



## MONITORING AND DOCUMENTATION DEPARTMENT JANUARY - MARCH 2010 FIELD REPORT

### Introduction

This is the first quarterly field report of 2010 by Al-Haq's Monitoring and Documentation Department (MDD), covering the period from January to March 2010. Al-Haq's field reports cover human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law committed by Israel, the Occupying Power in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), namely the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. The report also covers human rights abuses committed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in the West Bank and those committed by the *de facto* Hamas authority in the Gaza Strip.

Since 1967, Israel has occupied the OPT, despite numerous binding United Nations Security Council resolutions ordering it to withdraw. Consequently, Al-Haq's monitoring and documentation activities have traditionally been directed towards the violations committed by Israel, the Occupying Power. However, following the creation of the PNA in 1994 and the establishment of Hamas' *de facto* authority over the Gaza Strip in June 2007, Al-Haq also monitors and documents violations perpetrated by the PNA and Hamas' Executive Forces (EF). To the extent that the PNA and Hamas exercise some control over parts of the OPT, they are responsible for enforcing law and order through effective and lawful measures.

Each field report highlights a particularly important and disturbing trend observed by the MDD during the reporting period. The field reports are based on first-hand information gathered by Al-Haq's trained fieldworkers. The fieldworkers visit sites of alleged violations; they draw maps, draft reports and take sworn statements (affidavits) from victims and eyewitnesses. The information they collect comprehensively covers a broad range of violations, including, but not limited to, killings, house demolitions and imposed curfews. The affidavits excerpted or referenced in the field reports are available on Al-Haq's web site ([www.alhaq.org](http://www.alhaq.org)), as samples of those gathered during the reporting period.

### The Human Rights Situation since the Outbreak of the Second *Intifada*

The violations committed during this reporting period must be analysed within the broader context of the deteriorating human rights situation since the outbreak of the second *Intifada* on 29 September 2000 and Israel's persistent failure to adhere to its obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law in the OPT. The situation has become especially bleak in the Gaza Strip, where Israel has, since June 2007, imposed a continuing blockade on the Hamas-ruled territory, and in December 2008, launched a devastating 22-day military offensive referred to as "Operation Cast Lead" in which over 1,400 Palestinians were killed, 1,172 of whom were civilians. Al-Haq's lack of presence in the Gaza Strip before June 2007 has resulted in an inability to compile comprehensive statistical information dating back to the start of the second *Intifada*, similar to that obtained for the West Bank. Over the past three years however, Al-Haq fieldworkers have been able to thoroughly document the devastating consequences of the blockade, as well as the impact and continuing effects of "Operation Cast Lead" on the Gaza Strip.

According to Al-Haq's documentation, from the outbreak of the second *Intifada* until the end of March 2010, **1,904** Palestinians were killed by Israeli occupying forces in the West Bank, **372** of whom were children, and **103** of whom were female. It is estimated that **313** Palestinians were killed in targeted assassinations in the West Bank. During the same period, Al-Haq documented the demolition, for punitive reasons, of **573** houses<sup>1</sup> in the West Bank (of which **504** were totally demolished, **63** were partially demolished and **6** sealed off), leading to the forcible displacement of **3,351** Palestinians. Israel has also carried out a large number of administrative house demolitions, i.e. demolitions purportedly carried out because the houses were built without the required license. Since the beginning of 2004, **678** Palestinian houses in the West Bank have been administratively demolished, **319** of which were in East Jerusalem.

<sup>1</sup> The term home/house refers to each individual housing unit, accommodating a family, or in the case of an industrial or commercial building, to each industrial unit/commercial shop.

## The Human Rights Situation from January to March 2010

### Highlighted Trend: Wilful Killing and Injury

During the reporting period, Al-Haq fieldworkers documented a number of incidents involving the **wilful killing and injury** of Palestinian civilians by Israeli occupying forces. In a notable incident, on 20 March, two teenagers, Muhammad Qadous and 'Usayd Qadous were deliberately shot and killed during confrontations with Israeli security patrols in the village of 'Iraq Bourin in Nablus governorate. The two had not participated in stone-throwing, and at the time of the shooting, both had been on the street, in plain view of the patrols, posing no visible threat. They were each hit with a live bullet, fired by a member of the Israel security patrol, and both later died in hospital (see [Al-Haq Affidavits No. 5336/2010 and No. 5337/2010](#)).

