

PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 October 2009 – 31 October 2009

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 October 2009 to 31 October 2009. The report includes a summary table of events 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 (NAD), and Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). 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 civil ministries and security agencies. The information reported through the PMG process represents data available at the time of distribution only.

SAMPLE OF ISRAELI ARMY VIOLATIONS DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2009

- **On 04 October**, Israeli settlers severely beat a 4-year-old child in the old city of Hebron, leaving him with injuries and contusions.
- **On 04 October**, Israeli army armoured vehicles raided Palestinian territory in the district of Northern Gaza and opened fire, injuring a 15-year-old child. Israeli troops left the injured child bleeding for 15 minutes.
- **On 05 October**, Israeli troops positioned at Qalandiya checkpoint in the district of Jerusalem opened fire indiscriminately on civilians, allegedly for throwing stones. As a result, Israeli troops injured 1 civilian.
- **On 05 October**, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over a 65-year-old civilian in the vicinity of the town of Al Khadr in the district of Bethlehem, leaving him with injuries and contusions.
- **On 11 October**, the Israeli army raided the village of Zif in the district of Hebron. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians, during which the Israeli army injured a 15-year-old child.
- **On 11 October**, the Israeli army opened fire indiscriminately on children near the town of Beit 'Awwa in the district of Hebron, ostensibly for throwing stones. Consequently, the Israeli army injured a 17-year-old child.
- **On 12 October**, a 17-year-old child died of critical injuries sustained on 04 March 2009 during confrontations that took place with the Israeli army in the town of Beit Ummar in the district of Hebron.
- **On 12 October**, a civilian resident of Gaza City died of serious wounds sustained during the Israeli offensive on the Gaza Strip districts.
- **On 16 October**, a mass demonstration, including international peace activists, took place against Wall construction in the village of Bil'in in the district of Ramallah. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and protestors, during which the Israeli army injured 2 civilian participants as well as 1 journalist.
- **On 20 October**, Israeli settlers severely beat a number of civilians in Ash Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood in the city of Jerusalem, leaving 6 civilians with injuries.
- **On 21 October**, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over a civilian along the Qalqiliya-Nablus main road in the centre of the An Nabi Elyas village, leaving him with bone fractures and critical wounds.
- **On 25 October**, Israeli troops raided the grounds of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the city of Jerusalem. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and worshippers, who had held a sit-in demonstration inside the mosque against Israeli settlers' threats to raid it. Consequently, Israeli troops injured 8 civilians and denied access to medics attempting to evacuate them.
- **On 30 October**, Israeli settlers attempted to seize control of a civilian house in the village of Beit Safafa south of the city of Jerusalem. The settlers opened indiscriminate fire and severely beat residents, leaving 2 civilians with injuries and 3 others with contusions. Of these, one was an 89-year-old female civilian who was wounded.

