GENERATION SYRIA

A Documentary Series

When the Future
Stops Being an Idea
and Becomes a Decision.

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Series Overview

Generation Syria is a documentary series about what it means to build a life at the moment when the future stops being an abstract promise and becomes a real decision.

Each episode follows one young Syrian person, or a closely tied pair, as they move through a concrete objective under real pressure. The series is not built as a catalogue of issues. It is built around decisions, and around what those decisions reveal about work, family, belonging, ambition and the price of shaping a future in Syria now.

At a Glance

Format	—	Documentary Series
Status	—	In Development
Language	—	Arabic-language stories with international accessibility
Approach	—	Character-led and observational

A series driven by action, pressure and consequence.

The Series Engine

Each episode is built on a clear dramatic structure. The vitality of the series does not come from repeating a formula, but from the differences between people, conditions, relationships, and what becomes vulnerable to loss or change in each story.

01 — **Threshold**
The moment when staying as things are becomes harder than making a decision.

02 — **Objective**
A specific goal the camera can follow the character moving toward or away from.

03 — **Time Pressure**
Real time that presses on the attempt and prevents it from remaining open-ended.

04 — **Stakes**
What may change in the character's life, relationships, or future if the attempt succeeds or falters.

05 — **Attempt**
When an idea moves from intention into a test of reality.

06 — **Obstacle**
What appears outside the plan and forces the character to rethink it.

07 — **Decision**
The moment when continuing, adjusting, or pulling back becomes a choice with visible consequences.

08 — **Test**
When the new decision faces actual conditions rather than assumptions.

09 — **Outcome**
The effect that redefines the options and possibilities still open after the attempt.

The dramatic structure remains clear across the series, while each story carries its own path, pressures, relationships, and outcome.

How an Episode Takes Shape

- **A HUMAN THRESHOLD**

  Each episode begins at a human threshold, then follows a character toward a concrete objective.

- **A REAL-WORLD CLOCK**

  A real-world clock creates pressure. Time matters, and so do the stakes.

- **SHIFTING GROUND**

  Along the way, expectations, relationships and reality start to shift. The episode does not move forward through explanation alone, but through action, friction and consequence.

- **WHAT IT REVEALS**

  It ends not with a message, but with what the outcome reveals — and with what it changes in the character's life and choices.

An episode is not just about what happens, but about what it sets in motion.

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Real people.
A larger tomorrow.

The Characters Who Carry the Story

The series does not look for symbolic representatives. It looks for people whose decisions can carry a full episode.

01 | **A real threshold,** not a general condition.

02 | **A practical objective** the camera can follow.

03 | **Stakes that matter** in lived daily life.

04 | **Relationships that shape** the path, not just the context.

05 | **Enough access** for an observational story to unfold.

These are not representative cases. They are people whose choices make a larger reality visible.

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Story Worlds & Season Structure

The season is not built as a checklist of sectors or themes. It is built by selecting stories that share the same engine while unfolding in distinct worlds, rhythms and pressures. What connects the episodes is not profession or topic, but the fact that each story reaches a threshold where a decision must be made.

Five Story Worlds

Work & Livelihood — 01

Earning a living, creating opportunities, carrying responsibility, or choosing a different path.

Skill & Learning — 02

Building new skills, passing on knowledge, or finding a way to keep learning in changing times.

Care & Responsibility — 03

Supporting family, looking after others, and balancing personal dreams with collective needs.

Belonging & Identity — 04

Navigating where to belong, who to be, and how to stay rooted while moving through change.

Adaptation & Reinvention — 05

Responding to uncertainty, finding new solutions, and turning challenges into new beginnings.

The season gains range not by covering everything, but by choosing stories that open different parts of the same lived reality.

Syria as a Causal Force

Generation Syria cannot be separated from the place in which its stories unfold. Syria is not simply a visual backdrop for the series; it shapes what the characters can do, how quickly they can act, and what becomes vulnerable to loss or change when they try.

In the Syrian reality today, decisions around work, movement, family, market, investment, services, and return intersect with conditions that change quickly and unevenly from one place to another.

Why now?

After the political shift that began in late 2024, many questions have returned to the realm of practice after remaining suspended or postponed for years.

Can a new venture be launched?
Can a professional path continue?
Can return become viable in practice?
Can experience or skill find a place in a reality taking shape again?
What happens when the outcome diverges from expectations?

That is why an episode does not stop at asking what the character wants to achieve. It also follows what happens when the plan meets the actual conditions of the place:

- Resources determine what becomes possible.
- Family and social relationships reshape the stakes.
- Differences between environments may lead to very different outcomes.

> **A story gains its specificity when place becomes part of the decision and the outcome—not merely the location in which events occur.**

Visual Language & Editorial Approach

Contemporary. Intimate. Observational. Consequential.

We tell real stories, in real places, with real people. Our visual approach is grounded, human and purposeful — revealing how individual lives connect to the bigger picture, and how change happens amid everyday realities.

01 **Real environments, natural light, and observational framing.**

We work in the places where life happens, using natural light and a documentary eye that respects reality.

02 **Human action filmed with patience and clarity.**

We give moments time to unfold, allowing people's actions and choices to speak for themselves.

03 **Relationships receive the same attention as objectives.**

The human connections — family, friends, colleagues, communities — are central to the story, not secondary.

04 **Pressure reveals what interviews alone cannot.**

In moments of challenge, the real character emerges. We capture what happens when stakes are high.

05 **The image stays tactile, direct and never promotional.**

We favor authenticity over polish, creating a visual language that feels immediate, honest and deeply human.

Development Status

The editorial foundation of the series has been developed: its premise, episode engine, character-selection criteria, season-building logic, and visual and editorial approach.

The next phase moves to field research, access-building, and story testing against these criteria, leading to the identification of the characters and environments capable of carrying a coherent and varied 15-episode season.

Why This Team?

The project is led by Hamad Yousef, a Kuwaiti director and producer with more than 17 years of professional experience in documentary film, television, and content development.

Spirit Jerusalem
Best Documentary Feature
and Best Director
Cannes World Film Festival 2024

Battle of Bridges
Best Documentary Feature
Santa Monica International Film Festival 2023

HA Media for Artistic Production Co. W.L.L.

A Kuwaiti production company that develops its work from research, idea-building, and treatment, through planning, production, and post-production, to preparing content for marketing and distribution.

This integration makes it possible to develop Generation Syria from the outset as a fully editorial and production-led project, where creative vision, feasibility, and audience reach move forward on a single track.

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Positioning & Partnership Pathways

Generation Syria is a contemporary documentary series built on a clear episode structure without making the stories feel alike.

Its strength does not come from presenting finished models or predetermined desirable outcomes, but from entering real moments of decision while their paths are still open, and following what reality imposes on the characters before the outcome settles.

In that sense, the series brings together the specificity of the Syrian moment and the possibility of reaching a wider audience through globally legible human questions: responsibility, choice, risk, return, continuation, and what happens when aspiration does not fully align with reality.

Partnership Pathways

- Development or production financing.
- Co-production.
- Commissioning or broadcast.
- Distribution and audience reach.
- Selective in-kind support tied directly to implementation.

Partnership Principles

Each partnership is built according to the nature of the contribution, while preserving editorial independence, freedom in choosing the characters, and the course of the stories.

Rights, credits, and commercial terms are determined separately according to the nature of each agreement, without being assumed in advance within this general version of the project.

Contact

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A series that moves closer to decisions while they are still taking shape, and stays with the people making them until outcomes reveal what has become possible—and what no longer is.