



Overview





The end of May marked the 239th day of Israel's genocidal aggression against the **Gaza Strip**, as the Israeli occupation forces (IOF) continued to commit mass massacres by targeting defenseless Palestinian civilians and their property in the Gaza Strip. During May, the IOF concentrated its operations in the city of Rafah and its surroundings in the south and the Jabalia refugee camp in the north.







And in complete disregard of the decision of the International Court of Justice to immediately halt the attack on Rafah, the IOF committed the most horrific massacre in Rafah by targeting the tents of displaced people west of the city on the evening of May 26, which led to the martyrdom of at least (45) Palestinians and the injury of dozens, the majority of whom were children. Disregarding [international condemnations](#), the next day, the IOF targeted an area of tents housing displaced people west of Rafah, resulting in the martyrdom of at least (21) Palestinians. Based on the occupation army's assessment, the targeted area was not a military operations area.

Moreover, in addition to expanding its military operations on the ground, the IOF deliberately deepened the displacement crisis. It forced about 1.4 Palestinians who were residing in the city of Rafah, the majority of whom were displaced, to leave the city and forcibly go to the areas west of Khan Yunis and the center of the Gaza Strip, where relief services are not sufficiently available, such as drinking water in addition to food scarcity and the spread of infectious diseases due to overcrowding. It forced about 1.4 Palestinians who were residing in the city of Rafah, most of whom were displaced, to leave the city and forcibly move to the areas west of Khan Yunis and the center of the Gaza Strip. In this area, relief services are insufficient, and water and food are scarce. Additionally, overcrowding exacerbates the spread of infectious diseases.

In the **West Bank, including occupied Jerusalem**, the IOF continued to storm Palestinian villages, cities, and towns, firing live bullets at citizens, arresting many young men and children, abusing them and their families, and encouraging settlers to carry out several terror attacks against Palestinians and their property.

Key Facts & Figures



	At least 1,850 Palestinians were killed [1,820 martyrs in Gaza and 30 martyrs in the West Bank. Between 7 October 2023 and the end of May 2024: at least 36,890 Palestinians were killed, including 36,370 martyrs in Gaza and 520 martyrs in the West Bank]. (Ministry of Health [MoH])
	+4,830 Palestinians were injured, incl. +4,700 in Gaza. Between 7 October 2023 and the end of May 2024, at least 87,400 Palestinians were injured, incl. at least 82,400 in Gaza. (Ministry of Health)
	Since the aggression began and until the end of May 2024, more than 3,200 massacres have been committed in Gaza. (Media Sources) Additionally, it's estimated that +10,000 missing people are under the rubble. (MoH)
	There were 244 shooting incidents in all West Bank governorates, along with 1,004 military incursions and 452 sudden military checkpoints. (NAD)

	<p>At least 236 Israeli settlers' terror attacks.¹ (NAD)</p>
	<p>At least 640 Palestinians were arrested, incl. 81 women and 54 children. The number of Palestinian prisoners reached more than 9,300 at the end of May 2024, incl. 502 children. The highest rate of arrests in the West Bank was in Jerusalem, where 191 detention cases were recorded, followed by Hebron (155). There is no information available on the number of Palestinian prisoners from Gaza and how many were killed. The total number of captive martyrs remains at least 18 since 7 October 2023, no cases were reported in May 2024. (Palestinian Prisoners Society & The Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs Commission).</p>
<p>Israel's Genocidal Aggression Against the Gaza Strip</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ According to the Ministry of Health's latest figures, approximately 5% of Gaza's population has been killed, injured, or gone missing between 7 October 2023 and the end of May 2024. ▪ The entire population of the Gaza Strip is facing high levels of acute food insecurity and, therefore, is close to starving, as defined by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC). A study conducted by IPC back in March indicated that half of the Gaza Strip's population (1.11 million people) is expected to experience catastrophic/famine conditions between mid-March and mid-July. 	
	<p>As of 15 April 2024, 370,000 housing units across Gaza had been damaged, with 79,000 destroyed. According to a joint report by UNDP and ESCWA, it would take until 2040 to reconstruct the destroyed housing units.</p>
	<p>According to UNRWA, as of 26 May 2024, nearly 945,000 people had been displaced from Rafah since 6 May, with a further 100,000 displaced in northern Gaza. Displaced Palestinians sheltering in UNRWA facilities in Rafah all fled to Khan Younis and Deir Al Balah. More than 90% of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip have been displaced at least once.</p>
	<p>Since the aggression began, Israeli bombardment has damaged 179 UNRWA facilities, resulting in the killing of 192 UNRWA personnel in addition to the killing of no less than 450 displaced persons in its shelters and the wounding of no less than 1,476 people. (UNRWA)</p>
	<p>Attacks on the Education Sector: Since the aggression began, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education², 119 government schools have been bombed and severely damaged, with more than 62 schools destroyed in addition to 126 schools that witnessed attacks, vandalism and parts of its buildings were partially destroyed. More than 6649 students and 334 education sector staff have been killed. More than 10800 students and 1089 staff members have been injured. At least 620 thousand students were deprived of their access to their schools³. The Ministry also reported that 65</p>

