



Municipality of Gaza

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### Greetings from the Mayor of Gaza



Mr. Nasri Khayal  
Mayor of Gaza

## Welcome

It's my pleasure to welcome you at our web site which was initiated to provide you with information regarding the City of Gaza.

Almost seven years ago, the Israeli occupying forces left Gaza and parts of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, as part of the peace process which brought the return of the Palestinian National Authority under the leadership of President Yaser Arafat.

Much has been achieved during these seven years, and the city enjoys a healthy environment, a beautiful beach and rehabilitated neighborhoods. Quite a change from the dark days of the Israeli occupation.

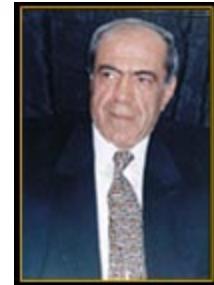
However, the Gaza Strip still suffers from the Israeli blockade, which deprives the Palestinians from free movement and trade. This is the major factor causing high rate of unemployment and poverty, as part of the official Israeli policy. Like other people of the world, the Palestinians have their dreams of prosperity, stability and freedom. This can be achieved only when justice and mutual respect prevails between the parties.

We look to the future with optimism to establish our Palestinian independent state with Jerusalem as our Capital.

Thank you for your interest and support..

**Nasri Khayal**  
1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2002

### Late Mayor



**Aown Shawa**  
(1934 - 2001)