

PCHR

Palestinian Centre for Human Rights LTD (non-profit)

<http://www.pchrgaza.org>



Weekly Report

On Israeli Human Rights Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory



Palestinian children play next to the rubble of a house that was destroyed during the latest Israeli offensive, on the first day of Eid al-Fitr in Jabalya refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip, 20 September 2009.

17- 30 September 2009

N^o 38-2009

Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) Continue Systematic Attacks against Palestinian Civilians and Property in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) and Continue to Impose a Total Closure on the Gaza Strip

- 9 Palestinians, including 4 civilians, were killed by IOF.
- **Two of these civilians were killed when IOF attacked border tunnels in the southern Gaza Strip, a third one was willfully killed and a child was run down by an Israeli military jeep/**
- 14 Palestinian civilians, including two children, were wounded by IOF gunfire in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.
- IOF used excessive force against Palestinian civilians in the al-Aqsa Mosque in East Jerusalem.
- IOF used force against peaceful demonstrations organized to protest the construction of the Annexation Wall in the West Bank.
- IOF conducted 31 incursions into Palestinian communities in the West Bank and 3 ones into the Gaza Strip.
- **IOF arrested 45 Palestinian civilians, including 6 children, in the West Bank, and 5 fishermen in the Gaza Strip.**
- Israeli naval troops continued to attack Palestinian fishers and boats in the Gaza Strip.
- IOF have continued to impose a total closure on the OPT and have isolated the Gaza Strip from the outside world.
- **IOF troops positioned at military checkpoints and border crossings in the West Bank arrested 8 Palestinian civilians, including 4 children.**
- IOF have continued settlement activities in the West Bank and Israeli settlers have continued to attack Palestinian civilians and property.
- **Israeli settlers demolished an agricultural facility in Hebron and uprooted 120 olive trees in Nablus.**

Summary

This report on Israeli human rights violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) coincides with the 9th anniversary of the al-Aqsa Intifada, which erupted following the former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's provocative visit to the *al-Aqsa Mosque* (the Holy Sanctuary) in occupied Jerusalem. In the intervening nine years, Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) have perpetrated grave breaches of international humanitarian law, including war crimes, against Palestinian civilians. They have continued to kill innocent civilians, destroy and confiscate civilian property and agricultural land from the purposes of settlement expansion and the construction of the Annexation Wall, arrest Palestinian civilians and establish military checkpoints, in violation of international human rights and humanitarian law. Additionally, IOF have continued to impose a tightened closure on the OPT, especially the Gaza Strip. Economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip have deteriorated. The international community has remained silent and the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 have failed to meet their obligations to ensure respect for the Convention in the OPT and provide protection for Palestinian civilians. The international silence has served to encourage the Israeli government and its occupation forces to perpetrate more war crimes with impunity against Palestinian civilians.

According to PCHR's documentation, 6,426 Palestinians have been killed by IOF (4,497 in the Gaza Strip and 1,929 in the West Bank). This figure includes a total of 4,959 civilians (3,248 in the Gaza Strip and 1,711 in the West Bank). The civilian victims include 1,210 children (875 in the Gaza Strip and 335 in the West Bank). They also include 274 women (209 in the Gaza Strip and 65 in the West Bank).

In the 9th year of the Intifada, IOF waged a full-scale offensive against the Gaza Strip, during which they killed hundreds of Palestinians and wounded thousands of others. They also destroyed thousands of houses and civilian facilities. In the nine months following the end of this offensive, IOF have continued to prevent the entry of raw materials needed for the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip. PCHR believes that the international community, which pledged to contribute to the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip, has failed to take any serious actions to obligate Israel to comply with international law and to open Gaza's border crossing and allow the free passage of materials needed for reconstruction.

In spite of attempts by the Israeli government to free itself of responsibility for war crimes perpetrated by IOF in the Gaza Strip and provide false statistics of victims, the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict, headed by Justice Richard Goldstone, which was issued on 15 September 2009, confirms the findings and reports of many Palestinian, Israeli and international human rights organizations, and strongly refutes Israeli claims that its military and political operations were conducted in accordance with international law. Investigations conducted by the Fact Finding Mission confirmed that Israel was responsible for the perpetration of grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions, war crimes, and serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law. The Fact Finding Mission also found sufficient evidence to indicate that crimes against humanity may have been committed. In particular, the Mission noted that, "While the Israeli Government has sought to portray its operations as essentially a response to rocket attacks in the exercise of its right to self defence, the Mission considers the plan to have been directed, at least in part, at a different target: the people of Gaza as a whole."

Israeli violations of international law and humanitarian law continued in the OPT during the reporting period (17 – 30 September 2009):

Shooting: During the reporting period, IOF killed 9 Palestinians and wounded 14 others in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Nine Palestinians also suffered from suffocation when a tunnel collapsed as IOF attacked border tunnels in the southern Gaza Strip.

In the Gaza Strip, IOF killed 7 Palestinians, including two civilians, and wounded two children and an activist of the Palestinian resistance.

