PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 April 2011 – 30 April 2011

The following summary tables and overview of events survey hostile Israeli activities during the period 01 April 2011 to 30 April 2011. The report includes a summary table of events, classified by type, throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to a comparative table surveying events over the past three months. The survey is compiled from the Daily Situation Reports of the Palestinian Monitoring Group (PMG) of the Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD) of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The PMG monitors ground conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including Israeli and Palestinian violations. The PMG Daily Situation Reports are a survey of daily events collated from information provided by civil ministries and security agencies of the Palestinian National Authority. The information reported through the PMG process represents data available at the time of distribution only.

SAMPLE OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2011

- 02 April: An Israeli UAV fired a missile on a civilian vehicle north of Khan Yunis city, extra-judicially killing three armed Palestinian individuals.
- **04 April**: An Israeli settler vehicle deliberately rammed into a Palestinian taxi at Al Hamra checkpoint in Jericho district, leaving a 17-year-old boy with injuries.
- **05 April**: Israeli combat helicopters fired missiles on agricultural land and plastics factory east of Gaza city, injuring four civilians, including two women. Of those wounded, a woman was pregnant.
- **07 April**, The Israeli military opened fire and fired artillery shells on Ash Shoka town and Al Jaradat neighbourhood east of Rafah city, killing four civilians and injuring 17 others. Wounded civilians included children, women, an ambulance driver, and a journalist.
- **08 April**: The Israeli military fired artillery shells on Ash Shuja'iya neighbourhood in Gaza city, killing two civilians, including a child. The Israeli attack also resulted in the injury of a medic, six children, and a number of female civilians.
- **08 April**: An Israeli UAV fired a missile on Al Farahin area in 'Abasan al Kabira town in Khan Yunis district, killing three civilians, including a woman and her daughter. The killed woman's two daughters were also injured during the aerial attack.
- **09 April**: An Israeli UAV fired a missile on a civilian vehicle in Tal as Sultan neighbourhood in Rafah city, extra-judicially killing two armed Palestinian individuals
- 21 April: A group of Israeli settlers raided Sabastiya village in Nablus district and severely beat a 17-year-old boy.
- 28 April: The Israeli military fired artillery shells on civilian houses east of Al Bureij refugee camp in Central Gaza district, injuring four civilians, including a child and woman.

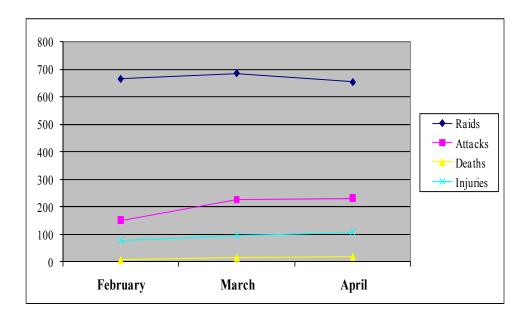
SUMMARY TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY – APRIL 2011

