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The Cry of the Horseman

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Cover Page Footnote

"Second Prize Winner" Appeared in the issue: Volume 3, Issue 3, 2003.

WEGDAN ASHKAR

THE CRY OF THE HORSEMAN *IN MEMORIAM OF FARIS ODEH*

My name is Faris
My home is Gaza
Day and night I pray for change
But the enemy of peace continues to oppress
Siege, curfews, bullets through the air,
Crops and cattle bulldozed away
The occupation must end now and today
Tanks with no mercy pound ambulances into walls,
With no reason crushed parked cars
Apache warplanes, F-16s up so high
Demolish refugee homes
Destroy innocent lives
Inhumane marks, leave no soul untouched
For the shot was heard around the world
I am Faris, the horseman
My cry is loud
My cause is just
My struggle is known
From the north to the south
From the west to the east
I was born free
So let freedom ring
From Gaza to Jenin

Faris Odeh became known as a Palestinian legend the day he was photographed throwing a rock at an Israeli tank. The picture is known in newspapers as "David and Goliath." Odeh was shot and killed by Israeli soldiers on November 9, 2000, a few days after the famous photograph was taken.