"I noticed that the driver of the first patrol, which had stopped in front of the other patrols in the western area, had left the vehicle (...) He stopped right beside the patrol's door and I saw him put his long weapon on the door's window, aim, and fire a live bullet. I saw dust rise as the bullet hit a stone on the ground (...) I saw the same soldier point his weapon at 'Usayd and fire another bullet. At that time, I did not know what had happened to 'Usayd. I did not hear him say a word. Immediately, the soldier pointed his weapon at Muhammad and fired another bullet. I saw Muhammad fall on his face on the ground (...) I watched blood flow from Muhammad's back and the left side of his waist. Blood also streamed out of the right side of 'Usayd's head. (...) Several minutes later, they were put in a Ford car that belonged to a resident of the village. The resident transported them to a hospital in the city of Nablus. An hour or more later, a friend of mine told me that Muhammad was martyred at the Nablus Specialist Hospital. 'Usayd, who was at the same hospital, was in a very critical condition. The next morning, a friend of mine informed me that 'Usayd was martyred as well."

**Extract from Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5336/2010**

Given by Akram Hisham Qadous, a resident of 'Iraq Bourin village, Nablus governorate, West Bank.

In another incident, on 24 February, Ibrahim 'Abed was stopped by two soldiers while trying to salvage a valuable water pump from his family's well before it was to be demolished by Israeli occupying authorities in Jenin governorate. Despite complying with the soldiers' order to move away from the well, one of the soldiers opened fire on Ibrahim, shooting him in the stomach. Soldiers refused to allow his relatives or the Palestinian Red Crescent to go to his aid. An Israeli ambulance transported him to hospital where he underwent an operation and was later released. Ibrahim remains bed-ridden as a result of his injury (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5330/2010](#)).

"A soldier was immediately adjacent to my car window. "How are you?" He asked me in Hebrew, which I understood. "Fine." I answered. The soldier demanded that everyone in the car present his or her ID card, which I collected and gave to him. Of course, I had turned on the internal light of the car so that the soldier and others could clearly see the interior of the car. Whilst the soldier was examining the ID cards, we suddenly heard a noise and intensive shooting being directed at us. I did not see how many soldiers opened fire, but I estimated that it was all of them because it was intensive. I estimated that the shooting lasted for a period of two minutes at first. After stopping for a short time, the soldiers resumed fire for another two minutes. When the shooting stopped, I opened the door and fell on the ground. I had sustained two bullet wounds in the left leg and was bleeding. I saw Thabet open the door and fall on the ground as well. Qasem and my cousins, who were in the rear seat, also got out and fell on the ground. I noticed that soldiers were gathering around us. One told me to stay on the ground and that he would call an ambulance. We lay on the ground for about 15 minutes, during which time the soldiers did not offer us any first-aid."

**Extract from Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5307**

Given by Tha'er Mashhour al-Shalalda, a resident of Sa'ir town, Hebron governorate, West Bank.

On 27 February, whilst driving out of the village of Housan, in Bethlehem governorate, Tha'er al-Shalalda, along with his two brothers and two female cousins, were stopped at a flying checkpoint where a soldier demanded they present their IDs. During the inspection, soldiers suddenly and without cause opened fire on Tha'er's vehicle. All of the occupants of the car sustained wounds from either bullets or shrapnel. Despite the injuries, soldiers left them waiting for 15 minutes without medical assistance before a Red Crescent ambulance arrived to transport them to hospital. Three of the occupants required surgery to remove bullets from their bodies. Tha'er's brother remains in critical condition (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5307/2010](#)).

On 25 March, Naji Abu-Reida traveled to an area approximately 500 meters from the Sofa crossing on Gaza's eastern border fence with Israel. He was waiting to collect family members who were gathering rubble from the destroyed houses in that area. Whilst attempting to leave after Israeli occupying forces ordered everyone to evacuate, Naji was shot in the thigh by Israeli fire. The shooting continued for several minutes, after which Naji's brothers called an ambulance to transport him to hospital. Naji received treatment for his bullet wound and was released several hours later (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5355/2010](#)).

