مجموعة الرقابة الفلسطينية



PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP

DAILY SITUATION REPORT

08:00 27 March 2009 - 08:00 28 March 2009

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Physical Assaults	4	_	4	Incl. 1 journalist beaten in Bethlehem
Injuries	9	_	9	Incl. 3 children and 1 foreign reporter
Attacks	7		7	3 in raids and 4 during confrontations
Raids	32		32	Incl. 5 in Tulkarem and 8 in Hebron
Arrests (per person)	2	_	2	In Jerusalem and Jenin
Detentions	17	_	17	Incl. 2 children in the city of El Bireh
Wall Construction	25	_	25	Incl. Jer., Raml'h., Salfit, & Qalqiliya
House Occupation	1	_	1	Converted into a military post, Hebron
Curfew	1	_	1	Over the village of Haris in Salfit
Closure of Checkpoints	16	_	16	Incl. access impeded at 10 checkpoints
Flying Checkpoints	6		6	Incl. 2 in Jerusalem and 2 in Bethlehem
Closure (per District)	8	_	8	Incl. over the city of Jerusalem
Closure of Main Roads	52	_	52	Incl. in 13 in Nablus and 4 in Salfit
Closure of Crossing Points	_	6	6	Only 1 crossing point partially open
Settlement Activity	1		1	Land levelling for fence expansion, Salfit
Settler Violence	3	_	3	Incl. civilian houses stoned in Qalqiliya
Palestinian Attack	_	1	1	An anti-tank mortar fired on Israeli army
Demonstrations	9	_	9	Incl. against house demolitions, Jerusalem
TOTAL	193	7	200	

DISTRICT EVENTS

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.

• Closure:

- (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.
- (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).

• Closure of Main Roads:

- (i) The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks and dirt barricades the entrance to the village of Jaba'.
- (ii) 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.

• Checkpoints:

- (i) 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.
- (ii) At 19:30, the Israeli army intensified its restrictions and impeded civilian access at the checkpoint set up near the village of Jaba'.
- <u>Arrest</u>: On 27 March 2009, Israeli troops positioned at Qalandiya checkpoint arrested Samer Sa'id al Khatib.
- <u>Demonstrations</u>: At 12:00, civilians performed Friday prayers in sit-in tents in the neighbourhoods of Silwan, Ash Shikh Jarrah, and Olive Mount as well as in the area of Ras Khamis near Shu'fat refugee camp in the city of Jerusalem in protest against Israeli military orders for evacuation of civilian houses. The Israeli authorities intend to demolish these houses and construct settlements.

Wall Gates:

(i) The Israeli army continues to close the Wall gate in the town of Abu Dis with cement blocks.

JERUSALEM

	 (ii) The Israeli army continues to deny civilian access through the Wall 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 thorough searches using electronic devices. • 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	 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. Checkpoint: The Israeli army continues to intensify restrictions at the checkpoint on the overpass to 'Atara town and impede civilian access. Raids/Detentions: At 14:30, the Israeli army raided the city of El Bireh and detained 2 children, claiming that they had thrown stones at the settlement of Psagot. At 18:00, the Israeli army released the 2 children. At 15:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of Beituniya. At 20:45, the Israeli army raided the village of Um Safa and served summons to 3 civilians to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency. Demonstrations/Attacks/Injuries: 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 3 civilians, including 2 children, as well as a foreign female journalist. Other civilians also sustained injuries as a result of tear gas inhalation. At 13:00, 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 civilians, during which the Israeli army injured 6 civilians, including 1 child. In addition, a number of protestors sustained injuries as a result of tear gas inhalation. 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.
JENIN	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.

