

**I AM THERE**

**MAHMOUD DARWISH**

**I** come from there  
and remember,  
I was born like  
everyone is born, I

**have a mother  
and a house with  
many windows,  
I have brothers,  
friends and a prison.  
I have a wave that  
sea-gulls snatched away.  
I have a view of my  
own and an extra  
blade of grass.**

**I have a moon past the  
peak of words.**

**I have the godsent food of  
birds and an olive tree beyond the kent of time.  
I have traversed the land before  
swords turned bodies into banquets.**

**I come from there,**

**I return the sky to its mother when for  
its mother the sky cries,  
and I weep for a returning  
cloud to know me.**

**I have learned the words  
of blood-stained courts in  
order to break the rules.**

**I have learned  
and dismantled all  
the words  
to construct  
a single  
one:**

**H  
O  
M  
E**

# **WAR AND CONFLICT: How People Respond**

**Interdisciplinary  
impacts on home,  
human health and  
built environment**

Taking the meaning of home as a theme, this course aims to focus on the interdisciplinary urban and health implications and responses of war in areas of conflict. Combining theory and reality, we will use Palestine as a case study. Focusing on the occupation practices on people and the built environment, and the “walking through walls” military strategy, the objectives of this course are:

- To examine the meaning of home in times of political and military conflicts.
- To introduce linkages and interrelations between the built environment and health issues.
- To explore peoples’ response to war and stress of the occupation. To brainstorm socio-institutional policies to mitigate implication of war.

**CHID 480A**