**Excessive use of force** by Israeli occupation authorities remains a persistent feature of life in the OPT. In one incident on 21 March, Muhammad Qawariq and Salah Qawariq were shot and killed by Israeli soldiers while they were detained in a field east of 'Awarta village in Nablus governorate. Following their arrest, both men complied with the soldiers' demands to sit on the ground. The Israeli District Coordination Office claimed that the soldiers opened fire when one of the men had attempted to attack one of the soldiers. A doctor who examined the corpses found that each man had been shot several times between the shoulders and waist (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5335/2010](#)).

"At around 10:00 am while I was busy administering medicine to my son Naser in his room, I heard the glass window of the western balcony break. Immediately, a very strong tear gas smell spread around the house. I was utterly overwhelmed; I carried my son and ran from my house to my brother's-in-law's, which is adjacent to mine. At the moment the tear gas grenade was thrown (I realised it was thrown into the house because it broke the glass window), I had been opening the injection device that was connected to Naser's heart. I closed it immediately before I injected the medicine. The effect of the gas on the child was very bad; he started to cough, cry and suffocate. I felt he was in imminent danger. (...) Using a special device, I gave him oxygen to help him overcome the effect of the gas, which he had inhaled. A few minutes after reaching the neighbouring house and inhaling oxygen, Naser's condition improved. (...) At around 7:00 pm, my children, my husband and I returned to our house despite the fact that the gas smell did not go away completely."

Extract from [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5285/2010](#)

Given by Sabha Muhammad 'Adi, a resident of Safa neighbourhood, Hebron governorate, West Bank.

In another example, on 20 February, Sabha 'Adi was at home with her chronically ill son in the town of Beit Ummar in Hebron governorate. A site of frequent clashes because of movement restrictions placed on farmers from the town, that morning Israeli soldiers were firing tear gas at stone-throwing youths. One canister was thrown through an upstairs window, shattering the glass and dispersing tear gas throughout the home. Sabha's son inhaled the gas and suffered breathing difficulties. Frightened, Sabha carried her son to a neighbouring house, where he recovered after being given oxygen. The family returned to their home later that evening to find that the smell of tear gas remained (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5285/2010](#)).

Al-Haq fieldworkers also continued to document cases of **harassment and beating by Israeli soldiers**. In one incident on 9 January, workers from Jenin were stopped near Housan village in Bethlehem governorate by Israeli occupation forces as they attempted to enter Israel to work. The men were questioned, beaten and harassed for a number of hours before they were eventually released. One of the workers was struck repeatedly on his body and his left foot was badly injured when he was kicked by a Border Guard officer. He suffered torn ligaments and a sprain in his foot, requiring him to use crutches (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5235/2010](#)).

"I was grabbed by my clothes and led to the interrogator (...) He inquired about my place of residence, how I had arrived at that area, and the name of the driver who transported us. When I said that I did not know the driver's name, he punched me in the stomach. "You are a liar. How come you don't know his name?" he said. Then he asked about the car that would transport us after we had passed that area. When I said I did not know, he hit me once more in the stomach. The punch was strong and painful. I really did not know about the car because this was the first time I had come to that location. Then he held me from behind, dragged me forcefully to the Savana van and inquired about the weapons in our possession. "We are workers. We do not have weapons." I said. He took me back to the area where I had been detained along with the other young people. (...) During this time the Border Guard officers cursed, beat and mocked us while they laughed. As I was heading towards the van, a Border Guard officer, who wore brown shoes, kicked me forcefully on my left foot without any justification or reason whatsoever. This caused me intense pain and my foot began to swell. I felt a severe pain but did not dare to talk in fear that I might be subjected to more beatings."

Extract from [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5235/2010](#)

Given by Wajdi Yousef Salatna, a resident of Jaba', Jenin governorate, West Bank.

As a particular form of harassment during the reporting period, occupying forces continued to **arbitrarily arrest and detain** Palestinian workers, as well as **confiscate their property**. On 16 January, Jamal Nu'man and three of his colleagues were arrested by masked Israeli navy officers whilst returning from a fishing trip off the Gazan coast, sailing 200 meters off the beach. They were detained for nearly 24 hours in poor conditions with no charge made against them and were questioned about the whereabouts of Gilad Shalit. When Jamal said he did not know, he was told that it was forbidden to fish in those waters, and that the two boats, fishing equipment and the day's catch would be confiscated. The four men were then brought to the Erez crossing and released (see [Al-Haq affidavit No. 5230/2010](#)).

