



Palestine October 2015

- **Settlements** In July 2015, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu approved construction of over 800 settlement units in occupied Palestinian territory (300 in the West Bank and over 500 in East Jerusalem); ¹ Previous construction in breach of Israeli law of a further 800 settlement units was retroactively validated by the Israeli government on 31st October. ² Both actions constitute war crimes under international criminal law.
- **Gaza** Almost the entire population of Gaza is living in “destitution” according to a UN report on effects of Israel’s assault on the coastal strip which finds that Gaza will be “uninhabitable by 2020 if current trends continue.”
- **Al-Aqsa Mosque** On 17th September 2015, dozens of members of Netanyahu’s Likud party entered the compound of the Al-Aqsa Mosque (the third most holy site in Islam) accompanied by Israeli soldiers.

Deaths and injuries during the month of October

- Between 1st October and 2nd November, the Israeli police/army and Israeli settlers combined have killed 73 Palestinians. ³
- 12 of the Palestinians killed by Israeli forces were children, one an eight month old baby who suffocated as a result of tear gas fired by the Israeli army.
- 11 Israelis have been killed by Palestinians in the same period. ⁴ The majority of the Palestinian attackers of those Israelis have been shot dead on the spot by Israeli forces without any attempt having been made to apprehend them with non-lethal force.
- Amnesty International accuses Israel of “extrajudicial executions.” Philip Luther, Amnesty’s Director of the Middle East and North Africa Programme states, “we are increasingly seeing Israeli forces recklessly flouting international standards by shooting to kill in situations where it is completely unjustified.” ⁵
- 6,362 Palestinians have been injured by Israeli forces between the 29th September and 26th October in occupied Palestinian territory alone. 76 Israelis have been injured by Palestinians in both occupied Palestinian territory and Israel itself in the same period. ⁶
- 2,617 of those Palestinians injured in the month of October were injured with live or rubber coated steel bullets according to the Palestinian Red Crescent. ⁷
- 1,350 Palestinians have been arrested in the month of October, 170 of whom are children. ⁸

References

- 1 <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jul/29/netanyahu-approves-west-bank-settlement-construction-demolition>
- 2 <http://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-legalizes-hundreds-of-west-bank-settler-homes/>
- 3 <http://www.imemc.org/article/73661>
- 4 <http://mondoweiss.net/2015/11/killed-palestinians-october>
- 5 <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2015/10/israeli-forces-must-end-pattern-of-unlawful-killings-in-west-bank/>
- 6 <http://www.ochaopt.org/reports.aspx?id=104&page=1>
- 7 <http://www.maannews.com/Content.aspx?id=768603>
- 8 <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/news/middle-east/22035-report-72-palestinians-killed-by-israel-in-october>

Sadaka supports a peaceful settlement in Palestine/ Israel based on the principles of democracy and justice, be that in two states or in one state. We maintain an independent position on internal politics within Palestine, favouring neither Fatah, Hamas nor any other Palestinian political organisation.