

تأسس مركز حماية لحقوق الإنسان في العام ٢٠٠٢م بمبادرة من نخبة من المحامين والمهتمين بالحق الفلسطيني كمفهوم شامل، ويسعى إلى حماية هذا الحق والدفاع عنه في ضوء المبادئ والحقوق التي كفلتها المواثيق والقوانين الدولية، والعمل ضمن مبدأ الشراكة والتكامل مع المؤسسات وجهات الاختصاص.

مركز حماية لحقوق الإنسان  
Hemaya Center for Human Rights



## Monthly Report on Israeli Human Rights Violations in the Gaza Strip (1 January - 31 January)



2013



## Introduction

Israeli Occupation Forces IOF continued hostilities and attacks against the Palestinian people throughout January 2013. Many Israeli human rights breaches took place in the period (1 January to 31 January 2013), that violate rules of international humanitarian law and Geneva Conventions. IOF targeted civilians, women, children and civilian property as well as fishing boats within the territorial water of the besieged Gaza Strip.

IOF targeted Palestinian farmers and tightened the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip in violation of the international humanitarian law and human rights treaties.

The following report conducts violations of IOF in the Gaza strip, depending on what the field research unit at Hemaya Center for Human Rights HCHR documented throughout January 2013.

During January 2013, violations and attacks of IOF on Palestinians in the Gaza Strip left two Palestinians killed and eight others moderately and seriously wounded.

Moreover, the report reviews violations of IOF against defenseless civilians in the border areas of the Gaza Strip and frequent Israeli incursions in the contact areas that used to be called "buffer zone".

The report also conducts the increasing Israeli attacks on Gazan fishermen in Gaza territorial water, which is an obvious violation of the signed agreements and international conventions. Furthermore, the report sheds lights on Israeli policy of collective punishment that includes tightening the suffocating siege and continuous closure of crossings in violation of international humanitarian law and the world Declaration of Human Rights that ensured freedom of movement and right of decent life for everyone, with no limitation or condition.

The report concluded with demands and recommendations raised to the concerned bodies entrusted to implement the international humanitarian law and to prevent violation of its rules as well as trialing violators of such laws before national and international courts, including the ICC.



**Note: Data of the report is documented at HCHR and accessible.**

Assault	No.
Martyrs	2
Wounded	8
Arrested	12
Incursion limited inside the Gaza Strip	4

### **First: Shooting and killing civilians**

Field research unit at HCHR conducted the following Israeli violations in January:

**Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2013:** IOF positioned at the east of border gate of Abu Sofia in the eastern of Jabalya in the north of the Gaza Strip, opened fire at Palestinian farmers and citizens, who were in the ex-buffer zone at 8 am, wounding the 20-year-old Palestinian citizen N. A. From Jabalya, who was moved to the Kamal Adwan Hospital in the north of the Gaza Strip?

**Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> January 2013:** At 10 am, IOF positioned at border area in the northern Beit Hanoun in "Rubbish landfill area", opened fire at the workers, who were unloading a truck of the Municipality of Beit Hanoun. A 36-year-old Palestinian worker from Beit Hanoun, known as A. Z., was shot with a light rifle pullet and moved to the hospital in Beit Hanoun.

**Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2013:** At 4:00 pm, Israeli soldiers stationed at border area in the northeast of the martyrs' cemetery in Jabalya in the northern Gaza Strip, opened fire and launched tear gas grenades at Palestinians citizens who got out in solidarity with Palestinian farmers unable to arrive their lands at border areas. IOF consider the lands extended 300m away of the border fence as a buffer zone and prevent farmers to get to their lands there. The Palestinian citizen Anwar Mohammed Almamlouk, 19-year-old, from Shijaia district was killed after being shot in abdomen, where another 20-YEAR-old Palestinian citizen known as A. W. from Shijaia district was moderately injured.

**Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** IOF positioned at the border area in the east of Deir al-Balah town detained the 17-year-old kid Ahmed Mohammed Abu Zahar





and the 21-year-old youth Mohammed Yahiya Abu Mogheisb, while they were trying to pass the border to get into the occupied territories looking for a work.

**Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 1:15 pm, Israeli soldiers stationed inside the watchtowers at border area in the northeast of Martyrs cemetery in Jabalya in the northern Gaza Strip, opened fire at a group of Palestinian citizens 1000m away of the border fence. As a result, the 19-year-old citizen Mustafa Abu Jarad was killed after he was shot in the head. He was moved to Kamal Adwan Hospital, and then he was transferred to Shifa Hospital where he died.

**Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 8:30 am, IOF positioned at the border area in the east of Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza Strip launched three artillery shells, which landed in free land near the dividing line. No actualities were reported.

**Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 11:30 am, IOF stationed inside the Watchtowers in the north of the Bedouin village "Um Alnaser" in the northern Gaza Strip opened heavy guns fire at a group of workers who were collecting rubles and scrap 150 meters away of the borderline. No casualties were reported.

**Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 3:40 pm, IOF positioned at the borders in the northeast of martyrs' cemetery in Jabalya in the northern Gaza Strip, opened fire and launched gas grenades at a group of citizens and farmers who were 100 meters far from the borderline. The 21-year-old citizen Y. A. from Jabalya was lightly wounded and moved to the hospital.

In the same day also and at 3:45 pm, IOF stationed inside the Watchtowers at the borders in the north of Beit Lahiya town, opened fire at a group of citizens and farmers, who were 500 meters away of the borderline. As result, the 17-year-old kid Mohammed Smir Ahmed Srouf from Beit Lahiya was shot in the left foot. He was moved to Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza Strip.

**Saturday, January 19, 2013:** At 8:00 am, IOF positioned at the border area in the east of Deir al-Balah town in the central Gaza Strip, opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian houses and agricultural lands. The little 2-year-old girl Nahed Ahmed Odaini was shot in her left foot, while she was playing in the yard of the family's



house. She was moved to Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir al-Balah, where medical sources said her injury is moderate.

**Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013:** At 8:30 am, IOF positioned at the border area in the northeast of martyrs' cemetery in Jabalya in the northern Gaza Strip, opened fire at a group of Palestinian citizens and farmers. No casualties were reported.

In the same day at 9:40 am, IOF stationed inside watchtowers in the north of Ghoul land in the northwest of Beit Lahiya town northern Gaza Strip, opened fire at a group of citizens, who were collecting firewood, wounding the 18-year-old citizen A.M. From Beit Lahiya. He was shot in the right leg where he was moved to Kamal Adwan hospital in the northern Gaza Strip.

**Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013:** At 12:15 pm, five Israeli soldiers from IOF stationed at AlAhrash height near the Kissufim military site in the east of Khan Younis city got down of jeeps, opening fire at farmers and citizens who were in the region. Fortunately, no casualties were reported.

**Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** IOF stationed in the eastern border near Maqboula area in the east of Bureij refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip detained the 17-year-old kid, Mohammed Ali Alsakani, and the 15-year-old kid ,Khalid Akram Mohammed Kashan, both from Nusairat refugee camp, while they were trying to pass the border line to look for a work inside the occupied territories.

**Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 8:20 am, IOF stationed in the eastern of martyrs' cemetery in Jabalya town in the northern Gaza Strip, opened fire heavily and sporadically at farmers and citizens who were around the cemetery, prompting them to leave their land. No casualties were reported.

In the same day at 3:30 pm, IOF re-opened fire at farmers and citizens who were around the cemetery near the borderline, injuring four citizens including two children. The injured were all moved to Kamal Adwan hospital, where medics said their wounds are moderate.

**Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** IOF positioned at the border area in the north of " Um Alnaser" Bedouin village in the northern Gaza Strip detained the 16-year-



old kid Ashraf Shukri Salem Abu Qleiq, from the village, without knowing the reason behind the arrest.

**Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** IOF stationed at the border area in the east of Wadi al-Salqa in the east of DeIr al-Balah city arrested the 19-year-old citizen, Mohammed Saied Mohammed Abu Mogheisb, and the 17-year-old kid, Abdullah Mahmoud Abu Mogheisb, while they were trying to pass the borders looking for a work in the occupied territories.

**Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 12:00 pm, IOF stationed in the east of Beit Hanoun town in the northern Gaza Strip opened heavy guns' fire at Palestinian workers, who were collecting pebbles 300 meters far from the borderline. The 19-year-old citizen M. K. from Beit Hanoun was shot in the left foot and moved to the hospital of Beit Hanoun where medics said his injury is moderate.





## **Second: Israeli Incursions into areas of the Gaza strip.**

IOF continued incursions and against attacks civilians and their properties in the border areas of the Gaza strip, which are used to be called "buffer zone".

Throughout January, IOF fulfilled incursions, bulldozing and shooting against Palestinian citizens in the agricultural lands and border areas. Farms and homes of Palestinian farmers got large damage due to such Israeli frequent incursions, which were as following:

**Thursday, January 3rd, 2013:** At 7:50 am, eight Israeli military vehicles, including four bulldozers, moved from the eastern border of Jühr al-Dike in the south of Gaza City for 200 meters inside the town, bulldozing lands along the borderline. No casualties were reported.

**Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 7:00 am, five Israeli military bulldozers moved about 100 meters into the district of Khuza'a in the east of Khan Younis city southern Gaza Strip. They bulldozed lands along borders until the afternoon, and withdrew to re-station in the position at the border area.

**Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 7 am, three Israeli tanks and two bulldozers accompanied by Israeli Special Forces fulfilled 100 meters limited incursion into the area of Abu Samra in the northwest of Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip, bulldozing lands. No casualties were reported.

**Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013:** At 8:40 am, five Israeli tanks and five bulldozers fulfilled a 150 meters limited incursion into the southeast area of Beit Hanoun town in the northern Gaza Strip, bulldozing lands in the area. No casualties were reported.



