

## **PTEE in Focus: Back to the Basics**

PTEE has been undergoing much transition and growth in recent months, as we introduce ourselves to new friends and organizations, work to broaden the availability of our curriculum, and ensure that the current and emerging Christian leaders God has raised up across the Arabic-speaking world have access to the best theological education through extension learning. So, in the coming newsletters, we invite you to learn more about the PTEE “basics”—who we are, how we work, and why we approach theological education the way we do. **We also invite you to partner with PTEE** as we work to **equip the Arab Christian leaders** who are **making disciples** and **transforming lives** of people from all walks of life throughout the Arabic-speaking world.



### **PTEE’s Tutors: Measuring “Sweat Equity”**



Tutors in tutor training

PTEE relies on tutors—men and women who serve as educational volunteers—to offer its Arabic-language courses to registered students across the Middle East, North Africa, and the global Arab Diaspora. These tutors, many of whom were once PTEE students themselves, are themselves trained in facilitation skills according to PTEE’s educational philosophy of learning as equals in community. Once trained, the tutors serve as PTEE’s commissioned professors in a virtual university whose reach extends far beyond a typical bricks-and-mortar residential university.

As unpaid workers in theological education, tutors provide what is typically a costly resource at a fraction of the cost per student. **PTEE’s “sweat equity” is hard to tabulate, but it’s a figure that helps to convey what kind of personal commitments these men and women make to Arabic-speaking evangelical leaders in churches and communities.**

A typical PTEE course is held over a 12-week period of time. A tutor is responsible for the basic administration of the course, which involves tasks like classroom arrangements and student registration, as well as grading, instruction, examination, and maintaining class records.

Each class takes between two and two-and-a-half hours to facilitate, and for each session, a tutor is likely to devote six to eight hours of his or her time in preparation. For each 12-week course a tutor is likely to donate, at minimum, around 100 hours of their time—all of it, unpaid.

This figure does not account for other time-intensive tasks like commuting and hidden costs like transportation to and from a class. For instance, to reach a remotely located Bedouin tribe who had invited PTEE to offer a course in northern Lebanon, one tutor commutes several hours per class session each week.



Traditional kefiyah in marketplace

The value of a tutor is also measured by their incarnational presence in the communities they serve. In places where war and conflict, political tension, and the resulting mobility difficulties arise (and often persist), students and tutors engage PTEE curriculum with a similar “life lens,” because they are living and learning together—studying in the same language, living as a part of the same culture, and aware of local day-to-day realities. **Theological extension education is a humble methodology that works powerfully.**

## PTEE's Matching Donation Campaign

A generous donor approached PTEE recently and offered us a matching donation campaign to help PTEE complete the necessary fundraising for the renovations on our new Ministry Center in Amman, Jordan. We are seeking to raise \$45,000 as the total which this anonymous donor has pledged to match dollar-for-dollar as long as we raise the required sum. The campaign had a good start and we raised 71% of the total amount to date. This campaign continues until December 30, 2010. In addition to your gift, please consider telling your church's outreach board or an interested friend about PTEE. **Remember that gifts to PTEE are US tax deductible.**

### PTEE on Facebook

We invite you to connect with others around the world who "like" and support PTEE on Facebook. Visit:

[www.facebook.com/PTEE.org](http://www.facebook.com/PTEE.org)

and click the "Like" Button!



### PTEE Associates

As we approach our thirtieth anniversary, we are inviting our global partners to commit to upholding the mission and vision of PTEE. These partners are people who recognize the value of theological education in ministry and who believe in the strategic importance of supporting Christian leaders in the Arabic-speaking world.

PTEE Associates commit to regular prayer on behalf of PTEE staff and volunteers, as well as regular, annual giving.

## Please keep PTEE in your prayers

- Pray for the continued renovations on our new Ministry Center building, as well as for our fundraising efforts to cover costs for these renovations. Pray that we will raise the full amount for the matching campaign.
- Pray for passionate investors in PTEE's newest venture in **e-Learning**, developing our curriculum for use electronically on the internet. E-Learning will enable PTEE to expand its service area and offer more learning opportunities for interested students.
- Pray for the Christians of the Middle East, especially for those in Iraq and Egypt, that they will root their lives ever more deeply in resurrection hope.
- Praise the Lord with us for the safe return of PTEE's director of communications from her two-month-long relationship building trip to the United States. Pray that we will be faithful in these newly forged partnerships.

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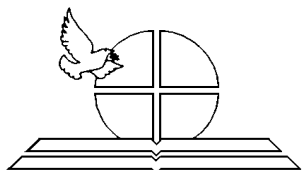
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