SUMMARY TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY – OCTOBER 2009

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Deaths	2	2	4	Incl. a child of critical injuries sustained during confrontations with Israeli troops.
Injuries	50	9	59	Incl. 7 children; 1 civilian run over by an Israeli army jeep; 1 journalist; 1 Palestinian security officer; and 3 international peace activists.
Attacks	91	94	185	The Israeli army carried out 54 attacks during raids on Palestinian residential compounds; 49 attacks during confrontations with Palestinians; and 30 attacks from Israeli army military posts on civilian houses and property. Israeli navy boats also opened fire on 28 occasions and Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints opened fire on 6 occasions. In addition, Israeli combat aircraft carried out 15 air attacks on Palestinian territory and Israeli settlers opened fire on Palestinian civilians on 3 occasions.
Raids	596	23	619	17 in Jerusalem; 50 in Ramallah; 42 in Jenin; 28 in Tubas; 39 in Tulkarem; 55 in Qalqiliya; 72 in Nablus; 57 in Salfit; 21 in Jericho; 85 in Bethlehem; 130 in Hebron; 7 in Northern Gaza; 3 in Gaza; 1 in Central Gaza; 6 in Khan Yunis; and 6 in Rafah.
Arrests	304	1	305	The Israeli army arrested 65 Palestinians in Jerusalem; 33 in Ramallah; 14 in Jenin; 2 in Tubas; 14 in Tulkarem; 35 in Qalqiliya; 40 in Nablus; 13 in Salfit; 22 in Jericho; 20 in Bethlehem; 46 in Hebron; and 1 in Northern Gaza. Of these, there were 28 children; 2 female civilians; 6 university students; and 8 Palestinian security officers.
House Demolitions	9	—	9	The Israeli army demolished 7 civilian houses in the district of Jerusalem and 2 others in the district of Hebron.
Attacks on Public & Private Property	58	14	72	Destruction of Property: The Israeli army destroyed crops; olive trees; irrigation networks; house furniture; civilian vehicles; houses; and blacksmiths' workshops. Throughout the West Bank districts, the Israeli army also denied Palestinian farmers' access to their land to harvest olive crops. Confiscation of Property: The Israeli army confiscated equipment of a petrol station; 1 personal computer; 1 bulldozer; and 1 hydraulic excavator.
House Occupations	12	—	12	The Israeli army occupied and converted into military posts civilian houses in the districts of Jerusalem (6); Nablus (3); and Hebron (3).
Curfews	6	—	6	The Israeli army imposed curfew on Palestinian residential compounds in the districts of Qalqiliya (4) and Hebron (2).
Closure of Crossing Points	—	151	151	The Israeli army closed international crossing points (Rafah Crossing to Egypt and Yasser Arafat International Airport) on 53 occasions and crossing points to Israel on 98 occasions.
Flying Checkpoints	433	—	433	The Israeli army set up flying checkpoints and searched civilians and vehicles in and around Palestinian residential areas in the districts of Jerusalem (85); Ramallah (31); Jenin (16); Tubas (5); Tulkarem (15); Qalqiliya (55); Nablus (30); Salfit (32); Jericho (28); Bethlehem (49); and Hebron (87).
Medical Obstruction	1	2	3	The Israeli army prevented medics from evacuating injured worshippers from the Al Aqsa Mosque compounds; opened fire on ambulances; and denied access to transport injured civilians to hospitals.
Attacks on Religious Sites	12	—	12	On several occasions, the Israeli army surrounded and raided the grounds of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the city of Jerusalem, prohibited calls to prayers, and forcibly evacuated worshippers. The Israeli army also searched a mosque in the city of El Bireh and closed the Ibrahim Mosque in the old city of Hebron.
School Disruption	8	—	8	The Israeli army disrupted classes at 2 schools on the grounds of the Al Aqsa Mosque compounds; raided and searched a school as well as a students' hostel; surrounded a school; and took position in front of another school.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	11	—	11	The Israeli army provoked Palestinian National Security forces on 2 occasions; Police (7); Preventive Security (1); and Civil Defence (1).
Settlement Activity	8	—	8	The Israeli army confiscated civilian land; installed barbed wire fences; levelled land for expansion of a settlement; and erected a military watchtower.
Settler Violence	74	—	74	Israeli settler vehicles ran over civilians. Israeli settlers opened fire; injured civilians; beat dozens of children and civilians; raided Palestinian villages; gained access to civilian farmland; set fire to olive trees; levelled land; burned a civilian vehicle; and threw stones at civilians and property.
TOTAL	1675	296	1971	

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT	AUG. 2009	SEP. 2009	OCT. 2009	COMMENTS
Deaths	6	11	4	Death toll dropped by 63.6% compared to September and by 33.3% compared to August. Fatalities included 1 child.
Injuries	56	96	59	Drop of 38.5% compared to September, but a rise of 5.4% compared to August. In comparison to 8 children wounded in September and 4 in August, 7 children were injured in October.
Attacks	133	182	185	Increase in the number of attacks by 1.7% compared to September and by 39.1% compared to August.
Raids	634	594	619	Rise of 4.2% compared to September, but a drop of 2.4% compared to August.
Arrests	237	239	305	Increase of 27.6% compared to September and of 28.7% compared to August. In comparison to 31 children arrested in September and 25 in August, 28 children were arrested this month.
House Demolitions	4	—	9	Sharp rise of 125% compared to August.
Attacks on Property	97	68	72	Increase of 5.9% compared to September, but a decrease of 25.8% compared to August.
House Occupations	3	2	12	Sharp rise of 500% compared to September and of 300% compared to August.
Curfews	2	12	6	Drop of 50% compared to September, but a sharp rise of 200% compared to August.
Flying Checkpoints	323	362	433	Rise of 19.6% compared to September and of 34.1% compared to August.
Complete Closure of Crossing Points	123	143	151	Crossing points to Israel were closed on 98 occasions in October, compared to 93 in September and 77 in August. Rafah Crossing and Yasser Arafat International Airport were also closed for 53 days, including Rafah Crossing for 22 days completely. Yasser Arafat International Airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the second <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising) in 2000.
Medical Obstruction	2	—	3	Rise of 50% compared to August.
Attacks on Religious Sites	6	8	12	Increase of 50% compared to September and of 100% compared to August.
School Disruption	—	1	8	Sharp rise of 700% compared to September.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	13	2	11	Remarkable increase of 450% compared to September, but a drop of 0.2% compared to August. In addition, the Israeli army arrested 8 Palestinian security officers this month.
Settlement Activity	3	1	8	Sharp increase of 700% compared to September and of 166.7% compared to August.
Settler Violence	43	54	74	Rise of 37% compared to September and of 72.1% compared to August.
TOTAL	1685	1775	1971	Total incidents rose by 11% compared to September due to the increasing number of deaths, injuries, arrests, attacks, flying checkpoints, curfews, and incidents of closure of crossing points and settler violence. In comparison to August, total events also increased by 17% in light of the rise of raids, flying checkpoints, house demolitions, attacks on property, as well as incidents of provocation of Palestinian security forces, closure of crossing points, and settler violence.