On 20 September 2009, IOF killed two members of the Palestinian resistance in Jabalya town in the northern Gaza Strip with Flechette shells.

On 25 September 2009, an Israeli aircraft fired a missile that killed 3 activists of the Palestinian resistance in the east of Gaza City.

On 29 September 2009, two Palestinian civilians were killed when Israeli fighter jets bombarded tunnels along the Egyptian border, south of Rafah.

On 28 September 2009, two Palestinian children were wounded when IOF fired a number of artillery shells at al-Musaddar village in the central Gaza Strip.

On 29 September 2009, an activist of the Palestinian resistance was wounded by shrapnel from an artillery shell fired by IOF in al-Shouka village near Rafah.

In the West Bank, IOF killed two Palestinian civilians, including a child, and wounded 11 others, including a child and an old man.

On 22 September 2009, IOF shot dead a Palestinian civilian while traveling in his car to the west of Bethlehem. They claimed that he did not obey orders to stop, but investigations conducted by PCHR refute this claim and indicate that IOF willfully killed the victim.

On 30 September 2009, an Israeli military jeep chased and ran down a Palestinian school child in Ya'bad village, southwest of Jenin.

On 25 September 2009, a Palestinian civilian was wounded when IOF fired at dozens of Palestinian civilians and international and Israeli human rights defenders who demonstrated to protest settlement expansion in Iraq Bourin village, south of Nablus.

On 27 September 2009, 3 Palestinian civilians were wounded when IOF fired at dozens of Palestinian civilians who gathered in the al-Aqsa Mosque in East Jerusalem to prevent Israeli settlers from storming its yards.

IOF also used force against peaceful demonstrations organized by Palestinian civilians and international and Israeli human rights defenders to protest the construction of the Annexation Wall in the West Bank. As a result, 7 Palestinian civilians, including a child, were wounded.

Incursions: During the reporting period, IOF conducted at least 31 military incursions into Palestinian communities in the West Bank. IOF arrested 45 Palestinian civilians, including 6 children.

In the Gaza Strip, IOF conducted 3 limited incursions into Palestinian communities, during which they leveled areas of Palestinian land they had already razed. They also arrested 5 Palestinian fishers for several hours.

Restrictions on Movement: IOF have 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

IOF have continued to close all border crossings to the Gaza Strip for more than two years. The illegal IOF 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.

- 1.5 million people are being denied their basic rights, including freedom of movement, and their rights to appropriate living conditions, work, health and education.
- The main concern of 1.5 million people living in the Gaza Strip is to obtain their basic needs of food, medicines, water and electricity supplies.
- IOF have continued to prevent the entry of raw construction materials into the Gaza Strip for more than two years.
- IOF have not allowed fuel supplies into the Gaza Strip, excluding limited amounts of cooking gas, since 10 December 2008.
- The Rafah International Crossing Point has been opened for a few days for a number of patients who received medical treatment abroad and needed to return home to the Gaza Strip.
- IOF have continued to close Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing to Palestinian civilians wishing to travel to the West Bank and Israeli for medical treatment, trade or social visits.
- Poverty and unemployment rates stand at approximately 80% and 60% respectively in the Gaza Strip.
- IOF have continued to prevent the entry of spare parts form water networks and sewage systems. Losses incurred to this sector are estimated at US\$ 6 million.
- IOF have imposed additional access restrictions on international diplomats, journalists and humanitarian workers seeking to enter the Gaza Strip. They have prevented representatives of several international humanitarian organizations from entering the Gaza Strip.
- Living conditions of the Palestinian civilian population have seriously deteriorated; levels of poverty and unemployment have sharply mounted.
- At least 900 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails have been deprived for family visitation for more than two years.
- IOF have continued to attack Palestinian fishers along the Gaza Strip coast.

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 at the al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.
- There are approximately permanent 630 roadblocks, and manned and unmanned checkpoints across the West Bank. In addition, there are some 60-80 'flying' or temporary checkpoints erected across the West Bank by IOF every week.
- 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 has already been constructed. Approximately 99% of the Wall has been constructed inside the West Bank itself, further confiscating Palestinian land.
- At least 65% of the main roads that leads to 18 Palestinian communities in the West Bank are closed or fully controlled by IOF (47 out of 72 roads).
- There are around 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 a permit issued by the IOF. These 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.

Settlement Activities: IOF have continued settlement activities in the OPT in violation of international humanitarian law and Israeli settlers living have continued to attack Palestinian civilians and property. On 21 September 2009, Israeli settlers living in "Ramat Yishai" settlement in Tal Rumaida neighborhood in the center of Hebron attacked Palestinian houses using stones and empty bottles in the presence of Israeli soldiers, who did not intervene to stop such attacks. On 22 September 2009, Israeli settlers living in "Ma'oun" settlement to the east of Yatta village, south of Hebron, demolished an agricultural facility belonging to Jadallah Reb'ei and Rebehi Rab'ei in al-Tawana village. On 24 September 2009, at least 120 Israeli settlers, escorted by IOF, stormed al-Is'haqiya section in the Ibrahimi Mosque, and stayed in it for more than an hour and a half. On 27 September 2009, a number of Israeli settlers living in "Kiryat Arba" settlement, southeast of Hebron, attacked a number of Palestinian civilians and their cars while exiting al-Ras Mosque to the west of the aforementioned settlement. The settlers used stones and empty bottles in their attack. A number of cars were damaged, but no one was hurt. On 28 September 2009, a number of Israeli settlers from "Yits'har" settlement to the south of Bourin village, south of Nablus, uprooted 150 olive trees belonging to Ahmed Mustafa Qadous and the heirs of 'Abdul Qader 'Omran in Khellat Swar area in the village.

