



GAZA REPORT 2023

GENOCIDE

*Witnessed Before
the Eyes of Humanity*

MAZLÜMDER

2023





GAZA REPORT-2023

Genocide Witnessed Before the Eyes of Humanity



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INTRODUCTION


In Gaza, the greatest crime of genocide of our century is being committed by the occupying Israeli apartheid regime.

No effective intervention has been carried out in the face of attacks where a child is killed every ten minutes, where war crimes and crimes against humanity are systematically committed, and where all elements of genocide are realized. Especially in the United States and many countries in Europe, meetings and demonstrations in favor of Palestine have been banned, journalists silenced, celebrities oppressed, and attempts have been made to restrict social media. When it comes to Israel, there have been calls for all established categories of rights and institutions to turn a blind eye.

It is evident, as seen in the clear process of the recent genocide over the past two months, that international law and institutions, along with mechanisms for the protection of human rights, have become paralyzed. The genocide that unfolded in a live broadcast, which we were unable to prevent, has cast a strong doubt on all international institutions and mechanisms built with the aim of protecting 'human rights,' including the discourse on human rights. It has called into question their effectiveness.

Despite all the brave and assertive statements made by politicians, it is disheartening to witness that domestic legal processes are not being pursued, our criminal complaints within the framework of universal jurisdiction are not acted upon, there is no reversal of decisions such as the dismissal in the significant case of the Mavi Marmara, and political, commercial, and military relationships are maintained with the occupying regime openly engaged in genocide. Witnessing busy shipments in the ports further adds to our shame in the current context and time.

Being aware that there is no sterile discourse and practice of human rights, in our struggle within the framework of our own understanding of rights and freedoms, one



of our most important endeavors is to identify and, if possible, permanently expose oppression. Our reports, being effective and enduring tools, not only prevent the forgetting of the past but also serve a constructive function for the future.

After the occupying Israeli attacks on Gaza at the end of 2009, massacres and the process were documented. Evidence of the use of chemical weapons was identified through on-site investigations in Gaza. These findings were certified by university reports and ultimately became the basis for our criminal complaints. In this report, we have once again approached the matter with the same diligence, endeavoring to make a historical notation through a study that aims to prevent the genocide from fading into oblivion.

I commend all our colleagues who contributed to the creation of our report, which explores the historical context of the occupation, massacres, and genocide process in Palestine, as well as the events and crimes that unfolded after October 7, 2023, along with their legal assessments.

I express my wish that our report serves as a catalyst for the cessation of occupation, human rights violations, and genocide in Palestine, leading to the prosecution and punishment of all those responsible.

Atty. Kaya Kartal

President of MAZLUMDER




METHODOLOGY AND PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades, associated with the legitimate representative of the Palestinian Authority in Gaza, Hamas; and some other resistance groups, captured a certain number of individuals, including Israeli citizens and some foreigners, who were soldiers and civilians, by breaking the Israeli blockade on Gaza on October 7, 2023. Israel presented the incident as far more extensive than a mere military operation, emphasizing the involvement of women, the elderly, and children. However, before the 4-day temporary ceasefire was declared 48 days later, the international media and public, supported by the testimony of numerous Israelis and foreigners, contradicted Israel's portrayal. Immediately following this operation, the Israeli regime initiated a comprehensive attack on Gaza. In the immediate aftermath of this operation, the Israeli regime launched a full-scale assault on Gaza. During this period, Israel bombed hospitals, leading to the deaths of thousands of individuals without discrimination, including civilian women and children. The global public opinion unequivocally and unmistakably characterizes this massacre as 'genocide.


The report titled 'Gaza Report 2023: Genocide Witnessed Before the Eyes of Humanity,' prepared by the Association for Human Rights and the Oppressed (MAZLUMDER), examines human rights violations caused by Israel in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank between October 7 and November 22, 2023.

- In this study, MAZLUMDER confirms that, according to the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 dated November 22, 1967, Israel is in an OCCUPYING position in Palestinian territories.
- The report considers the date of October 7, 2023, and the incision operation that took place on that day not as the beginning of the issue but as a phase in the continuous resistance against the Israeli occupation since 1967. It interprets the conducted operation not as an attack against the state of Israel but as a form of resistance that



emerged in response to systematic attacks and human rights violations against Palestinians.

- This report has been meticulously crafted by scrutinizing news articles, social media posts, official statements, historical documents, and sources to ensure the accuracy of the content. It refrains from including potentially misleading or unverified information.
- In the 'Gaza 2009' report prepared by MAZLUMDER in 2009, field observations were conducted in Gaza, and certain human rights violations were documented through firsthand witnessing. The intention was to carry out similar field observations in Gaza for this study, but due to the ongoing uncontrolled attacks, it has been postponed to a possible ceasefire period.
- For the report, direct communication was established with journalists monitoring Israel's attacks on Gaza and civilians affected by the attacks. The information and perspectives gathered from these individuals have contributed to the content of the report.
- Some of the information, findings, and observations from the 'Gaza 2009' report published by MAZLUMDER in 2009 have also served as one of the primary sources for this current report.
- To enhance the reader's understanding of the violations, a timeline detailing events after October 7 has been created within the report. Significant incidents, such as the hospital massacre, the loss of numerous lives in the attack on a civilian convoy, and the use of phosphorus bombs, are shared with the reader along with their respective dates.
- In addition to documenting Israel's human rights violations in Gaza, this report also includes examples that receive less attention in the media, such as instances where Israel bombed its own citizens and committed human rights violations against them. Following the Aqsa Storm operation, various sources, including the Israeli public, were monitored regarding allegations that Israel mistakenly bombed its own citizens, thinking they were members of the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades, resulting in many casualties. This information is presented to the reader.
- This report serves as a sequel to the 'Gaza 2009' report, prepared by MAZLUMDER Vice President Attorney Gülden SÖNMEZ, Istanbul Branch Board Member Attorney Meryem Sarı, Istanbul Branch Legal Committee Member Attorney M. Kübra Bakırcı, and Istanbul Branch Legal Committee Member Attorney Betül Avcı in 2009. It should



be regarded as one of the notes recorded in history as part of the obligation of fair witnessing.

In the First Chapter of the report, historical background is provided. This section, titled 'Overview of the History of the Palestinian Issue', presents the history of Palestine and the arrival of Jews in the region.

In the Second Chapter titled 'Chronology of Events in Palestine', the attacks by Israel on Gaza and the violence against Palestinians from 2009 to 2023 are examined. It is emphasized that the crisis that began on October 7 did not actually emerge at that date; it is a continuation of a process, revealing that Israel has committed numerous human rights violations in the past as well.

The Third Chapter, titled 'Israel's Assault on Gaza', delves into the events starting from October 7, 2023. This section, forming the core and most crucial part of the study, not only examines Israel's human rights violations but also explores topics such as the international community's apathy, explicit support for Israeli oppression, and the 'witch-hunt' launched against supporters of Palestine.

The Fourth Chapter of the report, under the title 'Legal Assessment, Conclusion, and Recommendations,' provides a legal evaluation of Israel's human rights violations.



Source: [hnsarowar385](https://pixabay.com/users/hnsarowar385)
(<https://pixabay.com/users/hnsarowar385-18661417/>)



CHAPTER 1: OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORY OF THE “PALESTINIAN ISSUE”

This chapter has been created with reference to the 'Gaza 2009' report we published in 2009.

The lands where Jews resided securely until the 20th century.

Palestine, with a history dating back thousands of years, has been a central point in international dynamics throughout the past century. Beyond its strategic importance for Eastern Mediterranean dominance, Palestine holds immense value from religious, political, and cultural perspectives. These lands host the sacred sanctuaries of Muslims and Jews (the Children of Israel), descendants of the two prophet sons, Ishmael and Isaac, both of whom were prophets like their father Abraham. Furthermore, being the the place where Jesus was born and fought his struggle, it holds an indispensable value for Christians as well.

The Children of Israel reached the lands of Palestine in the 2000s BCE. Despite facing great massacres during the periods of the Babylonian Kingdom, the Roman Empire, and the subsequent Crusader invasion, leading to their expulsion from these lands, they experienced their most peaceful periods under the Muslim rule. Starting with the opening of the gates of Jerusalem to Muslims during the era of Caliph Umar, during the time of Salahaddin Ayyubi and throughout the four centuries of Ottoman rule. During these periods, Jews lived in peace and prosperity. In fact, escaping the massacre following the fall of the Andalusian state, Jews who could not find refuge in Russia and Europe and were not accepted in any geography they went to, found security once again in Muslim lands and were welcomed into these lands.



The emergence of Zionism and the beginning of the occupation

The 19th century witnessed the dominance of powers such as Austria-Hungary, England, and Russia on the global political stage, while the Ottoman Empire entered a period of decline. The once vast borders of the empire had now become areas of intervention for external forces. During this era, European powers, previously opposed to the idea of a Jewish state in Europe, passionately endorsed the process that commenced with the First Zionist Congress in 1897, envisioning the establishment of a Jewish state in the lands of Palestine. They rallied behind the slogan, 'Transfer a country without a people to a people without a country.'


The Sykes-Picot agreement between England and France during the First World War and, a year later, the Balfour Declaration published in 1917 officially opened the door to these lands for the Jews. With the British mandate, the region was gradually left to the lap of anarchy. Failing to overcome Sultan Abdulhamid II, the Jews, in these lands where the Sultan took significant precautions, engaged in systematic attacks against Muslims through groups such as Haganah, Stern, and Irgun.

After World War II, the United States took the place of England in the region. In May 1948, with Western support, the state of Israel was established on Palestinian lands. However, the massacres like Deir Yasin carried out even before the establishment of this state heralded not a period of tranquility but a new and even greater era of instability in the Middle East.

The Arab-Israeli wars that unfolded from 1948 onwards exposed the inconsistent and insincere attitudes of Arab countries towards Palestine, in addition to the strong Western support that Jews continued to receive. Egypt, Jordan, and Syria, which lost their territories to Israel in the 1967 War, approached the issue more as a domestic political tool and pursued their own losses. Unable to put forth a common action plan, the process has always worked against Palestine.

The Ineffectiveness of the United Nations

The balance in Palestine during the Cold War era has not changed significantly. Israel, with the 1967 war, seized all of Palestine, including Jerusalem, and tripled its territory. Moreover, not satisfied with its own actions, Israel, for example, in the 1970 'Black September'




events, supported Jordan's King Hussein, leading to the killing of thousands of Palestinians. Countries expected to help solve the problem began to kill Palestinians. The 1973 War further strengthened Israel's hand. With each conflict and massacre, large numbers of Palestinians, amounting to millions, have been forced into refugee status. While the UN has made over 200 decisions concerning Palestine, they have either faced US vetoes in the UN Security Council or, lacking effective sanctions, have been reduced to clauses written on water due to Israel's arbitrary actions.

The Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982 and the Sabra-Shatila Massacres, along with ongoing pressures, extended beyond the borders of Palestinian territories. Israel's relentless and unbearable pressures, conducted with its most advanced weaponry, sparked the initiation of the Intifada movements, where Palestinians, irrespective of gender or age, raised flags with stones and sticks.

The period following the Cold War witnessed new divisions in the Middle East. The invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and the U.S. intervention in 1991 eradicated the longstanding Soviet influence in the region, ushering in the effects of a unipolar world order to this area. The significant influence of the Intifada, coupled with the U.S. aspirations to become a global player, led to Israel being brought to the negotiating table, initiating the Middle East Peace Process.

With the Oslo Peace Accords, the continuously reiterated Middle East Peace Process gained significant momentum, yet the Palestinian side was forced to make substantial concessions. Even the leaders of the Likud and Labor Parties did not feel the need to conceal that the Oslo process was unfavorable to the Palestinians. Indeed, upon closer inspection, it becomes evident that the Oslo process was designed to encircle Palestinians in separate areas and hinder the territorial integrity of a potential Palestinian state by placing Jewish settlers between these areas. For instance, Gaza and Jericho have been separated by miles of Israeli-controlled territory. Moreover, before Oslo, there were 110,000 illegal Jewish settlers in Gaza and the West Bank, and after Oslo, this number increased to 195,000. While the number of Jewish settlers in Palestinian territories surged, 5 million Palestinian refugees were forced to struggle for survival under extremely difficult conditions and various deprivations.

The unequal and unsatisfactory environment brought about by the Oslo Peace Accords is undoubtedly one of the main reasons for Palestinians initiating the Second Intifada. While easy issues were addressed in the Oslo agreements, the resolution of difficult issues




(Jerusalem, settlements, refugees, and the establishment of the Palestinian state) was deferred to final status negotiations. Finally, in July 2000, the parties met at Camp David to discuss the challenging issues, but the proposals of U.S. President Clinton, which imposed Israeli perspectives, were not accepted by Palestinian leader Arafat.

The Aggressive Years of Israel

In March 2002, Israel initiated a series of intensive attacks targeting all institutions of the Palestinian Authority. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon besieged Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in his headquarters in Ramallah for an extended period, making Palestinian Authority barracks and all buildings the focus of the attacks. This demonstrated Israel's eagerness to take back everything that had been 'granted' to the Palestinians in the Middle East Peace Process.

Sharon took advantage of all initiatives to stop the violence in the Middle East, exploiting the lack of response from the United States as well. The Mitchell Commission, formed in November 2000 under the chairmanship of U.S. Senator George Mitchell, called on Israel to immediately halt the construction of settlement areas in its report. In response to this call, Israel invoked the pretext of 'Palestinian violence needing to stop', while the Palestinian side requested that Israel cease its construction of new settlements. Israel argued that, as agreed by both parties before, the settlement issue is part of the final negotiations along with Jerusalem, refugees, and borders, emphasizing that there is no separate agreement on this issue. The American diplomat Tenet has, however, facilitated Israel's position by calling for peace talks after a seven-day period of calm.

While Israel occasionally makes flexible statements, it has consistently reiterated the expression "peace talks cannot take place until Palestinians stop violence." The international environment created by the September 11 attacks has also played a significant role in Sharon's audacious behavior. Israel, during the Second Intifada, never considered stepping back from its policies of pressure and massacre. On the contrary, serving as the strongest supporter of the U.S.-led "war on terror" alliance, Israel entered Palestinian cities with the most advanced weapons. Despite numerous massacres in places like Rafah, Jenin, Nablus,




Hebron, and many others, the UN failed to even initiate an investigation because Israel refused to accept UN observers.

By September 2002, the Quartet, consisting of the United States, Russia, the European Union, and the United Nations, had introduced a new roadmap for the Middle East. This roadmap, proposing a two-state solution akin to others, sought to legitimize the prevailing circumstances and severely restrict Palestine. While addressing various sanctions against the Palestinian side, it merely urged Israel to withdraw from the territories it occupied since September 28, 2000. However, Israel, despite agreeing to this new accord, continued the construction of Jewish settlements as before. Additionally, it implemented an unprecedented and inhumane wall project. The wall, planned to be eight meters high and 730 kilometers long, completely isolates the West Bank from the rest of the world. Israel claimed that the wall aimed to stop Palestinian suicide bombers. The wall, which victimized 200,000 Palestinians, also brings 45% more of the West Bank under Israeli control.

In March 2004, Palestinian spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin was assassinated in an immoral operation personally led by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. With the missile attack that killed Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the so-called last peace plan, the "Road Map for the Middle East," was also consigned to the dusty pages of history. Due to a U.S. veto, the United Nations couldn't even take condemning action against the incident. Less than a month after this ruthless massacre, Abdulaziz al-Rantisi was killed in the same way. Moreover, the fact that Yasser Arafat, the president of a state recognized by the UN, was also targeted for assassination underscores the extent of Israel's lawless behavior. The question of how far Israel's madness will go and who will put a stop to Israel, the real source of terrorism, remains a matter of great concern.

Hamas' 2006 election victory and the "punished" Gazans

In the month of January 2006, a pivotal moment unfolded in Palestinian history. The unprecedented democratic elections sparked hopes for stability and captured the world's attention. Palestinians, having observed Hamas's sincerity during the resistance, ushered them into power for the first time, entrusting them with a political leadership role. However, hopes were quickly dashed, and a new process began where international law was trampled upon. The rise to power of a group perceived as an enemy, Hamas, shook Israel, its Western supporters, and some Arab countries. All cooperation proposals from Hamas, which entered




the elections under the name of the Reform and Change Bloc, were rejected by political rivals, especially the Fatah movement, as well as by all local and international actors. Thus, not only a historic opportunity was missed, but an incredible double standard began to be applied.

From the very beginning, relations with the Hamas government were cut off without any attempt at reconciliation. Instead of giving the government in power a chance, waiting to see its policies, and respecting the will of the Palestinian people, clear support was given to the defeated opposition in the elections. For 1.5 years, relations were suspended, an economic embargo was imposed on the Hamas administration, and even military attacks were carried out by Israel. A policy of turning political differences in Palestinian society into a rift was pursued, and the Presidency controlled by Fatah was treated as a second government. This approach, encouraging the dual-headed Palestinian option, led to tension among Palestinian groups, escalating to the brink of civil war. The government, which had the support of more than 65% of the people, became unable to function, and the imposed economic embargo increased poverty and unemployment rates in Palestine, disrupting social balances.

As of 2006, Gaza, one of the most densely populated places in the world in terms of population density, is home to 1.5 million people, with 900,000 of them being refugees. When this situation, providing a suitable ground for political and social turmoil, intensified further with provocations and Israeli operations, the desired outcome was achieved. In mid-2007, a significant internal conflict unfolded in Gaza between Hamas and Fatah, leading to the complete takeover of Gaza's administration by Hamas. Despite Hamas' efforts to legitimize this de facto situation, they were unsuccessful. Subsequently, Gaza encountered a comprehensive blockade, as the international community mobilized various economic and political pressure mechanisms, initiating a challenging period for the region.

During the embargo, unemployment surged by 80%, poverty increased by 75%, and inflation witnessed a staggering rise of 200%. Despite attempts at reconciliation by Yemen, Qatar, and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, all efforts proved unsuccessful. The economic embargo intensified further, leading to the closure of all border crossings that connected Gaza to the world, effectively transforming the region into an open-air prison.

Due to elections in Israel and the United States during that period, a 6-month ceasefire was declared. Hamas viewed this ceasefire as an opportunity for the opening of border crossings. However, neither the embargo was eased nor the borders were opened, and



Israel's attacks did not cease. Even during the ceasefire, more than 40 Palestinians lost their lives in Israeli attacks. As the ceasefire ended, Israel intensified its attacks, making its inhumane policy in Gaza even more ruthless with air and ground operations from December 27, 2008, to January 7, 2009, resulting in the loss of 1,500 lives.

The open-air prison before the eyes of humanity: Gaza

According to recorded history, the name Palestine has been in use for at least five thousand years. It defines the southwestern part of the region known as Bilad-ı Şam in historical records. In its current form, the area is surrounded by the Jordan River and the Dead Sea to the east, the Mediterranean Sea and the Sinai Desert to the west, Lebanon to the north, and the Red Sea to the south. In the past, the East Bank, situated east of the Jordan River, was also considered part of Palestine. In essence, the entire Jordan region, encompassing both the eastern and western banks of the Jordan River, was integral to Palestine.

In the current official political division, over 20,000 square kilometers of Palestine are officially designated as Israel. The Palestinian territories, excluding the region recognized as "Israel" in UN resolutions, consist of Gaza, the West Bank (also referred to as the West Bank), and East Jerusalem. East Jerusalem, unilaterally designated as "Israel" by occupying forces, has been annexed, but this annexation lacks international recognition. Israel has also seized, and continues to seize, a significant portion of the West Bank, known as the West Bank, by opening it up to Jewish settlers. Conversely, Jewish settlements in Gaza were evacuated during the withdrawal in 2005.

Following the Arab-Israeli War in 1948, Gaza, whose boundaries were drawn by the 1950 ceasefire agreement under the United Nations, remained under the control of Egypt until 1967 (for 17 years). Following the 1967 war in the Middle East, which led to changes in borders, the area directly came under Israeli occupation. Partial independence was achieved in 2005, 38 years later. Although the Israeli occupation appears to have ended, this independence is not recognized on the international stage in practice. Israel retains control over all borders, land, sea, and airspace of Gaza.

Approximately 2.3 million Palestinians live in Gaza, with more than 70% of them being refugees displaced by Israel. The refugees are dispersed across 8 refugee camps in different

parts of Gaza. Their health, education, and other humanitarian needs are addressed through assistance from the United Nations, international aid organizations, and contributions from Arab countries.

During the 1990s, Gaza had a functional airport, but it was bombed by Israel and rendered inoperable during the 2000 intifada. Moreover, Israel's refusal to allow the use of airspace has made it impossible to revive the airport. Gaza, surrounded by an Israeli blockade from the sea, has no means of opening up to the world except through Egypt and Israel.