¹ Multiple attacks may occur in the same incident

² In the new Palestinian government, the Ministries of Education and Higher Education have been merged into one ministry.

³ According to a report from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, from 7 October 2023 to 31 May 2024, more than (642) students and staff were killed, including (547) students and (95) staff. Additionally, (19) higher education institutions were severely damaged, with more than 31 buildings entirely destroyed and (55) buildings partially damaged. More than 88 thousand students were deprived of their education in all (19) higher education institutions in Gaza.

	<p>UNRWA schools were damaged. And according to a recently published report, approximately 80% of schools in Gaza were destroyed or targeted by the IOF.</p>
	<p>Attacks on the Health Sector: Since the onset of the aggression, IOF have carried out a total of (944) attacks on health facilities and workers, 464 of which occurred in Gaza. The number of health centers targeted (partially and completely) since 7 October has reached 155 institutions. Moreover, (27) hospitals and (53) healthcare centers became out of service until the end of May 2024. These attacks resulted in the killing of more than (500) health personnel and the wounding of hundreds of others, in addition to the detention and arrest of no less than (310) health workers. The IOF targeted and destroyed (130) ambulances. (Ministry of Health). A report issued by the World Health Organization revealed that since Israel's aggression last October until 29 May, (14) hospitals out of (36) became partially operational in the Gaza Strip, including a hospital in the north of the Strip, (7) hospitals in Gaza, (3) hospitals in Deir al-Balah, (3) hospitals in Khan Yunis, while all hospitals in Rafah were out of service due to the Israeli invasion. In addition, (39) of the (97) healthcare centers remained partially operational. The IOF carried out (464) attacks against health facilities and their workers, which led to the killing of (727) health personnel and the wounding of at least (933) others, in addition to the detention and arrest of more than (128) health workers.</p>
	<p>Attacks on Journalists: In May alone, (5) Palestinian journalists and media workers were killed in Gaza, along with (10) other family members of journalists who were murdered in Israeli strikes on their homes. Additionally, rockets, fragments, and bullets severely wounded (5) journalists, and (6) journalists' homes were destroyed entirely. Since the aggression began, the IOF has killed 140 journalists and media workers in Gaza. It has displaced over 1,500 journalists, targeted hundreds of journalists' families' homes, and destroyed 84 media offices⁴. (Journalists' Syndicate)</p>

Examples of the occupying Power's deliberate attacks on Palestinian hospitals and shelters and civilians in Gaza during May 2024:

- [Massacres in Jabalia Camp and its vicinities in the northern Gaza Strip](#): On May 31, after twenty days of continuous military operations in Jabalia Camp and its surrounding areas, the IOF withdrew from northern Gaza, leaving behind massive destruction to citizens' homes and infrastructure. Medical services and civil defense crews recovered the bodies of at least (70) citizens from the neighborhoods and streets of Jabalia camp, Beit Lahia, and Tal al-Zaatar. The IOF also [burned the building of the Indonesian Hospital](#) in the northern Gaza Strip, where the fire consumed everything inside the hospital departments, including repaired medical equipment after the first invasion. A circulated [video](#) showed the Civil Defense recovering the bodies of children, paramedics, and Civil Defense crews who were trying to help the wounded as Israeli tanks targeted them.
- [Rafah massacre - targeting a camp for displaced people in Rafah](#): On the evening of May 26, the IOF killed at least (45) citizens and injured about 250 others as a result of Israeli airstrikes bombing the tents of the displaced people in a newly established displacement camp near UNRWA warehouses northwest of Rafah. The majority of the

⁴ During May, the IOF committed (72) violations against Palestinian journalists in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Other examples include the IOF arresting (3) journalists by raiding and storming their homes, including at military checkpoints in the West Bank; there were (9) cases of opening fire directly at journalists to intimidate them; (7) Journalists suffered suffocation from tear gas; (23) Journalists were detained and prevented from covering the news; and there were (6) cases of destroying and confiscating journalists' equipment.

martyrs were children and women. On the evening of May 27, the IOF killed (21) citizens and injured (64) others, including (10) wounded in critical condition during an Israeli raid on a camp for displaced people in Rafah.