Israeli Violations Documented during the Reporting Period (17 – 30 September 2009)

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

Thursday, 17 September 2009

- At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Qabatya village, southeast of Jenin. They patrolled in the streets and opened fire. They withdrew from the village later and no arrests were reported.

Friday, 18 September 2009

- At approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Qabalan village, southeast of Nablus. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested two Palestinian civilians:

1. Salama Salim Az'ar, 19; and
2. Jihad Salah Hammad, 33.

Sunday, 20 September 2009

- At approximately 15:00, the bodies of 'Abdul Hafez Khalil al-Silwai, 20, a member of the 'Izziddin al-Qassam Brigades (the armed wing of Hamas) from Jabalya refugee camp, and Mahmoud Ahmed Nusair, 20, a member of Martyr Abu 'Ali Mustafa Brigades (the armed wing of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine) from Beit Lahia town, were brought to Kamal 'Edwan Hospital in Beit Lahia town in the northern Gaza Strip. According to medical sources, there were many tiny holes in the bodies, as the two bodies were killed by IOF troops positioned at the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel to the east of Jabalya town. The two bodies were found nearly 300 meters away from the border.
- At approximately 22:20, IOF warplanes bombarded the Block J area and Saladin Gate on the Egyptian border, south of Rafah, allegedly to destroy tunnels. Palestinian civilians were terrified, but no casualties were reported.

Monday, 21 September 2009

- At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Nahalin village, west of Bethlehem. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested 3 Palestinian civilians:
 1. Mohammed Ibrahim Shakarna, 18;
 2. Ahmed Na'im Fannoun, 18; and
 3. Bilal Sa'ad Fannoun, 18.
- Also at approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Housan village, west of Bethlehem. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Ahmed Nidal 'Olayan, 18.
- At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Bal'ein village, west of Ramallah. They raided and searched a number of houses and summoned 3 Palestinian civilians for interrogation.

- Also at approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Jenin town and refugee camp. They patrolled in the streets and opened fire. They withdrew later and no arrests were reported.
- At approximately 15:00, IOF troops stationed on observation towers on the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel near al-Mentar (Karni) crossing, east of Gaza City, opened fire at Palestinian civilian property. They also fired a sonic bomb at the area. Palestinian civilians were extremely terrified, but no casualties were reported.

Tuesday, 22 September 2009

- At approximately 01:0, IOF moved into 'Aqabet Jaber refugee camp, south of Jericho. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Ibrahim Khalil Abu al-'Asal, 24.
- At approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Khellet Butrokh neighborhood in the northeast of Hebron. They raided and searched a house belonging to the family of Fadi 'Obaidu, 25, and arrested him.
- At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Yatta village, south of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses and summoned 4 Palestinian civilians for interrogation.
- In the early morning, IOF shot dead a Palestinian civilian while driving his car on the Housan – Beit Sheimesh road, west of Bethlehem. They claimed that he did not obey orders to stop his car at a military checkpoint, but investigations conducted by PCHR refute this claim as IOF shot him dead as he had just left a fuel station away from an Israeli military checkpoint in the area.

According to investigations conducted by PCHR, at approximately 05:20, Rabee' Waleed 'Eissa al-Tawil, 27, from Sour Baher village southeast of Jerusalem, drove his car into a fuel station near an Israeli military checkpoint close to Housan village, west of Bethlehem, to fill his car with fuel. The Israeli military stopped him. An Israeli officer took his car's documents and requested him to follow him to the aforementioned checkpoint for verification. Al-Tawil continued his travel. At approximately 05:40, he drove back to the fuel station, nearly 1,000 meters away from the checkpoint. He told a worker there what happened with him. When al-Tawil drove his car to leave the station, the same Israeli military vehicle intercepted him and hit his car. Al-Tawil drove back in an attempt to leave the station. Immediately, the Israeli officer and two soldiers got out of the vehicle and opened fire at al-Tawil's car from a very close range. The car was hit by at least 25 bullets, some of which hit al-Tawil himself. He lost control over the car which fell down off the road. Israeli ambulances arrived at the area, but he was dead. According to eyewitnesses, the victim was driving his car normally and IOF troops could have stopped him quietly without firing at him. According to the victim's family, he was hit by at least 15 bullets to the neck, the back, the shoulders and the sides. It is worth noting that the same Israeli officer had stopped al-Tawil on the previous day and held him for some time claiming that he was transporting workers who do not have permits to Israel. At that time, the officer debated with al-Tawil and threatened to kill him if he came back to the area.

