

في المنتصف

IN THE MIDDLE

A FILM BY MARIAM AL-DHUBHANI

DIRECTED BY **MARIAM AL-DHUBHANI** CO-PRODUCED BY **NOOR ABUNABA & MOHAMMED AL-JABERI**
CINEMATOGRAPHY BY **MOHAMMED AL-JABERI** EDITED BY **NUR MUNAWARAH & AMIT CHOWDHURY**
SOUND MIXING BY **FALAH HANNOUN** COLOR CORRECTION BY **WALTER CAVATOI**

STUDIO
200Q

قمرية
Qumra

مؤسسة الدوحة للأفلام
DOHA FILM INSTITUTE

English Title: In The Middle

Arabic Title: في المنتصف

Country of production: Yemen, and Qatar

Language: Arabic (subtitled in English)

Genre: Short documentary, 14 mins

Themes: war, youth, humanity, economy



Logline:

Forced to pick up arms, Ali, is stuck in between his crushed dreams and the harsh reality in the city of Aden as a product of the ongoing war in Yemen.

Synopsis:

The current war in Yemen is one of the most underreported conflicts. As the Middle East region is going through unstable developments, the Yemeni narrative gets lost in the clutter. A majority of the stories that manage to come out from Yemen are all of famine, cholera, destruction, and despair. None of which are told by Yemenis. It is usually a parachuting reporter who briefs the world in, like a news strap that passes through television screens; momentary and not very impactful. Sana'a, Yemen's capital, is currently under the control of the Houthi rebels. They seized control of the government in 2014 and are ruling the majority of Yemen's Northern parts. In 2015, the religious-political-armed movement also known as 'Ansar Allah' attacked the South to expand their dominance. Their expansion to the South resulted in blood and destruction. That is when the Saudi-led coalition came into the picture. It did push back the Houthis into the North. The aftermath of the Aden battle resulted in a tentative recovery in the South. Yet, the livelihood remains in a desperate need for improvement. For many in Aden, joining the military was the reliable option to secure a source of living.



Director's Note:

The current war in Yemen is one of the most underreported conflicts. As the Middle East region is going through many unstable developments, the Yemeni narrative gets lost in the clutter. A majority of the stories that manage to come out from Yemen are all of famine, cholera, destruction, and despair. None of which are told by Yemenis. It is usually a parachuting reporter who briefs the world in, like a news strap that passes through television screens; momentary and not very impactful. Documenting stories from Yemen by Yemenis is crucial at this time. My husband, Mohammed Al-Jaberi, and I are equipped to provide Ali with a platform and tell his story with him. Ali represents a vast majority of youth who are unable to just 'live,' but instead, they need to continually struggle to survive.

Mariam Al-Dubhani, Director:

Mariam Al-Dhubhani is a Yemeni-Russian journalist and filmmaker. She is currently a senior at Northwestern University in Qatar. She first pursued her passion for media during the 2011 Arab uprisings. Al-Dhubhani co-founded a production company named Background Group for Media. Her first short film 'We are the Peace' (2011) received an award in Yemen's inaugural film festival. 'Wishes for the New Year' (2012) was the first chalkboard animation in the Middle East. Her recent film 'Just Another Memory' (2018) is her directorial debut mentored by Oscar-nominated Director Rithy Panh with Doha Film Institute, which got the best documentary award at Ajyal Film Festival, 2018.



Noor Abunabaa, Producer:

Noor Abunabaa is a journalism junior at Northwestern University in Qatar. She has previously worked for the Daily Q and interned at Brookings Center in Doha and Vice News on HBO. She is also a research assistant for multiple projects at NU-Q. Her interests include human rights, educational development, and investigative journalism.



Mohammed Al-Jaberi, Producer/Cinematographer:

Mohammed Al-Jaberi is a recent graduate from Georgetown University in Qatar majoring in International Politics. His passion in filmmaking is an extension of his interest in photography and social sciences. He has previously worked in Center for International and Regional Studies, Georgetown University, The U.S. Embassy in Doha, Teach for Qatar, and Qatar Foundation. Currently, he is participating in the Doha Film Institute Documentray Lab 2019 under the mentorship of the Oscar-nominated Director Rithy Panh.













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قسط غدير

لما يتصانف الكبرياء في زمانه
بما تشهده القلوب من أسس



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