



Three Palestinians, including a paramedic, wounded by Israeli forces that used force against a peaceful demonstration in Nabi Saleh village, northwest of Ramallah.

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Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) Continue Systematic Attacks against Palestinian Civilians and Property in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT)

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Israeli warplanes fired 9 missiles at a Palestinian resistance group and civilian targets, but no injuries were reported.

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Two camels died and a greenhouse was destroyed.

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A Palestinian civilian died out of his wounds in Khan Yunis, north of the Gaza Strip. He was wounded in the beginning of al-Aqsa Intifada.

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A Palestinian was wounded and arrested by IOF at Qalandya checkpoint, north of Jerusalem.

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IOF have continued to use force against peaceful protests in the West Bank.

Three civilians, including a paramedic, were wounded during al-Nabi Saleh weekly demonstration.

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IOF conducted 60 incursions into Palestinian communities in the West Bank.□□

IOF arrested 25 Palestinians, including a child and 2 women.

Among those arrested by IOF, there were PLC Members Khaled Tafish and Abdul Jabbar Foqaha

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Israel has continued to impose a total closure on the OPT and has isolated the Gaza Strip from the outside world.

IOF arrested at least 3 Palestinians at military checkpoints in the West Bank.

Dr. Aziz Dweik, PLC Speaker, was among those arrested at military checkpoints, and he was placed under administrative detention.

A patient from the northern Gaza Strip was arrested at Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing while he was going to the West Bank for treatment.

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Israel has continued efforts to create a Jewish majority in East Jerusalem.

IOF stormed ICRC's head office in Jerusalem and arrested PLC Member Toutah and former Minister Abu 'Arafa.

IOF demolished a house and leaving 20 individuals homeless, and ordered the demolishing of another house.□□

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IOF have continued settlement activities in the West Bank and Israeli settlers have

continued to attack Palestinian civilians and property.

Nine stores were demolished in Jericho.

IOF demolished a house and ordered the demolition of an under construction school and another three houses in Hebron.

Hundreds of settlers stormed Joseph Tomb in Nablus.

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Summary

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IOF continued targeting the Palestinian Legislative Authority, as they arrested the Speaker of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC), Dr. Aziz Dweik, and PLC Member, Khaled Tafish, from the Change and Reform Bloc affiliated to Hamas movement. IOF also stormed the head office of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in East Jerusalem and arrested PLC Member Mohammed Toutah, from the Change and Reform Bloc affiliated to Hamas, and the former Minister of Jerusalem Affairs, Khaled Abu 'Arafa. PCHR believes that these actions are a continuation of targeting the elected PLC Members following the Palestinian legislative elections of 2006. PCHR views such detentions as a retaliatory act and a form of collective punishment prohibited under Article 33 of the Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 1949.

Israeli violations of international law and humanitarian law in the OPT continued during the reporting period (19 – 25 January 2012):

Shooting:

During the reporting period, Israeli warplanes launched a number of air strikes against members of the Palestinian resistance and civilian targets, while the artillery bombarded several areas in the Gaza Strip, but no injuries were reported. Additionally, four Palestinian civilians were wounded in the West Bank. One of them was wounded when IOF positioned at Qalandya checkpoint, north of Jerusalem, opened fire at him, while the three others, including a paramedic, were wounded in Nabi Saleh weekly demonstration, northwest of Ramallah.

In the Gaza Strip, on 21 January 2012, Israeli warplanes fired two missiles at a Palestinian resistance group in al-Shouka village, east of Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip. Members of the group survived the attack, but two camels died as a result of the attack.

On 23 January 2012, IOF positioned at watchtowers to the west of Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing in the northwest of Beit Hanoun in the northern Gaza Strip, heavily fired at open areas in the

industrial zone. They also fired an artillery shell at the same area, but no injuries were reported.

On the same day, IOF fired 4 artillery shells at Abu Samra farmland in the north of Hamdoush area, north of Beit Lahia. No injuries were reported.

On 24 January 2012, Israeli warplanes fired 3 missiles at a greenhouse inside a land belonging to Mohammed Shehda Hamdouna, 45, northeast of Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip. The attack resulted in completely destroying the greenhouse. However, no injuries were reported.

On the same day, Israeli warplanes fired a missile at an empty land belonging to Sa'eed Mohammed Salem al-Da'our, in al-Sayafa area, northwest of Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip. Neither injuries nor damages to civilian property were reported.

Also on the same day, Israeli warplanes fired two missiles at greenhouses in ex-settlements, northwest of Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip. No injuries were reported. Approximately 15:00 minutes later, warplanes fired a third missile at a farmland in al-Zanna area, east of Khan Yunis.

In the West Bank, on 22 January 2012, a Palestinian civilian was wounded by a bullet to the foot when IOF positioned at Qalandya checkpoint, north of Jerusalem, fired at him. IOF arrested him and transported him to receive the necessary medical treatment and to be questioned. They claimed that he was holding an iron bar and was running towards the Israeli soldiers at the checkpoint to attack them. IOF then raided his family's house in al-Basha village, south of Jenin, damaged its contents and questioned some of the family members.

In the context of excessive use of force against peaceful protests in the West Bank, two Palestinian demonstrators and a paramedic from the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) were wounded in Nabi Saleh demonstration, northwest of Ramallah. Moreover, a number of Palestinian civilians and human rights defenders suffered from tear gas inhalation as in demonstration throughout the West Bank.

Incursions:

During the reporting period, IOF conducted at least 60 military incursions into Palestinian communities in the West Bank, during which they arrested 25 Palestinian civilians, including a child two women. In addition, a PLC Member, former Minister and other two Palestinians were arrested from a sit-in tent at ICRC's head office in Jerusalem.

The detainees included 3 PLC Members: Khaled Tafish, who was arrested from his house in Za'tara village, south of Bethlehem, on 20 January 2012; Mohammed Toutah, who was arrested from the sit-in tent at ICRC's head office in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, in the center of East Jerusalem, on 23 January 2012; and Abdul Jabbar Foqaha', who was arrested from his house in Ramallah on 24 January 2012. Moreover, the Speaker of PLC Dr. Aziz Dwaik was arrested at Jaba' checkpoint, northeast of Jerusalem; and former Minister Khaled Abu 'Arafa, was arrested with Toutah. With the detention of PLC Speaker and the three other PLC Members, the number of PLC Members detained in the Israeli jails has mounted to 27 members; 24 of whom are from the Change and Reform Bloc affiliated to Hamas. Additionally, the number of former ministers detained by IOF has mounted to three, all of whom served in the tenth Palestinian government: Khaled Abu 'Arafa, former Minister of Jerusalem Affairs; Wasfi Qabha, former Minister of Prisoners' Affairs; and Isa al-Ja'bari, former Minister of Local Government.

Restrictions on Movement:

Israel had continued to impose a tightened siege on the OPT and imposed severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem.

Gaza Strip

Israel has continuously closed all border crossings to the Gaza Strip for over three years. The illegal Israeli-imposed closure of the Gaza Strip, which has steadily tightened since June 2007, has had a disastrous impact on the humanitarian and economic situation in the Gaza Strip.

IOF have tightened the closure of the Gaza Strip and practically made Karm Abu Salem crossing as the sole commercial crossing of the Gaza Strip although it is not proper for commercial purposes in terms of its distance and operational capacity.

