

## PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



### MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 December 2004 – 31 December 2004

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 December 2004 to 31 December 2004. The report includes a summary table of violations by type throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to a comparative table surveying events over the past three months. 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 PALESTINIANS–DECEMBER 2004

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
<b>Assassinations</b>	5	—	<b>5</b>	Incl. extra-judicially killing 1 civilian in the village of Raba in the eastern Jenin district after arresting him, 3 civilians in Tulkarem refugee camp, including 1 child, and 1 civilian in the city of Nablus. The Israeli army failed in 4 assassination attempts in Tulkarem refugee camp, Gaza city, Khan Yunis, and Rafah.
<b>Deaths</b>	5	50	<b>55</b>	Incl. 2 children, 2 mentally challenged civilians, 1 civilian killed under the rubble of a house demolished by the Israeli army, 1 civilian as a result of a heart attack at a checkpoint, and 5 Palestinian officers.
<b>Injuries</b>	84	167	<b>251</b>	Incl. 80 children, 12 female civilians, including 5 elderly females, 1 elderly civilian, 1 physician, 1 ambulance driver, and 3 officers.
<b>Incursion</b>	—	1	<b>1</b>	In the western neighbourhoods of Khan Yunis
<b>Attacks</b>	153	231	<b>384</b>	Incl. 116 attacks during raids; 52 during confrontations with the Israeli army; 189 from Israeli army military posts; 21 air attacks from Israeli army combat aircraft; and 6 miscellaneous attacks.
<b>Raids</b>	644	58	<b>702</b>	The majority of raids took place in the West Bank, including 122 in Ramallah, 120 in Tulkarem, and 110 in Bethlehem. In the Gaza Strip, the Israeli army carried out 23 raids. The Israeli army conducted 476 raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory.
<b>Arrests (per person)</b>	470	67	<b>537</b>	Incl. 10 female civilians, one of whom was arrested while she was visiting her imprisoned son in an Israeli prison, 38 children, 1 elderly civilian, 1 physician, 1 injured civilian, 18 university students, including 1 female student, 14 fishermen, and 25 officers.
<b>House Demolitions</b>	12	51	<b>63</b>	<b>Jerusalem:</b> a 5-storey building in Beit Hanina, several tents belonging to Bedouins in the towns of 'Anata and Bir Nabala, 1 house in Dahiyat Al Bareed, 2 houses in the neighbourhood of Jabal Al Mukabbir, and 1 house in the village of Al Jib. <b>Jenin:</b> 2 houses in the town of 'Arraba. <b>Bethlehem:</b> 1 building in Ad Duheisha refugee camp. <b>Hebron:</b> 3 residential apartments, 2 of which belong to the families of political prisoners. <b>Gaza City:</b> 1 house in Ash Shuja'iyah neighbourhood. <b>Khan Yunis:</b> 38 houses in West Khan Yunis refugee camp during an Israeli army incursion into the area. <b>Rafah:</b> 1 house in Al Amal neighbourhood in Rafah refugee camp.
<b>Destruction of Property</b>	61	29	<b>90</b>	<b>Destruction of Property:</b> The Israeli army destroyed commercial shops in Hebron and Jerusalem, along with 13 shops in Jenin; damaged civilian vehicles and house furniture; destroyed 1 civilian vehicle (using explosives) at a checkpoint; destroyed the windows of the Society of Prisoners' Supporters in Hebron; damaged 1 medical clinic in the town of Al Khadr and 2 charitable associations in Beit Sahur and Beit Kahil; damaged 1 electricity generator; and demolished a wall of a public hospital in Tulkarem refugee camp. The Israeli army also uprooted 200 olive trees in the area of Al Qarara; damaged crops in Al Qaraya Al Badawiya and in the area of Abu Khouses; uprooted fruit bearing trees in Bidya, Jayyus, Far'un, and Kafr Qaddum; demolished sheep pens in 'Anata and Bir Nabala; demolished 1 poultry farm in the area of Sheikh 'Ajlin; and stole animals from civilians in the villages of At Tuwani and Janiya. <b>Confiscation of Property:</b> The Israeli army confiscated JD 11,000 after searching 1 house in the area of 'Arab Ar Rashayida; 1 civilian vehicle in Ramallah; 3 fishing boats; 1 tractor; mobile telephones; vehicle spare parts from a shop in Tulkarem; computers; cameras; money from the Society of the Disabled in Qalqiliya; files, pictures, and maps from the Cultural Society in Hebron; contents of the Society of Prisoners' Supporters in Hebron; and the files of the Charitable Society in Beit Kahil.
<b>House Occupations</b>	14	15	<b>29</b>	<b>Tulkarem:</b> 4 houses in Tulkarem refugee camp. <b>Nablus:</b> a number of houses in the city of Nablus and Asira Ash Shamaliya. <b>Bethlehem:</b> Al Khadr and Husan. <b>Hebron:</b> Dura and Yatta. <b>Gaza:</b> several houses in Ash Shuja'iyah neighbourhood. <b>Khan Yunis:</b> the area of Al Qarara, the area north of Kissufim, the towers of An Namsawi neighbourhood, several houses in An Namsawi neighbourhood, and in West Khan Yunis refugee camp.
<b>Curfews</b>	34	—	<b>34</b>	The Israeli army imposed curfew over residential areas in the following districts: <b>Ramallah:</b> Deir Ghassana. <b>Jenin:</b> the city of Jenin and the village of Az Zawiya. <b>Tulkarem:</b> Zeita and Baqat Al Hatab. <b>Qalqiliya:</b> Al Funduq and Hajja. <b>Nablus:</b> An Naqura, Talluza, 'Asira Ash Shamaliya, Huwwara, Salim, and 'Askar refugee camp. <b>Salfit:</b> Deir Istiya. <b>Jericho:</b> Al 'Auja. <b>Bethlehem:</b> Al Khadr and Tuqu'. <b>Hebron:</b> Idhna and Al 'Arrub refugee camp.