- At approximately 09:30, IOF moved nearly 700 meters into the north of Beit Hanoun town in the northern Gaza Strip. They leveled areas of land which they had already razed. IOF withdrew from the area at approximately 23:30.

Wednesday, 23 September 2009

- At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into 'Azzoun village, east of Qalqilya. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested 5 Palestinian civilians, including 3 children:

1. Qussai Shaher Salim, 15;
2. Yousef Saqer Salim, 13;
3. 'Eid Jamal Salim, 17;
4. Hussein Ghassan Swaidan, 18; and
5. Tha'er Bayan Tabib, 15.

Swidan and Tabib were released two days later.

- At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Ras al-Joura and Wad al-Qadi neighborhoods in the north and south of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested 5 Palestinian civilians, including 3 brothers:

1. Qutaiba Mohammed Ghaith, 40;
2. Qidar Mohammed Ghaith, 30;
3. Huthaifa Mohammed Ghaith, 28;
4. As'ad Yousef Barqan, 24; and
5. Ayman Hamdi Abu Sarah, 23.

- At approximately 02:15, IOF moved into 'Arraba village, southwest of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested two Palestinian civilians:

1. 'Abdul Latif Bassem Shibani, 22; and
2. 'Eissa Hassan Shibani, 21.

- Also at approximately 02:15, IOF moved into Kufor Ra'ei village, southwest of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested 3 Palestinian civilians, including two brothers:

1. Mahmoud Zuhair Jarrar, 23;
2. 'Abdul Karim Zuhair Jarrar, 27; and
3. Bahaa' Sami Diab, 23.

- At approximately 09:45, 3 Israeli gunboats stationed opposite to al-Waha Resort in the northern Gaza Strip besieged a fishing boat belonging to Zaki Khalil Abu 'Ouda, 48, from al-Shati refugee camp west of Gaza City, when the fishing boats exceeded the warning signs placed by the Israeli navy. They ordered the five fishermen who were on the boat to follow them towards the Israeli Ashdod Harbor. At the approximately 22:30, IOF released the five fishermen, but the whereabouts of the boat are unknown.

- At approximately 21:30, IOF moved nearly 300 meters into the north of Beit Hanoun town in the northern Gaza Strip. They leveled areas of land which had previously been razed.

Thursday, 24 September 2009

- At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Sourif village, northwest of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Mohammed Yassin al-Hour, 21.
- Also at approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Tarqoumia village, southwest of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- At approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Nablus. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested two Palestinian civilians:
 1. 'Omar Mahmoud 'Anabtawi, 31; and
 2. Firas Ziad al-Je'ei, 19.
- Also at approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Deir Estia village, northwest of Salfit. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested 'Aahed 'Ezzat Mansour, 19.
- At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Yassouf village, east of Salfit. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Ahmed Jamal 'Azzam, 18.
- At approximately 02:30, IOF moved into Madama village, south of Nablus. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Mahmoud 'Abdullah al-Qut, 28.
- At approximately 03:00, IOF moved into al-Quds and Wadi Abu Ktaila neighborhoods in the north and northwest of Hebron respectively. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested 3 Palestinian civilians:
 1. Ashraf 'Othman Bader, 33;
 2. Faisal Mohammed Abu Shukhaidem, 28; and
 3. Anas Abu Markhiya, 25.
- Also at approximately 03:00, IOF moved into 'Anabta village, east of Tulkarm. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested two Palestinian civilian civilians:
 1. Ziad 'Abdul Fattah Nour, 26; and
 2. Nidal Bassem Melhem, 28.

Friday, 25 September 2009

- At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Jenin town and refugee camp. They patrolled in the streets and opened fire. They withdrew later and no arrests were reported.
- Also at approximately 01:00, IOF moved into al-Bireh. They patrolled in the streets and opened fire. They withdrew later and no arrests were reported.
- At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into al-Zaubaidat village, north of Jericho. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- At approximately 20:15, an Israeli drone fired a missile at 3 activists of the al-Quds Brigades (the armed wing of Islamic Jihad) in the east of al-Tuffah neighborhood in the east of Gaza City, nearly 1,500 meters

away from the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel. The missile hit the three activists directly and killed them instantly:

1. Mahmoud Mousa al-Banna, 24;
2. Mohammed Salem Marshoud, 24; and
3. Kamal Khaled al-Dahdouh, 27.

Saturday, 26 September 2009

- At approximately 17:30, IOF troops positioned on observation towards to the east of Jabalya town in the northern Gaza Strip opened fire at Palestinian property in the area. No casualties were reported, but Palestinian civilians were extremely terrified.

Sunday, 27 September 2009

- At approximately 05:45, Israeli gunboats opened fire at a number of Palestinian fishing boats opposite to al-Waha Resort in the northern Gaza Strip. No casualties were reported.
- At approximately 07:00, an Israeli aircraft fired a missile at al-Ferta area in the east of Beit Hanoun town in the northern Gaza Strip. The missile landed in an open area and no casualties were reported.

