

*Nane Annan*

2 September 2003

Dear Ms. Younes,

Words cannot express the profound sympathy I feel for you and your brother, and all the other members of your family during this time of sorrow. Nadia's death is a tragedy I feel deeply. For all of us who knew her, it is impossible to imagine the world without her warm smile or her heartfelt laugh.

Nadia was a dear friend, and we shared many adventures and experiences together. She could always be relied upon for her wise judgment and quick wit. I especially remember when my husband, during one of our trips together, suddenly left to go to Rome for the completion of the agreement of the International Criminal Court and I traveled on with the rest of the delegation to Guatemala. I was very happy that Nadia was with me, not just for her support, but also for her keen interest in our experiences during the field trip which was scheduled for me. We visited war widows who had formed a weaving cooperative and later toured sites of ancient Mayan civilization, which caught her imagination, in particular.

She was an extraordinary person, full of life and energy and compassion for her fellow human beings. Alia, with young Nadia standing next to her, captured the essence of her at the very moving memorial service in Geneva last week. I know that she will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by her many friends and colleagues around the world.

My thoughts are with you during this most painful time, and I can only wish you strength and courage for the weeks and months ahead.

Yours sincerely,

*Nane Annan*

Ms. Nahed Younes  
London