

PCHR

Palestinian Centre for Human Rights LTD (non-profit)

<http://www.pchrgaza.org>



Weekly Report

On Israeli Human Rights Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory



Fire breaking out in agricultural land in the northern West Bank due to arson attacks by Israeli settlers

28 May- 03 June 2009

N^o 22-2009

Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) Continue Systematic Attacks against Palestinian Civilians and Property in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) and Continue to Impose a Total Siege on the Gaza Strip

- A Palestinian was killed by IOF in Hebron and another by an Israeli in Jerusalem.
- Four Palestinian civilians, including two children and a journalist, were injured by IOF gunfire in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.
- IOF conducted 24 incursions into Palestinian communities in the West Bank.
- IOF arrested 19 Palestinian civilians.
- IOF turned two homes into military sites.
- IOF have continued to impose a total siege on the Gaza Strip, isolating it from the outside world.
- IOF troops positioned at military checkpoints in the West Bank arrested three Palestinians.
- IOF have continued settlement activities in the West Bank and Israeli settlers have continued attacks on Palestinian civilians and property.
- Six Palestinian workers were injured by Israeli settlers in the northern West Bank.
- Israeli settlers burnt dozens of dunums¹ of agricultural land.
- Israeli settlers established a new settlement outpost near Bethlehem.

¹ One dunum is equivalent to 1,000 square metres.

Summary

Israeli violations of international law and humanitarian law escalated in the OPT during the reporting period (28 May – 03 June 2009):

Shooting: During the reporting period, one Palestinian was killed by IOF in Hebron, and another was killed by an Israeli in east Jerusalem. Additionally, IOF injured four Palestinian civilians, including two children, in the Gaza Strip, and one journalist in the West Bank.

On 28 May 2009, IOF killed a member of the 'Izziddin al-Qassam Brigades (the armed wing of Hamas) in a wide scale military operation to the southwest of Hebron. The man had been wanted by the IOF for 14 years.

On 02 June 2009, a Palestinian civilian was shot dead by an Israeli in east Jerusalem. Israeli police authorities said the perpetrator "suffers from a psychological disorder" and that he was arrested, although he has a licensed pistol.

Additionally, a journalist was injured when IOF used force against a peaceful demonstration organized in protest against the construction of the Annexation Wall in Bil'in village, west of Ramallah.

In the Gaza Strip, on 03 June 2009, two Palestinian children were injured when IOF fired flechette shells at a Bedouin village in the northern Gaza Strip. On the same day, two Palestinian farmers were injured when IOF opened fire at a number of Palestinian farmers in Beit Hanoun town in the northern Gaza Strip.

Incursions: During the reporting period, IOF conducted at least 24 military incursions into Palestinian communities in the West Bank. Israeli military forces arrested 19 Palestinian civilians and turned two houses in Hebron into military sites.

Gaza Strip

IOF have continued to close all border crossings to the Gaza Strip for more than two years. The IOF siege of Gaza, which has steadily tightened since June 2007, has had a disastrous impact on the humanitarian and economic situation in the Gaza Strip.

- 1.5 million people are being denied their basic rights, including freedom of movement, and their rights to appropriate living conditions, work, health and education.
- The main concern of 1.5 million people living in the Gaza Strip is to obtain their basic needs of food, medicines, water and electricity supplies.
- IOF have continued to prevent the entry of raw construction materials into the Gaza Strip for more than two years.
- IOF have not allowed fuel supplies into the Gaza Strip, excluding limited amounts of cooking gas, since 10 December 2008.
- The Rafah International Crossing Point was opened for a few days for a number of patients who received medical treatment abroad and needed to return home to the Gaza Strip.

- IOF have continued to close Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing to Palestinian civilians wishing to travel to the West Bank and Israel for medical treatment, trade or social visits.
- Poverty has risen to approximately 80% and unemployment levels are around 60% in the Gaza Strip.
- IOF have continued to prevent the entry of spare parts for water networks and sewage systems. Losses incurred by this sector are estimated at US\$6million.
- IOF have imposed additional restrictions on access of international diplomats, journalists and humanitarian workers to the Gaza Strip. They have prevented representatives of several international humanitarian organizations from entering the Gaza Strip.
- Living conditions of the Palestinian civilian population have seriously deteriorated; levels of poverty and unemployment have risen sharply.
- At least 900 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails have been deprived family visits for more than 17 months.
- IOF have continued to attack Palestinian fishermen along the Gaza Strip coast.

