# مجموعة الرقابة الفلسطينية



# PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP

# **DAILY SITUATION REPORT**

08:00 20 February 2009 - 08:00 21 February 2009

#### **SUMMARY OF EVENTS**

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Injuries	10	_	10	9 in Ramallah and 1 in Hebron
Attacks	10	_	10	3 in raids and 7 during confrontations
Raids	30	_	30	Incl. 8 in Bethlehem and 9 in Hebron
Arrest	1	_	1	A civilian in the district of Hebron
Detentions	18	_	18	Incl. 3 Palestinian security officers
Wall Construction	24	_	24	Incl. Jer., Raml'h., Salfit, & Qalqiliya
Destruction of Property	1	_	1	A civilian vehicle destroyed in Hebron
House Occupations	5	_	5	In Qalqiliya and Hebron
Curfew	1	_	1	Over the Beit Fajjar town, Bethlehem
Closure of Checkpoints	15	_	15	Incl. access impeded at 9 checkpoints
Flying Checkpoints	14	_	14	Incl. 3 in Jerusalem and 4 in Bethlehem
Closure (per District)	8	_	8	Incl. Jerusalem, Tulkarem & Hebron
Closure of Main Roads	54	_	54	Incl. 3 in Jerusalem and 5 in Ramallah
Closure of Crossing Points	_	6	6	Karm Abu Salem partially open
Provocation of Pal. Forces	2	_	2	Incl. a Police station raided, Bethlehem
Palestinian Attack	_	1	1	1 mortar fired towards the Green Line
Demonstrations	4		4	Against the Wall, including in Ramallah
TOTAL	197	7	204	

DISTRICT	EVENTS
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WEST BANK			
ALL DISTRICTS	• The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions at checkpoints set up on the main roads connecting the West Bank districts, thereby isolating the northern districts from the southern districts as well as the Jericho district and the Jordan Valley from the remainder of the West Bank.		
JERUSALEM	<ul> <li>Closure: <ul> <li>(i) The Israeli army intensified its restrictions at checkpoints located at the entrances to the city of Jerusalem, set up several checkpoints in the old city of Jerusalem and around Al Aqsa Mosque compound, and impeded access to civilians to perform Friday prayers at the Al Aqsa Mosque.</li> <li>(ii) On 05 January 2009, the Israeli authorities issued Military Order # S/02/09 on the closure of and denial of civilian access to the "demarcation area" along the Wall in the area surrounding the city of Jerusalem. Accordingly, local residents and civilians holding permits can access this area through crossings and gates set up at the entrances to the city of Jerusalem. (The demarcation area is defined by a set of military orders relating to land confiscation for Wall construction).</li> <li>Closure of Main Roads: <ul> <li>(i) The Israeli army continues to close with barbed wire and cement blocks the entrance opposite the junction to Dahiyat al Bareed in the city of Jerusalem, after levelling the area, and to deny civilian access.</li> <li>(ii) The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks and dirt barricades the entrance to the village of Jaba'.</li> <li>(iii) Beginning on 16 February 2009, the Israeli army has continued to close the iron gate along the Wall section, separating the area of Dahiyat al Bareed from the town of Ar Ram.</li> <li>Checkpoint: The Israeli army continues to consider Qalandiya checkpoint a "border crossing point" and has designated a special crossing for holders of Jerusalem IDs and those possessing permits to access the city of Jerusalem.</li> <li>Flying Checkpoint: At 16:00, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint underneath the overpass to the town of Bir Nabala and searched civilians and vehicles.</li> <li>Raid: At 22:15, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the village of Biddu. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians. At 23:00, the Israeli army withdrew from the area.</li> <li>Wall Gates:</li> <li>(i) The Israeli army con</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>		

# thorough searches using electronic devices.

gate on Ash Shayyah road in the area between the villages of As Sawahira ash Sharqiya and As Sawahira al Gharbiya, only allowing civilians holding Jerusalem IDs to cross, after subjecting them to