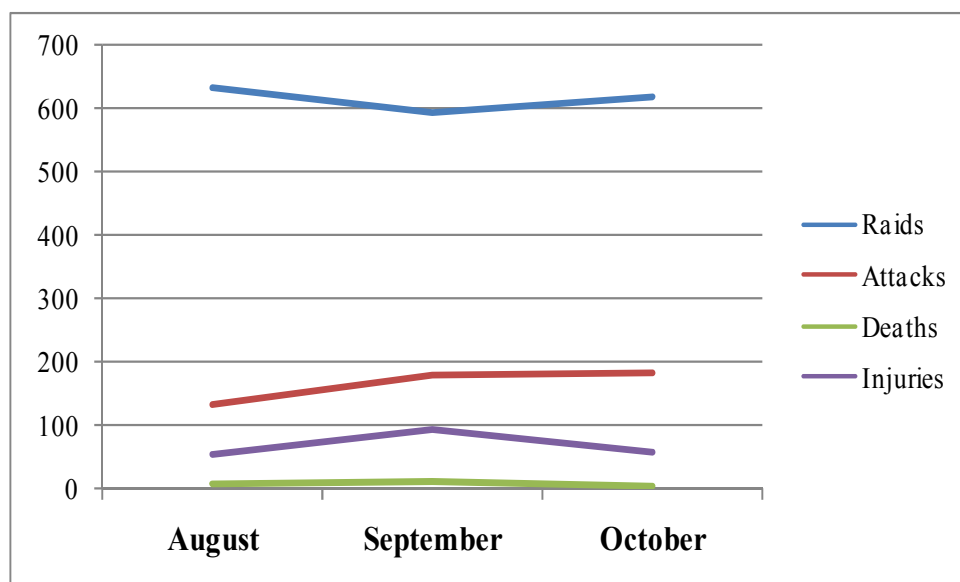
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2009

WEST BANK	NOTES
8	In the districts of Nablus, Salfit, and Hebron, Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 6 Israeli settlers and soldiers. Palestinian security forces also located and handed over 2 tank shells.

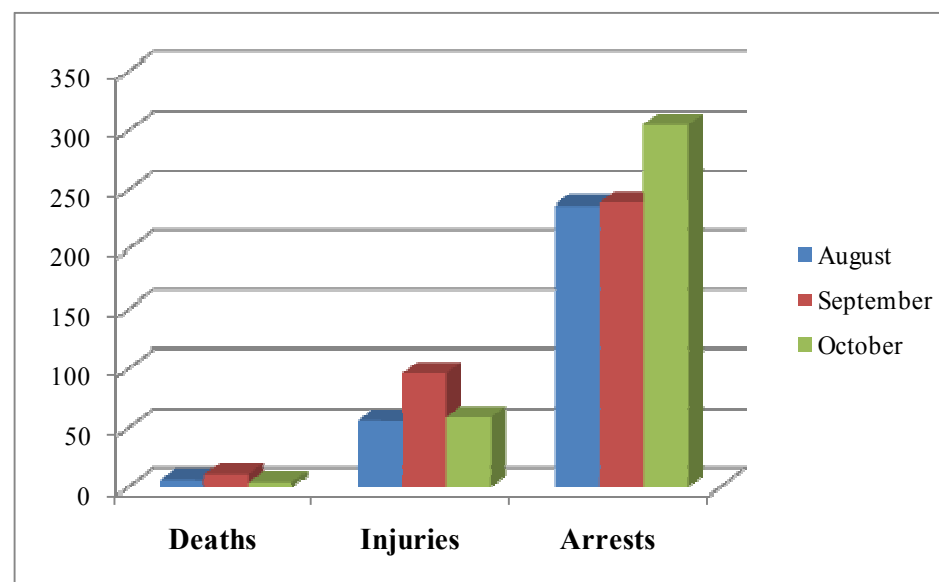
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

AUG. 2009	SEP. 2009	OCT. 2009	NOTES
13	18	8	In October, Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 6 Israeli settlers and soldiers after they had gained access to the PA-controlled territory (compared to 9 in September and 12 in August). Palestinian security forces also located and handed over 2 tank shells (7 in September and none in August).

