



Monthly Report on Violations of Human Rights and Freedoms in Occupied Palestinian Territory January 2015

Violations of human rights and freedoms in Palestine continued throughout the month of January 2015. This report presents the main violations which were monitored by ICHR during that period.

Below is a comprehensive summary:

- ❖ ICHR monitored **13** deaths, including **10** in the West Bank and **3** in the Gaza Strip.
- ❖ ICHR documented two death sentences, **one** in the West bank and the other in the Gaza Strip.
- ❖ ICHR received **56** complaints of torture and ill-treatment, **15** in the West Bank, **41** in the Gaza Strip.
- ❖ ICHR received **98** complaints of violations of due process of law, **75** in the Gaza Strip, **23** in the West Bank.
- ❖ ICHR monitored **11** cases of administrative detention.
- ❖ ICHR monitored **5** cases of violations of the freedom of opinion, expression, freedom of media and peaceful assembly.
- ❖ ICHR monitored **9** cases of assault on persons and public institutions.
- ❖ ICHR received **2** complaints on expropriation of citizen's money without judicial warrant.
- ❖ ICHR received **6** complaints on non-implementation of courts' decisions.

Details of the violations:

I. Violation of the right to life and physical safety:

During the period of January 2015, ICHR monitored (13) deaths, including (10) in the West Bank and (3) deaths in the Gaza Strip. As for the cause of these deaths, they were distributed as follows: (2) deaths occurred in family disputes in the West Bank; (4) deaths occurred under mysterious conditions, (3) in the West Bank, (1) in the Gaza Strip); (7) deaths occurred due to negligence of public safety precautions, (5) in the West Bank, (2) in the Gaza Strip.

Further details on the causes of death below:

1. Deaths in family disputes:

- On 2nd of January 2015, **Muhammad Nidal Jamal Abu Daqa, 14 years old**, from Jenin city died of stab wounds to the chest. According to the information provided to ICHR, he was stabbed during a family dispute. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. His body was transferred to the forensic medicine institute for autopsy and the perpetrator was detained.
- On 5th of January 2015, **Saif Mahmoud Ahmad Al Jamal, 36 years old**, from Beit Surek in Jerusalem, died of stab wounds. According to the information provided to ICHR, he was stabbed during a family dispute that occurred in the village of Bidu and the police arrived at the scene for investigation.

2. Deaths under mysterious conditions:

- On 20th of January 2015, **Ziad Mousa Dawoud Al Tarteer, 75 years of age**, was found dead in his home in Surda village in Ramallah governorate. According to the information provided to ICHR, the police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. The report of the post-mortem autopsy of his body indicated that he died of stab wounds in the abdomen and the neck. The perpetrator was detained and brought before the competent authorities.
- On 21st of January 2015, **Warad Abed Shihda Warad, 18 years of age, from Al Rihan** suburb in Ramallah governorate was found dead. According to the information provided to ICHR, the police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 27th of January 2015, **Riziq Yousif Mahmoud Sudqi, 64 years old**, from Midya village in Ramallah governorate died of stab wounds. According to the information provided to ICHR, he was found injured near the village of Qibia and transported to Palestine Medical Compound where he was announced dead. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 31st of January 2015, **Zahi Midhat Abu Ryaleh, 12 years old**, from Al Shati' refugee camp in Gaza, was found hanged in his room at his family's house. According to the information provided by his family to ICHR, he was found hanged in his room. The police opened investigation into the incident.

3. Deaths due to negligence of public safety precautions:

- On 3rd of January 2015, **Khaled Muhammad Al Habil, 14 years old and his brother Omar, 2 years old**, from Al Shati's refugee camp in Gaza, burnt to death after electricity outage. According to the information provided to ICHR, the fire was caused from a candle the family used to get light after electricity outage. The father of the children told ICHR that the fire was caused by electricity contact. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 7th of January 2015, **Abed Fayeze Abed Shuman, 42 years of age**, from Khirbit Abu Falah in Ramallah, died of falling off an under construction building in the governorate.
- On 23rd of January, **Siham Ruk Anton Salibi, 50 years of age**, from Bethlehem, died of wounds she sustained when she fell off the veranda of her home. According to the information provided to ICHR, the police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 25th of January 2015, **Ahmad Ramadan Hmedat, 29 years old**, from Al Jalazun refugee camp in Ramallah governorate, died of serious wounds he sustained after he fell off an under construction building in the governorate. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 26th of January 2015, **Ahmad Ali Zghayer, 19 years of age**, from Hebron, died of serious wounds he sustained when he was repairing a car in his own garage. According to the information provided to ICHR, the police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 31st of January 2015, **Raslan Ahmad Alan Al Tareefi, 67 years old**, from Ramallah, died of asphyxia. According to the information provided to ICHR, he drowned in a cesspit near Al Jalazun refugee camp. The civil defense arrived at the scene and picked him up. He was transferred to the hospital. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.