IOF have continued to apply their policy aimed at tightening the strangulation of commercial movement in the Gaza Strip, including imposing total control over the flow of imports and exports.

The total closure of al-Mentar "Karni" crossing on 02 March 2011 has created a bitter situation that has seriously affected the Gaza Strip. Following this closure, all the economic and commercial establishments in Gaza Commercial Zone were shut off. It should be noted that al-Mentar crossing is the biggest crossing in the Gaza Strip in terms of its operational capacity to absorb the flow of imports and exports. The decision of al-Mentar crossing was the culmination of a series of decisions to totally close Sofa crossing, east of the Gaza Strip, in the beginning of 2009, and Nahal Oz crossing, east of Gaza City, which was dedicated for the delivery of fuel and cooking gas to the Gaza Strip, in the beginning of 2010.

These statistics which were made available to PCHR by the Border and Crossings Department

indicate a continued drop in the number of truckloads of Gaza imports and exports.

IOF have continued to impose total ban on the delivery of raw materials to the Gaza Strip, except for very limited items and quantities. The limited quantities of raw materials allowed into Gaza do not meet the minimal needs of the civilian population in the Gaza Strip.

The cooking gas crisis which has erupted last November has continued to affect the Gaza Strip. This crisis was created when the Israeli occupation authorities totally closed, on 04 January 2010, Nahal Oz crossing, which used to be dedicated for the delivery of fuel and cooking gas supplies to Gaza, and shifted fuel and cooking gas supplies to Karm Abu Salem crossing which is not technically equipped to receive Gaza's needs of fuel. Karm Abu Salem crossing, with its maximum absorptive capacity, can receive only 200 tons of cooking gas per day.

Approximately 80% of Gaza civilians continue to depend on elementary aid provided by UNRWA and other relief agencies, rates of families who are living below the poverty line continue to be on the rise and approximately 40% of Gaza's manpower has continued to suffer from permanent unemployment as a result of shutting down the majority of Gaza's economic establishments.

IOF have continued to impose a total ban on the exportation of Gaza's products, especially industrial products, leading to undermining any real chances to run local business. The

situation has been aggravated especially after making Karm Abu Salem crossing as Gaza sole commercial crossing and the repeated closure of this crossing which negatively affected the quantity of Gazan products which were allowed to be exported during last April.

IOF have continued to prolong the implementation of their decision to allow 60 cars into Gaza weekly although more than 11 months have passed since they announced this decision after three years of ban imposed on the delivery of cars to Gaza. As a result, the prices of cars in Gaza have been on the rise and local markets experience serious shortage in spare parts.

For approximately four consecutive years, IOF have continued to ban the delivery of construction materials to Gaza. During the reporting period, IOF approved the delivery of limited quantities of construction materials for a number of international organizations.

Israel has continued to close Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing for Palestinian civilians from the Gaza Strip. IOF only allow the movement of limited groups amidst severe restrictions, including long hours of waiting in the majority of cases. IOF have also continued to adopt a policy aimed at reducing the number of Palestinian patients allowed to move via Beit Hanoun crossing to receive medical treatment in hospitals in Israel or in the West Bank and Jerusalem. IOF denied new categories of Gazan patient permission to have access to hospitals via the crossing.

Israel has imposed additional access restrictions on international diplomats, journalists and

humanitarian workers seeking to enter the Gaza Strip.

For approximately 55 months, IOF have continued to deny approximately 700 Palestinian prisoners from Gaza detained in Israeli jails their visitation rights without providing any justification to this measure, which violates the rules of the international humanitarian law.

West Bank

IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians throughout the West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem. Thousands of Palestinian civilians from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip continue to be denied access to Jerusalem.

IOF have established checkpoints in and around Jerusalem, severely restricting Palestinian access to the city. Civilians are frequently prevented from praying in the al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

There are approximately 585 permanent roadblocks, and manned and unmanned checkpoints across the West Bank.

When complete, the illegal annexation wall will stretch for 724 kilometers around the West Bank, further isolating the entire population. 350 kilometers of the wall have already been constructed. Approximately 99% of the wall has been constructed inside the West Bank itself, confiscating more Palestinian land.

At least 65% of the main roads that lead to 18 Palestinian communities in the West Bank are closed or fully controlled by IOF.

There are approximately 500 kilometers of restricted roads across the West Bank. In addition, approximately one third of the West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem, is inaccessible to Palestinians without permits issued by IOF. Such permits are extremely difficult to obtain.

IOF continue to harass and assault demonstrators who hold peaceful protests against the construction of the annexation wall.

Palestinian civilians continue to be harassed by IOF in Jerusalem, and across the West Bank, including being regularly stopped and searched in the streets by IOF.

Efforts to Create a Jewish Majority in East Jerusalem

On 23 January 2012, an IOF undercover unit comprised of 30 members stormed the yard of ICRC's head office in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in East Jerusalem. They attacked the sit-in tent in which PLC Member Mohammed Omran Saleh Toutah, 43, and former Minister Khaled Abu 'Arafa, 51, were staying and arrested both men. They further arrested Toutah's brother, Mo'tassim, 48, and Amr Abu 'Arafa, 26, who were in the tent as well. Israeli police spokeswoman for the Arab media, Loba Samri, stated that with the assistance of the General Security Service "Shabak," interrogators of the Minorities Department of the Central Investigations Unit, Jerusalem District, arrested PLC Member Mohammed Toutah and former Minister of Jerusalem Affairs, Khaled Abu 'Arafa, from East Jerusalem at ICRC's head office in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood. Samri said: "They have been hiding in that place for about a year and a half after their Israeli ID's had been canceled by the Israeli Ministry of Interior following their activities and work in an illegal terrorist organization," as described by Samri. She also claimed that there is no diplomatic status in the ICRC's office.

On 24 January 2012, IOF demolished the house belonging to Ahmed Omar al-Lahalyah in the east of 'Anata village, northeast of East Jerusalem. Al-Lahalya said that IOF surrounded his house in the early morning and ordered him and his family, comprising of 20 members to leave that house, whose area is 100 square meters, in order to demolish it. Israeli staff started to get the furniture out of the house to allow the bulldozers demolish it.

On 21 January 2012, the Israeli municipality in Jerusalem sent Inad Abu Sarhan a notice to demolish his house in Emlisoun area near Ras al-'Amoud neighborhood, south of al-Aqsa Mosque. The notice was issued under the pretext of building the house without obtaining a license. Nine members live in the house that was built in 1999. The Israeli municipality issued fines and financial irregularities that mounted to 100,000 NIS.

Settlement activities

On 23 January 2012, IOF supported by two bulldozers and "Civil Administration" officers moved into the northern area of al-Oja village near road (90), northeast of Jericho. They closed the area and prevented Palestinians and journalists from moving in. At approximately 09:30, two bulldozers started demolishing 9 under-construction stores, claiming that they had been established without obtaining a license from the Israeli "Civil Administration". The stores belong to seven Palestinians.

On 25 January 2012, IOF demolished a house in Kherbet Om al-Kheir, east of Yatta in the far south of Hebron. The house belong Salem Eid Yamin al-Hadaleen. It consists of two rooms and was resided by a family comprising of eight members, including six children. It should be noted that the said house is 20 meters far from the fence of "Carmiel" settlement and it was demolished without a prior notice.