- Targeting mosques in Rafah: As part of its invasion of the city of Rafah, the IOF destroyed many mosques, including burning the [Al-Sahaba Mosque](#) in the Al-Shouka neighborhood. Additionally, [Ibn Taymiyyah Mosque](#) was reduced to rubble, and its minaret collapsed. Eyewitnesses reported that the bombing targeted a group of citizens near the mosque, killing (3) citizens.

Israel's Aggression Against the West Bank

- In May 2024, The Jenin Governorate recorded the highest number of martyrs, with (13) Palestinians killed during several IOF incursions into Jenin city and its refugee camp, followed by the Tulkarem Governorate, where the IOF killed (10) Palestinians.
- According to the Palestinian Ministry of Education, since the aggression began and until the end of May 2024, the IOF attacked (69) public schools, killed (62) students, injured (349) students and (9) teachers were injured, and arrested (130) students and more than (88) teachers.
- In addition to the bodies of (256) martyrs in the Cemeteries of Numbers, Israel currently withholds the bodies of (251) Palestinian martyrs, including (32) children, (27) prisoners, and (4) women. In May 2024, the occupation authority withheld the bodies of (6) martyrs from the West Bank, including occupied Jerusalem. ([National Campaign for the Recovery of Martyrs' Bodies](#)).⁵

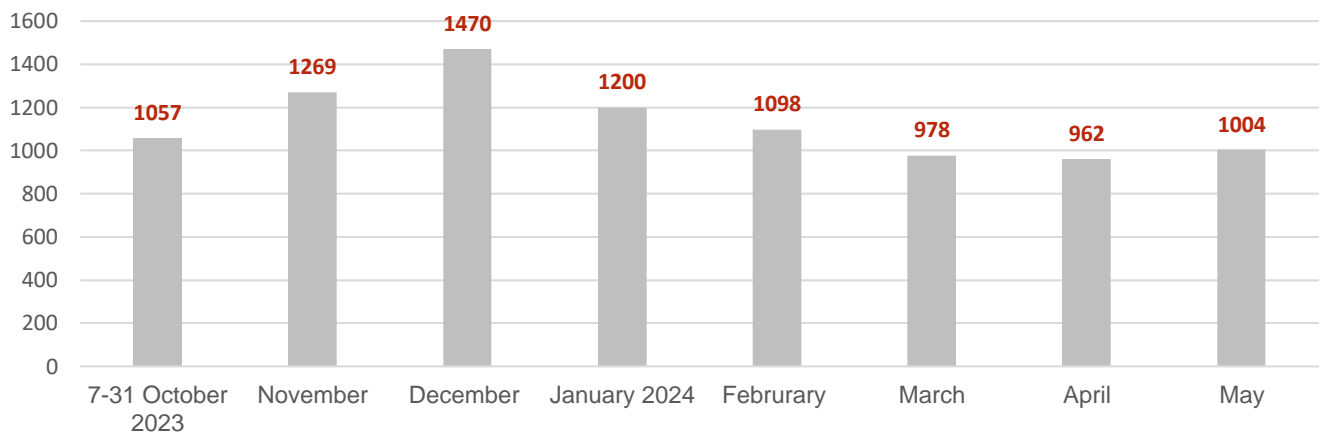


The occupation authorities advanced nearly 1,200 settlement units in the West Bank, including occupied Jerusalem, in addition to approving several other colonial settlement projects. ([Peace Now & Ir Amim](#))