West Bank

IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians throughout the West Bank, including occupied east Jerusalem. Thousands of Palestinian civilians from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip continue to be denied access to Jerusalem.

- IOF have established checkpoints in and around Jerusalem, severely restricting Palestinian access to the city. Civilians are frequently prevented from praying at the al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.
- There are approximately permanent 630 roadblocks, manned and unmanned checkpoints across the West Bank. In addition, there are some 60-80 'flying' or temporary checkpoints erected across the West Bank by IOF every week.
- When complete, the illegal Annexation Wall will stretch for 724 kilometers around the West Bank, further isolating the entire population. 350 kilometers of the Wall has already been constructed. Most of the wall has been constructed within the Green Line and inside the West Bank itself, further confiscating Palestinian land.
- At least 65% of the main roads that lead to 18 Palestinian communities in the West Bank are closed or fully controlled by IOF (47 out of 72 roads).
- There are around 500 kilometers of restricted roads across the West Bank. In addition, approximately one third of the West Bank, including occupied east Jerusalem, is inaccessible to Palestinians without a permit issued by the IOF. These permits are extremely difficult to obtain.
- IOF continue to harass, and assault demonstrators who hold non-violent protests against the construction of the Annexation Wall.

- Palestinian civilians continue to be harassed by IOF in Jerusalem, and across the West Bank, including being regularly stopped and searched in the streets by IOF.
- During the reporting period, IOF troops positioned at military checkpoints in the West Bank arrested three Palestinians.

Settlement Activities: Construction within illegal Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory continues, despite international condemnation, and Israeli settlers living in the OPT in violation of international humanitarian law have continued to attack Palestinian civilians and property. On 01 June 2009, dozens of Israeli settlers from Qedumim settlement gathered at the intersection of the settlement on the Nablus-Qalqilya road, southwest of Nablus. They threw stones at Palestinian civilian vehicles travelling on the road. As a result, six Palestinian workers from Jeet village, southwest of Nablus, who were travelling in a Ford vehicle, were injured. Also on 01 June 2009, Israeli settlers set fire to Palestinian agricultural land in Till village, southwest of Nablus, and in Burin, Madama and Southern 'Assira villages, south of the city. On 03 June 2009, a number of Israeli settlers established a new settlement outpost in the southwest of Nahalin village, west of Bethlehem.

Israeli Violations Documented during the Reporting Period (28 May – 03 June 2009)

1. Incursions into Palestinian Areas and Attacks on Palestinian Civilians and Property in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip

Thursday, 28 May 2009

- At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into al-Majd village, west of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested three Palestinian civilians:
 1. Ahmed 'Abdul Fattah 'Omar, 40;
 2. Mahmoud 'Abdul Fattah 'Omar, 47;
 3. Hussein Ahmed 'Omar, 18.
- Also at approximately 01:00, IOF moved into al-Shyoukh village, northeast of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Mohammed Ahmed al-'Ayaida, 45.
- At approximately 01:30, IOF moved into the city of Nablus and neighbouring Balata refugee camp. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Mohammed Hussein Hashash, 37.
- Also at approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Tayaseer village, east of Tubas. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested two Palestinian civilians:
 1. Jamal Hamdan Ghouri, 42
 2. 'Ali Sa'ad Daraghma, 27.
- At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into Qabatya village, southeast of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- Also at approximately 02:00, IOF moved into 'Aqabat Jaber refugee camp, south of Jericho. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested three Palestinian civilians:
 1. Khaled Mustafa al-Akhras, 26;
 2. Ashraf Yousef Noufal, 24;
 3. Mohammed Fawaz Maharma, 27.
- At approximately 02:30, IOF moved into al-Sammou' village, southwest of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses. They also turned the roof of a house belonging to Ibrahim Mousa Abu 'Oqail into a military site.
- Also at approximately 02:30, IOF moved into Jaba' village, south of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- At approximately 03:00, IOF moved into Deir al-'Asal village, southwest of Hebron. They were stationed in al-Naqab and Wad al-Tour areas east of the village and opened fire and detonated sound and flash bombs. They then destroyed a number of wells and caves in the area. At approximately 05:00, 'Abdul Majid 'Ali 'Abdullah Doudin, 47, a member of the 'Izziddin al-Qassam Brigades (the armed wing

of Hamas) from al-Bireh village, clashed with IOF troops, who eventually blew up the cave in which he was harboring and killed him. At approximately 12:00, IOF troops raided Doudin's house in al-Bireh village and took his wife and brother to the site of the operation to identify his body. At approximately 14:00, IOF withdrew from the area after delivering Doudin's body to his family. Doudin had been wanted by the IOF for 14 years. IOF accused him of being responsible for several bombings inside Israel. IOF had arrested his wife and had demolished his house to pressure him to give in. He was a father of four children.

