

تأسس مركز حماية لحقوق الإنسان في العام ٢٠٠٢م بمبادرة من نخبة من المحامين والمهتمين بالحقوق 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

Violations by the Israeli occupation forces on the Gaza Strip

In the period from 1-31 March 2013





Introduction

Israeli occupation forces continued its aggression on the Palestinian people during the period from 1/3/2013 to 31/3/2013, which witnessed an escalation and violations of the rules of international human rights declaration and Geneva Conventions by targeting civilians, women, children, civilian objects, fishermen within the territorial waters and farmers, and tightening the siege on the Gaza Strip as violations of the rules of international humanitarian law and international conventions. This report focuses on the violations carried out by the occupation forces according to what has been observed and documented by researchers in the field research unit in Hemaya center for human rights in the Gaza Strip.

The occupation forces have launched a series of attacks on the Gaza Strip during the month of "March" 2013, which resulted in the injury of "8" citizens with minor, moderate or serious injuries.

The report also reviews the violations carried out by the Israeli occupation forces of targeting unarmed civilians in the border areas and repeated incursions in the areas of contact which were called "buffer zones". The report, as well, monitors the increasing attacks on fishermen in the waters off the shores of the Gaza Strip as a violation of the signed agreements and the international conventions. Adding to that, the continued policy of collective punishment that the Israeli occupation forces follow by tightening the siege and closures on an ongoing basis. Such procedures are considered violations to the rules of the international humanitarian law and the Universal Declaration of human Rights and all relevant international charters and conventions, that ensured the freedom of movement and a decent life for everyone with no limitation or condition.

The report concludes with the demands and recommendations addressed to the concerned authorities commissioned to enforce the international humanitarian law, prevent the violation of its rules and hold those responsible for it before national courts and international authorities.



Note: The information submitted in this report are documented at the center and ready to be used by researchers and interested directly from the center.

Assault Type	Number
Martyrs	0
Wounded	5
Arrest	3
Limited incursion into the Gaza Strip	8
Attacks on fishermen	7

Firstly: shooting ,targeting and killing civilians:

The Israeli occupation forces continued targeting civilians during the month of "March", in which the following violations have been monitoring and documenting:

On Friday, 1/3/2013 around 2:30 pm, IOF, positioned at the dividing line to the east of Jabalya town north Gaza Strip, opened fire towards some citizens presented in the region in a distance of about "200 meters" from the border. Three of the targeted citizens, who presented there for the purpose of hiking in the green spaces in the area, wounded in serious injuries; so, they were taken to Martyr Kamal Adwan Hospital in Beit Lahiya. These wounded are: Jihad Nasser Jawdat Hamid (18 years), a resident of Shojae'ya to the east of Gaza City, Abdul Rahman Said Abu Jalhoum (23 years) from Jabalia Camp, Ahmed Abdel Fattah Ibrahim Obeid (20 years), a resident of the town of Beit Hanoun. They were all shot in their feet, and the medical sources described their injuries as moderate.

On Friday, 1/3/2013 at around 3:40 pm, IOF, positioned at the watchtowers North Abu Samra Boura (low area between two high areas), north Beit Lahia to the north of Gaza Strip, targeted a group of citizens near the dividing line by shooting them and using gas bombs which resulted in the injury of Mohammed Samir Abdel-Gawad Atramsi (19 years), residents of Beit Lahia; so, he was taken to Martyr Kamal Adwan Hospital in the town of Beit Lahiya for medical treatment, were medical sources described his wounds as negligible.



On Friday, 8/3/2013 at about 2:30 pm, IOF, positioned at the dividing line east Jabalya town to the north of Gaza Strip, shot a group of citizens who presented at a distance estimated at about "300"meters by small arms fire and a number of gas grenades resulting in the injury of the citizen Omar Ismail Wadi (20 years), from Jabalya refugee camp, who was shot in the chest. He was taken to Martyr Kamal Adwan Hospital in Beit Lahia, then transferred for medical treatment inside Shifa Hospital in Gaza City.

On Sunday, 10/03/2013 around 10:00 am, Israeli occupation forces, positioned on the separative line to the east of Gaza Valley village, east of Deir al-Balah at the center of Gaza Strip, arrested the child Aahed Saber Salim Abu Zaher (16 years), from the village of Wadi Gaza, while he was trying to sneak into the occupied territories.

On Tuesday, 12/03/2013 around 8:10 am, Israeli occupation forces positioned at the dividing line North Abu Samra Boura (low area between two high areas), north Beit Lahia to the north of the Gaza Strip, opened light fire towards the farmers and a number of citizens who have been about "150 "meters from the fence, without recorded casualties.