<b>Closure of Crossing Points</b>	3	105	<b>108</b>	Incl. Sufa Crossing partially closed on 16 occasions; Al Karamah (Allenby) Crossing closed on 02 December; the commercial crossing point into Jordan was closed on 11 and 18 December; and Rafah Crossing Point into Egypt closed since 12 December.
<b>Flying Checkpoints</b>	203	—	<b>203</b>	The Israeli army set up flying checkpoints in and around Palestinian residential locales, on main roads and on secondary roads.
<b>Medical Obstruction</b>	4	2	<b>6</b>	Incl. ambulances prevented from transporting injured civilians in the village of Beit Liqya; 1 ambulance detained at Beit Iba checkpoint; 1 clinic raided in the town of Al Khadr; the wall of Mubarak Hospital in Khan Yunis demolished; and the laboratory of Nasser Hospital in Rafah attacked.
<b>Attacks on Religious Sites</b>	6	—	<b>6</b>	Incl. a plan to demolish the wall leading to Al Magharibah Gate overlooking Al Aqsa Mosque compound. An Israeli settler raided Al Aqsa Mosque compound and consumed alcohol in its yard. The Israeli army also confiscated 1 mosque in the village of An Nabi Samwil and converted it into a synagogue, and raided mosques in the villages of Al Walaja and Salim and in the town of Beit Kahil.
<b>School Disruption</b>	21	7	<b>28</b>	Incl. 1 tank shell fired towards 1 school in Khan Yunis, injuring 8 students and disrupting classes in the school; classes disrupted in schools in Khan Yunis during the Israeli army incursion into Khan Yunis' western neighbourhoods; schools raided in the villages of Budrus, As Sawiya, and Burqa; a number of students arrested; classes disrupted in the school of the village of Talluza due to curfew; schools and students surrounded in Beituniya and Burqa; and many students denied access to their schools throughout Palestinian districts due to checkpoints.
<b>Provocation of Palestinian Forces</b>	21	30	<b>51</b>	Incl. 7 raids on Palestinian security offices, locations, and checkpoints; 22 incidents of open fire towards Palestinian National Security locations; 4 incidents of forcing Palestinian officers to evacuate their locations; 2 Palestinian security locations surrounded; 11 incidents of setting up Israeli army checkpoints or taking position near Palestinian security locations; and 5 incidents of detaining Palestinian security and Police vehicles.
<b>Settlement Activity</b>	21	4	<b>25</b>	Jerusalem (1), Tulkarem (5), Qalqiliya (3), Nablus (1), Salfit (3), Jericho (3), Bethlehem (1), Hebron (4), Gaza (3), and Rafah (1). The Israeli army levelled and confiscated land in the following districts: <b>Tulkarem:</b> 522 <i>dunums</i> (130.5 acres) in Far'un; <b>Qalqiliya:</b> 80 <i>dunums</i> (20 acres) in Jayyus; <b>Salfit:</b> 389 <i>dunums</i> (97.25 acres) in Az Zawiya and 78 <i>dunums</i> (19.5 acres) in Mas'ha; <b>Bethlehem:</b> 40 <i>dunums</i> (10 acres) in Husan; <b>Hebron:</b> 270 <i>dunums</i> (67.5 acres) in Al Jab'a.
<b>Settler Violence</b>	29	1	<b>30</b>	Israeli settlers carried out attacks in the following districts: Jerusalem (4), Tulkarem (1), Nablus (6), Salfit (4), Jericho (1), Bethlehem (2), Hebron (11) and in Khan Yunis (1). Israeli settlers injured 1 child by a hand grenade; ran over 2 children, aged 8 and 11, and 1 female civilian; carried out 11 attacks on civilians, 1 team of journalists; attempted to abduct students; threw stones; confiscated land; and destroyed property, including setting fire to 6 commercial shops and 2 civilian vehicles.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1790</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>2608</b>	