Monday, 28 September 2009

- At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Zeita village, north of Tulkarm. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Suhaib Mohammed Rabah, 22.
- At approximately 06:15, IOF troops positioned at the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel to the east of al-Musaddar village in the central Gaza Strip fired a number of artillery shells at the east of the village. One of the shells landed near a house belonging to Jihad Yousef al-Musaddar, 50, and wounded his two twins: 'Abdullah and 'Abeer, 17. The house was also damaged. Soon after, IOF moved into the area. This incursion continued until 12:00. In his testimony to PCHR, 'Abdullah Jihad al-Musaddar stated:

"At approximately 06:15 on Monday, 28 September 2009, when my twin sister and I were at home getting ready to go to school, IOF were firing everywhere. When they stopped, we went out to go to school. As soon as we exited the house, an artillery shell landed 7 meters away from us. I was wounded by shrapnel to the face and the left thigh, and my sister was wounded by shrapnel to the left leg."

Tuesday, 29 September 2009

- At approximately 14:30, IOF, accompanied by officials of the Organization Committee of the Civil Administration moved into 'Azzoun village, east of Qalqilya. They handed house demolition orders to 6 civilians, claiming that stones were thrown from their vicinity at the main road in the area. These civilians are: Nasser Salama Salim, 38; Yousef Salama Salim, 36; 'Ekrema Salama Salim, 35; Sa'ad Rashed Salim, 39; Kamal Yousef Salim, 39; and Khaled Yousef Salim, 35.
- At approximately 15:00, a member of the Saladin Brigades (the armed wing of the Popular Resistance Committees) was wounded by shrapnel from an Israeli tank shell near Gaza International Airport in al-

Shouka village, east of Rafah. He was a member of a group monitoring IOF movement along the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel.

Wednesday, 30 September 2009

- Between 0:40 and 01:20, IOF fighter jets dropped 3 bombs on tunnels at the Egyptian border, south of Rafah, near Block J and Saladin Gate. As a result, two Palestinians were killed while working in a tunnel near the one that was attacked by IOF fighter jets:

1. Rezeq Mohammed al-Masri, 35, from Khan Yunis; and
2. Nasser Yousef Abu Saif, 45, from Gaza City.

Another 13 Palestinians suffered from suffocation and were evacuated to hospitals.

- At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Bal'ain village, west of Ramallah. They raided and searched a house belonging to Bassel Mansour, member of the Public Committee against the Wall and Settlement in the village. They handed a notice to his wife summoning him for interrogation.

- Also at approximately 01:00, IOF moved into 'Azzoun village, east of Qalqilya. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested 4 Palestinian civilians, including a child:

1. Mustafa 'Abdul Rahman Hussein, 18;
2. Hadi Anwar Hussein, 19;
3. Radwan Mohammed Radwan, 52; and
4. Mustafa Riad 'Enaya, 17.

- At approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Jaba' village, south of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested two Palestinian civilians:

1. Tariq Ziad Saltna, 22; and
2. 'Amara 'Abdul Latif Gharib, 22.

- Also at approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Tulkarm. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested two Palestinian civilians:

1. Mos'ab Mustafa Abu al-Teen, 22; and
2. Rajaa' Ahmed 'Ammouri, 20.

School Child Killed by an Israeli Military Jeep

At approximately 12:15 on Wednesday, 30 September 2009, 17-year-old Fu'ad Mahmoud Nayef Turkman was killed when an Israeli military jeep chased and ran him down at 'Izziddin al-Qassam School at the entrance of Ya'bad village, southwest of Jenin.

In his testimony to PCHR, Bassam 'Atatra, a teacher at that school, stated:

"At approximately 12:15 on Wednesday, 30 September 2009, I and the acting principal, Mohammed Monawer Abu Bassir, went out of school towards a female secondary school, nearly 1,000 meters away. When we were approximately 50 meters away from our

school, I saw two Israeli military jeeps coming from Toura and al-Nazla intersection and chasing school children. Immediately, we moved back to school. When we arrived at school, I saw Fu'ad Mahmoud Nayef Turkman on the ground unconscious. He younger brother, Mahdi, was crying near him. An Israeli jeep was inside the school. I moved towards the jeep and asked the Israeli soldiers to call an ambulance. Soon after, another Israeli military jeep moved into school and pulled the other jeep out. Israeli soldiers got out of the jeep and fired tear gas canisters at us. While we were gathering near Turkman, an Israeli taxi driver told us that he saw the child at the school's gate, and that an Israeli military jeeps chased and ran him down inside the school. Turkman was evacuated to Jenin Hospital, where he was pronounced dead."

2. Continued Closure of the OPT

IOF have continued to impose a tightened closure 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

IOF have continued to close all border crossings to the Gaza Strip for more than two years. The illegal IOF 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.