Restrictions on Palestinians' **freedom of movement** remained one of the most widespread forms of human rights violations during the reporting period. Palestinian movement is restricted by a variety of physical barriers, including the Annexation Wall, checkpoints, flying checkpoints, roadblocks, wall gates, and trenches, in addition to the imposition of a prohibitive permit system by the Israeli occupation authorities. These restrictions invariably impact a number of other rights, hindering Palestinian access to family, workplaces, agricultural lands, educational and health institutions, and places of worship.

In a recurring example, each Saturday, Israeli occupying forces set up a checkpoint north of the Safa neighbourhood in Hebron governorate, preventing village farmers from accessing their agricultural lands in and around the Wadi Abu-al-Rish area. As a result of the movement restrictions, Safa is often the site of clashes between the farmers and Israeli soldiers (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5285/2010](#)).

"My treatment took place between August and late December. During this period, I received each of the four permits that I had applied for. Each permit was valid for one month. Each time my wife applied for a permit, she had to sit for a similar interview and wait for approximately the same time. (...) In December, I had surgery, whereby the tumour was removed and an opening was made in my side for excretion. (...) On 18 February 2010, I was scheduled to go to the hospital and continue my medical treatment. (...) Two days prior to my appointment, I submitted an application to the Palestinian DCO to receive a permit in order to continue my medical treatment at the Augusta Victoria Hospital. The Palestinian DCO handed the application over to the Israeli DCO. Upon reporting to the Palestinian DCO on the second day, my wife was told that the Israeli side was still examining the issue from a security perspective. Therefore, I lost my appointment. Because an alternative treatment is not available in the West Bank hospitals, my health condition has deteriorated."

**Extract from [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5345/2010](#)**

Given by 'Ala'-al-Din Ghazal Taslaq, a resident of Nablus, Nablus governorate, West Bank.

During the reporting period, Al-Haq fieldworkers documented a number of cases where movement restrictions directly infringed upon the **right to health**. Palestinians requiring medical treatment at hospitals in East Jerusalem routinely face unnecessary delays and harassment while applying for permits to access the city. On 18 February, 'Ala'-al-Din Taslaq, who suffers from colon cancer, missed an important follow-up treatment in Jerusalem because of a delay in processing his permit by the Israeli District Coordination Office. The occupying authorities claimed the delay was due to necessary security checks, despite the fact 'Ala'-al-Din has never been "wanted" or arrested by the Israeli authorities (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5345/2010](#)).

Another notable example took place on 5 January, when Muhammad Abu-Za'nouna, a resident of Jabaliya camp in Northern Gaza governorate, was refused a permit to enter Israel and travel to Ramallah to undergo cornea transplant surgery. Summoned to Erez to meet with the Israeli authorities, Muhammad waited for almost six hours, was subjected to an intensive security search and was forced to watch videos of Hamas violence. An intelligence officer proceeded to bribe him in return for collaborating with them. Muhammad refused and was sent home from the border crossing. He has yet to receive a reply about his request for a permit to travel for the operation and his sight continues to deteriorate (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5229/2010](#)).

Palestinians' right to health is also adversely affected by **Israeli settlements** in the OPT. During this reporting period, Al-Haq's monitoring and documentation department collected field reports highlighting the negative impact of settlements on Palestinian environment, land, water, crops and general state of health.

One such example concerns ten Israeli-owned factories encompassing an industrial area built on occupied Palestinian land east of the Green Line. Since 1989, when the first Gishori factory was established in the Western district of Toulkarem, Adib 'Awad and his family have suffered various ailments resulting from contact with waste products from the industrial zone. Respiratory illnesses and allergic reactions are the most common ailments suffered by all of the family members. Despite explaining their concerns to the factory owners early on, the pollution and emission of gases continues, with the most recent incident taking place on 3 March (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5332/2010](#)).

"The Israeli factories expanded their operations in early 1994 with the launching of the Oslo Agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides. (...) Combined, these factories produce waste in the form of smoke and dust, which is released in the surrounding area. The smoke and dust appear in various colours, including black and red. Each colour has its own distinctive malignant smell.(...) The factories also produce waste in the form of liquid material, which is discharged onto the surrounding land. In particular, the production of "sulphuric acid" results in waste in the form of smoke, which is carried by the wind towards the city of Toulkarem and directly towards my house and neighbouring houses in the western area of the city."