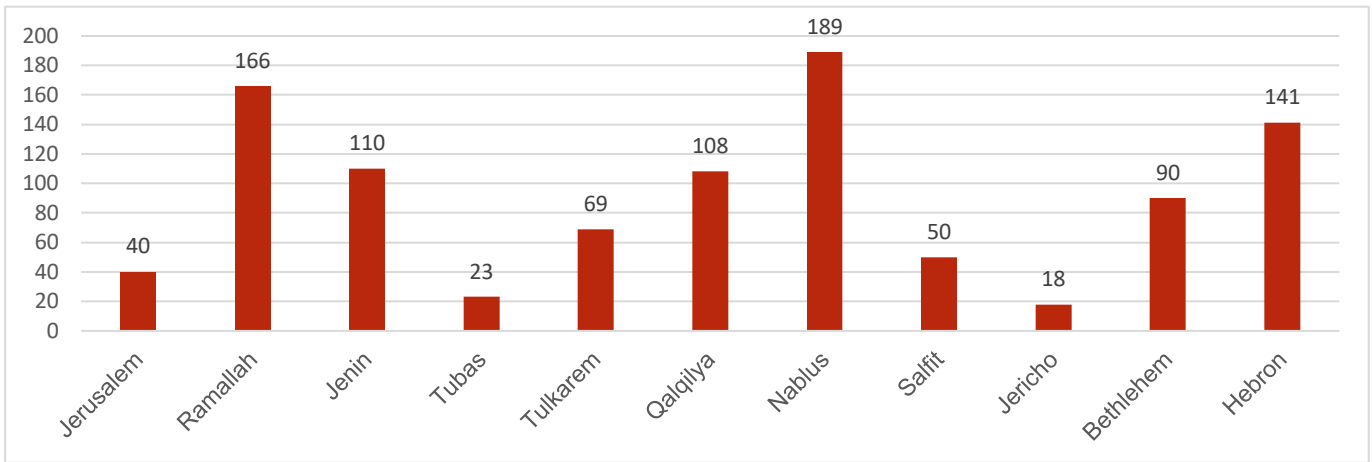
The IOF demolished 81 Palestinian structures, including 26 homes and 2 donor-funded structures, resulting in the displacement of 25 families (131 people, incl. 72 children), and otherwise affecting 152 families (746 individuals, incl. 305 children). In occupied Jerusalem, IOF demolished 14 structures, including 5 homes, resulting in the displacement of 4 families (22 people, incl. 11 children). ([UNOCHA](#))

Israeli Military Raids by Month: 7 October 2023 – 31 May 2024

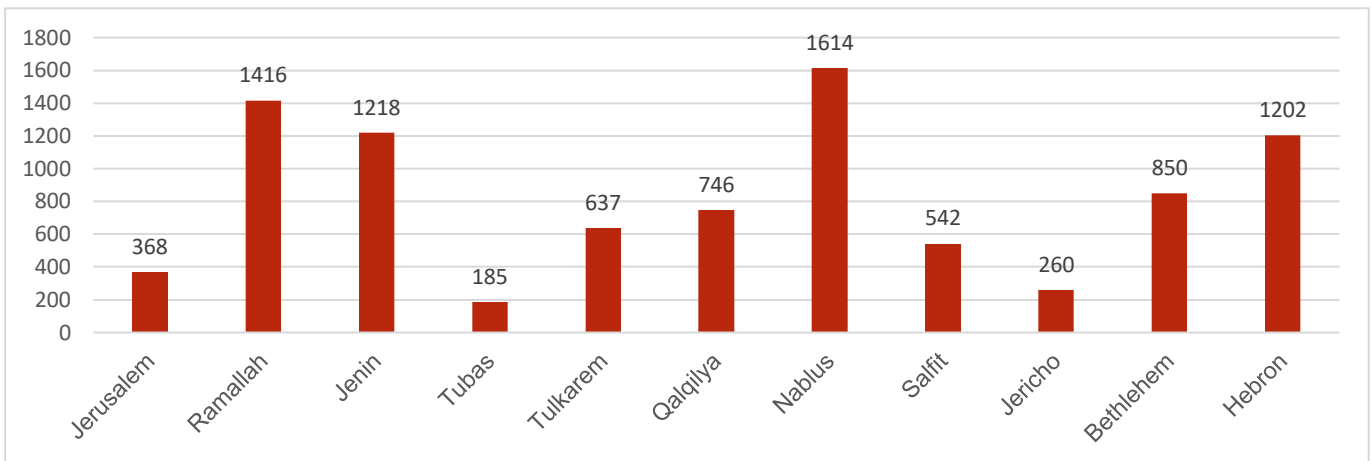


⁵ While information about the identities and numbers of the rest of Gaza's martyrs is not yet available, it is expected that hundreds of their bodies are being held by the occupation authorities.