- 1.5 million people are being denied their basic rights, including freedom of movement, and their rights to appropriate living conditions, work, health and education.
- The main concern of the population of the Gaza Strip is to obtain their basic needs of food, medicines, water and electricity supplies.
- IOF have continued to prevent the entry of raw construction materials into the Gaza Strip for more than two years.
- IOF have not allowed fuel supplies into the Gaza Strip, excluding limited amounts of cooking gas, since 10 December 2008.
- The Rafah International Crossing Point has been opened for a few days for a number of patients who received medical treatment abroad and needed to return home to the Gaza Strip.
- IOF have continued to close Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing to Palestinian civilians wishing to travel to the West Bank and Israeli for medical treatment, trade or social visits.
- Poverty and unemployment rates stand at approximately 80% and 60% respectively in the Gaza Strip.
- IOF have continued to prevent the entry of spare parts from water networks and sewage systems. Losses incurred to this sector are estimated at US\$ 6 million.
- IOF have imposed additional access restrictions on international diplomats, journalists and humanitarian workers seeking to enter the Gaza Strip. They have prevented representatives of several international humanitarian organizations from entering the Gaza Strip.

- Living conditions of the Palestinian civilian population have seriously deteriorated; levels of poverty and unemployment have sharply mounted.
- At least 900 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails have been denied family visitation rights for more than two years.
- IOF have continued to attack Palestinian fishers along the Gaza Strip coast.

Movement at Border Crossings during the Reporting Period:**Movement at Rafah International Crossing Point
24 – 28 September 2009**

Date	Details
24 September 2009	19 Palestinians were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
25 September 2009	180 Palestinians were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
26 September 2009	7 Palestinian patients were allowed to travel to Egypt and 9 Palestinians were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
27 September 2009	Closed.
28 September 2009	6 persons, including Palestinian Ambassador to Senegal and 3 US citizens, were allowed to travel to Egypt and two Palestinians, including Mahmoud al-Zahhar, a senior leader of Hamas, and the body of a dead Palestinian were allowed into the Gaza Strip.

**Movement at Karm Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) Crossing
16 – 29 September 2009**

Date	Details
16 September 2009	126 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
17 September 2009	81 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
18 September 2009	Closed.
19 September 2009	Closed.
20 September 2009	Closed.
21 September 2009	Closed.
22 September 2009	55 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
23 September 2009	55 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
24 September 2009	93 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
25 September 2009	Closed.
26 September 2009	Closed.
27 September 2009	Closed.
28 September 2009	Closed.
29 September 2009	87 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.

**Movement at Nahal Ouz Crossing
16 – 29 September 2009**

Date	Cooking Gas (tons)	Energy Fuel (liters)
16 September 2009	NIL	1,000,000
17 September 2009	Nil	Nil
18 September 2009	Nil	Nil
19 September 2009	Nil	Nil
20 September 2009	Nil	Nil
21 September 2009	Nil	Nil
22 September 2009	312	1,210,000
23 September 2009	Nil	Nil
24 September 2009	275	1,006,000
25 September 2009	Nil	Nil
26 September 2009	Nil	Nil
27 September 2009	Nil	Nil
28 September 2009	Nil	Nil
29 September 2009	250	1,000,000

Beit Hanoun (Erez) Crossing: IOF have continued to close Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing for the movement of Palestinian civilians. They have allowed only diplomats, a number of international journalists, workers at international agencies and a few 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. As mentioned above, IOF have allowed a few number of patients to pass through the crossing, but under severe restrictions that include prolonged checking.

**Movement at Beit Hanoun (Erez) Crossing
16 – 29 September 2009**

Date	Patients	Companions	Arabs from Israel	International Journalists	Ambassadors	International Workers	Travelers abroad
16 September 2009	21	21	5	Nil	1	36	Nil
17 September 2009	19	15	Nil	4	13	90	10
18 September 2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
19 September 2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
20 September 2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	nil
21 September 2009	8	7	12	4	3	4	2
22 September 2009	21	18	8	Nil	Nil	8	Nil
23 September 2009	9	8	16	4	Nil	1	5
24 September 2009	13	9	31	6	Nil	20	Nil
25 September 2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
26 September 2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
27 September 2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
28 September 2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
29 September 2009	27	24	28	3	9	28	2

Al-Mentar (Karni) Crossing: IOF partially opened the crossing on Tuesday, 22 September 2009, and allowed the entry of 408 tons of seeds and fodders. They opened the crossing again on Thursday, 24 September 2009, and allowed the entry of 3,400 tons of seeds and fodders. They also opened the crossing on Tuesday, 29 September 2009, and allowed the entry of 2,400 tons of seeds and fodders.

