

Director's Note

Back in 2008, as part of a work assignment, I've spent a long period in the Beduin unrecognised village of 'Wadi el Naim', in the Negev desert. During that time I have become familiar with its residents, their lives and hardships as experienced by the 60.000 strong population of Beduins living in unrecognised villages across the desert, without basic conditions such as running water, electricity and health services. Although for its most part this assignment dealt with the hardships and injustice as experienced by the community, what struck me the most was the massive change the Beduin community in the Negev is subjected to, this accelerated modernisation that requires them to relinquish their old way of life, their traditions and their land, is taking place without any real consideration to the toll such a transition must take.

Put in context of their unique position in Israeli society, as an arab population without a real national affiliation or identity, a condition that put a bigger onus on their traditions, made me become better aware of the human price the Beduin community pays and to the lack of real support from the establishment that subjects them to this change.

In particular, it was the younger generation that intrigued me. Their outlook on life, the future that awaits them and their relations to old traditions on the one hand and Israeli society on the other, a society to which they desire to belong but are constantly reminded that they can't.

It was through them that I was introduced to the controversy surrounding relationships involving young Beduin man and Jewish girls from underprivileged homes in nearby towns. An alliance that seems to symbolise their desire to be part of Israeli society but backfires and becomes another ground for conflict between the young and the elder and between the Beduin and the Jewish society.

This impossible alliance between a young generation of an invisible underclass convinced me to write the script and make '**Invisibles**' to serve as an elegy of sort, to a community and its ways, changing by the day.