4. Injuries due to misuse of firearms – internal explosions:

On 30th of January 2015, **Muhammad Judeh Al Agha, 15 years old**, from Khan Younis, suffered from fractures caused by a blast of a home-made explosive device. According to the information provided to ICHR, he was injured while a number of children were tampering with the explosive device in his family's farm. He was transported to Nasir Hospital. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.

5. Death sentence:

- On 19th of January 2015, the court of appeal in Gaza issued a death sentence against **Yousif Nasir Ismael, 24 years of age**, from Al Mighazi refugee camp in Al Wusta governorate. In 9/3/2014, Deir Al Balah Court of First Instance sentenced him to life in jail after convicting him of killing a citizen in a family dispute. He was 18 years old at that time.

- On 11th of January 2015, the permanent military court in southern West Bank sentenced **Alla' Lutfi Ahmad Abu Ara, 27 years old**, from Jenin, to death. He was in detention since 20/3/2013 on charges of treason. This decision is appealable.

6. Torture during detention- degrading and cruel treatment:

ICHR received **56** complaints of torture and ill-treatment, including **41** complaints in the Gaza Strip and **15** complaints against the police agency in the West Bank. The complaints in the Gaza Strip were distributed as the following: **36** complaints against the police agency and **5** against rehabilitation centers.

In Gaza strip many ways of torture were used against them, including standing in a hard position for a long time, flogging, forced running for one hour, slapping in the face and beating on the different parts of the body using a hose. They also claimed that they were badmouthed, insults and sleeping deprivation.

In the West Bank, a number of the detainees were children aged between 16-17 years. According to complainants' statements, they were subjected to different forms of torture, including:

- Slapping in the face, beating, kicking and punching.
- Threatening of using electro-shocks, using cars batteries.
- Threatening of opening gas cylinder into their mouth to force them to admit.
- Threatening of burning the detainee with cigarettes.
- Flogging.
- Pushing the detainee against the wall or throwing pieces of furniture forcefully.
- Blindfolding, and forcing them to stand in an uncomfortable condition
- Pouring cold water and forcing them to takeoff their clothes.

II. Violation of the right to due process of law, including arbitrary and political detention:

Arbitrary and political detention: ICHR received 75 complaints in the Gaza Strip during the period covered by this report on violations of due process of law. The complainants were in detention arbitrarily or for political reasons. It also received 23 similar complaints in the West Bank.

Administrative detention: a number of citizens were detained upon decisions taken by two Governors in the West Bank. Although the competent court decided to release some of them, they were kept in detention. ICHR received **11** complaints from administrative detainees who were in detention throughout January 2015. Though the General Intelligence Agency brought them before conciliation court for extending their detention, such kind of detention continues to constitute a flagrant violation of the Palestinian basic law.

List of the names of the eleven complainants:

No.	Name	Date of referral to the detention center of the general intelligence in Jericho	Date of release	Governor
1.	Muhammad Mustafa Ahmad Aseeda	20-11-2014	8-12-2014	Nablus
2.	Anas Mahmoud Khaleel Jud Allah	8-12-2014	Nablus
3.	Fawzi Muhammad Fawzi Bushkar	24-12-2014	----	Nablus
4.	Abi Hassan Saed Hamadneh	23-12-2014	Nablus
5.	Mutasim Samir Hamdi Sakf Al Heit	15-1-2015	Nalus
6.	Yasin Wael Abadi	23-12-2014	...	Nablus
7.	Abed Al Rahman Zuheir Rashid Libadi	23-12-2014	...	Nablus
8.	Al Qasam Ahmad Saleem Haj Muhammad	7-12-2014	13-12-2014	Qalqilya
9.	Basim Hassan Hussein Dawoud	9-12-2014	24-12-2014	Qalqilya
10.	Hassan Abed Al Rahman Hussein Silmi	9-12-2014	24-12-2014	Qalqilya
11.	Abed Al Fatah Nimir Abed Al Fatah Swelim	18-12-2014	7-1-2015	Qalqilya