The West Bank

IOF have imposed a tightened siege 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. Restrictions of the movement of Palestinian civilians often escalate on Fridays to prevent them from praying at the al-Aqsa Mosque. IOF often violently beat Palestinian civilians who attempt to bypass checkpoints and enter the city. IOF impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians on Fridays to restrict their access to the al-Aqsa Mosque. On the fourth Friday of the Holy Ramadan, 18 September 2009, IOF prevented thousands of Palestinian civilians from entering Jerusalem to pray al-Aqsa Mosque. IOF troops positioned at Qalandya checkpoint at the northern entrance of Jerusalem prevented thousands of Palestinian civilians from the West Bank from crossing towards Jerusalem. The checkpoint witnessed severe congestion, which resulted in 35 cases of fainting. IOF troops also detained a woman and her daughter for several hours. During the Eid al-Fitr, IOF prevented hundreds of Palestinian families from entering Jerusalem for family visitations.
- **Nablus:** IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. IOF troops positioned at an iron gate established on Nablus-Tulkarm road have continued to conduct prolonged checking on Palestinian civilians, especially in the morning. IOF troops positioned at Shavi Shomron checkpoint on the Nablus-Jenin road, and at Za'tara checkpoint, south of the city, have also continued to restrict the movement of Palestinian civilians. On Tuesday noon, 22 September 2009, IOF closed Shavi Shomron checkpoint for several hours for no apparent reason.

At approximately 14:00 on Friday, 18 September 2009, IOF troops positioned at Hawara checkpoint, south of Nablus, arrested Adham 'Omar Hamdan, 18, from Southern 'Assira village south of Nablus.

On the same day evening, IOF troops stationed at a checkpoint established on the al-Bathan – Nablus road, northeast of Nablus, arrested Samer 'Ezzat Abu 'Erra, 22, from 'Aqqaba village northwest of Tubas.

- **Ramallah:** IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians in Jenin. IOF troops positioned at Jaba'-Qalandya checkpoint, southeast of Ramallah, have imposed additional restrictions on movement and conducted prolonged checking on Palestinian civilians. During the reporting period, IOF erected a number of temporary checkpoints, and stopped and searched Palestinian civilian vehicles.
- **Hebron:** IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. During the reporting period, IOF closed the Ibrahimi Mosque in the old town of Hebron for 4 days to allow Israeli settlers to conduct religious ceremonies. They prevented Muslim worshippers from entering the mosque. Such closures of the Ibrahimi Mosque were recommended by the Israeli Shamgr Commission which was established by IOF following a massacre committed by Baroch Goldstein, an Israeli settler, against Palestinian civilians inside the Ibrahimi Mosque in February 1994.

At approximately 15:00 on Friday, 18 September 2009, IOF troops stationed at an electronic checking gate near the Ibrahimi Mosque in the old town of Hebron stopped and violently beat 'Odai Riad al-Ja'bari, 16.

- Salfit: At approximately 16:00 on Thursday, 24 September 2009, IOF arrested Mahmoud Mohammed Bouzaiya, 16, from Kufor Hares village, while he was on his way back home.

On Friday morning, 26 September 2009, IOF troops stationed at a checkpoint near "Ariel" settlement, north of Salfit, arrested two Palestinian civilians from Madama village south of Tubas: Rakez Rezeq Nassar, 35; and 'Alaa' Mohammed Ziada, 26.

- Qalqilya: At approximately 16:00 on Friday, 25 September 2009, troops positioned near 'Azzoun village, east of Qalqilya, arrested Ahmed Munther Radwan, 15, and Salah Wissam Radwan, 14, when they were on their way to their family's agricultural land near the village. IOF claimed that the two children threw stones at military vehicles traveling on the main road near the village.
- Bethlehem: On Monday evening, 28 September 2009, IOF troops positioned at Etzion checkpoint, south of Bethlehem, arrested Rami As'ad Thawabta, 27, from Beit Fajjar village southeast of the town.

On Monday evening, 28 September 2009, IOF troops positioned at a military checkpoint near Rachel Tomb, north of Bethlehem, stopped and violently beat 4 Palestinian workers:

1. Nidal 'Eissa al-Khatib, 25, from Bethlehem;
2. Mohammed Khaled Taqatqa, 21, from Beit Fajjar village;
3. Mohammed Hamad Abu Khalifa, 30, from al-Duhaisha refugee camp; and
4. Ahmed 'Abdullah al-Najjar, 32, from Bethlehem.

- Tulkarm: At approximately 20:00 on Sunday, 20 September 2009, IOF troops positioned at Jibara checkpoint, south of Tulkarm, stopped and violently beat Fadi Sa'id Kharyoush, 33, from Tulkarm. He sustained bruises throughout the body.

3. Construction of the Annexation Wall

IOF have continued to construct the Annexation Wall inside West Bank territory. 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.

- Following the Friday Prayer on 18 September 2009, dozens of Palestinian civilians gathered in the center of Bal'ein village, west of Ramallah. They moved towards the Wall and, following provocation, threw stones at IOF troops positioned in the area. Immediately, IOF troops fired rubber-coated metal bullets, sound bombs and tear gas canisters at the demonstrators. Dozens of demonstrators suffered from tear gas inhalation.
- Also following the Friday Prayer on 18 September 2009, dozens of Palestinian civilians and international and human rights defenders organized a peaceful demonstration in Ne'lin village, west of Ramallah, in protest to the construction of the Annexation Wall. They clashed with IOF troops positioned near the Wall. IOF troops fired rubber-coated metal bullets, sound bombs and tear gas canisters at demonstrators. Dozens of demonstrators suffered from tear gas inhalation.

