



# Chronology

16 FEBRUARY–15 MAY 2018

COMPILED BY PAUL KAROLYI

This is part 138 of a chronology begun in *JPS* 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect North American Eastern Standard Time. For a more comprehensive overview of regional and international developments related to Israel and the Palestinians, see the quarterly Update on Conflict and Diplomacy in *JPS* 47 (4).

## 16 FEBRUARY 2018

**Israel Defense Forces (IDF) troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against **U.S.**

**president Donald Trump's** 12/6/17

recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital, as well as Israel's settlements, the separation wall, and occupation in 2 villages near Ramallah (al-Mazra'a and Nabi Salih), al-Bireh, Jericho, Salfit, Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, 2 villages near Nablus (Beita and Huwwara), and along Gaza's border near Khan Yunis, Gaza City, Jabaliya refugee camp, and al-Bureij refugee camp; at least 41 Palestinians are injured.

Meanwhile, IDF troops conduct a raid in Nablus overnight, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; 7 Palestinians are injured. They also assault and lightly injure 5 Palestinian minors in central Hebron. Israeli forces deliver stop-work orders to 3 homes under construction near Bethlehem, issue arrest summons to 1 Palestinian during a raid near Hebron; and patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron. **Off Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no

damage or injuries. (Wafa 2/16; Wafa 2/17; PCHR 2/22)

**Israeli forces** return the corpses of Palestinians killed in deadly confrontations with the IDF on 9/26/2017 and 2/7 to their families in Bayt Surik near Jerusalem and Halhul near Hebron, respectively. (JP, MNA, TOI 2/17)

## 17 FEBRUARY 2018

Along **Gaza's southern border**, an improvised explosive device (IED) planted on the Palestinian side of the border fence detonates near an IDF jeep, injuring 4 Israeli soldiers (2 seriously). The IED was reportedly installed during demonstrations along the border on 2/16. Israeli forces in the area attack and destroy a local armed group's observation post in southern Gaza and shell 5 other Hamas targets. After the initial wave of strikes, unidentified parties fire a rocket from Gaza into southern Israel, causing minor damage to an Israeli home. Late at night, Israeli jets conduct air strikes on 12 **Hamas and Islamic Jihad in Palestine (PIJ)** sites near Gaza City and Rafah, injuring 2 Palestinians and causing an unknown amount of damage. Amid the exchange,

**IDF troops** open fire on 4 Palestinian youths approaching the border fence near Rafah, killing 2 and seriously injuring the other 2. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian mourners in Halhul near Hebron after a funeral procession for 1 of the Palestinians whose body the IDF returned to his family on 2/16; there are no serious injuries. Meanwhile, IDF troops arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid in Nablus and patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in Hizma and Issawiyya. (HA, JP, MNA, NYT, WAFA, YA 2/17; HA, WAFA 2/18; HA 2/19; EI 2/20; PCHR 2/22)

#### 18 FEBRUARY 2018

Unidentified individuals fire a rocket from Gaza toward Israel. It lands in an open area, causing no damage or injuries. Late at night, the **Israeli Air Force (IAF)** conducts air strikes on 10 **Hamas** sites across **Gaza**, including a tunnel leading into Israeli territory. Earlier in the day, **senior Hamas official Mahmoud al-Zahar** says that Hamas does not want “to expend its energy on this escalation,” and that efforts are underway to “avert a new war.” (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA, YA 2/19; PCHR 2/22)

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** traveling to the Kiryat Arba settlement outside Hebron assault and injure their Palestinian bus driver when he attempts to explain to them that inclement weather is preventing him from driving any faster. **IDF troops** arrest 14 Palestinians during late-night raids near Hebron, Bethlehem, Nablus, Qalqilya, and Salfit; and patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, a Palestinian family demolishes their own home in Silwan to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. Israeli forces arrest

6 Palestinians during late-night raids in Silwan and al-Ram. (WAFA 2/18; YA 2/19; PCHR 2/22)

#### 19 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 6 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids in and around Hebron, Salfit, Qalqilya, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Hebron and Qalqilya. Raids in Salfit, Dahaysha refugee camp near Bethlehem, and Jayyus village near Qalqilya spark clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 4 Palestinians are injured. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in al-Ram and Ras al-Amud. Along **Gaza’s border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian farmlands near al-Bureij refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (WAFA 2/19; PCHR 2/22)

The **IDF** announces that “starting today, the IDF will adopt harsher means against rioters on the Gaza Strip border,” pointing to reports alleging that armed Palestinians planted an IED along the border fence during protests on 2/16. “You’d better stop with that now,” says the IDF’s **Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT)** Yoav Mordechai. “Go and demonstrate against Hamas in Gaza.” (TOI 2/19; HA 2/20)

#### 20 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** evacuate and demolish a new illegal **Israeli settlement** outpost, Evyatar, near Nablus. Settlers established the outpost 2 weeks ago. Several are arrested when they resist the demolitions. After the evacuation, some of the settlers throw stones at Palestinian vehicles nearby, cracking 1 windshield. Separately, IDF troops shoot and injure a Palestinian child during clashes sparked by an arrest raid near Ramallah.

They arrest 11 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Hebron, Bethlehem, Jenin, Nablus, and Qalqilya; and patrol near Hebron and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces demolish a structure in a Bedouin encampment in al-‘Izzariya. They also shoot and injure a Palestinian during minor clashes in Issawiyya; and arrest 5 Palestinians during raids in the Old City, Issawiyya, and Shu‘fat. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (Wafa 2/20; PCHR 2/22)

**Palestinian Authority (PA) president Mahmoud Abbas** addresses the **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** in New York City, proposing a new peace plan based on past agreements and calling for an international peace conference to be held in mid-2018 (see Update for details). He says that the outcomes of the conference must include international acceptance of Palestinian statehood, consensus on a 2-state solution based on the pre-1967 armistice lines, the establishment of a multilateral mechanism to facilitate negotiations on all final status issues, and a timeline for implementation. **Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu** calls the speech “nothing new.” (AP, HA, REU, TOI, Wafa, YA 2/20)

## 21 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians demonstrating outside Ofer Prison near Ramallah in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners; there are no serious injuries (4 Palestinians are arrested). They also violently disperse Palestinians protesting **U.S. president Trump’s 12/6/2017 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital** in al-Bireh; there are no serious injuries. The IDF arrests 12 Palestinians during raids near Salfit,

Tulkarm, Jenin, and Ramallah; violently assaults and injures a Palestinian at a mobile checkpoint near Ramallah; and patrols near Hebron and Nablus. **Israeli forces** raze almost 50 dunams (approximately 12 acres) of Palestinian land planted with olive trees, clearing space for the extension of the separation wall near Jenin. **Israeli settlers** slaughter 20 sheep and steal approximately 70 more from a Palestinian shepherd working near Nablus. They also visit religious sites outside a village near Nablus, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and Palestinian residents in the area; there are no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a small Palestinian shop in Bayt Hanina and an agricultural structure and a house in Shu‘fat. They also arrest 5 Palestinian children as they are leaving school in Shu‘fat refugee camp. Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian protesters congregating near al-Bureij refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. They arrest a Palestinian attempting to cross into Israel near Jabaliya refugee camp. In 2 separate incidents off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, injuring 1 fisherman. (HA, MNA, Wafa 2/21; MNA, PCHR 2/22; PCHR 3/1)

A **Palestinian youth** succumbs to injuries sustained in border clashes with the IDF in Gaza on 2/16. (TOI, Wafa 2/21)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for passage in both directions. Although they initially stated that the crossing would remain open through 2/23, they close it after only a few hours. (JP, Wafa 2/21)

In a meeting of Israel’s security cabinet, **IDF Lt. Gen. Gadi Eisenkot** says it was a “mistake” to return 2 Palestinian corpses to their families last week. He says that the protocol for returning such corpses has since

been changed, but does not offer any details. (TOI 2/21)

The **Jerusalem Municipality** announces the construction of 3,000 new housing units for **Israeli settlers** between Gilo and the Gush Etzion settlement bloc. (Wafa 2/22; MEMO 2/23)

## 22 FEBRUARY 2018

**IDF troops** assault and arrest a Palestinian during an overnight raid in Jericho; he succumbs to injuries sustained in the confrontation later in the day. The IDF contends that he suffered fatal seizures after being exposed to large amounts of tear gas during the raid. (An autopsy performed on 2/23 will find that he suffered a fatal gunshot to his abdomen.) Meanwhile, **Israeli settlers** build a fence around a plot of land near Nablus, reportedly with the intention of building a new **illegal settlement outpost**. IDF troops arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids near Bethlehem and Salfit, and patrol near Hebron, Jenin, Salfit, Qalqilya, and Tulkarm. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian farmland near Khan Yunis and on a group of Palestinian minors protesting **U.S. president Trump's 12/6/2017 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** near al-Bureij refugee camp, injuring 1. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, MNA, Wafa, YA 2/22; HA 2/25; PCHR 3/1)

The **Gaza Electricity Distribution Company (GEDCO)** announces that it will be forced to shut down Gaza's sole power plant soon due to a lack of diesel fuel. A GEDCO spokesperson says that "the premature closure of the Rafah border crossing on 5/21 restricted essential fuel shipments." (HA, TOI 2/22)

## 23 FEBRUARY 2018

**IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against Israel's separation wall, occupation, and settlements, as well as **U.S. president Trump's 12/6/17 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** in Hebron, Jericho, Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, 2 areas near Nablus (Beita village and the Huwwara checkpoint), 5 villages near Ramallah (al-Janiya, al-Bireh, Nabi Salih, Ni'lin, and Bil'in), and along Gaza's border near Gaza City, Khan Yunis, al-Bureij refugee camp, and Jabaliya refugee camp. At least 31 Palestinian are injured and 2 are arrested. In the **West Bank**, Israeli soldiers shoot and injure 3 Palestinian minors during clashes sparked by an IDF raid near Nablus. IDF troops also arrest 3 Palestinians and assault 1 during late-night raids near Hebron and Bethlehem, and patrol near Hebron and Tulkarm. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at, and open fire on, Palestinian homes in Burin village near Nablus, causing no major damage or injuries. The attack sparks minor clashes; there are no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest a Palestinian during late-night raids in Issawiyya. In 4 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, NYT, Wafa, YA 2/23; PCHR 3/1)

