

HAMMOUDI (9:25 minutes)

Directed by Anwar Saab

Produced by Tima Khalil

Winner of the Jury Award

Supported by The Green Family Foundation



About the Film

I first read an article on Mohammad's story in a local newspaper in Beirut, as many post-war stories of victims and survivors began making their way to nearly all local and foreign newspapers. His story and his own account of it were very moving.

For a couple of weeks, we tried to trace Mohammad and finally visited him in his home; he still did not have the artificial limbs then. Mohammad is an amazing boy, intelligent and charming, with a great sense of humor. His personality and his spirit, despite what he had gone through, captivated us.

Hammoudi is his story. It is time spent with him in his environment, with his family and friends, and the new life he is trying to learn and cope with. It is also a story that reflects the fate of many innocent victims of war, especially the most vulnerable; the children.

We believe the innocent civilians -- especially children -- have to stop paying the highest price in armed conflict. Their individual voices and stories need to be heard, so they don't remain mere statistics.

Filmmaker Bios

Tima Khalil, Producer

Tima is a documentary film producer & director, based in Beirut, Lebanon. Tima's career started as a journalist in Beirut in the early eighties, covering the war with various media outlets such as the BBC, Channel 4, ZDF, CBS, ORTV, and West Deutsche Rund Funk (German radio and television) among others. Tima has been working with Fantoscope Productions for the past four years as a producer and co-director of the company.

Most of Tima's projects focus on armed conflicts and disability, women's rights, and children's rights. Additionally, she remains actively involved in social, political, and environmental issues in Lebanon.

Anwar Saab, Director

Spending most of his life between Norway, Lebanon, and the UK, Anwar has produced numerous documentary films as well as spent time working with various international news stations and international NGOs. His films have covered a broad range of topics; including

Grønnstrøm about renewable energy, *UDI Norway* about Kurdish refugees, and *Blind Summit* on visually impaired hikers who embark on a mission to climb the Himalayas.

After working on *Hammoudi*, he became inspired to create a multi-media workshop that will teach war-disabled children about filmmaking which he plans will culminate in public awareness campaigns about the effects of cluster bombs and other war-related dangers. His next film project is a feature-length documentary on female genital mutilation in Somalia.

Take Action

Cluster Munitions Coalition (<http://www.stopclustermunitions.org>)

Join the movement committed to achieving a new international treaty to ban cluster bombs. You can help to make it happen!

Handicap International (<http://www.stopclustermunitions.org>)

Explore how disabled people can make a positive difference in their own lives. Sign the petition to help Handicap International campaign against cluster bombs!

Embassy of Lebanon (<http://www.lebanonembassyus.org>)

Want more context on this issue?

Read up on Lebanon's history, culture and current events.

International Campaign to Ban Landmines (<http://www.icbl.org/youth/action>)

Join other young people in the fight against land mines. Find ideas and resources on how to kickstart your activism for a cause.

For more information about *Hammoudi* and the other films from the eighth annual Media That Matters Film Festival, visit www.mediathatmattersfest.org or contact us at festival@artsengine.net.