On 24 January 2012, IOF sent three Palestinians notices to demolish an under-construction school and three houses in Khelet Abu Beida area, west of Bani N'aim, under the pretext of "not licensed buildings".

Israeli Violations Documented during the Reporting Period (19 – 25 January 2012)

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1. □ Incursions into Palestinian Areas and Attacks on Palestinian Civilians and Property in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip

Thursday, 19 January 2012

At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Abu al-'Asja area, south of Dora in the southwest of Hebron. They raided and searched the house of Hatem Ahmed Jamal al-'Awawda, 30, and damaged its contents. Before they withdrew, they arrested al-'Awawda and transported him to Kfar Etzion detention center, southwest of Bethlehem.

At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into al-'Arroub refugee camp, north of Hebron. They raided a number of houses, forced their residents to go out and kept them in the open air. IOF searched the houses and damaged their contents. Before they withdrew, IOF arrested Abdul Fattah Mahmoud Mohammed Abu Hashhash, 20; and Jihad Jamal Salam Jundiya, 17, and transported them to Kfar Etzion detention center, southwest of Bethlehem.

At approximately 09:00, IOF moved into Fassayel village, north of Jericho. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported

Also at approximately 09:00, IOF moved into Marj Na'ja village, north of Jericho. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 09:30, IOF moved into Om Saffa village, northwest of Ramallah. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported

At approximately 10:00, IOF moved into Deir Qeddis village, west of Ramallah. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 10:10, IOF moved into Beit 'Aur al-Tahta village, west of Ramallah. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 11:00, IOF moved into Sanour village, southeast of Jenin. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 16:00, IOF moved into al-Jeftlik village, north of Jericho. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 17:30, IOF moved into al-'Oja village, northeast of Jericho. They patrolled in the streets for some time. At approximately 18:00, they withdrew and neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 23:00, IOF moved into al-Bireh town. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

Friday, 20 January 2012

At approximately 03:00, IOF moved into Za'tarah village, southeast of Bethlehem. They raided the house of PLC Member from the Change and Reform Bloc, Khaled Ibrahim Tafish Thwaib, 48. According to Thwaib's wife, Aaisha Jameel Thwaib, 50, IOF raided the house and after verifying the ID cards of members of the family, they forced her husband out. They held him under the rain, and held his five sons in one room. Aaisha Jameel insisted on being present while Israeli soldiers were searching the house. IOF confiscated PLC Members Thwaib's mobile phone, laptop, phone book, a hard disk of a computer set and some documents relating to his work. They then handcuffed and blindfolded him and transported him in a military jeep to an unknown destination. On the following day, it was revealed that he was taken to Ofar detention facility, southwest of Ramallah.

At approximately 09:00, IOF moved into Nabi Saleh village, southwest of Ramallah. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. No arrests were reported.

At approximately 09:40, IOF moved into Tarmas'ya village, north of Ramallah. They provocatively patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. No arrests were reported.

At approximately 10:30, IOF moved into Beitin village, northeast of Ramallah. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. No arrests were reported.

At approximately 16:30, IOF moved into Shweika suburb, north of Tulkarm. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. No arrests were reported.

Also at approximately 17:00, IOF moved into the agricultural land between al-Yamoun and Kafr Dan villages, northwest of Jenin. They stationed in the area patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 19:15, IOF moved into Qalqilya town. They patrolled in the streets and detained Mahmoud Hasanein and Ahmed Khaled Wahdan while they were near their land in the eastern part of the town. At approximately 19:40, IOF released them and withdrew. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 21:00, IOF moved into Kafr Dan village, northwest of Jenin. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

Also at approximately 21:00, IOF moved into al-Dyouk village, north of Jericho. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 22:00, IOF moved into Shweika suburb, north of Tulkarm, for the second time within few hours. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 22:30, IOF moved into Jericho. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 23:50, IOF moved into Jayous village, northeast of Qalqilya. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew at approximately 00:12. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

Saturday, 21 January 2012

At approximately 00:10, IOF moved into 'Azzoun village, east of Qalqilya. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 00:30, IOF moved into Tulkarm. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Beit Ommar village, North of Hebron. They raided and the house of 'Azmi Mohammed 'Azmi Ikhleil, 19, and damaged its contents. Before they withdrew, they arrested Ikhleil and transported him to Kfar Etzion detention center, southwest of Bethlehem.

Also at approximately 07:10, the Israeli warplanes fired two missiles at a Palestinian resistance group. The missiles landed in a farm hired and planted by Khairi 'Atwa al-Dbari, which is located near al-Shouka UNRWA school in al-Shouka village, east of Rafah in the southern

Gaza Strip. The group survived, but two camels died in the said farm.

Also at approximately 10:00, IOF moved into Barham village, northwest of Ramallah. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

Also at approximately 10:00, IOF moved into Deir Debwan village, northeast of Ramallah. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 15:00, IOF positioned and patrolled in the center of Hebron raided a community center in the southern part of Tal Rumaida neighborhood in the center of Hebron. They provoked those who were in the center, searched the center and damaged its contents. In the meanwhile, IOF wrangled with those available in the center, and consequently, the Israeli officer in charge ordered the arrest of the activist Isa Talab Amr, 33, coordinator of Youth against Settlement. Amr was handcuffed, blindfolded and taken by a military vehicle. Approximately an hour and a half later, he was released.

At approximately 18:00, IOF moved into al-Jalama village, north of Jenin. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

Sunday, 22 January 2012

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At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into al-Mazra'a al-Sharqiya village, northeast of Ramallah. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. No arrests were reported.

At approximately 09:55, IOF moved into Habla village, south of Qalqilya. They patrolled in the streets for some time, checked water wells and withdrew later. No arrests were reported.

At approximately 10:00, IOF moved into Jericho town. They patrolled in the streets for some time, and then moved into 'Abaqet Jabr refugee camp and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 10:30, IOF positioned at Qalandya checkpoint, north of Jerusalem, fired at Abdul Hakim Zeidan Mohammed Ghawadra, 29, from Beer al-Basha village, south of Jenin. As a result, he was wounded by a bullet to the foot. IOF arrested Ghawadra and transported him to receive the necessary medical treatment and to be questioned. IOF claimed that Ghawadra was holding an iron bar and was running towards the Israeli soldiers at the checkpoint to attack them.

At approximately 12:00, IOF moved into Beer al-Basha village, south of Jenin. They patrolled in the streets for some time and surrounded the middle neighborhood. IOF raided the house of Ghawadra, searched the house and damaged its contents. They questioned the parents of Ghawadra and withdrew later. No arrests were reported. It should be noted that Ghawadra was a teacher and had resigned before 8 months. He moved to Ramallah to look for another job, especially under disputes with his family that heard nothing about him since then.

At approximately 11:00, IOF moved into Beit Nouba village, southwest of Ramallah. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 11:30, IOF moved into Jericho for the second time. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 11:50, IOF moved into Kafr Qaddoum village, northeast of Qalqilya. They patrolled in the streets for some time and searched a house. At approximately 13:30, they withdrew. No arrests were reported.

At approximately 17:00, IOF moved into Kafr Qaddoum village, northeast of Qalqilya for the second time. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. Neither house raids nor arrests were reported.

At approximately 18:00, IOF moved into 'Azzoun village, east of Qalqilya. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. No arrests were reported.