The **U.S. State Department** announces that the **new U.S. embassy in Israel** will open in Jerusalem in 5/2018, implementing **President Trump's 12/6/17 pledge to move the embassy from Tel Aviv** (see Update). The embassy is set to open with **ambassador David Friedman** and a skeleton staff working out of an existing U.S. facility in the Arnona neighborhood. "This decision will turn the 70th anniversary of

Israeli independence into an even bigger celebration,” says **Israeli PM Netanyahu**. “Thank you, President Trump, for your leadership and your friendship.” Palestine Liberation Organization (**PLO**) **secretary-general Saeb Erakat** says, “The U.S. decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel’s capital and now to move its embassy on the eve of marking 70 years since the Nakba [. . .] shows the determination of the **U.S. administration** to violate international law, destroy the 2-state solution, and provoke the feelings of the Palestinian people, as well as of all Arabs, Muslims, and Christians around the globe.” (AP, HA, JP, TOI, WAFA 2/23)

#### 24 FEBRUARY 2018

**IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during late-night raids near Bethlehem, Qalqilya, and Nablus; and patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron. Three Palestinians are injured amid clashes sparked by raids in Dahaysha refugee camp, Kafr Qaddum, and Burin. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian homes near Nablus, sparking minor clashes between their IDF escort and Palestinian youths; 1 Palestinian is injured. Off **Gaza’s coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, Bayt Lahiya, and Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. Two fishermen are arrested. (WAFA 2/24; PCHR 3/1)

#### 25 FEBRUARY 2018

Off **Gaza’s coast, Israeli naval forces** shoot and fatally injure a Palestinian fisherman working near Gaza City. They arrest the injured man and his 2 colleagues. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian minor amid clashes in Jericho. They also arrest 19 Palestinians and issue 4 arrest summons

during late-night raids near Ramallah, Hebron, Nablus, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Hebron. **Israeli settlers** take over 120 dunams (approximately 30 acres) of Palestinian land near Nablus and plant it with wheat and grapes. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/25; EI 2/26; PCHR 3/1)

The **Church of the Holy Sepulchre** closes down indefinitely to protest a “systemic campaign” to persecute **Jerusalem’s Christian community**, according to a church official. The **Jerusalem Municipality** recently implemented a new policy of collecting taxes on church-owned property not being used for worship (see *JPS* 47 [3]), and the **Knesset** is set to take up a bill allowing the state to confiscate church property under certain circumstances. After the church shuts its doors, the Knesset committee set to debate that measure today postpones the proceedings to a later date. (HA, JP, TOI, WAFA 2/25)

**Israel’s Ministerial Committee for Legislation** approves a new bill that would strengthen the **Israeli settlement** enterprise by allowing the **Jerusalem District Court** to hear some cases related to property rights, building and construction, freedom of information, and restraining orders filed by Palestinians in Area C (see Update). (HA, JP, TOI, WAFA 2/25)

#### 26 FEBRUARY 2018

Along **Gaza’s border, Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land near Bayt Lahiya. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids near Nablus and Hebron, and patrol near Hebron, Qalqilya, and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre** remains closed in protest for a 2d day.

**Hamas** calls for new resistance to Israel in solidarity with the church. (MNA 2/26)

### 27 FEBRUARY 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct limited incursions to level land near Dayr al-Balah and Khan Yunis. They also open fire on Palestinian shepherds near Dayr al-Balah, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot, injure, and then arrest a Palestinian driver near Ramallah, allegedly when he ignores their commands to stop. The IDF arrests 19 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem, and Nablus; and patrols near Hebron throughout the day. (PCHR 3/1)

The **Israeli authorities** shut down **border crossings** in and out of the **West Bank** and **Gaza** ahead of the **Purim holiday**. As announced on 2/25, they plan to keep crossings closed until midnight on 3/3. (JP, MNA 2/27)

With the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre** in the **Old City of Jerusalem** closed in protest for a 3d day, **Israeli PM Netanyahu's office** releases a statement announcing the freeze of a recent Jerusalem Municipality program to collect taxes on church-owned property not directly used for worship as well as a new bill percolating in the Knesset that church leaders say would allow the government to take over church properties leased to private companies. Netanyahu says that he plans to appoint a "professional team" to find a resolution to the taxation issue. After the announcement, church officials say they will reopen on 2/28. (EI, REU, WAFA 2/27; HA, MNA, WAFA 2/28)

### 28 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in al-Am'ari refugee camp near Ramallah overnight, sparking clashes; 2

Palestinians are injured (1 critically). They arrest 7 Palestinians during raids in and around Ramallah, Tulkarm, Bethlehem, Hebron, and Jenin; and patrol near Hebron, Qalqilya, and Salfit. The Israeli authorities confiscate 24 dunams (approximately 6 acres) of Palestinian-owned land near Nablus, with the intention of building a new road for **Israeli settlers** in the area. In **East Jerusalem**, the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre** reopens, following **Israeli PM Netanyahu's 2/27** decision to freeze the tax programs that motivated church leaders' protests. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid near Issawiyya. (HA, MNA, WAFA 2/28; PCHR 3/8)

### 1 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian minor allegedly after she attempts to stab 1 of them at a checkpoint near Bethlehem. They also arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids near Qalqilya and Nablus, and patrol near Hebron and Tulkarm. The IDF cordons off a section of central Hebron, making space for hundreds of **Israeli settlers** to celebrate Purim. Along **Gaza's southern border**, an errant **Egyptian** mortar hits an abandoned Palestinian home in Rafah, injuring 1 passerby. Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion into Gaza to level land near Khan Yunis. The IDF announces that Israeli soldiers recently defused an IED placed along the border intended to attack Israeli border patrols. The IED is reportedly similar to the one that detonated and injured several soldiers on 2/17. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya

and Hizma. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/1; PCHR 3/8)

## 2 MARCH 2018

**IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against Israel's settlements, occupation, and separation wall, as well as **U.S. president Trump's 12/6/17 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**, in 4 villages near Ramallah (Nabi Salih, Budrus, Ni'lin, Bil'in), al-Bireh, Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border near Gaza City, Khan Yunis, Bayt Hanun, and al-Bureij refugee camp. At least 22 Palestinians are injured and 1 German national is arrested. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** issue arrest summons to 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Bethlehem, and patrol near Hebron and Nablus. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian homes near Nablus, sparking minor clashes between the residents and IDF troops in the area; 1 Palestinian is injured. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Hizma. In 3 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (WAFA 3/2; TOI 3/4 PCHR 3/8)

## 3 MARCH 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** shoot and fatally injure a Palestinian farmer working near Khan Yunis (he dies later in the day). The IDF later claims that soldiers feared the man was preparing to cross the border fence. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** patrol in Fahma

village near Jenin, sparking minor clashes; there are no serious injuries. They also arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Salfit, Ramallah, Tulkarm, and Hebron; and patrol in and around Qalqilya and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid in Silwan. (HA, MNA, WAFA 3/3; PCHR 3/8)

## 4 MARCH 2018

**Israeli police** shoot and injure a Palestinian driver allegedly after he rams and injures 3 Israeli security personnel in **Acre** in Israel. The police later say the alleged ramming was "politically motivated." In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 8 Palestinians during raids near Ramallah, Nablus, Bethlehem, Hebron, and Jenin; and patrol near Hebron, Qalqilya, and Tulkarm. Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli drones spray herbicides on Palestinian farmlands near Jabaliya refugee camp. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, WAFA 3/4; PCHR 3/8)

## 5 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** block Palestinian farmers from working their lands near Qalqilya, and raze a swath of Palestinian farmland near Tubas. IDF troops arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem, Jenin, Nablus, and Hebron; and patrol near Jenin, Qalqilya, Hebron, Bethlehem, Tulkarm, and Salfit. **Israeli settlers** park 3 mobile homes and a water tank on Palestinian land near Hebron; the Israeli authorities claim that the Israeli government owns the land. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats

near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (Wafa 3/5; MNA, Wafa 3/6; PCHR 3/8)

**U.S. president Trump and Israeli PM Netanyahu** meet at the **White House** and discuss Iran, Jerusalem, and the Palestinians. At a joint press conference, Trump says that he might visit Israel for the inauguration of **the new U.S. embassy in Jerusalem** in 5/2018. Netanyahu downplays Palestinians' concerns to focus on Iran. "Iran, Iran, and Iran was the main topic of the meeting," he says. "I told him what I thought: that the nuclear agreement with Iran must be either totally fixed or totally canceled, and there were detailed discussions on this issue." (HA, JP, MEMO, NYT, YA 3/5; TOI 3/12)

## 6 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** open fire on a Palestinian construction crew working near Nablus. They cause minor injuries, destroy an excavating tool, and spark minor clashes between Palestinians and IDF troops in the area; 3 Palestinians are injured. An **Israeli settler** driver allegedly attempts to ram a Palestinian human rights worker near Hebron. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah and Nablus, and patrol near Bethlehem, Hebron, and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a cement wall and a carwash in Silwan. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmlands near Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, Wafa 3/6; PCHR 3/8; PCHR 3/15)

## 7 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian women commemorating International Women's Day at the Qalandia

checkpoint; there are no serious injuries. Israeli soldiers disguised as journalists raid Birzeit University near Ramallah to arrest a number of students, sparking minor clashes; 2 students are injured. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian homes in Burin village near Nablus, sparking minor clashes between their IDF escort and residents of the village; 1 Palestinian is injured. Late at night, IDF troops arrest 4 Palestinians during raids near Hebron and in Nablus. Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land near Khan Yunis. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (EI, Wafa 3/7; PCHR 3/15)

**Israel's Knesset** passes a new law allowing the **interior minister** to revoke the residency rights of anyone in **Jerusalem** exhibiting a "breach of loyalty" to Israel, and to allow the Israeli government to deport any person whose residency status is revoked (see Update). Meanwhile, the Knesset also passes a law giving police commanders the authority to set conditions for returning the corpses of Palestinian citizens of Israel and residents of Jerusalem killed in confrontations with Israeli civilians, with the purpose of avoiding clashes or further attacks during funeral processions. (AJ, HA, JP, KNE, TOI 3/7)

