

Kanouté fined for Palestine support

Freddy Kanouté was fined €3,000 Friday by the Spanish Competition Committee for revealing a message of support to Gazans, who are being killed indiscriminately by Israeli forces, after scoring against Deportivo La Coruña in the Copa Del Rey match on Wednesday evening.

The Malian striker was punished because he lifted his top to reveal a t-shirt with the word Palestine, in English and Arabic across the front.

The Sevilan player was fined under article 120, which prohibits players from revealing messages of a religious or political nature on the pitch.

The Mali striker, having scored Sevilla's second of the night, was shown a yellow card for his behaviour.

However, Kanouté received huge numbers of messages of support from his fans, and also from the Palestine Embassy in Spain.

Freddie Kanoute is not the only footballer to have shown public support for the Palestinians in recent days. Egypt and Al-Ahly's player Mohamed Aboutrika wrote an open letter of support for Palestinian people on his club's official website.



Photo: Freddy Kanoute

Aboutrika said: "We are eager to help all Gazans. I suggest that Ahly or Egypt play against a high-profile team, then we could use the amount of money generated to support the families of Palestinian victims. We need Ahly, the Egyptian Football Association or any private foundation to take the initiative of organizing such an event. I would wear that shirt everyday if that was the solution. I call on all Egyptians and Muslims over the world to pray for the Palestinians."

Source: The Muslim News, UK.

CRESCENT TIMES TO THE RESCUE

Several members of the Crescent Times team recently travelled to the Northern Territory on a working holiday.

One outing took us to Ti Tree, a three hour drive north of Alice Springs, where we came across two orphaned baby kangaroos (called joeys). These little babies need lots of hands on care including a substitute pouch to sleep in (fortunately we had a handbag!) and bottle feeding with milk every four hours. Some of the team were very keen to take them home to look after



Safiyah and rescued baby kangaroo in Alice Springs on the way to Sadie's place

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them but others pointed out that one baby in the house is quite enough without adding chaos to the confusion.

Fortunately, there is a dedicated group of volunteers in Alice Springs who look after orphaned joeys and the two babies are now in the safe hands of Sadie. She will be taking them both to work with her for the next few months so that they can be fed during the day and we are invited to visit them and see them growing up. Updated pictures to come in future issues insha Allah.



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