

REALITY

by Manar Jabareen

Shareef is a teenager lives in Um Al-Fahem. He has been raised with a slap on his face with every wrong attitude he has made since his childhood.

His father suffers from a neurological disease which makes him angry all the time; and he hits his wife in order to vent his anger. Shareef copies his father; and he hits his friends in order to get what he wants. Now he is seventeen years old with the same lifestyle pattern which is "hit to get".

One day his classmate Bahaa made fun of his father, which led Shareef to lose his mind and hit Bahaa harshly. Bahaa wanted to revenge; so, he borrowed a gun from his cousin and killed Shareef.

Bullets sound has become one of the most famous night symphonies Um Al Fahem plays at every single night. Red is the most popular painful color Um Al Fahem wears every week. Killing, burning, sabotaging and fighting are the most common talents among Um Al Fahem youth.

This short story summarizes some of Um Al Fahem violence roots, i.e. family, society and friends. In fact, society and family are the two sides of the same coin that determines and shapes our Um Al Fahem future. Let us help each other to build and protect our moral and social life; let us help every Shareef we know in our life to undergo his misfortune; let us accept our differences and resolve our disputes peacefully; let tolerance set in to make violence dwindle away from our life.