A **senior PLO official** says that the **PLO Executive Committee** has decided to convene the PLO's legislative body, the **Palestinian National Council** (PNC), on 4/30 to "discuss challenges to the Palestinian cause, especially after the U.S. decision against Jerusalem." (JP, REU, Wafa 3/7)

## 8 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** cut down 28 olive trees in Palestinian groves near Nablus.

**IDF troops** patrol near Hebron, Tulkarm, and Qalqilya. (MNA, WAFA 3/8; PCHR 3/15)

**PIJ** releases a statement accusing the PA of targeting its members in the West Bank due to their “political and social activities.” Dozens of PIJ members have reportedly been summoned for questioning in recent days, according to a PIJ spokesperson, including 12 from the Jenin area today alone. (TOI 3/8)

### 9 MARCH 2018

**IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against Israel’s settlements, separation wall, and occupation, as well as **U.S. president Trump’s 12/6/17 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital** in 4 villages near Ramallah (Bil’in, Ni’lin, Budrus, and Nabi Salih), al-Bireh, Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, Hebron, and along Gaza’s border in various locations; 1 Palestinian is killed and at least 13 are injured. Reportedly for the first time, the IDF uses a **drone** to drop **tear gas** on Palestinian protesters in **Gaza**. Meanwhile, IDF troops assault and arrest 2 Palestinians at a mobile checkpoint near Bethlehem, issue arrest summons to 3 Palestinians during raids in Bethlehem, and patrol near Qalqilya, Salfit, and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** clash with Palestinians in Madama village near Nablus; 2 Palestinians are injured and 1 is arrested. Settlers erect tents in the yards of **al-Ibrahimi Mosque** in Hebron and throw stones at Palestinian vehicles and homes outside nearby Yatta village. Palestinians set fire to an Israeli settler’s home near Nablus, sparking minor clashes with IDF troops; 1 Palestinian is injured. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli police** block Palestinian activists from organizing a running race to coincide with the Israeli government-organized **Jerusalem Marathon**, an annual race through the city that requires

the closure of a number of main streets; 2 Palestinians are arrested. Approximately 5,000 runners participate in the Jerusalem Marathon. Meanwhile, Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Shu’fat. (HA, JP, TOI, WAFA 3/9; MNA, WAFA 3/10; PCHR 3/15)

### 10 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, dozens of **Israeli settlers** approach a water tank outside ‘Urif village near Nablus, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and Palestinian residents; 1 Palestinian is killed and another is seriously injured. Later, approximately **30 Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian homes and attempt to set fire to a mosque in al-Twana village near Hebron. Residents of the village challenge the settlers and their IDF escort, leading to a nonviolent confrontation. Israeli settlers also cut down approximately 30 olive trees near Nablus. Israeli forces order a Palestinian farmer to leave his land near Bethlehem, alleging that he lacks permission from the guards at nearby Efrat settlement. **IDF troops** conduct raids in ‘Azun village near Qalqilya, sparking minor clashes; there are no serious injuries. They also patrol near Qalqilya and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli settlers** assault a number of Palestinian children in Silwan, sparking minor clashes between **Israeli border guards** and residents of the area; there are no serious injuries. In 3 separate incidents off **Gaza’s coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza’s border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian lands near al-Bureij refugee camp. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/10; PCHR 3/15)

A spokesperson for the **Hamas-run Health Ministry in Gaza** announces that a **PIJ** fighter

died in an “accidental explosion” this morning. Two other Palestinians were reportedly injured in the accident. (TOI 3/10; JP 3/11)

### 11 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** seize a Palestinian bulldozer and truck during a raid at a construction site near Nablus, arrest 21 Palestinians, and issue 2 arrest summons during late-night raids near Tulkarm, Hebron, Qalqilya, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Qalqilya and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** cut down 15 olive trees outside Madama village near Nablus. Unidentified persons open fire on IDF troops near al-Bireh, causing no injuries or damage. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in Issawiyya. Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel; claiming that 1 is armed with a grenade and a knife. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/11)

### 12 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** attempt to destroy Palestinian farmers’ trucks outside Huwwara near Nablus, but the owners intervene and there is no resulting damage or injuries. **IDF troops** arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids near Nablus and Hebron, and patrol near Nablus and Hebron. They also violently disperse Palestinian students at **Birzeit University** protesting the IDF’s operations on the campus on 3/7; 8 students are injured. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** destroy a number of tombstones in a Palestinian cemetery outside the Old City; and arrest 18 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya, Abu Dis, Anata, and Shu’fat refugee camp. In 5 separate incidents off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Rafah,

Jabaliya refugee camp, and Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. Ten fishermen are arrested and 3 boats are confiscated. (MNA, WAFA 3/12; PCHR 3/15)

### 13 MARCH 2018

**Unidentified persons** detonate a roadside explosive targeting **PA PM Hamdallah’s** 3-vehicle convoy in an apparent **assassination attempt** near Bayt Hanun in **Gaza**; 7 Palestinians are injured and 3 cars are damaged. Unhurt, Hamdallah attends an inauguration of a wastewater treatment plant. **PA officials** initially blame **Hamas** for the attack. After **Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh** speaks with Hamdallah, they agree that Israel was likely responsible (see Update). (HA, MNA, NYT, WAFA, YA 3/13; HA, JP 3/14)

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** chop down 15 Palestinian olive trees near Nablus. **IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids near Jenin and Nablus, and patrol near Hebron and Qalqilya. **Israeli forces** punitively seal a Jenin-area apartment belonging to the family of a Palestinian arrested for allegedly killing an **Israeli settler** on 10/4/17 (Israeli forces punitively demolished the family’s home on 12/1/17). Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 3/13; PCHR 3/15)

**U.S. president Trump’s son-in-law and senior advisor Jared Kushner** and **Special Rep. for International Negotiations Jason Greenblatt** host a meeting at the **White House** to discuss the humanitarian crisis in **Gaza**. **Israeli, Qatari, Saudi, Omani, Bahraini, and UAE** officials attend, while Palestinian officials maintain their boycott of the U.S. peace initiative (see Update). (JP, TOI 3/13; WAFA 3/14)

**14 MARCH 2018**

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** deliver stop-work orders to 5 Palestinian homes under construction in Nahalin village near Bethlehem. **IDF troops** arrest 9 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Hebron and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya and Hizma. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians throwing stones and protesting the Israeli blockade near Gaza City, and later disperse demonstrators near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Hanun; 1 Palestinian is injured. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 3/14; PCHR 3/15; PCHR 3/22)

The **Israeli authorities** return the corpse of a Palestinian killed while fishing off Gaza's northern coast on 2/25. (MNA 3/18)

**15 MARCH 2018**

Along **Gaza's border**, unidentified persons detonate 2 IEDs targeting an **IDF** patrol near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. Soon thereafter, the **IAF** bombs **Hamas** sites near Gaza City and Jabaliya refugee camp, injuring 1 Palestinian and causing moderate damage. An **IDF** spokesperson later alleges that the 2 devices were planted amid a recent border protest. (HA, JP, WAFA, YA 3/15; PCHR 3/22)

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during late-night raids near Ramallah, Hebron, and Jenin; and patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces clash with Palestinians in al-'Izzariya; 9 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near

Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (WAFA 3/15; PCHR 3/22)

At a fundraising conference in **Rome**, officials from 90 different countries collectively pledge \$100 m. for **the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)** to address the budget shortfall caused by **U.S. president Trump's** decision to cut **U.S. aid** to the agency in 1/2018 (see Update and *JPS* 47 [3]). (JP, TOI, WAFA 3/15)

**16 MARCH 2018**

A **Palestinian driver** allegedly rams his car into a small group of **IDF troops** standing along a road near Nablus, killing 2, critically injuring a 3d, and moderately injuring a 4th. The Palestinian driver is arrested. Later, **IDF** troops conduct raids in the alleged attacker's hometown, Barta'a, near Jenin, arresting his brother and ransacking several homes. The Israeli authorities also revoke the work permits of approximately 100 of the alleged attacker's relatives. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation, as well as **U.S. president Trump's 12/6/17 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** in Bethlehem, al-Bireh, 4 villages near Ramallah (Budrus, Nabi Salih, Ni'lin, and Bil'in), Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, Luban al-Sharqiyya near Nablus, and along Gaza's border near Gaza City, Khan Yunis, and Jabaliya refugee camp. At least 30 Palestinians are injured, including 2 journalists. **IDF** troops also arrest 2 Palestinians, issue 2 arrest summons, and demolish the walls of an apartment during raids near Bethlehem and

Jenin, and patrol near Qalqilya, Salfit, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces clash with Palestinians in Abu Dis, injuring 19. It's unclear what sparked the clashes. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (JP, TOI, WAFA 3/16; HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 3/17; PCHR 3/22)

### 17 MARCH 2018

**Unidentified persons** detonate an IED along **Gaza's** northern border, targeting an **IDF** patrol in the area. The attack causes no serious damage or injuries. This is the 4th time in recent weeks that Palestinians in Gaza have targeted **IDF** border patrols with explosives. Following the attack, Israeli forces shell a **Hamas** post near **Gaza City**, injuring 1 Palestinian. Late at night, the **IAF** conducts air strikes on 2 locations in Gaza City and several more in southern Gaza, causing damage. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Barta'a near Jenin, the hometown of the Palestinian who allegedly rammed and killed 2 Israeli soldiers on 3/16. They search several homes, damage a number of vehicles, and assault a Palestinian youth. **IDF** troops arrest 9 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Nablus, Hebron, Ramallah, Jenin, and Qalqilya; and patrol near Qalqilya, Tulkarm, and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian shepherd working near Hebron, causing moderate injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, a Palestinian demolishes his own home in the Old City in order to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid

in Issawiyya. (HA, JP, TOI, WAFA, YA 3/17; HA, WAFA 3/18; PCHR 3/22)

**Israeli PM Netanyahu** says he plans to order the punitive demolition of the Barta'a home of the Palestinian who allegedly rammed and killed 2 Israeli soldiers on 3/16. "I'm sending condolences from the bottom of my heart to the families of the **IDF** officer and of the soldier who were murdered yesterday by a terrorist, and wish a speedy recovery to the wounded," he tweets. (HA 3/17; TOI 3/18)