	• Wall Construction: Wall construction continues in the area of Al 'Eizariya to Ash Shayyah, from Beit Surik village to Biddu; in the areas of Al Judeira, Bir Nabala, and Beit Hanina; west of the village of Al Jib; in the vicinity of the village of Qatanna; south of the village of Beit Hanina; and in the area surrounding the checkpoint set up at the entrance to Shu'fat refugee camp.
RAMALLAH & EL BIREH	<ul> <li>Closure of Main Roads: The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades and cement blocks the road connecting the villages of Ras Karkar and Kharbatha Bani Harith; the entrances to the villages of Sinjil, Saffa, and 'Ein Yabrud; and the junction to the villages of Kafr Malik – 'Ein Samiya.</li> <li>Checkpoint: The Israeli army continues to intensify restrictions at the checkpoint on the overpass to 'Atara town and impede civilian access.</li> <li>Raid: At 02:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of 'Arura.</li> <li>Demonstrations/Attacks/Injuries:         <ol> <li>At 12:30, a mass demonstration, including international peace activists, took place in the town of Ni'lin in protest against Wall construction. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and protestors, during which the Israeli army injured 4 civilians. Other civilians also sustained injuries as a result of tear gas inhalation.</li> <li>At 12:30, a mass demonstration, including international peace activists, took place in the village of Bil'in in protest against Wall construction. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and protestors, during which the Israeli army injured 5 civilians. In addition, a number of protestors sustained injuries as a result of tear gas inhalation.</li> <li>Wall Construction: Wall construction continues west of 'Abud town and in the areas of Al Midya to Ni'lin and Ni'lin to Deir Qaddis.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
JENIN	<ul> <li>Closure of Main Road: The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the road leading to the town of 'Arraba east of the settlement of Dotan.</li> <li>Raids/Attack: <ul> <li>(i) At 20:15, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the village of Al 'Araqa.</li> <li>(ii) At 02:00, the Israeli army raided patrolled the town of 'Arraba. The Israeli army also fired sound grenades and withdrew at 03:00.</li> <li>Wall Gates: Passage through the Wall gates is restricted to civilians granted special Israeli permits, which affects the educational and health conditions of civilians living behind the Wall.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
TUBAS	<ul> <li>Checkpoint: The Israeli army continues to close Tayasir checkpoint in the eastern Tubas district, denying civilian access to the Northern Jordan Valley, except for civilians whose IDs indicate that their place of residence is the Northern Jordan Valley. At 17:00, Israeli troops positioned at the checkpoint served summons to a number of civilians to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency.</li> <li>Flying Checkpoint: At 21:55, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint on the junction to the village of Kashda and searched civilians and vehicles.</li> </ul>

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	• <u>Raid</u> : At 22:20, the Israeli army raided Al Far'a refugee camp. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians. At 23:40, the Israeli army withdrew from the area.
TULKAREM	<ul> <li>Closure: The Israeli army continues to declare the district of Tulkarm a closed military zone and to impede civilian access to and from the district.</li> <li>Closure of Main Roads: <ol> <li>The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the western entrance to the village of Shufa.</li> <li>The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the road connecting the town of Kafr al Labad to the village of Shufa.</li> <li>Checkpoints: The Israeli army continues to intensify restrictions at 'Einav checkpoint set up on Tulkarem-Nablus main road and at Jubara checkpoint (the southern entrance to the city of Tulkarem).</li> <li>Flving Checkpoint: At 15:35, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint on the junction to the village of Far'un and searched civilians and vehicles until 16:45.</li> <li>Raids: <ol> <li>At 15:30, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the village of Far'un.</li> <li>At 20:00, the Israeli army raided Dahiyat Shuweika in the city of Tulkarem, set up a checkpoint, searched civilians and vehicles, patrolled the area, and withdrew at 21:35.</li> <li>Wall Gates: Passage through the wall gates is restricted to civilians granted special Israeli permits.</li> </ol> </li> </ol></li></ul>
QALQILYA	<ul> <li>Closure of Roads: The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks agricultural roads east of the town of 'Azzun.</li> <li>Checkpoint: The Israeli army continues to intensify restrictions at the checkpoint set up at the eastern entrance to the city of Qalqiliya and to impede civilian access.</li> <li>Flying Checkpoints/Detentions: <ul> <li>At 13:00, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint at the entrance to the village of Jit and searched civilians and vehicles.</li> <li>At 16:30,the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint at the entrance to the village of Hajja, searched civilian vehicles, detained 3 civilians, and released them at a later time.</li> <li>Raid: At 03:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the village of 'Azzun 'Atma.</li> <li>Demonstration/Raid/House Occupations: At 13:00, a mass demonstration took place in the town of Jayyus in protest against Wall construction. Consequently, the Israeli army raided the town, occupied the roofs of 2 houses, and converted them into military posts. Confrontations also took place between the Israeli army and civilians. At 23:30, the Israeli army withdrew from the area.</li> <li>Wall Gates:</li> <li>Passage through the Wall gates is restricted to civilians granted special Israeli permits.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

(ii) The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions at 'Azzun 'Atma Wall gate and to search civilians, including students, with a metal detector. At 20:40, the Israeli army closed the wall gate and reopened it at a later time.

