مِرْلِيمُ لِالْجُنْعَى

Beirut, June 12, 2015

Dear Dr. Abu Sittah.

Your email has been forwarded to me by Thalia who had shared with me earlier on the names of the Humanism Award recipients. I have to say that I was happy to hear that the physician from AUBMC who was all over the news for defying the odds to save fellow Palestinians during harsh and horrible times, was the recipient of an Award that humbly carries my name.

Amidst the simmering and always potentially explosive Palestinian issues, one cannot but be saddened and angered by the fact that the rights of the Palestinian people are, to say the least, ignored and encroached upon. We Arabs are guilty by omission for failing to unite against these recurrent atrocities. By risking your own life to save the lives of people under siege and blind and savage artillery assures me there is still hope in human beings, in the medical profession and perhaps, in the Arab conscience.

I applaud you for the bravery and sacrifice that you have shown and for deservedly receiving the SHBPP Humanism Award, hoping that medical students will learn from your bravery and follow suit. When I happily agreed to have my name on the AUBFM bioethics program, I indirectly shared a firm belief that humanism is the mark of a good doctor and that AUBMC will make sure to have them. It gives me great pleasure and pride to see that my alma mater and the Medical Center, under the wise leadership of Dean Sayegh, has lived up to my expectations in promoting humane doctors by supporting its bioethics program that has now attained regional and international recognition.

Sincerely,

Salim El Hoss

Cc/ Dr. Muhammad Sayegh

Dr. Thalia Arawi