	 Raids: At 23:00, the Israeli army raided the town of Qabatiya and patrolled the area until 24:00. At 03:00, the Israeli army raided the town of Silat adh Dhahr and arrested 1 civilian. Arrest: The Israeli army arrested Salah Abdul Hameed Abu Dayyak in the town of Silat adh Dhahr. 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.
TUBAS	 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. Raids: At 22:00, the Israeli army raided the city of Tubas and the town of Tammun and patrolled these areas until 01:00. At 22:10, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of 'Aqqaba.
TULKAREM	 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. Closure of Main Roads: The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the western entrance to the village of Shufa. The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the road connecting the town of Kafr al Labad to the village of Shufa. Checkpoint: The Israeli army continues to intensify restrictions at Einav checkpoint set up on Tulkarem-Nablus main road. Raids/Attack: At 22:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the city of Tulkarem. At 23:00, the Israeli army raided the town of Deir al Ghusun, searched a number of houses, and served summons to 7 civilians to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency. At 00:05, the Israeli army raided the city of Tulkarem and Tulkarem refugee camp as well as opened indiscriminate fire. In the refugee camp, the Israeli army also served summons to 2 civilians to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency. Wall Gates: Passage through the wall gates is restricted to civilians granted special Israeli permits.
QALQILYA	 Closure of Roads: The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks agricultural roads east of the town of 'Azzun. 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.

• <u>Attack</u>: At 16:00, Israeli troops positioned at the checkpoint set up at the northern entrance to the town of 'Azzun opened fire towards a number of young civilians, allegedly for throwing stones.

• Raids:

- (i) At 13:50, the Israeli army raided the town of Jayyus. While patrolling the area, confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians.
- (ii) At 14:35, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the village of 'Izbat ht Tabib.
- (iii) At 14:40, the Israeli army raided the town of 'Azzun, after stones had been thrown at Israeli settler vehicles travelling near the town. The Israeli army also patrolled the area until 16:50.
- <u>Settler Violence</u>: At 18:00, a group of Israeli settlers from the settlement of She'arei Tekva threw stones at civilians and houses in the village of 'Azzun 'Atma. Consequently, the Israeli army evacuated settlers from the area.

• Wall Gates:

- (i) Passage through the Wall gates is restricted to civilians granted special Israeli permits.
- (ii) The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions at 'Azzun 'Atma Wall gate and to search civilians, including students, with a metal detector.

• Wall Construction:

- (i) Having completed the Wall-related infrastructure, land levelling for Wall construction ceased in the towns of 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth as well as in the villages of Immatin and Kafr Laqif.
- (ii) Wall construction continues south of the town of Jayyus as well as near the settlement of Alfe Menashe in the villages of Ras Tira, Magharet ad Dab'a, and Wadi ar Rasha south of the city of Qalqiliya.

• Closure of Main Roads:

(i) The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks the roads of Sarra-Jit; Til-Burin; Beit Furik-Salem; the road between the town of 'Aqraba 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 'Aqraba; 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.

NABLUS

- (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.
- (iii) Beginning at 08:55 on 26 March 2009, the Israeli army has continued to close with dirt barricades the eastern entrance to the village of Madama.

- <u>Checkpoints</u>: The Israeli army continues to regulate times for crossing checkpoints set up around the city of Nablus:
- (i) At Tur neighbourhood checkpoint (set up on Jerzim Mount) is closed on Fridays and Saturdays as well as during Jewish holidays. On all other days, it is open for civilian residents of the neighborhood only.
- (ii) Beit Furik checkpoint is open to residents of the town of Beit Furik and the neighbouring village of Beit Dajan.
- (iii) The Israeli army continues to allow Palestinians holding Israeliissued IDs to access the city of Nablus by their private vehicles through Beit Furik checkpoint and Biet Iba iron gate. Additionally, the Israeli army allows free access to physicians, who are residents of the city of Nablus.
- (iv) Beginning on 15 February 2009, the Israeli army has allowed free access by private vehicles to all 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.
- (v) Having removed Beit Iba checkpoint, the Israeli army installed an iron gate near the junction to the village of Deir Sharaf along the Nablus-Tulkarem main road. The iron gate is open everyday between 05:00 and 24:00 to allow civilian access without permits.
- <u>Flying Checkpoint</u>: At 17:40, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint in the area between the villages of Beit Imrin and Yasid and searched civilians and vehicles.

• Raids:

- (i) At 16:30, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of 'Asira ash Shamaliya.
- (ii) At 03:30, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the city of Nablus.

• Closure of Main Roads:

- (i) The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the northern entrance to Salfit city and the eastern entrance to the village of Yasuf.
- (ii) 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.
- <u>Checkpoints</u>: 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.

