

## PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 August 2004 – 31 August 2004

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 August 2004 to 31 August 2004. The survey is compiled from Daily Situation Reports of the Palestinian Monitoring Group (PMG), Negotiations Affairs Department, Palestine Liberation Organization. The PMG monitors all aspects of ground conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including Israeli violations, Palestinian violations and Palestinian achievements. The PMG Daily Situation Reports are a survey of daily events collated from information provided by Palestinian Authority civilian ministries and security agencies. The information reported through the PMG process only represents data available at the time of distribution.

## SUMMARY TABLE OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS AGAINST PALESTINIAN CIVILIANS—AUGUST 2004

| EVENT                          | WEST BANK | GAZA STRIP | TOTAL      | NOTES  |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|--|
| <b>Deaths</b>                  | 9         | 36         | <b>45</b>  | Incl. 10 children; 3 female civilians, including 1 elderly female civilian run over by a settler's vehicle; 1 civilian extra-judicially killed in Salfit; and 6 civilians killed in failed assassination attempts.   |
| <b>Injuries</b>                | 206       | 145        | <b>351</b> | Incl. 112 children; 7 children, including 2 critically injured, as a result of 4 Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) explosions; 1 female child run over by a female settler's vehicle; 6 female civilians; 1 elderly civilian; 1 guard at Al Aqsa Mosque compound; 7 international peace activists; 1 journalist; 6 civilians as a result of collision of Israeli army jeeps and civilian vehicles; 1 ambulance driver beaten; 12 civilians, including 2 critically injured, during failed assassination attempts; and 7 Palestinian officers.  |
| <b>Incursion</b>               | —         | 1          | <b>1</b>   | In Rafah refugee camp.   |
| <b>Attacks</b>                 | 202       | 173        | <b>375</b> | Incl. 143 attacks during raids; 141 from Israeli army military posts; 67 during confrontations and demonstrations; 19 from Israeli army helicopters; 2 from naval boats; and 2 from checkpoints towards civilians. The Israeli army carried out attacks utilizing various forms of weaponry against civilians and their property, including tank shells, missiles fired from helicopters and UAVs, navy boats and machineguns.   |
| <b>Raids</b>                   | 633       | 86         | <b>719</b> | The Israeli army primarily carried out raids in the city of Nablus and its 3 refugee camps for a period of 23 days during this month. The Israeli army also carried out 15 raids on Rafah refugee camp along the Egyptian border for a period of 13 days; raided 2 charitable societies in the cities of Bethlehem and Hebron; raided Bir Zeit University; and raided the home of a Palestinian Legislative Council member in the town of Yatta, south of the district of Hebron.  |
| <b>Arrests (per person)</b>    | 330       | 73         | <b>403</b> | Incl. 17 children; 11 female civilians, including a mother of a political prisoner; 1 mentally challenged civilian; 3 injured civilians; 1 ambulance driver; 3 fishermen; and 40 Palestinian officers.   |
| <b>House Demolitions</b>       | 34        | 62         | <b>96</b>  | The Israeli army demolished 4 houses in Jerusalem; 5 in the village of 'Azzun 'Atma south of the city of Qalqiliya; 3 in Nablus; 1 in Ramallah; 2 in Bethlehem; 19 in Hebron; 2 in Northern Gaza; 9 in Gaza city, including 3 partially; 22 in West Khan Yunis refugee camp; and 32 in Rafah refugee camp.   |
| <b>Destruction of Property</b> | 55        | 35         | <b>90</b>  | Crops damaged in the towns of Beit Hanun and east of Jabalya, the city of Beit Jala and the village of Mas-ha; 1 water well, 1 water reservoir and 1 water pump destroyed; the coastal road in Gaza levelled; 1 electricity generator destroyed; computers, documents, 2 vehicles and contents of 1 charitable society confiscated; houses damaged in the village of Al 'Asakira; the gate of 1 building destroyed; the wall of 2 houses and barracks demolished; 10 civilian vehicles and 1 water transportation vehicle confiscated; 3 civilian vehicles damaged; 1 battery factory, 2 blacksmiths' workshops and commercial shops destroyed; contents of 1 dairy factory confiscated; and the gate of 1 school in the town of Al 'Ubeidiya destroyed. |
| <b>House Occupations</b>       | 61        | 7          | <b>68</b>  | In the town of Silat Adh Dhahr north of Jenin; Tulkarem and the village of Seida; Nablus: in the old city, 'Ein Beit El Ma and Balata refugee camps, and the village of Al Badhan; the town of Haris in Salfit; the village of Beit Liqya west of Ramallah; building housing the Directorate of Religious Endowments and houses in the old city of Hebron; north of Jabalya refugee camp.  |

|                                   |             |            |             |   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---|
| <b>Curfews</b>                    | 62          | —          | <b>62</b>   | <i>Jenin district:</i> Ya'bad and 'Arrana; <i>Tulkarem district:</i> Tulkarem; <i>Qalqiliya district:</i> 'Azzun 'Atma and An Nabi Elyas; <i>Nablus district:</i> Nablus, Beit Furik, Qusra, Salim, Kafr Qalil, and Balata, 'Askar and 'Ein Beit El Ma refugee camps; <i>Salfit district:</i> Qira, Haris, Kifl Haris and Deir Istiya; <i>Ramallah district:</i> El Bireh, Deir Ibzi', Beit Rima, 'Abud, Rantis, 'Arura, Beitillu, Beit Liqya and Al Mughayyir; <i>Bethlehem district:</i> Beit Jala, Al Khadr and Al 'Aza refugee camp; <i>Hebron district:</i> Hebron, Beit 'Awwa and Beit Ummar.                           |
| <b>Closures (per District)</b>    | 310         | 155        | <b>465</b>  | Since 22 March 2004, the Israeli army has imposed a total closure over the West Bank and Gaza Strip, separating all districts from one another. The Israeli army set up permanent and flying checkpoints throughout the districts and prevented civilians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip from crossing into Green Line   |
| <b>Closure of Crossing Points</b> | —           | 128        | <b>128</b>  | 87 incidents of partial opening of crossing points; Rafah Crossing was reopened on 06 August 2004.  |
| <b>Medical Obstruction</b>        | 11          | —          | <b>11</b>   | 3 medical teams prohibited from entering the village of 'Azzun 'Atma; ambulances prevented from transporting 1 injured civilian in Nablus, resulting in his death; ambulances prevented from transporting injured civilians in Bethlehem; 2 medical teams from the Palestinian Medical Relief Fund detained in Nablus and Balata refugee camp; the Palestinian Military Medical Clinics in 'Askar refugee camp in Nablus raided; the French Maternity Hospital in Bethlehem raided; 1 ambulance driver arrested while transporting an ill civilian at Qalandiya checkpoint; and 1 ambulance driver severely beaten in Hebron. |
| <b>Attacks on Religious Sites</b> | 6           | —          | <b>6</b>    | Large loudspeakers affixed atop the Wailing Wall and positioned towards Al Aqsa Mosque compound, disturbing worshippers in Al Aqsa Mosque; Ibrahimi Mosque closed and civilians prevented from entering; copies of the Qur'an in the Ibrahimi Mosque torn apart; civilians forced to evacuate a mosque in Deir Ghassana; and 1 mosque surrounded in Hebron as worshippers were performing morning prayers.  |
| <b>Provocation of Pal. Forces</b> | 21          | 33         | <b>54</b>   | The Israeli army arrested 39 Palestinian security officers; injured 3 officers; demolished 1 Palestinian security location; raided 10 Palestinian military locations and Police stations and detained officers inside; detained 4 Palestinian patrols; set up 11 checkpoints near security forces offices and Al Muqata'a in Ramallah; and provoked Palestinian Security officers.  |
| <b>Settlement Activity</b>        | 31          | 1          | <b>32</b>   | Expansion of 3 settlements; land levelling for expansion of 4 settlements; plans for expansion of 2 existing settlements; confiscation of land to erect fences around 3 settlements; plans for construction of 3 new settlements; construction of 4 settlement outposts; construction of 2 settler bypass roads; land levelling for construction of 10 settler bypass roads; and construction of railroad connecting to Jerusalem begun.  |
| <b>Settler Violence</b>           | 19          | —          | <b>19</b>   | Israeli settlers contaminated 1 water well in the village of Kafr Ad Dik,; set fire to land in the village of Mas-ha; damaged crops in the town of Al Khadr; tore apart copies of the Qur'an; abducted 1 child herding sheep; set fire to 150 <i>dunums</i> (37.5 acres) in the villages of Kafr Al Labad and Shufa; closed 1 water pipe supplying 5 villages north of the city of Ramallah with potable water; left construction waste on land in the village of Nahhalin; ran over 1 female child in the town of Huwwara; ran over 1 elderly female civilian in the district of Qalqiliya; and stabbed 1 civilian.          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                      | <b>1990</b> | <b>935</b> | <b>2925</b> |   |