#### **Wall Construction:**

- Having completed the Wall-related infrastructure, land levelling for (i) Wall construction ceased in the towns of 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth as well as in the villages of Immatin and Kafr Laqif.
- Wall construction continues south of the town of Jayyus. (ii)

#### **Closure of Main Roads:**

- The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks the roads of (i) Sarra-Jit: Til-Burin: Beit Furik-Salem: the road between the town of 'Agraba and the main road; and the eastern entrance to the village of Al Lubban Ash Sharqiya. The Israeli army also continues to close with with dirt barricades the road between the villages of Til and Madama; the southern entrance to the village of Qaryut; the eastern entrance to the village of Al Lubban Ash Sharqiya; the western entrance to the town of 'Agraba; the southern entrance to the village of Duma; the northern entrance to the town of Qabalan; the western entrance to the village of Majdal Bani Fadil; and the settler bypass road connecting the village of Deir al Hatab to the settlement of Alon Moreh.
- (ii) The Israeli army continues to restrict civilian daily passage along the Jenin-Nablus road between the junction to Deir Sharaf village and the settlement of Shavei Shomron between 06:00 and 21:00.
- Checkpoints: The Israeli army continues to regulate times for crossing checkpoints set up around the city of Nablus:

#### At Tur neighborhood checkpoint (set up on Jerzim Mount) is closed on (i) Fridays and Saturdays as well as during Jewish holidays. On all other days, it is open for civilian residents of the neighborhood only.

- Beit Furik checkpoint is open to civilian residents of the town of Beit (ii) Furik and the nearby village of Beit Dajan.
- Beginning on 14 February 2009, the Israeli army has allowed (iii) Palestinians holding Israeli-issued IDs to access the city of Nablus by their private vehicles through all checkpoints around the city. To prevent traffic jams, the Israeli army allows vehicles to leave the city through Beit Furik and Beit Iba checkpoints. In addition, the Israeli army has allowed free access to all physicians, who are residents of the city of Nablus.
- Beginning on 15 February 2009, the Israeli army has allowed free (iv) access by private vehicles to all civilian residents of the city of Nablus, who are above 50 years of age and in company with their families, through checkpoints set up around the city of Nablus.

#### Raids:

(i) At 23:00, the Israeli army raided 'Askar refugee camp in the city of Nablus and chased a civilian vehicle while patrolling the area.

#### **NABLUS**

	(ii) At 24:00, the Israeli army raided the city of Nablus as well as Balata and 'Ein Beit el Ma' refugee camps. The Israeli army patrolled these areas until 05:30.
SALFIT	<ul> <li>Closure of Main Roads: <ol> <li>The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the northern entrance to Salfit city and the eastern entrance to the village of Yasuf.</li> <li>The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks and iron gates the northern entrance to the town of Bruqin and the western entrance to the town of Kafr Ad Dik.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Checkpoints: The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions at Deir Ballut and Za'tara checkpoints and prevent civilian vehicles from heading towards the village of Kafr Ad Dik.</li> <li>Wall Construction: Wall construction continues in the area northwest of the city of Salfit, and in the village of Marda and the town of Kafr Hares north of the settlement of Ariel.</li> <li>Detention: At 20:15, Israeli troops at the Za'tara junction checkpoint detained Ashraf Mohammed Abdul 'Aal Qatari, a Palestinian National Security officer, and released him later after coordination with the Israeli authorities (through the DCO).</li> </ul>
JERICHO	<ul> <li>Closure: The Israeli army continues to close Road # 90 between the city of Jericho and the village of Al 'Auja with cement blocks and to prevent farmers not holding Jericho Governorate IDs from reaching their land, forcing them to apply for access permits. The Israeli army also continues to deny access to the city to holders of Israeli IDs.</li> <li>Checkpoints: The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions and impede civilian access at Al Hamra checkpoint set up along Al Badhan road connecting the districts of Jericho and Nablus as well as on the checkpoint set up on the junction to the village of Al 'Auja along Al Mu'arrajat road that connects the districts of Jericho and Ramallah.</li> </ul>
BETHLEHEM	<ul> <li>Closure: <ol> <li>The Israeli army continues to close the roads to the village of An Nu'man, with the exception of the road leading to the Wall gate in the south-eastern area of the village.</li> <li>According to Military Order # 07/02/S, the Israeli army has continued since 15 September 2007 to deny civilian access to an area measuring 22 dunums (5.436 acres) of land in the area of Mazmuriya in the cities of Beit Sahur and Bethlehem. The land was confiscated pursuant to Military Order # 07/31/T.</li> <li>Closure of Main Roads: The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the two sideways east and south of Al Walaja village and the roads of Beit Jala-Wadi Ahmad, Talita-Nazlet as Sidr in the city of Beit Jala, Al Khadr town-Road # 60, Al Khadr town-Beit Jala housing, Wadi Rahal-Efrat and the side road east of the town of Beit Fajjar.</li> </ol> </li></ul>