Due to the weight of the physical conditions it has been forced to endure, Gaza is the region with the highest concentration of armed resistance groups and the strongest opposition against Israel. In the eyes of Israel and its supporters, Gaza represents the source of all problems as it refuses to be deterred by the occupation. Gaza is also included among the areas covered by the U.S. discourse on "counterterrorism."



Source: [hosnysalah Palestinian photographer currently living in Palestine Gaza Strip](https://pixabay.com/photos/gaza-strip-palestine-3829403/)
(<https://pixabay.com/photos/gaza-strip-palestine-3829403/>)

Human Rights Violations in Palestine (1946-2009)

**King David
Massacre**
22 July 1946

The attack on the King David Hotel by the Israeli organization Irgun on July 22, 1946, resulted in the loss of 96 lives, including British, Arab, and Jewish individuals.

Deir Yassin Massacre
9 April 1948

The massacre carried out by militants affiliated with the Irgun terrorist organization in the village of Deir Yasin resulted in the killing of 254 Palestinian civilians.

Lida Massacre
9-18 July 1948

In the Lida Massacre, carried out under the explicit orders of Yitzhak Rabin, within a span of 10 days, 60,000 people were forcibly displaced from their homes. This was followed by massacres in El Tira, Tantoura, and Haifa, resulting in the killing of hundreds of Palestinian civilians.

Safsaf Village Massacre
29 October 1948

As a result of the Israeli army's attack on Safsaf Village, 70 individuals lost their lives due to indiscriminate firing upon the villagers.

**Dawayima
Village Massacre**
29 October 1948

Three separate units affiliated with the Israeli occupation army entered the village of Dawayima in El-Halil, killing between 80 to 100 Palestinians, including women and children, allegedly without any conflict.

Kibya Village Massacre
12 October 1953

A group of Israeli soldiers, led by Ariel Sharon, carried out an attack on the village of Qibya in the West Bank, resulting in the killing of 67 people and injuring 75 others.

Kafr Kasem Massacre
29 October 1956

On the eve of Israel's occupation of Egypt, occupying soldiers brutally massacred 49 Palestinian civilians, including women and children, in a Palestinian village in the region.

Samu Massacre
November 1956

Occupying soldiers attacking the village of Samu in the West Bank demolished the village, resulting in the death of 18 Palestinians in the destruction operation. Dozens more were injured.

Jordan Massacres

15 February, 4 June 1968

Israeli planes dropped napalm bombs on more than 15 Palestinian villages along the Jordan River. In the attack, officially reported figures indicate that 56 people lost their lives in a horrific manner. In June, Israeli planes bombing the city of Irbid resulted in the death of 30 Palestinians.

Abu Za'bal Massacre

12 February 1970

Israeli planes bombed Abu Za'bal near the Egypt-Israel border. In the attack, 70 workers in a targeted factory lost their lives.

Sha'a Massacre

8 April 1970

Israeli planes bombed a school in the Sha'a province, located 80 kilometers from the capital city of Cairo in Egypt. In the attack, 46 children were killed.

Syria Massacre

8 September 1972

Israeli jets violating Syrian airspace bombed seven villages. At least 200 people lost their lives in the attack.

Libya Massacre

19 February 1973

A passenger plane belonging to Libyan Airlines was shot down by Israel. All 107 passengers and crew on board lost their lives.

Beirut Massacre

20 July 1981

Israeli jets, in an airstrike on the capital city of Beirut in Lebanon, killed 300 civilians. Hundreds of civilians were also injured or left disabled in the same attack.

Sabra and Shatila Massacres

15-16 September 1982

In 1982, under the supervision and protection of Israeli forces led by Chief Commander Ariel Sharon, a massacre was carried out by Lebanese Christian Phalangist militias. In this massacre, 991 people were killed, and the identities of only 328 victims could be determined. The attackers made the bodies unrecognizable, making it impossible to identify many of those killed.

Jerusalem Massacre


8 October 1990

In the conflict between Jews, seeking to demolish Al-Aqsa Mosque and construct the Temple of Solomon in its place, and Palestinians, 30 Palestinians lost their lives, and 800 individuals were injured due to gunfire initiated by Israeli soldiers.

Prophet Ibrahim Mosque Massacre

25 February 1994

During the morning prayer at the Prophet Ibrahim mosque in El-Halil, located in the West Bank, an attack by a Jewish



individual resulted in the loss of over 50 lives, including children, and left approximately 300 people injured.

Kana Massacre

18 April 1996

As a result of the attack by Israel on the Kana refugee camp in Lebanon, 109 Palestinians, mostly women and children, lost their lives.

Jenin Massacre

3-15 April 2002

The Israeli army, attacking the Jenin Refugee Camp in the West Bank with armored forces, killed approximately 1,300 civilians.

Nuseirat Massacre

March 2004

Israeli soldiers, entering the Nuseirat and Bureij refugee camps in Gaza, killed 14 civilians, including four children.

Gaza Massacre

March 2008

As a result of the attack on Gaza, 134 people lost their lives.

Gaza Massacre

January 2009

The ongoing air and ground attacks on Gaza resulted in the loss of over 1,500 lives, including many women and children, and left more than 5,500 people injured.



Source: [Judas-Isariot](https://pixabay.com/illustrations/city-town-arab-arabic-art-8385930/)
<https://pixabay.com/illustrations/city-town-arab-arabic-art-8385930/>



CHAPTER 2: EVENTS UNFOLDING IN PALESTINE BETWEEN 2009 AND 2023

The savagery and disregard for law exhibited by Israel, starting immediately two days after October 7, 2023, mark an unprecedented pinnacle and a new dimension incomparable to any prior events. Yet, there is no alternative way to illustrate that Israel's lawlessness and brutality have not waned but have continuously endured. While the examples discussed under this heading may seem minuscule compared to post-October 7 events, it is crucial to remember that no incident arises without underlying reasons.

The processes to be addressed and the small to large-scale events mentioned under this heading are ultimately the events that gave rise to the Aqsa Storm. The brutality exhibited by Israel after the Aqsa Storm is not a one-time outburst but rather part of Israel's routine activities.

Year 2009: Operation Cast Lead

December 31, 2008 - January 18, 2009: The Israeli occupation regime launched an attack on Gaza named "Operation Cast Lead." The assault, utilizing warplanes, heavy weaponry, and naval boats, targeted not only cities but also centers belonging to Palestinian military groups, homes of civilians, buildings, mosques, commercial shops, and schools owned by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), where civilians sought refuge. Hundreds of targets were bombed and destroyed. During these attacks, in addition to armed Palestinians, a total of 775 civilians, the majority of whom were children and women, lost their lives, and over 3,000 civilians were injured.

Year 2010: Mavi Marmara

May 31, 2010: Israeli soldiers attacked the Gaza Freedom Flotilla, the aid ship Mavi Marmara, which set sail with the slogan "Our Destination is Palestine, Our Load is Humanitarian Aid" aiming to break the Gaza blockade. In the attack, 9 Turkish aid volunteers lost their lives, and more than 50 volunteers were injured.

August 31, 2010: While Palestinian and Israeli parties were preparing for talks in Washington, the armed wing of Hamas, the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades, launched an attack on a vehicle in the Hebron region of the West Bank, killing 4 Jewish settlers.

January 19, 2010: Mahmoud al-Mabhouh, one of the founders and commanders of the military wing of Hamas, the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades, was killed by Mossad agents in a Dubai hotel; he was suffocated to death.

March 2011: In the attacks launched by Israel on the Gaza Strip, eight people lost their lives, and numerous others were injured. Additionally, retaliatory attacks, in response to mortar shells fired by Gaza, were reported to have caused harm to civilians residing in the suburbs of Gaza.


August 18, 2011: As a result of attacks near the city of Eilat in Israel, at least 8 Israelis lost their lives, and 40 people were injured.

August 19, 2011: In a retaliatory attack by the Israeli side, 6 Palestinians, including the commander of the Palestinian People's Resistance Committees, Kemal al-Nairab, lost their lives.

September 2011: In a week-long series of airstrikes by Israel in the Gaza Strip, 18 Palestinians lost their lives.

Year 2012: Pillar of Cloud Operation

March 3, 2012: Israel conducted attacks in the Gaza Strip for four days, resulting in the loss of 25 Palestinian lives. Following the operations, the parties reached an agreement with the mediation of Egypt.



November 14, 2012: In a week-long series of air and sea attacks on Gaza, initiated by Israel, 13 people lost their lives, including Hamas' military leader Ahmed al-Jabari, and 120 people were injured.

In a report published by the "Ahrar" Center for Prisoners and Human Rights Studies, it is stated that throughout the year 2013, Palestinian cities became vulnerable to Israeli attacks. As a result of Israeli military assaults, 27 people lost their lives in the West Bank and 9 in Gaza. Additionally, 4 Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons lost their lives due to negligence. In 2013, Israeli soldiers detained Palestinians as follows: 849 in Hebron, 660 in Jerusalem, 454 in Nablus, 366 in Bethlehem, 364 in Jenin, 333 in Ramallah, 151 in Qalqilya, 96 in Tulkarm, 77 in Gaza, 50 in Tubas, 46 in Salfit, and 21 in Jericho. The report also provides information that out of those detained, 30 were women, and the number of Palestinian members of parliament in Israeli prisons reached 14, including 8 who were detained during the year.

Year 2014: Israel's 51-Day Assault


July 7, 2014: Israel initiated a 51-day-long assault on Gaza, during which more than 2,100 Palestinians lost their lives, including 530 children and 302 women. Additionally, over 10,000 Palestinians were injured. On the Israeli side, 64 soldiers and 6 civilians lost their lives, with 720 Israelis injured.

July 27, 2014: A 12-hour ceasefire was declared during the attacks. However, just 2 hours after its initiation, Israel breached the ceasefire and resumed its ground assault.

April 1, 2015: Palestine officially became a member of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

In 2015, Israel demolished 478 homes and facilities belonging to Palestinians in the West Bank and Jerusalem. In a written statement from the Abdullah al-Hurani Research Center affiliated with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), it was reported that "Israeli soldiers demolished 247 homes and 231 facilities in the West Bank and Jerusalem this year, and warnings were sent regarding the demolition of 553 homes and facilities."

According to the "2015 Israel-Palestine" report published by the United Nations, Israel killed 170 Palestinians and injured 15,377 in the year 2015. In the past year, Israel also demolished 539 homes and facilities belonging to Palestinians in the West Bank and Jerusalem.



Year 2017: Jerusalem was recognized by the United States as the "capital of Israel"

July 14, 2017: Israeli authorities claimed to have fatally shot three Palestinians, whom they accused of launching an armed attack at the Al-Aqsa Mosque on Friday morning. Additionally, two Israeli police officers lost their lives after getting injured in the incident.

July 16, 2017: Israeli authorities installed metal detectors at the gates of the Old City in Jerusalem. Subsequently, in the incidents that ensued in Jerusalem and its surroundings, four Palestinians and three Israelis lost their lives. Due to the ongoing events, Israeli police removed the metal detectors on July 25.


December 6, 2017: U.S. President Trump stated that they recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and announced their intention to relocate the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. According to the data from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Israeli forces have killed 295 Palestinians and injured 29,000 Palestinians since the beginning of 2018. OCHA records also indicate a significant increase in attacks by Jewish settlers against Palestinians in 2018.

May 14, 2018: Following the decision of U.S. President Donald Trump to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, the embassy's opening took place. As preparations were underway for protest demonstrations in Gaza for the embassy opening and the 70th anniversary of Nakba (the Great Catastrophe), Israeli soldiers attacked protesters, resulting in the death of 59 Palestinians by Israeli forces.

In a report released by the Palestinian Martyrs' Families National Society affiliated with the Palestinian government, it was stated that in the year 2018, among the 149 Palestinians martyred, there were 33 children and 12 women. The report indicated that in Israeli attacks, 112 Palestinians lost their lives in the Gaza Strip, and 37 Palestinians lost their lives in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. Among the Palestinians who lost their lives in Gaza, the cause of death for 69 individuals was reported to be Israeli air strikes.

In the year 2019, the Israeli administration demolished significantly more homes in East Jerusalem, where Palestinians reside, compared to 2018. According to the human rights group Ir Amim, the number of demolished homes is 104, whereas it was 72 in 2018. This indicates a 44% increase in demolitions.

The government office in Gaza has released the 2019 data for journalists in Palestine. The Government Office spokesperson, Salama Ma'arouf, stated in a press conference that



2019 was the second-worst year for journalists in Palestine, following 2018. Ma'arouf also noted that in 2019, 87 journalists in Gaza and 67 journalists in the West Bank experienced attacks, with 21 journalists in Gaza being shot with live ammunition.

February 15, 2020: Nine-year-old Palestinian Malik Eissa was reportedly shot in the face by Israeli police in East Jerusalem, allegedly for participating in the uprisings, resulting in the loss of his left eye.

On May 12, 2020, Israeli soldier Amit Ben Yigal was fatally struck in the head with a stone by 49-year-old Nazmi Abu Bakr during the uprising in Ya'bad, Jenin Governorate.

May 29, 2020: Fadi Adnan Samara Qa'd, aged 37, was killed by Israeli soldiers. According to information gathered by PCHR, Qa'd was on his way to el-Saweya in Salfit to pick up his family. Around 4:30 PM, he encountered soldiers, lost control of his vehicle, and as a consequence, the soldiers fired at Qa'd's car, injuring him. Due to their prevention of him receiving medical assistance, he lost his life.

May 30, 2020: 32-year-old Palestinian Eyad al-Hallaq, who had autism, was shot and killed by Israeli police near the Lion's Gate checkpoint in Jerusalem.

November 6, 2020: In the aftermath of the destruction of a village in the Hirbet Humsa el-Fawq area, 73 Palestinians, including 41 children, were displaced. Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh accused Israel of planning and executing the demolition precisely at a time when global attention was distracted by the U.S. election.


2021 Year: Raids during Ramadan in Jerusalem and in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood.

April 15-16, 2021: Israel initiated an airstrike after a relatively calm period between Israel and the Palestinian territories, prompting the firing of rockets in response.

April 23, 2021: Hundreds of ultra-nationalist Jewish individuals, chanting "Death to Arabs," marched towards the Damascus Gate. Conflicts erupted between the police, attempting to separate the two groups, and the Palestinians, resulting in dozens of injuries. The violence between the two sides started to spread to other areas of the city.

April 24, 2021: Hamas carried out retaliatory attacks by firing dozens of rockets from Gaza into Israel.

May 2, 2021: The Fatah group and Hamas condemned the threat to evict Palestinians from their homes in the Sheikh Jarrah area of East Jerusalem by Jewish settlers. Hamas called



on Arabs in the area to form "resistance shields." In the following days, clashes between police and protesters continued.

May 7, 2021: Israeli police entered the Al-Aqsa Mosque and attacked the congregation with sound bombs. In the following days, the intervention of Israeli police at the Al-Aqsa Mosque, including the use of rubber bullets, drew the ire of Palestinians. Palestinians protesting against the practices of the Israeli police in the Old City of East Jerusalem were intervened, resulting in injuries to at least 200 people. In the final days of Ramadan, Israeli police interventions against Palestinians in Jerusalem and its vicinity led to hundreds of injuries, including children, and the arrest of dozens. The incidents escalated tension in the region, leading extremist Jewish groups in cities with a significant Palestinian population within Israel's borders to attempt and carry out assaults and attacks on Palestinians, including acts of lynching and the use of weapons.

Israel's plan to evict Palestinians from the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood and its intervention at the Al-Aqsa Mosque have been met with strong reactions in the West Bank and Gaza. Throughout this tension, more than 30 Palestinians lost their lives in protests in the West Bank due to the Israeli police's use of live ammunition.


May 14, 2021: In a statement from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), it was reported that due to the ongoing conflicts in Gaza, nearly 10,000 Palestinians were forced to leave their homes.

May 15, 2021: Israeli warplanes bombed a 13-story building in the Gaza Strip that housed international media organizations, causing the building to collapse.

May 16, 2021: As the UN Security Council convened for discussions on the conflict, Palestinian authorities in Gaza declared Sunday to be the deadliest day since the start of the current conflict with Israel.

On May 20, 2021, Israel and Hamas reached a ceasefire through Egyptian mediation. The 11-day conflict resulted in the loss of 254 Palestinian lives in the Gaza Strip, including 66 children, with nearly 2,000 people injured. In Israel, 12 individuals lost their lives, including 2 children.

On July 28, 2021, Human Rights Watch (HRW) stated that Israel had violated the laws of war and "clearly committed war crimes" during its attacks on the Gaza Strip in May.



On September 6, 2021, six Palestinian prisoners in Israel escaped from the high-security Gilboa prison, also known as the "Steel Vault," by digging a tunnel. Israeli security forces initiated a manhunt, and by September 11, they had recaptured all six Palestinians involved in the escape.

2022: The 'deadliest year' for the West Bank

January 6, 2022: Israeli forces, conducting a raid on the Balata refugee camp near Nablus in the occupied West Bank, killed a 21-year-old Palestinian.


January 12, 2022: Omar Asad, an 80-year-old Palestinian American residing in the village of Jalazone near Ramallah in the West Bank, died as a result of the violence inflicted by Israeli police during his detention. Ned Price, the spokesperson for the U.S. Department of State, stated, "We are in touch with the Israeli government to seek further clarity on this issue, and as you may have seen, the Israel Defense Forces have an ongoing investigation into the matter. We support a comprehensive investigation into the circumstances surrounding this incident."

January 24, 2022: Fehmi Hamad, a 57-year-old Palestinian, lost his life after being affected by a tear gas canister thrown by Israeli forces during a raid on the Kalandia Refugee Camp in the northeastern part of Jerusalem.

February 8, 2022: Israeli special forces conducted a raid with a civilian vehicle in the El-Mahfiye neighborhood of Nablus in the occupied West Bank, launching an armed attack on a vehicle carrying Palestinians. Eşref Mubaslat, Ethem Mebruk (26), and Muhammed ed-Dahil (21), who were in the vehicle, were killed.

February 14, 2022: The Israeli army, accompanied by bulldozers, conducted a raid on the village of Sile el-Harisiye near Jenin with the aim of demolishing four houses. During the Israeli attack against Palestinian youth resisting the demolition of their homes, Muhammad Abu Salah (17) was shot in the head and lost his life.

March 29, 2022: Palestinian Ziya Hamaraş (27) carried out an armed attack in Bnei Brak, a suburb of Tel Aviv, killing 5 people. He lost his life in the ensuing conflict with Israeli forces. An Israeli officer, injured in the clashes, also later lost his life due to



the injuries. The armed wing of Fatah, the Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, claimed responsibility for the attack.

April 7, 2022: Palestinian Raad Hazem (29) killed 3 Israelis and injured 9 others in an armed attack on Dizengoff Street in Tel Aviv. The Israeli police announced the next day that Hazem had been located and killed in the ensuing conflict.

April 10, 2023: Israeli soldiers shot and killed Palestinian Muhammad Ali Guneym (21) in the town of el-Hadar near Bethlehem in the West Bank. Near Bethlehem, they also wounded a 47-year-old Palestinian woman by firing shots, claiming she did not obey the "stop" order. The unarmed woman, identified as such, succumbed to her injuries at the hospital. In Hebron, Israeli soldiers reportedly shot and killed a Palestinian woman, claiming she had carried out a knife attack.


April 15, 2022: Israeli forces conducted a raid on the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem and arrested 470 Palestinians, including 60 children. Tensions escalated due to the overlap of the Ramadan month and the Jewish Passover holiday. The Palestinian Red Crescent announced that at least 152 civilians were injured during the clashes at the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

April 26, 2022: A 20-year-old Palestinian was killed during a raid by Israeli forces on the Aqabat Jaber refugee camp in Jericho, located in the eastern part of the West Bank.

April 29, 2022: Following the intervention of the Israeli police against Palestinians in the Al-Aqsa Mosque on the last Friday of Ramadan, clashes erupted, leaving 42 Palestinians injured in the attacks.

May 5, 2022: The Jerusalem High Court, affiliated with Israel, has rejected the appeal by Palestinians against designating the Masafer Yatta area, located in the southern part of the occupied West Bank near El-Halil, as "training grounds for the Israeli army." Due to the decision, which implies the displacement of the residents in the area, the demolition of Palestinian homes and the displacement of more than 4,000 people is said to be imminent.

On May 5, 2022, a knife attack occurred in the city of Elad in Israel's Central region, leading to the loss of three lives. The incident took place on Israel's "Independence Day,"



and four individuals sustained injuries, with two of them in critical condition. One of the severely injured victims passed away in February 2023, eight months after the attack. While Hamas commended the Elad attack, it did not officially claim responsibility. Israeli police suspected it was a militant assault and reported that the assailant fled the scene by boarding a vehicle.

May 9, 2022: The Palestinian Ministry of Health has announced that since January, 50 Palestinians have been killed by Israel, with 49 from the West Bank and 1 from the Gaza Strip.