## COMARATIVE TABLE OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

| EVENT TYPE                        | JUNE          | JULY          | AUGUST        | COMMENTS   |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Deaths</b>                     | <b>39</b>     | <b>81</b>     | <b>45</b>     | Incl. 1 civilian extra-judicially killed & 3 failed assassination attempts compared to 14 civilians extra-judicially killed in July; death toll lower than last month.   |
| <b>Injuries</b>                   | <b>201</b>    | <b>287</b>    | <b>351</b>    | Number of injuries rose this month compared to July due to increased raids, indiscriminate fire and UXO explosions.  |
| <b>Incursions</b>                 | —             | <b>7</b>      | <b>1</b>      | 1 incursion.   |
| <b>Attacks</b>                    | <b>355</b>    | <b>413</b>    | <b>375</b>    | Relatively constant; attacks targeted civilian houses and public property through open fire from helicopters, naval boats and tanks.   |
| <b>Raids</b>                      | <b>722</b>    | <b>740</b>    | <b>719</b>    | Relatively constant over the past 3 months; the Israeli army primarily carried out raids in the city of Nablus and the town of Beit Hanun.   |
| <b>Arrests (per person)</b>       | <b>773</b>    | <b>498</b>    | <b>403</b>    | Despite the relatively calm situation, the Israeli army continues to arrest civilians. The number of children arrested fell from 63 in July to 17 in August.   |
| <b>House Demolitions</b>          | <b>77</b>     | <b>136</b>    | <b>96</b>     | Large number of houses demolished to implement Israeli plan to expand the area separating Rafah and the Egyptian border (the Philadelphi Route); The Israeli army demolished houses in West Khan Yunis refugee camp near the security fence of Gosh Katif Settlement bloc.                       |
| <b>Destruction of Property</b>    | <b>92</b>     | <b>157</b>    | <b>90</b>     | The Israeli army continues to raid and close charitable associations, and attacked a number of blacksmiths' workshops.   |
| <b>House Occupations</b>          | <b>53</b>     | <b>56</b>     | <b>68</b>     | The Israeli army continues to occupy civilian houses and convert them into military posts.   |
| <b>Curfews</b>                    | <b>49</b>     | <b>47</b>     | <b>62</b>     | Sharp rise compared to the month of July.  |
| <b>Flying Checkpoints</b>         | <b>(100s)</b> | <b>(100s)</b> | <b>(100s)</b> | Separating and closing all districts; to arrest civilians.   |
| <b>Closures (per District)</b>    | <b>450</b>    | <b>465</b>    | <b>465</b>    | Complete closure over the past 3 months, incl. Jerusalem; preventing movement, incl. into Jerusalem for Palestinian Authority ID card holders.   |
| <b>Closure of Crossing Points</b> | <b>109</b>    | <b>131</b>    | <b>128</b>    | Between the Gaza Strip and the Green Line, preventing workers from entering industrial zones and crossing into the Green Line; Rafah Crossing, closed on 19 July, was reopened on 06 August; however, the Israeli army continues to prevent civilians between 16 and 35 years old from crossing. |
| <b>Medical Obstruction</b>        | <b>11</b>     | <b>10</b>     | <b>11</b>     | Relatively constant; attacks on hospitals, ambulances and medical staff.   |
| <b>Attacks on Religious Sites</b> | <b>13</b>     | <b>6</b>      | <b>6</b>      | The Israeli army continues to attack religious sites, mainly in Hebron, and to prevent civilians carrying Palestinian Authority ID cards from entering Jerusalem to conduct Friday prayers in Al Aqsa Mosque.  |
| <b>School Disruption</b>          | <b>6</b>      | —             | <b>1</b>      | Low number of attacks due to summer vacation in all schools.   |
| <b>Settlement Activity</b>        | —             | —             | <b>32</b>     | Settlement activity was concentrated throughout the West Bank districts; increased settlement activity in the area surrounding Jerusalem; construction of thousands of housing units approved, and settler bypass roads and settlement outposts constructed.                                     |
| <b>Settler Violence</b>           | <b>30</b>     | <b>36</b>     | <b>19</b>     | Relatively constant number of attacks on civilians, property and land; increased rate of settlement expansion and construction of settler bypass roads by Israeli settlers.  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                      | <b>2980</b>   | <b>3070</b>   | <b>2872</b>   |  |

## **SELECTED EVENTS**

### **A. Political Prisoners' Open-Ended Hunger Strike**

Beginning on 15 August 2004, political prisoners in Israeli prisons began a wide scale open-ended hunger strike in protest against the harsh conditions of imprisonment imposed by the Israeli Prisons Services. Prisoners in all Israeli central prisons participated in the hunger strike, including female prisoners in Ar Ramla and Netzan Prisons, and child prisoners in Telmond Prison, totalling approximately 4,000 political prisoners. Political prisoners in Megiddo and 'Ofer Military Prison Camps also participated by holding a 24-hour hunger strike. By the end of August 2004, the hunger strike was ongoing.

### **B. Assassinations**

The Israeli army continued to conduct extra-judicial killings by missiles fired from helicopters towards Palestinian civilians. The Israeli army carried out 4 assassination attempts, extra-judicially killing 1 civilian targeted by the Israeli army, killing 7 civilian bystanders, and injuring 11 others, including 1 female child and 2 critical injuries. Assassination attempts took place in Salfit (1), Jenin (1), Gaza (1), and in Rafah (1).

