, especially since the beginning of the British Mandate. What is happening to the family among different Palestinian groups in the diaspora? The role of the family in intra-Palestinian conflicts in the past and present.

◆ **Attempts at weakening or destroying the family structure:**

Are there any attempts to weaken or destroy the Palestinian family in Palestine or in the diaspora by, for example, Israeli authorities, host countries, funding agencies, or foreign educational and cultural projects?

**Abstracts should be sent to:**

Sharif Kanaana , Chairman, Planning Committee

Conference on the Role and the Future of the Palestinian Family

Telephone: +972-(0)224 01123

Fax: +972-(0)224 01544

P.O. .O. Boxr.O. Box

Website: [www.inash.org/csp](http://www.inash.org/csp)

E-mail: [Archive\\_usra@yahoo.com](mailto:Archive_usra@yahoo.com)