



Monthly Report on Violations of Human Rights and Freedoms in Palestine August 2014

This monthly report is published for two consecutive months while Israel continues its military aggression on the Gaza Strip, committing grave violations against the Palestinian civilians and their properties. Since the beginning of this aggression, which was launched on 7th July 2014 and lasted until 26th August 2014 after a ceasefire agreement, 2148 Palestinians were killed including 577 children, 302 women, 102 elderly, 23 paramedics, 16 journalists, 11 lawyers, and 144 families were entirely killed. 11066 Palestinians were also injured including 3374 children and 2101 women. 300 citizens were detained and transferred outside Gaza. Thousands of citizens' homes were fully or partially destroyed and neighborhoods were fully demolished such as Shuja'ya and Khuza'a, causing forced displacement of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians citizens, who head towards schools seeking refuge. UN schools, mosques, churches, cemeteries, educational institutions were also targeted by the Israeli war machinery. Furthermore, hospitals, health centers, ambulances, civil defense facilities, non-governmental organizations, fishing boats, stores, factories, economic and agricultural establishments, apartment towers and the power plant were all targeted.

In addition to the Israeli military aggression on the Gaza Strip, internal human rights violations were committed. This report highlights the major violations monitored by ICHR during August. Below is a comprehensive summary:

- ❖ ICHR monitored 33 deaths; 23 in the Gaza Strip and 10 in the West Bank.
- ❖ Extrajudicial execution of 16 persons in the Gaza Strip was carried out.
- ❖ ICHR monitored 11 complaints of torture and ill-treatment; 8 in the West Bank and 3 in the Gaza Strip.
- ❖ Assaults on peaceful assemblies in the West Bank.
- ❖ Violation of the right to freedom of movement and travel as well as imposition of house-arrest orders in the Gaza Strip.
- ❖ Non-implementation of courts' decisions by the official authorities in the West Bank.
- ❖ After 4 months of prohibition, the General Intelligence Agency in the West Bank allowed ICHR's field researcher to make visits, including unannounced visits to the Agency's detention centers.

Details of the violations

I. Violation of the Right to Life and Physical Safety:

During August 2014, **ICHR** monitored 23 deaths in the Gaza Strip and 10 deaths in the West Bank. The causes of death are the following:

- Seven cases due to family disputes and vendettas; 4 in the Gaza Strip and 3 in the West Bank.
- Two deaths due to misuse of firearms.
- Five deaths under mysterious conditions in the West Bank.
- Three deaths due to negligence of public safety precautions; 2 in the West Bank and 1 in the Gaza Strip.
- Sixteen extrajudicial executions in the Gaza Strip.

2. Deaths due family disputes, manslaughter and vendettas:

- 4 August 2014, **25 years old Murad Jihad Ibraheem al-Hawareen**, and **26 years old Muhammad Jihad Ibraheem al-Hawareen**, from Dahreya in the governorate of Hebron, died of injuries they suffered from when they were hit by a car. According to the information obtained by ICHR, their uncle deliberately ran over them due to family dispute. The police

arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. One of the suspects was arrested and held in al-Dahreya Correction and Rehabilitation Center (CRC). The main perpetrator escaped justice to the green line areas since he has an Israeli identity card.

- 5 August 2014, **24 years old Wadei' Awni Sabe'**, from Jabalia refugee camp in the governorate of Northern Gaza died of stab wound to his back. According to the information obtained by ICHR, he was injured in a family dispute in the camp. The police arrived at the scene and arrested a number of suspects.
- 14 August 2014, **34 years old Bakir Abdul Razaq Abu Bakra**, from Shweka in the governorate of Rafah, died of bullet and stab wounds to different parts of his body. According to the information obtained by ICHR, he was abducted by 4 persons and then found injured and thrown on the road. Passersby took him to Yousif al-Najar Hospital where he was announced dead. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. A number of suspects, including the brother of the victim were arrested. According to police statement, the incident was due to dispute over an amount of money.
- 24 August 2014, **60 years old Fawaz Ismael Klab**, from Jabalia refugee camp in the governorate of Northern Gaza, Lieutenant Colonel at the PA's security services and member of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), died of bullet wound to the head. According to the information obtained by ICHR, he was shot by unknown persons while standing opposite to his house in the camp. He was taken to Kamal Udwan Hospital where he was announced dead. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. The suspect who was arrested for investigation admitted that he killed Klab in revenge for the death of his father who was killed years ago.
- 29 August 2014, **27 years old Ahmad Mahmoud al-Asmar**, from Balata refugee camp in the governorate of Nablus, died of stab wounds. According to the information obtained by ICHR, he was stabbed by his relatives in family dispute. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. The offender was arrested.
- 31 August 2014, **56 years old Sa'di Jaber**, from Khan Younis city, died of bullet wounds to different parts to his body. According to the information obtained by ICHR, he was shot and killed by his cousin in a family dispute. The offender fled and the police opened investigation into the incident.