1. At 14:30 on 06 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Salfit and set up a checkpoint west of the city. Israeli army soldiers and helicopters opened intensive fire, extra-judicially killing **Mohammed 'Uthman Balasmeh**, and injuring 1 other civilian. The Israeli army arrested 3 civilians, including 1 injured civilian and 1 Palestinian National Security officer.
2. At 00:25 on 18 August, an Israeli army Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) fired several missiles towards 1 house in Ash Shuja'iya neighbourhood in Gaza city in an attempt to extra-judicially kill 1 civilian, killing 5 civilians as a result of the failed attempt:
  - (i) **Fat'hi Sa'id Al Ja'bari**;
  - (ii) **Burhan Ahmed Al Ja'bari**;
  - (iii) **Salah Khalil Al Hayyeh**;
  - (iv) **Ala' Ash Sharif**; and
  - (v) **Mohammed Ahmed Al Ja'bari**.

The Israeli army also injured 5 civilians. At 14:45 on 24 August 2004, **Hussein Sa'id Al Ja'bari** died of injuries sustained during the attack.

3. At 20:50 on 26 August, Israeli army helicopters fired 2 missiles towards 1 house in the neighbourhood of Yabna in Rafah refugee camp in an attempt to extra-judicially kill 1 civilian, who survived the assassination attempt. The attack resulted in the killing of **Jaddu' Al Kurd** and the injury of 6 civilians, 2 of whom sustained critical injuries.
4. At 11:20 on 30 August, an Israeli army helicopter fired 1 missile towards 1 house east of the city of Jenin in an attempt to extra-judicially kill civilians, injuring 1 female child and damaging 1 house.

### C. Killings

The Israeli army killed **45** civilians through extra-judicial killings, during raids (**719 raids** in the West Bank and Gaza Strip), attacks by helicopters and tanks (**375 attacks** in the West Bank and Gaza Strip), and during incidents of indiscriminate fire. The death toll rose as a result of ambulances being impeded at Israeli checkpoints while transporting ill civilians and due to Israeli settler violence.

The Israeli army killed 9 civilians in the West Bank, including 6 in the district of Nablus, during frequent raids on the city and its refugee camps. The Israeli army also killed 36 civilians in the Gaza Strip, including 16 in the district of Northern Gaza during a siege imposed on the town of Beit Hanun, and a raid on the town of Beit Lahiya. The Israeli army killed 15 civilians in the district of Rafah as a result of frequent raids and air attacks on the neighbourhoods of Rafah refugee camp and house demolitions.

The Israeli army killed 10 children and 3 female civilians, including a 65-year-old civilian killed when an Israeli settler vehicle ran over her.

1. At 23:40 on 01 August, the Israeli army opened intensive fire and fired several tank shells from the settlement of Dugit towards Palestinian territory north of the town of Beit Lahiya in the Gaza Strip, killing 3 civilians:
  - (i) **Issam Al Mahnakh;**
  - (ii) **Mahmoud Nabi Matar;** and
  - (iii) **Ali Mousa Sammour.**
2. At 00:20 on 07 August, the Israeli army opened intensive fire from its location at Point 217 on the Green Line towards Palestinian territory south of the Sufa Crossing in the district of Rafah, killing 15-year-old **Ahmed Salih Al Qiq** and injuring 3 civilians.
3. At 13:15 on 11 August, the Israeli army raided Balata refugee camp in the city of Nablus. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians, during which the Israeli army killed 1 child, **Salih Radhi Horani**, 16 years old.
4. At 01:00 on 15 August, 14-year-old **Seif Suleiman Barhum** died of injuries sustained on 09 August 2004 in Ash Sha'ut neighbourhood in Rafah refugee camp.
5. At 14:30 on 19 August, the Israeli army opened intensive fire from its location at Point 8 on the Egyptian border towards civilian houses in the neighbourhood of Yabna in Rafah refugee camp, killing **Ahmed Al Hams** and injuring 1 child. At 20:50, the Israeli army opened fire again, killing **Mohammed Al Hamayidah**, 65 years old.
6. At 18:30 on 24 August, an Israeli army infantry force raided the area of Al Qarara east of the district of Khan Yunis, and opened intensive fire, killing **Kamil Al Astal** and injuring 1 child.
7. At 06:30 on 31 August, an Israeli settler ran over and killed **Hasnah Ahmed Abu Fardah**, a 65-year-old female civilian, on the road to the settlement of Alfe Menashe in the district of Qalqiliya.
8. At 18:35 on 30 August, the Israeli army, including 2 tanks and 2 bulldozers, raided Palestinian territory east of the settlement of Morag in the district of Rafah, opened intensive fire towards civilian houses in the area, killing **Yasser Abdul Rahman An Najjar** while he was in his home.
9. At 23:45 on 30 August, the Israeli army, including 12 tanks and 4 bulldozers, raided Ash Sha'ut neighbourhood in Rafah refugee camp and opened intensive fire towards civilian houses, killing 14-year-old **Mazin Al Agha**.

#### **D. Injuries**

The Israeli army injured 351 civilians, including 206 in the West Bank and 145 in the Gaza Strip. Civilian injuries rose as a result of frequent **raids**, (633 raids in the West Bank and 96 raids in the Gaza Strip), and indiscriminate **attacks** by the Israeli army (202 attacks in the West Bank and 173 attacks in the Gaza Strip). The majority of civilian injuries took place in the West Bank, including 13 in Jenin, 122 in Nablus, 14 in Tulkarem, 13 in Ramallah and 13 in Bethlehem. In the Gaza Strip, the Israeli army injured 47 civilians in Northern Gaza, 36 in Khan Yunis and 49 in Rafah.

The Israeli army injured 112 children, including 2 critical injuries as a result of UXO left by the Israeli army. The Israeli army also injured 1 female child who was in an area targeted by Israeli army helicopters during a failed assassination attempt. Additionally, 1 female child was run over and injured by an Israeli settler.

The Israeli army injured 6 female civilians, 7 international peace activists and 1 journalist during demonstrations against the Wall. The Israeli army also injured 7 Palestinian officers.

1. On 03 August, a mass demonstration including international peace activists took place in the village of Deir Al Ghusun, north of the district of Tulkarem, along the Wall. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians, during which the Israeli army injured 8 peace activists, including 1 journalist.
2. On 07 August, the Israeli army, positioned in the area between the town of Al 'Eizariya and the village of Az Za'ayem, east of the district of Jerusalem, opened fire towards and injured 1 civilian. Israeli army soldiers also severely beat the injured civilian, damaging his front teeth.
3. At 20:30 on 07 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Nablus and Balata refugee camp and opened indiscriminate fire, injuring 2 civilians.
4. On 09 August, Israeli army soldiers severely beat several farmers in the village of Ras Tira south of the city of Qalqiliya, breaking 1 civilian's leg.
5. At 22:25 on 10 August, the Israeli army raided West Khan Yunis refugee camp and opened intensive fire. Israeli army helicopters patrolled the skies over the area and fired 1 missile towards a gathering of civilians, injuring 15 civilians, including 2 critically, and demolished 9 civilian houses.
6. At 19:30 on 13 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Tulkarem and its suburbs, and severely beat 2 civilians, who were hospitalised for injuries sustained during the attack. The Israeli army opened fire in Tulkarem refugee camp during confrontations with civilians, during which the Israeli army injured 1 male child and 1 female child.
7. At 15:40 on 25 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Bethlehem and opened indiscriminate fire, injuring 3 civilians, and prevented ambulances from transporting the injured to hospital.
8. At 01:00 on 26 August, the Israeli army raided the village of Till south of the district of Nablus, opened indiscriminate fire, injuring 3 children, and searched several houses.
9. At 16:30 on 27 August, the Israeli army raided the village of Marda north of the district of Salfit, detained and severely beat 1 child, and withdrew at 17:30.