- At approximately 16:00, IOF moved into Beit Ummar village, north of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses and turned a house belonging to Mahmoud Saif Abu 'Aayash into a military site.
- At approximately 18:30, IOF moved into al-Naqoura village, northwest of Nablus, and patrolled the streets. They withdrew later and no house raids or arrests were reported.

Friday, 29 May 2009

- At approximately 02:30, IOF moved into Qabatya village, southeast of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- Also at approximately 02:30, IOF moved into Masliya village, southeast of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- At approximately 03:00, IOF moved into Sanour village, southeast of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- Also at approximately 03:00, IOF moved into Sirris village, southeast of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.

Sunday, 31 May 2009

- At approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Qabatya village, southeast of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- At approximately 02:00, IOF moved into al-Jilda village, west of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses and took two Palestinian civilians for questioning: Saif Abu Zaina; and Fares Mohammed Mujahed.

Monday, 01 June 2009

- At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Sa'ir village, northeast of Hebron. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Ra'fat Yousef Shalalda, 20.
- At approximately 01:30, IOF moved into Ya'bad village, southwest Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- At approximately 02:0, IOF moved into Beit Sahour town. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested Ahmed Naji Jabriya, 19.

Tuesday, 02 June 2009

- At approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Ni'lin village, west of Ramallah. They raided and searched a number of houses and arrested four Palestinian civilians:
 1. Sa'adat Ibrahim 'Amira, 27;
 2. Hamada 'Abdul Raziq Khawaja, 23;
 3. Ibrahim Khalil Sorour, 21; and
 4. Mahmoud 'Abdullah 'Amira, 23.
- Also at approximately 01:00, IOF moved into Jaba' village, south of Jenin. They raided and searched a number of houses, but no arrests were reported.
- At approximately 11:00, IOF moved into Ramallah. They patrolled the streets north of the town and stopped and checked a number of Palestinian civilians, but no arrests were reported.

Wednesday, 03 June 2009

- At approximately 00:00, IOF troops positioned at the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel fired four flechette shells at a Bedouin village in the northern Gaza Strip. The shells landed near a number of Palestinian civilians who were beside their houses, approximately 1,000 metres from the border. As a result, two children were injured:
 1. Saleh Ahmed al-Madani, 17, seriously injured by shrapnel to the neck and the left shoulder; and
 2. Ahmed Tawfiq Abu Hashish, 17, injured by shrapnel to the left shoulder and foot.
- At approximately 18:10, IOF troops positioned at military observation towers to the north of Beit Hanoun town in the northern Gaza Strip opened fire at a number of Palestinian farmers who were working on agricultural lands belonging to the Zummara family, nearly 1,000 metres from the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel. As a result, two Palestinian farmers were injured:
 1. Saleh Mohammed al-Zummara, 66, injured by a gunshot to the left hand; and
 2. 'Ali Mohammed al-Zummara, 65, injured by shrapnel in the back.

Additionally, fire broke out in the area, but civil defense crews were able to extinguish it in half an hour.

A Palestinian Civilian Killed by an Israeli Extremist

On Tuesday morning, 02 June 2009, a Palestinian civilian was shot dead by an Israeli in east Jerusalem. The Israeli police authorities said the perpetrator "suffers from a psychological disorder" and that he was arrested, although he has a licensed pistol.

According to investigations conducted by PCHR, at approximately 03:15 on Tuesday, 02 June 2009, Amjad Mohammed Khader Abu Khudair, 33, left his house in Sho'fat neighborhood in the north of Jerusalem to go to work at a factory in west Jerusalem. While he and one of his Israeli colleagues were waiting for a bus in the Hebron Gate area at the line separating the two halves of the city, an Israeli approached them and fired at Abu Khudair, who was killed instantly by four gunshots to the abdomen and a fifth in his thigh. When the perpetrator was about to fire at the other worker, the latter told him that he is Jewish, so he stopped firing and ran away towards west Jerusalem. Abu Khudair was married and a father

of four children. The criminal works as a guard for an Israeli company and has a licensed pistol, which throws doubt on claims that he suffers from psychological problems.

2. Continued Siege on the OPT

IOF have continued to impose a tightened siege on the OPT and severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including occupied east Jerusalem.