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

EVENT TYPE	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	COMMENTS
<b>Assassinations</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	7 assassination attempts (compared to 4 in November) during which the Israeli army extra-judicially killed 5 civilians, including 1 child. The Israeli army failed in 4 assassination attempts, resulting in the injury of 3 targeted civilians. The Israeli army also extra-judicially killed 1 targeted civilian in cold blood in the village of Raba in the district of Jenin.
<b>Deaths</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>55</b>	Increase of 29.1% compared to November; death toll rose due to Israeli army incursion into Khan Yunis (resulting in 24 deaths).
<b>Injuries</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>251</b>	Increase of 51.0% compared to November, and a decrease of 96.4% compared to October. The Israeli army injured 80 children compared to 43 last month (an increase of 46.3%) and 103 in October (a decrease of 28.8%).
<b>Incursion</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	The Israeli army carried out an incursion into the western neighbourhoods of the city of Khan Yunis.
<b>Attacks</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>384</b>	An increase in the number of attacks by 30.7% compared to November and a decrease of 47.4% compared to October.
<b>Raids</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>702</b>	Increase in the number of raids by 14.8% compared to November and a decrease of 3.4% compared to October. The number of raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (Areas A) rose to 476 compared to 422 in November (an increase of 11.3%).
<b>Arrests (per person)</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>537</b>	Arrests increased by 18.8% compared to November and dropped by 17.5% compared to October. The number of children arrested dropped to 38 compared to 46 in November and 44 in October.
<b>House Demolitions</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>63</b>	Number of house demolitions increased during the month of December. The majority of houses demolished by the Israeli army were in the western neighbourhoods of Khan Yunis during its incursion and frequent raids. The Israeli army also demolished a number of houses as part of a strategy to reduce the number of Palestinian inhabitants in the city of Jerusalem.
<b>Destruction of Property</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>90</b>	Incidents of destruction of property increased, and the Israeli army continued to raid and close charitable associations, demolish commercial shops, levelled and uprooted hundreds of trees, and demolished sheep pens and 1 poultry farm.
<b>House Occupations</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>29</b>	The Israeli army continued to occupy civilian houses and to convert them into military posts.
<b>Curfews</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>34</b>	An increase by 32.4% compared to November and a decrease of 76.5% compared to October.
<b>Flying Checkpoints</b>	<b>(100s)</b>	<b>(100s)</b>	<b>203</b>	Throughout the West Bank to separate and close all districts and to carry out arrest campaigns.
<b>Closures (per District)</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>Un-known</b>	Complete closure over the past 3 months in all districts, incl. Jerusalem and the Green Line, including the city of Jerusalem, and preventing civilian movement between the districts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
<b>Closure of Crossing Points</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>108</b>	Between the Gaza Strip and the Green Line, preventing workers from entering industrial zones and crossing into the Green Line. Beginning on 12 December, the Israeli army closed the Rafah Crossing.
<b>Medical Obstruction</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	The Israeli army continued to raid hospitals and clinics and prevented medical personnel and ambulances from carrying out their duties.
<b>Attacks on Religious Sites</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	The Israeli army continued to attack religious sites, particularly Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, raided mosques, and prevented civilians carrying Palestinian Authority ID cards without Israeli-issued permits from entering Jerusalem for Friday prayers.
<b>School Disruption</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>28</b>	An increase of incidents of school disruption by 64.3% compared to November. The Israeli army continued to disrupt classes in schools as a result of incursions, raids, and curfews.
<b>Provocation of Pal. Forces</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>51</b>	An increase of 21.6% compared to November and a decrease of 15.7% compared to October.
<b>Settlement Activity</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>25</b>	The Israeli army intensified settlement activity throughout the West Bank, expanded settlements, and continued to construct settlement outposts.
<b>Settler Violence</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>30</b>	Drop in the number of attacks on civilians, their property and land; however, Israeli settlers continued to run over civilians, particularly children.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3718</b>	<b>2324</b>	<b>2608</b>	<b>Total of incidents increased by 10.9% compared to November and decreased by 42.6% compared to October.</b>

## SELECTED EVENTS & ANALYSIS

### 1. Political Prisoners

The Israeli army arrested **537** Palestinians during the month of December, including **470** from the West Bank and **67** from the Gaza Strip. Those arrested included 38 children, 10 female civilians, 1 injured civilian, 1 doctor, 1 ambulance driver, 14 fishermen, and 25 Palestinian officers.

1. A number of political prisoners in Shattah Prison suffer from various health problems due to medical negligence by the Israeli prison administration. *Ala' Kojak*, a political prisoner from Balata refugee camp, suffers from a bullet wound in the chest, a paralysed left arm, and a liver infection, and is in urgent need of a surgical operation.
2. Of 30 Palestinian detainees held at Etzion Detention Centre, 14 child detainees have been subject to frequent assaults. All detainees in the detention centre require cold-weather clothing and have been given poor quality food consisting primarily of carbohydrates.
3. Palestinian detainees held at Huwwara Detention Centre declared a hunger strike after Israeli Special Forces severely beat the detainees, resulting in the injury of 15 detainees with contusions.
4. Ar Ramlah Prison administration imposed severe punishment on 31 female political prisoners, prohibiting family visits for 2 months and denying female prisoners outdoor access for 2 weeks.

### 2. Obstruction of Palestinian Presidential Elections

1. At 20:30 on 08 December, Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint set up east of the city of Jerusalem beat Palestinian presidential candidate Dr. Mustafa Al Barghouthi and his companion and detained them until 21:30. On 27 December, the Israeli army detained Dr. Al Barghouthi again for over 4 hours in the city of Jerusalem while he was conducting an electoral campaign tour, allegedly for not possessing a permit to enter the city.
2. At 17:10 on 10 December, Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint set up between the cities of Jerusalem and Ramallah arrested presidential candidate Bassam as Salhi after severely beating him. The Israeli army later released Salhi on bail.

### 3. Assassinations

The Israeli army continued to conduct extra-judicial killings, carrying out **7** assassination attempts (compared to 4 during the month of November), including **4** in the West Bank and **3** in the Gaza Strip, resulting in the killing of **5** individuals, including 1 child. The Israeli army failed in 4 assassination attempts, but injured 3 targeted individuals in Rafah. The Israeli army also extra-judicially killed in cold-blood 1 targeted individual in the village of Raba in the district of Jenin.

Assassination attempts took place in the cities of Jenin (1), Tulkarem (2), Nablus (1), Northern Gaza (1), Khan Yunis (1), and in Rafah (1) by Israeli Special Forces supported by Israeli army ground troops (4) and by air attacks from Israeli army Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) (3).

1. At 03:00 on 02 December, Israeli Special Forces, supported by a number of jeeps, raided the village of Raba east of the city of Jenin, raided 1 house, and extra-judicially killed *Mahmoud Hammad* after arresting him and leading him to the yard of a neighbouring house.
2. At 01:45 on 23 December, the Israeli army raided Tulkarem refugee camp and extra-judicially killed 3 civilians, including 1 child:
  - (i) *Jamal Khalid 'Azem*, 16 years old;
  - (ii) *Kamel Abdullah Sabarini*, and;
  - (iii) *Iyad 'Azmi Ghuneim*.

The Israeli army also prevented ambulances from transporting the assassinated civilians for an extended period of time.