COMPARISON OF ISRAELI RAIDS, ATTACKS AND PALESTINIAN HUMAN CASUALTIES OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS



COMPARISON OF INCIDENTS OF DEATHS, INJURIES, AND ARRESTS OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS



ANALYSIS OF EVENTS

1. Deaths

During the month of October, the Israeli army killed **4 Palestinians**, including 2 in the West Bank and 2 in the Gaza Strip. Of these, a child died of serious injuries sustained during confrontations with Israeli troops in the town of Beit Ummar in the district of Hebron. A civilian also died after his vehicle turned over while Israeli army patrols were pursuing him in the district of Nablus.

2. Injuries

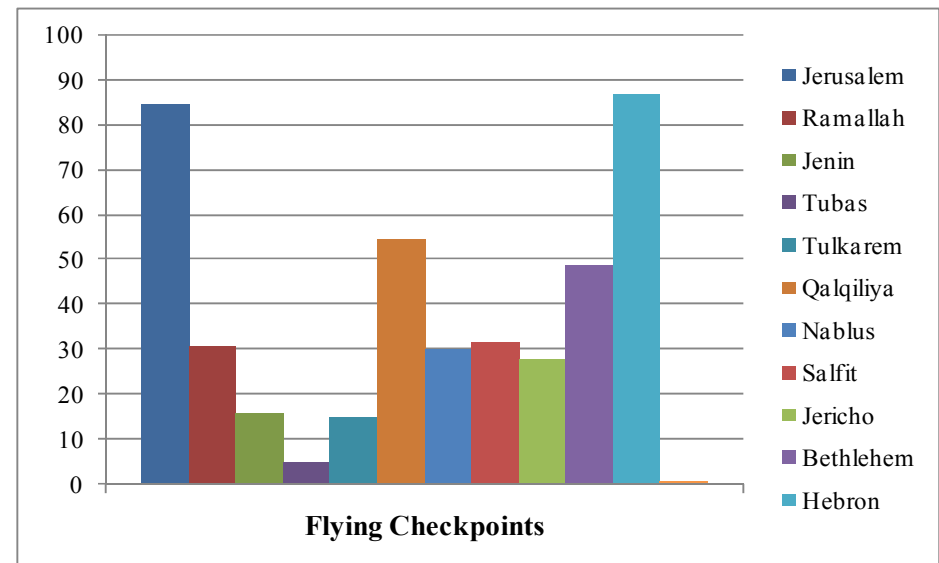
The total number of injuries reported during October was **59** (50 Palestinians in the West Bank and 9 in the Gaza Strip). Reported injuries included 7 children. Of these, Israeli settlers injured 2 children. An Israeli army jeep ran over and wounded 1 civilian. The Israeli army also injured 1 journalist, 1 Palestinian security officer, and 3 international peace activists. Additionally, Israeli settlers injured 12 civilians, including an elderly civilian.

3. Arrests

The Israeli army arrested **305** Palestinians in the month of October, including 304 civilians in the West Bank and 1 in the Gaza Strip. The majority of arrests took place in the districts of Jerusalem, Hebron, Nablus, Qalqiliya, and Ramallah. Among these, the Israeli army arrested 28 children; 2 female civilians; 6 university students; and 8 Palestinian security officers.

4. Closure

Especially on Fridays, the Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions at checkpoints located at the entrances to the city of Jerusalem, closes the entrances to the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the old city of Jerusalem, and prevents civilians from accessing the mosque. Considering it a “border crossing point”, the Israeli army also continues to prevent Palestinian civilian vehicles from the West Bank from crossing *Qalandiya checkpoint* towards the towns of Ar Ram and Qalandiya as well as Dahiyat al Bareed north of the city of Jerusalem. The checkpoint is overcrowded every day, particularly at rush hours, due to intensified restrictions and search measures applied by Israeli troops. Over October, the Israeli army also intensified its restrictions at the *Tayasir checkpoint* and *Al Hamra junction checkpoint* leading to the Jordan Valley area, only allowing access to civilians whose IDs indicate that their place of residence is in the district of Jericho as well as to others holding access permits. In addition, restrictions were intensified and civilian access obstructed at the *Za'tara junction checkpoint* (separating the northern from central West Bank districts) as well as at the *As Sawahira ash Sharqiya (the ‘Container’) checkpoint* (separating the central from southern districts of the West Bank).