Gaza Strip

IOF have continued to close all border crossings to the Gaza Strip for more than two years. The IOF siege of Gaza, which has steadily tightened since June 2007, has had a disastrous impact on the humanitarian and economic situation in the Gaza Strip.

- 1.5 million people are being denied their basic rights, including freedom of movement, and their rights to appropriate living conditions, work, health and education.
- The main concern of 1.5 million people living in the Gaza Strip is to obtain their basic needs of food, medicines, water and electricity supplies.
- IOF have continued to prevent the entry of raw construction materials into the Gaza Strip for more than two years.
- IOF have not allowed fuel supplies into the Gaza Strip, excluding limited amounts of cooking gas, since 10 December 2008.
- The Rafah International Crossing Point was opened for a few days for a number of patients who received medical treatment abroad and needed to return home to the Gaza Strip.
- IOF have continued to close Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing to Palestinian civilians wishing to travel to the West Bank and Israeli for medical treatment, trade or social visits.
- Poverty has mounted to approximately 80% and unemployment stands at around 60% in the Gaza Strip.
- IOF have continued to prevent the entry of spare parts form water networks and sewage systems. Losses incurred to this sector are estimated at US\$ 6 million.
- IOF have imposed additional restrictions on access of international diplomats, journalists and humanitarian workers to the Gaza Strip. They have prevented representatives of several international humanitarian organizations from entering the Gaza Strip.
- Living conditions of the Palestinian civilian population have seriously deteriorated; levels of poverty and unemployment have sharply mounted.
- At least 900 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails have been deprived family visitation for more than 17 months.
- IOF have continued to attack Palestinian fishermen along the Gaza Strip coast.

Movement at Border Crossings during the Reporting Period:

**Movement at Karm Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) Crossing
27 May – 02 June 2009**

Date	Details
27 May 2009	79 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
28 May 2009	51 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
29 May 2009	Closed.
30 May 2009	Closed.
31 May 2009	45 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
01 June 2009	61 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
02 June 2009	78 containers of food aid for international humanitarian organizations and goods for local traders were allowed into the Gaza Strip.

**Movement at Rafah International Crossing Point
27 May – 02 June 2009**

Date	Details
27 May 2009	A British physician was allowed to travel to Egypt.
28 May 2009	47 persons, including 22 international solidarity activists and eight Canadian students were allowed to travel to Egypt and 62 Palestinians and the body of a dead Palestinian were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
29 May 2009	Closed.
30 May 2009	An American citizen was allowed to travel to Egypt, and a 66-member UNRWA delegation, a 5-member Egyptian medical delegation and 5 Palestinian patients were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
31 May 2009	21 members of an American delegation were allowed to travel to Egypt, and a 17-member UNRWA delegation, 16 patients, a four-member delegation of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a two-member delegation of Hamas and the body of a child were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
01 June 2009	22 persons, including 21 internationals, were allowed to travel to Egypt, and 17 members of a fact-finding mission established by the Human Rights Council and 84 Palestinians, including a number of patients, were allowed into the Gaza Strip.
02 June 2009	Closed.

Beit Hanoun (Erez) Crossing: IOF have continued to close Beit Hanoun (Erez) crossing for the movement of Palestinian civilians. They have allowed only diplomats, a number of international journalists, workers at international agencies and a few patients who suffer from serious diseases to pass through the crossing. They have continued to prevent Palestinian civilians from visiting their relatives who are detained in Israeli jails. As mentioned above, IOF have allowed a limited number of patients to pass through the crossing, but under severe restrictions that include prolonged security checks.

**Movement at Beit Hanoun (Erez) Crossing
27 May – 02 June 2009**

Date	Patients	Companions	Traders and Businessmen	International Journalists	International Workers	Travelers abroad
27 May 2009	12	12	Nil	8	55	2
28 May 2009	16	14	Nil	7	67	1
29 May 2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
30 May 2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
31 May 2009	11	10	Nil	4	13	3
01 June 2009	24	21	Nil	11	21	2
02 June 2009	20	17	Nil	2	31	2

**Nahal Oz Crossing
27 May – 03 June 2009**

Date	Cooking Gas (tons)	Energy Fuel (liters)
27 May 2009	330.840	548,020
28 May 2009	Nil	Nil
29 May 2009	Nil	Nil
30 May 2009	Nil	Nil
31 May 2009	Nil	Nil
01 June 2009	198.930	436,000
02 June 2009	209.250	407,020
03 June 2009	174.640	417,400

Al-Mentar (Karni) Crossing: IOF partially opened the crossing on Tuesday, 02 June 2009, and allowed the entry of 2,000 tons of seeds and fodder.

