

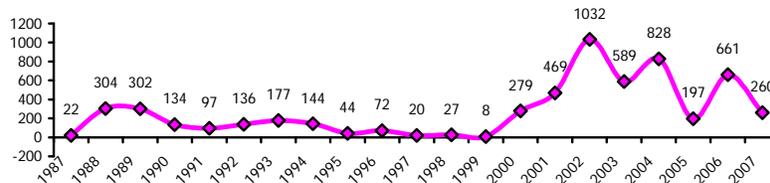


2. Israeli Occupation Policies

■ Killings and Injuries

- Statistical figures for deaths and injuries differ by source. The following graph shows the number of Palestinians killed by Israelis since the outbreak of the first *Intifada* in Dec. 1987 as monitored by the Israeli human rights group *B'Tselem*. These figures do not include Palestinians who died after being delayed in receiving medical treatment (e.g., by being stopped at checkpoints): As of 30 Sept. 2007, 4,308 **Palestinians** were killed by Israelis during the current Intifada, incl. 861 **minors** under the age of 18. Only 1,414 of the dead were killed by Israeli forces while taking part in hostilities. At least 218 Palestinians were extra-judicially **executed** by Israeli units, in the course of which an additional 367 Palestinians were killed. Some 41 Palestinians were killed by Israeli civilians. On the **Israeli side** 1,025 people were killed by Palestinians (467 in the WBGs and 558 inside Israel), 119 of them under the age of 18.

**Palestinians killed by Israelis since the first Intifada
(9 Dec. 1987-Sept. 2007)**



(Source: B'Tselem website, <http://www.btselem.org/English/Statistics/Casualties.asp>.)

The above numbers do not include the 13 Palestinian citizens of Israel that were killed in Oct. 2000 by Israeli forces, nor other Palestinian citizens of Israel that were killed by Israeli forces, nor Palestinian suicide bombers.

- The PCHR in Gaza reports 4,462 Palestinians **killed** and over 24,750 **wounded** during the period 29 Sept. 2000-12 Nov. 2007. Among the killed were 142 women and 804 children, as well as 25 medical personnel and 10 journalists.
- The *Palestinian Red Crescent Society* counts 4,502 **dead** (29 Sept. 2000-31 July 2007) and least 31,531 **injured** (for regular updates see http://www.palestinercs.org/crisistables/table_of_figures.htm).
- According to **DCI-Palestine** statistics, a total of 898 **children** have been **killed** since the outbreak of the second Intifada, incl. 46 in 2007 alone (as of 27 Oct. 2007). Of those, 127 were under the age of 9, 144 between 9-12 yrs. old, 307 between 13-15 yrs., and 320 16-17 yrs. old.
- Between Sept. 2000 and Sept. 2007, at least 52 Palestinians died **following an infringement of the right to medical treatment** (e.g., by being prevented or delayed to pass a checkpoint) (B'Tselem).

■ Arrests, Imprisonment, Forced Transfer and Deportation

- Since **1967**, Israel has detained and imprisoned over **700,000 Palestinians**, the vast majority of whom as political prisoners (PLO NAD, *Palestinian Prisoners*, June 2007).
- Due to Israel's ongoing arrest operations, the **number of detainees** in the current Intifada varies from day to day. According to **Mandela Institute**, there were 11,229 Palestinian security detainees or prisoners as of **April 2007**, incl. 10,854 in the 10 central prisons governed by the Israeli General Prisons' Administration (Ashqelon, Nafha in the Negev, Beer Sheba, Ramleh, Telmond near Khadera, Gelbo'a, Rimonim, Hadarim on the Haifa Road, Kfar Yuna, and Shatta near Megiddo) and the three military detention camps (Megiddo, Ofer near Ramallah, and Ketziot or 'Ansar 3' in the Negev), and 375 in eight other arrest detention compounds. Of the 11,229 prisoners, 104 were **women**, 375 **juveniles**, and 870 **administrative detainees**; 117 were held in **solitary confinement**.
- According to B'Tselem figures, the Israeli Prison Service held (as of 29 Sept. 2007) 836 Palestinians (incl. 12 minors) and the Israeli army (as of 24 Sept. 2007) 1 in **administrative detention** (excl. Palestinians



against whom administrative detention orders have been issued, but not yet approved by a judge). As of the end of Oct., a **total** of 8,596 were held in prisons, and some 100 by the army.

- As of 27 Oct. 2007, 335 **children** under 18 years were detained in Israel (DCI Palestine).
- On 6 Sept. 1999, the Israeli High Court outlawed the use of arbitrary **torture** as an interrogation method (though stopping short of absolutely banning it as required by international law). However, certain forms of physical punishment persist. A recent report confirmed that Israel still practices ill-treatment and torture, such as isolation, denial of access to lawyers and family members, prolonged interrogation sessions, use of collaborators to threaten detainees, and threats to family members. (B'Tselem and Hamoked *Absolute Prohibition: The Torture and Ill-Treatment of Palestinian Detainees*, May 2007).

■ Expropriation and Destruction of Land

- The PCBS reports that Israeli forces **destroyed** some 100,000 **trees** and 22,300 dunums of **land** in 2005; in addition, 165,000 dunums of land were **confiscated** in the West Bank to make way for the construction of the separation barrier, to expand settlements, and build bypass roads and army bases. Since the beginning of the Intifada until Feb. 2006, over 2 million trees have been destroyed and some 77,000 dunums of land were confiscated (PCBS, *Jerusalem Yearbook* No. 8, 2006).
- According to the PCHR in Gaza, over 13% of Gaza's **agricultural land** (approx. 37,000 dunums) has been leveled during the period 29 Sept. 2000-12 Nov. 2007.
- According to the ARIJ database, about 515,742 fruitful **trees** were **uprooted** in the West Bank since the beginning of the second Intifada until Sept. 2006.



