

Geneina - West Darfur

The organization EI-Bir Wa EI-Tawasul works in the field of humanitarian and social activities in the town of El Geneina. Their mission is mending the social fabric of the community and peace-building through participation in social activities such as music events and the opening of schools and health centres. The foundation has organized workshops on hepatitis and AIDS because people were fearful of being infected by those coming from the IDP camps in neighbouring Chad. EI-Bir Wa EI-Tawasul distributed vaccination xxxxxxxx doses during a campaign which targeted 1,000 women and children from the IDP camps, as well as nomads. Most of the women were unable to pay for the three doses of vaccine required so the team asked for government help and luckily got support from the Office of the Zakat Fund to pay for vaccinating the whole targeted group.

The team of EI-Bir Wa EI-Tawasul undertook an engineering survey for the installation of a complete water treatment plant in the village of Mulli, part of the El-Geneina locality; the water plant was financed by a fund from China. There are multiple tribes living in the village of Mulli, most of them from the Masaliet tribe and some from Arab tribes, so a meeting was held with the sheikhs and citizens of the village for the purpose of organizing the sharing out of the water supply. They also informed the inhabitants of Mulli that, provided the tribes could cooperate, the organization EI-Bir Wa EI-Tawasul intended to execute two other fundamentally important projects; an elementary school and a police station for emergencies.. Everyone involved agreed to these terms and made a promise to live in peace and harmony. Then the team organized joint committees from the parties to monitor the implementation of these projects.

In June 2015 in the town of El Geneina, a little girl called Imtithal, 8 years old, was murdered. Imtithal's eldest sister left her with neighbours while she went shopping but when she returned the girl had disappeared and although an extensive search took place no trace of her was found. Shortly after the girl's body was discovered inside a luxury car belonging to one of the citizens of El Geneina. The car was filled with toys. The owner claimed that he had gone to the market, and when he returned to his car he found a dead tramp inside, a young girl who had suffocated because the car doors were closed. The man tried to get rid of the body but failed. Finally he brought the body to a private clinic and it is suggested that a considerable amount of money was paid to the acting physician, to produce a death certificate reporting suffocation as the cause of death.

When EI-Bir Wa EI-Tawasul heard about the incident, together with the members of the Committee of the UNSCR 1325, they went to the family of the dead child to offer their condolences, to make inquiries and to try to calm tempers. The team accompanied the girl's family to the clinic in order to identify their daughter's corpse. The nurses tried to prevent them from approaching the body but the team threatened to call the police if they persisted in this. The family succeeded in identifying the body of their missing daughter and requested the death certificate. However when they noticed blood on the child's clothing, they demanded a medical commission for a re-autopsy to determine the real cause of death. The staff of the clinic resisted this request but were finally forced to agree. The autopsy proved that the child died by strangulation. In addition it was discovered that she had a fracture in her neck and a break in the pelvis and hips; it turned out that she had been raped. The team of the organization held a meeting and issued a statement accusing the man in question of raping and murdering the child.

Then a group from the family and tribe of the diseased girl gathered in front of the clinic, vehemently protesting against the staff and the tribe of the criminal and refusing to leave unless the offender was put in jail. The team of the organization advised them to avoid violence and promised to bring the case to

court. Then the team followed the progress of the case together with the family and the child protection police until the case went to court and the criminal was put in jail pending further investigation of the case.