- Following the Friday Prayer on 25 September 2009, dozens of Palestinian civilians gathered in the center of Bal'ein village, west of Ramallah. They moved towards the Wall and, following provocation, threw stones at IOF troops positioned in the area. Immediately, IOF troops fired rubber-coated metal bullets, sound bombs and tear gas canisters at the demonstrators. As a result, Hussam Kamal al-Khatib, 30, was hit by a tear gas canister to the hand. IOF troops also arrested Haitham al-Khatib, 33, and two Israeli human rights defenders: Asaf, 25; and Ben Rounin, 26.
- Also following the Friday Prayer on 25 September 2009, dozens of Palestinian civilians and international and human rights defenders organized a peaceful demonstration in Ne'lin village, west of Ramallah, in protest to the construction of the Annexation Wall. They clashed with IOF troops positioned near the Wall. IOF troops fired rubber-coated metal bullets, sound bombs and tear gas canisters at demonstrators. Six Palestinian civilians, including a child, were wounded:
 1. Mohammed 'Atallah 'Amira, 18, hit by a tear gas canister to the right leg;
 2. Zaidoun Sa'id Sorour, 15, hit by a tear gas canister to the right hand;
 3. Bashir Nazir al-Khawaja, 21, wounded by a rubber-coated metal bullet to the left leg;
 4. Sa'id 'Atallah 'Amira, 24, wounded by a rubber-coated metal bullet to the left shoulder;
 5. Mohammed Hussein Sorour, 21, hit by a tear gas canister to the back; and
 6. Murad Ragheb Khawaja, 29, hit by a tear gas canister to the right hand.
- Also following the Friday Prayer on 25 September 2009, dozens of Palestinian civilians and international human rights defenders organized a peaceful demonstration in al-Ma'sara village, south of Bethlehem, in protest to the construction of the Annexation Wall. When the demonstrators reached the main entrance of the village, IOF troops fired sound bombs and violently beat a number of demonstrators. Two demonstrators sustained bruises: Mohammed 'Ali Braijiya, 36; and Mahmoud 'Alaa' al-Din, 25.

Efforts Intended to Establish a Jewish Majority in Occupied East Jerusalem

IOF has recently escalated arbitrary measures against Palestinian civilians in East Jerusalem to force them to leave the city. PCHR has devoted this section in the Weekly Report to highlight violations of human rights perpetrated by IOF against Palestinian civilians in East Jerusalem.

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

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

- On Monday evening, 21 September 2009, the second day of the Eid al-Fitr, Israeli settlers living in "Ramat Yishai" settlement in Tal Rumaida neighborhood in the center of Hebron attacked Palestinian houses using stones and empty bottles before the eyes of Israeli soldiers, who did not intervene to stop such attacks. Palestinian civilians were trapped at their homes for several hours.
- On Tuesday morning, 22 September 2009, Israeli settlers living in "Ma'oun" settlement to the east of Yatta village, south of Hebron, demolished an agricultural facility belonging to Jadallah Reb'ei and Rebehi Rab'ei in al-Tawana village. The settlers used hand tools and demolished the facility in the presence of Israeli soldiers. It is worth noting that the facility was included in a demolition order issued by IOF one month and a half ago.

- On Thursday morning, 24 September 2009, at least 120 Israeli settlers, escorted by IOF, stormed the al-Is'haqiya section in the Ibrahimi Mosque, and stayed in it for more than an hour and a half. It had been the first time for Israeli settlers to enter this section since the massacre in the Ibrahimi Mosque in 1994.
- Following the Friday Prayer on 25 September 2009, dozens of Palestinian civilians and international and Israeli human rights defenders demonstrated in the center of Iraq Bourin village, southeast of Nablus. They moved towards areas of land that had been confiscated and were being razed to be annexed to "Yits'har" settlement. Immediately, IOF troops fired rubber-coated metal bullets, tear gas canisters and sound bombs at the demonstrators. As a result, Ameer Hashem Qadous, 20, was hit by a tear gas canister to the head, and dozens of demonstrators suffered from tear gas inhalation.
- On Sunday afternoon, 27 September 2009, a number of Israeli settlers living in "Kiryat Arba" settlement, southeast of Hebron, attacked a number of Palestinian civilians and their cars while exiting al-Ras Mosque to the west of the aforementioned settlement. The settlers used stones and empty bottles in their attack. A number of cars were damaged, but no one was hurt.
- On Monday noon, 28 September 2009, a number of Israeli settlers from "Yits'har" settlement to the south of Bourin village, south of Nablus, uprooted 150 olive trees belonging to Ahmed Mustafa Qadous and the heirs of 'Abdul Qader 'Omran in Khellat Swar area in the village.

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Recommendations to the International Community

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 conspiracy 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 its 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 immediately 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 international civil society organizations, including human rights organizations, bar associations and NGOs to participate in the process of exposing those accused of grave breaches of international law and to urge their governments to bring these people 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 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 agreement or process must be based on respect for international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law.

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