At approximately 18:20, IOF moved into Jeet village, northeast of Qalqilya. They patrolled in the streets for some time and withdrew later. No arrests were reported.

Monday, 23 January 2012

At approximately 02:45, IOF moved into 'Anabta village, east of Tulkarm. They patrolled in the streets for some time and stationed at al-Batin area in the eastern neighborhood of the village. They raided a number of houses:

The house of Ihab Mohammed Rashid Qabaj, 22: IOF searched the house and damaged its contents before arresting Qabaj. They then stationed near al-'Amer hall for wedding in the

same neighborhood.

The house of Mohammed Mostafa Abdul Razzaq al-Najjar, 22: They searched the house and then arrested him. They moved to al-Bostan area and stationed near the graveyard of the village.

The house of Hani Sobhi Mohammed Abdul Dayem, 22: They arrested him after searching the house. They then surrounded the area adjacent to 'Anabta police station.

The house of Raslan Mahmoud Ali Shraqa, 21, who was arrested.

At the same time, IOF surrounded the house of Mohammed Ahmed Hassan Nour, 27, on al-Sikka street, south of the village, and arrested him. They withdrew later taking the five persons to an unknown destination.

At approximately 03:00, IOF moved into Balata refugee camp, east of Nablus. They surrounded the house of Yusef Ahmed Saleh Sharay'a, 33, near the old Balata mosque in the center of the refugee camp. IOF knocked on the door, so Sharay'a opened the door. After verifying his ID card, he was transported by a military vehicle to his computer store that is located near the Balata Youth Center at the northwestern entrance of the refugee camp. IOF started searching the store, confiscated computer memory cards and hard desks and transferred Sharay'a to the detention center at Hawwara, southeast of Nablus.

At approximately 08:30, IOF positioned at watchtowers to the west of Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing in the northwest of Beit Hanoun, north of the Gaza Strip, heavily fired at open areas in the industrial zone, ex-settlement of 'Nissanit'. They also launched an artillery

shell at the same area, but no injuries were reported.

At approximately 12:05, on the same day, IOF launched 4 artillery shells at Abu Samra farmland in the north of Hamdoush area, north of Beit Lahia. The last one was launched at approximately 12:30 on the same day, but no injuries were reported.

Tuesday, 24 January 2012

At approximately 00:40, the Israeli warplanes fired 3 missiles at a greenhouse inside a land belonging to Mohammed Shehda Hamdouna, 45. The land, whose area is 2,000 square meters, is located to the northeast of Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip. The attack resulted in completely destroying the greenhouse and a 3-meter hole. However, no injuries were reported.

At approximately 00:45, Israeli warplanes fired a missile at an empty land belonging to Sa'eed Mohammed Salem al-Da'our, 55. The land whose area is 70 dunums [\[1\]](#) is located in al-Sayafa area, northwest of Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip. No injuries were reported.

The attack resulted in heavy explosions that rocked the northern area, due to which, women and children were terrorized.

At approximately 01:10, Israeli warplanes fired two missiles at greenhouses in ex-settlements, northwest of Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip. As a result, damage was caused to the place, but no injuries were reported. It should be noted that the same area had been bombarded several times.

At approximately 01:26, Israeli warplanes fired a missile at the farmland in al-Zanna area, east of Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip. No injuries were reported.

At approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Kafr Qaddoum village, northeast of Qalqilya. They patrolled in the streets for some time and sent notices to Salah Saleh Mohammed Hassan, 21; Baha' Mohammed Ishtiwi. 19 and 'Alqama Mahmoud Ameen Jom'a to refer to the Israeli Intelligence Service. IOF withdrew later, but no arrests were reported.

At approximately 02:00, Hamed Ahmed Ali Abu Sahloul, 53, from Khan Yunis refugee camp, south of the Gaza Strip, died out of his wounds. Abu Sahloul had been wounded by shrapnel of an artillery shell in the head when he was guarding an UNRWA school. As a result he had been suffering from paralysis since 2001.

According to investigations conducted by PCHR, at approximately 01:00 on Wednesday, 14 November 2001, IOF positioned at al-Nouriya military site, west of Khan Yunis refugee camp, continuously shelled the residential neighborhoods and civilian property in Khan Yunis for approximately 45 minutes. As a result, seven Palestinians were wounded, while heavy damage was caused to the houses. Besides, 18 artillery shells landed in the UNRWA primary school "D", due to which, heavy damage was caused to the building and the school guard, Hamed Ahmed Ali Abu Sahloul, sustained serious wounds, as he was wounded by shrapnel in the head and back.

He fainted and was then transported to Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis. Later, he was transferred to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City and then to the Israeli hospitals, but he was returned to Shifa Hospital and Gaza European hospital, as his wounds resulted into full paralysis. Additionally, shrapnel remained in his head, because it was difficult to remove them. Abu Sahloul has been receiving medical treatment and physical therapy before it was found out that it was in vain. He stayed at home without movement except his eyes moving and saying simple words.

At approximately 22:00 on Friday, 20 January 2012, he felt severe pain in the head, as a result, his family called the doctor before he vomited and fainted. He was then transported to Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis. He was admitted to the intensive care unit after discovering that he was suffered from hemorrhage in the head. He remained in the intensive care unit until he was pronounced dead today at 02:00.

Also at approximately 02:00, IOF moved into 'Ein Menjed neighborhood, west of Ramallah. They raided the house of PLC Member from the Change and Reform Bloc, Abdul Jaber Mostafa Abdul Jaber Foqaha', 45. In her testimony to PCHR, Foqaha's wife said that IOF had

raided the house. They searched the house and damaged its contents after they verified the ID cards of the family members. Before they withdrew at approximately 02:45, they handed Foqaha's son, Mojahed, 21, a notice to refer to the Israeli Intelligence Service. They confiscated Foqaha's mobile, computer set and papers relative to his work as a PLC Member. They handcuffed and blindfolded him and forced him to get into a military jeep. They then transported him to an unknown destination.

Also at approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Rafidya neighborhood in the west of Nablus. They raided the house of Ayman Abdul Latif Jom'a, 35, in al-Mrej building near Rafidya Hospital. The Israeli soldiers knocked on the door. When Jom'a opened the door, they asked him for his ID. They took the ID card and after verification, they took him by a military vehicle to a detention center in Hawwara, southeast of Nablus.

At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Beit Oula, northwest of Hebron. They raided the house of Diya' 'Aziz Farah al-'Amlah, 32. They searched the house and damaged its contents. Before they withdrew, they arrested al-'Amlah and transported him to Kfar Etzion detention center, southwest of Bethlehem.

At approximately 02:30, IOF moved into 'Aroua village, northwest of Ramallah. They raided the house of Nirmeen Mohammed Nemr Saleh, 37. In her testimony to PCHR, the wife of Nirmeen's brother, 'Awatif Saleh Ibrahim Saleh, 36, said that IOF raided the house searched it and damaged the contents. Before they withdrew at approximately 03:15, IOF confiscated three mobile phones and a laptop. They also arrested Nirmeen and transported her to al-Masqoubiya detention center in Jerusalem. It should be noted that Nirmeen works as a geography teacher in Sanjal village, north of Ramallah.