**Extract from [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5332/2010](#)**

Given by Adib Muhammad 'Awad, a resident of Toulkarem, Toulkarem governorate, West Bank.

"I was shocked to see approximately 13 more settlers arrive, making a total of 15 settlers (...) They formed a circle with me in the middle and started to turn around and beat me (...) "Homesh. Homesh." They shouted in Hebrew, which I did not understand. I was beaten for half an hour. I shouted but they did not show any mercy nor did they stop at all (...) The settlers fixed me to the ground, searched my clothes, and found my ID card as well as a number of papers and money in my possession. I had a sum of at least NIS 200, an electricity prepaid meter recharge card, two cigarette packets and some papers containing phone numbers. They tore apart the papers, damaged the electricity recharge card, and took the money and cigarettes. Meanwhile, they laughed and mocked me. At this point, a settler, who was around 50 years of age, approached me after he had taken my ID card from another settler. His features indicated that he was religious because he wore a yarmulke on his head and his hair hung down near his ears in the form of braids. "This is the ID card. Take it, go and don't come back here." He addressed me in broken Arabic. "This land belongs to Homesh and no one is allowed to come here."

**Extract from [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5275/2010](#)**

Given by Yousef Muhammad Zayatna, a resident of Silat al-Thaher, Jenin governorate, West Bank.

Incidents of **settler violence** continued to be widely reported. In one example, on 27 January, Yousef Zayatna was accosted and beaten by a group of 15 settlers whilst picking herbs near the evacuated Israeli settlement of Homesh, in Jenin governorate. Settlers often return to the settlement to protest against their eviction, and do so without any interference or monitoring by the Israeli occupying forces (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5275/2010](#)).

On two occasions in January 2010, Muhammad Dweikat witnessed settlers breaking into the school adjacent to his home in Balata village, Nablus governorate. The settlers caused significant damage to both the school and his home (see [Al-haq Affidavit No. 5303/2010](#)).

During the reporting period a large number of demolition orders were issued by Israeli authorities and 34 new cases of **house demolitions**, two in East Jerusalem, were documented. The demolitions were carried out under the pretext of lack of building permits, which in most cases is virtually impossible for Palestinians to obtain from the responsible Israeli authorities.

In a typical example, on the morning of 10 January, Israeli occupying authorities demolished 18 structures, including homes, barracks, tents and a school in the village of Khirbet Tana in Nablus governorate. This was the second time the village had been affected by demolitions. In 2005, many buildings in the town had been demolished because the Israeli military claimed they were built in a closed military zone and the residents did not have the required building permits. The villagers launched a petition to the Israeli High Court challenging the demolition. On 26 January 2009, the High Court issued a decision sanctioning the demolition. Almost a year later, the demolition was carried out without prior notice to residents of the village (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5232/2010](#)).

"While my mother was preparing breakfast for us, my attention was drawn to more than 16 dark green and white Israeli army patrols and three yellow bulldozers that were approaching the area. I saw the bulldozers demolish several of our neighbours' makeshift houses, which were built of zinc plates or bricks. As a result of the impending danger, my brother and I immediately evacuated the sheep, fodder and simple furniture from our house and from the barracks. About five minutes later, a bulldozer and a number of soldiers approached our house. A soldier wearing civilian clothes and carrying a long weapon looked at the rooms and barracks and pointed to the bulldozer driver, who was also wearing civilian clothes, to demolish them. Immediately the bulldozer driver started the demolition process, which lasted ten minutes. In the company of several patrols, the bulldozers, including the one which demolished our place of residence, moved on to demolish many other makeshift houses belonging to residents of the Khirbet Tana village. These included houses built of zinc plates and bricks as well as tents. Furthermore, the bulldozers demolished the village's primary school, which consisted of four rooms. In about three hours, approximately 18 makeshift houses, barracks, tents and the school were pulled down."

**Extract from [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5232/2010](#)**

Given by Isma'il Mousa Nasasra, a resident of Khirbet Tana village, Nablus governorate, West Bank.

In addition to home demolitions, Israeli occupying authorities were also responsible for demolishing water wells belonging to Palestinian residents, resulting in serious violations of Palestinians' **right to water**. In one example that took place on 24 February, Israeli forces demolished five wells and damaged another in the al-'Aqoula plain, east of the village of Kufr Dan in Jenin governorate. Citing the fact that the wells were lacking permits, Israeli authorities confiscated a water pump worth approximately 10,000 NIS from the 'Abed family, and destroyed its pipes and accessories (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5330/2010](#)).

