AlManarah International Accessible Library Project
Abbass Abbass, Founder
AlManarah Association for Persons with Disabilities
Israel

Services for the Blind
AlManarah- Who are we?

❖ Founded in 2005 by a group of activists with disabilities led by lawyer Abbass Abbass, himself visually disabled since birth, to be the first organization to improve the status of persons with disabilities in the Arab society.

❖ We seek to do this by including people with disabilities in society as equals and protecting their rights through awareness, community empowerment, and legal defence.
AlManarah Library : The Need

A lack of accessible books for people with print disabilities. Via recordings, AlManarah’s library makes thousands of books accessible to Arab-speaking people both in Israel and worldwide, promoting their integration into academic studies and employment.
A website was developed: [www.arabcast.org](http://www.arabcast.org), as well as a mobile application named “AlManarah Library”. Both are accessible to people with a wide range of disabilities.
Our Library`s Local & International Voice Artists
AlManarah Library: Data and Facts

- Over 80,000 users
- Over 5,000 Titles
- Over 50,000 hours of recordings
- Over 30 categories
- Over 3,000,000 users since its establishment
- Over 200,000 users every month
Credits and Awards

- AlManarah International Accessible Library was chosen as best initiative in the promotion of reading and contribution to the community of knowledge by the Mohammed Bin Rashid Arabic Language Award.

- We received an interesting phone call from a Syrian refugee, a mother of three blind children, expressing her appreciation of the great benefit of the library.
Sustainability

- Developing the AlManarah Library as a Social Business

- Crowd Readers Project
What’s next for the AlManarah International Accessible Library?

- Increasing number of voice artist
- Developing and upgrading current website
- Building three new professional recording studios
- Production of over 10,000 recorded audio books by 2020