At approximately 11:00, Israeli soldiers present in the military court at Ofer detention center, southwest of Ramallah, arrested Nisreen Ayoub Shaheen, 32. They arrested her, because she got close to her imprisoned son, 'Ala' Ghassan Hamza Shaheen, 18, to hug him while he was brought to appear before the court. An Israeli police officer had strongly pushed the mother away from her son before other three officers surrounded and arrested her. Nisreen was transported to Binyamin police station, where she was detained under the pretext of breaching the laws of the court. She was kept under detention under the pretext of her refusal to sign on the testimony given in the investigation in Hebrew. At approximately 19:00, on the same day, she was taken by a military vehicle and left at an intersection in the far north of Ramallah.

At approximately 11:30, IOF moved into Kafel Hares village, north of Salfit. They patrolled in the streets for some time and detained a number of Palestinians. Those Palestinians were subjected to questioning until 12:30, under the pretext that they threw stones at the Israeli vehicles passing on the main road. IOF released them later and withdrew. Neither arrests nor house raids were reported.

Wednesday, 25 January 2012

At approximately 04:00, IOF moved into Yatma village, south of Nablus. They raided three houses and arrested three Palestinians:

Waddah Abdul Mo'ti Mohammed Snoubar, 19, who was arrested from his house in al-Sahel

area, in the eastern part of the village;

'Asim Mahmoud Khalil Snoubar, 19, who was arrested from his house in the northern part of the village; and

Tareq Omar Ahmed Snoubar, 18, who was arrested from his house in the northeastern part of the village.

IOF transported them to Hawwara detention center, southeast of Nablus.

At approximately 05:00, IOF moved into Abu Kteila neighborhood, northwest of Hebron. They raided and searched a small house belonging to Mohammed Ahmed Mohammed al-Hawamdah, 24, from al-Sammou' village. They also attacked him by gun butts. Before they withdrew, IOF handcuffed and blindfolded him and transported him to Kfar Etzion detention center, southwest of Bethlehem.

Use of Excessive Force against Peaceful Demonstrations Protesting Settlement Activities and the Construction of the Annexation Wall

During the reporting period, IOF used force against peaceful demonstrations organized by Palestinian civilians and international and Israeli human rights defenders in protest to the construction of the Wall and settlement activities in the West Bank, and in protest to the establishment of a buffer zone in the Gaza Strip. As a result, two Palestinian civilians were wounded; one of whom was wounded by a bullet to the head and the other was wounded by a bullet to the right leg. Besides, a paramedic was hit by a tear gas canister in the right foot. The wounded received the medical treatment needed, but PCHR's field worker was not able to identify them as they came out of the village. Besides, they were not transferred to any hospital or health center for treatment. A number of Palestinian civilians and human rights defenders suffered from tear gas inhalation as well.

Following the Friday Prayer on 20 January 2012, dozens of Palestinian civilians and international and Israeli human rights defenders organized a peaceful demonstration in Bil'ein village, west of Ramallah, in protest to the construction of the annexation wall and support for efforts to achieve national reconciliation between Hamas and Fatah movements. They raised the Palestinian flag and called for ending the political division. They then moved towards areas of Palestinian land, which the Israeli High Court ordered to be returned to their Palestinian owners. Israeli soldiers stationed in the area fired rubber-coated metal bullets, sound bombs and tear gas canisters at the demonstrators. As a result, dozens of Palestinian civilians suffered from tear gas inhalation.

Also following the Friday prayer on 20 January 2012, dozens of Palestinian civilians and Israeli and international human rights defenders gathered in the center of al-Nabi Saleh village, northwest of Ramallah, to start the weekly peaceful protest against the construction of the annexation wall and settlement activities. The protesters walked towards the gate erected by IOF near the entrance of the village and leading to Palestinian lands that Israeli settlers from the nearby "Halmish" settlement are trying to seize. Israeli soldiers, who had been extensively deployed in the area and near all the entrances of the village since the morning, began to confront the protesters who wanted to walk towards the affected lands. Israeli soldiers fired live and rubber-coated bullets, sound bombs and tear gas canisters at the protesters. As a result, two Palestinian civilians were wounded; one of whom was wounded by a bullet to the head and the other was wounded by a bullet to the right leg. Besides, a paramedic was hit by a tear gas canister in the right foot. The wounded received the medical treatment needed there, but PCHR's field worker was not able to identify them as they came

out of the village. Besides, they were not transferred to any hospital or health center for treatment.

Also following the Friday Prayer, on the same day, dozens of Palestinian civilians and international and human rights defenders organized a peaceful demonstration in Ne'lin village, west of Ramallah, in protest against the construction of the annexation wall. They chanted slogans calling for Palestinian reconciliation, adherence to the Palestinian inalienable rights and resistance of the occupation. Additionally, they raised the Palestinian flag and portraits of the Palestinian released prisoners who were released in the recent prisoner swap. They clashed with Israeli troops positioned near the annexation wall. Israeli soldiers fired rubber-coated metal bullets, sound bombs and tear gas canisters at demonstrators. As a result, a number of demonstrators suffered from tear gas inhalation.

Also following the Friday Prayer, at approximately 12:20 on the same day, dozens of Palestinian civilians and international and human rights defenders organized a peaceful demonstration in Kafr Qaddoum village, northeast of Qalqilya, in protest against closing the eastern entrance of the village. The demonstrators headed towards that entrance. Israeli soldiers fired sound bombs and tear gas canisters at them, due to which, a number of demonstrators suffered from tear gas inhalation.

At approximately 11:30 on Tuesday, 24 January 2012, IOF positioned along the border fence in Beit Hanoun in the northern Gaza Strip opened fire and tear gas canisters at a group of Palestinian and international demonstrators, who were walking along the border area from Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing to the landfill. They protested the imposition of the buffer zone along the borders. There were approximately 60 demonstrators, including 5 international activists and 10 journalists. After they were approximately 200 meters far from the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel, they suffered from gas inhalation.

In his testimony, the Beit Hanoun Local Initiative coordinator, Saber al-Za'aneen, said that at approximately 10:30 on that day, demonstrators gathered in front of the Agriculture School of al-Azhar University, north of the Beit Hanoun and headed to the border area. When they were approximately 200 meters to the southeast of Beit Hanoun crossing, they started walking along the border fence until they reached the landfill, north of Beit Hanoun. IOF fired tear gas canisters at the demonstrators, but they kept walking. IOF then heavily fired at the demonstrators. As a result, a number of demonstrators suffered from tear gas inhalation. However, they kept moving until they reached the memorial area, southeast of Beit Hanoun. IOF fired at them, as a result, they were obliged to get out of there.

It should be noted that the demonstration started at approximately 11:30 and finished at approximately 13:40 on the same day.

2. Continued Closure of the OPT

Israel has continued to impose a tightened closure of the OPT and imposed severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem.

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Gaza Strip

Israel has continuously closed all border crossings to the Gaza Strip for over three years. The illegal Israeli-imposed closure of the Gaza Strip, which has steadily tightened since June 2007, has had a disastrous impact on the humanitarian and economic situation in the Gaza Strip. The illegal closure has caused not only a humanitarian crisis but a crisis of human rights and human dignity for the population of the Gaza Strip. Measures declared recently to ease the blockade are vague, purely cosmetic and fail to deal with the root causes of the crisis, which can only be addressed by an immediate and complete lifting of the closure, including lifting the travel ban into and out of the Gaza Strip and the ban on exports. PCHR is concerned that the new Israeli policy is simply shifting Gaza to another form of illegal blockade, one that may become internationally accepted and institutionalized. Palestinians in Gaza may no longer suffer from the same shortage of goods, but they will remain economically dependent and unable to care for themselves, and socially, culturally and academically isolated from the rest of the world.