May 11, 2022: Al Jazeera reporter Şirin Ebu Akile (51) lost her life after being shot by Israeli soldiers while covering the raid on the Jenin refugee camp by the Israeli army.


May 12, 2022: Israel has approved the construction of 2,791 new housing units in illegal Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank, a decision condemned by the UN and the EU.

May 25, 2022: In clashes near the tomb believed to be that of the Prophet Joseph in Nablus, West Bank, Israeli forces killed a 16-year-old Palestinian and injured 88 Palestinians.

May 27, 2022: Israeli forces opened fire on a group of Palestinians throwing stones in El-Kadir protests near Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank, killing a 15-year-old Palestinian.

On June 1, 2022, a 31-year-old Palestinian woman named Gufran Veresane was killed near the El-Arub Refugee Camp north of Hebron. The Palestinian Ministry of Health stated that the woman was martyred as a result of bullets fired by occupation forces, while the Israeli military claimed that she had "attempted a knife attack." Palestinian Authority Spokesperson Ibrahim Mulhim commented, "The killing of Palestinian Gufran Veresane is the same as the martyrdom of (Al Jazeera journalist) Shirin Abu Akile and others. None of them will be forgiven, and there will be no statute of limitations. The perpetrators will be brought to justice sooner or later."

On June 2, 2022, Israeli forces conducted a raid on the town of Yabad in the West Bank, demolishing the home of Ziya Hamarşe, who carried out the Bnei Brak attack on March 29, using explosives. The Israeli military fired upon Palestinians protesting the



demolition. The Palestinian Ministry of Health reported that during an Israeli army raid on the village of Yabad near Jenin, Palestinian Bilal Kabehe (24) lost his life after being shot in the chest, and 6 Palestinians were injured, 3 of them severely. Similarly, in a nighttime raid on the Dehişe Refugee Camp near Bethlehem in the southern West Bank, an Israeli army operation resulted in the death of a Palestinian.

On June 7, 2022, a delegation, including Deputy EU Representative Maria Velasco, visited the Wadi al-Qaddum area in the Silwan neighborhood of East Jerusalem. Velasco confirmed that the ongoing demolition and eviction practices in occupied East Jerusalem violate international humanitarian law and must be stopped.

On June 9, 2022, Israeli forces conducted a raid in the southern West Bank town of Halhul, resulting in the death of a 27-year-old Palestinian.


On June 18, 2022, Palestinian resistance groups launched rockets from the Gaza Strip towards the Israeli city of Ashkelon. The Israeli army successfully intercepted the rocket attacks and responded with airstrikes on Gaza.

On June 24, 2022, Israeli forces shot a 16-year-old Palestinian in the town of Silwad near Ramallah in the occupied West Bank, alleging that the individual posed a threat by throwing stones at passing cars, endangering civilians. The Palestinian teenager succumbed to the injuries the following day.

On July 2, 2022, the Israeli army raided the town of Qabatiya near Jenin in the occupied West Bank, shooting and killing a 17-year-old Palestinian. The Palestinian youth succumbed to his injuries the next day. Israel claimed that the slain Palestinian had allegedly thrown Molotov cocktails at soldiers.

July 11, 2022: According to the Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) report by the United Nations, Israeli security forces killed 78 Palestinian children, disabled 982 children, and detained 637 children in 2021.

On July 26, 2022, in the southern part of Nablus in the occupied West Bank, at the Huvara checkpoint, 60-year-old mentally disabled Palestinian Husein Kavarik was shot and severely injured by Israeli soldiers. The Palestinian Ministry of Health announced that Kavarik passed away on July 29.



On July 28, 2022, Israeli forces attacked Palestinians protesting illegal Israeli settlements in the village of El-Mugayir, north of Ramallah in the occupied West Bank. As a result of gunfire by Israeli soldiers, 16-year-old Palestinian child Emced Ebu Alya lost his life, and five others were injured.


On August 1, 2022, Israeli forces wounded and arrested Bessam Saadi, the leader of the Islamic Jihad Movement, in the city of Jenin in the occupied West Bank. One Palestinian lost their life during the clashes.

On August 5, 2022, in the attacks launched by Israel on the blockaded Gaza Strip, Taysir el-Caberi, a prominent figure in the Islamic Jihad Movement, and 9 others were killed, while 55 people were injured. Islamic Jihad Movement Secretary-General Ziyad al-Nahhale stated that there were "no red lines" in this war with Israel and that Tel Aviv would be under attack from missiles belonging to the resistance. As rocket attacks were initiated from the Gaza Strip to Israeli cities during the night, Israeli warplanes also conducted airstrikes on the Gaza Strip.

On August 7, 2022, a ceasefire was brokered through Egypt's mediation between the parties. In the Israeli attacks on Gaza, at least 44 Palestinians, including 15 children, lost their lives, and more than 300 people were injured.

On August 9, 2022, the Palestinian Ministry of Health announced that in the Israeli forces' raid on Nablus in the occupied West Bank, three Palestinians were killed and 40 Palestinians were injured. Among the deceased was reported to be Ibrahim en-Nabulsi, a high-ranking commander of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades. Following en-Nabulsi's killing, a 17-year-old Palestinian in Hebron was also reported to be killed by Israeli forces in the clashes that erupted in the West Bank.

On August 15, 2022, during a raid on a house in the town of Kefer Akab, located south of Ramallah in the occupied West Bank, Israeli forces killed a 21-year-old Palestinian. While Israeli media claimed they opened fire "in response to a stabbing attempt", the family of the deceased, speaking to the Palestinian news agency Wafa, stated that there was no stabbing attempt, and they acknowledged that the soldiers had entered the wrong house.



On August 18, 2022, Israeli forces conducted raids on Palestinian human rights organizations, including the Zamir Prisoners Protection Association, Al-Haq for Human Rights, Bisan Center for Research and Development, Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network, Union of Agricultural Work Committees, and the Palestinian branch of the International Movement for Children's Rights Defense. They also sealed the entrances of their offices with metal plates. On October 23, 2021, the Israeli Ministry of Justice announced that it had designated six Palestinian human rights organizations affiliated with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) as part of the "terrorist organizations list."


On September 1, 2022, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, Israeli forces killed a 25-year-old Palestinian in a raid on the Balata refugee camp east of Nablus.

On September 7, 2022, Israeli forces conducted a raid on the El-Fara Refugee Camp in Tubas, located in the northern West Bank. The Palestinian Ministry of Health announced that 21-year-old Palestinian Yunus Tayeh lost his life as a result of gunfire by Israeli soldiers.

On September 8, 2022, a 17-year-old Palestinian was shot and killed by Israeli forces near Beitin, close to Ramallah in the occupied West Bank. The Israeli military claimed that the Palestinian youth had lightly injured an Israeli soldier by striking him with a hammer.

On September 14, 2022, near the security barrier in the northern part of Jenin in the occupied West Bank, a conflict resulted in the loss of lives. One Israeli soldier and two Palestinians aged 22 and 23 lost their lives in the clash. El-Fetih has announced that the deceased Palestinians included a member of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades and one who served as an intelligence officer for the Palestinian Authority. On the other hand, the Jenin Brigades affiliated with the Islamic Jihad described the two Palestinians as their members.

On September 15, 2022, Israeli forces killed a 17-year-old Palestinian in a raid on Kefer Dan near Jenin. Additionally, three Palestinians were injured, one of them severely, during the incident.



On September 17, 2022, according to the Civilian Protection Report by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) covering the period from August 30 to September 12, 7 Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces during this time frame, bringing the total to 116 Palestinians killed by Israeli forces since the beginning of the year. Israeli forces conducted 125 raids in the occupied West Bank during this period and demolished 47 structures owned by Palestinians.

On September 24, 2022, Israeli forces killed a Palestinian whom they claimed had driven a car towards a group of soldiers patrolling near Nablus. The official Palestinian news agency Wafa reported that the slain Palestinian was a 36-year-old teacher and father of three children.


On September 28, 2022, Israeli forces killed 4 Palestinians and injured 44 others during a raid on the Jenin refugee camp. The Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades announced that three of the deceased were members of their organization.

29 Eylül 2022: According to a written statement from the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 7-year-old Palestinian Reyyan Suleiman, who reportedly fell from a high place while fleeing Israeli soldiers, could not be saved despite all interventions at Beit Jala Government Hospital. The family of the Palestinian child stated that 7-year-old Reyyan fell while escaping from Israeli soldiers. In a statement from the Israeli army, it was claimed that "according to the initial investigation, there is no connection between the army's search operation in the village and the child's tragic death."

On October 1, 2022, the Palestinian Ministry of Health announced that Israeli forces killed an 18-year-old Palestinian in El-Eizariya, East Jerusalem. Israeli police claimed that the individual was killed after allegedly throwing Molotov cocktails.

On October 2, 2022, the Israeli-based human rights organization HaMoked revealed that 798 Palestinians were being held in Israeli prisons without facing trial or being accused of any specific crime. According to HaMoked, this marks the highest number of "administrative detainees" recorded since 2008.

On October 3, 2022, Israeli forces killed two Palestinians in a raid on the Calzon refugee camp near Ramallah.



On October 5, 2022, Israeli forces killed a 21-year-old Palestinian in a raid on Deyr el-Hatab, east of Nablus, claiming that he opened fire on them. At least six Palestinians were injured, including two journalists covering the incident on behalf of Palestinian TV.


On October 7, 2022, Israeli forces killed a 17-year-old Palestinian named Mehdi Ledadive in clashes that erupted in El-Mezra el-Kabliye, northwest of Ramallah. Witnesses reported that soldiers opened fire during confrontations between local residents and Israeli settlers in the area. The Israeli army stated that Palestinian activists were throwing stones at Israeli settlers and soldiers. Additionally, in the city of Qalqilya, located in the northern part of the occupied West Bank, 14-year-old Palestinian Adil Ibrahim Dawood lost his life due to gunfire opened by Israeli soldiers near the Separation (Shame) Wall.

On October 8, 2022, during a raid on the Jenin refugee camp, Israeli forces reportedly killed two Palestinians aged 17, and at least 11 others were wounded, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health.

At the checkpoint in the Shuafat Refugee Camp, an armed attack on Israeli forces resulted in the death of an Israeli police officer, and one being serious, two other police officers were injured. The Israeli military, claiming that Udey Temimi, who is suspected of being involved in the attack, was hiding in the Shuafat Refugee Camp, imposed a siege on the camp and surrounding neighborhoods, where approximately 150,000 Palestinians reside, for 5 days. Israeli forces, launching a manhunt to capture Temimi, detained dozens of Palestinians.

October 11, 2022: An armed attack near the illegal Jewish settlement of "Shavei Shomron" in the northern West Bank resulted in the death of an Israeli soldier. The responsibility for the attack has been claimed by the Palestinian resistance group called "Aslanların İni" (Lions' Den). "Aslanların İni" first gained recognition through a Telegram channel established on August 27, 2022. Operating in the occupied West Bank, the group declared itself as a new armed entity independent of other Palestinian resistance groups.

October 12, 2022: The Palestinian Ministry of Health has announced that Israeli forces killed an 18-year-old Palestinian in the El-Arub refugee camp near El-Halil in the occupied West Bank. The Israeli military stated that soldiers were following



individuals throwing stones at vehicles on a road near the camp, opened fire on "suspects," and confirmed that one person was shot.

October 16, 2022: According to the Civilian Protection Report covering the period from September 27 to October 10 by OCHA, 13 Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces during this time frame, making the total number of Palestinians killed since the beginning of the year 136. The report also indicates that Israeli forces conducted 145 raids in the occupied West Bank and demolished 27 Palestinian-owned structures.


October 20, 2022: Udey Temimi, the Palestinian who had been sought by Israeli police for 11 days, was killed at the entrance of the illegal Jewish settlement of Maale Adumim in occupied East Jerusalem. Israeli police stated that Temimi was killed during another attack he allegedly carried out at the entrance of Maale Adumim. Statements of condolence and support for Temimi's actions were issued by Fatah, Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. A general strike was called on October 21 to mourn Temimi and protest against Israel's alleged crimes.

October 21, 2022: According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, Israeli forces killed a 19-year-old Palestinian during clashes in the Jenin refugee camp.

On October 22, 2022, Israeli forces killed a 32-year-old Palestinian at a checkpoint in the southeast of Qalqilya in the occupied West Bank. The Israeli military reported that a vehicle had hit an Israeli soldier and fled the scene, leading the soldiers to open fire on the vehicle.

October 25, 2022: Israeli soldiers killed 6 Palestinians and wounded more than 30 during a raid in Nablus. The Israeli military claimed that the operation was targeting the group named "Aslanların İni" (Lions' Den). Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid announced the killing of Vedi el-Havah, the leader of the armed group Lions' Den, in the city of Nablus in the occupied West Bank. Additionally, a 20-year-old Palestinian was killed by Israeli forces in Nebi Salih, north of Ramallah, during protests against the Nablus raid.

November 2, 2022: According to the Civilian Protection Report covering the period from October 11 to October 24 by OCHA, 8 Palestinians were killed during this time frame, bringing the total number of Palestinians killed by Israeli forces since the beginning of the year to 144. Israeli forces conducted 157 raids in the occupied West



Bank during the specified period and demolished 6 Palestinian-owned structures. Additionally, outside the reporting period, between October 25 and October 30, 10 Palestinians and 1 Israeli were killed.

November 3, 2022: During a raid conducted by Israeli soldiers in the northern West Bank city of Jenin, 2 Palestinians were killed, and 4 others were injured. Hamas stated that the policy of "assassination" would not secure Israel and would not extinguish the "growing anger" against the occupation. Islamic Jihad argued that "assassination" operations constituted a "driving force" in defense of Palestinian lands and people.


November 4, 2022: Following the launch of four rockets into Israel, Israeli forces conducted an airstrike on a location in the Maghazi refugee camp in the center of Gaza, claiming it to be a " Hamas facility."

November 5, 2022: The Palestinian Ministry of Health announced that Israeli forces killed an 18-year-old Palestinian near Ramallah. The Israeli military responded, stating that they had reacted to a report of "stones being thrown towards the highway" and that soldiers "responded with live fire to the perpetrators, confirmed hits."

November 8, 2022: According to the Civilian Protection Report covering the period from October 25 to November 7 by OCHA, 15 Palestinians were killed during this time frame, bringing the total number of Palestinians killed by Israeli forces since the beginning of the year to 159. Israeli forces conducted 144 raids in the occupied West Bank during the specified period and demolished 54 Palestinian-owned structures.

November 30, 2022: Israeli forces killed a 25-year-old Palestinian during a raid on Yabad near Jenin.

December 1, 2022: Israeli soldiers carried out a raid on the Jenin refugee camp. The Palestinian Ministry of Health reported that 27-year-old Naim Jamal al-Zubaidi and 26-year-old Muhammad Aymen al-Sadi were killed due to gunfire from Israeli forces during the raid. Another Palestinian was wounded, with a stable health condition. The Islamic Jihad Movement stated in a release that the deceased Palestinians were among the movement's key field commanders and emphasized that the attack would not be left unanswered.



December 2, 2022: Israeli soldiers killed Ammar Hamdi Muflih (22), a Palestinian, in the town of El-Huwara, south of Nablus. Palestinian Prime Minister Muhammad Shtayyeh expressed that the killing in Huwara reflected "an organized terror driven by a belief in killing." A statement from the Fatah Movement condemned the execution, stating that it reflected the policy of the new fascist government in Israel.

December 5, 2022: Israeli forces killed a 22-year-old Palestinian youth named Omar Mennab during a raid on the Dheisheh refugee camp near Bethlehem.

December 8, 2022: Israeli forces killed three Palestinians during a raid on the Jenin refugee camp. Israeli forces also announced that they killed a 15-year-old Palestinian and injured two others, accusing them of throwing stones and bottles filled with paint at passing vehicles near the illegal Beyt Aryeh-Ofarim settlement northeast of Ramallah.

December 11, 2022: During an operation conducted by the Israeli army in the occupied West Bank, 16-year-old Cena Zakarne, a girl, was shot and killed on the rooftop of her home.

December 30, 2022: Information gathered by the United Nations (UN) from data provided by the Palestinian Authority and civil society organizations indicates that in 2022, violence, arrests, demolitions, and settler violence against Palestinians by Israeli forces have seen an escalation. Since the UN started recording data in the region in 2005, 2022 is noted as the "most lethal year" due to the frequent and violent incursions by the Israeli military into the West Bank.

The Israeli forces have killed more than 220 Palestinians in 2022, with 168 in the occupied West Bank and 52 in the blockaded Gaza Strip. Among the casualties, 48 were children. Additionally, Israeli forces have injured over 9,000 Palestinians.

According to a report by the Palestinian civil society organization, the Land Research Center, the Israeli army demolished 950 homes and structures belonging to Palestinians in 2022. They also seized 113,435 acres of land and damaged 18,900 fruit trees, most of which were olive trees, in various ways.



Final remarks on the matter

The brutality and disregard for the law by Israel, which began shortly after October 7, 2023, far exceeds the total of the events and atrocities mentioned between 2009 and 2023. However, it has been deemed necessary to mention them nonetheless, as they are important in illustrating that Israel's lawlessness and brutality have never ceased and have been consistently ongoing. The processes and the various incidents discussed under this heading have ultimately given rise to the Aqsa Flood. The brutality inflicted by Israel following the Aqsa Flood is not a one-time outburst but rather a part of Israel's routine.



Source: [AMRULQAYS](https://pixabay.com/users/amrulqays-38834479/)
(<https://pixabay.com/users/amrulqays-38834479/>)



Source: [badwanart0](https://pixabay.com/users/badwanart0)

<https://pixabay.com/users/badwanart0-859869/>

CHAPTER 3: 7th OCTOBER and LATER

CHAPTER 3: 7th October and Later


The surrounded Gaza Strip, which has been repeatedly attacked by the Israeli regime, is home to 2.3 million people in an area of 365 square kilometers. The majority of the population are Palestinians who were forcibly displaced from their villages and towns inside Palestine in 1948 and live in 8 different refugee camps in the territory. Israel has illegally blockaded Gaza by land, sea and air since 2007 and has turned it into an open-air prison for 16 years.

Palestinians have been fighting since Israel's illegal establishment to break the pressure on Gaza and liberate their occupied territories. However, due to the unconditional support of Israel by the rulers of the international system, the war has mostly ended in Israel's favor. This situation has never discouraged the Palestinians, and their resistance has always remained alive with the hope of "one day for sure". Every chance they got, they tried to intimidate the occupiers and forced them to withdraw from their lands.

Since its establishment, Israel has continued its occupation without interruption in order not to leave the occupied territories, to expel Palestinians from their lands, which belong to them and are recognized by international law, and to displace the Palestinian people. Almost turning Gaza into an open-air prison, Israel has made its borders highly secured and has kept Gaza under constant surveillance with security cameras, soldiers on guard 24 hours a day, unmanned aerial vehicles and surveillance planes. With the support of the US and Western countries, it has strengthened its military capabilities and tried to make the occupation permanent with the most advanced weapons.

As a reaction to decades of oppression, persecution and inhumanity against the Palestinian people, especially in Gaza, the resistance organizations in Gaza took action against the occupation forces on October 7, 2023, capturing 7 illegal settlements over the course of two days and taking more than 200 Israelis hostage, including senior officers.

Following the events of October 7, the Israeli government immediately launched counter-attacks to hide its failure and, in a state of madness, began to counter-attack from the air, land and sea, without discriminating between soldiers and civilians. With this war, all existing humanitarian values were



trampled underfoot, and international law and the rules of war, which were built with bitter experiences, were disregarded. Basic human rights guaranteed by international conventions have been severely violated, and acts that cannot be accepted in good conscience have been committed. In this process, Israel cut off the region's electricity and water, prevented humanitarian aid supplies from entering Gaza, bombed health centers, especially hospitals, places of worship and schools, targeted civilians, and targeted camps where hundreds of refugees live together.

The next part of the report will deal with the aftermath of October 7 from a human rights perspective. It will try to reveal the extent of the brutality with examples reflected in the press day by day.

General Data (October 7 - November 22, 2023)

Gaza; until November 22, 2023, during the Israeli offensive that began on October 7

- 14,532 people lost their lives
- More than 6,000 children have died
- More than 4,000 women have died
- 64 journalists, including 6 women, lost their lives
- 205 health workers lost their lives
- More than 35,000 Palestinians were injured
- 102 public buildings were demolished
- 266 schools were damaged
- 85 mosques were destroyed

In the West Bank until November 22, 2023, during the Israeli offensive that began on October 7;

- 228 Palestinians were killed
- More than 3,000 Palestinians were injured

Israeli Human Rights Violations in Gaza (October 7-November 22)

October 9, 2023: Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant referred to the Palestinians as "animals". Gallant stated that "Gaza will be completely blockaded, without electricity, food and fuel". Gallant added that "we are fighting humanoid animals and we will act accordingly" ¹

Israel then imposed a full blockade on the Gaza Strip from October 9, cutting off electricity, food and fuel supplies to the territory.