### 18 MARCH 2018

**Israeli forces** shoot and kill a Palestinian in the Old City of **East Jerusalem** after he stabs and kills an Israeli civilian. **IDF** troops then raid the alleged attacker's home in the Nablus-area village of Aqraba, interrogate his relatives, and take measurements ahead of a possible punitive demolition. Separately, Israeli forces arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya and Hizma. **Israeli settlers** vandalize Palestinian vehicles and spray price-tag graffiti on nearby walls in Hizma as well. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Bethlehem, and Jenin; and patrol near Salfit and Tulkarm. Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land near Khan Yunis. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya on 2 separate occasions, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, WAFA 3/18; HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/19; PCHR 3/22)

**Israeli PM Netanyahu** announces that the **IDF** demolished 2 underground tunnels in **Gaza** overnight. One of the tunnels was old and being refurbished; the other had not yet entered Israel. "Our policy is to act with determination against every attempt to harm us,

and to systematically destroy the terror tunnel infrastructure, and so shall we continue,” he says, adding that “it is time for the international community to recognize that the financial aid going to Gaza is buried underground.” **Hamas** responds by dismissing 1 of the tunnels as “old” and “unused.” (HA, JP, TOI 3/18)

### 19 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya as Palestinian students are returning home from school. The raids spark clashes, and 2 Palestinians are injured. They arrest 7 Palestinians during further raids near Jericho, Ramallah, Bethlehem, Hebron, and Jenin; and patrol near Tulkarm, Qalqilya, Salfit, and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian farmers working near Ramallah, injuring 1. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 8 Palestinians during raids in the Old City on the pretext that they failed to prevent the stabbing attack on 3/18. They arrest 6 more Palestinians during raids in al-‘Izzariya and al-Ram. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (Wafa 3/19; PCHR 3/22)

At the start of a **PA cabinet** meeting in Ramallah, **PA president Abbas** accuses **Hamas** of perpetrating the 3/13 assassination attempt on **PA PM Hamdallah** and threatens further punitive restrictions on **Gaza**. Hamas later responds in a statement: “[Abbas] is paving the way for chaos which will facilitate the approval of **President Trump’s** plan and Israel’s plans. We condemn these irresponsible statements by the PA chairman, who has already been trying for a while to subdue our people in Gaza in this difficult and dangerous moment in history.” In the same speech, Abbas criticizes the **Trump administration’s peace efforts**, specifically

calling out **U.S. ambassador to Israel Friedman**. “Son of a dog,” he says of Friedman. “You are a settler and your family are settlers.” Friedman later responds, “Is that anti-Semitism or political discourse? I leave that up to you.” (HA, JP, TOI, Wafa, YA 3/19; HA 3/20)

### 20 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** chop down approximately 30 olive trees in a Palestinian grove near Bethlehem, and assault a number of Palestinian students on their way home from school in Yatta near Hebron. **Undercover Israeli soldiers** conduct a raid in Burqin near Jenin, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 6 Palestinians are injured and 1 is arrested. **IDF troops** arrest 13 Palestinians and confiscate 1 vehicle during late-night raids near Ramallah, Hebron, Tulkarm, Bethlehem, and Nablus; and patrol near Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and Hebron. One of the raids near Ramallah sparks clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 1 Palestinian is injured. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 20 Palestinians during late-night raids in Shu‘fat refugee camp and 2 during raids in Issawiyya. A Palestinian demolishes his own home in Jabal Mukabir to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working near Khan Yunis, causing no damage or injuries. Israeli forces conduct limited incursions to level land near Khan Yunis, Jabaliya refugee camp, and Dayr al-Balah. (Wafa 3/20, 3/21; PCHR 3/22)

The **PA** releases a statement calling on **Hamas** to transfer control of **Gaza** “all at once.” The statement comes 1 day after **PA president Abbas** accused Hamas of perpetrating the 3/13 assassination attempt on **PM Hamdallah** and threatened further restrictions on Gaza (see Update). (JP, TOI 3/20)

## 21 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in al-Mughayyir near Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian students; 1 Palestinian is lightly injured. They arrest 10 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during raids near Nablus, and patrol near Nablus, Jenin, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces conduct widespread late-night raids in Shu'fat refugee camp for the 2d day in a row, arresting 19 Palestinians. They also arrest 1 Palestinian patient during a raid at a hospital in al-Tur. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli forces conduct 3 limited incursions to level land near al-Maghazi refugee camp and Khan Yunis. (MNA, WAFA 3/21; PCHR, WAFA 3/22; PCHR 3/29)

## 22 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Sabastiyya near Nablus, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; there are no injuries, but a small fire damages a number of trees and crops. They also patrol near Hebron and Qalqilya. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land near Khan Yunis. In 3 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 3/22; PCHR 3/29)

**Hamas security forces** conduct a raid on the Nuseirat refugee camp hideout of a Palestinian allegedly involved in the 3/13 attempt to assassinate **PA PM Hamdallah**. The suspect's name is Anas Abu Khoussa. The raid sparks a firefight, fatally injuring the primary suspect, as well as killing 1 of his deputies and 2 Hamas

fighters. Abu Khoussa dies later in the day. Reports from **Gaza** indicate that Abu Khoussa was linked to the **PA's General Intelligence Service**. The PA then issues a statement rejecting the connection and calling the reports "flimsy." (JP, TOI 3/22)

The **United Nations (UN)** submits to **Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs** a claim for reimbursement for the losses the UN sustained in Gaza during Israel's assault in the summer of 2014. When news of this claim is first reported, on 3/27, **Israel's ambassador to the UN Danny Danon** will call it "unacceptable." (JP 3/27)

## 23 MARCH 2018

**IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation, as well as **U.S. president Trump's 12/6/17 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** in 4 villages near Ramallah (al-Mazra'a, Nabi Salih, Ni'lin, and Bil'in), Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, Abu Dis, and along Gaza's border near Bayt Hanun and Jabaliya refugee camp; 21 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, IDF troops arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Hebron, and patrol near Hebron and Nablus. (MNA, WAFA 3/23; PCHR 3/29)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the first of 3 planned days, allowing passage in both directions (see Update). (TOI, WAFA 3/23)

## 24 MARCH 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, 4 Palestinians enter Israel in the evening and attempt to torch heavy engineering equipment used to construct Israel's underground border barrier. When IDF troops approach the men, they return

to Gaza. The **IAF** then conducts late-night air strikes on 3 **Hamas** sites near Rafah; there are no reported injuries. Earlier in the day, **IDF** troops stationed along the border open fire on Palestinian farmers working near al-Maghazi refugee camp, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in Bethlehem and near Hebron, and patrol near Tulkarm and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during late-night raids in Shu'fat refugee camp. (HA, MNA, TOI, Wafa, YA 3/25; PCHR 3/29)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 2d of 3 planned days, allowing passage in both directions (see Update). (TOI, Wafa 3/23)

A PA official says that the Palestinian authorities recently filed official requests for membership in **8 international treaties and conventions**, including the International Convention against Apartheid in Sports. "Becoming members of these international conventions and treaties strengthens the Palestinian issue on the international level and demonstrates our commitment to upholding international standards in our state institutions," the official says. The move comes 3 months after **PA president Abbas** pledged to join new international treaties and conventions in response to **U.S. president Trump's 12/6/17 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**. (C2, JP, TOI 3/24)

## 25 MARCH 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land along Gaza's border near Khan Yunis, and open fire on Palestinian farmers working near al-Bureij refugee camp, causing no injuries. After the **IDF** mistakes a **Hamas** military drill for an attack,

Israeli artillery shell 2 Hamas sites north of Bayt Lahiya, causing damage but no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** assault Palestinian farmers working near Hebron and Qalqilya, lightly injuring 2. **IDF troops** arrest 11 Palestinians during late-night raids near Bethlehem, Ramallah, Hebron, Qalqilya, and Jenin; and patrol near Hebron. **Israeli settlers** assault and injure 3 Palestinian farmers working near Hebron and Qalqilya. During a raid in Dahaysha refugee camp, **IDF troops** shoot, injure, and then arrest a Palestinian. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya, Anata refugee camp, and Shu'fat refugee camp. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa, YA 3/25; PCHR 3/29)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 3d and final day in a row (see Update). (OCHA 3/29)

## 26 MARCH 2018

In the **West Bank**, **several dozen Israeli settlers** appropriate and move into 2 homes in Hebron. It's unclear whether the settlers purchased the homes from their Palestinian owners, as they have not yet produced documentation of purchase. Separately, Israeli settlers throw stones at a Palestinian farmer working near Nablus, causing minor injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct limited incursions to level land near Khan Yunis and Bayt Lahiya. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (Wafa 3/26; HA 3/27; PCHR 3/29)

## 27 MARCH 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** arrest 3 Palestinians armed with knives and grenades after they cross into Israel near Khan Yunis.

Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 16 Palestinians during late-night raids near Tulkarm, Nablus, Hebron, Tubas, and Ramallah; and patrol in and around Tulkarm, Qalqilya, Nablus, and Hebron. Israeli forces demolish a Palestinian home under construction in al-Walaja near Bethlehem. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct raids in Abu Dis overnight, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; there are no serious injuries. The **IDF** arrests 3 Palestinians on further raids in Issawiyya and Qalandia refugee camp. (HA, JP, Wafa, YA 3/27; PCHR 3/29)

#### 28 MARCH 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, 2 armed Palestinians start a fire near the border fence. **Israeli tanks** shell 2 **Hamas** posts near Gaza City, causing minor damage to a number of surrounding homes. Later, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian who attempts to cross the border near Jabaliya refugee camp. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian tent home south of Yatta near Hebron. **IDF troops** arrest 13 Palestinians during raids in and around Jenin, Ramallah, Nablus, Hebron, and Qalqilya; and patrol near Hebron and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 7 Palestinians and damage 1 car during late-night raids in al-Ram, Anata refugee camp, Sur al-Bahir, and Issawiyya. (HA, TOI, Wafa 3/28; PCHR 3/29; PCHR 4/5)

Ahead of planned demonstrations along Gaza's border on 3/30, **IDF Lt. Gen. Eisenkot** says that the situation in the oPt (occupied Palestinian territories) in the coming months will be "especially complex." He also announces that the IDF is deploying 100 snipers along

Gaza's border, and notes that Israel's terms of engagement allow for the use of live fire against those attacking Israeli infrastructure. Meanwhile, **COGAT Mordechai** warns of repercussions for any Palestinians in Gaza planning to join the protests: "Anyone who approaches the border is endangering his life." (HA, JP, YA 3/28)

#### 29 MARCH 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians armed with a knife and fence cutters after they cross into Israel. They also violently disperse Palestinians throwing stones and protesting along the border fence near al-Bureij refugee camp, Khan Yunis, Gaza City, and Jabaliya refugee camp; 7 Palestinians are injured. Later, Israeli artillery shells an open area along the border near Bayt Hanun, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Hebron and patrol near Hebron. (HA, Wafa 3/29; PCHR 4/5)

The **Israeli authorities** close **border crossings** in and out of **Gaza** and the **West Bank**, with exceptions for humanitarian cases. The closure, put into effect for the Jewish holiday of Passover, is set to continue through 4/7. (MNA, HA, Wafa 3/29)

**Israeli PM Netanyahu** requests that all members of Knesset (MKs) refrain from visiting **Haram al-Sharif** in the next 3 mos., indicating that such visits could exacerbate already heightened tensions across the oPt. (HA 3/30)

#### 30 MARCH 2018

**Approximately 30,000 Palestinians** gather along Gaza's border for a massive protest dubbed the "**Great March of Return**" commemorating **Land Day** and calling for refugees' rights to return to their homes in **Israel** (see extensive coverage in *JPS* 47 [4]).

They chant slogans, throw stones, and build protest tent camps in various locations. **IDF troops** violently disperse the demonstrations in multiple locations; 15 Palestinians are killed and hundreds are injured. Video recorded at the march shows a Palestinian being shot in the back while running away from the border. The protests are set to continue for 6 weeks. Hours before the protest, the IDF declares the border area a closed military zone, threatening violence should any person approach. Israeli tanks then shell and kill a Palestinian farmer working along the border. In the evening, 2 armed **Palestinians** open fire on an IDF post along Gaza's northern border. Israeli soldiers return fire, and Israeli tanks and jets strike **Hamas** observation posts in the area as well; there is no major damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against Israel's settlements, occupation, and separation wall, as well as **U.S. president Trump's 12/6/17 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**, in Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, Beita near Nablus, al-Bireh, and 3 villages near Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih); at least 26 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids near Hebron. An Israeli settler driver allegedly rams and seriously injures a Palestinian near Hebron. (AJ, ALM, BBC, EI, HA, JP, MNA, NYT, PNN, WAFA, WP, YA 3/30; PCHR 4/5)

**UN secretary-general António Guterres** calls for an independent and transparent investigation into the killings in Gaza today and "appeals to those concerned to refrain from any act that could lead to further casualties and in particular any measures that could place civilians in harm's way," according to a spokesperson. The **UNSC** also convenes to

discuss the killings, despite **U.S. and Israeli** requests to postpone the discussion to 3/31. (HA, REU 3/31)

### 31 MARCH 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian protesters participating in the **Great March of Return** for a 2d day in a row near Bayt Hanun, al-Bureij refugee camp, Rafah, and Jabaliya refugee camp; at least 25 Palestinians are injured. In the **West Bank**, **PA president Abbas** calls for a general strike and a day of mourning for the 16 Palestinians killed in Gaza on 3/30. IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians gathering in Hebron to protest the killings; several Palestinians are injured. **IDF troops** also arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids near Bethlehem and patrol near Hebron. Israeli police shoot and injure a Palestinian driver allegedly after he rams 1 of their vehicles near Nablus. In **Israel**, hundreds of Palestinians march through Umm al-Fahm in commemoration of Land Day. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/31; YA 4/1; PCHR 4/5)

**U.S. diplomats** block the **UNSC** from adopting a **Kuwait-backed** statement calling for an "independent and transparent" investigation into the IDF's deadly crackdown on the **Great March of Return**, according to several diplomats. "The wording was acceptable to all members of the council excluding the U.S.," says **Israel's ambassador to the UN Danon**. Later, **European Union (EU) foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini** calls for an independent and transparent investigation. (AFP, HA, TOI 3/31; HA, JP 4/1)

An **Israeli drone** crashes in southern **Lebanon**. According to the Lebanese press, a 2d drone destroys the first after it crashed. (HA, YA 3/31)

## 1 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian protesters participating in the **Great March of Return** near Jabaliya refugee camp, Gaza City, Khan Yunis, and Rafah for a 3d day in a row; 8 Palestinians are injured (1 critically). IDF troops also shoot and injure a Palestinian minor along the border fence near Gaza City and arrest 4 unarmed Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel near Rafah. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, IDF troops arrest 6 Palestinians during raids in and around Tulkarm, Nablus, Jenin, Bethlehem, and Qalqilya; and patrol in and around Hebron and Bethlehem. **Israeli settlers** flood a Palestinian orchard near Hebron with sewage, damaging some crops. Palestinians throw rocks at an **Israeli settler** bus near Ramallah, lightly injuring the driver. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** patrol in Abu Dis, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian students; 6 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** arrests 9 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya. (TOI, Wafa 4/1; MNA 4/2; PCHR 4/5)

**IDF Maj. Gen. Mordechai** confirms international press reports that the Israeli authorities are withholding the corpses of 2 Palestinians killed along Gaza's border fence on 3/30. He says that they have no intention of returning the corpses until **Hamas** returns the remains of the 2 IDF soldiers and the 2 Israeli civilians allegedly being held in Gaza (see Update). (JP, TOI, YA 4/1)

**Israeli DM Avigdor Lieberman** rejects calls from the UN and EU for an independent and transparent investigation into in the Israeli killings of peaceful protesters in Gaza on 3/30.

Instead, he says that "our troops deserve a commendation." (JP, MNA 4/1; HA 4/2)

## 2 APRIL 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and seriously injure a Palestinian man at a checkpoint near Tulkarm. (The man will succumb to his injuries on 4/8.) They also clash with stone-throwing Palestinians in Hebron and Nabi Salih near Ramallah; 4 Palestinians are injured. The IDF arrests 10 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Salfit, Jenin, and in Tubas; and patrols in Hebron and near Nablus and Salfit. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** arrest 3 unarmed Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel, and violently disperse dozens of Palestinians participating in the **Great March of Return** for a 4th day in a row near Jabaliya refugee camp, al-Bureij refugee camp, Khan Yunis, Rafah, and Gaza City; 8 Palestinians are injured. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya and the Old City. (HA, TOI, Wafa 4/2; PCHR 4/5)

A Palestinian succumbs to injuries sustained when the IDF violently dispersed peaceful protesters along Gaza's border on 3/30, bringing the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 16. (HA, MNA, Wafa, YA 4/2)

## 3 APRIL 2018

**IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians protesting along Gaza's border for a 5th day in a row; 1 protester is killed, bringing the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 17. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a **Palestinian citizen of Israel** after he allegedly rams his car into a bus stop near the Ariel settlement. **IDF troops** shoot and injure 2 Palestinian amid clashes sparked by a

patrol near Nablus; arrest 8 Palestinians; issue 1 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Nablus, Jericho, and Tubas; and patrol near Hebron and Nablus. Israeli forces order a Palestinian girls' school near Nablus to close for the day after reports of stones thrown at an **Israeli settler's** car earlier that day. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/3; PCHR 4/5)

Organizers of the ongoing **Great March of Return**, which commenced with a 30,000-strong protest in **Gaza** on 3/30, say that preparations are underway for renewed protests this week. "We welcome all participants of all factions, and appreciate their work for the success of this action that embarrassed Israel throughout the world," they write, also calling on participants not to approach the border fence, for fear of giving Israeli troops an excuse to open fire. (HA 4/3; HA 4/4)

**Israeli PM Netanyahu** and **U.S. president Trump** speak briefly by phone in the evening. According to a **White House** statement, they discussed "recent developments in the Middle East," and Trump "reiterated the commitment of the U.S. to Israel's security." Two White House officials describe the call as "tense" because of Netanyahu's concerns about the reported U.S. plans to withdraw from **Syria** (see Update). (TOI 4/4; HA 4/6)

#### 4 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, an **IDF drone** fires on a Palestinian approaching the border fence near Gaza City, fatally injuring him (the man's corpse will not be found until 4/5). Earlier, **IDF troops** violently disperse a small group of Palestinians approaching the border fence near Gaza City, lightly injuring 2. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp,

causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** puncture the tires of 5 Palestinian cars and spray-paint racist graffiti on walls outside Qalqilya. **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Jenin and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during late-night raids in Issawiyya. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/4; HA, MNA, PCHR, TOI, WAFA 4/5; PCHR 4/12)

**Israel's Shin Bet** announces that 10 Palestinians, including 1 **PIJ** member, have been arrested in connection with a suspected plot to fire a projectile at an **Israeli naval vessel** and kidnap the sailors on board. The Palestinians were allegedly seeking revenge for the demolition of a **PIJ** tunnel in 2017 (see *JPS* 47 [2]). (HA, JP, TOI 4/4)

#### 5 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians participating in the **Great March of Return** near al-Bureij refugee camp, Jabaliya refugee camp, Khan Yunis, and Gaza City; 9 Palestinians are injured. In the **West Bank**, hundreds of **Israeli settlers** visit Joseph's Tomb outside Nablus, sparking clashes between their **IDF** escort and stone-throwing Palestinians in the area; 2 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** closes down the main road between Qalqilya and Nablus to make way for an **Israeli settlers'** march. Meanwhile, **IDF** troops patrol near Hebron and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, unidentified Israelis spray racist graffiti and slash the tires of Palestinians' cars in Bayt Hanina. (MNA, WAFA 4/5; PCHR 4/12)

A Palestinian succumbs to injuries sustained when the **IDF** violently dispersed peaceful protesters along Gaza's border on 3/30, bringing the death toll stemming from

the **Great March of Return** to 18. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/5)