Israeli Military Raids by Governorate: May 2024



Israeli Military Raids by Governorate: 7 October 2023 – 31 May 2024

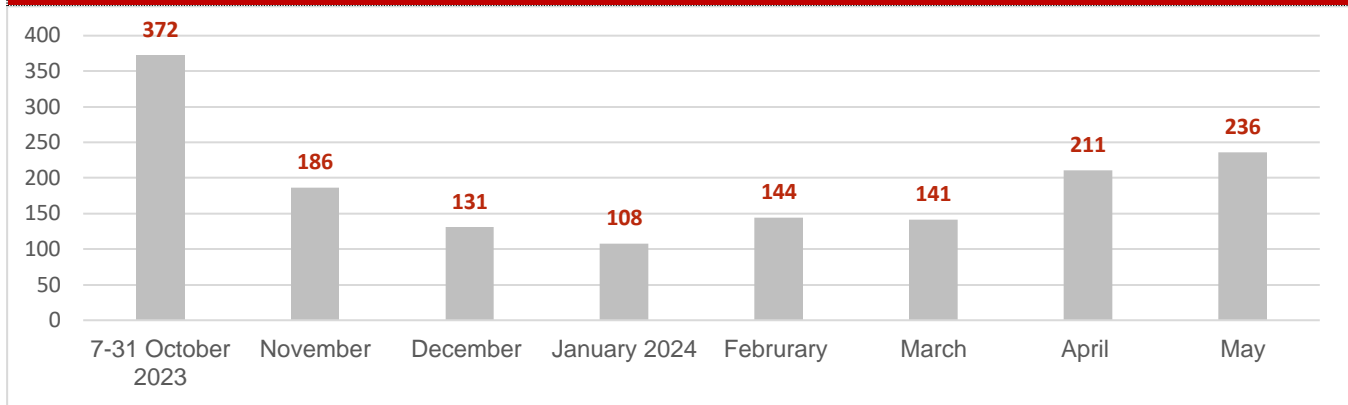


A total of 9,038 military raids, concentrated in the governorates of Nablus, Ramallah, Jenin, and Hebron.

Israeli Settlers' Terror Attacks

With unconditional support from the occupation authority and its forces, Israeli settlers continued to commit terrorist attacks against defenseless Palestinian citizens and their properties. At least 236 attacks were recorded in May, compared with 211 in April. Settlers' attacks encompassed running over children, physical assaults against Palestinians from Jerusalem, attacking UNRWA headquarters in Jerusalem, and presence at crossroads leading to villages and towns, throwing stones at passing cars, raiding villages and towns and blocking roads, cutting down fruit trees, destroying crops and bulldozing agricultural fields, and grazing livestock on citizens' agricultural lands, attacking Palestinians homes and property by setting them on fire, setting up tents on citizens' lands, reestablishing colonial installations (outposts), shooting operations at citizens and their property, kidnapping Palestinians and physically abusing them, setting fire to aid trucks. Most of these attacks occurred in the governorates of Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah, Jericho, Bethlehem, and Salfit. According to a report by the Colonization and Wall Resistance Commission (CWRC), settlers targeted Palestinian trees and crops in 24 separate incidents, resulting in the uprooting, damage, sabotage, poisoning, and burning of 515 trees, including 100 olive trees. Most of these attacks occurred in Nablus governorate, which accounted for 12 incidents, followed by Bethlehem governorate, which accounted for 6.

Israeli Settlers' Terror Attack Incidents by Month: 7 October 2023 – 31 May 2024



The following are some examples:

- **On 31 May in Nablus Governorate:** Israeli settlers destroyed 11 dunums of wheat-planted land belonging to Jawad Youssef Ghazal by grazing their sheep on it in Sebastia, northwest of Nablus. It is worth noting that "pastoral colonialism" is a new approach used by the colonizers to seize more lands and displace Palestinian farmers.
- **On 27 May in Bethlehem Governorate:** Israeli settlers from the "Beitar Illit" settlement, located on the expropriated lands from Husan village west of Bethlehem, set fire to lands in the "Wadi Qadis" area. This area is planted with vines and olive trees belonging to Palestinian citizens from the Hamamra and Shusha families. Several trees were burned in the fire.
- **On 13 May in Jerusalem Governorate:** A group of settlers in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood threw flammable materials at UNRWA headquarters in Jerusalem, setting fire to parts of the outer square and throwing stones toward the headquarters.
- **On 7 May in the Hebron Governorate:** a settler, while driving his vehicle at a military checkpoint in Hebron's Old City, ran over 6-year-old Ward Abu Shaaban. The child was hospitalized after sustaining wounds and bruises.
- **On 5 May in the Jerusalem Governorate:** settlers severely beat Adam Al-Rishq (16 years old) while he was sprinting in the Old City of occupied Jerusalem. There was no response from the occupation police to the attack, which took place in front of them. For no other reason than that the settlers shouting "Arab terrorist," the Israeli police instead attacked, arrested, and interrogated Adam, who miraculously survived. He was taken to the hospital with bruises and wounds throughout his body.

In Focus: Summary of Israeli Violations in occupied Jerusalem in May 2024⁶

- The IOF killed (2) Palestinians, injured (13) as a result of live and rubber-coated metal bullets and severe beatings (in addition to cases of gas suffocation), and arrested (69) others, including (15) children and (3) women. The two martyrs were one child and another Palestinian from outside the governorate. At dawn on 16 May, Nour Shihabi (17 years old) from the Al-Sawana neighborhood in occupied Jerusalem died after the occupation forces shot him in the Bab Al-Sahira area in occupied Jerusalem.
- The occupation courts issued (46) actual prison sentences against Jerusalemite prisoners, including (26) administrative detention sentences (without clearly specifying their charges). Thaeer Bakirat from the town

⁶ Main Source: The Public Relations and Media Unit of the Jerusalem Governorate, unless otherwise indicated.

of Sur Baher in occupied Jerusalem received one of the highest sentences, a four-and-a-half-year effective prison sentence after a year of house detention.

- The number of bodies of Jerusalemite martyrs held by the occupation authority rose to 41 by the end of May.
- On 4 August 2022, the occupation authority imposed a house arrest order on Jerusalem's governor, Adnan Ghaith, for an unspecified period. On 20 May this year, Israeli intelligence summoned the governor for interrogation. On 30 May, the occupation handed Ghaith a decision to renew his deportation from the West Bank for a new period of 4 months (until 16 September this year). Also in May, an occupation court renewed the administrative detention of the former Minister of Jerusalem Affairs, Engineer Khaled Abu Arafa, for two months. Additionally, after serving one year in administrative detention, former Palestinian Legislative Council member Ahmed Attoun was released. Almost 13 years ago, Attoun was deported from Jerusalem to Bethlehem.
- On 31 May, IOF soldiers beat and shoved participants in commemorating the 23rd. anniversary of Faisal AlHusseini's passing, injuring the director of the Prisoner Club, Nasser Qaws, and employee Ishaq Al-Qawasmi of Orient House.
- The Jerusalem Governorate monitored about (19) attacks by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the city, which caused physical harm to several of them. Among the settlers' attacks were storming into the Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound, setting fire to the UNRWA headquarters in Sheikh Jarrah, and blocking trucks going to the Gaza Strip to destroy humanitarian aid.
- Nearly (4,280) Israeli settlers and (6,180) foreign visitors (under tourism pretext) stormed into the Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound.
- The Shehadeh family in the town of Silwan in occupied Jerusalem submitted a petition to the occupation's Supreme Court to annul an Israeli judge's decision to evict all 35 members of the family from their homes in the Batn al-Hawa neighborhood. The judge didn't wait for the judicial advisor's opinion and didn't allow the family's lawyer to pursue this procedure. Human rights organizations say that the judge's decision came after pressure from extremist settler groups. The Shehadeh family has lived in their home since 1967. The eviction order of the Shehadeh family will be a prelude for the forcible transfer and displacement of 87 other Palestinian families in Batn al-Hawa, where the Ateret Cohanim settler group, in cooperation with the occupation's municipality, handed them notices in 2015 to evict their homes for the settlers to replace them.
- On 3 May, the IOF tightened measures and installed iron barriers to restrict Palestinian Christians from observing Good Friday. On Holy Saturday, the IOF deployed checkpoints in Jerusalem's Old City to restrict worshippers' access to the Holy Sepulcher church. The IOF also attacked Christian residents in the vicinity of the Church and arrested the Greek Consul's guard from inside the Church.