October 10-13, 2023 Israel attacked Durra Children's Hospital in Gaza with white phosphorus bombs ² On October 10, the Palestinian Foreign Ministry announced that Israel first attacked densely populated areas in the Gaza Strip with phosphorus bombs and then hit Durra Children's Hospital with phosphorus bombs on October 13.³ The use of phosphorus bombs was recorded in the social media posts of a Gaza woman. It was determined that the Israeli forces continued to use phosphorus bombs afterwards, causing melting and burning on the skin of those killed and wounded in the attacks, and tangible changes in their bodies.

¹ "Defense minister announces 'complete siege' of Gaza: No power, food or fuel", **The Times Of Israel**, https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/defense-minister-announces-complete-siege-of-gaza-no-power-food-or-fuel/

² Israel/OPT: Identifying the Israeli army's use of white phosphorus in Gaza", **Citizen Evidence Lab**, <https://citizenevidence.org/2023/10/13/israel-opt-identifying-the-israeli-armys-use-of-white-phosphorus-in-gaza/>

³ "Israel used phosphorus bombs | AA photographed | Amnesty International shares evidence", Anadolu Agency (AA),

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAPpPrAy5_M

LIVE UPDATE FROM THE LIVERLOG OF MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023

Defense minister announces 'complete siege' of Gaza: No power, food or fuel

By EMANUEL FABIAN
9 October 2023, 12:26 pm | 24



Defense Minister Yoav Gallant says he has ordered a "complete siege" of the Gaza Strip, as Israel fights the Hamas terror group.

"I have ordered a complete siege on the Gaza Strip. There will be no electricity, no food, no fuel, everything is closed," Gallant says following an assessment at the IDF Southern Command in Beersheba.

"We are fighting human animals and we are acting accordingly," he adds.



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October 13, 2023 8:51 pm



Israel/OPT: Identifying the Israeli army's use of white phosphorus in Gaza

Amnesty International's Crisis Response Programme gathered compelling evidence documenting the use of white phosphorus artillery shells by the Israeli army in densely populated civilian areas in Gaza, many of which may be considered unlawful indiscriminate attacks.

October 13, 2023: The Israeli army targeted a convoy of displaced people in Gaza, killing at least 70 people, including children and women, in airstrikes on vehicles in the convoy.

question, "As an Israeli and a historian, how do you evaluate this attack?" Hariri said: "The whole region is facing a danger that has not been seen for years. Theoretically, we could be only 24 hours away from a nuclear war. Because there is a credible threat that Hezbollah and other Iranian allies will attack Israel with tens of thousands of missiles. In that case, Israel can defend itself with all the weapons it has, including nuclear power. So this is a dangerous moment." Earlier, Israeli Minister of Heritage Amihai Eliyahu stated on a radio program that "an atomic bomb dropped on the Gaza Strip is one of the possibilities in Israel's war against Hamas. " It is seen that Harari based his claim about nuclear weapons on these words..⁸

October 24, 2023: Thousands of people have been killed and wounded in Gaza due to the Israeli offensive, while the humanitarian situation in the hospitals where the wounded are being transferred has deteriorated by the day. The General Directorate of Hospitals in Gaza announced that as of October 24, the health sector is on the brink of disaster, one-third of the hospitals in the sector out of service or running out of fuel, for this reason, he explained that the sick and wounded were left for death.

While Israel's massacre continues intensively in Gaza, The rate of explosives used by Israel in its ongoing attacks on Gaza is also noteworthy. In a statement released by the Palestinian Media Office on October 24, it was announced that Israel has used more than 12,000 tons of explosives in its attacks on Gaza since October 7, which is equal to the power of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. "The explosive power of these explosives is equal to the explosive power of the atomic bomb dropped on Japan in 1945. ⁹ Since Israel began its aggression, an average of 33 tons of explosives per square kilometer have been dropped in the Palestinian territories."

⁸ Did Israeli historian and author Harari say that Israel can use nuclear weapons, Anadolu Agency, Confirmation Line <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/teyithatti/gazze/israilli-tarihci-yazar-harari-israilin-nukleer-silah-kullanabilecegini-soyledi-mi-/1816906> .

⁹ "Gaza media office says over 12,000 tons of explosives dropped by Israel since Oct. 7" **Anadolu Ajansı**, <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/gaza-media-office-says-over-12-000-tons-of-explosives-dropped-by-israel-since-oct-7/3031524>

"We found the bodies of women and children in everywhere. What is happening now in Gaza is a massacre against civilians, women and children.."

Palestinian child Mohammed

Haidar Bakir

The infographic features a central image of a white phosphorus bomb exploding, with a large plume of white smoke and fire rising from it. To the left, there are two cutaway diagrams of the bomb: the top one shows the internal structure with a fuse, and the bottom one shows the internal compartments filled with white phosphorus spheres. The text is arranged around these images, with a title at the top left, a definition box, a list of effects, and a list of environmental harms.

White Phosphorus: A prohibited weapon under international law

WHAT ARE WHITE PHOSPHORUS BOMBS?

- Incendiary weapons that include a chemical known as white phosphorus
- When its munitions explode, the chemicals inside are ignited by contact with air and burn fiercely

EFFECTS OF WHITE PHOSPHORUS BOMBS ON HUMANS

- Its smoke **causes suffocation** when inhaled
- Doesn't leave significant marks on the clothing of individual burnt by it
- White phosphorus continues to burn under the skin, **causing serious burns**
- Burning **can't be stopped** unless oxygen is excluded

ENVIRONMENTAL HARMS

- Continuous burning of white phosphorus munitions after exploding **causes fires**
- Threatens **agricultural fields** and **water sources**

October 12, 2023 Source: ICRC, AA

Kaynak: AA

October 25, 2023: The house of Al-Jazeera TV reporter Wail al-Dahduh in Nusayrat Refugee Camp in the Gaza Strip was targeted, killing several members of his family, including his wife, son and daughter. Dahduh's family left their home and took refuge in the house of relatives in Nusayrat after Israel's call to "go south", but were targeted by Israeli bombs after Israel shelled civilian settlements in the southern areas.

October 26, 2023: Moshe Feiglin, head of Israel's right-wing Zehut Party, said on a television program, "Gaza must be completely destroyed before it is invaded. Destroyed like Dresden and Hiroshima without nuclear weapons... We still haven't taken revenge like in the Bible! We did not immediately reduce Gaza to ashes. Let's create an enormous humanitarian crisis. Destroy all of Gaza. Leave no stone unturned in Gaza. Gaza needs to turn into Dresden. Destroy Gaza immediately!"¹⁰ he used the expressions

October 27, 2023: Ambassador Önal, Turkey's Permanent Representative to the UN, stated that there is an urgent need for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire in Gaza and that it is unacceptable to punish people in Gaza under a total siege.

October 29, 2023: Nearly 10 children were killed in an Israeli army attack on Nuseyrat Refugee Camp on October 29.¹¹

October 30, 2023: Israeli forces shot a civilian car by a tank bomb on Salah Eddin Street in Zaytoun neighborhood. According to the footage recorded by Palestinian journalist Tawfiq Hams, the car was hit when it noticed the Israeli tank and tried to drive away from the area.¹²

¹⁰ "Inhuman words from former Israeli MP Moshe Feiglin: The only solution is the destruction of Gaza"

Sabah, <https://www.sabah.com.tr/galeri/dunya/israilli-eski-milletvekili-moshe-feiglin-den-insanlik-disi-sozler-tek-cozum-gazzenin-yok-edilmesi>

¹¹ "The loss of life in Israel's attacks on Gaza exceeded 8 thousand." Anadolu Agency <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/israilin-gazze-ye-duzenledigi-saldirilarda-can-kaybi-8-bini-gecti/3036647>

¹² "An Israeli tank just hit a Gazan civilian vehicle on the road, reportedly with a family inside", **Tevfik X**, https://x.com/tevfik_hams/status/1718901318322978852?s=20

On October 30, Israel targeted the third and top floor of the Turkish-Palestinian Friendship Hospital, causing serious damage to the hospital. This hospital operates as the only cancer hospital in Gaza. The bombing caused the failure of some electromechanical systems, endangering the lives of patients and healthcare workers.¹³ A striking detail of this attack is that the coordinates of the hospital were shared by Turkey with the Israeli authorities and yet such an attack was carried out.¹⁴ Israel also targeted a humanitarian aid warehouse belonging to the Palestinian Red Crescent, causing serious damage and rendering it unusable. In this mentioned warehouse humanitarian aid activities were carrying out.

October 31, 2023: Amnesty International reports evidences on Israel's use of white phosphorus in Lebanon. The statement said that Israel's "indiscriminate attack on civilians" on October 16 on the Lebanese border town of Dahayra should be investigated as a war crime because it was unlawful, adding, "Although they may have legal uses, they should never be fired close to civilian populated areas or civilian infrastructure due to the high probability of spreading fire and smoke. Such attacks, which do not distinguish between civilians and civilian objects, combatants and military targets, are indiscriminate and therefore prohibited." On the other hand, it was noted that convincing evidence of the use of white phosphorus in the attacks on Dahayra and the border towns of Al-Mari and Aita al-Jhaab on October 10-16 was collected, and that these attacks were confirmed by video and photographs.¹⁵

The Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza published a 212-page report on the names, identities and ages of those killed in the Israeli attacks on Gaza between

¹³ "PUBLIC NOTICE We have received information and images today that the humanitarian aid warehouse belonging to the Palestinian Red Crescent, which we supported the construction of as Turkish Red Crescent in Gaza, was seriously damaged and unusable as a result of heavy bombardment." **Turkish Red Crescent X**, <https://x.com/Kizilay/status/1719018220852490572?s=20>

¹⁴ "About Israel's Attack on the Turkish-Palestinian Friendship Hospital in Gaza" **Republic of Turkey Ministry of Foreign Affairs X** https://x.com/TC_Disisleri/status/1719074617380229262?t=xDwd39zX97rVXjrD3Dh19g&s=08

¹⁵ "A new Amnesty investigation has found that the Israeli army indiscriminately, and therefore unlawfully, used white phosphorous in an attack on Dhayra in south Lebanon on 16 October." **Amnesty International X**, <https://x.com/amnesty/status/1719320410322550886?s=20>

October 7-26. According to the report, 133 babies who have not yet turned one year old were killed in the Gaza Strip, which has been bombarded by Israel for days. Israeli bombardments killed 171 children aged 3, 1527 children of primary school age (4-13 years) and 523 children of high school age (14-17 years).¹⁶

November 2, 2023: Between October 7 and November 2, 5 children were killed every hour during the Israeli attacks on Gaza. The number of children killed in Gaza in the first 3 weeks exceeded the average number of children killed in the world in the last 3 years. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 40 percent of the 7028 Palestinians killed in the attacks were children, and more than 3,760 children were killed in Palestine in 3 weeks.¹⁷

November 3, 2023: The Israeli army bombed the Osama bin Zayd School for refugees in northern Gaza, killing a lot of people.

According to preliminary estimates, 13 people were killed and 26 people were injured in an attack by Israeli forces at the entrance of Shifa Hospital against ambulances preparing to take a large number of injured people to Egypt for treatment. Making a statement after the attack, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), said: "We are completely appalled by the attack on the convoy of ambulances evacuating patients near Shifa Hospital, causing damage, deaths and injuries. Patients, health workers, facilities and ambulances must always be protected."

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza, as of November 3, 2023, the number of Palestinians killed in Israeli attacks exceeded 9,000. While 9061 Palestinians, including 3,760 children and 2,326 women, were killed, at least 32,000 people were injured.

¹⁶ "Israeli forces killed 133 babies less than a year old in Gaza", **Anadolu Agency** <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/israil-gucleri-gazze-de-henuz-bir-yasini-doldurmamis-133-bebegi-oldurdu/3038573>

¹⁷ "The place in the world where the most children were killed in the shortest time: Gaza", **Anadolu Agency**, <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/dunyada-en-kisa-surede-en-fazla-cocugun-olduruldu-yer-gazze/3042120>


November 4, 2023: Israel targeted and disabled the solar panels in Gaza City, the only source of electricity for the population, and the main electricity generator of Al-Wafa Hospital in Gaza City. Many Palestinians were killed and injured in the attacks.

November 5, 2023: A group of Israeli doctors called "Doctors for the Rights of Israeli Soldiers" issued a statement claiming that the al-Shifa Hospital in the besieged Gaza Strip was a base for "Palestinian armed groups" and called for its bombing. The statement, which was supported by doctors working within the health system, stated that the Israeli army's bombardment of al-Shifa Hospital was a "legitimate right". It also stated that al-Shifa, the largest hospital in Gaza, serves as a base for "Palestinian armed groups". The call made by some Israeli doctors was previously voiced by some rabbis. In Israel, 43 rabbis told Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu that if Hamas members were hiding in Gaza's al-Shifa hospital and using civilians as human shields, there was no harm in striking the hospital.

November 5, 2023: The head of the government's media office in Gaza, Salama Marouf, announced that the only psychiatric hospital in the Gaza Strip, as well as the eye hospital, suffered massive and widespread destruction due to Israeli shelling. The Palestinian official said, "The occupation is deliberately bombing bakeries, all water and solar energy sources in order to starve the population. The coming hours will reveal the extent of the occupation's crimes. "

November 5, 2023: Minister of Heritage Eliyahu, a representative of the Otzma Yehudit (Jewish Power) party, which is part of the Israeli coalition government and which stands out with its extreme right-wing views with its hostility to Palestine, said in a statement that a nuclear bomb dropped on the blockaded Gaza Strip was one of the possibilities and that Palestinians living in the region should either go to Ireland or to the desert. In response, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu suspended Eliyahu from cabinet meetings indefinitely.¹⁸

¹⁸ "Israeli far-right minister's statement: 'Dropping a nuclear bomb on Gaza is one of the possibilities'", **Anadolu Agency** <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/israilli-asiri-sagci-bakandan-gazze-ye-nukleer-bomba-atilmasi-olasiliklardan-biri-aciklamasi/3044258>



November 6, 2023: The number of civilians killed in Israel's massive attacks on Gaza from October 7 to November 6 exceeded the number of civilians killed in the 21-month-long Russian-Ukrainian war. While more than 9,000 people were killed in the Ukraine-Russia war, more than 10,000 were killed in Israel's attack on Gaza.

November 7, 2023: According to the World Health Organization (WHO), in the one-month period between October 7 and November 7, Israel violated the In Gaza, 229 attacks were carried out on hospitals and health centers. These attacks killed 509 Palestinians, including patients and medical personnel, and injured 447 others. In the northern Gaza Strip, many hospitals were damaged and evacuated due to Israeli bombardment of their surroundings or had to suspend their operations due to lack of fuel.

As of November 7, 2023, one month after Israel's attacks on Gaza began, 16 hospitals and 34 health centers were out of service. Since the first day of the Israeli attacks, one wounded person was brought to the hospitals every minute and 15 people lost their lives every hour. Due to the Israeli attacks, Beit Hanoun, Al-Durra, Al-Yemen al-Said, International Eye Hospital, Friendship hospital, Hamed, Haifa, Muslim Eye, Al-Karamah, Al-Hayat, St. John Eye, Jaffa, Turkish-Palestinian Friendship, Al-Wefa, Public Service, Dar al-Salam hospitals are out of service.

"It is against traditions, laws, morals, principles and religion. Unfortunately, the world remains silent on Israel's crimes and this silence encourages Israel to continue its bombardment by air, land and sea. Unfortunately, in addition to the support of European countries, the attitude of Arab and Islamic countries also supports Israel."

Palestinian doctor Issam Youssef

November 8, 2023: United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteur Balakrishnan Rajagopal warned in a statement that it would be a war crime to conduct military operations knowing that they would systematically destroy civilian housing and infrastructure and render Gaza uninhabitable. Rajagopal explained that systematic or widespread bombing of housing, civilian facilities and infrastructure is strongly prohibited by international humanitarian law, criminal law and human rights law. Emphasizing that such acts would amount to "war crimes", Rajagopal stated that when directed against the civilian population, they amount to "crimes against humanity".¹⁹

November 10, 2023: The Palestinian News Agency reported that the Israeli occupation army shelled the polyclinic building in the Shifa Hospital compound in Gaza City. It was announced that there were dead and wounded in this attack. Israel also dropped phosphorus bombs around the Shifa Hospital in violation of international law. In the images reflected on social media, it was seen that Israel attacked the area where the wounded, especially children and women, were being treated, and many people were killed and injured.²⁰

Issam Youssef, an academic and doctor and coordinator of the Miles of Smiles Convoy, which has been providing humanitarian aid to Gaza since November 2009 in cooperation with Arab and international organizations, said on November 10 that most of the victims of the Israeli bombardment are women and children. Youssef said that Israel claims to be carrying out the attacks against Hamas, but has dropped tons of bombs on civilian settlements, and that Israel has used many types of bombs on civilians, which are considered war crimes. "What is happening in Gaza is immoral, inhuman and illegal. It is a crime against humanity. Two thirds of the dead children

¹⁹ " More than a month without water, food, healthcare in Gaza amid Israel war", **Aljazeera**, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/11/7/one-month-of-no-water-food-and-healthcare-for-gaza>

²⁰ "Oh God, we have no one left but you, they are shooting a healing hospital with 70,000 people in it!!!" **@tevfik_hams X**, https://x.com/tevfik_hams/status/1722876829072052614?s=20. "Palestinian News Agency: Israeli army shelled the outpatient clinic building in Shifa Hospital compound in Gaza, killing and wounding #AA", **@turgutalpboyraz X**, <https://x.com/turgutalpboyraz/status/1722896074677870837?s=20>

are babies, thousands of underage children are dead. Israel wants to use all the power at its disposal, including atomic and nuclear weapons. It is against traditions, laws, morals, principles and religion. Unfortunately, the world is silent about Israel's crimes and this silence encourages Israel to continue its bombardment by air, land and sea. Unfortunately, in addition to the support of other European countries, the attitude of Arab and Islamic countries also supports Israel. "²¹

November 11, 2023: Israeli forces laid siege to the Shifa Hospital, which they launched an attack on last week, claiming that "there is a Hamas base underneath". Due to the ongoing attacks and siege, the hospital has completely run out of fuel and many children and patients have died due to power outages. Palestinian Deputy Health Minister Yousef Abu al-Rish warned that hundreds of corpses have accumulated in the courtyard of the besieged Shifa Hospital and that there is a danger of epidemic disease. Abu al-Rish blamed "the Israeli administration, the international community and international institutions" for the Israeli army's siege on the hospital and called on the world to provide Shifa Hospital with fuel as soon as possible in order to save the hospital's wounded and patients.

November 14, 2023: Palestinian Health in Gaza Ministry Spokesperson Ashraf al-Qudra said in a statement that patients are dying every minute due to lack of fuel in Shifa Hospital and that they have not been able to update the death toll in the Gaza Strip for the last three days due to lack of fuel, internet outage and other problems. Kudra said, "Shifa Hospital has been out of service for the last three days due to power outages. The Israeli army has surrounded Shifa Hospital. There are tanks at the eastern and southern exits of the hospital, not allowing entry and exit. The hospital garden is being targeted by snipers. It is not even possible to move from one building to another in this medical complex. In Shifa Hospital, life-saving medical

²¹ "Palestinian doctor Issam Youssef: "Most of the dead are children and babies", **Anadolu Agency** <https://www.aa.com.tr/ayrimcilikhatti/ayrimcilik/filistinli-doktor-issam-youssef-olenlerin-coguk-ve-bebek-/1818012>

machines cannot work due to lack of fuel. As we cannot provide health care to the injured and patients in the intensive care unit, people are dying every minute."²²

"In Shifa Hospital, life-saving medical machines cannot work due to lack of fuel. As we cannot provide health care to the injured and patients in the intensive care unit, people are dying every minute"

Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza
Spokesman Ashraf al-Qudra

November 15, 2023: Since October 7, Israel has organized 229 attacks to hospitals and health centers, including Shifa, Nasser, Al-Ahli Baptist, Jerusalem, Al-Aqsa Martyrs, Indonesia and Al-Awdah hospitals. 509 Palestinians were killed in these attacks and more than half of Gaza's hospitals were rendered non-functional.²³

After the occupation of the Shifa Hospital in Gaza, which Hamas claimed to be its headquarters, Israel claimed to have seized "weapons and electronic devices" in the MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) department of the hospital, and instead of tunnels and arsenals, it presented rusty weapons and a few cameras it claimed to have found in the building as evidence. This caused criticism in the world public opinion. Israel's right-wing Jerusalem Post newspaper also described the Israeli army's conclusion in the raid on Shifa Hospital as "disappointing".

