## Remembering Aya

On Sunday 17 May, the Blackburn with Darwen community lost one of its own. Aya Hachem, a 19-year-old law student sadly lost her life due to being caught in the crossfire of a horrible attack.

In this post the Youth Forum would like to highlight Aya's significance in our community and remember her legacy as a member of Blackburn with Darwen. Aya has been described as a 'kind-hearted and intelligent young lady' who was always there to help. She is known in the local community for helping in the wider community and being part of the ARC Project, who support refugees and asylum seekers in the local community. Aya and her family moved to Blackburn to seek refuge from the ongoing conflict in Lebanon. She studied at a local high school and attended University as a law student. Just recently passing her 2<sup>nd</sup> year Law exams.

Aya's heart was set on helping people and making a real difference. But unfortunately the privilege of this was taken away from her in a horrible attack which claimed her life. This has shaken the community, and will do for the coming years.

At this moment in time, it is necessary for the Blackburn with Darwen community to unite, no matter what background as we remember one of our own and the happiness and joy she brought to everyone around her.

Rest in Peace, Aya.