#### • Flying Checkpoints:

- (i) At 10:10, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint at the entrance to the village of Ash Shawawra and searched civilians and vehicles.
- (ii) At 14:40, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint in the area of 'Ush Ghurab east of the city of Beit Sahur and searched civilians and vehicles.
- (iii) At 15:40, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint at the entrance to the town of Za'tara and searched civilians and vehicles.
- (iv) At 16:50, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint at north-western entrance to the city of Beit Jala and searched civilians and vehicles.

### • Raids/Attacks/Curfew/Provocation of Palestinian Forces:

- (i) At 09:30, the Israeli army raided debris of the evacuated military post of 'Ush Ghurab. At 14:30, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the area again until 15:25.
- (ii) At 13:45, and again at 01:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the city of Beit Jala.
- (iii) At 16:30, the Israeli army raided the village of Al Fureidis and searched 1 house.
- (iv) At 22:45, the Israeli army raided the town of Beit Fajjar, opened fire, and fired sound grenades as well as flares. The Israeli army also took position in front of the town's Palestinian Police station, imposed curfew, and withdrew at 01:30.
- (v) At 23:45, the Israeli army raided the town of Tuqu', raided the town's Palestinian Police station, and patrolled the area.
- (vi) At 24:00, the Israeli army raided 'Ayda refugee camp in the city of Bethlehem, searched 1 house, and served summons to a civilian to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency. At 01:40, the Israeli army withdrew from the area.
- <u>Demonstration</u>: At 11:30, a mass demonstration, including international peace activists, took place in the village of Al Ma'sara in protest against Wall construction. The Israeli army, however, obstructed the demonstration and prevented protestors from accessing land to be confiscated for Wall construction.
- <u>Wall Construction</u>: Wall construction continues in the area northwest of the town of Al Khadr; northwest of the city of Beit Jala; in the area of Wadi Rahhal east of Ifrat settlement; and in the area surrounding the village of Al Walaja.

#### • Closure:

#### **HEBRON**

(i) The Israeli army continues to close the following locales in the old city of Hebron: Ash Shuhada' Street and the area of As Sahleh with cement blocks and barbed wire; the old gold market with an iron gate; the area of Khuzq al Far near the settlement of Abraham Avino with a dirt barricade and an iron gate; and the entrance to the area of Al Khan with an electronic gate, isolating the area from Al Laban Market and the area of As Sahleh. The Israeli army also continues to install an iron gate at

- the entrance to the area of Al Hisba (the fruits and vegetables market) in the old city of Hebron, thereby controlling civilian access in the area.
- (ii) The Israeli army continues to prevent civilian vehicles from travelling along the road connecting the settlement of Kiryat Arba' to the Ibrahimi Mosque in the old city of Hebron.
- (iii) On 05 January 2009, the Israeli army issued Military Order # 09/06/S for closure of the area located along the Green Line south of the town of Yatta, evacuation of civilian residents, and prevention of civilian access to the area. According to Military Orders # 05/03/T and 05/04/T, land in this area was confiscated for Wall construction.

#### • Closure of Main Roads:

- (i) The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks the entrance to the town of As Samoa'; the area of Al Hawawir leading to the town of Halhul; the road connecting the town of Surif to the village of Al Jab'a; the eastern entrance to the village of Kharsa; the entrance to Al Qeisi neighborhood in the old city of Hebron; as well as the entrances to Al 'Arrub refugee camp and the village of At Tuwani.
- (ii) In accordance with Military Order # 378, the Israeli army continues to prohibit Palestinian vehicles from travelling along Ash Shalala Old Street that leads to the old city of Hebron, only allowing Israeli vehicles as well as Israeli army vehicles to travel along this street.
- (iii) The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the road between the villages of Al Karmil and At Tuwani and all roads leading to bypass Road # 60.
- (iv) The Israeli army continues to open the iron gate on the junction of Farsh Al Hawa, which leads to Road # 35 that leads to Tarqumiya Crossing, from 05:00 until 07:00 and from 09:00 until 13:00.
- (v) The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks the southern entrance to the town of Adh Dhahiriya.