Ahead of massive protests planned for 4/6, **Hamas** announces plans to distribute payments of approximately \$3,000 to the families of any protesters killed by IDF troops in the **Great March of Return**, and approximately \$500 to the families of any protester seriously injured. The payments are meant “as compensation within the framework of the social and national responsibility of the organization,” according to a Hamas statement. Later, Hamas’s security forces issue a statement calling on protesters to “maintain the peacefulness” of the demonstrations. (JP, TOI, YA 4/5; JP 4/6)

#### 6 APRIL 2018

At least 20,000 Palestinian protesters gather along **Gaza’s border**, marking the 2d consecutive Friday of the **Great March of Return**. They set fire to hundreds of tires and roll them toward the border fence (some Palestinians say that the burning tires are meant to create a smokescreen to defend protesters from Israeli snipers). **IDF troops** violently disperse the protesters near Gaza City, killing 7 and injuring at least 250. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. Elsewhere in the oPt, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against Israel’s occupation, settlements, and separation wall in Beita near Nablus, al-Bireh, 3 villages near Ramallah (Bil’in, Ni’lin, and Nabi Salih), Hebron, and Abu Dis near Jerusalem; 8 Palestinians are injured. The IDF also arrests 2 Palestinians during late-night raids near Hebron and patrols near Hebron and Tulkarm. (EI, HA, JP, MNA, NYT, PNN, TOI, WAFA, YA 4/6; HA, YA 4/7; PCHR 4/12)

A Palestinian succumbs to injuries sustained when the IDF violently disperse peaceful protesters along Gaza’s border on 3/30, bringing the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 26 by the end of the day. (WAFA 4/6)

For the 2d week in a row, the U.S. blocks a **Kuwait**-backed effort to get the **UNSC** to call for an independent and transparent investigation into the IDF’s violent crackdown on the **Great March of Return**. According to **Palestinian UN envoy Riyad Mansour**, 14 of the 15 members of the **UNSC** support the effort. U.S. diplomats blocked a similar Kuwaiti initiative on 3/31 after the beginning of protests on 3/30. (TOI 4/6; JP, TOI 4/7)

#### 7 APRIL 2018

Hundreds of Palestinians gather in various locations along Gaza’s border to participate in the **Great March of Return**. **IDF troops** violently disperse them near Gaza City and al-Bureij refugee camp; 8 Palestinians are injured. Later, IDF troops arrest an unarmed Palestinian who crossed into Israel and open fire on Palestinian agricultural lands near al-Maghazi refugee camp, causing no damage. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian minors throwing stones in Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah and Hebron, and patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya. In **Israel**, approximately 1,500 **Palestinian citizens of Israel**, including a number of **Knesset** members, gather in Sakhnin to protest in solidarity with the Palestinians killed in Gaza over the past week. (TOI, WAFA 4/7; TOI 4/8; PCHR 4/12)

Two Palestinians, including 1 photojournalist, succumb to injuries sustained when the IDF violently dispersed peaceful protesters along Gaza's border on 4/6, bringing the death toll of the IDF's response to the **Great March of Return** to 28. The **IDF** later issues a statement denying that Israeli soldiers targeted journalists, and pledging to investigate any such incidents. (HA, TOI, Wafa 4/7)

### 8 APRIL 2018

An **Israeli settler** shoots and fatally injures a Palestinian after he allegedly attempts to stab another settler with a screwdriver at a gas station outside the Mishor Adumim settlement near **Jerusalem** (the Palestinian will succumb to his injuries on 4/9). Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** block Palestinian farmers from working their lands near Tulkarm, without offering any justification. They also arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and Nablus; and patrol near Salfit and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces evict 3 Palestinian families from their homes in Silwan, implementing a recent court ruling that an **Israeli settler** group owns the buildings. They also arrest 3 Palestinians during late-night raids in Jabal Mukabir, Anata refugee camp, and Abu Dis. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure 2 Palestinians amid clashes near Khan Yunis and open fire on agricultural lands near Dayr al-Balah, causing no damage or injuries. Later, Israeli tanks fire shells at 3 Palestinians who snuck through the border fence near Gaza City. The 3 turn back, unhurt. (HA, JP, TOI, Wafa, YA 4/8; HA 4/9)

A Palestinian succumbs to injuries sustained in a violent confrontation with

IDF troops at a checkpoint near Tulkarm on 4/2. (Wafa 4/8)

At a meeting of the **Fatah Central Committee**, **PA president Abbas** lays out conditions for Palestinian engagement with the **U.S. peace initiative**. "We will not listen to anything that comes [from the Trump administration], regardless of what it is, unless the 2-state solution [is endorsed] and East Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Palestine is recognized," he says. (JP, TOI 4/8)

Following the burning of hundreds of tires along Gaza's border on 4/6, a **PA official** says that the Israeli authorities have suspended all **tire imports** into Gaza. (JP 4/8)

**Israeli DM Lieberman** condemns the calls for an independent, transparent investigation into the killings along Gaza's border over the past 2 weeks. "The demand to investigate the shooting [. . .] is hypocrisy," he says. Separately, **Israeli officials** say that the **IDF** will react with force, including air strikes on **Hamas** military targets, if Palestinians continue attempting to damage the border fence during the ongoing **Great March of Return**. (HA, JP 4/8)

### 9 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** bomb **Hamas** military sites in Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Lahiya overnight, causing an unclear amount of damage. The IDF later says the attack was in retaliation for a previously unreported Hamas attempt to plant an IED along the border fence on 4/8. Later, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian agricultural lands near al-Maghazi refugee camp, Gaza City, and al-Bureij refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. Meanwhile, IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians protesting along the border fence near Gaza City, Jabaliya refugee

camp, and Khan Yunis; 8 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** spray-paint racist graffiti on road signs near Hebron. IDF troops shoot and injure a Palestinian minor amid minor clashes in Nablus, arrest 4 Palestinians, and issue 3 arrest summons during late-night raids near Ramallah, Bethlehem, and Hebron; and patrol in and around Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids in Sur Bahir, Hizma, and Issawiyya. (HA, JP, TOI, WAFA, YA 4/9; MNA 4/10; PCHR 4/12)

A Palestinian succumbs to injuries sustained when the IDF violently dispersed peaceful protesters along Gaza's border on 3/30, bringing the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 29. (TOI, WAFA 4/9)

The Palestinian who was stabbed by an Israeli settler near Jerusalem on 4/8 succumbs to his injuries. (PCHR 4/12)

The **IAF** conducts air strikes on the **Syrian** T-4 base near Homs, targeting drone deployment and air-defense systems, and killing 14 people, including at least 7 Iranian citizens (see Update). (HA, JP 4/9)

## 10 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian agricultural lands near al-Maghazi refugee camp and Dayr al-Balah, causing no damage or injuries. They also violently disperse Palestinian protesters near Khan Yunis and Jabaliya refugee camp; 2 Palestinians are moderately injured. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land and repair the border fence near Khan Yunis. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces**

demolish a Palestinian home under construction near Ramallah, force Palestinian farmers from their land outside al-Khadir near Bethlehem, and demolish a makeshift Palestinian secondary school in Khirbat Zanuta, a Bedouin community near Hebron. IDF troops arrest 10 Palestinians during raids near Nablus, Hebron, and Qalqilya; and patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya. (WAFA 4/10; PCHR 4/12)

**Israeli DM Lieberman** says that the Palestinian journalist who succumbed to injuries caused by the IDF's ongoing violent crackdown on the **Great March of Return** on 4/6, Yaser Murtaja, was a member of **Hamas** and that he was giving his drone's video recordings to the group. Hamas denies the allegation. The *Washington Post* reports that the **U.S.** recently vetted Murtaja's company, Ain Media, for a government grant. (AP, JP, WP, YA 4/11)

A **senior Iranian official** says that Israel's 4/9 deadly strike on the **Syrian** T-4 military base "will not remain without response." Meanwhile, the **Russian Foreign Ministry** summons the **Israeli ambassador to Russia** for a formal questioning about the incident and a discussion about recent events in Gaza. (HA, JP, REU, YA 4/10)

## 11 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, unidentified Palestinians detonate an IED targeting an Israeli bulldozer, causing no damage or injuries. Israeli tanks then shell a number of "resistance sites" in Gaza City, according to the Gaza-based Ministry of Health; 1 Palestinian is moderately injured. Later, unidentified Palestinians open fire on an Israeli home along the border, causing minor damage. The **IAF** then conducts retaliatory air

strikes in northern Gaza late at night, killing 1 member of **Hamas** and injuring another. Separately, IDF snipers shoot and injure 2 Palestinians along the border in unclear circumstances, and fire on Palestinian agricultural lands near Gaza City and Bayt Hanun, causing no damage. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 13 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during late-night raids near Jenin, Tubas, Nablus, Hebron, and Bethlehem. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/11; HA, MNA, PCHR, WAFA, YA 4/12; PCHR 4/19)

The **Jerusalem Municipality** announces that **Guatemala** plans to open its new embassy in the city on 5/16, 2 days after the **U.S. embassy in Jerusalem** is set to open. (TOI 4/11)

## 12 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinians throwing stones at the border fence near Khan Yunis, killing 1 and injuring a number of others. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, the **Israeli authorities** allow Palestinian shop owners to reopen 15 shops in central Hebron. The shops were closed in 2000. IDF troops patrol near Salfit and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during a patrol in Issawiyya. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/12; PCHR 4/19)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the first of 3 planned days (see Update). (AFP, TOI 4/12)

## 13 APRIL 2018

More than 10,000 Palestinians gather along Gaza's border to continue the **Great March of Return** for the 3d consecutive Friday. A number of protesters throw explosives and

Molotov cocktails toward the border fence. **IDF troops** violently disperse the demonstrations near Gaza City, Khan Yunis, Rafah, Bayt Hanun, and Jabaliya refugee camp; 1 Palestinian is killed and at least 200 are injured. The protester killed today brings the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 30. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and late at night near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Friday protests near Ramallah, Nablus, al-Bireh, Qalqilya, and Hebron; at least 12 Palestinians are injured. They also issue an arrest summons during a raid near Bethlehem, and patrol near Qalqilya and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** break into a mosque near Nablus overnight and set fire to the interior, causing moderate damage. A separate group of settlers damages 7 Palestinian olive trees near Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 7 Palestinians during a raid in the Old City. (EI, HA, JP, MNA, NYT, PNN, WAFA, YA 4/13; MNA 4/14; PCHR 4/19)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the 2d of 3 planned days (see Update). (OCHA 4/27)