The West Bank

IOF have imposed a tightened siege on the West Bank. During the reporting period, IOF imposed additional restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians.

- **Jerusalem:** IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians to and from the city. Thousands of Palestinian civilians from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip have been denied access to the city. IOF have established many checkpoints around and inside the city. Restrictions of the movement of Palestinian civilians often escalate on Fridays to prevent them from praying at the al-Aqsa Mosque. IOF often violently beat Palestinian civilians who attempt to bypass checkpoints and enter the city. IOF impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians on Fridays to restrict their access to the al-Aqsa Mosque.
- **Nablus:** IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. Although IOF dismantled Beit Eiba checkpoint, west of Nablus, IOF troops positioned at an iron gate established on Nablus-Tulkarm road, west of Nablus, often stop and search Palestinian civilian vehicles especially at times of heavy traffic. In the same context, IOF troops positioned at Huwwara checkpoint,

south of Nablus, often conduct prolonged and complicated checks on Palestinian civilians. Additionally, IOF have continued to erect checkpoints on roads leading to the city. On Sunday morning, 31 May 2009, IOF erected a checkpoint on Nablus-Ramallah road, opposite Huwwara village. They stopped and searched Palestinian civilians vehicles. On Tuesday morning, 02 June 2009, IOF closed Huwwara checkpoint, south of Nablus.

On Tuesday evening, 02 June 2009, IOF troops positioned at Huwwara checkpoint, south of Nablus, arrested a Palestinian boy, claiming that he stabbed an IOF soldier with a sharp tool.

- **Jenin:** IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. On Saturday evening, 30 May 2009, IOF erected a checkpoint at the entrance of Qabatya village, southeast of Jenin. They stopped and searched Palestinian civilian vehicles. On Sunday morning, 31 May 2009, IOF erected a checkpoint between Bourqin and al-Shuhada Triangle villages, south of Jenin. They stopped and searched Palestinian civilian vehicles. At noon, IOF erected another checkpoint at al-Jarba intersection, southeast of Jenin. They stopped and searched Palestinian civilian vehicles. On Monday morning, 01 June 2009, IOF erected a checkpoint near al-Haddad tourist village, east of Jenin. They stopped and searched Palestinian civilian vehicles.

At approximately 16:00 on Thursday, 28 May 2009, IOF troops positioned at al-Hamra checkpoint in the central Jordan Valley arrested Ahmed Waleed Khuzamiya, 21, from Qabatya village southeast of Jenin.

On Sunday noon, 31 May 2009, IOF troops positioned at a checkpoint at al-Jarba intersection, southeast of Jenin, arrested Munadel 'Abed al-Sahrqawi, 20, from al-Zababda village southeast of Jenin.

- **Hebron:** IOF have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. On Monday evening, 01 June 2009, IOF troops positioned at the northern entrances of al-Shuhada and al-Shallala streets in the centre of Hebron prevented civil defense crews from reaching a house belonging to 'Abdul Khaliq Seder for thirty minutes, in order to extinguish fire that had broken out in it. The house is located near Beit Hadasa settlement outpost in al-Dabbouya neighborhood. IOF troops also held and violently beat Seder's two sons who protested these measures. On Wednesday afternoon, 03 June 2009, IOF closed the main entrance of Beit Ummar village, north of Hebron, claiming that they discovered a suspicious object in the area.

3. Construction of the Annexation Wall

IOF have continued to construct the Annexation Wall inside West Bank territory. During the reporting period, IOF used force against peaceful demonstrations organized by Palestinian civilians and international and Israeli human rights defenders in protest to the construction of the Wall.

- Following the Friday Prayer on 29 May 2009, dozens of Palestinian civilians gathered in the centre of Bil'in village, west of Ramallah. They moved towards the Wall and threw stones at IOF troops positioned in the area. Immediately, IOF troops fired at the demonstrators. As a result, 'Abdul Rahman Khbaissa, 39, a cameraman of Associated Press, was hit by a tear gas canister to the abdomen, and dozens of demonstrators suffered from tear gas inhalation.

4. Settlement Activities and Attacks by Settlers against Palestinian Civilians and Property

IOF have continued settlement activities in the OPT in violation of international humanitarian law, and Israeli settlers have continued to attack Palestinian civilians and property.