### • Flying Checkpoints:

- (i) At 09:30, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint on the junction to the towns of Tarqumiya and Idhna and searched civilians and vehicles.
- (ii) At 12:00, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint on the junction to the area of Al Fahs south of the city of Hebron and searched civilians and vehicles.
  - Attack/Injury: At 13:00, Israeli troops positioned at the entrance to the town of Beit Ummar opened fire towards a number of civilians, claiming that they had thrown stones. As a result, a civilian was sustained a bullet wound. Israeli troops also arrested another civilian.
  - <u>Arrest</u>: Israeli troops positioned at the entrance to the town of Beit Ummar arrested Fadi Sa'id Ali Sabarneh.

#### • Raids/House Occupations:

(i) At 10:50, the Israeli army raided the town of Bani Na'im, searched 1 house, and served summons to a number of civilians to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency.

- (ii) At 12:00, and again at 20:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of Dura.
- (iii) At 12:10, again at 19:40, and at 01:20, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the city of Hebron.
- (iv) At 17:00, the Israeli army raided the town of Beit Ummar and occupied the roofs of 3 houses. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians. The Israeli army also searched 1 commercial shop.
- (v) At 22:20, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of Surif.
- (vi) At 23:10, the Israeli army raided and patrolled Al Fawwar refugee camp.
- <u>Destruction of Property/Detentions</u>: At 18:00, the Israeli army used explosives to destroy a civilian vehicle in the area between Al 'Arrub refugee camp and the settlement of Kfar 'Etzion, after its driver had fled. The Israeli army also detained a Palestinian National Security officer and General Intelligence officer, who happened to be in the area, and released them at a later time.
- <u>Wall Construction</u>: Wall construction continues in the section of Tarqumiya checkpoint terminal; in the area between the settlement of Eshkolot and the village of Imneizil southeast of the town of Yatta; and in the village of 'Arab ar Ramadin.

#### **GAZA STRIP**

# ALL DISTRICTS

- At 02:00 on 18 January 2009, the unilateral ceasefire declared by the Israeli authorities came into effect. At a later time on the same day, armed Palestinian groups announced an agreement to cease fire for a week. Later, armed Palestinian groups extended the ceasefire until 05 February 2009. Despite the fact that the extension period expired, the ceasefire continues to hold pending negotiations carried out by Egypt.
- <u>Violation of the Ceasefire</u>: Armed Palestinian individuals fired 1 mortar towards the Green Line, but it landed on a civilian house on Palestinian territory.

NORTHERN GAZA	Closure of Crossing Point: Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing is closed.
GAZA	<ul> <li>Closure of Crossing Points:</li> <li>(i) Al Muntar (Karnei) Crossing is closed.</li> <li>(ii) Ash Shuja'iya (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing is closed.</li> </ul>

CENTRAL GAZA	Activities not reported.	
KHAN YUNIS	Palestinian Attack: In the evening of 20 February 2009, 1 unidentified mortar was fired towards the Green Line, but it landed on a civilian house in the area of Al Farahin east of the city of Khan Yunis.	
RAFAH	<ul> <li>Closure of Crossing Points:         <ul> <li>Yasser 'Arafat International Airport remains closed.</li> <li>Rafah (Al 'Awdah) Crossing is closed.</li> <li>Sufa Crossing is closed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Karm Abu Salim (Karem Shalom) Crossing is partially open for transportation of food supplies and humanitarian aid.</li> </ul>	

### **GENERAL**

POLITCAL PRISONERS	<ul> <li>Sentences: The Israeli military court at 'Ofar Detention and Interrogation Centre issued sentences against the following political prisoners: <ol> <li>Mudhar Mousa Ahmed Abu Dayyeh, a resident of the town of Beit Ummar in the district of Hebron, for life imprisonment as well as 7 years; and</li> <li>Fadi Khaldoun la Bloul, a resident of the city of Bethlehem, for 22 months in prison as well as 10 months with the stay of execution. Al Bloul was also fined with ILS 5,000 (approx. USD 1,265).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Prisoner's Deteriorated Health Condition: The family of Shadi Jabri Ghunmeh, a political prisoner from the town of Al Yamun in the district of Jenin and appealed to human rights organisations and Israeli Medical Association to intervene and exercise pressure on the Israeli authorities to allow the son, who suffers from cancer, to have a surgical operation. Serving a sentence of 13 years in the An Naqab (Ketziot) Detention Camp, Ghunmeh has also suffered from several diseases after his health condition deteriorated. Having almost lost his sight, Ghunmeh also suffers pain due to bullet shrapnel in his arm, which he had sustained 8 years ago. The Israeli authorities refused to conduct a surgical operation on Ghunmeh and only gave him tranquillisers.</li> </ul>
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