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Assassinations		5	5	Five armed Palestinian individuals extra-judicially killed during Israeli air attacks on civilian vehicles in Khan Yunis and Rafah cities.
Deaths		18	18	Includes a child; a woman and her daughter; and 10 armed individuals. Of these, an armed individual died of injuries sustained.
Injuries	33	75	108	Includes 14 children; three female civilians; three elderly civilians; three medics; three journalists; and five armed Palestinian
				individuals. Of these, a woman was pregnant.
Attacks	106	125	231	The Israeli military carried out 27 attacks during raids on Palestinian residential areas; 82 attacks during confrontations with Palestinians; and 45 attacks from Israeli army military posts on civilian houses and property. The Israeli navy opened fire on Palestinian fishing boats and territory on 22 occasions. Israeli combat aircraft carried out 44 aerial attacks on Palestinian territory and combat helicopters opened machinegun fire on civilians and property on seven occasions.
Raids	645	10	655	16 in Jerusalem; 69 in Ramallah; 39 in Jenin; 26 in Tubas; 54 in Tulkarem; 70 in Qalqiliya; 100 in Nablus; 36 in Salfit; 33 in Jericho; 74 in Bethlehem; 128 in Hebron; two in Northern Gaza; three in Gaza; three in Khan Yunis; and two in Rafah.
Arrests	191		191	12 in Jerusalem; 32 in Ramallah; two in Jenin; seven in Tubas; six in Tulkarem; 13 in Qalqiliya; 48 in Nablus; three in Salfit; seven in Jericho; 15 in Bethlehem; and 46 in Hebron. Arrested persons included 41 children, three female civilians, a university student, and four Palestinian security officers.
Attacks on Public & Private Property	110	30	140	<u>Destruction of Property:</u> Israeli troops and settlers destroyed civilian vehicles; houses; makeshift houses; barracks; sheep pens; water pipelines; olive trees; pastureland; livestock; land; installations; industrial installations; electricity generators; and metal factory and warehouse. <u>Confiscation of Property:</u> The Israeli army seized fuel pumps; olive seedlings and trees; heritage stones; archaeological artefacts; ID cards; rifles; radio transmission device; and two tractors.
Home Occupations	12	_	12	The Israeli military occupied and converted into military posts homes in the districts of Ramallah (4); Nablus (2); and Hebron (6).
Curfews	5		5	Over 'Awarta and 'Urif villages in Nablus district.
Closure of Crossing Points	_	154	154	International crossing points were closed on 41 occasions (Rafah Crossing to Egypt and continuing closure of Yasser Arafat International Airport) and crossing points to territory under Israeli administration on 113 occasions.
Flying Checkpoints	844		844	The Israeli military set up flying checkpoints and searched Palestinian civilians and vehicles in and around Palestinian residential areas in the districts of Jerusalem (82); Ramallah (62); Jenin (16); Tubas (5); Tulkarem (66); Qalqiliya (133); Nablus (177); Salfit (35); Jericho (69); Bethlehem (36); and Hebron (163).
Medical Obstruction	1	_	1	The Israeli military denied access to a medical team to Khirbet Jubara village in Tulkarem district.
Attacks on Religious Sites	4	_	4	Israeli settlers raided the grounds of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in Jerusalem city. The Israeli military closed the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron city and denied access to worshippers.
School Disruption	4	_	4	The Israeli military occupied and converted into a military post the roof of a school in Nablus city. The Israeli military raided two schools in Bethlehem and Hebron districts.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	20	—	20	The Israeli military provoked or harassed Palestinian National Security forces on 10 occasions; Civil Police on eight occasions; and Customs Police and Civil Defence on one occasion each.
Settlement Activity	18	_	18	In Salfit, the Israeli military levelled land between Yakir and Nofim settlements for construction of a junction leading to both settlements. The Israeli authorities approved construction of 942 housing units on 270 <i>dunums</i> as well as 900 housing units on 228 <i>dunums</i> for expansion of Gilo settlement in the southern Jerusalem district. For Wall construction, the Israeli military confiscated 1,897.8 <i>dunums</i> of land in Tulkarem and Qalqiliya districts.
Settler Violence	108	_	108	Israeli settlers stoned civilian vehicles; injured and beat civilians; opened fire; attacked property; cut down olive trees; raided towns and village; destroyed a water pipeline; levelled land; and installed caravans on land. Settler vehicles ran over a civilian and sheep.
TOTAL	2101	417	2518	