Movement at Border Crossings during the Reporting Period:

□

Movement at Rafah International Crossing Point

18 – 25 January 2012

□

Day

Date

Traveling abroad

Coming into Gaza

Returned into Gaza

Wednesday

18 January 2012

1008

458

24

Thursday

19 January 2012

1008

780

30

Friday

20 January 2012

--

--

--

Saturday

21 January 2012

1088

622

10

Sunday

22 January 2012

986

556

17

Monday

23 January 2012

764

719

18

Tuesday

24 January 2012

325

823

26

Wednesday

25 January 2012

Closed for marking the first anniversary of 25 January Revolution

□

□

Movement at Karm Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) Crossing

18 – 24 January 2012

Imports:

Date

Imports

Category

Amount

Tons

Number

Liters

18 January 2012

Foodstuffs

659

Agricultural materials

1,780

Various goods

Cartons of clothes

Refrigerators

Washing machines

Electricity generators

1,265

892

38

192

16

Ovens

200

Cows

382

Humanitarian aid

4,091

Cooking gas

188.920

19 January 2012

Foodstuffs

964

Agricultural materials

2,177

Various goods

Cartons of clothes

Cars

Refrigerators

Electricity generators

Car tires □ □

1,498

1,524

20

276

13

1,036

Glass boards

520

Ice cream machines

11

Water tanks

170

Petrol machines

12

Cows

383

Humanitarian aid

3,538

Cooking gas

138.480

22 January 2012

Foodstuffs

594

Agricultural materials

1,498

Various goods

Cartons of clothes

Washing machines

Refrigerators

Cartons of shoes

Car tires □

Water tanks

1,018

1,113

213

191

2,027

286

100

Humanitarian aid

3,296

Cooking gas

181.095

□

Exports:

On Wednesday, 18 January 2012, IOF allowed the exportation of 4 tons of bell peppers.

On Thursday, 19 January 2012, IOF allowed the exportation of 2 tons of strawberries, and 82,000 flowers.

On Sunday, 22 January 2012, IOF allowed the exportation of 67,000 flowers and 18 pieces of home furniture.

Notes:

On Wednesday, 18 January 2012, IOF allowed the entry of 2,800 tons of construction aggregate, 234 tons of cement and 40 tons of construction steel for UNRWA. They also allowed the entry of 770 tons of construction aggregate for USAID. They allowed the entry of 1,677 tons of wheat as well.

On Thursday, 19 January 2012, IOF allowed the entry of 2,800 tons of construction aggregate, 153 tons of construction steel and 320 tons of cement for UNRWA. They also allowed the entry of 1,872 tons of fodders.

On Sunday, 22 January 2012, IOF allowed the entry of 280 tons of cement, 2,730 tons of construction aggregate and 113 tons of construction steel for UNRWA. They also allowed the entry of 1,365 tons of wheat.

Beit Hanoun (Erez) Crossing: Israel has continued to close Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing for the movement of Palestinian civilians. IOF have allowed only diplomats, a number of international journalists, employees of international agencies and a limited number of patients who suffer from serious diseases to pass through the crossing. They have continued to prevent Palestinian civilians from visiting their relatives who are detained in Israeli jails. The small number of patients permitted to pass through the crossing is only able to do so under severe restrictions that include prolonged checking. It should be noted that patients who apply for traveling for medical treatment at hospitals in the West Bank and Israel suffer from serious illnesses and in need for urgent treatment that is not available at the Gaza Strip hospitals. During the reporting period, IOF arrested Bassam Sha'ban Fu'ad Raihan, 24, from Jabaliya refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip on 19 January 2012, as he was traveling to al-Mezan Hospital in Hebron through Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing to undergo surgery. In her testimony to PCHR, the patient's aunt and companion, Na'ima Fu'ad Sha'ban Raihan, 49, said that the Israeli officer at Beit Hanoun crossing informed her that Bassam was arrested, gave her Bassam's belongings and ordered her to return to Gaza. Sha'ban Fo'ad Raihan, 50, the patient's father, said that he received a phone call from IOF informing him that his son is detained in Ashkelon prison. The patient has been detained so far.

Movement at Beit Hanoun (Erez) Crossing

18 – 25 January 2012

□

Date

18 January

19 January

20 January

21 January

22 January

23 January

24 January

Patients

41

31

2

Nil

41

26

30

Companions

37

28

2

Nil

38

31

30

Arabs from Israel

7

7

1

Nil

29

72

32

Diplomats

13

13

4

Nil

Nil

4

Nil

International Journalists

2

4

2

Nil

1

1

1

International Workers

43

47

18

Nil

18

20

17

Travelers abroad

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

Business People

90

86

22

Nil

92

84

92

Economic Meetings

Nil

4

Nil

Nil

7

6

5

Security Interviews

1

Nil

Nil

Nil

Nil

2

1

VIP's

1

Nil

Nil

Nil

4

Nil

Nil

Ambulances to Israel

2

1

Nil

Nil

1

1

2

Ambulances from Israel

5

Nil

1

Nil

4

Nil

5

□

The West Bank

Israel has imposed a tightened closure on the West Bank. During the reporting period, IOF imposed additional restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians.

Jerusalem: IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians to and from the city. Thousands of Palestinian civilians from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip have been denied access to the city. IOF have established many checkpoints around and inside the city.

Ramallah: IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. At approximately 09:00 on Thursday, 19 January 2012, IOF re-established their presence at 'Attara checkpoint, north of Ramallah. At approximately 08:00, on the same day, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of 'Ein Yabroud village, northeast of Ramallah. At approximately 08:30 on Friday, 20 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Nabi Saleh village, northwest of Ramallah. At the same time, IOF established a checkpoint at the intersection of Beit 'Aur al-Fouqa, southwest of Ramallah, while at approximately 10:30 they established a checkpoint under Kharabtha al-Misbah Bridge, southwest of Ramallah. At approximately 10:00 on Saturday, 21 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint on Beit 'Aur

al-Fouqa – Beitunia road, southwest of Ramallah. At approximately 11:00, on the same day, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of 'Abwein village, northwest of Ramallah. At approximately 15:00, on the same day, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Beit Seera village, southwest of Ramallah.

Qalqilya: IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. On Thursday, 12 January 2012, IOF established 4 checkpoints around Qalqilya.

On Thursday, 19 January 2012, IOF established 6 checkpoints on Nablus – Qalqilya road.

At approximately 18:15 on Friday, 20 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Jeinsafout village, east of Qalqilya. At approximately 20:50 on the same day, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Saniria village, southeast of Qalqilya.

On Saturday morning, 21 January 2012, IOF established 3 checkpoints around Qalqilya. On Sunday, 22 January 2012, IOF established 7 checkpoints around the town.

On Monday, 23 January 2012, IOF established 4 checkpoints around the town.

At approximately 07:40 on Tuesday, 24 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint at the intersection of Imatin village, northeast of Qalqilya.

Jenin: IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. At approximately 08:00 on Thursday, 19 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Zabbouba village, northwest of Jenin.