Palestinian politician and researcher Mustafa Bergusi also commented on his X account, pointing out that the Israeli army has continued its siege and occupation of

²² "Patients die every minute in Gaza due to lack of fuel", **Anadolu Agency**
<https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/gaztede-yakit-eksikligi-nedeniyle-her-gecen-dakika-hastalar-oluyor/3053021>

²³ "Israel has carried out 229 attacks on hospitals and health centers since October 7...", @anadoluajansi,
<https://x.com/anadoluajansi/status/1724696268474048628?s=20>


Shifa Hospital for 18 hours and said, "They have failed to show anything to prove their claims. Are they using the time to invent new lies?"

However, on October 28, the Israeli army, in a post on its X social media account, claimed that Shifa Hospital was the main command center used by Hamas for "terrorist activities" and posted an illustration showing command center rooms and tunnels under the hospital. The army also stated that 240 prisoners may be held in the tunnels. Fox News correspondent Trey Yingst, who filmed with the Israeli army inside Shifa Hospital, posted on his social media account X that the soldiers did not show him any tunnels that they were told were under the hospital, but presented weapons and military equipment as evidence. Charles Lister, Senior Fellow at the Middle East Institute in the United States, posted on his social media account X, referring to the fact that almost a day after the Israeli army raided the Shifa Hospital, they were only able to show a few weapons, ammunition and grenades, suggesting that they need to share more evidence to prove that the Hamas command center is there.²⁴

November 19, 2023: The Israeli army targeted the infant intensive care unit of Kemal Adwan Hospital in Jibaliya in northern Gaza City.

November 20, 2023: In a press conference, Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu compared the tribe of Amalek in the Jewish holy book to the Palestinians, saying, "Our holy book says that you should remember what Amalek did to you. We remember, we fight. Our heroic troops have one main goal, to completely destroy the bloodthirsty enemy and guarantee our presence in this country." According to this narrative, the Israelites' war against the Amalekites involved the killing of every

²⁴ "The "evidence" presented by the Israeli army from Shifa Hospital, which it claims is a "Hamas headquarters", has been criticized", **Anadolu Agency**, <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/israil-ordusunun-hamas-karargahi-oldugunu-savundugu-sifa-hastanesinden-sundugu-kanitlar-elistirilen-konusu-oldu/3055047#:~:text=%C4%B0srail'in%2C%20Hamas'%C4%B1n.olarak%20sunmas%C4%B1%20ele%C5%9Ftiril%20neden%20oldu>



living creature without discriminating between women, children or the elderly, and the destruction of cities.²⁵

November 22, 2023: The negotiations between Hamas and Israel were completed and a 5-day pause in the offensive was declared to allow for a prisoner exchange.

²⁵ "Israeli officials' hate language encourages war crimes", **Anadolu Agency**, <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/gundem/israilli-yetkililerin-nefret-dili-savas-suclarini-tesvik-ediyor/3056222>

Israeli officials whose are responsible for the Gaza attack (2023)

- Israeli President **Yitzak Hertzog**
- Prime Minister **Binyamin Netanyahu**
- Deputy Prime Minister / Minister of Justice **Yariv Levin**
- Interior Minister **Moshe Arbel**
- Defense Minister **Yoav Gallant**
- Intelligence Minister **Gila Gamliel**
- National Security Minister **Itamar Ben-Gvir**
- Foreign Minister **Eli Cohen**
- Chief of General Staff General **Herzi Halevi**
- Land Forces Commander Major General **Kobi Barak**
- Israel Air Force General **Amir Eshel**
- Israel Navy Commander **Aluf Eli Sharvi**

"Witch Hunt" against Israel's Critics and Restriction of Freedom of Expression

The State of Israel's war crimes against the Palestinian people have been ongoing since its establishment in 1948 and have become inhumane since October 7. Since then, it has not even been possible to record the violations of rights and war crimes committed. Many people from all geographies of the world, whose conscience aches in the face of the flagrant genocide committed in front of humanity, have expressed/are expressing both personal and organized reactions against Israel's actions. However, many people who attempt to exercise their right to freedom of expression and the right to organize meetings and demonstrations to show solidarity with Palestinians are subjected to various forms of oppression and intimidation, especially in Western countries.

In a statement released on October 23, Human Rights Watch criticized Western countries over Israel's attack on Gaza. The statement recalled Western countries' efforts to rally international support for Ukraine and isolate Russia, but underlined that they ignored Israel's blockade and attack on Gaza and remained silent on the devastating damage to civilians. At this point, it was emphasized that the hypocrisy and double standards of Western countries are clear and unambiguous.²⁶

Another reaction to Israel's attacks on Gaza came from Clare Daly, an Irish member of the European Parliament. Daly said, "Who is killing Palestinian civilians. Who cut off water, fuel and electricity? Don't we know that the European Union is up to its neck in this? This is not a 'humanitarian crisis', it is a crime against humanity", criticizing the parliament for its unilateralist stance in the Israel-Gaza conflict.²⁷

Prevention of Demonstrations


Protests in support of Palestine were banned in Germany and France. Despite the unlawful bans, the police used tear gas and water cannons to disperse the crowds, and some protesters were detained. During demonstrations in the UK and the Netherlands, some protesters were subjected to ill-treatment and detention was applied.²⁸

The banning of the slogan "From the river to the sea" in the German state of Bavaria on November 11 was another noteworthy issue. The slogan "From the river to the sea" dates back to the 1960s. This slogan, used by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), refers to the complete liberation of Palestine from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, i.e. the land of Israel. In Germany, the Munich Chief Prosecutor's Office decided to ban the slogan "From the river to the sea" in the state

²⁶ "الدول جمع عى دنطبق الدولي الينساني الزانون", **Human Rights Watch**, <https://www.hrw.org/ar/news/2023/10/23/international-humanitarian-law-applies-all-states>

²⁷ Who is killing Palestinian civilians. Who cut off water, fuel and electricity? Don't we know?", **Anadolu Agency X** <https://x.com/anadoluajansi/status/1715707032634786295?s=20>

²⁸ "European countries allow pro-Israel protests, ban Palestine solidarity demonstrations", Anadolu Agency, <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/israil-yanlisi-eylemlere-izin-veren-avrupa-ulkeleri-filistinle-dayanisma-gosterilerini-yasakliyor/3016620>



of Bavaria and to initiate an investigation into the "use of signs of terrorist organizations" if the slogan is used alone.

Art World

Gigi Hadid, a model of Palestinian origin who posted a message of support for Palestine, was tagged and targeted in a post on the Israeli government's Instagram account. In addition, the Hadid family received many threats by phone and e-mail due to their pro-Palestinian stance. At the Frankfurt Book Fair, the award to be given to Palestinian writer Adania Shibli for her novel "A Small Detail" was canceled.

World-renowned pianist Fazıl Say announced that four concerts he was to give in the country were canceled by MIGROS-Switzerland and that his posts in support of Palestine and anti-Israel statements were cited as the reason for the cancellation. Say said in his statement: "I used to know that in Europe there is trust in freedom of expression and that there is no darkness and incomprehension. My trust has been shaken by this disturbing incident. I would like to state this. Every individual should have an opinion" and stood by his criticism.²⁹

Israeli actress Maisa Abd Elhadi was detained for allegedly "supporting Hamas". Israeli media claimed that Elhadi "expressed support for Hamas" in her social media posts. The Israeli police, on the other hand, without naming Elhadi, stated that "an actress and influencer living in Nazareth was detained on suspicion of making statements praising (terrorism) and engaging in hate speech."

Israeli police detained Palestinian singer Delal Abu Amine for "supporting Palestine and making anti-Israel posts" on social media. The artist was detained for 2 days and later released. Like Delal Abu Amine, nearly 100 Arabs living in Israel were

²⁹ "Unfortunately, it is difficult to be in favor of peace... In this respect, there is a strange development in the Palestinian-Israeli issue... Europe's my canceled concerts" Fazıl Say X, <https://twitter.com/fazilsaymusic/status/1715440838426099980?t=TszaPxdNygWh4gID9Mi-mw&s=08>

detained for their support for Palestine. Some students were expelled from the university.

Crackdown on universities, academics, teachers and students


At Harvard University, former alumni of the school reacted against the student organizations that issued a joint statement stating that the Israeli regime is solely responsible for the occupation and violence in Palestine. In addition, photographs of the leaders of the student organizations that signed the statement were circulated around the university and students were targeted. The names and addresses of the students were also exposed online by the Zionist group. One prominent fund manager explained that "employers wanted to know who signed the letter so as not to accidentally offer them jobs."³⁰

Marie Anderson, a Norwegian student studying medicine in Poland, was targeted by the group "Eye On Antisemitism" for her support for Palestine and was allegedly terminated from her studies.³¹



³⁰ Harvard students' pro-Palestinian campaign angers alumni", Euro News, <https://tr.euronews.com/2023/10/10/harvard-universitesi-ogrencilerinin-filistin-yanlisi-kampanyasi-eski-mezunlari-kizdirdi>

³¹ "Norwegian medical student in Poland Marie Anderson is finished good", Eye On Antisemitism X, <https://x.com/AntisemitismEye/status/1716198677922889825?s=20>



Richard David Precht, professor emeritus at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg in Germany, was dismissed by the university for his statements criticizing Israel.

At least two universities in the US state of Florida have been asked to shut down the student organization Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) as Israel's offensive against Gaza continues. In a statement released following Gaza demonstrations on campuses that allegedly offered 'harmful support to terrorist groups', SJP stated that SJP, which defines Hamas as 'resistance', should be shut down due to its support for terrorism. In addition, the SJP declared October 12 as "resistance day" at over 200 universities in the US and Canada.³²

On October 30, Yale University, the third oldest university and one of the most prestigious schools in the US, published an announcement titled "List of Companies Condemning Hamas Terrorist Attack on Israel". "Professor Jeffrey Sonnenfeld is tracking which companies have condemned Hamas' terrorist attack on Israel, condemned anti-Semitism, and expressed support and solidarity with Israel. If you have questions about this list or suggested additions, please contact jeffrey.sonnenfeld.celi@yale.edu. This list is updated daily in real time."³³

Another example is the detention and suspension of an Israeli teacher who opposed Israel's attacks on the Gaza Strip and posted messages of solidarity with Gaza on social media. The case against the history teacher was heard at the District Court in West Jerusalem. The Israeli teacher characterized Israeli soldiers as "child killers" and raised allegations of rape of Palestinian women. The teacher also criticized Israeli violations in the West Bank. In one of her posts, the teacher wrote, "Didn't

³² "Florida's DeSantis bans pro-Palestinian student group" **Reuters**, <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/floridas-desantis-bans-pro-palestinian-student-group-2023-10-25/>

³³ "List of Companies That Have Condemned Hamas' Terrorist Attack on Israel", **Yale School of Management**, <https://som.yale.edu/story/2023/list-companies-have-condemned-hamas-terrorist-attack-israel>

Israeli soldiers rape Palestinian women? They have been doing this since 1948, but it is not included in the textbooks".

Press and Media

Cartoonist Steve Bell, who has been working for more than 40 years at the British newspaper "The Guardian", was fired for his critical cartoon featuring Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The BBC, on the other hand, launched an investigation against six reporters and one freelance reporter working in its Arabic service for allegedly being anti-Israel and supporting Hamas, preventing them from going on air and suspending them from duty.

The Instagram platform censored posts containing the names Palestine and Gaza and prevented them from being viewed. It removed some posts on the grounds that they violated community guidelines.

Tiktok creator Cara Watson revealed that a brand offered her a "bribe" to change her views in support of Palestine. Several YouTube creators, including Palestinian musician Issa Tweimeh, have received emails from the group Hostages and Missing Families Forum urging them to support Israel.

While the Israeli occupation forces continued to massacre members of the press in this region during the Gaza offensive, there have been many instances in which they harassed members of the press working in occupied Jerusalem. One of these was experienced by Mujahid Topçu, Global News Intelligence Chief, on October 31st. Topçu, who had a laser light shone on his face during a live broadcast, said, "I have a laser on my face. The laser on the rifles of Israeli soldiers. Two on my face and one on my chest. They threaten to kill me! No reason! No justification! And why? Because they are afraid, they are guilty. They know their crimes the most and they are afraid! But fear is useless!".³⁴

³⁴ "I have a laser in my face. The laser from the Israeli soldiers' rifles. Two on my face and one on my chest. They threaten to kill me!", Mujahid Topçu X, <https://x.com/mucahittopcu/status/1719111473606107586?s=20>



Pressures on Athletes

Moroccan footballer Noussair Mazraoui, who plays for Germany's Bayern Munich team, became the target of reactions with his Palestine post. Christian Democratic Union (CDU) MP Johannes Steiger demanded that the player be both dismissed from the club and deported.

Bild newspaper also used the player's photo with the headline "Terror advocates on the pitch?". French Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin claimed that Algerian-born French footballer Karim Benzema, who posted a message of support for Palestine, was linked to the Muslim Brotherhood, which France considers a terrorist organization. French football club Nice announced that Algerian footballer Youcef Atal, who posted a message of support for Palestine and condemned Israel's massacres on his social media account, was sidelined, while German football club Mainz terminated the contract of Anwar Al Ghazi, who posted in support of Palestine. The club found the post advocating Palestinian independence anti-Semitic.

Business World

Israel's attacks on civilians in Gaza have caused reactions on digital platforms, and people who support Palestine on social media are almost punished by the Israeli or pro-Israeli institutions they work for. In Western countries in particular, people have been fired or demoted for supporting Palestine. Bruno Maçães, former Portuguese Minister for Europe and author, criticized institutions for trying to silence the voices of those who want to support Palestine.

Paddy Cosgrave, the CEO of the Web Summit, the world's largest technology summit, apologized for his statements accusing Israel of war crimes and violating international law. Cosgrave was forced to resign after participants such as Facebook and Google pulled out of the summit. Courtney Carey, a team leader at Wix for 4.5 years, an Israeli software company, faced similar pressure. It was reported that the

Irish woman was dismissed from her job due to a post on her LinkedIn profile that criticized Israel and supported Palestine.³⁵

Starbucks announced that it would sue the "Starbucks Workers United" union for posting a message of solidarity with Palestine. On the London Underground, an machinist was suspended for announcing "Free Palestine" to passengers on a demonstration in support of Palestine.

"Israel, Hitler is proud of you," he wrote on his social media account in Canada. Air Canada pilot Mostafa Ezzo, who shared the image of the banner, was targeted by pro-Israel accounts after his post. Air Canada said in a statement: "We are aware of the unacceptable posts made by an Air Canada pilot. We take this matter very seriously and as of Monday, October 9, the pilot in question has been suspended. We strongly condemn all forms of violence."³⁶


Israel's October 7 Unknowns: Israeli Civilian Deaths Disinformation in the Gaza Operation

The process that began on October 7 was not only characterized by the loss of human lives and the destruction of settlements, but also by the rapid spread of false and misleading information. Examples include Israel's killing of Jews on suspicion of being Hamas members not only in Gaza but also in the occupied territories, or reports that Israeli civilians were killed by Palestinians.

Many questions remain unanswered about the number of Israelis captured or killed in the Hamas operation against Israeli forces on October 7. Israel claims that more than a thousand Israeli citizens were killed in the attack by Hamas forces. Hamas has been blamed for these deaths, but no documentation has been released on how and by whom the casualties were inflicted, except for a few videos that have appeared

³⁵ Employees who support Palestine are fired", Anadolu Agency
<https://www.aa.com.tr/ayrimcilikhatti/ayrimcilik/filistin-e-destek-veren-calisanmar-isten-cikariliyor/1817849>

³⁶ <https://www.aa.com.tr/ayrimcilikhatti/ayrimcilik/filistin-e-destek-veren-calisanmar-isten-cikariliyor/1817849>




in the media. "How many Israelis have been killed by Israeli forces in operations against Hamas members since October 7? Were measures taken to minimize civilian casualties in these operations, which were backed by tanks and heavy weapons? Why doesn't Israel share footage of its clashes with Hamas members or its operations in the occupied territories? And finally, why is there pressure on those who share their testimonies and opinions about what happened on October 7-8?" When these questions are answered, it will be clearer who or whoever is responsible for human rights violations.

In an article translated into Turkish, a writer, who requested anonymity for fear of his personal safety due to the intensification of fascist persecution of critical voices in Israel, drew attention to Israeli forces' disregard for the lives of its own civilians. The article emphasizes that the events of October 7 and the next few days remain a mystery, and that although there are documents and some reports that Israelis were killed by Palestinian fighters, there are a growing number of reports that the Israeli army may also be responsible for the deaths of Israeli civilians and soldiers. It is emphasized that Palestinian militants hid in the buildings with Israeli prisoners, while Israeli soldiers stormed in with huge tank shells at close range, and that it should be investigated who caused most of the death and destruction.³⁷

In an interview with a hostage conducted by Electronic Intifada, he said that the hostages were treated "humanely" and that they believed that the Israeli state would take the utmost care not to harm the captives, but that Israeli soldiers intervened with tanks and heavy weapons, attempted to eliminate everyone, including the hostages, and disregarded the lives of Israeli civilians.³⁸

³⁷ "'It was a pogrom': Be'eri survivors on the horrific attack by Hamas terrorists" **The Guardian**, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/oct/11/it-was-a-pogrom-beeri-survivors-horrific-attack-hamas-terrorists> original text

³⁸ "Israeli forces shot their own civilians, kibbutz survivor says", **The ElectronicIntifada**, <https://electronicintifada.net/content/israeli-forces-shot-their-own-civilians-kibbutz-survivor-says/38861>




Jerusalem-based photographer Quique Kierszenbaum, in his observations of an October 11 tour of Kibbutz Be'eri organized by the Israeli Army's propaganda unit, reported that during the Hamas attack and the ensuing fighting, no buildings were left standing, and that when Israeli tanks hit Hamas militants' hideouts, nearby trees were smashed and walls were reduced to concrete rubble.³⁹

As the operations against Gaza continued, on October 26, the Israeli daily Haaretz published a news article about the Israeli civilians who lost their lives on October 7. In this article, it was stated that Israeli soldiers were instructed to strike civilian settlements and even military bases suspected of containing Hamas members. In fact, Tuval Escape, an Israeli "member of the security team", told the newspaper that "commanders on the ground made difficult decisions, including bombing houses, in order to eliminate terrorists as well as hostages". Yasmin Porat, an Israeli woman, also stated that the Israeli army shelled many places, including Israeli homes, which resulted in the deaths of many Israelis. In addition, it was announced that approximately 50 Israeli civilians who were captured and taken to Gaza died as a result of bombing by the Israeli army.⁴⁰

Israel's Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper published a news article on October 9, using footage shared by the Israeli army on its X social media account, and shared the moment of the Israeli Air Force's response to the attack organized by Hamas on October 7. The footage showed heavy gunfire from gunship helicopters on vehicles and people trying to flee the area. The report noted that the Apache helicopters were aiming to stop Hamas fighters entering the Israeli side through gaps in the Gaza border fence, and claimed that a complex situation arose due to the difficulty of Israeli

³⁹ "It was a pogrom: Be'eri survivors on the horrific attack by Hamas terrorists" **The Guardian**, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/oct/11/it-was-a-pogrom-beeri-survivors-horrific-attack-hamas-terrorists>

⁴⁰ "USC Shoah Foundation to collect testimony on Hamas onslaught" Haaretz, <https://www.haaretz.com/us-news/2023-10-25/ty-article/.premium/shoah-foundation-to-collect-testimonies-from-survivors-of-oct-7-hamas-attack-on-israel/0000018b-681b-d979-a3bb-eb7f681f0000>. "October 7 testimonies reveal Israel's military 'shelling' Israeli citizens with tanks, missiles", **The Grayzone**, <https://thegrayzone.com/2023/10/27/israels-military-shelled-burning-tanks-helicopters/>



pilots in distinguishing between Hamas fighters and Israeli civilians, and that the priority of the intervention was to stop the influx of Hamas or Gazan groups entering the Israeli side of the border. Yedioth Ahronoth reported that 28 attack helicopters of the Israeli forces flew over the conflict areas throughout the day with hundreds of 30 mm artillery shells and Hellfire missiles, amid intense clashes. and took it under fire.⁴¹

An Israeli TV channel reported that Hamas members beheaded 40 babies. Although these reports were put forward by the Israeli TV channel, the information has not been confirmed. Contacted by Anadolu Agency, Israeli army officials said that they "do not have any arguments to confirm the claim." However, the fact that this unconfirmed information was voiced by US President Joe Biden, who said that he had "seen images of babies being beheaded" increased the perception that such an incident had occurred and was true, and caused disinformation.⁴²

It was noteworthy that the German state broadcaster DW, in its report on the Israeli attacks, made the following statements: "The laws of war do not always protect civilians from death. Military actions in conflicts are classified as war crimes depending on whether the action was necessary. For example, bombing a school or an apartment building may not be considered a war crime if it is deemed militarily necessary under international law. The conflict between Israel and Hamas demonstrates the difficulty of making such a distinction remotely. Gaza is also one of

