

PCRF Surgical Eye Mission Nablus March 2009

The mission was conducted by Dr Francis Nathan from Adelaide, Australia and supported by Dr Anan Matar, Eye Surgeon at Rafidia Hospital, Nablus in the West Bank, Palestine 21-25 March 2009 on behalf of the **Palestine Children's Relief Fund (PCRF)**

Fifty cataract operations were completed, 48 with lens implants.

Both operating tables and microscopes were used, with Dr Anan and Dr Nathan operating together.

The Scan Optics microscope (donated by **The Australian Friends of Palestine in 2005**) worked beautifully after repairs to the focussing mechanism. This had been organised by Dr Nathan who had brought back the relevant parts to the Scan Optic facility in Adelaide to be repaired.

The cost of the repairs was again kindly borne by **The Australian Friends of Palestine**.

Particular thanks is due to Dr Anan, Dr Maher and all the OR staff, especially Bushra, Ali and Ahmed and also to the PCRF co-ordinators, Hana and Ikram.

The programme is particularly grateful to the **Australian Friends of Palestine** in Adelaide for financing a major portion (\$ 5000) of the travel expenses and the cost of repairs to the operating microscope.



Operating microscope donated by Australian Friends of Palestine, recently repaired

We were approached for support for an Eye Glasses project and **\$1000 USD** was donated on behalf of the **Australian Friends of Palestine**, half to West Bank and half to Lebanon.

22 young people between the ages of 4 and 15 have been given glasses in Nablus so far.

Happy recipients of eye glasses in Nablus



PCRF looks forward to further collaboration with AFOPA on further missions.