### **Third: Israeli attacks on fishermen in Gaza Territorial Water.**

IOF continued attacks and violations against Palestinian fishermen, making their livelihood so difficult. IOF prevented them to sail more than 6 nautical miles into the sea for the second month, which was stated upon in the calm agreement late in 2012. Such practices by IOF violate the international conventions and expose lives of fishermen to death through shooting and detaining. HCHR conducted the following Israeli violations:

**Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013:** At 6:00 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before shores of Khan Younis and Rafah in the south of the Gaza strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats and chased them to 3 nautical miles, which is a breach of the calm agreement signed with the Palestinian factions, prompting fishermen to leave the sea and causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats' damage were reported.

**Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 6:30 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before shores of Alforosiyya tourist resort in the west of Beit Lahiya northern the Gaza strip opened heavy machine guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats, prompting them to leave the sea and causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats' damage were reported.

**Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 7:00 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before the shores of Alforosiyya tourist resort in the west of Beit Lahiya northern the Gaza strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats, prompting them to leave the sea and causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats' damage were reported.

**Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 6:30 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before the shores of Alforosiyya tourist resort in the west of Beit Lahiya town in the northern Gaza strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats, prompting them to leave the sea and causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats' damage were reported.





**Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 6:45 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before the shores of Alforosiyya tourist resort in the west of Beit Lahiya town in the northern Gaza strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats, prompting them to leave the sea and causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats' damage were reported.

**Sunday, January 20, 2013:** At 8:30 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before the shores of Alforosiyya tourist resort in the west of Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats, and chased them for a distance of five nautical miles, penetrating the calm agreement signed with the Palestinian factions. Israeli gunboats forced fishermen to leave the sea, causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats' damage were reported.

**Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013:** At 6:30 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before the shores of Khan Younis and Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats and chased them to a distance less than five nautical miles , penetrating the calm agreement signed with the Palestinian factions. Israeli gunboats forced fishermen to leave the sea, causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats' damage were reported.

**Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013:** At 6:30 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before the shores of Alforosiyya tourist resort in the west of Beit Lahiya town in the northern Gaza strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats, prompting them to leave the sea and causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats' damage were reported.

**Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> , 2013:** At 6:15 am, , Israeli gunboats stationed before the shores of Alforosiyya tourist resort in the west of Beit Lahiya town in the northern Gaza strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats and chased them to a distance less than 5 nautical miles , penetrating the calm agreement signed with the Palestinian factions. Israeli gunboats forced fishermen to leave the sea, causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats damage were reported.

**Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> ,2013:** At 6:00 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before the shores of Alforosiyya tourist resort in the west of Beit Lahiya town in the



northern Gaza strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats and chased them to a distance less than 5 nautical miles , penetrating the calm agreement signed with the Palestinian factions. Israeli gunboats forced fishermen to leave the sea, causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats damage were reported.

**Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013:** At 7:00 am, Israeli gunboats stationed before the shores of Alforosiyya tourist resort in the west of Beit Lahiya town in the northern Gaza strip opened heavy guns fire at Palestinian fishing boats and chased them to a distance less than 5 nautical miles , penetrating the calm agreement signed with the Palestinian factions. Israeli gunboats forced fishermen to leave the sea, causing a state of fear among citizens. Fortunately, no casualties or boats damage were reported.

#### **Fourth: the suffocating siege and closure are still continuous on the Gaza Strip**

IOF still pursue policy of collective punishment against 1.7 m Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip and constantly close all border crossings and ports of the enclave through controlling the entry of goods and necessary supplies. IOF open the crossings only for a few hours, controlling quality and quantity of goods that enter the Gaza strip, which do not meet the minimum need of the Palestinian citizens. Such Israeli policy seriously affected all life aspects in the Gaza Strip, especially the social and economic situation.

Israeli closure of crossings of the Gaza strip since 6 years has influenced the life of Palestinian citizens in the besieged enclave, causing high rate of poverty and unemployment in the Palestinian society. Moreover, IOF still refuse to enter the basic materials for reconstruction and continue shelling tunnels in the border area with Egypt, which were built to get the necessary life materials into the besieged Gaza. Israeli strategy violates all laws and international norms and conventions, which prohibit policy of collective punishment.



### **Recommendations:**

Hemaya Center for Human Rights HCHR re-condemn Israel attacks and violations against the Gaza Strip and calls for the international community to hold its responsibilities towards the serious violations IOF carry out against civilians, children, women and civilian properties.

HCHR stresses that such Israeli frequent crimes are natural results of the silence of the international community, which encourages Israel to continue violations of the international humanitarian law. HCHR calls on the international community to trial leaders of Israeli occupation forces over Israeli crimes against Palestinian civilians.

Moreover, HCHR calls on States parties in the Fourth Geneva Convention to hold responsibility and take a clear position toward Israeli violations of international humanitarian law and the Fourth Geneva Convention that ensure protection of civilians and civilian properties.

HCHR also demands the Human Rights Council to act immediately to stop Israeli violations and end the Israeli blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip for more than six years, and to allow medicines and medical equipment to get into the Gaza Strip.

Furthermore, HCHR calls for prosecuting Israeli war criminals as war criminals before the International Criminal Court in order to get the right and justice prevalent.

**Hemaya Center for Human Rights- HCHR**  
**February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013**