#### 4. Killings

Compared to 39 Palestinians killed during the month of November, the **Israeli army killed 55 Palestinians in December** (an increase of 29.1%). The number of children killed by the Israeli army dropped from 6 in November to **2** in December. The Israeli army also killed **5** Palestinian security officers in December, compared to 1 in November, 2 mentally challenged civilians, 1 civilian at a checkpoint, and 1 civilian under the rubble of a house demolished by the Israeli army. The Israeli army killed **5 Palestinians in the West Bank**, including 1 in Ramallah, 3 in Jenin, and 1 in Nablus. **In the Gaza Strip, the Israeli army killed 50 Palestinians**, including 2 in Northern Gaza, 3 in Gaza city, 2 in Central Gaza, 33 in Khan Yunis, and 10 in Rafah.

The death toll rose during the month of December as the Israeli army escalated attacks on the western neighbourhoods of the city of Khan Yunis, resulting in the killing of 24 civilians, and as a result of the high number of Israeli army **attacks during raids** (116) on residential locales, **tank shelling and open fire** from Israeli military posts (189), and **air attacks** by Israeli army helicopters and UAVs (21).

1. On 07 December, Israeli army UAVs fired missiles towards 2 civilian crowds in the neighbourhood of Ash Shuja'iyah in Gaza city, killing:  
(i) *Isma'il As Sawarkeh*; and (ii) *'Amer Saleem*.  
The air attacks also resulted in 10 civilian injuries, including 2 children.
2. At 21:45 on 08 December, the Israeli army opened intensive fire towards civilian houses in As Salaam neighbourhood in Rafah refugee camp, killing 4 civilians:  
(i) *Walid At Tarabin*; (ii) *Rashad Abu Sanimeh*;  
(iii) *Iyad Ghayyadh*; and (iv) *Abdul Mu'ti Abu Sheiban*.
3. On 14 December, *Husni Qabha*, 44 years old, died as a result of a stroke after Israeli army troops positioned at the village of Barta'a checkpoint in the western Jenin district denied him access to a nearby health clinic.

#### 5. Injuries

Compared to 123 Palestinians injured by the Israeli army during the month of November, the total number of injuries reported in December was **251** (an increase of 50.9%). The number of civilian injuries rose during the month of December due to an Israeli army incursion into the city of Khan Yunis and as a result of the high number of Israeli army **attacks during raids** (116 compared to 100 in November) on residential locales, **air attacks** by Israeli army combat aircraft (21 compared to 16 in November), and **open fire and shelling** from Israeli army posts (189 compared to 121 last month).

Compared to 72 Palestinians injured by the Israeli army in the West Bank last month, **84** were injured in December (an increase of 14.3%), including 2 in Jerusalem, 35 in Ramallah, 11 in Jenin, 6 in Tulkarem, 13 in Nablus, 2 in Salfit, 2 in Bethlehem, and 10 in Hebron. Compared to 51 Palestinians injured in the Gaza Strip during the month of November, the Israeli army injured 167 civilians (an increase of 69.5%), including 3 in Northern Gaza, 16 in Gaza city, 8 in Central Gaza, 109 in Khan Yunis, and 10 in Rafah.

The **Israeli army injured 80 children** during the month of December, compared to 43 children injured last month, an increase of 46.3%. **12** female civilians were also injured, including 5 elderly civilians, compared to 7 injured last month (an increase of 41.7%). Additionally, the Israeli army injured 1 elderly civilian and 1 ambulance driver. The Israeli army injured 3 Palestinian officers during the month of December, compared to 2 officers injured in November.

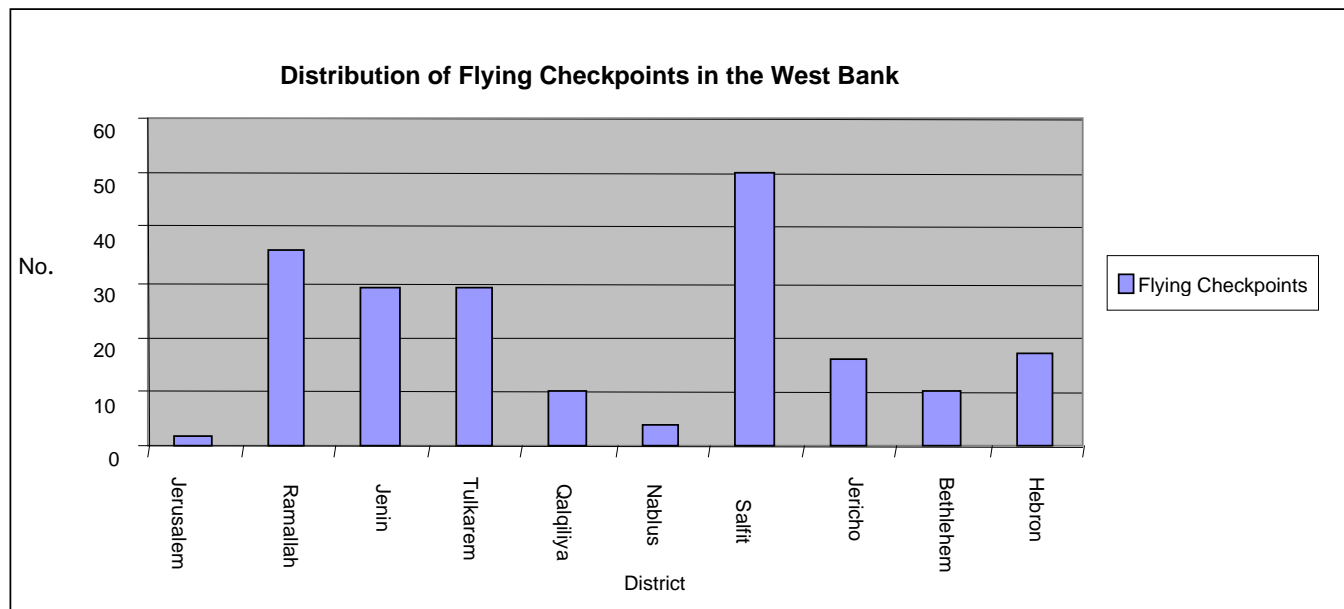
1. At 09:55 on 01 December, the Israeli army opened intensive fire towards civilian houses in the neighbourhood of Yabna in Rafah refugee camp, injuring 2 children, aged 9 and 17.