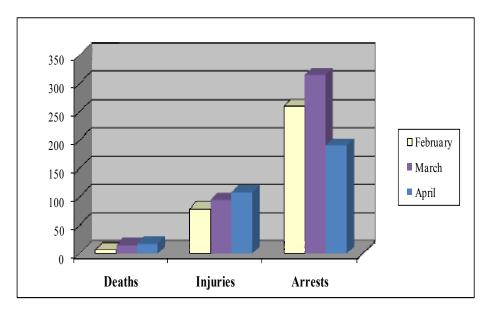
COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT	FEB. 2011	MAR. 2011	APRIL 2011	COMMENTS
Assassinations			5	The Israeli military extra-judicially killed five armed Palestinian individuals this month.
Deaths	7	15	18	Death toll rose by 20% compared to March and by 157% compared to February.
Injuries	79	95	108	Rise of 13.7% compared to March and of 36.7% compared to February. In comparison to 14 children wounded in March and 16 in February, 22 children were injured in April.
Attacks	151	227	231	Increase in the number of attacks by 1.8% compared to March and of 53% compared to February.
Raids	666	686	655	Drop of 4.5% compared to March and of 1.7% compared to February.
Arrests	260	315	191	Decrease of 39.4% compared to March and of 26.5% compared to February. 41 children were arrested in April compared to 39 children arrested in March and 45 in February.
Home Demolitions	2			Although incidents of home demolitions were not reported this month, the Israeli military distributed notices for the demolition of a civilian home in Bethlehem district.
Attacks on Property	116	231	140	Drop of 39% compared to March, but a rise of 20.7% compared to February.
Home Occupations	4	23	12	Decrease of 47.8% compared to March, but an increase of 200% compared to February.
Curfews		8	5	Drop of 37.5% compared to March.
Flying Checkpoints	681	734	844	Rise of 1.5% compared to March and of 23.9% compared to February.
Complete Closure of Crossing Points	134	146	154	Crossing points to Israeli administered territory were closed on 113 occasions in April, compared to 107 in March and 87 in February. Rafah Crossing was closed for 11 days. Yasser Arafat International Airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the second <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising) in 2000.
Medical Obstruction	1	1	1	The same percentage as in March and February.
Attacks on Religious Sites	3	2	4	Rise of 100% compared to March and of 33.3% compared to February.
School Disruption	1	4	4	The same percentage as in March, but a sharp rise of 300% compared to February.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	25	15	20	Rise of 33.3% compared to March, but a drop of 20% compared to February. In addition, the Israeli military arrested four Palestinian security officers.
Settlement Activity	8	14	18	Increase of 28.6% compared to March and of 125% compared to February.
Settler Violence	78	312	108	Drop of 65.4% compared to March, but a rise of 38.5% compared to February.
TOTAL	2216	2828	2518	During the month of April, total incidents dropped by 11% compared to March due to the decreasing number of arrests, attacks on property, and incidents of settler violence. In comparison to February, total events increased by 13.6%, reflecting a rise in the number of deaths, injuries, flying checkpoints, raids into Palestinian residential areas, attacks, attacks on property, and incidents of settler violence and settlement activity.

COMPARISON OF ISRAELI RAIDS, ATTACKS AND PALESTINIAN HUMAN CASUALTIES OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS



COMPARISON OF INCIDENTS OF DEATHS, INJURIES, AND ARRESTS OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS



ANALYSIS OF EVENTS

1. Assassinations

During the month of April, Israeli combat aircraft launched aerial attacks on Khan Yunis and Rafah districts, **extra-judicially killing five armed Palestinian individuals**. An Israeli UAV fired a missile on a civilian vehicle north of Khan Yunis city, extra-judicially killing three armed Palestinian individuals. Another Israeli UAV fired a missile on a vehicle in Tal as Sultan neighbourhood in Rafah city, assassinating two armed Palestinian individuals.

2. Deaths

In April, the Israeli military killed 18 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. Among those killed were a child as well as a female civilian and her daughter.

