

HER MAJESTY QUEEN NOOR

Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan is an international humanitarian activist and an outspoken voice on issues of world peace and justice. Born Lisa Halaby to an Arab-American family distinguished for its public service, she earned a B.A. in Architecture and Urban Planning from Princeton University. Since her marriage to King Hussein in 1978, she has initiated, directed, and sponsored projects and activities in Jordan to address specific national development needs in the areas of education, culture, women and children's welfare, sustainable community development, environmental conservation, human rights, and conflict resolution. She has also worked closely with the United Nations and other international organizations to address global challenges in these fields.

Projects within Jordan are administered by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, which has received international recognition for its development models for the Middle East and the developing world, particularly in the areas of empowering women, community development and micro-finance.

Queen Noor is the founder and chair of the King Hussein Foundation (KHF) established in 1999 to preserve and build upon the late King's lifelong commitment to education and leadership, human rights and peace. The King Hussein Foundation funds innovative programs including the Jubilee School, an independent co-educational secondary school, established in 1993 to develop the academic and leadership potential of outstanding scholarship students from Jordan and the region and the King Hussein Leadership Prize, which honors outstanding achievement by those who demonstrate exceptional humanitarian leadership in their efforts to advocate for and promote sustainable development, human rights, tolerance, equity and peace. Queen Noor established the King Hussein Foundation International to develop international support and partnerships for peace-building initiatives in Jordan, the Middle East and around the world.

Queen Noor is actively involved in a number of international organizations advancing global peace-building and conflict recovery and currently serves as an Expert Advisor to the United Nations on these issues. She is president of the United World Colleges (UWC), Chair of the United Nations University International Leadership Institute (UNU/ILI), member of the International Campaign for Missing Persons (ICMP), Advisor to Women Waging Peace and Seeds of Peace, and The International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), Patron of the Landmine Survivors Network (1998); and Trustee of Refugees International, among other affiliations.

Her Majesty Queen Noor has been awarded numerous honorary doctorates in recognition of her efforts to advance democracy and peace and is the author of *Leap of Faith: Memoirs of an Unexpected Life*.