■ Residency, Closures & Movement Restrictions

- In June 1967, Israel carried out a census of Palestinian residents, only registering those who were present in the WBGS at that time in the **Palestinian population registry**, thus recognizing them as legal residents and providing them with ID cards. Ever since, Israel has retained full control of the registry despite the fact that the Oslo Accords required that it - along with other civil matters - be transferred to the PA for Areas A and B. Consequently, all residence issues are subject to Israeli approval. This is also true for post-disengagement Gaza, where only registered persons, or those issued permits by Israel, can use the Rafah crossing to enter into Egypt. Persons not listed in the population registry who wish to legally join their families and permanently reside in the West Bank can only do so through Israel's approval for **family unification**, which, however, is not a vested right based on fundamental rights to family, but a "special benevolent act of the Israeli authorities". Following the start of the second Intifada, Israel stopped processing requests for family unification and stopped issuing visitor permits to non-resident family members. According to the PA Ministry of Civil Affairs some 120,000 requests for family unification have since been made (not including the thousands of cases which were pending when the freeze began).



- In March 1993, the Rabin govt. imposed a **general closure** denying Palestinians from the WBGS entrance to Israel, free movement between the southern and northern part of the West Bank, and access to Jerusalem. Since then - over 13 years by now - thousands of Palestinians are deprived from reaching places of work and worship as well as accessing medical, educational and economic services. Those Palestinians who enter the city 'illegally' - or assist Palestinians to enter - risk imprisonment and high penalties.
- The **closure policy** disregards **international law**, according to which East Jerusalem is an integral part of the West Bank, and the Oslo Accords, which view the WBGS as 'one territorial unit', and has had a devastating impact on the Palestinian economy in general.
- Palestinians must obtain **permits** for nearly all movement outside of their greater municipal area. Permit requirements are rarely published and are highly changeable. The system operates on two levels - one to control movement within the West Bank itself and another for movement between East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza. Moreover, permits are valid only for individuals - private, public and commercial vehicles need separate permits, whether or not the driver is permitted.
- It is estimated that over 50% of the total area of the West Bank is currently **restricted area** and that Palestinians are restricted from some 41 sections of **roads** in the West Bank (approx. 700 km).
- Recently, a military order rescinded an Aug. 2006 order that barred all non-residents of the **Jordan Valley** from entering the area. However, full implementation is pending and checkpoints and other restrictions remain in place and Palestinians who do not have residency permits are not allowed to enter the Jordan Valley by car.
- In July 2007, OCHA reported some 539 **physical impediments** (incl. 74 manned checkpoints and 12 partial **checkpoints**); these, together with administrative obstacles, have resulted in the de facto **division of the West Bank** into three segments (north, central, south) and additionally ten enclaves, with Palestinians channeled through manned checkpoints in order to move between the trisections and in and out of the enclaves.



■ House Demolition

- **Since 1987**, Israeli forces have “**administratively**” demolished (i.e., for lacking building permits) over 3,300 Palestinian houses in the West Bank (incl. East Jerusalem), and hundreds of other structures, rendering thousands of Palestinians homeless. In addition, as ‘punishment’ 1,061 homes were completely and 64 partially destroyed as well as 299 completely and 118 partially sealed (B’Tselem).
- According to B’Tselem official data, Israeli forces have **demolished** 318 houses (mostly in Gaza) in 2006 and 14 in 2007 (as of Aug.) for alleged **military purposes**. In addition, 44 houses were destroyed in 2006 and 30 so far in 2007 for being **built without permits** in the West Bank (excl. East Jerusalem).
- According to PCHR statistics, 2,931 houses were totally and partially destroyed by Israeli forces during the period 29 Sept. 2000-12 Nov. 2007.
- According to the OCHA, 345 Palestinian structures were destroyed by the army in Gaza between May 2005-May 2007 in **Area C** of the West Bank alone.
- 30.99% of all households reported Intifada-related **damages** to their houses (25.2% in the WB, 42.1% in GS) (PCBS, *Housing and Housing Condition Survey*, 2006).



Recommended Research Sources:

<http://www.alhaq.org/> (legal and human rights issues)
<http://www.btselem.org/> (various human rights issues)
<http://www.badil.org/> (focus on refugee and residency rights)
<http://www.phrmg.org> (Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group)
<http://www.assoc40.org> (unrecognized Arab villages).
<http://www.mandela-palestine.org> (Mandela Institute)
<http://www.piccr.org> (Citizens' Rights)

<http://electronicintifada.net/v2/humanrightswire.shtml>
<http://www.pchrgaza.org/>
<http://www.addameer.org> (focus on prisoners)
<http://www.dci-pal.org/> (children's rights)
<http://www.hrw.org/> (Human Rights Watch)
<http://www.arabrights.org/> (Arab human rights network)
<http://www.icahd.org/eng/> (house demolitions)

Aruri, Naseer H., ed. *Occupation: Israel over Palestine*. Belmont, MA: AAUG Press, 2nd ed., 1989.

B'Tselem, *Oslo: Before and After. The Status of Human Rights in the Occupied Territories*. Jerusalem, May 1999.

Al-Haq, *A Nation under Siege*. Ramallah, 1989.

B'Tselem, *Routine Torture: Interrogation Methods of the General Security Service*. (February 1998).

B'Tselem, *Prisoners of Peace: Administrative Detention during the Oslo Process*. (June 1997).