3. Injuries

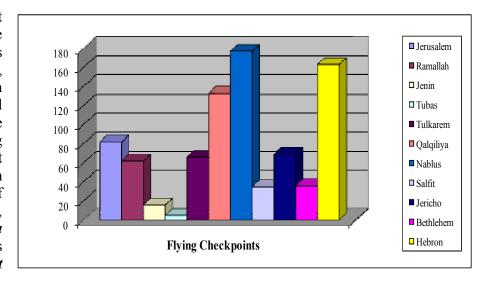
A total of 108 injuries were reported in the month of April (33 Palestinians in the West Bank and 75 in the Gaza Strip). These included 14 children; three female civilians, including a pregnant woman; three elderly civilians; three medics; three journalists; and five armed Palestinian individuals. Three civilians also sustained wounds by Police dogs unleashed by Israeli troops.

4. Arrests

During the month of April, the Israeli military arrested **191** Palestinians in the West Bank. The majority of arrests took place in the districts of Nablus (48), Hebron (46), Ramallah (32), and Bethlehem (15). Among those arrested by the Israeli military were: 41 children; three female civilians; a university student; and four Palestinian security officers.

5. Closure

Especially on Fridays, the Israeli military continues to intensify restrictions at checkpoints located at the entrances of Jerusalem, and to restrict entrance to the Al Agsa Mosque compound in the old city of Jerusalem, preventing worshippers from accessing the Mosque. At the *Qalandiya checkpoint north of Jerusalem*, the Israeli military continues to prevent PNA registered civilian vehicles from crossing the checkpoint towards Ar Ram and Qalandiya as well as Dahiyat al Bareed. The checkpoint is overcrowded daily, particularly during rush hours, due to intensified restrictions and search measures applied by Israeli troops. During the month of April, the Israeli military also continued to intensify restrictions at the *Tayasir checkpoint* and *Al Hamra junction checkpoint* leading to the Jordan Valley area, only allowing access to civilians whose IDs indicate District of Jericho residence or others holding special access permits. In addition, restrictions were intensified and civilian access was obstructed at the Za'tara junction checkpoint (separating the northern and central West Bank districts) as well as at the As Sawahira ash Sharqiya (the 'Container') checkpoint (separating the central and southern West Bank districts).



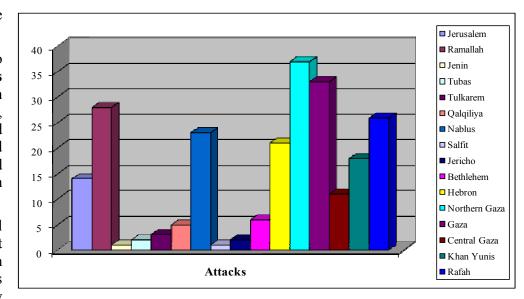
Further impeding civilian movement and access, the Israeli military set up **844 flying checkpoints** in and around Palestinian residential areas throughout the West Bank in April, compared to 734 flying checkpoints in March and 681 in February. In general, Israeli troops positioned at these flying checkpoints disrupted civilian access and movement of goods, including agricultural produce.

6. Attacks

A total of **231 attacks** were reported to have taken place during the month of April: **106** in the West Bank and **125** in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli military carried out 27 attacks during raids into Palestinian residential areas, 82 attacks during confrontations between the Israeli military and Palestinians, and 45 attacks from Israeli military posts on civilian homes and property. In addition, Israeli navy boats carried out 22 attacks on Palestinian fishermen and territory. Israeli combat aircraft carried out 44 aerial attacks and combat helicopters opened machinegun fire on civilians and property on four occasions. Israeli settlers opened fire on Palestinian civilians and property on seven occasions.

At 02:00 on 18 January 2009, the Israeli military declared a unilateral ceasefire following the large-scale offensive it had launched against the Gaza Strip. However, the Israeli military violated the ceasefire on **125 occasions** during the month of April (compared to 118 violations in March and 65 in February). Also disregarding Israel's unilaterally

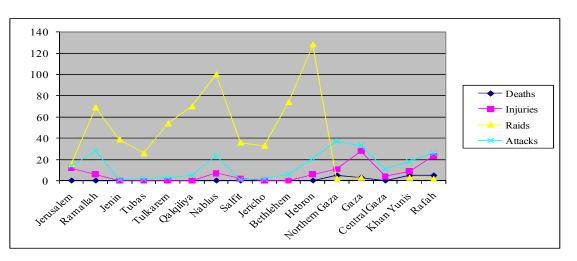


declared ceasefire, armed Palestinian groups fired **200 mortar rounds** towards the Green Line (compared to 169 mortar rounds fired in March and 31 in February).