2. At 06:15 on 14 December, the Israeli army raided Ash Shuja'iyah neighbourhood east of Gaza city and opened intensive fire, injuring 10 civilians, including 3 children.
3. At 19:20 on 28 December, the Israeli army fired several tank shells towards residential neighbourhoods in the city of Khan Yunis, injuring 14 civilians, including 2 critically, 3 children, including a 5-year-old child, and 4 female civilians.
4. At 12:00 on 29 December, 3 children, aged 11, 12, and 15, were injured when an Israeli army UXO exploded in the village of Sir in the southern Jenin district.

## 6. Closure

Since the death of President Yaser Arafat on 11 November 2004, the Israeli army has imposed a total closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, preventing civilians from crossing the Green Line.

In the West Bank, the Israeli army continued to impede civilian movement, prevented civilians from crossing permanent checkpoints set up on main junctions and at the entrances to cities, including Al Kafriyyat checkpoint, which is the only checkpoint by which access to the city of Tulkarem is possible; 'Einav gate between the districts of Tulkarem and Nablus; and Tayasir checkpoint between the districts of Jenin and Jericho. The Israeli army also closed Abu Holi checkpoint between the central and southern areas of the Gaza Strip for 6 days completely and partially throughout the rest of the month.



The Israeli army set up **203 flying checkpoints** within and around Palestinian residential areas and erected dirt barricades at the entrances to residential locales, including the village of Al Mughayyir north of the city of Ramallah, the village of Yasuf south of the city of Salfit, and the towns of Yatta, Beit Ummar, Idhna, and Dura.

In the Gaza Strip, the Israeli army continues to close Nitsareem (*Ash Shuhada'*) junction since the outbreak of the current *Intifada* (Uprising). The Israeli army also closed Sheikh 'Ajlin coastal road for 12 days, Abu Holi checkpoint for 6 days completely and partially throughout the rest of the month. The Israeli army divided the Gaza Strip into 3 sections. In the south, the Israeli army has continued to close Abu Al 'Ajin road (*Khan Yunis Al Sharqiya*) and the Western road (*Khan Yunis*) for 4 years, and impeded civilians attempting to reach their houses in the area of Al Mawasi (which was closed for 9 days completely and partially for the rest of the month).

## 7. Incursion

At 00:05 on 17 December 2004, the Israeli army, including 25 tanks and 5 bulldozers, carried out an incursion into An Namsawi neighbourhood and West Khan Yunis refugee camp. The Israeli army opened intensive fire, fired tank shells, and fired missiles from UAVs, killing 11 civilians:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (i) <i>Rami Abu Sa'dah;</i>      | (ii) <i>Sa'id Abu Sa'dah;</i>    |
| (iii) <i>Shadi Al Haddad;</i>    | (iv) <i>Islam An Nabris;</i>     |
| (v) <i>Khalid Abu 'Ubeid;</i>    | (vi) <i>Jihad Abu Omar;</i>      |
| (vii) <i>'Izz Ad Din Hamdan;</i> | (viii) <i>Ahmed Abu Ramadan;</i> |
| (ix) <i>Hamed Ar Rantissi;</i>   | (x) <i>Mahmoud Bureikh;</i> and  |
| (xi) <i>Ibrahim Al Farra.</i>    |                                  |

The Israeli army also injured 44 civilians, including 2 critically, 13 children, 2 female civilians, and an ambulance driver. The Israeli army occupied residential towers, converted them into military posts, and demolished the wall of Mubarak Public Hospital and 39 houses in West Khan Yunis refugee camp. The Israeli army also caused the disruption of classes in 5 schools serving 4,076 students. At 22:55 on 18 December, the Israeli army withdrew from the area.

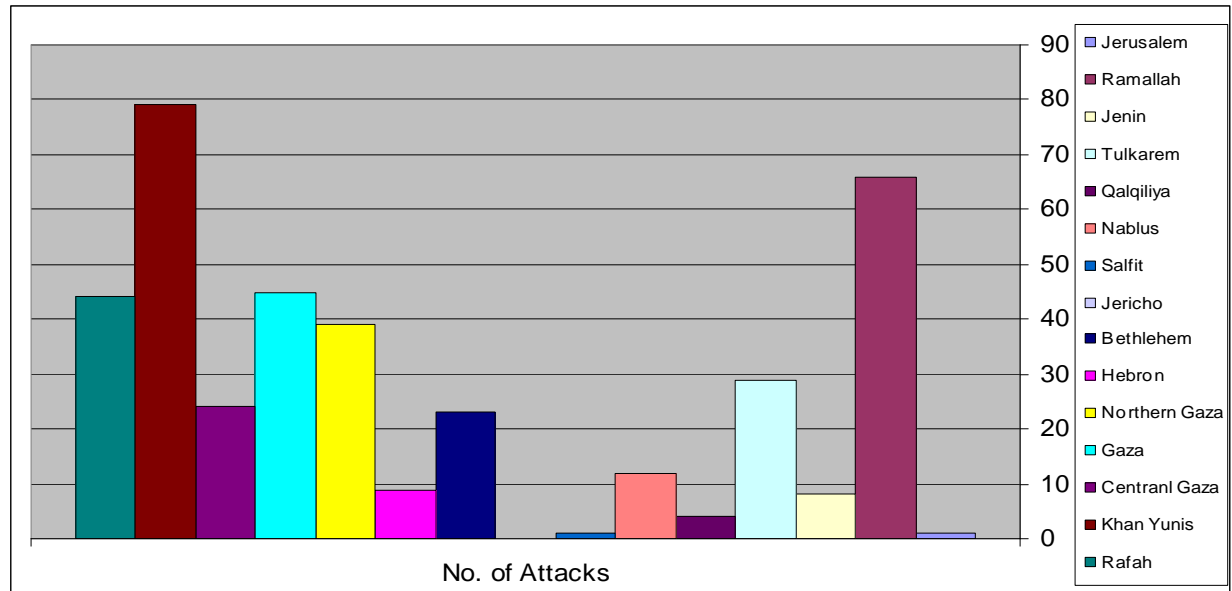
## 8. Attacks

Compared to 266 attacks during the month of November, the Israeli army carried out **384** attacks in December, (an increase of 30.7%), utilizing various forms of weaponry (e.g. helicopter machineguns, tanks shells, naval boats and machineguns), including **153** attacks in the West Bank and **231** in the Gaza Strip.