10. At 13:20 on 30 August, the Israeli army fired 1 tank shell from its location in the area surrounding the settlement of Rafiah Yam towards civilian houses in Tall As Sultan in the district of Rafah, injuring 1 child.

### **E. Injuries resulting from Israeli Army Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)**

A sharp rise in explosions from UXO left by the Israeli army resulted in 7 children being injured and burned, including 1 child whose arm was amputated. The majority of residential localities in which UXO explosions took place are located in close proximity to Israeli army military training posts or in areas subject to frequent raids.

1. At 13:30 on 18 August, an Israeli army UXO exploded in the town of Tammun east of the district of Jenin as 2 children (brothers) were playing with the object, injuring and burning both children:
  - (i) ***Bashar Mustafa Bsharat***, 9 years old; and
  - (ii) ***Anas Mustafa Bsharat***, 10 years old.
2. At 10:30 on 19 August, an Israeli army UXO exploded in the city of Nablus as 2 children were playing with the object, injuring and burning both children:
  - (i) ***Iyad Jamal Al Madani***, 14 years old (critical injury); and
  - (ii) ***Baha' Isma'il Al Madani***, 12 years old.
3. At 20:00 on 19 August, an Israeli army UXO exploded in the area between the town of Silwad and the village of Yabrud as 2 children were playing with the object, injuring and burning both children:
  - (i) ***Mu'ath Mohammed Abdullah 'Odeh***, 10 years old, (critical injuries, including amputation of arm); and
  - (ii) ***Yousef Samarah Mustafa Samarah***, 11 years old.
4. At 17:30 on 19 August, an Israeli army UXO exploded in a former Israeli army military post in the village of Ad Duyuk, injuring 1 child.

### **F. Deportations**

The Israeli army continued to deport civilians to the Gaza Strip or Jordan during the month of August.

1. On 07 August, the Israeli army deported 1 female civilian and her 2 children from the city of Jericho to the Gaza Strip, claiming that they hold Gaza ID cards:
  - (i) ***Ni'mah Darwish Nabahan***;
  - (ii) ***Mohammed Ziyad Al Masri***; and
  - (iii) ***Samah Ziyad Al Masri***.
2. On 21 August, the Israeli army deported ***Asma' Abdul Razzaq*** and her 2 children to Jordan after she had spent 2 years in administrative detention (arrest without charge or trial), in order to place pressure on her husband, who is wanted by the Israeli army.



## **G. Closure**

Since 22 March 2004, the Israeli army has imposed a total closure over the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Israeli army prevented civilians with Palestinian Authority ID cards from crossing the Green Line and entering Jerusalem and restricted movement between cities in the West Bank. The Israeli army set up dozens of permanent checkpoints, hundreds of flying checkpoints and dirt barricades throughout the districts, closing all entrances to cities, levelled roads connecting towns and villages, and prevented pedestrians and vehicles from crossing. The closure continues to increase poverty and unemployment rates, negatively impacting economic and livelihood activities and impeding access to health facilities.

1. Throughout the month, and particularly on Fridays, the Israeli army set up flying checkpoints and closed all entrances to the city of Jerusalem and roads connecting towns and villages, and prevented worshippers from other districts from accessing Jerusalem. The Israeli army also prevented civilians under the age of 45 years from entering Al Aqsa Mosque compound, forcing thousands of civilians to conduct prayers near the outer gates of Al Aqsa mosque, in public yards and at checkpoints.
2. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive month, the Israeli army continued to close the only road leading to the village of Al Nu'man, northeast of the Bethlehem district, isolating the village and placing it together with the adjacent village of Al Khas under the jurisdiction of the Jerusalem municipality. Further, the Israeli army considers the citizens' presence in the villages illegal.
3. Beginning on 16 August 2004, the Israeli army continues to close the Wall gates to the villages of Barta'a and Um Ar Rihan. Residents of the villages of Um Ar Rihan, Dhahr Al Abed and Abdallah Yunis, all located west of the district of Jenin and which are now situated behind the Wall, are required to use the new Barta'a Wall gate crossing to cross by foot and to transfer commercial goods. As such, civilians will be forced to travel for a longer distance between their villages and the towns located to the east.

## **H. Incursion**

Beginning at 18:30 on 28 June 2004, the Israeli army continued to impose a military siege on the town of Beit Hanun and isolate the town from all other districts during the month of August. The Israeli army opened intensive fire towards civilian houses, injuring 1 civilian, and continued to level agricultural land on the outskirts of the town.

## **I. Raids**

The Israeli army carried out a total of 719 raids in the month of August, including 633 in the West Bank. 150 raids took place in Tulkarem, 66 in Nablus, 59 in Salfit, 136 in Ramallah, 116 in Bethlehem, and 59 in Hebron. The Israeli army also conducted 86 raids in the Gaza Strip, including 29 in Northern Gaza and 13 in Rafah.

The Israeli army opened fire during 143 out of 719 raids, 20% of the total raids on residential localities.

The majority of raids conducted by the Israeli army occurred in the city of Nablus and its refugee camps, during which it remained positioned in the city and camps for 24 days. The Israeli army also carried out 15 raids on the neighbourhoods of Rafah refugee camp for 13 days during this month.

1. At 23:25 on 01 August 2004, the Israeli army, including 15 tanks and 4 bulldozers, raided West Khan Yunis refugee camp and opened intensive fire. Israeli army helicopters patrolled the skies over the area and opened fire towards civilian houses, killing **Ni'ma Shihdeh Sahlul**, 50 years old, and demolished 6 civilian houses.
2. At 17:00 on 02 August, the Israeli army raided Tulkarem refugee camp, opened indiscriminate fire, occupied 1 house, converted it into a military post, searched several civilian houses, and arrested 3 civilians. The Israeli army severely beat 1 female civilian, who was hospitalised for injuries sustained during the attack, and withdrew from the area at 06:00.
3. At 02:50 on 03 August, the Israeli army, including several tanks and bulldozers, raided 150 meters into the neighbourhood of Yabna in Rafah refugee camp. Israeli army tanks opened intensive fire and fired 1 tank shell towards civilian houses. Israeli army helicopters patrolled the skies over the area and attacked 1 uninhabited civilian house, damaging the house. The Israeli army killed 4 civilians, including 1 female civilian:
  - (i) **Maisarah Abu Salimeh**, a female civilian;
  - (ii) **Akram Al Habibi**;
  - (iii) **Mohammed Abu An Nada**; and
  - (iv) **Jihad Al Biss**.

The Israeli army injured 21 civilians, including 4 children, demolished 2 houses and withdrew at 22:35 on 04 August.