- On Monday, 01 June 2009, IOF handed notices to 33 Palestinian civilians in al-Buqai'a, al-Hadidiya and Hamsa areas in the northern Jordan Valley ordering them to vacate their homes within 48 hours, and they also ordered a number of these civilians to appear before an Israeli court in Beit Eil settlement on 25 June 2009.
- At approximately 00:30 on Monday, 01 June 2009, fire broke out on dozens of donums (one donum is equal to 1,000 square metres) of agricultural land planted with olives, wheat and parsley in Til village, southwest of Nablus. Israeli settlers living in Gilad settlement outpost, which stands on land belonging to the villages of Til, Jeet and Far'ata, had set fire in the area. At approximately 10:00, the settlers returned to the area and set it on fire again. Palestinian civilians and civil defense crews were not able to extinguish the fire until 15:00.
- At approximately 04:30 on Monday, 01 June 2009, dozens of Israeli settlers from Qedumim settlement gathered at the intersection of the settlement on Nablus-Qalqilya road, southwest of Nablus. They threw stones at Palestinian civilian vehicles travelling on the road. As a result, six Palestinian workers from Jeet village, southwest of Nablus, who were travelling in a Ford vehicle, were injured:
 1. 'Ali Hussein 'Ali Sidda, 44, seriously injured in the forehead, which caused a fracture to the skull and a brain hemorrhage;
 2. Yahia Mustafa Darwish, 44, injured in the head;
 3. Shaker 'Atiyya Hassan Sidda, 42, injured in the jaw;
 4. Ziad Mohammed 'Aaref al-Sidda, 35, injured in the head;
 5. Ahmed Mohammed Hussein al-Sidda, 33, injured in the face; and
 6. 'Imad Mohammed 'Aaref al-Sidda, 37, the driver, injured in the head.
- At approximately 08:00 also on Monday, a number of Israeli settlers from Yits'har settlement, south of Nablus, set fire to olive trees and fields of wheat and parsley in Burin, Madama and Southern 'Assira villages adjacent to the aforementioned settlement. Large areas of land were burnt, and Palestinian civilians and civil defense crews were able to extinguish the fire by 15:00.
- On Wednesday afternoon, 03 June 2009, a number of Israeli settlers established a new settlement outpost southwest of Nahalin village, west of Bethlehem. They brought two mobile homes to the area and raised the Israeli flag above one of them.

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Recommendations to the International Community

1. PCHR calls upon the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to fulfill their legal and moral obligations under Article 1 of the Convention to ensure Israel's respect for the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. PCHR believes that the conspiracy of silence practiced by the international community has encouraged Israel to act as if it is above the law and encourages Israel to continue to violate international human rights and humanitarian law.
2. PCHR calls upon the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to convene a conference to take effective steps to ensure Israel's respect of the Convention in the OPT and to provide immediate protection for Palestinian civilians.
3. PCHR calls upon the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to comply with its legal obligations detailed in Article 146 of the Convention to search for and prosecute those responsible for grave breaches, namely war crimes.
4. PCHR calls for the implementation of the Advisory Opinion issued by the International Court of Justice, which considers the construction of the Annexation Wall inside the West Bank illegal and calls for its dismantlement.
5. PCHR recommends international civil society organizations, including human rights organizations, bar associations and NGOs to participate in the process of exposing those accused of grave breaches of international law and to urge their governments to bring these people to justice.
6. PCHR calls upon the European Union to activate Article 2 of the Euro-Israel Association Agreement, which provides that Israel must respect human rights as a precondition for economic cooperation between the EU states and Israel. PCHR further calls upon the EU states to prohibit import of goods produced in illegal Israeli settlements in the OPT.
7. PCHR calls on the international community to recognize the Gaza disengagement plan, which was implemented in September 2005, for what it is - not an end to occupation but a compounding of the occupation and the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip.
8. In recognition of the ICRC as the guardian of the Fourth Geneva Convention, PCHR calls upon the ICRC to increase its staff and activities in the OPT, including the facilitation of family visitations to Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.
9. PCHR appreciates the efforts of international civil society, including human rights organizations, bar associations, unions and NGOs, and urges them to continue their role in pressuring their governments to secure Israel's respect for human rights in the OPT and to end attacks on Palestinian civilians.
10. PCHR calls upon the international community to pressure Israel to lift the severe restrictions imposed by the Israeli government and its occupation forces on access for international organizations to the OPT.

11. PCHR reiterates that any political settlement not based on international human rights law and humanitarian law cannot lead to a peaceful and just solution of the Palestinian question. Rather, such an arrangement can only lead to further suffering and instability in the region. Any peace agreement or process must be based on respect for international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law.

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Public Document

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