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### Introduction about **Wahj Alshams**



Wahj Alshams was established as a Non-Profit organization. The organization applies the theater as a conflict transformation tool to change the behavior of individuals through theater by allowing and involving the most vulnerable groups (particularly, female and male youth) to participate in acting and theater performances. Wahj Alshams performs performances that discuss social issues/tensions by delivering indirect messages to the public and contributing to transforming conflicts.

**Wahj Alshams** team members







**Mahmoud Jamal** Case manager and psychosocial support

## Introduction about forumzfd



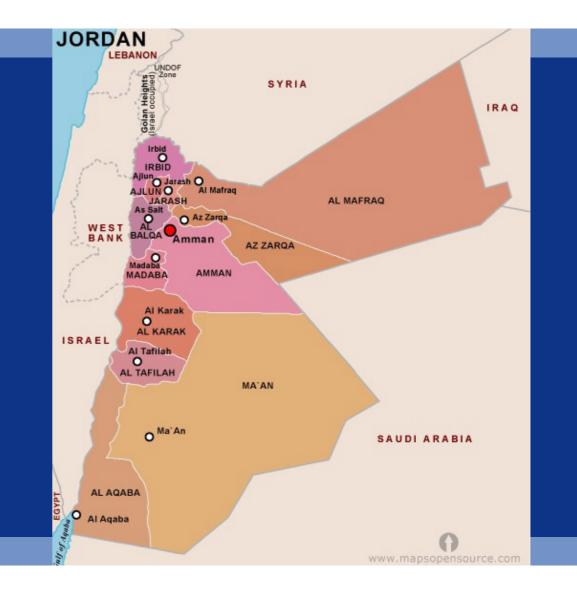
forumZFD

Forumzfd (forum civil peace service) is a German non-governmental organization established in 1996. It promotes a culture of non-violence, where conflicts are dealt with constructively aiming to ensure peace. Forumzfd jordan was established in 2018 to assist civil society organizations to prevent, resolve and transform conflicts in their communities. We implement community-driven projects, where local civil society organizations work together with communities to achieve the positive change they aspire.



### forumzfd goals in Jordan

- Build the conflict transformation capacities of the targeted actors (specifically our local partner civil society organizations and participants of our joint activities); and support the institutionalization of these capacities in the local structures;
- Build the organizational capacities of our partner organizations in the field to ensure transparency and accountability and therefore build trust with their communities
- Support the partner organizations and their communities in implementing conflict transformation methods and in executing community activities and small-scale pilot projects.
- Establish a platform that aims to build momentum and expertise within the network of partners and local actors



## Mutual activities between forumzfd and Wahj Alshams

#### Introduction:

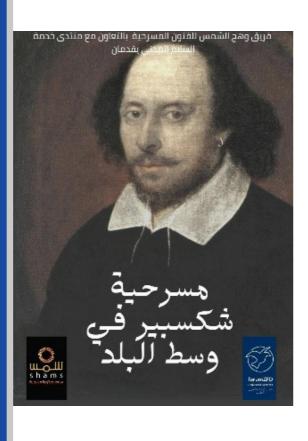
We have conducted an in-depth study/research on the community issues with young artists affiliated with Wahj Alshams and also engaged the local community by holding focus group sessions (FGDs) in Amman and Schneller Camp - Marka Camp. Through the FGDs sessions, we have analyzed the issues and explored suggestions together with the community to solve these issues and how Wahj Alshams, in partnership with forumzfd, could contribute to solving these issues and social change through theatre.



### **Main activities Shakespeare theater** performance- Feb, March 2022

Youth artists were trained to perform Shakespeare theater play to present 6 theatrical performances in Amman, Irbid and Schneller camp. The theatrical performance was presented by approximately 21 young female and male artists, age ranging from 15 to 39 years old, and they are the most vulnerable young people.

The theatrical performance talks about Shakespeare's return from his previous life to the present time, and he meets with a group of people. A dialogue is circulated about the forms of violence that girls/women are exposed to at the present time, whether verbal or behavioral violence and how it affects society, also, clarifying the importance of stopping it. Shakespeare finds himself writing his famous play Romeo and Juliet. However, we do not believe in the idea of the ending of the story that was presented in the original play, therefore, we drew another message or ending through our theatrical performance that love is a radical solution to end this phenomenon.





Shakespeare performance in Irbid National University





# Main activities 3 days planning session with Wahj Alshams team- May 2022

A 3-day intense planning workshop was held; in order to prepare a joint annual action plan for 2022, focusing on theatrical and artistic activities, and how to include the youth artists of Wahj Alshams in the events, as well as, to discuss activities at the organizational level. In addition to conducting deep analysis to discuss community issues, using problem tree analysis.