The majority of Israeli army attacks took place in Ramallah (66), Tulkarem (29), Bethlehem (23), Northern Gaza (39), Gaza city (45), Central Gaza (24), Khan Yunis (79), and in Rafah (44).

The Israeli army carried out **116** attacks during raids on residential areas, **189** attacks from Israeli army military posts towards civilian houses and property, and **52** attacks on demonstrations in solidarity with political prisoners and against construction of the Wall or during confrontations between the Israeli army and civilians. The Israeli army also carried out **21** air attacks using missiles and machineguns, in addition to **6** miscellaneous attacks.

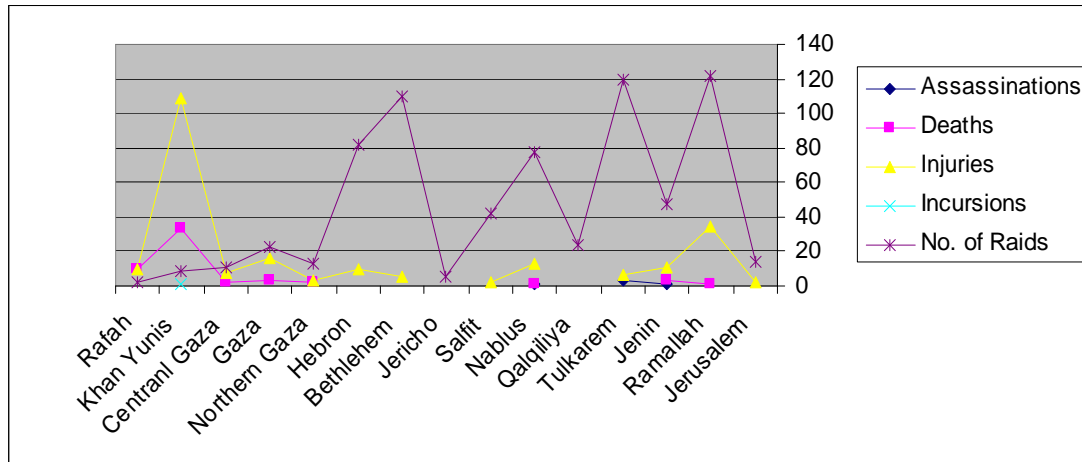
*The chart to the right shows the number of attacks carried out in residential areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.*





## 9. Raids

The Israeli army carried out a total of **702** raids on residential locales during the month of December (compared to 598 raids during November – an increase of 14.8%), including **644** in the West Bank (14 in Jerusalem, 122 in Ramallah, 47 in Jenin, 120 in Tulkarem, 24 in Qalqiliya, 78 in Nablus, 42 in Salfit, 5 in Jericho, 110 in Bethlehem, and 82 in Hebron). The Israeli army also conducted **58** raids in the Gaza Strip, including 13 in Northern Gaza, 23 in Gaza city, 11 in Central Gaza, 9 in Khan Yunis, and 2 in Rafah.



The Israeli army **opened fire during 116 of the 702 raids**, approximately 16.5% of the total number of raids on residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army imposed curfews over 34 residential locales in the West Bank during raids.

The Israeli army continued to intensify raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (**Area “A”** under the Oslo Agreement). The Israeli army conducted **476** of the 702 raids, approximately 67.8% of the total number of raids, on Palestinian cities, towns, villages, and refugee camps.

*The table to the left shows the correlation between the number of raids and resulting human losses.*

- At 01:00 on 22 December, the Israeli army raided An Namsawi neighbourhood and Al Farra towers in the city of Khan Yunis and opened intensive fire, killing 2 individuals, including 1 Palestinian officer, and injuring 3 children. At 22:05, the Israeli army withdrew from the area.
- Beginning at 00:15 on 30 December, the Israeli army remained positioned in Al Amal neighbourhood in the city of Khan Yunis and opened intensive fire. Israeli army UAVs also fired missiles on 3 separate occasions towards civilian crowds, killing 11 individuals, including 1 child, 1 mentally challenged civilian, and 2 Palestinian officers:
  - Mohammed Abu As Sa'id**, 17 years old;
  - Ahmed Touman**, a mentally challenged civilian;
  - Yihya Abu Bukrah**;
  - Sami Abu Khdeir**;
  - Khaled Abu 'Odeh**;
  - Mohammed Khreis**;
  - Jihad Abu 'Iram**;
  - Amjad 'Iram**;
  - Ahmed Abu Sitteh**;
  - 'Arafat Al Bardawil**, an officer; and
  - Usamah Abu Mousa**, an officer.

The Israeli army also injured 11 civilians, including 2 children, and demolished 1 house. The Israeli army remained positioned in the area at the end of December.

## 10. Attacks against Palestinian Governmental Institutions and Military and Security Forces

The Israeli army continued to attack and provoke Palestinian security and military forces and locations. **51** such attacks (compared to 40 in November) were reported during the month of December (a rise of 21.6%), including **21** in the West Bank and **30** in the Gaza Strip. **These figures do not include the killing of 5 Palestinian security officers, the injuring of 3 officers, and the arrest of 25 officers.**

The Israeli army escalated attacks against Palestinian security forces this month in implementation of 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.