To the extent that the PNA exercises some control over parts of the West Bank and the Hamas *de facto* government exercises control over the Gaza Strip, they are respectively responsible for enforcing law and maintaining order using effective and lawful measures. The majority of the human rights violations documented during the reporting period were a result of the ongoing tension between the opposing political factions in the OPT. Members of both authorities have pursued systematic policies of **arbitrary arrest** and **persecution** of members of the opposite political faction.

In many cases, arbitrary arrests and detention often result in the subjection of Palestinians to **ill-treatment** and **torture**. In one example, on 8 January, Fou'ad Abu-al-'Anzein was summoned to submit himself for arrest at Hamas' General Investigations head-quarters in the Jabaliya refugee camp in Northern Gaza.

Upon his arrival, he was detained, interrogated and tortured by General Investigations officers, who accused him of being a Fateh member and of helping to burn a General Investigations jeep. During his detention, Fou'ad recognised eight other Fateh members suffering similar treatment (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5227/2010](#)).

In another incident on 8 March, 'Abd-al-Salam 'Amarna was summoned to the PNA intelligence headquarters in Jenin where he was detained for three days without charge and subjected to interrogation and torture. 'Abd was subjected to *shabeh*, a torture technique wherein a person is forced to remain in uncomfortable stress positions with his hands and/or feet typically shackled to a specific object for prolonged periods of time. Accused of being a member of Hamas, 'Abd was released only after he signed a document stating that his relationship with Hamas had ended (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5334/2010](#)).

"The interrogator insisted that I stand up. When I attempted to rise, I fell on the ground once again because I could not feel my feet and felt dizzy. I was then taken back to the interrogation room, where interrogators talked about the same charges and I gave them the same answers. "You either talk or you will suffer a lot here." An interrogator said. Subjected to *shabeh* again, I was forced to stand on my feet, turn my face against the wall and lift my arms up. An hour later, I fell on the ground again because I felt dizzy. An interrogator grabbed me by my shirt, pushed me against the wall, and punched me in the chest. He accused me of pretending to be sick, but I explained I suffered from dizziness from time to time. He grabbed me by my clothes, shook me forcefully and subjected me to *shabeh* once more. This time, however, I was forced to kneel and turn my face against the wall. (...) Then, other interrogators arrived and relocated me to another interrogation room, where I sat on a chair. Without specifying any particular charge, they demanded that I tell them all I knew."

Extract from [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5334/2010](#)

Given by 'Abd-al-Salam 'Abdallah 'Amarna, a resident of Ya'bad, Jenin governorate, West Bank.

ill when Hamas police officers violently pushed her while she attempted to stop them from arresting her sons. Police officers refused to release her from custody or offer her medical aid despite her serious condition and repeated appeals to assist her. When police finally transported Nathira to hospital, doctors pronounced her dead (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5221/2010](#)).

"Then, four General Investigations officers, who carried clubs, plastic pipes and electric cables, arrived and led me to a room inside the headquarters. They ordered me to take off my clothes and leave only my underwear on. I asked them why they wanted to arrest me. "I am an old and sick man." I said. "What have I done so that I should take off my clothes?" I went on. However, they hit me on the head severely with their fists and feet and forced me to take off my clothes. I was naked except for my underwear. Then, an officer blindfolded me with a piece of cloth and tied my hands and feet. Thereafter, they severely beat me on every part of my body using clubs, plastic pipes and electric cables at a continuous pace. I screamed and said I was ill. I explained that I had had several surgical operations on my feet due to old injuries and that I could not bear to be beaten. However, they did not listen. They then placed wooden sticks under my feet and raised them up. Using the *bastinado* method, three General Investigations officers suspended me and hit the soles of my feet with cudgels, plastic pipes and electric cables. I screamed and felt intense pain. I begged them to stop and pay respect to my old age. "You are the age of my children." I beseeched them, but it was in vain. Later, I started to yell at them and inquire why they beat me. "You are a member of Fateh and act like a leader." They said to me."

Extract from [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5227/2010](#)

Given by Fou'ad Rajab Abu-al-'Anzein, a resident of Jabaliya Camp, Northern Gaza governorate, Gaza Strip.