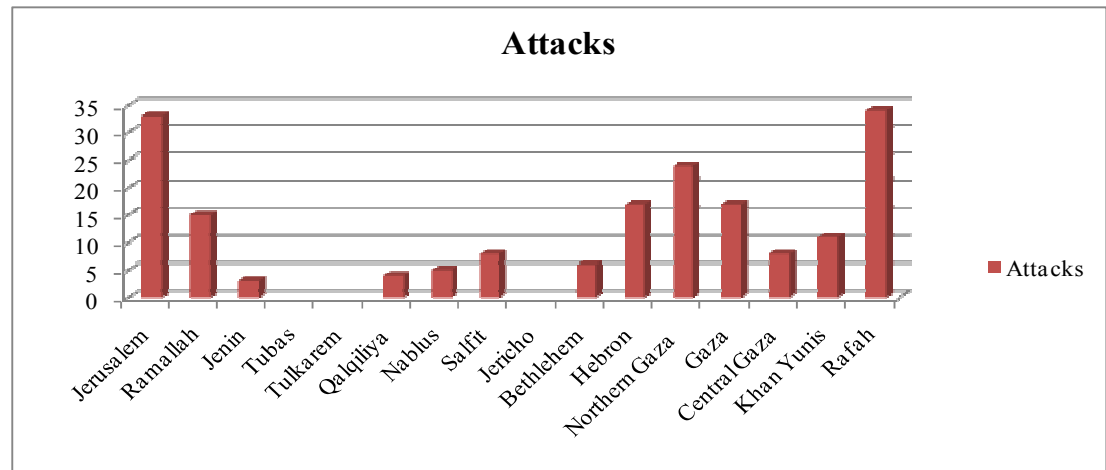
Further impeding civilian movement and access, the Israeli army set up **433 flying checkpoints** in and around Palestinian residential locales throughout the West Bank during the month of October, compared to 362 flying checkpoints in September and 323 in August. In general, Israeli troops positioned at these flying checkpoints disrupted civilian access and movement of goods and agricultural produce.

Additionally, the Israeli navy has continued to impose an intensified sea blockade off the coast of the Gaza Strip and to prevent Palestinian fishing boats from sailing.

5. Attacks

A total of **185 attacks** were reported to have taken place during the month of October: **91** in the West Bank and **94** in the Gaza Strip.

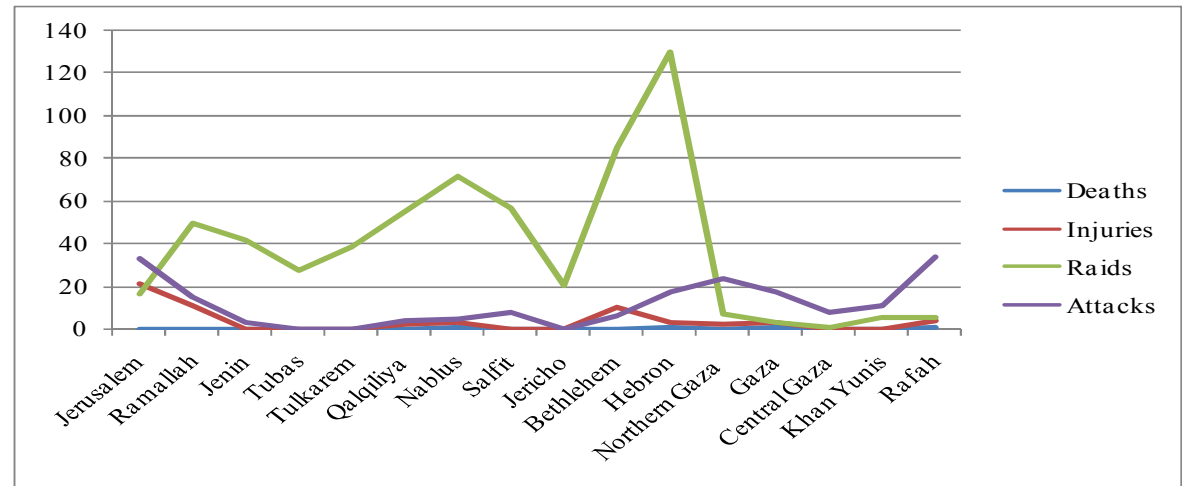
The Israeli army carried out **54 attacks during raids** into Palestinian residential areas, **49 attacks during confrontations** between the Israeli army and Palestinians, and **30 attacks from Israeli army military posts** on civilian houses and property. In addition, Israeli navy boats carried out **28 attacks** and Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints opened fire on Palestinian civilians on **6 occasions**. The Israeli air force also launched **15 air attacks** on Palestinian territory and **Israeli settlers** opened fire on civilians on 3 occasion.