1. At 18:30 on 14 December, the Israeli army opened intensive fire and fired several tank shells towards 1 Palestinian National Security location and civilian houses in As Salaam neighbourhood in Rafah refugee camp, killing *Samir Khafajeh*, a Palestinian National Security officer, and injuring 3 civilians, including 1 critically.

#### **Types of Israeli Army Provocations against Palestinian Forces**

<b>Type of Provocation</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Raids on Palestinian security offices, locations, and checkpoints	7	Incl. 4 raids on Palestinian National Security locations, 2 on Palestinian Police stations, and 1 on Palestinian Preventive Security locations. The Israeli army also searched and provoked Palestinian officers, damaged the contents of Palestinian Security offices and locations, and destroyed a Palestinian flag.
Attacks	22	All attacks were reported to have taken place in the Gaza Strip against Palestinian National Security locations, resulting in the killing of 1 Palestinian National Security officer.
Forcing Palestinian security forces to evacuate their locations	4	Palestinian National Security locations in the Gaza districts.
Surrounding Palestinian security locations	2	
Setting up flying checkpoints near Palestinian security locations	11	
Detention of Palestinian security officers and vehicles	5	The Israeli army detained Palestinian security and Police vehicles on duty, including 1 vehicle transporting election ballot boxes from local councils.

#### **11. House Demolitions**

The Israeli army demolished **63** houses during the month of December (compared to **52** in November – an increase of 17.5%), including **2** 5-storey civilian buildings, **2** 3-storey buildings, and **1** 2-storey house. The Israeli army killed 1 civilian under the rubble of 1 house which it demolished in the district of Jenin. Additionally, 5 houses were damaged as the Israeli army demolished a nearby house (using explosives). The Israeli army also demolished 1 residential apartment (using explosives), causing damage to several adjacent apartments.

The Israeli army demolished **12** houses in the West Bank (5 in Jerusalem, 1 in Jenin, 3 in Bethlehem, and 3 in Hebron) and **51** in the Gaza Strip (2 in Gaza city and 49 in Khan Yunis during the Israeli army incursion into the western neighbourhoods of the city).

The total number of house demolitions does not include houses in Al Qaraya Al Badawiya in the northern Gaza district, as the number of houses demolished could not be ascertained. It also does not include the demolition of 2 Bedouin residential compounds in the towns of Bir Nabala and ‘Anata, north and east of the city of Jerusalem, claiming that they are in close proximity to the Wall in order to forcibly transfer residents and to expand the area which the Israeli army will annex to the settlement of Ma’ale Adummim. The Israeli army also distributed notices to 1 civilian to evacuate his house in the town of Al Khadr west of the city of Bethlehem in order to demolish it.

### Breakdown of House Demolitions

Reason	Allegedly for being constructed without a license	Belonging to families of political prisoners	Belonging to families of civilians wanted by the Israeli army	Allegedly in close proximity to Israeli settlements	Allegedly in close proximity to the Wall	Collective Punishment
District						
Jerusalem	5			( 1 Bedouin residential compound)	( 1 Bedouin residential compound)	
Jenin			1			
Bethlehem		3				
Hebron		3				
Gaza						2
Khan Yunis						49
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>51</b>

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

Compared to 83 attacks during the month of November, the Israeli army carried out **90** attacks on public and private property in December. The Israeli army carried out **61** attacks on property in the West Bank (including 11 in Ramallah and 16 in Hebron), and **29** in the Gaza Strip (including 12 in Khan Yunis).

The Israeli army demolished commercial shops in Hebron, Jerusalem, and in Rafah (using explosives), damaged civilian vehicles and house furniture, destroyed 1 civilian vehicle (using explosives) at a checkpoint, damaged the windows of 1 charitable association and 1 medical clinic, and destroyed the contents of 2 charitable associations. The Israeli army also damaged 1 electricity generator, demolished the wall of Tulkarem Public Hospital, uprooted olive trees, fruit bearing trees, and crops, demolished sheep pens and 1 poultry farm, and stole animals.

The Israeli army confiscated JD 11,000 after searching 1 house, 1 civilian vehicle, 3 fishing boats, 1 tractor, mobile telephones, vehicle spare parts, computers, cameras, money from 1 charitable association for disabled civilians, files and maps from 1 charitable association, the contents of the Society of Prisoners' Supporters, and files from 1 charitable association.

### **13. Settlement Activity**

A total of **25** incidents of settlement activity were reported in December (compared to 14 during the month of November – an increase of 44%), including **21** in the West Bank and **4** in the Gaza Strip. As reported in PMG daily situation reports, the Israeli army levelled civilian land in the West Bank for expansion of existing settlements and construction of new settlement outposts. In particular, settlement activity took place in the area of Qalqiliya (in Jayyus, Izbet Salman, and Jal'ud located behind the Wall) in order to implement the Israeli plan of annexing land in a gradual manner. Additionally, while continuing

infrastructure work for the eastern portion of the Wall, which will separate the northern Jordan Valley from the West Bank, the Israeli army confiscated and levelled land in the northern Jordan Valley for settlement expansion.

1. On 06 December, Israeli settlers, under the protection of the Israeli army, began construction of a new settlement outpost called “Nov Hasharon” on 350 *dunums* (87.5 acres) of land belonging to the villages of Izbat Salman and Izbat Jal’ud in the southern Qalqiliya district and established 40 housing units.
2. On 26 December, a group of Israeli settlers from the settlement of Kedumim raided Palestinian civilian land in the village of Kafr Qaddum in the Qalqiliya district and uprooted a number of olive trees in order to expand the settlement. Under the protection of the Israeli army, a group of Israeli settlers also levelled land cultivated with olive trees in the town of Jayyus in order to confiscate it.