Other incidents of persecution based on political affiliation included **harassment** by the authorities of members of the opposition or their families, often resulting in violations of other rights. In one incident infringing upon **freedom of movement** and the **right to health**, Hamas authorities prohibited Muhammad al-Nahhal, a member of Fateh, from leaving Gaza via the Erez crossing on 15 March so that he could travel to Jordan for surgery. Hamas police officers confiscated his ID card and demanded that he return home and present himself at the Abu-Khadra Internal Security Compound in Gaza city. Earlier that week when Muhammad, who had already obtained an Israeli exit permit, had applied for an exit permit from Hamas' Ministry of Interior, authorities there informed him he was forbidden from leaving the Gaza Strip. Following a number of attempts to have the decision reversed, Muhammad was told that the decision came from "higher authorities" (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5328/2010](#)).

"In mid-February 2010, I received an official summons to report to the Preventative Security agency in the city of Nablus. From 10:00 am until 2:00 pm, I was interrogated about the activities carried out by the Society, names of female members, names of Board members and political affiliations of members. (...) On 2 March 2010, 'Abla Basalat, the Chairwoman, and Khuloud Salem, the Treasurer, travelled to the city of Nablus for an interview with Preventive Security officers after receiving a telephone summons. A number of officers accompanied the women to the Islamic Bank in the city of Nablus and forced them to withdraw the whole balance of the Society, which comprised USD 45,000 and NIS 56,000. Officers confiscated the money, transported the women to the Preventive Security offices, and refused to give them any papers that stated that the money had been seized. We addressed several official authorities, including Palestinian ministries, Security Institutions, the Office of the Governor of Nablus and the Prime Minister's Office. (...) The Society has by now been closed for seven days and no positive developments have occurred. On Sunday, 7 March 2010, we were surprised to hear that the Preventive Security agency intended to dissolve the elected Board of Directors and to constitute a new board as an 'acting committee'".

**Extract from [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5329/2010](#)**

Given by Nawal Ra'ouf Qadi, a resident of Bizariya village, Nablus governorate, West Bank.

Harassment based on political affiliation has also resulted in violations of **freedom of association** and the **right to work**. In one example, on 2 March, Palestinian Authority Preventive Security officers closed down the offices and supermarket of the Co-operative Society for Mutual Benefit in the village of Bizariya in Nablus governorate. During a raid on the office, PNA Security officers confiscated Society documents and property without presenting a warrant and caused over JOD 30,000 worth of **property damage** to the supermarket. The women in charge of the Society have been accused of being affiliated with and receiving funding from Hamas. They deny this accusation and have sought to use various channels to challenge the actions of the PNA, without success (see [Al-Haq Affidavit 5329/2010](#)).

In another example, on 18 February in al-Jalama village in Jenin governorate, the PNA Ministry of Interior denied Samira Abu-Farha a license to operate the pre-school she owns for the third straight year. Preventative Security officers explained to Samira, who has operated the kindergarten since 1998, that the license was denied because her husband is a member of the Hamas movement (see [Al-Haq Affidavit No. 5367/2010](#)).

**MONITORING AND DOCUMENTATION DEPARTMENT  
1 JANUARY – 31 MARCH 2010  
STATISTICS**

**THE WEST BANK**

**KILLINGS BY THE OCCUPYING POWER**

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Total number of killings</b> | <b>6</b> |
|---------------------------------|----------|

**Special Types of Killings**

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Death in custody       | 3 |
| Targeted assassination | - |
| Death at checkpoints   | - |
| Women                  | - |
| Children               | 2 |

**Killings by District**

|               |          |
|---------------|----------|
| Bethlehem     | -        |
| Hebron        | 1        |
| Jenin         | -        |
| Jericho       | -        |
| Jerusalem     | -        |
| Nablus        | 4        |
| Ramallah      | -        |
| Toulkarem     | -        |
| Inside Israel | 1        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>6</b> |

**Killings by Age Group**

|               |          |
|---------------|----------|
| 12 or younger | -        |
| 13-17         | 2        |
| 18-25         | 3        |
| 26-35         | -        |
| 36-50         | 1        |
| Over 50       | -        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>6</b> |