**Israeli DM Lieberman** says that the decreasing attendance at the Friday protests along Gaza's border over the past 2 weeks show that Israel's "determination" has had an effect. "Each week there are fewer rioters on our border with Gaza. Our determination is well understood on the other side," he says. (TOI 4/13)

**U.S., UK, and French forces** conduct air strikes on **Syrian** government research, storage, and military targets near Homs and in Damascus, fulfilling **U.S. president Trump's** pledge to retaliate for an alleged chemical

weapons attack in **Damascus** on 4/7 (see Update). (AP, BBC, NYT 4/13)

#### 14 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli artillery** shell a Palestinian rickshaw transporting **PIJ** fighters near Rafah, killing 4 and injuring several others. **Israel's Army Radio** reports that the men were transporting explosives. PIJ says that the 4 died during unspecified "preparations." Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians shepherds working near Dayr al-Balah, and a small number of Palestinians at a **Great March of Return** tent camp outside Khan Yunis; 4 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** evacuate and dismantle an **illegal settlement outpost** near Nablus (settlers erected it on 4/13). When some of the settlers throw stones and otherwise resist the IDF, the soldiers arrest 3 of them. IDF troops also arrest 12 Palestinians during late-night raids near Hebron, Ramallah, al-Bireh, and Salfit; and patrol near Tulkarm and Nablus. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA, YA 4/14; HA 4/15; PCHR 4/19)

The Egyptian authorities keep the **Rafah border crossing** open in both directions for a 3d and final day. (OCHA 4/27)

#### 15 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, a number of Palestinians tie firebombs to kites and fly them into Israeli territory, causing several small fires. **IDF troops** then violently disperse Palestinians protesting near the border fence outside Gaza City, Khan Yunis, and Jabaliya refugee camp; 3 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya

refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** seal off the main entrance to Bayt Umar near Hebron while they conduct raids in the village. The raids spark minor clashes; there are no reported injuries or arrests. **Israeli forces** issue stop-work orders to a Palestinian home under construction in Yatta village near Hebron and bar Palestinian laborers from working on water infrastructure outside Bethlehem. IDF troops confiscate some surveillance footage and arrest 25 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Qalqilya, Bethlehem, Nablus, Jenin, and Hebron; and patrol near Hebron, Qalqilya, Salfit, and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids in Shu'fat refugee camp, Abu Dis, and al-Tur. (WAFA 4/15; HA 4/16; PCHR 4/19)

The **IDF** announces it destroyed a **tunnel** leading into Israel from the Jabaliya refugee camp area on 4/14, bringing the number of Gazan tunnels demolished since the beginning of 2017 to 8 (see Update). **DM Lieberman** says that this was the "longest and deepest [tunnel] exposed so far" and calls on the Palestinians in Gaza to stop **Hamas** from "burning your money on tunnels going nowhere." (HA, JP, TOI, YA 4/15)

#### 16 APRIL 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct a raid in Nablus overnight, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian minors; 5 Palestinians are injured. They also arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids near Qalqilya, Bethlehem, Jenin, and Nablus; and patrol in and around Tulkarm, Hebron, and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in al-Tur and the Old City. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct limited incursions to level land

near Jabaliya refugee camp and Khan Yunis. They also open fire on Palestinian farmers working near Dayr al-Balah and al-Bureij refugee camp, causing no injuries. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya late at night, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 4/16; PCHR 4/19)

The **Israeli authorities** shut down **border crossings** in and out of **Gaza** and the **West Bank** "in accordance with instructions from the government and a situations assessment by the IDF," according to an IDF statement. The borders are set to remain closed until after Israel's 70th anniversary celebrations are complete at midnight on 4/19. (TOI 4/16; HA, JP 4/17)

#### 17 APRIL 2018

Marking **Palestinian Prisoners Day**, thousands of Palestinians gather across the oPt for rallies and marches in solidarity with the thousands of Palestinians imprisoned by Israel. **IDF troops** violently disperse them along Gaza's border near Gaza City, al-Bureij refugee camp, and Khan Yunis; 9 Palestinians are injured. Hours after the protests along Gaza's border dissipate, **IDF troops** open fire on 5 Palestinians allegedly attempting to cross the border or, according to some reports, to plant an explosive along the border fence near Khan Yunis, injuring all 5 (1 seriously). Separately, **Israeli artillery** shell a **Hamas** site near Khan Yunis, causing damage. Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land along the border near Khan Yunis. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct a raid in Nablus, arresting 1 Palestinian and sparking minor

clashes; 1 Palestinian is shot and injured. They also patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem, unidentified Israelis** slash a number of tires and leave price-tag graffiti on nearby walls in Issawiyya and Luban al-Sharqiyya. (HA, TOI, WAFA 4/17; MNA, TOI, YA 4/18; PCHR 4/19)

#### 18 APRIL 2018

In the **West Bank, Israeli settlers** verbally and physically assault a number of Palestinian students returning home from school in Hebron; there are no injuries. The settlers later leave price-tag graffiti on the scene late at night. A separate group of settlers cuts down 25 Palestinian olive and almond trees near Nablus. **IDF troops** assault and lightly injure 3 Palestinian journalists amid minor clashes in al-'Arub refugee camp near Hebron. They also arrest a Palestinian man armed with a knife at the Qalandia checkpoint, and patrol near Hebron throughout the day. Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmlands near Dayr al-Balah and violently disperse protesters gathering near Gaza City; 2 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp late at night, causing no damage or injuries. (JP, TOI, WAFA 4/18; MNA, PCHR, WAFA 4/19; PCHR 4/26)

#### 19 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** open fire on dozens of Palestinian protesters continuing the **Great March of Return** near Jabaliya refugee camp and Khan Yunis; 3 Palestinians are injured. In 3 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage

or injuries. In the **West Bank**, IDF troops arrest 1 Palestinian and issue 1 arrest summons during raids near Bethlehem and in Qalqilya, and patrol near Hebron. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian vehicles near Bethlehem, causing minor damage. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in Silwan. In **northern Israel**, approximately 20,000 **Palestinian citizens of Israel** march through Atlit to commemorate the **Nakba** and call for refugees' right to return to their homes. (HA, MNA 4/19; WAFA 4/20)

The organizers of the **Great March of Return** move the main protest tent camp near Khan Yunis, approximately 50 meters closer to the border fence "as a message of persistence from our people to the world that we are moving forwards towards our rightful goals," according to a statement from their committee. (AP, MNA 4/19)

#### 20 APRIL 2018

Thousands of Palestinians gather along Gaza's border to continue the **Great March of Return** for a 4th straight Friday. IDF troops violently disperse the demonstrations near Khan Yunis, Rafah, and Jabaliya refugee camp; 4 Palestinians are killed, including 1 minor, and at least 40 are injured. The protesters killed today bring the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 34. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Friday protests against Israel's settlements, occupation, and separation wall in al-Bireh, Qalqilya, and nearby Kafr Qaddum; 5 Palestinians are injured and 1 is arrested. They also patrol near Hebron and Nablus. **Israeli settlers** slash the tires of 30 Palestinian vehicles and spray-paint racist graffiti on walls in Burqa village near Ramallah overnight, chop down approximately 100 Palestinian olive trees outside Nablus,

and throw stones at a Palestinian school bus near Hebron (1 Palestinian minor is injured). In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** issue 1 arrest summons during a raid in Qalandia refugee camp. (EI, HA, JP, MNA, NYT, TOI, WAFA, YA 4/20; MNA 4/21; PCHR 4/26)

After the release of a video depicting the killing of a minor along Gaza's border today, the **EU** demands a "full investigation" and **UN Special Coordinator Nickolay Mladenov** calls on Israel to "stop killing children." The **IDF** then announces that it will investigate the killing. (The IDF initially stated that there would be no investigation, and that the boy was shot after breaching the border area.) (HA, JP 4/21)

#### 21 APRIL 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians protesting the Israeli occupation and **U.S. president Trump's 12/6/2017 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** in Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian is injured. They also arrest 14 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Qalqilya, Hebron, and Jenin. **Israeli settlers** verbally and physically assault a Palestinian family in central Hebron; 1 home is lightly damaged. (PCHR 4/26)

Unidentified persons shoot and kill Palestinian professor and researcher Fadi al-Batsh outside a mosque in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** (see Update). The Malaysian government suggests that "foreign agents" may have been involved. It is widely suspected that Israeli agents were responsible for the attack. (HA 4/21; HA, JP, TOI, WAFA 4/22; MNA 4/23; HA, NYT 4/26)

#### 22 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, a **Hamis** fighter dies in a tunnel collapse near Dayr al-Balah,

according to local Gaza media. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse groups of Palestinians approaching the border fence near Khan Yunis and Bayt Lahiya; 3 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian during minor clashes in Hebron, and patrol near Hebron throughout the day. They also arrest 14 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Tulkarm, Hebron, Jenin, Salfit, and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** demolish part of a Palestinian shop in Bayt 'Aynun and confiscate some of its merchandise, and arrest 12 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya and Shu'fat refugee camp. They also establish a closed military zone near **Al-Quds University**, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing students; 4 Palestinians are injured. (TOI, WAFA 4/22; PCHR 4/26)

A Palestinian youth succumbs to injuries sustained when the IDF violently dispersed peaceful protesters along Gaza's border on 4/20, bringing the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 35. (HA, MNA, WAFA 4/23; EI 4/24)

## 23 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza's border, Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land near al-Bureij refugee camp. **IDF troops** then arrest 4 Palestinian minors attempting to cross into Israel near the site of the incursion, and violently disperse Palestinian protesters throwing stones at the border fence near the main **Great March of Return** tent camp outside Khan Yunis (1 Palestinian is injured). Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya

refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** carry out the **punitive demolition** of the Jenin home of a Palestinian imprisoned in connection with the 1/9/18 killing of an **Israeli settler**. Meanwhile, **Israeli settlers** damage 20 Palestinian vehicles and spray-paint "Death to Arabs" on a nearby wall in Bayt Iksa. Some of the same settlers vandalize more Palestinian property in Rammun village near Ramallah later in the day. **IDF troops** arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Bethlehem, and patrol near Nablus, Hebron, and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians during raids in Silwan, Issawiyya, and the Old City. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/23; PCHR 4/26)