⁴¹ "USC Shoah Foundation to collect testimony on Hamas onslaught" Haaretz, <https://www.haaretz.com/us-news/2023-10-25/ty-article/.premium/shoah-foundation-to-collect-testimonies-from-survivors-of-oct-7-hamas-attack-on-israel/0000018b-681b-d979-a3bb-eb7f681f0000>. "October 7 testimonies reveal Israel's military 'shelling' Israeli citizens with tanks, missiles", **The Grayzone**, <https://thegrayzone.com/2023/10/27/israels-military-shelled-burning-tanks-helicopters/>

⁴² "Israeli army found 40 babies with their heads cut off", **Anadolu Agency** <https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/teyithatti/blog/israil-ordusunun-kafasi-kesilmis-40-bebek-buldugu-iddiasi/1816693>

the most densely populated areas in the world. Experts say it is therefore difficult to distinguish between civilian and military targets in Gaza."⁴³

Another response to the false and untrue reports came from Yochaved Lifshitz, an 85-year-old female Israeli prisoner who was released on October 24. Describing her experiences in Gaza, Lifshitz said, "We had a doctor attached to us and he came every few days to see what was going on. The doctor always brought medicine. There were five of us in total and each of us had a guard. Their behavior was good, they took care of us in every detail. They (the Kassam Brigades) told us that they are people who believe in the Quran and that they will not harm us. They provided us with the same conditions they had in the tunnels. We ate bread and feta cheese and cucumbers just like them." When asked why she did this, the Israeli woman, who was seen shaking the hands of Hamas officials upon her release, replied, "They treated us very well and provided us with all our needs."⁴⁴


It was also observed that misinformation spread rapidly in the media coverage of Hamas' attack on Israel as a "festival massacre". The Turkey-based media outlet Medyaskope can be cited as an example. As a matter of fact, in the news article titled "Watch - How did Hamas carry out the Supernova Festival massacre?" published by the aforementioned broadcaster on October 10, despite the use of the phrase "massacre", it is seen that there is no content about it and only a video was shared. In this video, only fleeing people were recorded and there was no evidence of any "massacre".⁴⁵

In the footage shared by Orit Farkash-Hacohen, a former Israeli minister and Member of the Israeli Parliament, it was claimed that Hamas members raped a woman taken from the festival. However, when the alleged footage was analyzed, it

⁴³ "Which acts are considered war crimes?" DW Turkish <https://www.dwturkce.com/tr/hangi-eylemler-sava%C5%9F-su%C3%A7u-kabul-edilir/a-67113150>

⁴⁴ "When asked what she meant by the gesture of shaking a Hamas gunman's hand, freed hostage Yocheved Lifshitz, 85, says 'because they treated us very nicely.'" **SkyNews X**, <https://x.com/SkyNews/status/1716754298896302452?s=20>

⁴⁵ "Watch - How Hamas carried out the Supernova Festival massacre", Medyaskop X <https://medyaskope.tv/2023/10/10/izle-hamas-supernova-festivali-katliamini-nasil-gerceklestirdi/>



was found that the speaker said, "That woman, leave her. Go back to where you came from". Although the Hebrew and English subtitles attached to the footage include the phrase "This woman is for rape", no such dialog appears in the footage.⁴⁶


On the other hand, the following questions have yet to be answered regarding the deaths in the Israeli-occupied territories during the period of October 7 and the following few days:

- 1- While the current information of those who lost their lives due to Israeli attacks in Gaza is disclosed every day, why are the names of the deceased israelies still not disclosed, despite the fact that the Israeli regime says that more than a thousand Israeli civilians died in the occupied territories.
- 2- What is the source of the heavy weapons found in Israeli vehicles, which were targeted from above?
- 3- Why were the homes of Israeli settlers severely damaged and what is the source of this damage?
- 4- Why is Israel not conducting an independent investigation to determine the cause and extent of the damage in the occupied territories and does not allow an observer mission?

World's Reaction to Israel's Attacks on Gaza

Since October 7, 2023, the Israeli occupation state has maintained its blockade on Gaza. While Gaza is turning into a ghost town under intense bombardment, a large proportion of the dead are children and women. Actions that international conventions define as genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, such as

⁴⁶ "In these images," shared by Orit Farkash-Hacohen, former Israeli minister and Member of the Israeli Parliament The allegation that Hamas members said to a woman they took from the festival, 'This woman is not a prisoner but for rape' is not true." **Counter Disinformation Center**, <https://x.com/dmmiletisim/status/1716062709312114949?s=20>




cutting off water and electricity, not allowing food to enter the Gaza Strip to sustain life, have been continuing since the first days of the war.

How do the world's signatories to the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Geneva Convention respond to this situation?

Since the first day of its attacks, Israel has been committing open war crimes, while Western states have openly ignored these crimes and even made statements in support of Israel's illegitimate actions. At this point, Israel's actions have reached a level that cannot be defended even by Western state officials. Especially in the face of the intense reaction of their peoples, Western leaders have started to criticize Israel's actions, although not at a sufficient level. However, despite all the atrocities committed by Israel, support continues and no resolution has been passed by the UNSC.

After the October 7 Aqsa Flood, the general position of the EU member states, especially the US, has been in favor of Israel. They describe the attack on Gaza as Israel's right of self-defense. The bombing of civilian areas, hospitals and schools has not yet changed their opinion. US President Joe Biden stated that they "stand with Israel and stand together in the face of the terrorist attack". Afterwards, he showed the magnitude of his support by "hugging" Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv to show that he was on Israel's side. Biden also made the following remarks to clarify the US position: "I'm here today for one simple reason: so that the people of Israel and everyone in the world knows where the United States stands. Secretary of State (Antony) Blinken is here. He has been here several times. But I wanted to come in person." In a previous speech, Biden said he was not Jewish, but that did not prevent him from being a Zionist. The US is the country that helped Israel to flourish on Palestinian soil and has stood by it ever since. It has never failed to veto resolutions against Israel at the UN.

Likewise, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who visited Israel despite all the atrocities committed in Gaza, expressed his open support for the war crimes and genocide committed by Israel in Gaza, stating that he came to Israel not only as a Secretary of State but also as a Jew.




In this process, not only the US but also the leaders of the leading Western states have sided with Israel. During the period when thousands of civilians, children and women were massacred as a result of Israeli bombardments, the French President, the German Prime Minister, the British Prime Minister and the Italian Prime Minister visited Israel and offered their support to Israel.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz held a joint press conference with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu after his visit to Israel. In this press conference, Scholz stated that "Germany's duty is to ensure Israel's existence and security". Scholz reassured once again that Germany can only side with Israel in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, "As I said in the Bundestag last week, in such difficult times there can only be one place for Germany, and that is on Israel's side". By stating that they will use all legal means to deport Hamas supporters in the country, German Interior Minister Nancy Faeser has made it clear to the world that Germany is aware that Israel is committing the same genocide that it has committed in the past and that Germany is a partner in this genocide.

During his visit to Israel, **British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak** first met with Israeli President Isaac Herzog. Sunak ignored the massacres of civilians in Gaza, saying that he "knows that Israel is taking steps to ensure that civilians are not harmed". He offered his country's support to Israel, saying, "We will continue to stand in solidarity with you and we want you to win." Netanyahu was pleased with the support, saying "the solidarity, the clear and unwavering support" and "I think that your coming to Israel has given us a lot."

Right after US President Joe Biden and British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, French President Emmanuel Macron also visited Israel to offer his support. Similar to Biden, Macron posed for the press by embracing Netanyahu and tried to show how much he was on Israel's side with these sincere poses. Macron proposed that all prisoners in Gaza be released and that the US-led international coalition against the terrorist organization DAESH should also fight against Hamas. However, it is understood that



Macron has been going back and forth in the face of the voices rising from the streets of his country with the increase in civilian deaths. In a back-and-forth manner, he has also talked about protecting Gazan civilians and showing sensitivity on humanitarian aid issues.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni joined the caravan of leaders who visited Israel to show their support for Israel. As reported in the press, Italian Prime Minister Meloni "reiterated that Israel has the right under international law to defend itself and live in peace, while underlining the importance of guaranteeing humanitarian access to Gaza and the possibility of peace for the region".

Greece is one of the countries where people sensitive to the Palestinian issue have demonstrated. Nevertheless, **Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis** was one of the leaders who met with his Israeli counterpart to show his support for Israel. He reiterated his support for the Tel Aviv administration, condemned the Hamas attacks, argued that Israel "has the right to self-defense" against Hamas, and added that civilians must be protected.

These visits continued with the leader of the **Greek Cypriot Administration of Southern Cyprus, Nicos Christodoulides**, and **Prime Minister Rutte of the Netherlands**. Rutte expressed his respect for what the Israeli army does for the security of the country.

Many leaders of other countries who were unable to visit Israel made statements in their own countries. has expressed their support.

For example, **Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese** said, "Australia stands with our friend Israel at this time. We condemn Hamas' indiscriminate and heinous attacks on Israel and civilians. We recognize Israel's right to self-defense." In this statement, he turned a blind eye to Israel's war crimes in Gaza and declared his complicity in this crime.

The European Union projected an Israeli flag on the EU Commission building in Brussels to show its support for Israel. Not content with this, **EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen** traveled to Israel together with the President of the European Parliament **Roberta Metsola** to make her support even more visible. European Union (EU) Foreign Affairs and Security Policy High Representative **Josep Borrell** tweeted "I stand in full solidarity with Israel"

Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Secretary General of the League of Arab States, summarized his statement at the peace summit in Cairo on October 21, 2023 as follows: "First: We must work in parallel on two tracks: reaching an immediate ceasefire and ending Israel's brutal bombardment of the civilian population in the Gaza Strip. Second: The immediate opening of a safe corridor for the delivery of humanitarian aid to the people of the Gaza Strip. Third: We reaffirm the Arab League's rejection of all forms of targeting and violence against civilians. Fourth: I call on all parties, especially those not involved in the conflict, to take responsibility. Finally, and this is the crux of the matter, the major international powers must urgently agree on a clear and specific horizon for a comprehensive political solution that includes an independent state that will enable the Palestinian people to live in peace and security without any dispute over their rights. Only this solution will save future generations in Palestine and Israel from the cycle of hatred and violence."⁴⁷


In a joint statement with the Arab League, **the African Union** stated that Israel's attacks against civilians were in violation of international law and that a humanitarian corridor and ceasefire should be declared immediately. The statement concluded that a two-state solution is the only way to bring security and peace to the region.⁴⁸

United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres condemned the attacks launched by Hamas against Israel and called for "restraint towards civilians"

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<http://www.leagueofarabstates.net/ar/Versions/SiteAssets/Lists/Versions/AllItems/Palestine%20isuu%20123-3.pdf>

⁴⁸ Africa Union, <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20231015/african-union-and-league-arab-states-issue-joint-statement-gaza-crisis>




In the following processes, as Israel massacred civilians, bombed refugee camps, hospitals and schools, there have been some feeble retreats from the rhetoric of unconditional support. For instance, in a recent statement by UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric, it was reported that Guterres was appalled by the Israeli airstrike on the Jibaliya Refugee Camp and condemned the killing of all civilians. Dujarric said that Guterres reiterated his call for the parties to abide by international law and international humanitarian law, and that the principles of proportionality and precaution must be respected. On the other hand, Guterres reiterated his call for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire, saying, "Gaza has become a graveyard for children, where girls and boys are killed and injured every day." However, the US vetoed the UN Security Council (UNSC) resolution calling for a "humanitarian pause", preventing its implementation.

The UNSC rejected a Russian draft resolution calling for an "immediate ceasefire", "unhindered humanitarian access to Gaza" and "condemnation of all massacres of civilians" on the Israeli and Palestinian side. The US, UK, France and Japan voted against the Russian resolution. "Brazil considers it urgent for the international community to resume the ceasefire and peace process," the Brazilian Foreign Ministry said in a statement, but this too failed to pass at the UN.

The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, in a statement on its **X account**, expressed concern about Israeli airstrikes on the Jibaliya Refugee Camp in Gaza, stressing that "the attacks may be disproportionate attacks that could constitute war crimes". The Commissioner's spokesperson, Elizabeth Throssell, also expressed concern about the situation in the occupied West Bank, noting that Palestinians there are subjected to "multiple layers of human rights violations".

Craig Mokhiber, Director of the New York Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, commented on what is happening in Gaza: "Once again, we are witnessing genocide being committed before our very eyes, and the organization we work for (the UN) is powerless to stop it."



Ravina Shamdasani, Spokesperson of the **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights**, on Israel's demand to evacuate al-Awda Hospital in Gaza, said: "International humanitarian law requires parties to the conflict to implement the principle of the indiscriminate detention and care of the wounded and sick, among other responsibilities. International humanitarian law prohibits attacks on medical facilities, medical personnel, the wounded and sick."


Francesco Rocca, President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), posted on social media platform X about the Israeli army shelling of the entrance to the Shifa Hospital compound, which houses thousands of patients and civilians in the blockaded Gaza Strip. Stating that the horrific and terrifying images of the attacks on patients and ambulances near the Shifa Hospital in Gaza reminds of the bombing of the Markale marketplace in Sarajevo 28 years ago, Rocca said: "These images are unacceptable. Civilians, ambulances, doctors and hospitals must always be protected."

IFRC Secretary-General Jagan Chapagain said on social media platform X that they are deeply concerned about the gravity of the situation around Al-Quds Hospital in Gaza, which has been subjected to severe attacks, "as a result, our Palestinian Red Crescent teams are unable to provide ambulance services". Chapagain called on all parties to protect hospitals as places of aid and refuge.

WHO criticized Israel's position on this issue and strongly condemned its pressure to evacuate hospitals in Gaza. WHO noted that this Israeli pressure amounts to a "death sentence" for the sick and wounded.

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) criticized Israel's deadline for the evacuation of al-Awda hospital in Gaza, saying "Our staff continue to treat patients. We unequivocally condemn the continued indiscriminate bloodshed and attacks on health care in Gaza."

Ahmed Benchemsi, Middle East and North Africa Communications Director at Human Rights Watch (HRW), also described Israel's siege of the Gaza Strip as "clearly a war crime".



James Elder, spokesperson for the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), warned that "a ceasefire and humanitarian corridor are needed in Gaza for the safety of children."


In another statement, **UNICEF** described the situation of children in the Gaza Strip as "catastrophic", saying "UNICEF is responding to the critical needs of children in the Gaza Strip, but access is becoming increasingly difficult and dangerous. We need an immediate humanitarian ceasefire to reach children."

In a statement released on October 27, **UNESCO** called for an immediate halt to the attacks on schools in Gaza. "Following Hamas terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians on October 7, Israeli military operations in the Gaza Strip have led to a serious humanitarian crisis affecting all aspects of civilian life, including education. Today, more than 625,000 students and 22,500 teachers are extremely vulnerable in the territory." **UNESCO** went on to condemn the use of schools for military purposes in contravention of international law, on the assumption that Hamas uses schools for military purposes, and noted that the use of schools by armed forces and armed groups can make them legitimate targets of attack, thus jeopardizing the safety and education of children and teachers. According to UNICEF data released on 27 October, more than 200 schools (about 40% of the total number of schools in the Gaza Strip) have been damaged since 7 October, including about 40 with very serious damage.

UNESCO's press release on October 17 expressed regret that the recent conflicts have been the deadliest week for journalists.⁴⁹

HRW said in a statement "Israel has used white phosphorus in its military operations in Gaza and Lebanon, putting civilians at risk of serious and long-term injury,". Pointing out that white phosphorus causes unbearable burns and can set

⁴⁹ UNESCO, <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/middle-east-crisis-unesco-deplores-deadliest-week-journalists-any-recent-conflict?hub=701>



houses on fire, the statement emphasized that the use of white phosphorus in densely populated areas is unlawful.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) said on October 19 that Hamas and Islamic Jihad are committing war crimes by holding scores of Israelis and others hostage in Gaza. "No justification can justify holding anyone hostage. The groups must immediately and safely release all detained civilians," it said in an article on its website, which included information on some of the Israeli hostages.⁵⁰


Amnesty International has also confirmed that Israeli troops striking Gaza are armed with white phosphorus artillery shells, warning that "White phosphorus causes terrible suffering and life-changing injuries and cannot be extinguished with water. That is why white phosphorus must never be used in civilian areas."

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which convened for the genocide committed by Israel in Gaza, issued a message of condemnation and called for an immediate ceasefire without taking any action.

On 28.10.2023, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly debated a draft resolution calling for "an immediate, permanent and sustained humanitarian ceasefire and cessation of hostilities" in Gaza.

The resolution, introduced by Jordan and co-sponsored by nearly 50 countries, including Turkey, was voted on at the Special Emergency Session of the 193-member UN General Assembly on Palestine. Fourteen countries, including Israel, the United States, Fiji, Guatemala, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Tonga, Austria, Hungary, Czechia and Croatia, voted "**NO**" on the resolution. 120 countries, including Belgium, Ireland, France, Luxembourg, Malta, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovenia and Spain, voted "**YES**". 45 countries voted "**ABSTAIN**", including Germany, Italy, Greece, Greece, the Netherlands, Poland,

⁵⁰ Human Rights Watch, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/10/19/hamas-islamic-jihad-holding-hostages-war-crime>




Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden.

Reactions to Israel's Gaza Attacks

While the leading countries of the world openly support the Israeli oppression. Some countries from different geographies of the world, such as Turkey, Iran, Qatar, Yemen, Bolivia and the Republic of South Africa, have openly reacted to the Israeli oppression and sided with the Palestinians. There are also countries such as Brazil, Russia and China, which do not openly stand with Palestine but oppose the Israeli oppression. Iran is actively arming the Palestinian resistance and is trying to undermine Israeli-US interests with its militias in Lebanon and Syria. Yemen has declared war on Israel and captured an Israeli ship in the Red Sea after several failed missile tests. Qatar hosts Hamas leaders, giving them a voice and playing an active role in the negotiations between Israel and Palestine.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdoğan speaks out against Israeli terrorism, war crimes and genocide on all national and international platforms and contributes to raising global awareness. In the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Arab League, he pushes member states to take a stand and strives for unity of opinion. As a matter of fact, after the Joint Summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Arab League, which took place on November 11, 2023, a final declaration was published, in which it was announced that the foreign ministers of 7 countries were assigned the task of representation. The envoys will make persuasive visits to countries that abstain in the face of Israeli atrocities and strive to create public opinion against Israel. The first visit was to China on November 20, 2023. President Tayyip Erdoğan also visited Germany on November 17, 2023, where he mainly addressed the Israeli atrocities and addressed the whole world in a press conference with the German Chancellor. Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan is seeking support with visits to France and the UK.



There is also a clear public support for Palestine all over the world. Boycotts and demonstrations have been organized by professional groups, students, civil initiatives or commercial institutions, and many activities have been carried out to raise awareness against Israeli oppression in Palestine.

One of the most well-known examples of support for Palestine worldwide is Elon Musk's interview. Some companies withdrew advertisements from the X platform for not censoring the massacres committed by Israel in Gaza. Speaking about this situation and his posts, Elon Musk said, "I don't care. I say what I believe in, and if I lose money for it, I lose money".

The Republic of South Africa, where the apartheid regime ruled for years, is one of the countries that openly supports Palestine. It withdrew its ambassador from Israel after the massacres in Gaza and demanded that those responsible be tried at the ICC.


Algeria, Tunisia, Sudan, Somalia, Chad, Jordan, Libya, are among the countries that raised their voices against the Israeli massacres and supported Palestine. On the other hand, Latin American countries such as Bolivia, Chile and Colombia were among the countries that reacted to the Israeli atrocities and supported Palestine.

Is Israeli aggression the exercise of a legitimate right or a crime?

After October 7, there is no doubt in anyone's mind that the attacks in front of the eyes of the world are disturbing in conscience.

But are these disturbing consequences "unintended" in the exercise of a legitimate right, or are they a flagrant crime in full view of the world? It is difficult to say anything definitive on this issue based on the attitudes of states, individuals or institutions around the world. Because there are those who oppose Israel as well as those who openly support it. There are those who criticize it and those who say it is right.

States, institutions or individuals may distort the truth for pragmatist reasons, favor those they consider close to them with emotional reflexes, and take the wrong side just for their own interests. Therefore, there is a need for legal evaluation that is



free from self-interest, partisanship and sentimentality. Legal principles are agreed norms; based on these norms, it is easier to identify and agree on the truth.

Under international law, Israeli aggression and the methods used in its attacks and What do the tools mean: **Is it a crime? Or is it the exercise of a right?**



Source: [hosnysalah Palestinian photographer currently living in Palestine
Gaza Strip](https://pixabay.com/photos/gaza-strip-palestine-3829403/)

[\(https://pixabay.com/photos/gaza-strip-palestine-3829403/\)](https://pixabay.com/photos/gaza-strip-palestine-3829403/)



CHAPTER 4: LEGAL EVALUATION

War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity according to International Conventions


The need to define and conceptualize war crimes at the international level first manifested itself in the First World War, and there were movements in the aftermath of the war. However, it was only after the Second World War that the fruits of the work on this difficult subject were realized.

