



Factsheet

Violation of Children's Rights in the Gaza Strip

1 March – 30 April 2013

This factsheet describes violations of children's rights in the Gaza Strip in accordance with the Monitoring & Reporting Mechanism on grave violations of children's rights in situations of armed conflict, which was adopted by the Security Council in its Resolution No. 1612 (2005). This Mechanism requires monitoring and documentation of killing and maiming of children, recruitment and use of children by armed forces or armed groups, attacks on schools or hospitals, rape or other sexual violence, forced deportation of children, abduction of children, and denial of humanitarian access. This factsheet covers the period from 1 March – 30 April 2013.

1. Deaths

During the reporting period, 1 child was killed in an incident related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons in the Gaza Strip. According to PCHR's investigations, on Thursday, 13 March 2013, 14-year-old Shoroq Alaa Yussif Awad, from Al-Faloja neighborhood in Jabalia Refugee Camp, was killed by a gunshot to the head when her brother mishandled a pistol. According to the Palestinian Police's investigation, the child was hit by a gunshot to the head when her brother was tampering with a pistol owned by their uncle who was visiting their home. The child was transferred to Kamal Edwan Hospital in the north of the Gaza Strip to receive treatment. Due to the seriousness of her condition, she was transferred to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City, where she was pronounced dead on Thursday morning, 14 March 2013.

2. Injuries

During the reporting period, 10 children, aged 5 – 17 years, were wounded in the Gaza Strip in incidents violating children's rights. According to PCHR's investigations, 2 children were wounded by the Israeli forces, while the other 8 were wounded due to incidents related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons in the Gaza Strip. The cases of injuries by Israeli forces were as follows:

- On 5 April 2013, Israeli forces, stationed by the border fence east of Jabalia, opened fire at Palestinian civilians who were to the east of Abu Safyeh neighborhood. As a result, 16-year old Yazid Mohammed Salah Abu Khader, from Gaza City, sustained a bullet wound to his right leg. He was transferred to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City for treatment; the medical sources described his wound as moderate.

- On 26 April 2013, Israeli forces, stationed by the border fence east of Jabalia, opened fire at Palestinian civilians who were in the Eastern Cemetery. As a result, 17-year old Jamil Wael Jamil Resha, from Gaza City, sustained a bullet wound to his left leg. He was transferred to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City for treatment; the medical sources described his wound as moderate.

In incidents violating the right to life, including security chaos and misuse of weapons, 8 children were wounded in the Gaza Strip, as follows:

- On Sunday, 17 March 2013, 16-year-old Ibrahim Fayez Ibrahim Ahmed, from Jabalia Refugee Camp in the north of Gaza, was injured by shrapnel in various parts of his body, due to the explosion of a home-made bomb in al-Anas restaurant located on Al-Sudanyeh beach. Another two civilians were also wounded in this explosion. The wounded child was transferred to Shifa Hospital for treatment; the medical sources described his injury as light.

- On Friday, 22 March 2013, 7 children from Rafah city in the south of the Gaza Strip were injured due to the explosion of a home-made rocket the children were playing with on disused land. The children were identified as:

- 1) Anwar Awwad Al-Shaer (7);
- 2) Abd Al-Rahman Amin Al-Shaer (7);
- 3) Awad Talal Al-Shaer (10);
- 4) Mahmoud Amin Al-Shaer (5);
- 5) Mahmoud Awad Al-Shaer (8);
- 6) Ahmed Jihad Al-Shaer (8);
- 7) Abd Al-Rahman Youssif Qeshta (9).

The children were transferred to Abu Youssif al-Njjar Hospital and the European Gaza Hospital for treatment; the medical sources described their wounds as moderate.

3. Arrests

During the reporting period, the Israeli forces arrested 6 children in separate incidents while they were attempting to cross the border fence between the Gaza Strip and Israel. The arrests were as follows:

- On 10 March 2013, Israeli forces arrested Ahed Saber Salem Abu Dhafer (16), from Central Gaza Strip, when he attempted to cross the border into Israel.
- On 17 March 2013, Israeli forces arrested Sabri Hassan Sabri al-Msdar (16), from Central Gaza Strip, when he attempted to cross the border into Israel.
- On 24 March 2013, Israeli forces arrested Zeyad Sami Hassan Abu Ghraba (17), from Central Gaza Strip, when he attempted to cross the border into Israel.
- On 11 April 2013, Israeli forces arrested 2 children, Mahmoud Khalil Mahmoud Bedwan (16), and Asharf Sameer Mansour Mahmoud, both from Central Gaza Strip, when they attempted to cross the border into Israel.
- On 24 April 2013, Israeli forces arrested Yahia Ezzat Faraj-Allah (16), from Central Gaza Strip, when he attempted to cross the border to Israel.

**Violations of Children's Rights in the Gaza Strip
March - April 2013**

Month	Deaths	Injuries	Arrests	Access to Education Services	Access to Health Services	Forced Displacement	Kidnapping
March - April 2013	?	??	?	-	-	-	-