7. Raids

The Israeli military carried out a total of 655 raids in Palestinian residential areas during the month of April, including 645 in the West Bank and 10 in the Gaza Strip. The majority of Israeli military raids were reported to have taken place in the districts of Hebron (128), Nablus (100), Bethlehem (74), Qalqiliya (70), Ramallah (69), Tulkarem (45), and Jenin (39). The Israeli army opened fire during 35.2%, or 231 of the 655 raids. During reported raids, the Israeli military imposed curfew over Palestinian residential areas, including 'Urif and 'Awarta villages in Nablus district, on five occasions.

The chart to the right shows the correlation between the number of raids and the resulting human casualties in April.



8. Provocation of Palestinian Security Forces

The Israeli army carried out 20 attacks and provocations of Palestinian security forces and posts during April. The Israeli military detained Palestinian security vehicles; took position in front of and photographed Palestinian security offices and headquarters; and served summonses on Palestinian security officers to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency.

Types of Israeli Army Provocation against Palestinian Forces in April

Type of Provocation	#	Notes
Taking positions/setting up		The Israeli military took photographs of the Palestinian Police station in Ar Ram town in Jerusalem district and
checkpoints near Palestinian		of Police stations in Bani Na'im and As Samoa' towns in Hebron district. The Israeli military took position in
security posts		front of and near: the Customs Police station in Dahiyat Shuweika in Tulkarem city; a National Security
	10	checkpoint at the northern entrance to Salfit city; and the Police station in Idhna town in Hebron district. On two
		occasions, Israeli troops took position in front of a Palestinian National Security post in Al 'Auja village and
		demanded that officers not carry weapons outside the post. The Israeli military also patrolled the areas
		surrounding National Security and Civil Defence posts in Tubas city.
Detaining and searching Palestinian		The Israeli military detained a Palestinian Police vehicle near Qibya village in Ramallah district and severely
security officers and patrols		beat three Police officers, while they were on duty in Hebron city. In Jericho district, the Israeli military detained
		a National Security vehicle at the southern entrance to Jericho city; detained and searched a National Security
	8	and Police vehicles at Al 'Auja checkpoint; and detained two National Security vehicles at a flying checkpoint
		set up on the junction to Al Jiftlik village. Israeli troops positioned at a flying checkpoint set up on Al Kafriyat
		road connecting Tulkarem and Qalqiliya districts detained a Police vehicle. Israeli troops positioned at a flying
		checkpoint set up at the entrance to Turrama village in Hebron district detained a Civil Defence vehicle.
Reporting to the Israeli Intelligence		Requiring that he report to the Israeli Intelligence agency, the Israeli military served a summons on a Palestinian
agency	2	National Security officer in Beit Rima town in Ramallah district. In 'Awarta village in Nablus district, the Israeli
		military telephoned a National Security officer, demanding that he surrender himself.

9. Attacks on Public and Private Property

A total of 140 incidents of destruction and confiscation of Palestinian public and private property were reported in April, including 110 in the West Bank and 30 in the Gaza Strip.