3. Deaths due to misuse of firearms

- 26 August 2014, **19 years old Randa Emad Nimir**, from the neighborhood of Shujaeya in Gaza, died of bullet wound to her head. According to the information obtained by ICHR, she was injured on the balcony of her home while hundreds of citizens were shooting in the air, celebrating the ceasefire agreement signed with Israel to end the aggression on the Gaza Strip.
- 26 August 2014, **16 years old Sami Yousif Abu Anza**, from the village of Abbasan al-Jadeeda in the governorate of Khan Younis, died of bullet wounds to his head near his house while hundreds of citizens were shooting in the air, celebrating the ceasefire agreement signed with Israel.

4. Deaths under mysterious conditions

- 5 August 2014, **24 years old Khadir Sami Khaled az-Zibin**, from the village of al-Mazra' al-Sharqeya in the governorate of Ramallah, was found dead in his house. According to the information obtained by ICHR, the police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident and transferred the body of the deceased to the Forensic Medicine Institute for autopsy.
- 4 August 2014, **a body of an unidentified woman** was found thrown in Jenin cemetery. According to the information obtained by ICHR, some persons were digging a grave to bury their deceased relative and they discovered a disintegrated corpse 40 cm below the surface in ordinary clothes. The police and the Public Prosecution arrived at the scene for investigation and transferred the body to the Forensic Medicine Institute for autopsy.
- 13 August 2014, **16 years old Rahaf Abu Hassan**, from the village of Arabuna in the governorate of Jenin, was found hanged and hung in the house of her family. According to the information obtained by ICHR, she was rushed to Jenin Hospital where she was announced dead. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- 24 August 2014, **37 years old Raed Nabhan Qsim Bani Fadil**, from the town of Aqraba in the governorate of Nablus, died of hanging. According to the information obtained by ICHR, Bani Fadil tied a rope around his neck and jumped out of the window of the mosque killing himself. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. According to a statement by the mayor of the town, Bani Fadil has a wife and 5 children, but he was suffering from mental problems.
- 27 August 2014, **22 years old Sabrin Abdul Jabar Yousif Hussein**, from Salfit, died of wounds she had two weeks ago when she fell off a building. According to the statement by her father, she told him in the hospital that while she was on her way to al-Najah National University to ratify her certificate from the Faculty of Law, she was abducted, and that her abductor dropped her from a building to hide his crime. The police arrived at the scene and started investigation. They did not confirm the story of her father, claiming that the details of the incident cannot be published at the time being. The driver of the taxi that she used is under arrest for interrogation.

5. Deaths due to negligence of public safety precautions.

- 7 August 2014, **21 years old Midhat Sabir Rasheed al-Frukh**, from the town of Saer in the governorate of Hebron died of wounds to his head. According to the information obtained by ICHR, al-Frukh died while working in a factory in Hebron. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. The findings of the investigation indicated that he died due to skull fracture caused by the machine he was using for his work.
- 13 August 2014, **36 years old Mazen Kamal Dali**, from the city of Khan Younis, died of wounds to his head. According to the information obtained by ICHR, he was injured while tampering with tank explosives left by the Israeli occupation forces in the area. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. Sappers found and defused a number of explosives in the area.