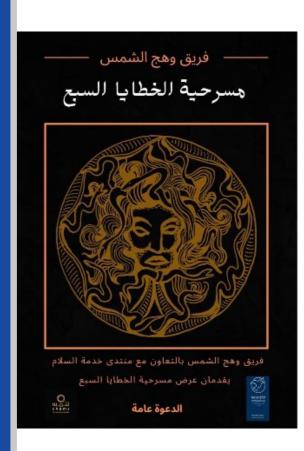






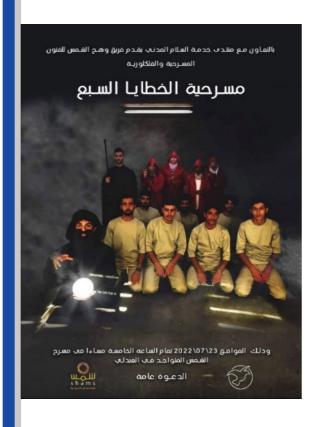
### **Main activities Seven Sins Theater Performance-June, July 2022**

A training was held for 19 male and female participants, artists which are affiliated with Wahj Alshams. The training was for 35 days on how to use and apply actor's tools and preparatory training for the theatrical performance to present the play. Afterward, 3 big shows were presented in Amman and Schneller camp





The story behind naming the theatrical play "Seven Sins" is a reference to seven persons who have artistic characteristics: such as the writer; the actor; the director; the dancer; the singer; the instrumentalist; and the painter, who have been rejected by the society because of their profession and their achievements. Each of these theatrical figures expresses a set of societal issues such as the community's rejection of the artist, unemployment, racism, bullying, and violence. In its context, the theatrical play also highlighted/presented positive messages in dealing with these issues.





Seven Sins performance in Shams theater ALBUM OF ACTIVITIES 2022 27





### **Main activities** Sanafer/Smurfs play for Children-Aug, Sep 2022

10 male and female youth artists affiliated with Wahj Alshams were trained for a month to prepare for the theatrical show to present the Smurfs play, including reading the script, distributing the characters, starting to act out scenes and dividing them into days, and rehearsals.



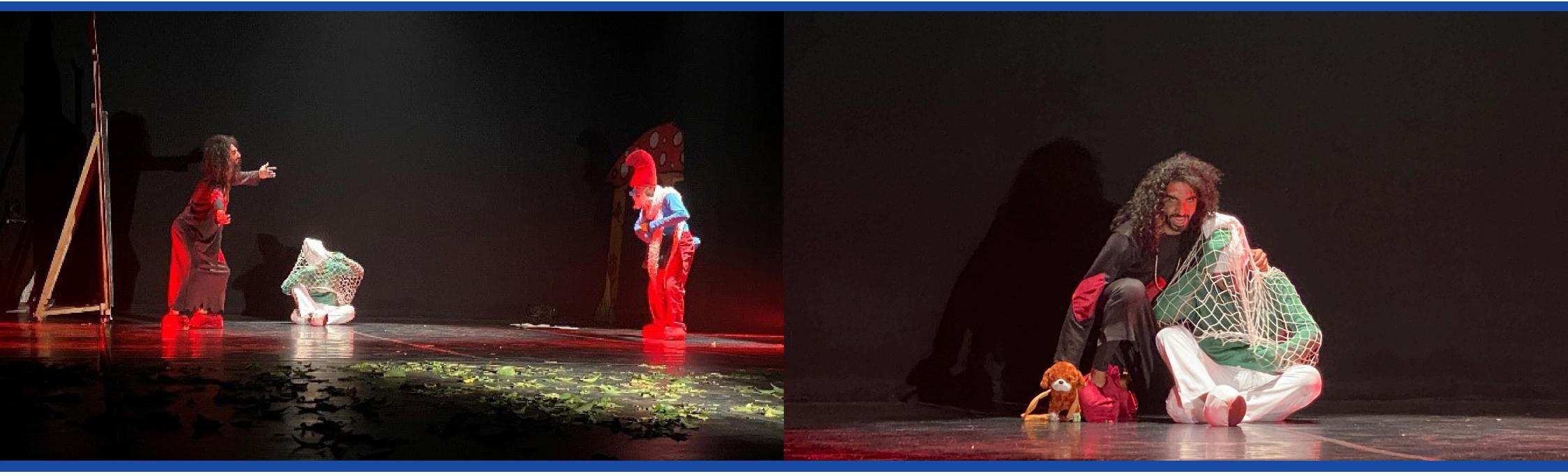


### **Main activities** Sanafer/Smurfs play for Children-Aug, Sep 2022

A focus group discussion was held with a group of teachers and a school principal to exchange ideas and discuss the issues that the students are facing in the school and outside the school.

Wahj Alshams and forumzfd have conducted a series of focus group discussions with the local community. Children have expressed during the FGDS the phenomenon of bullying and its negative aspects in schools. Therefore, we have created the theatrical performance "Smurfs" to deal with this issue by embodying characters from the Smurfs cartoon, prepared and directed by (Al-Motamid Al-Manasir). 6 theatrical performances of the Smurfs were held in Amman and the Schneller camp, which talk about the phenomenon of bullying in schools, types of violence and how it can be reduced or ended through interactive theater. The theater play will open a space for a discussion about positive solutions and could lead to changing children' behavior.





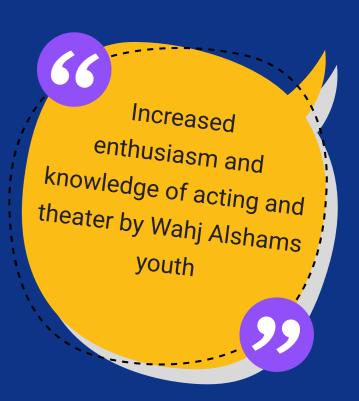


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### Success stories

Some of the family members have accepted the idea of theater, also have changed their perspective, and contributed to supporting the youth artists to participate in theater.

Increased support and motivation from friends and the general public for youth artists



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### **Success stories**

A group of youth artists have been linked with universities and have been enrolled in the educational programs in different universities, as well as, some of them have been chosen to participate and act in big festivals and Jordanian TV series, as a successful result of the previous theatrical performances.