4. Beginning at 19:10 on 03 August 2004, the Israeli army remained positioned in the area between the towns of Beit Hanun and Beit Lahiya and north of Jabalya refugee camp. Israeli army helicopters and tanks opened intensive fire, injuring 36 civilians, including 11 children. At 05:20 on 04 August, the Israeli army withdrew from the area.
5. At 13:50 on 04 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Nablus, occupied 2 residential buildings and converted them into military posts. The Israeli army opened fire towards civilians, killing **'Awadh Mousa Hashash** and injuring 3 others.
6. At 09:45 on 10 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Nablus, occupied 3 civilian buildings and converted them into military posts. The Israeli army opened fire towards civilians, killing 16-year-old **Saleem Al Kousa** and injuring 18 civilians, including 5 children.
7. At 12:50 on 15 August, the Israeli army raided the area of Al Qarara in the district of Khan Yunis and forced civilians between 16 to 50 years old to leave their homes and assemble in a yard to examine their IDs.
8. Beginning at 04:00 on 16 August, the Israeli army remained positioned in the city of Nablus and continued to impose curfew and occupy several houses in the old city. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians, during which the Israeli army fired live ammunition towards civilians and killed **Zahir Sameer Al Adham** after preventing ambulance medics from transporting him as he was bleeding. The Israeli army also killed 9-year-old **Khalid Jamal Al Ustah** and injured 68 civilians, including 34 children. Furthermore, the Israeli army opened fire towards a mass demonstration including international peace activists as they were trying to enter the old city in solidarity with civilians. The Israeli army arrested 1 female civilian, demolished 1 house using explosives belonging to the family of a political prisoner and 1 commercial shop in the old city. The Israeli army prevented civilians from leaving the city and withdrew at 08:00 on 23 August, 7 days after occupying the old city and the area surrounding it.
9. On 24 August, the Israeli army raided the town of Yatta south of the district of Hebron, searched several houses, including the house of Zahran Abu Qbeitah, a Palestinian Legislative Council member, after detaining its residents, and severely beat several civilians.

## **J. Attacks**

375 attacks took place during the month of August, utilizing various forms of weaponry (e.g. helicopter laser-guided missiles, tanks shells, navy boats and machineguns), including 202 attacks in the West Bank and 173 in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army carried out 143 attacks during raids on residential localities, 141 attacks from Israeli army military posts towards civilian houses and property, 67 attacks on demonstrations in solidarity with political prisoners and against the Wall or during confrontations between the Israeli army and civilians. The Israeli army also carried out 19 air attacks, 2 attacks from Israeli army naval boats and 2 attacks from military checkpoints towards civilians.

1. At 17:30 on 04 August, the Israeli army opened intensive fire towards civilian houses in 'Izbat Abed Rabbu, east of the town of Jabalya, killing *Ali Abu 'Ibeh*, 10 years old, and *Jasim Al Mutawwaq*.
2. At 19:25 on 04 August, Israeli army helicopters fired 2 missiles towards a gathering of civilians opposite the Civil Administration offices north of Jabalya refugee camp, killing *Wael Abu Al Jidyhan*, 14 years old, and *Hisham Salem*.
3. At 14:30 on 05 August, an Israeli army tank, positioned east of the town of Beit Hanun, opened intensive fire towards civilian houses in the town of Beit Hanun, injuring 1 child.
4. At 23:00 on 05 August, the Israeli army opened intensive fire from the area surrounding the settlement of Morag towards Palestinian territory, killing *Mohammed Khalid Rashwan*.
5. At 16:30 on 06 August, an Israeli army UAV fired a laser-guided missile towards 1 civilian vehicle in the city of Rafah, destroying the vehicle.
6. At 00:30 on 07 August, the Israeli army fired 5 tank shells from its location at Point 12 towards civilian houses in An Namsawi neighbourhood in the city of Khan Yunis.
7. At 13:20 on 08 August, the Israeli army opened intensive fire towards civilian houses east of the area of Al Qarara, north of the city of Khan Yunis, injuring 3 female civilians.
8. At 22:15 on 14 August, Israeli army naval boats opened fire towards fishermen's boats opposite the area of As Sudaniya north of Gaza city.
9. At 07:30 on 23 August, the Israeli army opened intensive fire from its military post in Tall Zu'rub towards civilian houses in the neighbourhood of Tall Zu'rub in Rafah refugee camp, killing *Hazim Abu Zahri*.

## **K. Attacks against Palestinian Governmental Institutions and Military and Security Forces**

The Israeli army continued to attack Palestinian Security locations and Police stations. 54 such attacks were reported, including 21 in the West Bank and 33 in the Gaza Strip.

Implementing the Israeli Government's decision to reject the Palestinian Government's decision that Palestinian security officers carry weapons to enforce law and order and preserve security in Areas (A) in the West Bank, the Israeli army escalated military actions against Palestinian security forces.

Israeli army violations and provocation of Palestinian forces took place throughout the West Bank, including arresting 39 Palestinian officers, injuring 3 officers, demolishing 1 Palestinian Security location, raiding 10 Palestinian military locations and Police stations, and detaining officers during searches. The Israeli army also detained 4 Palestinian military and Police patrols, set up 11 checkpoints near Palestinian military locations and near Al Muqata'a in Ramallah, and provoked Palestinian Security forces.

1. In response to the Palestinian Council of Minister's decision that Palestinian forces carry weapons to preserve internal security, the Israeli army notified Palestinians, through the DCO, that Palestinian Security forces are prevented from carrying weapons in the Palestinian cities. They further stated that any Palestinian Security officer carrying weapons would be at risk.
2. At 19:10 on 03 August, the Israeli army, including several tanks, raided the area of Quleibu hill north of Jabalya refugee camp and demolished 1 Palestinian National Security location.
3. At 16:35 on 05 August, the Israeli army opened intensive fire from its location at Point 25 on the Green Line towards 1 Palestinian National Security location in the town of Beit Hanun.
4. At 12:10 on 06 August, the Israeli army raided the village of Till, raided the Palestinian Police station in the village, and severely beat the Police station manager, who was hospitalised for injuries sustained to his head.
5. At 07:00 on 08 August, the Israeli army raided the village of 'Izbat Al Jarad near the city of Tulkarem, searched several civilian houses and arrested 5 individuals, including 2 Palestinian National Security officers.
6. At 22:00 on 06 August, the Israeli army raided the town of As Samoa' and raided its Police station.
7. At 12:05 on 11 August, the Israeli army, including several tanks and bulldozers, raided Wadi Gaza and demolished 1 Palestinian National Security location. At 14:20, the Israeli army opened intensive fire towards another location south of Gaza city.
8. At 07:00 on 13 August, an Israeli army infantry force raided Al 'Arayisha road south of Gaza city and opened intensive fire towards 1 Palestinian National Security location, injuring 2 officers, including 1 critically.
9. On 13 August, the Israeli army arrested Tha'er Faruq Mansuri, a Palestinian National Security officer, as he was returning to the city of Tulkarem.
10. At 02:00 on 16 August, the Israeli army raided the town of Az Zababida south of the city of Jenin, searched several houses, arrested 3 Palestinian National Security officers and 1 Palestinian Police officer:
  - (i) Hilal Abdul Qadir, a Palestinian National Security officer;
  - (ii) Mu'tasim Abu Tharfah, a Palestinian National Security officer;
  - (iii) Khaldun Al Far, a Palestinian National Security officer; and
  - (iv) Ala' Al Hanu; a Palestinian Police officer.
11. At 02:30 on 22 August, an Israeli army patrol detained 1 Palestinian Police vehicle for a period of time before releasing it.
12. At 03:00 on 25 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Beit Jala, raided the Palestinian Police station and arrested 2 officers:
  - (i) Mahir Shihadah, a Palestinian Police Captain; and
  - (ii) Sa'id Jabir, a Palestinian Police officer.
13. At 15:20 on 26 August, Israeli army helicopters opened fire towards 3 Palestinian National Security locations east of the town of Beit Hanun. At 21:00, the Israeli army also opened intensive fire from its locations at Points 63 and 64 on the Green Line towards 1 Palestinian National Security location east of the town of Jabalya.

