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Newsletter Four 2013

November lectures 2013- Lectures and workshops in Ramallah, Birzeit and Al-Bireh

Sumita travelled to Palestine in November 2013. She spoke about 'Design Activism in an age of Scarcity' at Birzeit University, Palestine and at RIWAQ, the award winning conservation body based in Al-Bireh. She also conducted two workshops with young adults, teenagers and children at AMIdeast (a NGO supported by USAid) and Amari girls school based in the Al Amari refugee camp.

Peace gardens in Al-Bireh municipality, Palestine

Sumita also participated in community engagement exercises to create spaces for children and youth. She worked with about 120 people from the Municipality of Al-Bireh, Volunteers for Al-Bireh, Amideast, Revivers of the Land of Palestine, children from Al Amari refugee camp, Environmental group from Birzeit University and local community. The purpose was not just to re-use waste and donated items but also to encourage a spirit of reducing waste and littering.

The UN designates the 'the right to play' as one of the most important issues for the mental and physical growth of children. In Palestine, due to the difficult political situation and scarcity of resources including land, children play on the streets or on unsuitable or dangerous areas. The new play spaces were welcomed by everyone. Children and local community have now taken charge of the completed spaces and the Municipality will support such project in the future. You can have a look at the photos at

www.facebook.com/charushila.org

(Please cut and paste if the link does not work. You don't need to be on Facebook or register to view these photos!) You can also see a Youtube interview with the Birzeit University Environmental group-

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BI9aBANmd7Q>

We have been invited back for some more work and so if you would like to contribute, please go on our website donation page.

We wish you all a very pleasant and healthy 2014