At approximately 10:30 on the same day, IOF established a checkpoint at the intersection of Jaba' village, south of Jenin. At approximately 13:30, IOF established a checkpoint at the intersection of 'Arraba village, south of Jenin, while another checkpoint at the entrance of Ya'bad village, south of Jenin at approximately 16:30. In the meanwhile, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Kafreet village, southwest of Jenin.

At approximately 10:30 on Friday, 20 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Zabbouba village, northwest of Jenin.

At approximately 09:00 on Saturday, 21 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Romanna village, northwest of Jenin.

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At approximately 08:00 on Sunday, 22 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Zebda village, southwest of Jenin. At approximately 08:30 on the same day, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Ya'bad village, southwest of Jenin. At approximately 11:30, IOF established a checkpoint on the road linking Jenin with Tulkarm and Nablus, south of Jenin.

At approximately 09:30 on Monday, 23 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of al-Yamoun village, northwest of Jenin. At approximately 10:30, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Seilet al-Harhiya village, northwest of Jenin.

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Tulkarm: IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. At approximately 14:30 on Thursday, 19 January 2012, IOF positioned at 'Ennab checkpoint, east of Tulkarm, imposed restrictions on the movement of Palestinians.

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At approximately 09:00 on Saturday, 21 January 2012, IOF positioned at 'Ennab checkpoint, east of Tulkarm, imposed more restrictions on the movement of Palestinians. At approximately 22:00, on the same day, IOF established a checkpoint at the entrance of Far'oun village, south of Tulkarm. At approximately 20:30, IOF established a checkpoint at the intersection of al-Jaroushiya village, north of Tulkarm.

At approximately 10:00 on Sunday, 22 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint on 'Allar – Saida road, northeast of Tulkarm. At approximately 00:30, IOF stationed at 'Ennab checkpoint, east of Tulkarm, imposed more restrictions on the movement of Palestinians.

Salfit: IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. At approximately 13:25 on Saturday, 21 January 2012, IOF established a checkpoint

at the western entrance of Kafr al-Dik village, west of Salfit. At approximately 15:25 on the same day, IOF established a checkpoint at the eastern entrance of Yasouf village, east of Salfit. At approximately 17:00, IOF established a checkpoint at the western entrance of Deir Istia village, north of Salfit.

Hebron: IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. At approximately 12:00 on Wednesday, 25 January 2012, IOF closed the dirt road leading to Tal al-Romaida neighborhood, in the center of Hebron.

According to investigations conducted by PCHR and testimony of Hana' Jameel Haikal, IOF closed the dirt road used by her family and other families in the area by huge concrete cubes. As a result, they were prevented from reaching their houses that are surrounded by military sites and the settlement of Beit Yishai. This measure was taken to impose more restrictions on the residents of the area.

Arrests at Military Checkpoints

At approximately 12:30 on Thursday, 19 January 2012, Sha'ban Fo'ad Raihan, 50, received a phone call from IOF informing him that his son Bassam, 24, from Jabalia refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip, is detained in Ashkelon prison. It should be noted that Bassam Raihan had been referred to al-Mezan Hospital in Hebron to undergo surgery in the nerves, as he was wounded three times during al-Aqsa Intifada; one of which is in the belly, the second is in the

two thighs while the third is in the right knee. Bassam was passing with his aunt Na'ima Fo'ad, 49, through Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing in the northern Gaza Strip when they were stopped by IOF. The Israeli soldiers handed Bassam's jacket to his aunt, ordered her to return to Gaza and told her that Bassam is under detention. The patient has been detained so far.

At approximately 08:30 on Thursday, 19 January 2012, as Dr. Aziz Salem Murtada Dwaik, 63, Speaker of the PLC, was on his way from his work in Ramallah back to his house in Hebron, Israeli soldiers stationed at Jaba' checkpoint, northeast of occupied Jerusalem, stopped the car in which he was traveling together with his driver and the director of his office. Israeli soldiers forced the three to step down from the car and seized their ID cards. Approximately 10 minutes later, Israeli soldiers informed Dr. Dwaik that he was being detained, and ordered his driver and the director of his office to leave the area. Israeli soldiers were seen handcuffing and blindfolding Dr. Dwaik and forcing him to get into a military jeep that traveled away from the area. This morning, it was revealed that Dr. Dwaik was taken to Ofer detention facility, southwest of Ramallah. On 25 January 2012, the Israeli military court at Ofer detention facility decided to put Dr. Dwaik under administrative detention for six months without issuing an indictment against him.

At approximately 12:00, on Sunday, 22 January 2012, IOF positioned in the southern area of Hebron arrested Tareq Rabah Shhada 'Asfour, 22, from Hebron. The Israeli soldiers at a checkpoint established on the road leading to the Ibrahimi mosque searched 'Asfour and detained him under the pretext that he had a knife. He was transported to the Israeli police station near Kiryat Arba settlement, southeast of Hebron. 'Asfour was charged of "trying to kill an Israeli soldier", and was then transferred to Kfar Etzion settlement, southwest of Bethlehem.

3. Efforts to Create a Jewish Majority in East Jerusalem

Israeli occupation authorities have continued to make persistent efforts to create a Jewish majority in East Jerusalem and expel Palestinian civilians in the city.

At approximately 13:15 on Monday, 23 January 2012, an IOF undercover unit comprised of 30 members stormed the yard of ICRC's head office in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in East Jerusalem. They attacked the sit-in tent in which PLC Member Mohammed Omran Saleh Toutah, 43, and former Minister Khaled Abu 'Arafa, 51, were staying and arrested both men. They further arrested Toutah's brother, Mo'tassim, 48, and Amr Abu 'Arafa, 26, who were in the tent as well. Eyewitnesses indicated that the undercover unit directly headed to the tent and introduced themselves as police. They took Toutah and Abu 'Arafa out of the head office, put each of them in a vehicle and transported them to al-Masqoubiya detention center in Jerusalem. In the meantime, other members of the undercover unit stormed the ICRC's head office and confiscated computer sets and cell phones belonging to Toutah and Abu 'Arafa, which indicates that they went up to the second floor of the building, where Toutah and Abu 'Arafa used to sleep, and confiscated their belongings.

Israeli police spokeswoman for the Arab media, Loba Samri, stated that with the assistance of the General Security Service "Shabak," interrogators of the Minorities Department of the Central Investigations Unit, Jerusalem District, arrested PLC Member Mohammed Toutah and former Minister of Jerusalem Affairs, Khaled Abu 'Arafa, from East Jerusalem at ICRC's head office in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood. Samri said: "They have been hiding in that place for about a year and a half after their Israeli ID's had been canceled by the Israeli Ministry of Interior following their activities and work in an illegal terrorist organization," as described by Samri. She also claimed that there is no diplomatic status in the ICRC's office.

PLC Member Mohammed Toutah, former Minister Khaled Abu 'Arafa and PLC Member Ahmed 'Attoun had decided to sit-in at the ICRC head office in Jerusalem since June 2010 rejecting an Israeli decision to withdraw the ID's of Jerusalemite PLC Members and give them temporary permits instead that expire after a month. This decision was taken under the pretext that PLC Members are affiliated to a banned organization and participating in the Palestinian legislative elections representing Hamas. On 06 September 2011, an IOF undercover unit kidnapped PLC Member 'Attoun from the same sit-in tent in Jerusalem and he was kept in custody until he was deported to Ramallah on 06 December 2011.