14. At 22:20 on 27 August, the Israeli army opened intensive fire towards 1 Palestinian National Security location north of Sheikh 'Ajlin coastal junction, south of Gaza city.
15. At 22:25 on 28 August, the Israeli army, including 7 jeeps, raided the village of Kafr 'Ein north of the city of Ramallah, raided 1 Palestinian National Security location, detained officers and interrogated them. The Israeli army also arrested 1 officer, severely beat another, confiscated training files, and withdrew at 04:05.
16. At 09:15 on 28 August, an Israeli army patrol raided the city of El Bireh, detained a vehicle belonging to the Director of General Security in the West Bank, confiscated the vehicle's documents, and detained the driver for a long period of time before releasing him.
17. At 03:00 on 31 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Beit Sahur, raided 1 Palestinian National Security location, and withdrew at 04:00.

### **L. House Demolitions**

The Israeli army demolished 96 houses, including 34 in the West Bank and 62 in the Gaza Strip, in addition to 3 partial house demolitions, leaving hundreds of families homeless.

The Israeli army demolished 4 houses in Jerusalem and 1 house in Hebron, claiming that they were built without construction licenses; 3 houses in Nablus and Hebron belonging to the families of civilians killed by the Israeli army; 5 houses belonging to the families of political prisoners in Nablus, Ramallah and Bethlehem; 22 houses in West Khan Yunis refugee camp, claiming that they were in close proximity to the security fence of Gush Katif Settlement bloc; and 32 houses in Rafah refugee camp adjacent to the Egyptian-Palestinian border for expansion of the Philadelphi Route. The Israeli army also demolished 5 houses in the village of 'Azzun 'Atma, south of the city of Qalqiliya due to changes in the route of the Wall, and 16 houses in the old city of Hebron for construction of a settler bypass road connecting settlement outposts in the centre of the city to the Ibrahimi Mosque. Furthermore, the Israeli army demolished houses as a form of collective punishment against civilians living in areas raided in the Gaza Strip, including 2 houses demolished in the district of Northern Gaza and 6 houses demolished and 3 partial demolitions in the district of Gaza.

1. On 02 August, the Israeli army raided a residential locality of 'Arab Al Jahalin northwest of the city of Jerusalem and distributed a military order to transfer civilians from the area within 10 days for construction of the Wall.
2. At 18:00 on 02 August, the Israeli army raided the town of Adh Dhahiriya south of the district of Hebron and demolished 1 civilian house, claiming it was built without a construction license.
3. At 05:30 on 04 August, the Israeli army raided the village of 'Azzun 'Atma south of the district of Qalqiliya and demolished 5 civilian houses, 2 water reservoirs, 1 room, and several commercial shops. The Israeli army also dismantled a residential locality belonging to Al Mahariq Bedouins, including approximately 20 tents.
4. At 19:10 on 03 August, the Israeli army, including several tanks, raided the area of Quleibu hill north of Jabalya refugee camp, demolished 1 house, occupied 3 houses, and converted them into military posts after evacuating their residents. Israeli army tanks and helicopters opened fire and fired several tank shells towards the area.

5. At 01:30 on 05 August, the Israeli army raided Ad Duheisha refugee camp and used explosives to destroy 1 apartment belonging to the family of a political prisoner in a 4-storey building.
6. At 01:30 on 08 August, the Israeli army, including 15 jeeps, raided Ad Duheisha refugee camp, and demolished 1 civilian house using explosives belonging to the family of Mohammed Isa Ma'ali, a political prisoner.
7. At 02:00 on 08 August, the Israeli army, including several tanks and bulldozers, raided 120 meters into Al Sha'ut neighbourhood in Rafah refugee camp and opened intensive fire. Israeli army helicopters patrolled the skies over the area. The Israeli army demolished 5 houses.
8. On 09 August, the Israeli army raided Shu'fat refugee camp and the town of Beit Hanina in the city of Jerusalem and demolished 2 houses belonging to Omar Hammad and Hayel Sanduqa, claiming they were built without a license.
9. At 22:25 on 10 August, the Israeli army raided West Khan Yunis refugee camp, opened intensive fire, and demolished 9 houses.
10. At 23:40 on 11 August, the Israeli army, including several tanks and bulldozers, raided Ash Sha'ut neighbourhood in Rafah refugee camp and opened intensive fire towards civilian houses. Israeli army helicopters patrolled the skies over the area. The Israeli army demolished 13 houses and levelled 3 *dunums* (0.75 acres) of agricultural land.
11. At 15:00 on 13 August, the Israeli army raided the town of Beit Furik, imposed curfew, and demolished 1 house using explosives, claiming that it belonged to the family of Yousef Hanani, a civilian killed by the Israeli army.
12. At 23:20 on 19 August, the Israeli army, including several tanks and bulldozers supported by helicopters, raided the area of Al Barabkha in West Khan Yunis refugee camp, opened intensive fire, inuring 2 civilians, and demolished 6 houses.
13. At 11:15 on 25 August, the Israeli army, including tanks and bulldozers, raided the area of Al Mughraqa south of Gaza city, erected a 60 meter high dirt barricade, demolished 6 houses (3 partially) and levelled agricultural land.
14. At 01:00 on 26 August, the Israeli army, including 20 tanks and 2 bulldozers supported by helicopters, raided Ash Sha'ut neighbourhood in Rafah refugee camp, opened intensive fire towards civilian houses, and demolished 6 houses.
15. On 30 August, the Israeli army raided the town of Sur Bahir in the city of Jerusalem and demolished 1 house belonging to Adnan Abu Kaff after forcibly evacuating its residents, claiming that the house was built without a license.

### **M. Destruction of Public and Private Property**

The Israeli army carried out 90 attacks against civilian property, including 55 attacks in the West Bank and 35 in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army destroyed crops in the towns of Beit Hanun, east of Jabalya, the city of Beit Jala, and the village of Mas-ha. The Israeli army also destroyed 1 water well, 1 water reservoir and 1 water pump, levelled the coastal road in Gaza, destroyed 1 electricity generator, and confiscated computers, documents, 2 civilian vehicles and the contents of a charitable society. Furthermore, the Israeli army damaged houses in the village of Al 'Asakira, destroyed the gate of 1 building using explosives, demolished 2 walls of houses and barracks, and confiscated 10 civilian vehicles and 1 water transportation vehicle. The Israeli army also damaged 3 civilian vehicles, destroyed 1 battery factory, 2 blacksmiths' workshops and commercial workshops, confiscated merchandise from vendors in the city of Jerusalem and the contents of 1 dairy factory, and destroyed 1 school gate in the town of Al 'Ubeidiya.