On Sunday, 03/17/2013 around 1:00 pm, the Israeli occupation forces, positioned at the border east of Almusader village to the east of Deir al-Balah at the center of Gaza Strip, arrested the child Sabri Hassan Sabri Almusader (15) while attempting to pass the fence.

On Wednesday, 20/3/2013 around 9:10 am, Israeli occupation forces, positioned at military watchtowers on the separative line east the city of Khan Younis, to the south of Gaza Strip, opened fire towards Palestinian lands at Fakhari area in the Southern east region of the city without recorded injuries.

On Sunday, 24/3/2013 around 10:00 am, Israeli forces positioned at the east border of the Almusader village, east of Deir al-Balah at the center of Gaza Strip, arrested the child Zeyad Sami Hassan Abu Gharaba, (17 years) while he was trying to pass the separation fence.



Secondly: incursions into the territories:

The Israeli occupation forces continued their attacks against citizens in the Gaza Strip, especially at the border areas "buffer zones". During the month of "March", the IOF bulldozed and demolished agricultural lands especially in the boarder area. Adding to that, shooting and targeting the citizens and their houses, which are always subjected to be damaged. The last violations are summed up as follows:

On Sunday, 3/3/2013 around 10:25 am, IOF moved into using nearly five military vehicles, including three bulldozers starting from the border, south Kosufem military site, east of al-Qarara village to the northern east of Khan Younis and fired by heavy machine guns towards agricultural lands without recorded injuries.

On Monday, 4/3/2013 around 7:00 am, IOF moved into using nearly six mechanisms, including four bulldozers and two tanks, at the west dividing line, east of Gaza Valley village for a distance of approximately "200" meters, where they bulldozed agricultural lands and established earth mounds without recorded casualties.

On Thursday, 7/3/2013 around 7:00 am, IOF moved into reinforced by several military vehicles, starting from "Kissufim" military site at the stretching area of Kerem Shalom crossing to Sofa area at the southern east of the Gaza Strip, for a distance of about "200" meters, where they carried out a bulldozing of agricultural lands without recorded casualties.

On Monday, 11/3/2013 at around 6:00 am, IOF moved into using nearly eight mechanisms, including five bulldozers and three tanks for a distance of approximately "300" meters to the west of the separation line, east of Wadi Eslqa to the east of Deir al-Balah at the center of Gaza Strip with intermittent shooting, and they carried out a bulldozing of agricultural lands without recorded casualties.

On Monday, 11/3/2013 around 6:00 am, IOF moved into using nearly eight mechanisms, including five bulldozers and three tanks for a distance of approximately "300" meters to the west of the separative line east of Wadi Eslqa city of Deir al-Balah at the center of Gaza Strip, with intermittent shooting, and they carried out a bulldozing of agricultural lands near the line without recorded casualties.



On Tuesday, 12/3/2013 around 7:30 am, IOF moved into using nearly four military vehicles, starting from Alsrig military gate, east of Qarara area for "150" meters estimated distance at the east of the region, where they carried out a bulldozing of agricultural lands near the line without recorded casualties.

On Wednesday, 13/3/2013 around 6:30 am, IOF moved into using nearly nine mechanisms, including five bulldozers and four tanks for a distance of approximately "100" meters to the east of Farrahin area in the town of Abasan, east of Khan Younis at the south of Gaza Strip. Amid sporadic shooting, where with intermittent shooting, and they carried out a bulldozing of agricultural lands planted with wheat and barley without recorded casualties.

On Thursday, 28/3/2013 IOF moved into using nearly five mechanisms including three bulldozers and two tanks for a estimated distance of "300" meters to the east of Maghazi refugee camp at the center of Gaza Strip, with intermittent shooting, and they carried out a bulldozing of agricultural lands near the line without recorded casualties.



Thirdly: attacks on fishermen at waters off the Gaza Strip:

The occupation forces continuously violate the Palestinian fishermen rights and harass them at their livelihood. The occupation forces decided to prevent fishermen from sailing for a distance of more than "3" nautical miles after they were allowed to fish for a distance of "6" nautical miles at sea; according to the truce signed at the end of the last year. So, such violations are considered a serious violation of international conventions and agreements. Adding to that, the assault and sporadic arrest that the IOF committ on the fishermen. The last violations may be summed up as follows:

On Friday, 8/3/2013 around 05:00 pm, Israeli gunboats, stationed at the Gaza Sea off the coast of Rafah City to the south of Gaza Strip, fired by heavy machine guns towards Palestinian fishing boats and chased them for a distance of less than 300 meters from the sea beach, prompting them to leave the sea, fearing for their lives and boats, without recorded casualties in lives.