### Killing by Perpetrator

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Israeli Occupying Forces   | -        |
| - Soldiers                 | 6        |
| - Special undercover units | -        |
| - Snipers                  | -        |
| Israeli Border Guards      | -        |
| Israeli Policemen          | -        |
| General Security Services  | -        |
| Settlers                   | -        |
| Armed Israeli civilians    | -        |
| Collaborators              | -        |
| Others                     | -        |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>6</b> |

### Situation during Killing

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Normal/calm                                      | 4        |
| Incursion  | -        |
| Demonstration and stone-throwing                 | 2        |
| Armed clashes                                    | -        |
| Shelling   | -        |
| Closed military area                             | -        |
| Bystanders killed during attempted assassination | -        |
| Unclear  | -        |
| Curfew   | -        |
| Raid   | -        |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>6</b> |

### Methods of Killing

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Live bullet                   | 6        |
| Fragmented bullet             | -        |
| Rubber-coated metal bullet    | -        |
| Explosives and small missiles | -        |
| Shrapnel                      | -        |
| Mine                          | -        |
| Tear gas                      | -        |
| Blunt instrument              | -        |
| Sharp instrument              | -        |
| Missile                       | -        |
| Medical Obstruction           | -        |
| Others                        | -        |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>6</b> |

## HOUSE DEMOLITIONS BY DISTRICT

### Punitive House Demolitions

|              |          |
|--------------|----------|
| Bethlehem    | -        |
| Hebron       | -        |
| Jenin        | -        |
| Jericho      | -        |
| Jerusalem    | -        |
| Nablus       | -        |
| Ramallah     | -        |
| Toulkarem    | -        |
| Qalqiliya    | -        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>-</b> |

### House & Property Demolitions for Lack of Licence

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| Bethlehem    | -         |
| Hebron       | 7         |
| Jenin        | 6         |
| Jericho      | -         |
| Jerusalem    | 2         |
| Nablus       | 15        |
| Ramallah     | 4         |
| Toulkarem    | -         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>34</b> |

## CURFEWS BY DISTRICT

| District     | Hours    |
|--------------|----------|
| Bethlehem    | -        |
| Jenin        | -        |
| Nablus       | -        |
| Toulkarem    | -        |
| Jerusalem    | -        |
| Ramallah     | -        |
| Hebron       | -        |
| Jericho      | -        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>-</b> |

## GAZA STRIP

### KILLINGS BY THE OCCUPYING POWER

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Total of Killings</b> | <b>12</b> |
|--------------------------|-----------|

| <b>Special target groups</b> |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Targeted assassination       | 5 |
| Women                        | - |
| Children                     | 1 |

#### Killings by District

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| Gaza             | 1         |
| North Gaza       | 1         |
| Rafah            | 4         |
| Khan Younes      | 4         |
| Central district | 2         |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>12</b> |

#### Killings by Age Groups

|               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| 12 or younger | -         |
| 13-17         | 1         |
| 18-25         | 8         |
| 26-35         | 3         |
| 36-50         | -         |
| Over 50       | -         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>12</b> |

### Killing by Perpetrator

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Israeli Occupying Forces          | -         |
| - <b>Soldiers</b>                 | <b>11</b> |
| - <b>Special undercover units</b> | -         |
| - <b>Snipers</b>                  | -         |
| Israeli Border Guards             | <b>1</b>  |
| Israeli Policemen                 | -         |
| General Security Services         | -         |
| Settlers                          | -         |
| Armed Israeli civilians           | -         |
| Collaborators                     | -         |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>12</b> |

### Situation During Killing

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Normal/calm  | 7         |
| Incursion  | -         |
| Demonstration and Stone-Throwing                         | -         |
| Armed clashes  | 2         |
| Shelling   | 3         |
| Closed military area                                     | -         |
| Bystanders killed during attempted assassination         | -         |
| Curfew   | -         |
| Succumbed to injury sustained during Operation Cast Lead | -         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>12</b> |

### Methods of Killing

|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Live bullet                   | 3         |
| Fragmented bullet             | -         |
| Rubber-coated metal bullet    | -         |
| Explosives and small missiles | -         |
| Shrapnel                      | -         |
| Mine                          | -         |
| Tear gas                      | -         |
| Blunt instrument              | -         |
| Sharp instrument              | -         |
| Missile                       | 9         |
| Medical Obstruction           | -         |
| Others                        | -         |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>12</b> |