At 02:00 on 18 January 2009, the Israeli army declared a unilateral ceasefire following the large-scale offensive it had launched against the Gaza Strip. However, the Israeli army violated the ceasefire on **94 occasions** during the month of October (compared to 114 violations in September and 76 in August). Also disregarding the Israeli declaration of a unilateral ceasefire, armed Palestinian groups fired **28 mortars** towards the Green Line (compared to 45 mortars fired in September and 16 in August). Armed Palestinian individuals also opened fire on Israeli troops on 7 occasions and detonated 1 explosive device near an Israeli army patrol.

6. Raids

The Israeli army carried out a total of **619 raids** into Palestinian residential locales during the month of October, including **596 in the West Bank** and **23 in the Gaza Strip**. The majority of Israeli army raids took place in the districts of Hebron, Bethlehem, Nablus, Salfit, Qalqiliya, and Ramallah. The Israeli army **opened fire during 103 of the 619 raids**, which is approximately 16.6% of the total number of raids into Palestinian residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army **imposed curfews 6 times over residential compounds** in the West Bank during raids (compared to 12 times in September and 2 in August).



The chart to the right shows the correlation between the number of raids & the resulting human losses in October.

The table below shows Israeli violations and continued attempts to impede large-scale Palestinian security campaigns carried out in the districts of Jenin, Tubas, and Hebron¹, as well as in the city of Nablus:

Month \ Violations	Raids	Attacks	Deaths	Injuries	Arrests	House Occupations	Provocation of Palestinian Forces	Total
October	231	11	—	2 children	100 (incl. 14 children and 1 Palestinian security officer)	2	4	350
September	230	24	1 (a child)	3	59 (incl. 1 female civilian and 1 Palestinian security officer)	2	—	319
August	226	16	—	1	66 (incl. 11 children, 1 female civilian, and 3 Palestinian security officers)	—	3	312

7. Provocation of Palestinian Security Forces

The Israeli army carried out **11** incidents of attacking and provoking Palestinian security forces and posts during the month of October.²

Types of Israeli Army Provocation against Palestinian Forces during the Month of October 2009

Type of Provocation		Notes
Reporting to the Israeli Intelligence agency	3	The Israeli army served summons to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency to 1 Palestinian Police officer in the district of Ramallah; 1 Preventive Security officer in the district of Tulkarem; and 1 Civil Defence officer in the city of Qalqiliya.
Taking position/setting up checkpoints near Palestinian security posts	4	The Israeli army took positions near 2 Palestinian Police stations in the village of Al 'Auja in the district of Jericho and in the city of Beit Jala in the district of Bethlehem, as well as near a Palestinian National Security patrol in the city of Hebron. The Israeli army also surrounded a Palestinian Police station in the town of Beit Fajjar in the district of Bethlehem.
Detaining and searching Palestinian security officers and patrols	4	The Israeli army detained 2 Palestinian Police vehicles near the town of Turmus'ayya in the district of Ramallah; a National Security vehicle at the Za'tara junction checkpoint in the district of Salfit; and a Police officer riding a motorcycle in the city of Hebron. Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint set up on the junction to the village of Al 'Auja in the district of Jericho also detained and denied access to a Palestinian Police vehicle.

¹ This table does not cover Israeli violations in the H2 area of the old city of Hebron, which is under full Israeli security control.

² These statistics do not include the arrest of 8 Palestinian security officers.

8. Attacks on Public and Private Property

A total of **72 incidents of destruction and confiscation** of Palestinian public and private property were reported to have taken place over the month of October, including **58** in the West Bank and **14** in the Gaza Strip.

Israeli settlers cut down and set fire to hundreds of olive trees in the districts of Ramallah, Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, Salfit, and Hebron. The Israeli army prevented civilians from accessing their land and harvesting olive crops in the districts of Jenin, Qalqiliya, Nablus, Salfit, Bethlehem, and Hebron. Israeli combat aircraft carried out air attacks on Palestinian territory south of the city of Rafah, destroying a number of civilian houses. The Israeli army also damaged furniture of 2 civilian houses in the districts of Nablus and Jericho; broke a glass window at a school in the village of 'Anin in the district of Jenin; and destroyed a taxi in the district of Qalqiliya. A civilian vehicle turned over while Israeli army patrols were pursuing it in the district of Nablus. Furthermore, Israeli troops and settlers set fire to a civilian vehicle as well as 50 bales of hay in the district of Nablus; burned a civilian vehicle and broke windshields of 4 other vehicles in the district of Salfit; and destroyed irrigation networks as well as crops in the district of Jericho. In the district of Hebron, the Israeli army levelled farmland and removed land fences east of the city of Hebron, as well as prevented civilians from reclaiming 25 *dunums* (6.177 acres) of land located at a distance of 400 metres north of the settlement of Karmeit Tzur. During air attacks on the districts of Northern Gaza and Gaza, Israeli combat aircraft shelled and destroyed 2 blacksmiths' workshops. The Israeli army also levelled agricultural land in the districts of Northern Gaza, Gaza, Khan Yunis, and Rafah.