• Raids/Attack/Curfew:

- (i) At 21:00, the Israeli army raided the village of Haris, fired sound grenades, imposed curfew, and closed the western entrance to the village with dirt barricades.
- (ii) At 23:40, the Israeli army raided the villages of Yasuf and Iskaka as well as patrolled these areas until 00:30.
- <u>Settlement Activity</u>: At 12:00, the Israeli army levelled 7 *dunums* (1.729 acres) of civilian land east of the village of Sarta for expansion of the fence around of the settlement of Barkan.

SALFIT

	 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.
JERICHO	 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. 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. At 20:45, the Israeli army intensified its restrictions and impeded civilian access at the DCO checkpoint set up at the southern entrance to the city of Jericho.
BETHLEHEM	 Closure: 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. 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. Closure of Main Roads: In addition to 2 side roads east and south of the village of Al Walaja, the Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the roads of Beit Jala-Wadi Ahmad; Talita-Nazlet as Sidr in the city of Beit Jala; Al Khadr -Road # 60; Al Khadr -Beit Jala Housing Project; Wadi Rahal-Efrat; and the side road east of the town of Beit Fajjar. Flving Checkpoints: At 14:00, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint at the entrance to the town of Tuqu' and searched civilians and vehicles. At 22:45, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint near the entrance to the town of Nahhalin and searched civilians and vehicles. At 14:30, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of Tuqu'. At 15:40, and again at 04:45, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of Al Khadr. Demonstrations/Attack/Physical Assaults/Injuries: At 11:00, families of political prisoners held a sit-in demonstration in front of offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in the city of Bethlehem in solidarity with their relative prisoners and demanding that they be released from the Israeli prisons.

- (ii) At 13:00, a mass demonstration, including international peace activists, took place in the village of Al Ma'sara in protest against Wall construction. The Israeli army obstructed the demonstration and fired rubber-coated steel bullets towards protestors. The Israeli army also severely beat protestors, leaving 4 civilians, including a journalist, with contusions. A number of protestors also sustained injuries as a result of tear gas inhalation.
 Wall Construction: Wall construction continues in the area northwest of the
 - <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.

• <u>Closure</u>:

- (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.

HEBRON

• 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.
- (vi) Beginning at 08:30 on 26 March 2009, the Israeli army has continued to close the entrance to the villages of Wadi ash Shajina and Khirbet Basam with dirt barricades.
- **Flying Checkpoint:** At 11:30, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint along the road connecting the city of Hebron to the town of Yatta and searched civilians and vehicles.

• Raids/House Occupation/Detentions:

- (i) At 10:00, and again at 17:30, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the city of Hebron.
- (ii) At 13:40, the Israeli army raided the town of Dura and searched 1 house. At 16:20, and again at 00:20, the Israeli army raided the town again, patrolled the area, and searched 1 house.
- (iii) At 14:00, the Israeli army raided the town of Beit Ummar, occupied 1 house, and converted it into a military post, after having detained residents in a single room. At 20:50, the Israeli army withdrew from the area.
- (iv) At 17:25, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the village of Kharsa.
- (v) At 23:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled Al Fawwar refugee camp.

• Settler Violence:

- (i) At 11:35, a group of Israeli settlers cut down a number of fruit-bearing trees belonging to the family of Abu Heikal in the Tal Rumeida neighbourhood in the old city of Hebron.
- (ii) At 12:40, a group of armed Israeli settlers gained access into the area of Al Kanar in the town of Dura and withdrew 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 an anti-tank mortar towards an Israeli army armoured vehicle near the Green Line.

NORTHERN GAZA	Closure of Crossing Point: Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing is closed.
GAZA	 Closure of Crossing Points: Al Muntar (Karnei) Crossing is closed. Ash Shuja'iya (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing is closed. Palestinian Attack: In the morning of 27 March 2009, armed Palestinian individuals fired an anti-tank mortar towards an Israeli army armoured vehicle, while patrolling the area the area near Al Muntar (Karnei) Crossing Point on the Green Line.
CENTRAL GAZA	Activities not reported.
KHAN YUNIS	Activities not reported.
RAFAH	 Closure of Crossing Points: Yasser 'Arafat International Airport remains closed. Rafah (Al 'Awdah) Crossing is closed. Sufa Crossing is closed. Karm Abu Salim (Karem Shalom) Crossing is partially open for transportation of food supplies and humanitarian aid.