#### Types and Sites of Settlement Activity

Type of Activity	Land confiscation for road construction	Land levelling for settlement expansion	Land confiscation for Wall construction	Construction of new settlement outpost	Construction of settler bypass roads	Construction work for military purposes	Expansion of settlement infrastructure	Total
District								
Jerusalem	2				1			3
Tulkarem				1	1	1		3
Qalqiliya		2		1				3
Nablus		1						1
Salfit		1	2					3
Jericho		2				1		3
Bethlehem			1					1
Hebron			2	1			1	4
Gaza					2	1		3
Rafah		1						1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>

#### 14. Settler Violence

Israeli settlers carried out **30** attacks in December (compared to 40 during the month of November), including **29** in the West Bank and **1** in the Gaza Strip. The majority of settler violence took place in Hebron (11) and in Nablus (6). **Israeli settlers ran over 3 Palestinian civilians** during the month of December, compared to 8 such incidents in November, including 2 children and 1 female civilian. Israeli settlers also injured 1 child by a hand grenade, threw stones, injuring 4 civilians, and beat 11 civilians. Israeli settlers also carried out 6 attacks on civilian property, including setting fire to 2 civilian vehicles, 3 incidents of land confiscation, and 3 incidents of attacking religious sites and cemeteries.

1. At 17:45 on 06 December, an Israeli settler's vehicle ran over and injured 8-year-old *Tayseer 'Aql* at the entrance to the village of Haris in the northern Salfit district. The child was transported to hospital following the incident.
2. On 08 December, Israeli settlers threw 1 hand grenade at 15-year-old *Ghalib Abu Sneineh* in the old city of Hebron, severing 3 of his fingers and leaving him with several other injuries.
3. On 28 December, an Israeli settler raided the yard of Al Aqsa Mosque, entered the Islamic Museum, and broke a bottle of alcohol after consuming it before Muslim worshippers.

### **15. Attacks on Religious Sites**

A total of **6** attacks on religious sites were reported during the month of December (compared to 6 attacks in November). All attacks took place in the West Bank, including 3 in Jerusalem, 1 in Nablus, 1 in Bethlehem, and 1 in Hebron.

The Israeli army continued to prohibit worshippers from other districts from accessing Jerusalem to perform Friday prayers in Al Aqsa Mosque. An Israeli settler also raided the yard of Al Aqsa Mosque compound and consumed alcohol. Additionally, the Israeli authorities announced a plan to demolish a wall leading to Al Aqsa Mosque compound, occupied 1 mosque north of the city of Jerusalem and converted it into a synagogue, and raided 3 other mosques in other districts.

1. On 15 December, the Israeli army confiscated a mosque in the village of An Nabi Samwil north of the city of Jerusalem and converted it into a synagogue for Israeli settlers to perform religious rituals in the mosque, claiming that the mosque belongs to their ancestors. The Israeli army and settlers left only 1 room within the mosque for Muslim worshippers.

### **16. Medical Obstruction**

The Israeli army carried out **6** incidents of medical obstruction during the month of December (compared to 13 in November). **4** such incidents were reported in the West Bank, including 1 in Ramallah, 1 in Tulkarem, 1 in Nablus, and 1 in Bethlehem. In the Gaza Strip, the Israeli army obstructed medical services **2** times, including once in Khan Yunis and once in Rafah.

The Israeli army prevented ambulances from transporting injured civilians, detained 1 ambulance at a checkpoint, raided 1 clinic in the town of Al Khadr, demolished the wall of Mubarak Hospital in the city of Khan Yunis, and fired missiles towards the laboratory of Nasser Hospital in Rafah.

1. At 03:40 on 08 December, the Israeli army raided the town of Al Khadr west of the city of Bethlehem, raided a clinic affiliated with the Palestinian Ministry of Health, and destroyed its doors, windows, and some of its contents.

### **17. School Disruption**

The Israeli army carried out **28** incidents of school disruption in December (compared to 10 last month), including **21** in the West Bank (2 in Jerusalem, 4 in Ramallah, 3 in Jenin, 2 in Tulkarem, 5 in Nablus, 1 in Bethlehem, and 4 in Hebron). The Israeli army carried out **7** incidents of school disruption in the Gaza Strip (1 in Northern Gaza, 3 in Gaza city, and 3 in Khan Yunis). The Israeli army fired missiles towards schools, and killed, injured, and arrested students. The Israeli army also disrupted classes in schools due to incursions and curfews, raided schools, and impeded students from reaching their schools at checkpoints.

According to the monthly report issued by the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the Israeli army killed **5** students and **1** teacher, injured 25 students, and arrested 36 students and 6 teachers. The Israeli army also disrupted classes in 41 schools, serving 23,481 students over 62 school days.

1. On 01 December, the Israeli army raided the town of Huwwara south of the city of Nablus and imposed curfew, disrupting classes in 2 schools serving 958 students.
2. On 15 December, the Israeli army continued to impose curfew on the village of Talluza for the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive day, disrupting classes in 2 secondary schools serving 804 students.

### **18. Closure of Crossing Points:**

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

In the West Bank, the Israeli army closed ***Al Karamah*** (Allenby) Crossing for 1 day, preventing civilians from travelling to Jordan and ***Damyā Crossing*** (the commercial crossing point into Jordan) for 2 days. In the Gaza Strip, the Israeli army partially opened ***Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing*** during the month of December to ill civilians and a restricted number of merchants only. However, the Israeli army continued to prevent workers from accessing the ***Erez Industrial Zone*** for work and from crossing the Green Line. The Israeli army also closed ***Al Muntar (Karni) Crossing*** for 9 days, ***Sufa Crossing*** completely for 15 days and partially for 16 days, and completely closed the ***Rafah Crossing*** beginning on 12 December. ***Yaser Arafat International Airport*** remains closed since the outbreak of the current *Intifada* (Uprising).