1. On 03 August, Israeli army tanks and helicopters opened intensive fire and destroyed 1 electricity generator supplying the towns of Beit Lahiya and Jabalya, cutting electricity to the towns.
2. At 01:30 on 04 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Ramallah and raided the offices of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Ramallah Chamber of Commerce, the Workers Syndicate and the Islamic Club. The Israeli army confiscated the contents of the PFLP office and the Islamic Club and ordered the closure of the offices for 2 years.
3. At 22:15 on 08 August, Israeli army helicopters fired 6 missiles towards civilian houses in Ash Sha'ut neighbourhood in Rafah refugee camp. The Israeli army damaged houses and destroyed the main electricity generator, cutting electricity to the area.
4. On 09 August, the Israeli army occupied a building housing the Directorate of Religious Endowments in the old city of Hebron and converted it into a military post
5. At 14:30 on 12 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Hebron, raided a charitable society, confiscated its property and issued an order to close its offices.
6. At 03:00 on 31 August, the Israeli army raided the village of Beit Qad east of the district of Jenin and fired sound grenades inside 1 house, setting the house on fire.

#### **N. Settlement Activity**

Israeli settlers carried out 32 incidents of settlement activity, including 31 in the West Bank and 1 in the Gaza Strip.

The majority of settlement activity took place in the city of Jerusalem with 7 incidents reported, including 2 of settlement expansion, 1 settlement expansion plan, and 3 plans for construction of new settlements. 2 incidents of settlement expansion took place in Qalqiliya; 4 in Salfit, including settlement expansion, plans for settlement expansion, and construction of 2 settler bypass roads; 1 incident of construction of a settlement outpost in Ramallah; 13 incidents in Bethlehem, including 8 construction of settler bypass roads and construction of 2 new settlement outposts; 4 in Hebron, including construction of 2 settler bypass roads; and 1 incident in the central district for expansion of a settlement.

The distribution of settlement activities carried out during the month of August include: 3 incidents of expansion of existing settlements; 4 incidents of land levelling for expansion of settlements; 2 plans for expansion of existing settlements; 3 incidents of land confiscation for construction of fences around settlements; 3 plans for construction of new settlements; 4 incidents of construction of settlement outposts; 2 incidents of construction of settler bypass roads; 10 incidents of land levelling for construction of settler bypass roads; and 1 incidents of construction of a railroad connecting Jerusalem to areas inside the Green Line.

1. On 01 August, the Israeli government approved the construction of 600 new housing units in the north-eastern area of the settlement of Ma'ale Adumim, east of the city of Jerusalem.
2. At 16:50 on 02 August, the Israeli army placed 6 new caravans in the settlement of Nitsareem, south of Gaza city.
3. On 05 August, the Israeli Government approved the construction of a new settlement east of the city of Jerusalem, connecting the settlement of Ma'ale Adumim to Mount Al Mashariq, northeast of the city of Jerusalem along the village of Al Isawiya. The settlement will be constructed on 15,000 *dunums* (3,750 acres) of confiscated land.

4. On 05 August, Israeli settlers from settlement outposts in the city of Hebron began construction of a settler by-pass road connecting the settlement outpost of Ramat Shay with the settlement outpost of Abraham Avino. The new settler by-pass road will intersect 300 meters through As Sahla square and the old fruit and vegetable market in the city of Hebron.
5. On 07 August, the Israeli army levelled an area of land in the villages of 'Azzun 'Atma and Kafr Qaddum east and south of the city of Qalqiliya for expansion of 2 nearby settlements.
6. On 08 August, the Israeli Government approved construction of 300 new housing units for expansion of the settlement of Ari'el located in the centre of the West Bank, implementing the first phase of a plan to construct 2,000 housing units on a hill near the settlement.
7. On 09 August, the Israeli army levelled approximately 3 *dunums* (0.75 acres) of land in the village of Janata south of the city of Bethlehem for expansion of the settlement of El David.
8. At 16:00 on 09 August, the Israeli army demolished 10 heritage houses near the Ibrahimi Mosque in the old city of Hebron. On 12 August, the Israeli army also demolished 6 houses for construction of a settler bypass road, measuring 900 meters in length, connecting the settlement of Kiryat Arba' to the Ibrahimi Mosque.
9. On 10 August, the Israeli army levelled approximately 3,500 *dunums* (875 acres) of land in the village of Wadi Rahhal to complete construction of a settler bypass road to serve the settlements located west of the city of Bethlehem.
10. On 16 August, the Israeli army levelled agricultural land in the village of Deir Ballut, west of the district of Deir Ballut, near the settlement of Peduel for expansion of the settlement.
11. On 20 August, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Elazar confiscated 400 *dunums* (100 acres) of civilian land southwest of the town of Al Khadr, west of the city of Bethlehem and constructed a settlement outpost on the land.
12. On 21 August, the Israeli authorities announced the construction of a new settlement neighbourhood in the town of Beit Safafa in the city of Jerusalem, including 200 new housing units.
13. On 24 August, expansion work continued in the settlement of Ma'ale Adumim east of the city of Jerusalem.
14. On 24 August, the Israeli army levelled land in the village of Nahhalin, west of the district of Bethlehem, for construction of a security road around the settlement of Betar.
15. On 25 August, the Israeli army distributed a military order to civilians in the town of Tuqu', south of the district of Bethlehem, confiscating 1,600 *dunums* (400 acres) of land cultivated with olive trees in the area of Al Baq'a in order to expand settler bypass road #86, which connects the settlement of Tekoa' with the settlements of Ma'ale Amos, Meitzad Shimon and Meitzad Asfar east of the town of Sa'ir, east of the district of Hebron.
16. On 28 August, the Israeli army evacuated a military post near the village of Al Mughayyir, east of the district of Ramallah, and replaced it with caravans in order to convert it into a settlement outpost.
17. On 28 August, the Israeli army issued a military order to confiscate land and uproot trees in the area surrounding the settlement of 'Otni'el southeast of the district of Hebron for construction of a wall.
18. On 29 August, the Israeli army confiscated 50 *dunums* (12.5 acres) of land belonging to residents of the village of Al Jalama north of the city of Jenin for construction of a border crossing composed of 2 tracks, each measuring 15 meters in width.
19. On 29 August, Israeli settlers from the settlement of 'Otni'el, located on land belonging to residents of the town of As Samoa', south of the district of Hebron, added 4 caravans to expand the settlement on civilian land outside its fence.



## **O. Settler Violence**

Israeli settlers carried out 19 attacks against civilians and property throughout the West Bank, including 7 attacks in Hebron, 3 in Ramallah, 3 in Salfit, 2 in Nablus, 2 in Bethlehem, 1 in Tulkarem and 1 Qalqiliya.

Israeli settlers tore apart copies of the Qur'an, ran over civilians, including 2 female civilians - a 65-year-old female civilian who was killed as a result and a 5-year-old female child who was injured - opened fire towards and injured 1 civilian, repeatedly stabbed 1 civilian with a sharp object, beat civilians, and carried out 6 attacks by stone throwing at civilians and their property, injuring 7 civilians, including 3 children. Israeli settlers also abducted 1 child, carried out 3 incidents of burning and damaging crops, 2 incidents of environmental contamination, and 2 incidents of contaminating water resources and closing water pipes to several villages.