On Monday, 11/3/2013 around 6:20 pm, Israeli gunboats, stationed at the Gaza Sea off Forosya resort to the north of Gaza Strip, fired by heavy machine guns towards Palestinian fishing boats and chased them for a distance of 2 miles inside the water, prompting fishermen to leave the sea, fearing for their lives and boats, without recorded casualties.

On Thursday, 21/3/2013 Israeli occupation authorities announced reducing the permitted fishing distance in the Sea of Gaza for fishermen to just three nautical miles instead of six miles. The Israeli occupation authorities have allowed the entry of fishermen for a distance of 6 miles in the wake of the Egyptian-sponsored truce signed between the Palestinian factions and the occupation during November the last year.

On Sunday, 24/3/2013 around 6:30 am, Israeli gunboats, stationed in the Gaza Sea off the Forosya resort to the north of Gaza Strip, fired by heavy machine guns towards Palestinian fishing boats and chased them for a distance of less than 2 miles inside the coast of the Gaza Strip, prompting them to leave the sea, fearing for their lives and boats, without recorded casualties.



On Sunday, 24/3/2013 around 7:30 am, Israeli gunboats, stationed in the Gaza Sea off the Forsoya resort to the north of Gaza Strip, fired by heavy machine guns towards Palestinian fishing boats and chased them for a distance of less than 3 miles inside the coast of the Gaza Strip, prompting them to leave the sea, fearing for their lives and boats, without recorded casualties.

On Monday 25/3/2013 around 6:00 am, Israeli gunboats, stationed in the Gaza Sea off the Forsoya resort to the north of Gaza Strip, fired by heavy machine guns towards Palestinian fishing boats and chased them for a distance of less than 3 miles inside the coast of the Gaza Strip, prompting them to leave the sea, fearing for their lives and boats, without recorded casualties.

On Monday, 25/3/2013 around 8:00 pm, Israeli gunboats, stationed in the Gaza Sea off the Forsoya resort to the north of Gaza Strip, fired by heavy machine guns towards Palestinian fishing boats and the chased them for a distance of less than 3 miles inside the coast of the Gaza Strip, prompting the fishermen to leave the sea, fearing for their lives and boats, without recorded casualties.



Fourthly: the continuation of the siege and closure on the Gaza Strip

Israeli occupation authorities still pursuing the policy of collective punishment against a million and a half Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. This policy is shown through the consistently closure of all borders, crossings and ports, and the control of the entry of goods and supplies necessary. The only commercial passage to the Gaza Strip, Kerem Shalom, was closed for "17 days during the month of March. Adding to that, its control over the quality of the goods, which meet only a fraction of the Palestinian citizen need. This reflected seriously on all aspects of life in the Gaza Strip, especially on the social and economic ones.

Palestinian citizens have been suffering from the issue of crossings closure as the poverty and unemployment rates are increasing. The occupation forces still refuse to enter the basic materials needed for reconstruction, and continue its bombardment "of the tunnels" on the border with Egypt through which the widgets are entered the Gaza Strip within the blockade imposed on it. Such crimes are considered violations of all laws and international norms and conventions, which prohibits collective punishment.



Recommendations:

Hemaya Center for Human Rights renews its denouncement of the Israeli continued attacks and violations on the Gaza Strip. The center calls for the international community to shoulder its responsibilities towards the serious violations carried out by the occupation forces as targeting civilians, children, women and civilian objects. In this context, it reaffirms that such repeated violations come as a result of the international community's silence and lack of accountability of the occupation forces for their perpetrated crimes against the Palestinian people, which in turn encourage the occupation to continue committing such crimes. The assembly also calls on States parties Semitism which have contracted on the Fourth Geneva Convention to specify their position and take responsibility of the violations of the rules of international humanitarian law and the Fourth Geneva Convention, which ensured the protection of civilians and civilian objects from aggression. The center as well calls upon the Human Rights Council to act immediately to prevent the Israeli violations and work to end the blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip for more than five years, and to allow entering medicines and medical equipment needed to treat patients in hospitals in the Strip. Adding to that, the call for prosecuting Israeli war criminals and trying them as war criminals before international criminal courts and not to exempting them from such crimes; so right and justice prevail.

Hemaya Center for Human Rights
2/4/2013