

## **Distribution of Monthly Stipends to Families of Martyrs in Gaza Has Ended**

Gaza – al-Hayat al-Jadida – Yesterday after seven consecutive months, Al-Ansar Charitable Society finished distributing its monthly stipends to families of martyrs. The stipends which were received from the Palestinian branch of the Martyrs Foundation in Lebanon, were handed out in the Society's offices and in the presence of the board of directors and the families of martyrs who received their martyr sons' stipends.

Nafez al-A'Arj announced that so far his society had received from the Martyrs Foundation an amount totaling a million dollars especially for the Families of martyrs. The money was distributed monthly via checks distributed from the society's offices in Gaza and checks handed out to relatives of martyrs in the branches of the Arab Bank in the [West] Bank districts and inside the green line.

He added that the Foundation [The Martyr's Foundation] gave sums [of money] and grants to support programs and activities which were carried out by the society in the Palestinian lands such as programs for supporting orphans, helping needy students and families, and other cultural, sports and social activities.

Al-A'Arj emphasized the generous support which the Martyr Foundation gave asking it to continue to provide its support which contributes to the steadfastness of our people; and ensures help to the largest possible segments of society and strengthens their steadfastness in the face of the ongoing aggression of the enemy against the people and the Palestinian land which deepened the economic distress in which our people live and raised the unemployment rate to over 60%. This caused a higher percentage [of the people] than this rate [the unemployment rate] to live under the poverty line. This is evident in various aspects of our people's lives and most importantly the educational and health aspects.

Al-A'Arj appealed to affluent charitable institutions and philanthropist who are generous with their contributions to the needy families registered in the society especially in the field of supporting orphans whose names are published periodically in the society's website. [Al-A'araj] pointed to the fact that at present the society is striving towards establishing a school especially for children of martyrs and a sports club and other programs which will play a part in advancing the Palestinian society in all of its aspects.