III. Violation of the freedom of opinion, expression, media and peaceful assembly.

- On 1st of January 2015, the police and military control forces broke up a peaceful assembly held in Al Nuserat city in Al Wusta governorate in the Gaza Strip using rifles and clubs. The assembly was organized by dozens of Fatah affiliates in commemoration of the start of the movement. The participants were chased and beaten by the police. Three of them were held for 7 hours in Al Nuserat Police Center.
- On 5th of January 2015, Journalist Muhammad Ahmad Othman, 28 years old, from Gaza, was summoned by an armed group. Muhammad who works for Montor Website and other press institutions stated that he was summoned for publishing an investigative report on extrajudicial executions that took place during the last war on Gaza. He added that he was beaten and badmouthed.
- On 9th of January 2015, the police force in Beit Lahia in northern Gaza governorate prohibited the staff of “Palestine Today” channel from covering an event, and expropriated the flash memory of their camera. The correspondent of the channel (Yousif Abu Kwek) said that they were prohibited from covering a peaceful rally organized by PFLP in protest against power outage. The memory of the camera was returned two days after the event.
- On 21st of January 2015, the preventive security agency in Hebron summoned Journalist Al Muntasir Billah Muhammad Abed Al Kareem Nasar, 26 years old, working for Radio Alam at Hebron University, for posting publications on his facebook page about the policies of the Palestinian Authority.
- On 22nd of January 2015, the police agency prohibited members of ‘People lobbying and advocacy campaign’ in Gaza Strip from organizing a protest sit-in opposite to the PLC in Gaza though they applied to the Police Chief for that. On the following day a member of the campaign (Tareq Al Fara) was summoned and held by the police at Khan Younis for 18 hours. He was released after he pledged not to participate in such activities.

IV. Assault on public and personal freedoms:

- On 4th and 5th of January 2015, the internal security summoned a number of citizens (Nihru Al Hadad, 57, Secretary General of Fatah District Office East Gaza, Ziad Matar, 46, Fatah official, in charge of west Gaza, Wasim Ebeid, 37, member of Fatah leadership in southern Shati' area, Zahir Abu Ameera, 45, member of Fatah leadership in northern Shati' area, Muhammad Abu Nahla, 33, member of Fatah committee west Gaza and Fatah youths official, Wasim Amar, Raed Ayad, member of Fatah district committee east Gaza, Ahmad Mirshid, 35, secretary general of Fatah district in Al Daraj area, Hamdan Al Amsi, 57, member

of Fatah committee in east Gaza, Ahmad Al Hweti, 37, secretary general of Fatah in Al Sabra suburb, Muhammad Zayegh, 39, Eyad Ramadan, member of Fatah leadership in Shuhada' Al Sabra area, Muhammad Al Taramsa, secretary general of Fatah in Al Sheikh Radwan area). Some of them said that they were summoned and others were arrested from their homes and then taken to unknown areas. They were, they said, forced to take off their clothes in the cold, degraded and beaten. They were released after a few hours of detention.

- On 13th of January 2015, the internal security gave notice to a number of affiliates of Fatah in north Gaza (Muhammad Abu Zalakh, 37, Abdullah Al Majali, 33, Ibraheem Dawoud, Marwan Abu Edeh, 32, Issa Abu Darwesh, 37 and Muhammad Hmeid, 30). They were all interrogated about their activities in Fatah and released on the same day.
- On 25th of January 2015, Nadir Sawafta, 40years old, from Tubas stated to ICHR researcher that on 21st of January 2015, while he was in his brother's shop located in the main street of the city, two unknown persons claimed that they are affiliated with the general intelligence tried to arrest him. When he asked them to show their verification documents, they refused. The gathering of some people in the area prohibited them from abducting him. He informed the general intelligence of the incident and showed them the photos of the two persons. It turned out that they are not members or employees of the agency. Thus, he published their photos on facebook, and discovered that they are members of the military intelligence. They admitted later that they had targeted him by mistake.

V. Assault on persons, public institutions, public and private property.

- On 9th of January 2015, an electricity generator blasted in the house of Ehab Bseso, Spokesman of the Consensus Government, in Gaza city. The civil defense brigade arrived at the scene to put out the fire. The police also arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. Bseso told the reporters that the incident was deliberated. He added that he and the ministers of the consensus government received phone threats.
- On 9th of January 2015, unknown persons exploded the ATM machine of Palestine Bank –Gaza Branch- and caused damage to the glass of the building of the bank. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 20th of January 2015, unknown persons planted a home-made bomb under the car of Hilmi Hamdi Khalaf, 36 years of age, from Gaza, working for the military police force. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 22nd of January 2015, unknown persons spilled a flammable liquid on the car of Ahmad Fuad Alwan a Fatah leader in Gaza city. Alwan's car was parked in the yard of his house and was exploded. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.