After the war, the concept of "crimes against humanity" was introduced for inhumane acts and genocides committed during the war. On August 8, 1945, the Statute of the Nuremberg International Military Tribunal, which was annexed to the London Treaty on the prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators of the "Great War of the Axis Powers of Europe", the concept of "crimes against humanity" was used for the first time in addition to war crimes and it was decided to impose sanctions against these acts.

In the 1949 **Geneva Convention**, war crimes are listed under the heading of **dangerous crimes**.


The acts considered as crimes are listed as follows:

1. Premeditated murder.
2. Torture.
3. Biological experiments.

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4. Intentional infliction of great suffering.
 5. Dangerous harm to health and physical safety.
 6. Inhuman treatment.
 7. Unlawful large-scale destruction of property without military necessity and taking possession of property.
 8. Forcing a person to serve in the military forces of an enemy country.
 9. Depriving a person protected under international conventions of the right to a legal and impartial trial.
 10. Illegal exclusion and displacement of people from settlements.
 11. Unlawful arrests.
 12. Holding hostages.
 13. Misuse of the flag and symbol of the Red Cross and similar humanitarian organizations

After the Statute of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg, many International Conventions were developed, such as the International Military Tribunal for the Far East (Tokyo), the German Control Council Resolution No. 10, the Statute establishing the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. After all this, the Rome Statute was signed within the United Nations on July 17, 1998 and the process took its final form, which is still valid today. Under this Statute, **The International Criminal Court** was established to prosecute those who committed war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Before the International Criminal Court, country-by-country tribunals were established. The International Criminal Court, on the other hand, is a permanent international court established by multilateral treaty to prosecute those who "commit the gravest crimes" of concern to the international community. Article 1 of the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court describes its status as follows:



"The Court is a permanent institution and has jurisdiction over persons who have committed the very serious crimes of grave concern to the international community referred to in this Statute and is complementary to the national jurisdiction of States."

Article 7, paragraph 1 of the Rome Statute defines crimes against humanity as follows has stated:

"Each of the following acts is a crime against humanity under the Rome Statute when committed intentionally on a widespread or systematic basis against any civilian population or group:

- A. Intentional killing,
- B. Mass extermination,
- C. Enslavement,
- D. Deportation or forced transfer of the population,
- E. Imprisonment or other deprivation of physical liberty in violation of fundamental rules of international law,
- F. Torture,
- G. Rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced sterilization or other forms of sexual violence of similar gravity,
- H. Persecution against any identifiable group or community on political, racial, national, ethnic, cultural, religious, sexual or other grounds universally unacceptable under international law in connection with any act referred to in this paragraph or any offense within the jurisdiction of the court,
- I. Enforced disappearance of persons,
- J. The crime of racial discrimination,
- K. Intentionally cause serious suffering or impairment of physical or mental or physical health

other inhumane acts of a similar nature causing serious harm"

Article 8 of the Rome Statute lists **war crimes** as follows:

A. Severe violations of the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949.

B. Dangerous violations of other customary laws applicable to universal armed conflicts under international law.

C. Dangerous violations of Article 3, common to all four Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949, in wars not characterized by international war crimes.

D. Dangerous violations of other customary and statutory law under international law applicable to wars that are not international armed conflicts

According to the Rome Statute, war crimes must be committed knowingly. The Statute seeks intent in committing a crime. War crimes can be committed by soldiers as well as civilians. Anyone can be a war criminal. "Here, perpetrators are those who, regardless of their military, political or economic status, commit acts that directly contravene the laws and customs of war that directly regulate the conduct of war and the rules accepted by civilized nations. Persons who instigate, encourage, order or cooperate in the commission of such crimes may be considered as war criminals."⁵¹

Universal jurisdiction

Article 13 of the Brussels Principles on Impunity and International Justice defines universal jurisdiction. Accordingly, universal jurisdiction means that the State has jurisdiction regardless of the place where the crime was committed, the perpetrator who committed the crime and the nationality of the victim of the crime. The State exercises this power regardless of whether the offense was committed on or outside its territory.⁵² Universal jurisdiction is a concept that has been recognized since the

⁵¹ El-Mahzomi Ömer. International Humanitarian Law in the Light of the International Criminal Court, 1st Edition Darül Sekafe, Jordan, 2008, s. 283.

⁵² Şahin Akdemir, M. (2022). The International Criminal Law Dimension of the Relationship between Sovereignty and Universal Jurisdiction. Anadolu University Journal of Law Faculty 8 (2) , 261-275

1990s. Universal jurisdiction can pave the way for the prosecution of military and civilian high-ranking officials of many countries, including heads of state and government, who are perpetrators or instigators of human rights violations and serious crimes. The crimes that fall within the scope of universal jurisdiction are those that, due to their unjust content, cause international peace and security to be undermined and whose violation has an international impact due to the legal subject matter it protects.⁵³

Especially in the years following the Second World War, state authorities have been increasingly eroded and limited by international law. As a result, the concept of "Extraterritoriality" was introduced to International Criminal Law. Thus, Extraterritoriality has turned the modern State of the 21st century into an apparatus responsible not only for its own citizens, but for the entire human race.⁵⁴

In the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court, the crimes that give rise to universal jurisdiction in the context of international law are also defined and guaranteed. According to Article 5 of the Rome Statute, genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression are within the scope of the ICC's jurisdiction. The rules regarding these crimes listed in the Rome Statute are recognized as jus cogens norms that constitute the source of universal jurisdiction.

Evaluation of War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity in Turkish Law

1- **Article 13** of the Turkish Penal Code No. 5237:

Article 13 of the Turkish Penal Code No. 5237 reads as follows:

⁵³ KEÇELİGİL, Hasan Tahsin "Universal Jurisdiction: An Overview of the Principle of Universality in the Context of Criminal Law", Terazi Law Journal 2018, No 143, p. 131-132

⁵⁴ **Av. S. Sinan Kocaoğlu, "EVRENSEL YETKİ" Universal Jurisdiction**, Journal of the Union of Turkish Bar Associations, ISSN 1304-2408, Sayı 60, Eylül/Ekim 2005

ARTICLE 13. (1) The following offenses committed by a citizen or a foreigner in a foreign country If committed, Turkish law shall apply:

a) Offenses under Chapter One of Book Two.

b) Offenses under Chapters Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven and Eight of Part Four of Book Two.

c) Torture (Articles 94, 95). (...)

(2) Even if a judgment of conviction or acquittal has been rendered in a foreign country for the offenses specified in subparagraphs (a) and (b) of the first paragraph, a trial shall be held in Turkey upon the request of the Minister of Justice.

The "crimes under Book Two, Part One" referred to in the Article are genocide, crimes against humanity, migrant smuggling and human trafficking.

2- Article 14 of the Code of Criminal Procedure:

Article 14 of the Code of Criminal Procedure No. 5271 titled "Jurisdiction in Crimes Committed in Foreign Countries" stipulates that "Jurisdiction in crimes committed in a foreign country and which must be investigated and prosecuted in Turkey in accordance with the provisions of the law shall be determined in accordance with the first and second paragraphs of Article 13. ..."

Pursuant to subparagraph (a) of the first paragraph of Article 13 of the TPC, the principle of universal jurisdiction has been adopted for the prosecution in Turkey of crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, migrant smuggling and human trafficking committed abroad. According to the way the principle of universality is regulated in Article 13, in the event that the crimes listed in this article are committed abroad, Turkish law shall apply to the perpetrator and the victim, regardless of their nationality, and without the perpetrator's presence in Turkey. Therefore, for the four offenses mentioned above, prosecution will be carried out in Turkey even if the offense is committed by a foreigner against a foreigner abroad and the perpetrator is located abroad

3- Crimes Committed by the Israelis Who Carried Out the Gaza Attack within the Framework of the Turkish Criminal Code

"CRIME OF GENOCIDE": The crime of genocide under Article 76 of the Turkish Penal Code is regulated. According to this:

ARTICLE 76. - (1) The commission of one of the following acts against members of a national, ethnic, racial or religious group with the intent to destroy such group in whole or in part by the execution of a plan constitutes the crime of genocide:

- a) Intentional killing.
- b) Causing serious harm to the physical or mental integrity of persons.
- c) Forcing the group to live in conditions that would result in its total or partial destruction.
- d) Taking measures to prevent births within the group.
- e) Forced transfer of children belonging to the group to another group.

(2) The perpetrator of the crime of genocide shall be sentenced to aggravated life imprisonment. However, for the crimes of intentional killing and intentional wounding committed within the scope of genocide, the provisions of actual aggregation shall apply for the number of victims determined.


(3) Security measures shall also be imposed on legal entities for these crimes.

(4) Statute of limitations shall not run for these offenses.

"CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY": In Article 77 of the Turkish Penal Code No. 5237 "Crimes against Humanity" are regulated. According to this

ARTICLE 77. - (1) The systematic commission of the following acts against a section of the society with political, philosophical, racial or religious motives in accordance with a plan constitutes a crime against humanity:

- a) Intentional killing.

- 
- b) Intentional injury.
 - c) Torture, cruelty or enslavement.
 - d) Deprivation of personal liberty.
 - e) Subjecting to scientific experiments.
 - f) Sexual assault, sexual abuse of children.
 - g) Forced impregnation.
 - h) Forced inducement to prostitution.


(2) If the act described in subparagraph (a) of the first paragraph is committed, the perpetrator shall be sentenced to aggravated life imprisonment; if the acts described in the other subparagraphs are committed, the perpetrator shall be sentenced to imprisonment for a term not less than eight years. However, for the crimes of intentional killing and intentional wounding committed within the scope of subparagraphs (a) and (b) of the first paragraph, the provisions of actual aggregation shall be applied for the number of victims determined.

(3) Security measures shall also be imposed on legal entities for these offenses.

(4) Statute of limitations shall not apply for these offenses.

International Criminal Court

The International Criminal Court (ICC) is the result of the statutes established by the Rome Treaty of July 17, 1998, which entered into force on July 1, 2002. It is a permanent international court established to prosecute people who "commit the gravest crimes" of concern to the international community.



Article 12 of the Rome Statute regulates the territorial jurisdiction of the ICC. Accordingly, the ICC is the competent court if the crime is committed in the territory of a state party to the treaty or by a national of a state party.

The court has jurisdiction to prosecute criminal acts committed after the entry into force of the law. It is not possible for the court to exercise jurisdiction over an act committed before that date. "The jurisdiction of the ICC includes crimes committed after the entry into force of the Rome Statute", i.e. after 11 April 2002.

After the entry into force of the Rome Convention, the ICC's jurisdiction over the states parties to the statute in terms of time starts from the date of entry into force of the statute for that state. The ICC has jurisdiction over persons who are nationals of states parties or crimes committed on their territory. The ICC has jurisdiction even if a crime is committed on board a ship or aircraft flying the flag of a state party.

According to Article 25 of the Rome Statute, the ICC has jurisdiction over natural persons. The ICC does not have jurisdiction over legal persons and countries.


The ICC did not discriminate between criminals based on their position within the country. In this way, the sovereign immunity of heads of state and senior officials has been abolished. According to the Rome Statute, any political and military bureaucrat who has committed a crime can be tried before the ICC.

According to Article 5 of the Rome Statute, the relevant jurisdiction of the court exclusively covers four specific international crimes. These are crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression.

The International Criminal Court may initiate investigations into crimes falling within its jurisdiction in three ways" (Rome Stat. Art. 13):

(a) a request by a State Party (Rome St. Art. 14)

(b) an automatic investigation may be opened by the Prosecutor based on information received from States, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations



bodies, non-governmental organizations or other reliable sources, as he or she deems appropriate (Rome St. Art. 15)

(c) The UN Security Council's request to the Office of the Prosecutor.

Any state party to the Convention may report to the prosecutor's office the crimes specified in Article 5 of the statute. By reporting the alleged crimes to the prosecutor's office, the state party requests an investigation to be opened and the alleged perpetrators to be brought to justice. Today, 122 countries have ratified the Rome Statute and have become state parties to the ICC. The manner in which an investigation may be initiated upon the request of a State Party to the Rome Statute is regulated by Article 14 of the Rome Statute. Accordingly, a State Party having information that one or more crimes falling within the jurisdiction of the Court have been committed may apply to the Prosecutor of the Court requesting an investigation against those concerned. The Prosecutor, after considering the application and the information and documents provided to him, decides whether to open an investigation. The requesting state may be a state that has information that a crime has been committed, or it may be the state in whose territory the crime was committed.

Another method for opening an investigation at the ICC is as follows: "According to Article 13 of the Rome Statute, the UN Security Council" can refer a case that falls within the jurisdiction of the ICC to the Prosecutor's Office for investigation. The "UN Security Council" has exercised this power twice so far, in Darfur (Sudan) under Resolution 1593 of 31 March 2005 and in Libya under Resolution 1970 of 15 February 2011

Finally, the ICC prosecutor is a public official with the power to prosecute *ex officio* in order to establish a concrete fact and to ensure a fair trial when a crime has been committed. The prosecutor may initiate prosecutions and investigations spontaneously upon receiving information about crimes falling within the jurisdiction of the Court.

Can Israel be Prosecuted at the ICC for Actions in the Palestinian Territories?


Israel is not a party to the Rome Statute. Therefore, it is outside the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court. Palestine, on the other hand, is not a full member of the UN, but is represented as a state in many subsidiary General Assemblies and organizations and is a member of the Treaty of Rome, to which only countries can be a party. Palestine has accepted the ICC's jurisdiction and is a member of the Treaty of Rome, to which only states can be parties. is an external sovereign state represented in an international organization.⁵⁵

Palestine's first application to the ICC was submitted by the "Minister of Justice of the Palestinian government" on 22 January 2009, after the Israel-Gaza War, with a declaration "accepting the jurisdiction of the court over crimes committed in the Palestinian territories since 1 July 2002". The request was made pursuant to Article 12(3) of the Statute. The content of the request consists of "crimes committed in the past, present and future which fall within the Court's temporal jurisdiction in the Palestinian territories". With regard to this request, which was made before Palestine's accession to the Rome Statute, the prosecutor's office, in its rejection decision of 3 April 2012, stated that the applicants must be "States" for the court to accept jurisdiction due to the provision set out in Article 12 of the convention. This application was rejected on the grounds that the applicant lacked the necessary qualifications, given that Palestine is not recognized as a "State" by the UN. As Palestine is not a State party, this application was closed at the first instance and no investigation was opened.⁵⁶

The second application was filed following Israel's intervention on 31 May 2010 against the "Mavi Marmara" and other aid flotillas that set out to deliver aid and break

⁵⁵ Mutlu, Orçun (2019). "An Evaluation on the Statehood Status of the State of Palestine". Turkey: Balkan Journal of Social Sciences, , S.8, (EUREFE '19) s. 403–413.

⁵⁶ ICC (April 2012). "Situation in Palestine, Office of the Prosecutor". <https://www.iccpi.int/NR/rdonlyres/C6162BBF-FEB9-4FAF-AFA9-836106D2694A/284387/SituationinPalestine030412ENG.pdf> . Erişim Tarihi: 15.11.2023



the blockade of Gaza. The Federation of Comoros, the flag country of one of the ships, filed an application on May 14, 2014. The Federation of Comoros became a party to the Rome Statute on August 18, 2006. In addition, the other two ships "flagged by Greece and Cambodia" were States Parties to the Rome Statute, giving the ICC jurisdiction over what happened on board the three ships.⁵⁷ In this application, the prosecutor argued that the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and the situation of the civilian population in Gaza was an international matter and could not be treated otherwise. and rejected the application.⁵⁸


After these two applications, the importance of Palestine's UN membership was once again recognized. In 2011, Palestine's UN membership was not finalized due to the veto of the US, a member of the UN General Assembly. However, with the UN General Assembly Resolution 67/19 dated 2012, 138 countries expressed a positive opinion and Palestine was accepted as a non-member observer country as a result of the vote. After being accepted as a non-member observer state, Palestine was also accepted as an "observer state" by the Council of States Parties to the ICC on December 9, 2014.

On January 1, 2015, Palestine submitted to the ICC a request under Article 12 of the Rome Statute for jurisdiction over crimes against humanity committed in the occupied Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem, after June 13, 2014. On January 2, 2015, the necessary documents required for the request to become a party were submitted. Subsequently, pursuant to Article 126(2) of the Statute, **the Rome Convention for the Palestinian Territories entered into force on April 1, 2015.**

⁵⁷ ICC (2014). Situation on Registered Vessels of Comoros, Greece and Cambodia, Office of the Prosecutor.

[https://www.icccpi.int/iccdocs/otp/OTP-COM-Article_53\(1\)-Report-06_Nov_2014_Eng_.pdf](https://www.icccpi.int/iccdocs/otp/OTP-COM-Article_53(1)-Report-06_Nov_2014_Eng_.pdf) access: date 15.11.2023

⁵⁸ ICC (2014). Situation on Registered Vessels of Comoros, Greece and Cambodia. <https://www.icccpi.int/comoros>. access: date: 15.11.2023



The latest application to the ICC by Palestine is the one dated "May 21, 2018", which constitutes the main subject of this study. As a state party to the Statute, an application was submitted to the prosecutor's office for past, present and future crimes that fall within the jurisdiction of the court in the entire Palestinian territories pursuant to Articles 13/1 a and 14 of the Statute. On February 5, 2021, the ICC issued a decision stating that the court has jurisdiction over the West Bank and the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel in 1967, including the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem. This decision paved the way for Israel to be prosecuted for the criminal acts it has committed on the Palestinian territories as enumerated in the Rome Statute.



Source: [hosnysalah](#) Palestinian photographer currently living in Palestine
[Gaza Strip](#)

Israel's War and Crimes against Humanity in Gaza


Crimes against humanity

Under the Rome Statute of the ICC, crimes against humanity include certain acts and crimes committed as part of a systematic or widespread attack against any civilized society. As stated under the heading of crimes against humanity, these acts include "murder, enslavement, genocide, deportation, forced population transfer, imprisonment or severe restriction of physical liberty in violation of the fundamental rules of international law, torture, rape, forced prostitution, sexual slavery, forced pregnancy and sexual violence". As part of its "state policy" in this operation, Israel has engaged in a "widespread and systematic" pattern of killing, destroying, displacing Palestinian civilians and irreparably destroying the infrastructure of the Gaza Strip. It completely and explicitly targeted the "civilian population" in Gaza and never took into account the principle of international humanitarian law that in armed conflicts civilians should be protected to the maximum extent and measures should be taken to ensure such protection

War crimes

As discussed above, Article 8 of the Rome Statute Article 8; "intentional killing, ill-treatment, torture, attacking or preventing humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping missions, causing excessive death or injury by disproportionate use of force, attacking the civilian population, conducting biological experiments, forcibly displacing or transferring the civilian population, inflicting grievous bodily or physical harm or suffering, unlawful seizure or destruction of property, isolation or imprisonment of persons, attacking civilian targets or taking hostages, attacking religious and historical sites that need to be protected, using poison gas, recruiting children into the army, using a special or liquid substance, and committing acts against sexual freedom" as war crimes that require prosecution..

The Israeli authorities have repeatedly committed war crimes by systematically targeting and killing civilians during the Gaza operation. News, images and



documents in the media show that the Israeli authorities deliberately targeted and systematically killed civilians during the Gaza war. The systematic targeting and killing of civilians in armed conflict has been recognized as **grave war crimes** by the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the Hague-based ICC (Article 8/2). It is a fundamental feature of international humanitarian law that civilians should not be targeted in any way in armed conflict, but rather all measures should be taken to protect them, Israel's treatment of all Palestinian civilians as " Hamas fighters " and its killing of them with all kinds of bombs, including " phosphorus bombs " dropped from land, air and sea, is a **war crime**.

The 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons banned the use of phosphorus bombs. Knowing that these bombs kill anyone within 50 meters and injure anyone within 200 meters, the Israeli military authorities nevertheless used them and openly massacred civilians. The UN Human Rights Committee, Amnesty International, and Red Cross and Red Crescent officials have also confirmed that Israel has committed a serious war crime by firing " phosphorus bombs " at civilians it deemed to be " Hamas militants " throughout the operation.

Assault Crime

Israel's attacks against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian state are not individual attacks, but are carried out with the aim of expanding the occupation. The settlements of the Palestinian people are illegally evacuated and annexed, their private property is looted and opened to Jewish settlers, their right to life is violated, they are subjected to all forms of torture and ill-treatment, and their freedom of movement is restricted. All these actions by Israel are " gross and systematic " violations of human rights.

