



STORIES BEHIND THE WALLS

Stuck behind the walls of old Fakiha's houses are the struggles of Syrian refugee families who commonly face discrimination and hate-speech in the local and Lebanese community.



A VOICELESS YOUNG GENERATION

Youth find their voices marginalized as the older generations uphold traditional values of social hierarchy. The lack of public spaces is forming a barrier to youth's self-expression in Fakiha.



EMPTY SPACES (DISPLACEMENT TO CITIES)

With the deteriorating economic status, the already deprived area of Northern Bekaa is witnessing huge displacements of the population to the cities in search for better conditions.



A VILLAGE OF VIRTUAL BORDERS

The seemingly calm village of multiple religions and nationalities is divided by virtual borders between dismembered sub-communities of Muslims & Christians, Lebanese & Syrians.



FORGOTTEN CORNERS

The traditional old souks and old corners of Fakiha that once were vibrant with people, trade, and social life are now abandoned and unusable.



A PARALYZED VILLAGE (NO MUNICIPALITY)

For over 4 years, Fakiha village has not witnessed a municipality as a result of familial and community disputes and tensions. Public spaces and infrastructure have been left neglected.



A NEED FOR GREEN SPACES

Children, youth, adults and the older generations all need green areas, parks and open sites in local Fakiha and the surrounding areas, which are completely absent, even though the village is located in a natural mountainous and green zone.



INVISIBLE EFFORTS, UNHEARD STORIES

Many jobs remain unknown in the streets of Fakiha, and the efforts and stories of the people behind it are not heard. Social pressures dictate in many cases who and what is heard.



POWERFUL WOMEN, YET MUTED

Many Lebanese women did not and still do not have the spaces or the capacity to become active decision makers in their community due to social norms, structural and cultural barriers.



ALLEYS FOR PLAYGROUNDS

Children are playing and meeting in the old village's alleys and streets with the absence of playgrounds and open areas.



YOUTH TAKING LEAD

Youth, along with the local actors are leading the participatory research and setting an example for other youth on the important role youth can play.



NO PLACE TO GO

People especially children are struggling to find places whether to express themselves, interact with others or for mere entertainment.



MARGINALIZED BY FORCE

Individuals with disabilities face structural barriers with the absence of necessary facilities, the basic infrastructure and the inadequate status of the current streets and buildings.



A SEAT AT THE TABLE

Youth committees within the municipality and youth clubs have been mentioned as needed spaces by several respondents to give the youth a seat on the decision-making tables.



DYING HANDCRAFTS

Fakiha's historically known handmade carpet is on the verge of dying with the absence of facilities to revive the art. Nahla Sucarieh is one of the few remaining locals mastering the craft.



FINDING COMMON GROUNDS

Diversity of faith and belief is a core part of the Lebanese culture, with frequent conflict between the sects. Open spaces for inter-religious dialogue are needed now more than ever.