In Ramallah, Israeli settlers threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling near the junction to 'Ofra settlement, breaking the windshield of a vehicle. In Tubas, the Israeli military demolished three barracks in Al 'Aqaba village, claiming that they had been built without the required construction licences. The Israeli military also dismantled tents and destroyed sheep pens in Khirbet Abu Samra village in the Northern Jordan Valley. In Nablus, the Israeli military destroyed a guard post belonging to Palestinian National Security and Police forces near Prophet Joseph Shrine in Nablus city. In addition to breaking the windshields of three civilian vehicles, Israeli settlers set fire to a civilian vehicle and damaged an electricity generator in 'Asira al Qibliya village. Settlers also caused damage to a water pipeline near Madama village. An Israeli settler vehicle ran over a herd of sheep near Yanun village. In Salfit, the Israeli military uprooted 19 olive seedlings near Deir Istiya town. In Jericho, the Israeli military demolished three barracks north of 'Ein ad Duyuk al Foqa village. In Hebron, Israeli settlers sprayed unknown chemical material on civilian land near the Wall section in Idhna town, killing 15 sheep and poisoning 40 others. In Gaza, the Israeli military levelled land and destroyed industrial installations in the Gaza Industrial Estate near Al Muntar (Karnei) Crossing east of Ash Shuja'iya

neighbourhood east of Gaza city. Destroyed property included electricity generators, a factory belonging to UNIPAL General Trading Company, a metal warehouse, and a number of barracks. Israeli combat aircraft also fired missiles and damaged a plastics factory and a number of barracks east of Gaza city. In **Khan Yunis**, the Israeli military levelled land cultivated with wheat and malt crops and caused damage to the electricity grid east of 'Abasan al Kabira and Khuza'a towns. In **Rafah**, the Israeli military caused damage to a number of civilian houses on the Egyptian border south of Rafah city.

The Israeli military distributed notices for the evacuation of makeshift houses belonging to 12 Bedouin families northeast of Jerusalem city; 70 *dunums* of land cultivated with fruit-bearing trees in Kafa village in Tulkarem district; and a piece of land in Suba village in Hebron district. The Israeli military also delivered notices to five civilians, demanding that they evacuate their farmland in Wadi Qana area in Salfit district.

The Israeli military confiscated fuel pumps, seedlings, trees, and decoration plants in Hizma village in Jerusalem district. Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint set up on the junction to Ti'innik village in Jenin district seized a motorcycle. In Nablus district, the Israeli military confiscated M16 rifles in 'Awarta village as well as heritage stones and archaeological artefacts in Qaryut village. The Israeli military also seized a tractor in Al 'Auja village in Jericho district and ID cards belonging to three civilians in Al Khadr town in Bethlehem district. Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint set up at the entrance to Far'ata village in Qalqiliya district confiscated ID cards belonging to two Palestinian security officers and a security officer's wife. In Hebron district, the Israeli military seized 23 olive seedlings in Suba village, a radio transmission device in Hebron city, and a tractor along Ash Shuhada' Street in the old city of Hebron.

10. Settlement Activity

During the month of April, 18 incidents of settlement activity were reported to have taken place in the West Bank.

In Salfit district, the Israeli military levelled civilian land in the area between Yakir and Nofim settlements for construction of a junction leading to both settlements. The Israeli authorities also approved construction of 942 housing units on 270 *dunums* of land as well as 900 housing units on 228 *dunums* of land for expansion of Gilo settlement in the southern Jerusalem district. For Wall construction, the Israeli authorities released orders extending previously-issued military orders for confiscation of a total of 1,897.8 *dunums* of civilian land in Tulkarem and Qalqiliya districts.

11. Settler Violence

Israeli settlers carried out 108 acts of violence in West Bank districts during the month of April.