The Israeli army confiscated equipment from a petrol station in the district of Jerusalem; 1 personal computer in the district of Bethlehem; as well as 1 bulldozer and 1 hydraulic excavator in the district of Hebron.

9. Settlement Activity

A total of **8 incidents of settlement activity** were reported to have taken place in the West Bank during the month of October. The Israeli army levelled 10 *dunums* (2.471 acres) of civilian land in the town of Beit Furik and the village of 'Awarta in the district of Nablus for construction of a number of housing units in the settlement of Itamar. The Israeli army also levelled civilian land in the areas of Wadi an Nasara and Al Baq'a near the settlement of Kiryat Arba' east of the city of Hebron. In the district of Jerusalem, the Israeli army confiscated 584 *dunums* (144.309 acres) of land in the town of 'Anata, the village of Al 'Isawiya, and the areas of Al Khan al Ahmar and An Nabi Musa for construction of a settler bypass road. In addition to installing a barbed wire fence along Road # 60 in the vicinity of the city of Beit Jala, the Israeli army levelled land along the road to the settlement of Beitar 'Ilat in the district of Bethlehem for construction of cement walls. Moreover, the Israeli army erected a military watchtower on the Wall section in the town of Jayyus in the district of Qalqiliya and installed a barbed wire fence along the Qalqiliya-Nablus main road in the area between the town of 'Azzun and the settlement of Ma'ale Shomron.

10. Settler Violence

Over the month of October, Israeli settlers carried out **74 incidents of violence** in the West Bank districts. An Israeli settler vehicle ran over a civilian along the Qalqiliya-Nablus main in the centre of the An Nabi Elyas village, leaving him with bone fractures and serious wounds. Another Israeli settler vehicle ran over and injured a 65-year-old civilian near the town of Al Khadr in the district of Bethlehem. Israeli settlers opened fire on a number of civilians along the Nablus-Jenin main road; threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling along the Qalqiliya-Nablus main road near the village of Jit; and verbally abused as well as threw stones and garbage at civilians in the old city of Hebron. In addition, Israeli settlers severely beat and injured 7 civilians in the city of Jerusalem, as well as 5 other civilians, including 3 children, in a public park near the city of Beit Jala in the district of Bethlehem. In the city of Hebron, Israeli settlers assailed a number of civilians in the area of Qizun and severely beat 2 children, 4 and 13 years old respectively, in the old city of Hebron.

Incidents of Israeli settler violence intensified remarkably during this year's **olive harvest season**. Settlers assaulted farmers; denied access to olive groves; prevented civilians from harvesting olive crops; and stole the olive crop. The majority of Israeli settler violence incidents were reported to have taken place in the town of Sinjil in the district of Ramallah; the town of Kafr Thulth and the villages of Jinsafut and Kafr Qaddum in the district of Qalqiliya; and in the villages of Qaryut, 'Azmut, 'Iraq Burin, and Qusin in the district of Nablus. In the district of Hebron, Israeli settlers attacked Palestinian farmers in the area of Wadi al Hassin in the old city of Hebron and in the area between Al Fawwar refugee camp and the settlement of Hagai. Israeli settlers cut down and burned dozens of olive trees in the town of Turmus'ayya in the district of Ramallah. Settlers also set fire to olive and forest trees cultivated on 200 *dunums* (49.421 acres) of groves north of the town of Ya'bad in the district of Jenin as well as to 100 olive trees in the town of Qaffin in the district of Tulkarem. In the district of Qalqiliya, Israeli settlers cut down and burned approximately 100 olive and almond trees in the village of Kafr Qaddum, in the villages of Jit and Immatin, and near the settlement of Kfar Kedumim. In addition to destroying olive trees in the village of Al Lubban ash Sharqi in the district of Nablus, Israeli settlers set fire to olive and almond trees in the village of Qaryut as well as opened fire on Palestinian Civil Defence fire trucks, resulting in the damage of 100 trees. In Salfit, settlers burned olive trees in the village of Marda near the settlement of Ari'el and in the village of Qarawat Bani Hassan. In Hebron, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Negohot cut down olive trees on land belonging to the village of Khirbet Fuqeiqis. Settlers also cut down olive trees in the area of Wadi as Suwweid near the settlement of Sussia in the district of Hebron.