1. On 02 August, a group of Israeli settlers set fire to agricultural land west of the village of Mas-ha, south the of the district of Qalqiliya.
2. On 05 August, a group of Israeli settlers from the settlement outpost of Ramat Shay in Tall Ar Rumeida in the city of Hebron threw stones towards civilian houses, injuring 1 elderly civilian.
3. On 12 August, a group of Israeli settlers destroyed approximately 10 *dunums* (2.5 acres) of cultivated land in the area of 'Ein Qasseis west of the town of Al Khadr, west of the district of Bethlehem, and demolished support walls in the area.
4. On 17 August, an Israeli settler guard from the settlement of Barkan abducted Abdul Aziz Mar'i, 11 years old, as he was grazing sheep near the settlement. The Israeli guard released the child after some time.
5. On 17 August, civilians in the area of Wadi an Nasara in the old city of Hebron reported increasing health problems as a result of sewage waste water flowing into the area from the settlement of Kiryat Arba'.
6. On 17 August, a group of Israeli settlers tore apart and destroyed copies of the Qur'an in the Ibrahimi Mosque in the city of Hebron.
7. On 18 August, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Avnei Hefetz set fire to approximately 150 *dunums* (37.5 acres) of agricultural land in the villages of Kafr Al Labad and Shufa, east of the district of Tulkarem.
8. On 22 August, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Halamish closed a water pipe providing 5 villages north of the city of Ramallah with potable water. The Israeli army prevented a technical team from repairing the pipe.
9. On 26 August, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Alon Moreh, located at the eastern entrance to the city of Nablus, opened fire towards and critically injured 1 civilian while he was on his land near the settlement.
10. At 17:50 on 29 August, a female Israeli settler ran over 5-year-old Hadil Mohammed 'Odeh, a female child, on the Ramallah-Nablus main road along the town of Huwwara. The child sustained critical injuries.
11. On 30 August, a group of Israeli settlers repeatedly stabbed 1 civilian with a sharp object near the village of Turmus'ayya, north of district of Ramallah.

## **P. Attacks on Religious Sites**

The Israeli army and settlers carried out 6 attacks against religious sites, including 5 in the West Bank and 1 in the Gaza Strip. 3 incidents were reported in Jerusalem, 1 in Nablus and 1 in Bethlehem. The Israeli army and settlers affixed large loudspeakers atop the Wailing Wall to disturb worshippers in Al Aqsa Mosque, closed the Ibrahimi Mosque and prevented civilians from entering and tore apart copies of the

Qur'an inside the mosque, forced worshippers to leave a mosque during prayers, and surrounded another mosque. The Israeli army continues to prevent civilians from other districts from entering the city of Jerusalem to conduct prayers in the Al Aqsa Mosque.

1. On 07 August, the Israeli army affixed large loudspeakers atop the Wailing Wall and positioned them towards Al Aqsa Mosque compound, disturbing worshippers in the mosque.
2. On 16 August, the Israeli army closed the Ibrahimi Mosque and prevented worshippers from entering.
3. At 05:30 on 20 August, the Israeli army, including 12 jeeps, raided the town of Deir Ghassana, north of the district of Ramallah, and forced worshippers to leave the town mosque during morning prayers.
4. On 20 August, the Israeli army escalated military measures in the old city of Hebron and in the area surrounding the Ibrahimi Mosque. The Israeli army prevented civilians from accessing the Ibrahimi Mosque to perform Friday prayers, detained several civilians, held civilians against walls until prayers were over, and severely beat several others.

### **Q. Medical Obstruction**

The Israeli army continued to attack health facilities, including hospitals, clinics, ambulances and medical staff. The Israeli army carried out 11 such attacks throughout the West Bank, including 1 in Jerusalem, 3 in Qalqiliya, 4 in Nablus, 2 in Bethlehem and 1 in Hebron.

The Israeli army caused the death of an ill civilian as a result of impeding an ambulance at checkpoints, raided 1 maternity hospital and 1 Palestinian military medical clinic, detained 5 medical teams and denied them access to perform their duties, arrested an ambulance driver while transporting an ill civilian, and severely beat another ambulance driver.

1. On 03 August, the Israeli army prohibited medical staff from the Palestinian Red Crescent Society from entering the village of 'Azzun 'Atma, south of the district of Qalqiliya. The Israeli army also denied fuel tanks and supply trucks access to the village.
2. On 06 August, the Israeli army prevented 2 medical teams from the International Committee of the Red Cross and the UN from accessing the village of 'Azzun 'Atma to offer medical assistance to civilians in the village.
3. Beginning at 05:00 on 11 August, the Israeli army remained positioned in Balata refugee camp in the city of Nablus and continued to impose curfew. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians, during which the Israeli army injured 5 civilians, including 3 children. The Israeli army detained medics from the Palestinian Medical Relief Committee inside a civilian house and detained several international volunteers.
4. On 19 August, during occupation of the old city of Nablus and 'Ein Beit El Ma' refugee camp, the Israeli army detained medics from the Palestinian Medical Relief Committee in the old city.
5. At 23:30 on 23 August, the Israeli army, including 60 tanks, raided the city of Nablus and 'Askar refugee camp, opened intensive fire, imposed curfew on the old city of Nablus and the refugee camp and raided the Palestinian Military Medical Services clinics of the Palestinian National Security.
6. At 03:30 on 24 August, the Israeli army, including 12 jeeps, raided the city of Bethlehem, opened indiscriminate fire, raided the French Maternity Hospital and detained all medical staff in the hospital yard. The Israeli army arrested 2 civilians and withdrew 6 hours later.

7. On 24 August, the Israeli army arrested Firas Khadr, an ambulance driver, at Qalandiya checkpoint, separating the city of Jerusalem from the city of Ramallah, as he was transporting an ill civilian.
8. On 24 August, Israeli army soldiers severely beat and injured an ambulance driver, after detaining and searching the ambulance on the Hebron-Bethlehem road.
9. At 15:40 on 25 August, the Israeli army raided the city of Bethlehem, opened indiscriminate fire, injuring 3 civilians, and prevented ambulances from transporting the injured to hospital.
10. At 23:30 on 31 August, the Israeli army raided Balata refugee camp and opened indiscriminate fire, injuring 1 civilian. The Israeli army also detained 1 ambulance at the northern entrance to the camp and detained medics for an extended period of time.

#### **R. School Disruption**

On 22 August, the Israeli army prevented the Village Council of Um Ar Rihan located west of the Wall, west of city of Jenin, from constructing new classrooms in the village's elementary school, which has no more capacity for new students. The Israeli army threatened to demolish any new floors or structures added to the school.

#### **S. Closure of Crossing Points**

The Israeli army closed crossing points in the Gaza Strip, including crossing points into the Green Line, denying workers and goods access.

The Rafah Crossing Point on the Egyptian border was reopened on 6 August after being closing on 19 July. However, civilians between 16 and 35 years old are prohibited from travelling through the checkpoint.