- 15 August 2014, **18 years old Muhammad Omar Naem Salah**, from the village of al-Khadir in the governorate of Bethlehem, died of drowning in a swimming pool at Peter Resort. He was rushed to Bet-Jala Hospital where he was announced dead. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.

5. Extrajudicial execution:

- 5 August 2014, five inmates held in the Correction and Rehabilitation Center of Gaza were executed. According to the information obtained by ICHR, an armed group entered the Correction and Rehabilitation Center of Gaza "al-Kateeba" asked for transferring five inmates (their names are known to ICHR), as part of the internal measures, to another CRC. These persons were sentenced to death on charges of collaboration with "an enemy state", but the possibilities of appeal were not exhausted yet. After they were taken from Gaza Prison, they were found dead in al-Shifa' Hospital in Gaza. Their death was announced by non-official authorities.

- 22 August 2014, eleven inmates held in the Correction and Rehabilitation Center of Gaza were executed. According to the information obtained by ICHR, an armed group asked for transferring 11 inmates (their names are known to ICHR) to another prison. Eight of them were not convicted, one was sentenced to death, one was sentenced to life in prison and the last one was sentenced to 15 years in prison. They were announced dead by non-official authorities, and their bodies were found in al-Shifa' Hospital in Gaza. ICHR issued a press release demanding the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the Palestinian national factions in Gaza to take immediate steps to stop extrajudicial executions and enable the legal and judicial authorities to protect the justice system and respect human rights from the adverse impacts of extrajudicial executions.

6. Torture during detention-cruel and degrading treatment.

ICHR received during this month **11** complaints of torture and ill-treatment; 8 in the West Bank and 3 in the Gaza Strip. These complaints were filed against the Civil Police Agency.

II. Violation of the Right to Due Process of Law Including Political Detention

Arbitrary and political detention: ICHR received during this month **2** complaints of violations of due process of law in the West Bank. The complainants were detained either arbitrarily or for political reasons.

III. Violation of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression, Press and Peaceful Assembly

- 15 August 2014, the security services broke up a demonstration that was organized in Hebron in solidarity with Gaza. According to the information obtained by ICHR, a driver of a car used to call for the demonstration through loudspeakers was held by the security services for hours.
- 15 August 2014, Hamas and Islamic Jihad organized a demonstration in Bethlehem after Friday prayer. The security forces formed a human chain to prohibit demonstrators from moving towards the annexation wall and the military tower near the Mosque of Bilal Bin Rabah, but demonstrators continued their march without any clashes or confrontations with the security forces.
- 22 August 2014, a group of persons organized a march in Hebron to protest against the Israeli military aggression on the Gaza Strip, but the security services prohibited them from approaching Bab az-Zawya to avoid clashes with Israeli occupation forces. The Israeli military forces used tear gas canisters and stun bombs to disperse demonstrators. Clashes broke out between demonstrators and security forces, as a result. A number of injuries were reported.
- 22 August 2014, Hamas organized a demonstration in Bethlehem, but the security forces tried to prohibit participants from moving towards the military tower near the Mosque of Bilal Bin Rabah. The Preventive Security Agency seized loudspeakers used by demonstrators.
- 30 August 2014, Hamas organized a public festival in al-Bireh city in support of the resistance in the Gaza Strip. According to a statement by a Hamas representative in Ramallah "Saed Muhammad Abu Baha", the Governor of Ramallah and al-Bireh was given an official letter on 28 August notifying her of the festival. A meeting was also held with Ramallah Police Chief to coordinate the event. Despite that, three organizers of the festival were held by the police for 2 hours and the sound system was seized during the festival. He added that a number of citizens were noticed to report to security services office for participating in the festival. Abu Baha' received a notice from the Preventive Security Agency to report to their office against the backdrop of his participation in the festival.