On Tuesday, 24 January 2012, IOF demolished the house belonging to Ahmed Omar al-Lahalyah in the east of 'Anata village, northeast of East Jerusalem. Al-Lahalya said that IOF surrounded his house in the early morning and ordered him and his family comprising of 20 members to leave that house, whose area is 100 square meters, in order to demolish it. As a result, an Israeli staff started to get the furniture out of the house to allow the bulldozers demolish it. Lawyer Hossam Yunis who was responsible for the case and member of the Committee against the Wall in Ramallah, said that he started legal action on at the previous night to reject the demolition of al-Lahalya's house before the Israeli Supreme Court. However, the lawyer received a phone call from the owner of the house telling him that IOF demolished the house. Yunis pointed that the latest 3-day demolition notice was sent to al-Lahalya on 18 January 2012. He explained that the new demolition notice was issued upon a previous demolition order issued against a previous house belonging to al-Lahalya with an area of 180 square meters. He lived in that house in 1996 and it was demolished then. IOF claimed that the old house was built without obtaining a license, as a result, al-Lahalya was obliged to build his house that was demolished on the day mentioned above.

In the same context, on 21 January 2012, the Israeli municipality in Jerusalem sent Inad Abu Sarhan a notice to demolish his house in Emlisoun area near Ras al-'Amoud neighborhood, south of al-Aqsa mosque. The notice was issued under the pretext of building the house without obtaining a license. Nine members live in the house that was built in 1999. The Israeli municipality issued fines and financial irregularities that mounted to 100,000 NIS.

4. Settlement Activities and Attacks by Settlers against Palestinian Civilians and Property

Israel has continued its settlement activities in the OPT in violation of international humanitarian law, and Israeli settlers have continued to attack Palestinian civilians and property.

· At approximately 09:00 on Monday, 23 January 2012, IOF supported by two bulldozers and "Civil Administration" officers moved into the northern area of al-Oja village near street (90), northeast of Jericho. They closed the area and prevented Palestinians and journalists from moving in. At approximately 09:30, two bulldozers started demolishing 9 stores under construction, claiming that they had been established without obtaining a license from the Israeli "Civil Administration". The stores belong to :

1. A store belonging to Diab Abdul Hamid Njoum. The store's area is 35 square meters;
2. A store belonging to Jaser Abdul Rahman Njoum. The store's area is 35 square meters;
3. A store belonging to Yaser Abdul Rahman Njoum. The store's area is 35 square meters;

4. A store belonging to Mohammed Abdul Rahman Njoum. The store's area is 35 square meters;

5. A store belonging to Faysal Hussein Njoum. The store's area is 70 square meters;

6. Two stores belonging to Nayef Njoum. The stores' area is 70 square meters; and

7. A store belonging to Fakhri Njoum. The store's area is 35 square meters.

On Tuesday morning, 24 January 2012, IOF sent a number of Palestinians notices to demolish a school and houses in Bani N'aim village, southeast of Hebron, under the pretext of "not licensed buildings";

According to information collected by PCHR, IOF accompanied by an officer from the "Civil Administration" sent notices to Palestinians living in Khelet Abu Beida area, west of Bani N'aim, to demolish an under construction school and three empty houses belonging to:

1. Haroun Mohammed Tarayra, who owns a 2-storey house and a storehouse with an area of 360 square meters;

2. Shehda Sulaiman Ya'qoub Tarayra, who owns a 2-storey house and a storehouse with an area of 240 square meters; and

3. Nafez 'Atiya Zeidat, who owns a house with an area of 160 square meters.

On Wednesday morning, 25 January 2012, IOF demolished a house in Kherbet Om al-Kheir, east of Yatta in the far south of Hebron.

According to investigations conducted by PCHR and testimony of Abdullah Salem al-Hadaleen, 25, at approximately 08:15, IOF moved into Kherbet Om al-Kheir and surrounded a house belonging to Mrs. Halima al-Hadaleen, 65, who is the widower of Salem Eid Yamin al-Hadaleen. They then started demolishing the house consisting of two rooms and was resided by a family comprising of eight members, including six children.

It should be noted that the said house is 20 meters far from the fence of Carmiel settlement and it was demolished without a prior notice. It is the second house belonging to the same family that was demolished by IOF, as the first house was demolished in 2008. During the recent demolition, IOF attacked the son of the house owner, eyewitness Abdullah Salem al-Hadaleen, after he intervened to stop the demolition.

On Tuesday, 24 January 2012, hundreds of settlers using tens of buses stormed the Joseph Tomb in Balata village, east of Nablus. They performed Talmudic prayers there until the early morning. Local sources stated that approximately 10 buses of settlers reached the grave of Yusef under IOF's protection, during which they performed their religious rituals.

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Recommendations to the International Community

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1. PCHR calls upon the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to fulfill their legal and moral obligations under Article 1 of the Convention to ensure Israel's respect for the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. PCHR believes that the policy of silence practiced by the international community has encouraged Israel to act as if it is above the law and encourages Israel continue to violate international human rights and humanitarian law.

2. PCHR calls upon the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to convene a conference to take effective steps to ensure Israel's respect of the Convention in the OPT and to provide immediate protection for Palestinian civilians.

3. PCHR calls upon the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to comply with their legal obligations detailed in Article 146 of the Convention to search for and prosecute those responsible for grave breaches, namely war crimes.

4. PCHR calls for the immediate implementation of the Advisory Opinion issued by the International Court of Justice, which considers the construction of the Annexation Wall inside the West Bank illegal.

5. PCHR recommends that international civil society organizations, including human rights organizations, bar associations and NGOs, participate in the process of exposing those accused of grave breaches of international law and urge their governments to bring the perpetrators to justice.

6. PCHR calls upon the European Union to activate Article 2 of the Euro-Israel Association Agreement, which provides that Israel must respect human rights as a precondition for economic cooperation between the EU states and Israel. PCHR further calls upon the EU states to prohibit import of goods produced in illegal Israeli settlements in the OPT.

7. PCHR calls on the international community to recognize the Gaza disengagement plan, which was implemented in September 2005, for what it is - not an end to occupation but a compounding of the occupation and the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip.

8. In recognition of ICRC as the guardian of the Fourth Geneva Convention, PCHR calls upon the ICRC to increase its staff and activities in the OPT, including the facilitation of family visitations to Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.

9. PCHR appreciates the efforts of international civil society, including human rights organizations, bar associations, unions and NGOs, and urges them to continue their role in pressuring their governments to secure Israel's respect for human rights in the OPT and to demand Israel end its attacks on Palestinian civilians.

10. PCHR calls upon the international community to pressure Israel to lift the severe restrictions imposed by the Israeli government and its occupation forces on access for international organizations to the OPT.

11. PCHR reiterates that any political settlement not based on international human rights law and humanitarian law cannot lead to a peaceful and just solution of the Palestinian question. Rather, such an arrangement can only lead to further suffering and instability in the region. Any peace process or agreement must be based on respect for international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law.

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For further information please visit our website (www.pchrgaza.org) or contact PCHR's office in Gaza City, Gaza Strip by email (pchr@pchrgaza.org) or telephone (+972 (0)8 282 4776 – 282 5893).

[1] One dunum is equal to 1,000 square meters.