



**ADOPT A PRISONER PROFILE: ZIYAD YAGHI PREPARED: Dec 2009**

<b>AGE</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>NATIONALITY</b>	<b>American</b>
<b>COUNTRY HELD</b>	<b>United States</b>
<b>SENTENCE</b>	<b>Awaiting trial</b>
<b>PRISON</b>	<b>Harnett County Jail</b>



### **Personal Biography\***

Ziyad Yaghi is a 21 year old American citizen, from Palestine originally, residing in North Carolina and he has lived in the United States since the age of two. He has been accused of attempting to commit terrorism abroad by the United States government, in an indictment which appears to be based on an incorrect premise, namely that the US seek to infer that trips abroad were part of a terrorist conspiracy.

Ziyad visited Jordan in 2006, the country of his birth. Unfortunately the US Indictment appears to have misinterpreted this intention, and states instead that he was seeking armed conflict. Ziyad is known as a kind and gentle person by family, friends and colleagues. He is always known to be giving money to the homeless and any one that asks him for money. When someone asks Ziyad for money, it is said that Ziyad will give him or her last dollar in his pocket. The FBI and media have tried to depict Ziyad as someone evil when in reality he's soft, gentle and caring. He sticks his neck out for his friends and is always helping people in need.

Ziyad lived with his Mother in Raleigh, North Carolina. His mother has been deeply troubled and stressed since Ziyad's arrest and she can't understand why her innocent son has been arrested and had such allegations made against him. Until today, many friends of family that know Ziyad personally can't understand this either. Ziyad has now become a victim of the FBI's oppression.

### **Brief Details about his Case:**

In 2007, the indictment made by the FBI alleges that Ziyad (with others) tried to engage in armed conflict in Israel, whereas both Ziyad and his friend Omar instead sought to visit the west bank and Masjid al-aqsa, one of Islam's most famous and revered sites and one which holds particular appeal for Ziyad as he is from Palestinian heritage. The United States again seek to set a dangerous precedent in that if a Muslim wishes to visit the land of his ancestry, then this is viewed as suspect.

Now Ziyad is being held in an American jail, on the basis of two holidays that he undertook a few years ago. The United States seem to draw conclusions and conspiracies when it is clear that this was just a young Muslim man who travelled as millions of young people do, seeking different cultures and experiences. It is discriminatory to assume that if a Muslim man engages in a trip to the Middle East that it is seditious conspiracy, yet if a non Muslim man were to do the same then it is soul-searching and adventure.

### **Why Should I Adopt Ziyad?**

The Mother of Ziyad Yaghi has mentioned that one of the FBI officers told her and some of Ziyad's friends that he is trying to get promoted. So can you see how the FBI works? Takes innocent people from their homes and throws them in jail for no wrong doing? Where is the justice here? What are you willing to do to put an end to this injustice? Writing a letter once a month to Ziyad is the least you can do for him. Please Support Ziyad and take a step in bringing an end to the Oppression done to our brother and many others. Silence is not an option in helping the oppressed, rather is it merely defeatism. We NEED to speak out and take ACTION to end these nightmares.

**Mailing Address:** (Ziyad Yaghi B/125), P.O. Box 399, Lillington, NC 27546

\* Disclaimer: This biography is written through availability of primary, secondary and tertiary sources and though efforts have been made to ensure its accuracy, this does not mean that it is free from error. As such, this item should not be referred to in newspaper reports, publications or court documents.

**A Campaigners guide to writing letters and sending goods to the Prisoners:**

[http://globalvoiceforjustice.uma.hm/?page\\_id=124](http://globalvoiceforjustice.uma.hm/?page_id=124)

\*\* Mailing Address correct at time of publication, however is subject to change. Please contact Global Voice for Justice campaigns team to ensure you have the correct address.