- On 24th of January 2015, 40 unknown persons broke into the building of the Martyrs and the Injured Organization. They broke computer sets, printers and other pieces of furniture. An employee of the organization told ICHR that the police refused to receive a complaint from him asking for a mandate from the chairwoman of the organization (Intisar Al Wazir). The administration of the organization decided to close its office till further notice.
- On 26th of January 2015, in the evening, a number of masked persons shoot Abdullah Abu Azezi in a café shop in Araba village in Jenin governorate. Two persons were injured in the incident. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 27th of January 2015, unknown persons set fire to the office of the prisoners and ex-prisoners affairs agency in Gaza after they stole 3 computer sets and a number of documents. The civil defense brigade put out the fire. The police opened investigation into the incident and held a suspect.
- On 28th of January 2015, hundreds of citizens whose homes were destroyed during the Israeli aggression on Gaza organized a protest sit-in before the UNSCO in Gaza city. They burnt tires, broke the external gate of the building and caused damage to the security room. The police arrived at the scene to ensure protection of the employees of the office. The incident was not investigated since UNSCO didn't file a complaint.
- On 28th of January 2015, unknown persons spilled a flammable liquid on the car of Adel Saed Ebeid, 52, from Gaza city, member of Fatah district committee, employee of the preventive security. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.

VI. Violation of academic freedoms:

On 13th of January 2015, the general intelligence agency held Ahmad Azeez Muhammad Al Masri, 21 years of age, in Hebron. His mother who submitted a complaint to ICHR claimed that he was arrested for his student activities at the university.

On 15th of January 2015, the general intelligence agency held Muaz Hisham Hmedan Al Sharabati, 20 years of age, from Hebron, student at Al Quds Open University. His mother stated that he was arrested for his student activities and political affiliation at the university.

VII. Expropriation of citizens' money and assets without judicial warrant:

- On 15th of January, 2015, the general intelligence agency in Hebron held the son of Hisham Hmedan Al Sharabati and confiscated his PC, camera, flash memory, 4 mobile phones, 2 video tapes, CDs, diaries, and other notebooks. The father of the detainee said that he didn't receive any notice recognizing that these assets were

confiscated by the general intelligence. He added that his son was held for political reasons.

- On 25th of January 2015, the preventive security agency in Hebron seized a check of NIS12000 from the father of Nur Shakir Omar Al Atrash, 27 years old. It held Nur for his political affiliation and interrogated him about financial entitlement wired to him from Gaza.

VIII. Delay in implementing courts' decisions:

During January, 2015, ICHR received a number of complaints concerning non-implementation of courts decisions. These complaints are:

- On 11th of January 2015, Hebron Military Court acquitted Ehab Adnan Abed Al Mahdi, 36 years old, from Qalqilya but wasn't released yet. ICHR addressed the military judiciary asking for his release. The military judiciary responded that the decision of the court was appealed by the public prosecution and the court agreed to extend his detention.
- On 14th of January, 2015, Bethlehem Conciliation Court decided to release Muhammad Sami Yacub Abdeh, 24 years old, on cash bail of JD 300. Though the bail was paid, the general intelligence in Bethlehem didn't respect the court's decision for a number of days. He was released on 21st of January 2015.
- On 14th of January 2015, Bethlehem Conciliation Court decided to release Muhammad Hamed Suman, 16 years of age, from Bethlehem, on a cash bail of JD 300. Though the bail was paid, the general intelligence in Bethlehem didn't respect the court's decision for a number of days. He was released on 21st of January 2015.
- On 14th of January 2015, Bethlehem Conciliation Court decided to release Hamam Hussein Ahmad Abed Nabi, 17 years of age, from Bethlehem, on a cash bail of JD 300. Though the bail was paid, the general intelligence in Bethlehem didn't respect the court's decision for a number of days. He was released on 21st of January 2015.
- On 14th of January 2015, Bethlehem Conciliation Court decided to release Ahmad Radwan Hamid Hamamra, 17 years old, from Bethlehem, on a cash bail of JD 300. Though the bail was paid, the general intelligence in Bethlehem didn't respect the court's decision for a number of days. He was released on 21st of January 2015.
- On 26th of January 2015, Hebron Conciliation Court decided to release Shareef Abed Al Samee', 40 years old, on a cash bail of JD 500. Though the bail was paid, the general intelligence in Bethlehem didn't respect the court's decision. They arrested him on the same day based on new charges. ICHR addressed the intelligence agency to release him but didn't receive any response.

In addition, there are fourteen previous courts' decisions have not been implemented yet.