MUSAAB BALCHI | Linkedin

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EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Middle East and Islamic Studies, Fairfax, VA
 George Mason University, December 2018
Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, Damascus, Syria
 University of Damascus, September 2013

EXPERIENCE

EXOVERA, Reston, VA

Media Analyst | 04/2018 to Present

- Conduct daily cross-news outlet searches focussed on the U.S.-Iraqi relations
- Monitor Iraqi social media day-to-day conversation and write-intensive summaries
- Provide daily media analysis of TV broadcasting channels in Iraq from U.S. perspective
- Train new hires on writing customized broadcast and social media reports

Belady USA: An Island for Humanity, Washington, DC

Consultant | 09/2019 to 06/2020

- Developed the coming online database Egypt Prison Altas
- Managed the editorial agenda of the Cairo-based research unit
- Facilitated the organization's communications with U.S. and international institutions
- Provided administrative support, including translating in Arabic and English, preparing press statements and grant reports, updating the website, and hiring

International Center for Risk Assessment, Abu Dhabi, UAE - Remotely

Consultant: Research Analyst | 11/2016 to 01/2019

- Conducted assessment and analytical reports on the latest developments in the Middle East and GCC
- Reviewed and summarized the latest analyses on U.S. policies in the Middle East
- Followed latest financial developments in the Middle East in English outlets
- Attended, and reported think tanks events in Washington DC

Human Rights Watch, Washington, DC

Internship: The Middle East and North Africa Division Researcher | 01/15/2017 to 05/01/2017

- Conducted interviews with victims in Syria and Iraq
- Followed the latest developments in Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Iran
- Attended and covered internal and external conferences
- Monitored, reviewed, and summarized reports from other agencies

George Mason University, Ali Vural Center for Global Islamic Studies, Fairfax, VA

Graduate Research Assistant | 08/2015 to 05/01/2017

- Assisted Professor Bassam Haddad with translation and transcription
- Prepared weekly media round-ups on latest developments in Syria and Palestine for Jaddalyia E-Magazine
- Scanned books and provided librarian services as assigned

Navanti Group ICC, Arlington, VA

Media Analyst | 08/2015 to 06/2016

- Monitored Syrian radio and TV stations funded by USAID
- Analyzed and evaluated the quality and content of the production
- Prepared professional summaries of stations' daily productions

Palestinian Network of Civil Society in Syria, Remotely

Founder, Media Manager | 04/2015 to 08/2015

- Encountered ISIS's propaganda about Yarmouk camp
- Contributed reports on latest events in Yarmouk Camp on social media
- Organized interviews and connected civilians and activists with media outlets
- Translated news and summaries from Arabic to English and vice versa

Arab Studies Institute, Washington, DC

Research Assistant | 03/2015 to 09/2015

- Formulated reports and bibliographies of scholarly research present on refugees in MENA
- Conducted research on human rights laws and refugee conditions in MENA
- Wrote brief summaries of academic research on human rights and refugees in Arabic and English

People Demand Change, Washington, DC

Internship: Research and Administrative Assistant | 06/2014 to 11/2014

- Translated proposals sent by activists in Syria
- Researched issues related to the latest events in Syria

Palestinian Camps News Network Union, Damascus, Syria

Founder, Editor in Chief | 07/2012 to 06/2014

- Established a media office specializing in Palestinian refugees funded by Institute for War and Peace Reporting
- Worked closely with international human rights organizations and provided information requested
- Organized media campaigns demanding protection of Palestinian refugees in Syria
- Documented violations of all armed parties against Palestinian refugees in Syria

Orient TV Channel, Damascus, Syria

Freelance Reporter | 08/2012 to 06/2013

- Updated the channel with the latest developments in Yarmouk Camp
- Provided the channel with exclusive videos from Yarmouk
- Recorded field reports on the living conditions in Palestinian Camps

TRAINING and ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Outstanding Commitment Award, George Mason University, 2018
- Recipient of Tuition Award, Books not Bombs, 2018
- Digital Press, Social Media Exchange, SMEX, 2015
- Audiovisual and Social Media training, United Nations, DPI Section, 2014

LANGUAGES

Arabic: Native Speaker English: Proficient