In **Jerusalem**, Israeli settlers delivered notices for the evacuation of 10 civilian homes in Ash Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood, claiming that they belonged to the Moscovitch and Shebali Jewish settlement associations. A settler opened indiscriminate fire on civilians near Silwan neighbourhood in Jerusalem city, claiming that stones had been thrown at his vehicle. In **Ramallah**, settlers from Shilo settlement severely beat a number of farmers, while they were working on their land in Turmus'ayya town, leaving four farmers with contusions. In **Jenin**, settlers levelled civilian land, using a hydraulic excavator, near Mevo Dotan settlement south of Ya'bad town. In **Qalqiliya**, a settler vehicle ran over a civilian near Hajja village, leaving him with contusions. In **Nablus**, settlers raided 'Asira al Qibliya village, threw stones and empty bottles at civilian houses, set fire to a civilian vehicle, and damaged an electricity generator in a stone processing factory. A settler vehicle from Itamar settlement ran over a herd of sheep near Yanun village. Settlers severely beat a 17-year-old boy in Sabastiya village, leaving him with contusions. In an attempt to establish a settlement outpost called 'Regev' near Itamar settlement on Tallet ar Rajab area in 'Awarta village, settlers levelled civilian land, installed infrastructure networks, including electricity posts, and erected three tents and three caravans. Settlers assaulted civilian houses on the outskirts of Burin village and opened fire on civilians, who attempted to confront them. Settlers from Yitzhar settlement

gained access to civilian land in Madama village and damaged a water pipeline near a water spring south of the village. In **Salfit**, settlers from 'Etz Efrayim settlement levelled civilian land behind the Wall in Mas'ha village in order to construct new housing units and expand the settlement. Settlers gained access to Wadi Qana area and threw stones at civilians while they were working on their land, injuring two civilians, including a woman. In **Jericho**, a settler vehicle deliberately rammed into a Palestinian taxi at Al Hamra checkpoint, leaving a 17-year-old boy with contusions and breaking the taxi's windshield. In **Bethlehem**, armed settlers gained access to and cultivated a piece of land Um al Fahm area in Al Khadr town. Settlers from Efrat settlement also gained entry into civilian land and opened indiscriminate fire on civilians in Artas village. In **Hebron**, a settler riding a bicycle ran over a 5-year-old girl in Tal Rumeida neighbourhood in the old city of Hebron, leaving her with contusions. The girl was transported to hospital for medical treatment. In the old city of Hebron, settlers discharged wastewater on civilians, set fire to two vendor stalls, and severely beat a civilian.

12. Medical Obstruction

During the month of April, **one incident of medical obstruction** was reported to have taken place in the West Bank. The Israeli military denied access to a medical team to Khirbet Jubara village, which is isolated behind the Wall, in Tulkarem district.

13. Attacks on Religious Sites

Over the month of April, **four attacks on religious sites** took place in the West Bank districts. Under protection of the Israeli military, Israeli settlers raided the grounds of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in Jerusalem city. The Israeli military also closed the Ibrahimi Mosque and denied access to worshippers in the old city of Hebron.

14. School Disruption

Over the month of April, **four incidents of school disruption** took place in the West Bank districts. On two occasions, the Israeli military occupied and converted into military posts the roof of a school in Nablus city. The Israeli military also raided two schools in Beit Jala city in Bethlehem district and in the old city of Hebron.

14. Closure of Crossing Points

The Israeli military completely closed crossing points into the Gaza Strip, including access points within the Green Line, on 154 occasions during April. The Israeli military closed crossing points within the Green Line on 113 occasions. It opened *Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing* for 23 days for previously-coordinated humanitarian cases and foreign nationals and *Karm Abu Salem (Karem Shalom) Crossing* for 16 days for transportation of food supplies, humanitarian aid, and cooking gas. In addition to allowing in animal feed and cement designated for UNRWA projects, flowers were exported through the Crossing. *Sufa Crossing* was closed throughout the month. On the other hand, the Israeli authorities unilaterally decided to completely close *Ash Shuja'iya (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing*. Beginning on 02 March 2011, the Israeli authorities has also continued to completely close *Al Muntar (Karnei) Commercial Crossing*.

The Israeli military closed international crossing points on **41** occasions. *Rafah Crossing* was open for 19 days to allow access to civilians stranded on the Egyptian border and to patients, who had received medical attention at Egyptian hospitals. Civilians, patients, and others holding visas and residence permits abroad also departed the Gaza Strip through the Crossing. *Yasser Arafat International Airport* has remained closed since the outbreak of the second *Intifada*.