Additionally, Israeli settlers raided and attempted to seize control of a civilian house in the village of Beit Safafa south of the city of Jerusalem. Meantime, settlers opened fire indiscriminately and severely beat residents, injuring 5 civilians, including an 89-year-old female civilian. In the district of Nablus, Israeli settlers attempted to raid the village of 'Iraq Burin and assaulted civilians; attacked a civilian house in the village of 'Asira al Qibliya; attempted to seize control of an uninhabited house near the village of Deir Sharaf; and raided the village of 'Einabus and attempted to steal a tractor. Israeli settlers also gained access to the village of Beit 'Amra in the district of Hebron and to civilian land in the vicinity of the villages of Ras Karkar, Deir 'Ammar, Kafr Malik, as well as in the area of 'Ein Samiya in the district of Ramallah. Furthermore, Israeli settlers raided civilian land in the village of Jit in the district of Qalqiliya and in the area of Wadi al Quff between the city of Hebron and the town of Tarqumiya.

Protected by the Israeli army, Israeli settlers gained access to the evacuated settlement of Homesh in the district of Jenin and to 'Ush Ghurab military post in the district of Bethlehem. In Nablus, Israeli settlers set fire to a civilian vehicle as well as to 50 bales of hay near the village of 'Asira al Qibliya. Having also burned a civilian vehicle near the entrance to the town of Kifl Haris in the district of Salfit, settlers threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling along the main road near the village of Marda, breaking the windshield of a civilian vehicle. Also in Salfit, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Revava levelled civilian land in the town of Deir Istiya. In addition, Israeli settlers denied access to a Palestinian Civil Defence fire truck to extinguish fire erupting on an uninhabited house in the area of the Al Laban Market in the old city of Hebron.

11. Medical Obstruction

During the month of October, the Israeli army carried out **3 incidents of medical obstruction** in the West Bank. The Israeli army prevented medics from evacuating injured civilians in the area surrounding the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the city of Jerusalem; denied access to ambulances attempting to evacuate an injured civilian in the district of Northern Gaza; and opened fire on ambulances, denying their access to evacuate injured civilians east of Ash Shuja'iya neighbourhood east of Gaza city.

12. School Disruption

In the West Bank, the Israeli army carried out **8 incidents of school disruption** over the month of October. The Israeli army disrupted classes for 2 days at 2 schools on the grounds of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the city of Jerusalem; raided and searched a students' hostel belonging to the Teachers' Institute in the city of Ramallah; and raided a secondary boys school in the village of 'Anin in the district of Jenin. The Israeli army also took position in front of a secondary high school in the town of Ya'bad in the district of Jenin and surrounded a school in the city of Hebron.

13. Attacks on Religious Sites

The Israeli army carried out **12 attacks on religious sites** in the West Bank this month. In the old city of Jerusalem, the Israeli army raided the grounds of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound on 2 occasions, denied worshippers' access to perform noon prayers, cut off electricity, and prevented calls to prayers. Having designated only 1 gate for civilian access, Israeli troops threatened to raid the mosque and expelled worshippers. Additionally, the Israeli army searched 1 mosque in the city of El Bireh and closed the Ibrahimi Mosque in the old city of Hebron.

14. Closure of Crossing Points

The Israeli army completely closed crossing points in the Gaza Strip, including access points within the Green Line, on **151** occasions over the month of October. The Israeli army closed crossing points within the Green Line on **98** occasions, including ***Sufa Crossing*** throughout the month (31 days). Meanwhile, the Israeli army opened ***Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing*** for 22 days for previously-coordinated humanitarian cases and foreign nationals; ***Ash Shuja'iyah (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing*** for 5 days for transportation of fuel; ***Al Muntar (Karni) Commercial Crossing*** for 7 days for transportation of wheat and animal feed; and ***Karm Abu Salem (Karem Shalom) Crossing*** for 23 days for transportation of food supplies and humanitarian aid.

The Israeli army also closed international crossing points on **53** occasions. ***Rafah Crossing*** was open for **9** days for hundreds of ill civilians who had received medical treatment at Egyptian hospitals and for civilians, whose residence permits in Egypt had expired. Injured civilians were also allowed to leave for and receive medical attention in the United Arab Emirates through the Rafah Crossing. ***Yasser Arafat International Airport*** (closed throughout the 31 days of October) has remained closed since the outbreak of the second *Intifada* (Uprising).

15. Palestinian Security Measures

During the month of October, Palestinian security forces carried out **8 security measures** in the West Bank districts of Nablus, Salfit, and Hebron. Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 6 Israeli settlers and soldiers who had gained access to the PA-controlled territory. Palestinian security forces also located and handed over 2 tank shells.