19 August 2023 – On World Humanitarian Day 2023, join us as we embark on a journey that shines a spotlight on the unwavering spirit of solidarity that unites us all. Today and everyday, we celebrate the individuals across our Region dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of those in need. Please join us in honouring these heroes — representing many more — who inspire us to create a better tomorrow where everyone enjoys better health and well-being, and access to health care is achieved as a basic human right.

Statement by Dr Ahmed Al-Mandhari, WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean, on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day

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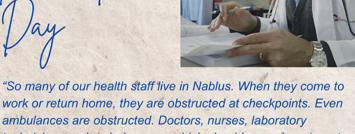
"I heard calls to help with an injury and immediately went to respond. Five metres before reaching the guy, I was shot. I fell to the ground and lay there for a few minutes until an ambulance reached me. Health workers should never be a target."

Hamzeh, Volunteer Paramedic, occupied Palestinian territory

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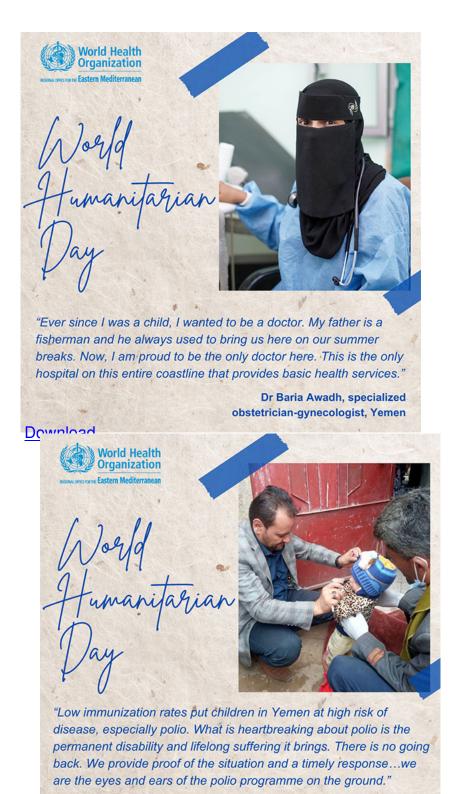
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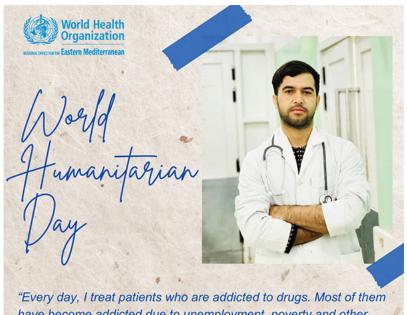


ambulances are obstructed. Doctors, nurses, laboratory technicians and ambulances - which should never be a target are exposed to the violence of occupation every day."

Shadi, Emergency Doctor, occupied Palestinian territory



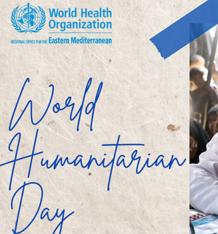
Dr Yasser Jomaie, acute flaccid paralysis surveillance coordinator, Yemen



have become addicted due to unemployment, poverty and other problems. I hope I can help them return to their normal life. I hope that one day we have a peaceful, healthy, and strong Afghanistan."

Dr Abdul Ahmad Rasooli, Medical Doctor, Afghanistan





"My work allows me to reach underserved people who are deprived of basic services. These people cannot afford to travel long distances to health facilities, so we bring medical care to them. As a woman, I can listen to the concerns of the women and provide them with health advice."

Ms Abeda Noori, Midwife, Afghanistan

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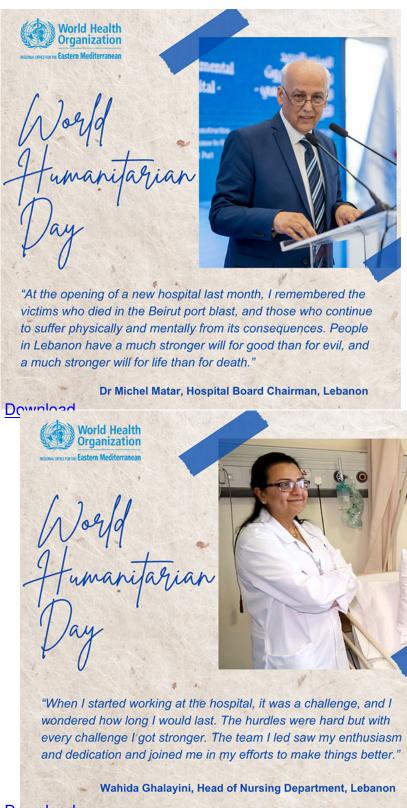
"I've done most of my work on a volunteer basis, and it has taught me that nothing is impossible. With enough will, strength, and determination, we can all help each other, and we can all help the world."

> Basma Salem, Neonatal Nurse Specializing in Incubators, Syria



"I am 16 years old. Like my older sister and cousins, I am going to be a nurse. Growing up listening to their stories, I understood how many people need care in my country. I want to learn how I, too, can help them."

Fatthiya, Nursing Student, Syria



World Health Organization Laila Hersissen

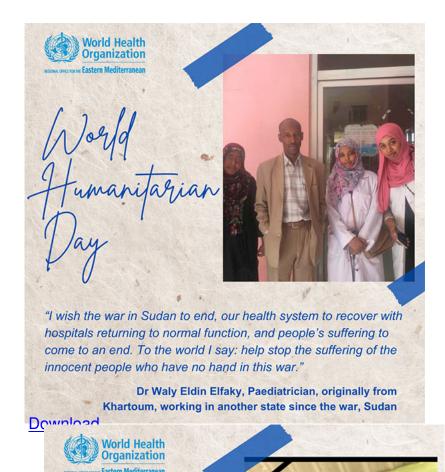
"The emotional weight of our work is immense. Treating children with cancer means being on an emotional rollercoaster with their families: supporting them through despair, celebrating victories, and holding back tears as we witness the brave struggle of young lives against a relentless disease."

> Dr Laila Hessissen, Head of Hematology and Pediatric Oncology Department, Morocco



"We handle 25-30 labour cases daily, working long hours with little sleep to provide much-needed care. Our dedication goes beyond childbirth to include awareness on breastfeeding and general wellbeing. My intense desire to help women during this critical period is what keeps me going."

Salma Mohammed, Senior Midwife, Iraq



"Adil did everything he could to support the medical team. He was always ready to step up for any task that would facilitate care for the patients. He was struck on the head by a shell and was transferred to hospital for surgery. He succumbed to his wounds on the second day."

Of Adil Gamal Maragan, hospital security guard in Khartoum, Sudan, as remembered by one of his colleagues

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Morocco: Celebrating World Humanitarian Day 2023

Dr Shadi "I call on international organizations to give us protection. Doctors, nurses, laboratory technicians and ambulances. We live under occupation, and we are exposed to the violence of occupation every day."

Statement by Dr Arturo Pesigan, WHO Representative, on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day 2023

Bahrain commemorates World Humanitarian Day

Meet Yady Dizayee from Iraq persevering to ensure that vulnerable communities have equal access to quality healthcare services

Humanitarians across Afghanistan work tirelessly to save lives, deliver health and bring hope to people in need

<u>No Matter What – WHO Somalia stands with the communities we serve on World</u> <u>Humanitarian Day</u>

Monday 20th of May 2024 12:43:32 PM