IV. Assault on Persons, Public Institutions, Public and Private Property.

- 5 August 2014, Dr. Abdul Satar Qasim, Lecturer at al-Najah University, was attacked by a number of persons. According to his statement to ICHR, at 8:45 am when he stopped to pick up his wife who was waiting for him 700 meters away from his home, three masked persons driving a grey Kia car with yellow plate intercepted him. One of them fired at him from a pistol. Dr. Qasim drove his car in reverse escaping the scene, leaving his wife behind and the door of the car open. They fired three bullets in his direction, but he was not injured. When his wife began to shout, the masked persons escaped. The police arrived in fifteen minutes of the incident for investigation. They found bullets and rounds in the scene and heard Dr. Qasim's affidavit. When they asked him to file a complaint, he refused. He said that "they would imprison and punish him instead of punishing offenders".
- 7 August 2014, a group of masked persons holding arms entered the house of Ahmad Khaled Khatab (24 years old) from Deir al-Balah in the governorate of al-Wusta. According to his statement to ICHR, they tied his hands, folded his eyes, led him to an unknown place and interrogated him about security issues. He added that they tortured him and shot him in his thigh. They dumped him opposite to Shuhada' al-Aqsa Hospital in the city where he was treated.
- 18 August 2014, a driver of illegal vehicle hit a police car in the town of Bani Naem in the governorate of Hebron deliberately, in an attempt to run over a police officer who waved his hand and directed him to stop. After pursuit, the driver was caught and referred to court.

- 19 August 2014, a group of citizens attacked Yatta Police Center in the governorate of Hebron by throwing stones because of the police decision to confiscate illegal vehicles. The windows of the Center were damaged. The police opened investigation into the incident.
- 20 August 2014, a group of citizens attacked Bani Na'em Police Center by throwing stones because the police confiscated illegal vehicles. Stone-throwers were arrested, but released after undertaking not to commit such actions again.
- 27 August 2014, a group of citizens abducted Muhammad Hassan Abu Eideh, 22 years old, from Gaza. According to the information obtained by ICHR, they forced him into their car and took him to a mosque where they severely beat him and caused injuries to his head. They told him not to move inside the town and left him opposite to the mosque. They seized his motorcycle, money and mobile phone. A passerby took him to hospital for treatment.

V. Violation of the Right to Movement and travel

- 8 August 2014, a group of masked persons holding arms accompanied with internal security forces broke into the house of Falah Ramadan Abed Rabu (54 years old) from Jabalia camp in the northern governorate of Gaza. They informed his family that he was under house-arrest and that should he abide by the order, he would be shot in the foot.
- 18 August 2014, a group of al-Qassam Brigade (the military wing of Hamas) entered the house of (M.A.T), 42 years old, from Jabalia in the northern governorate of Gaza and noticed his family that he is under house-arrest. On 30 August 2014, internal security forces entered his house again and confirmed that the order is still valid.
- 24 August 2014, masked persons holding arms entered the house of Fayeque Mahmoud Abu Shbeeka (52 years old) from the city of Rafah and noticed him that he is under house-arrest. When he answered them that he is a patriotic struggler and such order would tarnish the image of his family, they threatened him by a pistol.
- In August 2014, Muhammad Mahmoud al-Ashi, from Gaza, filed a complaint with ICHR concerning the authorities' refusal to renew his passport issued in Ramallah. On 1st February 2014, Muhammad applied for renewing his passport through Haneef Travelogue Office, but he was informed that the General Intelligence Agency rejected his application.
- In August 2014, Asa'd Khaleel Hamoudeh (52 years old) from Gaza, filed a complaint with ICHR concerning the authorities' refusal to renew his passport issued in Ramallah. He submitted his application through Haneef Travelogue Office, but he was informed that the General Intelligence Agency rejected his application.

VI. Delay in Implementing Courts' Decisions.

ICHR received during August 2 complaints concerning non-implementation of courts' decisions.

No.	Name	Detention Center	Detention Date	Date of issuance
1	Ahmad Saed Sadi	General Intelligence	5/7/2014	On 4/8/2014, Nablus Court issued a decision to release him on bail. He paid the bail, but still in prison.

2	Tawfeeq Muhammad Gharbeya	Preventive Security	27/7/2014	On 11/8/2014, Jericho Conciliation Court issued a decision to release him, but its decision went unimplemented.
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Thirteen other courts' decisions issued in the past months haven't been implemented, yet.