



### **Biography - Maya Ibrahimchah & Beit el Baraka**

Maya Chams Ibrahimchah, born in Beirut Lebanon, is known for being an activist for human rights, as well as the preservation of cultural and architectural heritage.

She has a Marketing and Communication background. Graduating from the American University of Beirut (AUB), she built her career at Rotana / Al Waleed Bin Talal Kingdom Holding and in the FMCG sector.

Maya is a member of the Committee for the Preservation of Lebanese National Heritage under the Ministry of Culture, successfully lobbying public officials to ultimately saving various heritage buildings from being demolished.

As a humanitarian, she founded Beit el Baraka in 2018. Beit el Baraka is a Lebanon-based non-governmental organization aimed at giving a sense of dignity and maintaining decent living standards for the families that have been deprived of their most basic needs and rights. In a spirit of respect and support, Beit el Baraka works to provide an accurate and beneficial response to Lebanon's economic and social challenges.

The organization began by opening a "free supermarket" for the elderly and vulnerable without income or pension funds, as well as improving their quality of life through support in home renovations and home bill payments. In the context of Lebanon's humanitarian crisis and the Beirut port explosion, Beit el Baraka -under Maya's leadership - rapidly expanded to meet urgent needs for the rapidly-growing population living in poverty, now supporting reconstruction, access to both healthcare and education, food security and agricultural development.

Recently, the organization has embarked on a massive initiative to alleviate the burden of Lebanese families in financing the education of their children. This initiative (called Forsa – "opportunity" in Arabic) aims to keep Lebanese schools operational, keep teachers and administrators in their jobs, and put students back in classrooms.

Beit el Baraka is registered and governed in Lebanon, the US (as a 501c3 charity), and Australia.