The Crime of Genocide

According to the Rome Statute, "any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy in whole or in part a national, racial, ethnic or religious group constitutes the crime of genocide:

- a) Killing group members,
- b) Causing serious physical or mental harm to group members,
- c) To destroy the physical existence of the group in whole or in part
deliberate alteration of living conditions,
- d) Taking measures to prevent childbearing within the group
- e) Forcibly removing children belonging to the group transfer to another group"

In order to constitute the crime of genocide, the acts listed above must have been committed against one or more of the above-mentioned victim groups (solely because they are members of that group). Israel's attacks on Gaza have continued unabated and the city has been under a complete blockade, turning it into an open-air prison. Considering that "acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a racial, national, ethnic or religious group" constitute genocide, it is possible to evaluate the recent situation in Gaza within this framework.

In order for the crime of genocide to occur, the perpetrator or motives must have the "intent to destroy the group partially or completely". The embargo imposed by Israel on the people of Gaza, preventing the masses from accessing basic necessities, especially food, and depriving them of basic needs such as electricity and water clearly expresses an "intent". Conduct that is certain to result in death, sustained for a period of time sufficient to cause death, and carried out on a mass scale cannot be unintentional. This is considered a crime of genocide under Article 6 of the Rome Statute, and **Israel is committing the crime of genocide** against the Palestinians by these acts.



Source: [hosnysalah Palestinian photographer currently living in Palestine Gaza Strip \(https://pixabay.com/photos/gaza-strip-palestine-3829403/\)](https://pixabay.com/photos/gaza-strip-palestine-3829403/)




CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusion

The State of Israel is an occupier of Palestinian territory according to United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 of November 22, 1967. It was illegally established by usurping the rights and lands of the Palestinian community, and has continued to violate rights and usurp lands from the moment it was established until today. On April 9, 1948, before it became a state, massacres began in Deir Yasin, and have increased continuously since then

On October 7, 2023, the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades, one of the Palestinian resistance groups, launched an operation called the "Aqsa Flood" in order to end the inhumane blockade and to force the occupier to withdraw from the last remaining territory (Gaza) which has been turned into an open-air prison. The developments and the brutality that followed this operation cannot be compared to any other period in Palestinian history. Lawlessness and cruelty have reached a peak. Israel, helpless in the face of the operation of the resistance groups, turned its vengeance on the civilians living in an open-air prison in Gaza and began to spew atrocities in a state of madness. It tramples on every value in the name of international law and human rights, attacks in a frenzied manner, and rains death on helpless children, women and civilians. It bombs and destroys refugee camp, hospitals, schools, temples, buildings, everywhere. Dozens, sometimes hundreds, of defenseless civilians perish in an instant under every building that collapses. Dismembered or burnt



corpses, dead babies, people crying helplessly for those they have lost, newborn babies who cannot be treated in hospitals that cannot work due to lack of energy, images of children trembling with fear are waiting for consciences to act as unstoppable cross-sections of Israeli brutality. Israel is taking revenge on the helpless civilian population for what it could not do to the resistance groups. A nation that was a victim of World War 2 has turned into a savage oppressor, attacking and attacking with a lawlessness and ruthlessness that does not resemble that period.

Although no words are sufficient in the face of the lawlessness, human rights violations and genocide committed, the picture after October 7 can be summarized as follows:

- Israel is an **occupier** of the Palestinian territories, as confirmed by UN resolution
- Israel is an **apartheid regime** with its policies since the day it declared its de facto existence. Israel has been pursuing a policy of marginalization and systematic genocide and extermination against the Palestinian people for years. Apartheid, which means the marginalization and systematic destruction of a race, is a crime against humanity. Since October 7, Israel has made it clear that it is an apartheid state by declaring that it considers the Palestinian people as "humanoid animals" that need to be exterminated, both through its actions and through statements made by its highest officials.
- As a result of a process of usurpation and lawlessness that has been going on since the establishment of Israel, the Palestinian territories and especially Gaza have become an open prison. Palestinians living there are constantly subjected to oppression and persecution and try to hold on to life despite all kinds of pressures and embargoes. The lands where Palestinians are forced to seek refuge are far above the world rankings in terms of population density, and millions of people struggle to survive in this small geography. These geographies are surrounded on all sides and cut off from the world. Living here requires a difficult life struggle in human terms.

- The occupying **Israeli regime**, which violates human dignity at every step it takes and never respects international law, **is one of the biggest obstacles to global and regional peace**. Israel has been sabotaging peace efforts with its occupation and massacres for the last 75 years, practicing unlimited violence under the protection of the United States, and **imposing lawlessness and violence on the world**.
- Israel is the gendarme of global hegemony in the Middle East, as clearly stated by different politicians. For the sake of global hegemony, all its lawlessness, cruelty and brutality are ignored and supported by the rulers in spite of everything. For this reason, no international mechanism can be operated against Israel, and the conscience of humanity is constantly bleeding when it comes to Israel. Although Western governments remain silent against Israel's massacres in Gaza, in many parts of the world, civil initiatives in many European countries and most governments and people, especially in South America, have organized massive demonstrations in support of Palestine.
- While this is a collapse of the current world system and its values, it is promising for humanity.
- The Muslim world's support for Palestine has lagged far behind the West's support for Israel. This situation points to a lack of will against hegemony rather than insensitivity in the Muslim world. Leaders who were able to stay in their seats with the support of the West because they did not have popular support behind them are unfortunately paying the price for this support today. Unless the political structure in the Muslim world changes, it seems inevitable that this situation will continue.
- MAZLUMDER does not see the process that started after October 7 as a beginning, but as a stage of resistance against the occupation and Israeli oppression. MAZLUMDER considers Israel's attacks, which have turned into a frenzy, not as a legitimate defense, but as a new process in which the occupation and oppression have reached its peak.

- Israel has committed numerous human rights violations every day during the approximately 2-month period examined by this report and in front of the international public opinion.
- More than 10,000 buildings, including hospitals, schools, mosques, churches, bazaars, markets, commercial stores, economic facilities, agricultural land, production facilities, infrastructure and streets, have been destroyed in Israeli attacks. Living quarters, electricity, water and communication systems were targeted and destroyed.
- The crimes committed by Israel in Gaza are clearly crimes against humanity according to international conventions.
- Israel's means of attacking Gaza is a clear war crime according to international conventions.
- The deaths caused by Israel in Gaza are a clear violation of international conventions. is a crime of genocide.
- All states and international organizations that remain silent, support Israel's reckless policy of insanity and do not prevent its punishment are complicit in this crime.
- The October 7 process represents the collapse of all the values proclaimed to the world in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of December 10, 1948. Anything that might have stood at the end of this process will no longer be credible because of the injustice and double standards in its implementation.
- As if Israel's trampling on law and values is not enough, states that are sometimes considered as apostles of human rights have also started to openly violate law and values. States become blind when it comes to Palestine and Gaza, and human rights and international law lose their meaning when they have to be applied against Israel. People/institutions of conscience who want to protest against the atrocities in Palestine and condemn Israel within the framework of freedom of opinion are subjected to repression. and a "witch hunt" is being conducted against those who support it.


- Concerts of artists condemning Israel and supporting Palestine were canceled, students were investigated, academics and writers were silenced, commercial organizations were put under pressure, and the press and media were censored.
- The post-October 7 Gaza process is a black stain on human history and inflict irreparable wounds on the human conscience.

Recommendations

There are steps that must be taken immediately to prevent further bleeding of the human conscience, to prevent the complete destruction of human values built over centuries of hard struggle, and to restore justice in spite of everything.

- First of all, the inhumane attack on Gaza should be stopped immediately, the economic and political embargo should be ended immediately, humanitarian aid corridors should be opened immediately and aid should be delivered to the region, and minimum living conditions should be established immediately.
- To force a ceasefire and then a settlement, the Muslim world must isolate and embargo Israel. It must resist and force the West to choose between itself and Israel. A similar policy was implemented in South Africa and the apartheid regime realized that it could no longer survive. If the West feels such pressure from the Muslim world, and if it feels that this is not in its geopolitical interests, it will either have to reconsider its support for Israel or force Israel to make a solution.
- A two-state solution must be realized in accordance with the UN resolution, the Palestinian state must be recognized by member states and Palestine must be made a member of the UN with equal rights with other states.
- The unlawful Israeli blockade on Gaza and the West Bank must be ended, and an independent Palestinian state, independent in its internal and external affairs, must come into being.

- With the establishment of such a Palestinian state, any Israeli aggression must be prevented and punished in accordance with international conventions.
- The crimes against humanity committed by Israel must be prevented and punished in accordance with international conventions in order to calm the conscience of humanity. crimes must not go unpunished.
- In the name of preventing the complete destruction of human values **war crimes** must be prosecuted and war criminals must be brought to justice.
- **The genocide** committed by Israel must be recognized in order to restore justice, The perpetrators of genocide must be punished according to the law.
- In order for these recommendations to be implemented, states opposed to Israeli atrocities must come together, mobilize sanctions, aid and intervention to stop Israeli aggression, while persuading countries that abstained from voting and forcing international mechanisms to work.
- It is the historic responsibility of the states that object to the atrocities to stop Israeli aggression and force international mechanisms to work. The preservation of international law, which is being trampled underfoot, and human values, which are being destroyed, depend on such efforts. Just as states that trampled on law and values will go down in the black pages of history, states that made efforts to protect law and human values will go down in the white pages of history and humanity will remember them with gratitude.
- In the wake of this event, which has become one of the turning points in the history of humanity, the structure and function of the UN must be reconsidered, and international law and the common values of humanity must be rebuilt.
- Against Israel, which recklessly uses even forbidden weapons such as white phosphorus bombs necessary measures must be taken and an arms embargo imposed immediately.
- States with categories such as genocide or crimes against humanity in their penal codes, including Turkey, should prosecute Israeli officials



involved in crimes against humanity, war crimes, crimes of aggression and genocide.

- In its current structure, it does not seem possible for the UN Security Council to establish a tribunal against Israel. However, as a temporary and coercive step, a tribunal could be supported and established under the auspices of the UN General Assembly, with the support of African, Latin American and Asian countries. This tribunal, which is unlikely to be veto-proof, could bring to justice war crimes committed by Israel in the Palestinian territories. Even if its decisions are not binding, it could at least serve to raise awareness.

MAZLUMDER demands the punishment of all Israeli officials, especially Netanyahu and his collaborators, who have been convicted in the common conscience of the peoples of the world, and sees their impunity as a danger to the protection of universal human rights principles.

APPENDICES

Criminal Complaint Against Israeli Executives

TO THE CHIEF PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF ISTANBUL

THOSE WHO HAVE FILED CRİMİNAL COMPLAİNTS :

1. Association for Human Rights and Solidarity for the Oppressed (MAZLUMDER)
2. Molla Gürani M. Ş. Pilot Mahmut Nedim S. No:5 Kat:4 Fatih Istanbul
3. Association for Free Thought and Education Rights (ÖZGÜR-DER)
4. International Union of Jurists (UHUB)
5. Lawyers Association

SUSPECTS :

1. President of Israel **Yitzak Hertzog**
- 2nd Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu**
- 3rd Deputy Prime Minister / Minister of Justice **Yariv Levin**
- 4th Minister of Interior - **Moshe Arbel**
- 5th Defense Minister **Yoav Gallant**
- 6th Minister of Intelligence **Gila Gamliel**

7. Minister of National Security **Itamar Ben-Gvir**

8- Foreign Minister **Eli Cohen**

9- Chief of General Staff General **Herzi Halevi**

10- Army Commander Major General **Kobi Barak**

10- Israel Air Force General **Amir Eshel**

12- Israel Navy Commander **Aluf Eli Sharvit**

13- Other suspects **to be identified.**

ADDRESSES: Occupied Palestinian Territories

CRIME: Article 76 of the TPC Genocide, Article 77 of the TPC Crimes against Humanity, Intentional Homicide, Torture, Deprivation of Liberty, Violation of Residential Immunity, Theft and other crimes to be determined ex officio

CRIME DATE: October 7, 2023 and the following days

EXPLANATIONS :

1- Israel has occupied the Palestinian territories for many years, killing thousands of people, injuring and maiming many others, destroying their property and leaving them homeless. Furthermore, Israel has imposed a great embargo and siege on the Palestinian territories it occupied, and committed a great crime against humanity by preventing humanitarian aid from reaching the people of Gaza through systematic bombardments every few years.

(See MAZLUMDER Gaza Report, <https://istanbul.mazlumder.org/tr/main/yayinlar/yurt-disi-raporlar/19/gazze-raporu/516> Online: 18.10.2023)

2-The occupying Israeli forces, using the counter-attack launched by the Izzettin al-Qassam Brigades on October 7, 2023 as an excuse to break the embargo imposed by Israel against the embargo and systematic acts of death

and torture imposed on the people of Gaza for years, started to bombard the unarmed and defenseless people of Gaza indiscriminately from the air and land.

3- Not satisfied with the airstrikes, the occupying Israel stopped the humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza, and the Israeli Defense Minister announced on October 9, 2023 that "the Gaza Strip will be under a complete blockade and the region will not be supplied with electricity, fuel and water".

<https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/israil-savunma-bakani-gallant-gazze-tamamen-blockade-alinacak/3012491>)

4-At the same time, the Israeli Defense Minister openly declared that they do not see the people of Gaza as human beings and said "We are fighting with humanoid animals" in his statement, clearly revealing their view of the entire Palestinian people as a state, in particular the people of Gaza.


<https://news.sky.com/video/israel-hamas-war-we-are-not-animals-says-palestinian-prime-minister-in-appeal-to-netanyahu-12985419>)

5-During this period, Israel has caused the death and injury of thousands of people by bombing schools, mosques, hospitals and other places where people, who must be protected even in war, congregate, and by directly targeting civilians.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/live-blog/israel-hamas-war-live-updates-rcna120252>)

6-Despite all the pressures of the international community, Israel has not given up this attitude and has condemned the people of Gaza to hunger and misery for more than 10 days. The Israeli Defense Minister made a statement on his x account, "Explosives will enter Gaza, not humanitarian aid. As long as Hamas does not release the hostages in its hands, the only thing that should enter Gaza is not a gram of humanitarian aid, but hundreds of tons of explosives coming from the Air Force.", and he admitted that they are acting with the aim of condemning the people of Gaza to total death.

<https://x.com/itamarbengvir/status/1714340519487176791?s=20>)



7- While committing all these war crimes, Israel committed a clear and undeniable war crime by using phosphorus bombs, which are considered chemical weapons and forbidden to be used even against warring elements, in its aerial and ground bombings. Anadolu Agency reporters in the region have identified the use of phosphorus bombs through photographs and video footage they have shared with Turkey and the world. Amnesty International also confirmed the use of phosphorus bombs in a statement.

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAPpPrAy5_M)

8- In the history of the world, chemical weapons that cause mass deaths have been developed in order to completely destroy the enemy elements in wars and to break their resistance, and these weapons have been used in many wars, especially in the first and second world wars. Following the First World War, the Geneva Protocol of 1925 was drawn up under the leadership of the United Nations to prevent the use of chemical weapons. The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction, which was signed in Paris in 1993, was adopted by the Turkish Grand National Assembly with Law No. 4238 and became a norm of domestic law by being published in the Official Gazette No. 22960 dated 10.04.1997. This treaty completely prohibits the production and use of chemical weapons and defines the use of these weapons as a "crime against humanity".

9- Since chemical weapons affect not only the lives of the warring elements but also the lives of all living beings in the impact area, causing mass deaths and aiming to destroy all living life, their production and use have been completely banned and 188 countries have signed this agreement and adopted "anti-chemical weapons" as a common value of humanity.

10- While the whole world was watching the crimes against humanity committed by Israel, Israel, confident that its crimes would remain unsanctioned, carried out one of the darkest, conscience-stricken acts in the history of humanity on October 17, 2023, bombing a hospital where people, mostly women and children, had taken refuge in the belief that it would not bomb them, killing more than 600

people, mostly children, and injuring thousands of people, although the exact number is not yet known.


(<https://tr.euronews.com/2023/10/17/gazze-saglik-bakanligi-israilin-hastane-saldirisinda-en-az-500-kisi-oldu>)

While the media showed the lifeless bodies of many people throughout the day, Palestinian Civil Defense Spokesperson Mahmoud Basal said in a statement after the attack, "The hospital massacre is a unique event in our history. Although we have witnessed tragedies in past wars and days, what happened tonight is genocide in every sense. I am silent.", revealing the extent of this unprecedented atrocity in world history.

11- From October 7, 2023 until the moment we submitted our criminal complaint petition to the prosecutor's office, an open genocide is being carried out by Israel against the Palestinian people and crimes against humanity are being committed. These acts are clearly war crimes in accordance with the Geneva Convention and its annexed protocols.

12- According to the Convention, "deliberately directing attacks against individual civilians not directly involved in hostilities or against the civilian population; bombing or attacking by any means towns, villages, settlements or buildings that are not defenseless or do not constitute military targets; directly or indirectly transferring part of the civilian population of the occupying State to the occupied territory or expelling or transferring all or part of the population of the occupied territory within or outside the borders of the State" is considered a clear and grave war crime.

According to the Convention, the act of deliberately directing attacks against buildings, supplies, medical units and means of transportation, as well as against personnel using the distinctive emblems of the Geneva Conventions in accordance with international law, is also considered a war crime, in particular granting special status to children who have not been part of wars, under any circumstances whatsoever targeting children is expressly prohibited.



13- Despite all these international conventions, Israel has embarked on an open genocide against the people of Gaza, directly targeting civilians, especially children, with the aim of the total destruction of the Palestinian people and the expulsion of civilians from the Gaza Strip.


The fact that the electricity, water and gas of the civilian population have been cut off and even the humanitarian aid corridor has been closed is a clear indication that they are acting with the goal of total death. The open targeting of children, the innocents of war, and even the term "humanoid animals" used against the entire Palestinian people clearly reveals the aims of the suspects who committed the crime in question.

14- The first paragraph of Article 13 of the Turkish Penal Code stipulates that certain crimes shall be investigated and the perpetrators punished in Turkey, regardless of time and place, by stating that "In the event that the crimes under the First Part of the Second Book are committed by a citizen or a foreigner in a foreign country, Turkish laws shall apply."

Article 76 of the Turkish Criminal Code titled "Genocide" states: "The commission of one of the following acts against members of a national, ethnic, racial or religious group with the intent to destroy them in whole or in part through the execution of a plan constitutes the crime of genocide."

Under this article, the crimes of "intentional killing", "causing grievous bodily or mental harm to the physical or mental integrity of individuals", "forcing a group of people to live in conditions that would result in their total or partial extermination" are defined as the crime of genocide.

15- Article 77 of the TPC titled "Crimes Against Humanity" states that "The systematic commission of the following acts against a section of the society with political, philosophical, racial or religious motives in line with a plan constitutes a crime against humanity." In line with the purpose of this article, the commission of the crimes of "intentional killing" and "intentional wounding" are considered as crimes against humanity.



16- The occupying Israel has so far disregarded all international conventions, the conscientious values that are the common accumulation of humanity, and has been using all means to destroy the entire Palestinian people in Gaza in particular. It has not hesitated to commit acts condemned by the holy books. These acts are a clear and undeniable genocide and crime against humanity.


17- In our research, it has been determined that some Turkish citizens with dual citizenship went to Israel on October 7 and the following dates to do military service in Israel, and made statements and posts on their social media accounts that they were partners in the crimes against humanity. We further request that your prosecutor's office identify these persons, who are also Turkish citizens, and include them in the file as suspects.

18- As the representatives and volunteers of civil society organizations whose signatures are on the petition, we are filing a criminal complaint to your prosecutor's office in order to punish the perpetrators of the crimes in question, which took place in front of the eyes of the whole world.

Although paragraph 13/2 of the Turkish Penal Code states that "prosecution in Turkey for crimes falling within the scope of the first paragraph is subject to the request of the Minister of Justice", this regulation is a condition for prosecution and does not prevent an investigation. We demand that your Chief Public Prosecutor's Office carry out the necessary investigation, identify the perpetrators, collect the evidence, ask the Minister of Justice for his opinion on this matter and open a public case against the perpetrators.

CONCLUSIONARY REQUEST: For the reasons explained above;

1. That the necessary investigation and investigation be carried out against all suspects, some of whom can be identified by us, who have committed the acts mentioned in our petition from October 7, 2023 until today, and that a public case be opened against them for the relevant crimes and other crimes to be determined ex officio,

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2. Identification of other perpetrators who have authority and responsibility in the commission of the crimes in question and who directly participated in the crime within the chain of command, and their inclusion in the investigation file as suspects,
 3. On behalf of the persons and organizations whose names and signatures are given below, as whistleblowers, we demand that a direct investigation be initiated against the suspects, who are Turkish citizens and have declared their complicity in the crimes committed by Israel on their social media accounts, and that a public case be initiated against them, and that other suspects who are in the same position as the suspects be questioned by the Ministry of Interior, security and intelligence units and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and that their names be identified and a public case be initiated against them.

19/10/2023

MAZLUMDER President Adv. Kaya KARTAL

WHO HAVE FILED CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS



Source: [badwanart0](https://pixabay.com/users/badwanart0-859869/) (<https://pixabay.com/users/badwanart0-859869/>)



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