A deaf Palestinian succumbs to injuries sustained on 4/1 when the IDF violently dispersed peaceful protesters along Gaza's border. A Palestinian witness to the shooting says that the deceased was walking away from the border fence when an Israeli sniper shot him in the back of the head. His death brings the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 36. (HA, MNA, WAFA 4/23; EI 4/24; PCHR 4/26; HQ 5/5)

A mortar fired from **Syria** lands in the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights**, causing no damage or injuries. **IDF** artillery then shell the area from which the mortar was fired, causing an unclear amount of damage or injuries. "The IDF sees the Syrian civil regime as responsible for all that happens on its territory, and will not tolerate any attempt to harm the sovereignty of the State of Israel or the security of its citizens," the IDF states after the exchange. (HA, YA 4/23)

**Palestinian diplomats** file a formal complaint against Israel with the **UN** office in Geneva responsible for monitoring the **International Convention on the Elimination**

**of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.**

The complaint alleges that Israel has violated the convention in a variety of ways, including the parallel justice systems for Palestinians and settlers in the West Bank. “Not only is the purpose of the settlement regime discriminatory in itself, it is further maintained by a system of discriminatory measures, severely depriving Palestinians of their fundamental rights,” one diplomat says. (MNA 4/24)

**24 APRIL 2018**

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian home and confiscate a mobile home near Hebron. IDF troops arrest 6 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids in and around Jenin, Nablus, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Qalqilya, Hebron, and Tulkarm. Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel armed with a grenade and a knife. They also violently disperse small groups of **Great March of Return** protesters near Khan Yunis and Jabaliya refugee camp; 4 Palestinians are injured. Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level lands near al-Bureij refugee camp. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (JP, TOI, WAFA 4/24; PCHR 4/26)

**25 APRIL 2018**

Along **Gaza’s border**, Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level lands near al-Bureij refugee camp. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** uproot 130 Palestinian olive trees outside the Jordan Valley village of Bardala. Israeli soldiers shoot and injure 2 Palestinians in a car near Hebron. It’s unclear why they opened fire. The IDF also arrests 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Qalqilya and near Bethlehem,

and patrols near Tulkarm and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** slash the tires of 3 Palestinian cars and leave racist graffiti on a 4th in Jalud village near Nablus. Unidentified Israelis then set fire to 2 Palestinian vehicles south of **Nazareth** in the 2d price-tag attack of the day. (HA, JP, WAFA 4/25; PCHR, WAFA 4/26; PCHR 5/3)

A Palestinian journalist succumbs to injuries sustained when the IDF violently dispersed peaceful protests along Gaza’s border on 4/13, bringing the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 37. He is the 2d journalist killed since the protests began on 3/30. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, YA 4/25; PCHR 4/26)

**26 APRIL 2018**

Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian shepherds near Dayr al-Balah, causing no damage or injuries. They also violently disperse Palestinian protesters continuing the **Great March of Return** near al-Bureij refugee camp; 3 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Qalqilya and Bethlehem, and patrol near Hebron and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Biddu. (MNA, WAFA 4/26; PCHR 5/3)

**27 APRIL 2018**

Thousands of Palestinians gather along Gaza’s border to continue the **Great March of Return** for the 5th consecutive Friday. This week’s protests, dubbed the “Friday of Rebellious Youth,” are dedicated to the 37 Palestinians killed since the March began on 3/30. IDF troops violently disperse the

demonstrations in multiple locations; 3 Palestinians are killed and at least 150 are injured. After hours of Israeli sniper fire, the IDF considerably escalates its crackdown on the protests with artillery shelling and air strikes on 6 **Hamas** sites across Gaza, causing damage and injuring 4 Palestinians. An IDF spokesperson later says the strikes were a response to the “terrorist actions and extensive attempts to breach Israeli territory earlier today.” In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Friday protests against Israel’s occupation, settlements, and separation wall in Hebron, Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, and Ramallah; 2 Palestinians are injured. They also arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid near Bethlehem and patrol near Hebron and Qalqilya. **Israeli settlers** slash the tires of a number of Palestinian vehicles near Nablus overnight, and chop down 12 olive trees in a Palestinian grove outside ‘Urif near Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces clash with stone-throwing Palestinians in al-‘Izzariya; 1 Palestinian is arrested and 1 is wounded. A Palestinian demolishes his own car park in Silwan to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. (EI, HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/27; YA 4/28; PCHR 5/3)

#### 28 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** arrest 3 Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel for unclear reasons. They also violently disperse Palestinian protesters gathering along the border fence near Gaza City; 1 Palestinian is injured. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 11 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem and Ramallah, and patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron. They also violently disperse Palestinians demonstrating against **U.S. president Trump’s 12/6/2017 recognition**

**of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital** in Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian is injured. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Issawiyya. (PCHR 5/3)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the first of 3 planned days. (OCHA 5/10)

A Palestinian minor succumbs to injuries sustained when the IDF violently dispersed peaceful protesters along Gaza’s border on 4/27, bringing the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 41. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA 4/28)

#### 29 APRIL 2018

Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** shoot and kill 2 Palestinians who allegedly crossed the border fence and threw “explosive devices” at an IDF patrol, according to an Israeli spokesperson. Separately, **IDF troops** shoot and seriously injure 2 more Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel near Rafah; 1 of the Palestinians dies soon after the incident. Later, they arrest another Palestinian attempting to cross into Israel. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** slash the tires of a number of Palestinian cars and spray-paint racist graffiti on walls in Turmus ‘Ayya near Ramallah. They also raze a swathe of Palestinian farmland near Salfit and assault a reporter attempting to document the incident. **IDF troops** arrest 19 Palestinians during raids near Qalqilya, Bethlehem, Hebron, Nablus, and Jenin; patrol near Hebron, Tulkarm, and Qalqilya; and deliver stop-work orders to Palestinians building a road near Hebron. Raids in Nablus and Jenin spark minor clashes; 2 Palestinians are injured. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/30; EI 5/1; PCHR 5/3)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the 2d of 3 days. (OCHA 5/10)

The **IAF** conducts air strikes on **Syrian** army facilities near **Hama** and north of the Aleppo International Airport late at night, killing 26 people and causing major damage (see Update). There are reports that the majority of the deceased are Iranian troops. (DPA, HA, JP, NYT, REU 4/30; MEMO 4/30; NBC, HA 5/2)

### 30 APRIL 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian minor during a raid near Jenin. They arrest 6 Palestinians during further raids near Hebron and Ramallah, and patrol near Hebron. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working near Khan Yunis and later near Dayr al-Balah, causing no injuries. They also violently disperse **Great March of Return** protesters gathering along the border fence near al-Bureij refugee camp, Gaza City, and Khan Yunis; 1 Palestinian is injured. (Wafa 4/30; PCHR 5/3)

The **Palestinian National Council (PNC)**, the legislative wing of the **Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)**, convenes in Ramallah for its first regular session since 1996 (see Update). Some factions boycotted the meetings. Over the next 4 days, they are set to elect new members to the **PLO Executive Committee** and other top PLO positions. In the evening, **PA president Abbas** gives a speech calling for the PNC to adopt the initiative he presented at the **UNSC** in 2/2018, and reiterates his commitment to ending the division with **Hammas**. (JP, Wafa 4/30; YA 5/1)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for a 3d and final day. (OCHA 5/10)

### 1 MAY 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinians approaching the border fence near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, injuring 2. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 7 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids near Jenin and Hebron, and patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a 3-story Palestinian building in Issawiyya and arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in al-Suwana. (Wafa 5/1; PCHR 5/3)

For a 2d consecutive day, the **PNC** convenes in Ramallah for closed meetings on various issues. Inter alia, they elect 103 new colleagues to replace those who died since the last meeting in 1996. (Wafa 5/1; Wafa, YA 5/2)

### 2 MAY 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, Palestinians send a flaming kite across the border fence, sparking a fire that burns dozens of acres of Israeli grassland and agricultural land. **IDF troops** open fire on a **Great March of Return** tent camp near Rafah, injuring a crane operator moving supplies. They also violently disperse small groups of protesters approaching the border fence near Jabaliya refugee camp and Khan Yunis; 5 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In and around Hebron in the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** seize a number of water tanks and solar batteries and demolish a Palestinian shop, several residential rooms, and a shed. **IDF troops** arrest 11 Palestinians during late-night raids near Bethlehem and Nablus, and patrol in and

around Hebron. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Abu Dis and Biddu. In **central Israel**, Israeli forces demolish a Palestinian home under construction and a shop in Taybeh. (TOI, Wafa 5/2; PCHR 5/3; PCHR 5/10)

For a 3d consecutive day, the **PNC** meets in Ramallah to discuss issues facing the Palestinian people (see Update). (Wafa 5/3)

### 3 MAY 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** shoot, injure, and arrest a Palestinian man attempting to cross into Israel. According to the IDF, he is armed with a knife and a box cutter. They also violently disperse **Great March of Return** protesters gathering near Gaza City and Khan Yunis; 2 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish an agricultural supplies building near Hebron. IDF troops arrest 4 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during late-night raids near Salfit, Hebron, and Nablus; and patrol near Qalqilya and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian during a raid in Issawiyya. (HA, HA, TOI, Wafa 5/3; PCHR 5/10)

A **Palestinian** succumbs to injuries sustained when the IDF violently dispersed peaceful protesters along Gaza's border on 4/27, bringing the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 42. (HA, MNA, TOI, Wafa 5/3)

On their 4th and final day of meetings in Ramallah, the **PNC** discusses possible reforms to the **PLO** and chooses new members of the **PLO Executive Committee** (see Update). They also elect **PA president Abbas** to another term as head of the State of Palestine and president of

the PLO Executive Committee. (Wafa 5/3; REU, Wafa 5/4)

### 4 MAY 2018

Thousands of Palestinian protesters gather along Gaza's border to continue the **Great March of Return** for a 6th consecutive Friday. This week's actions, commencing 3 days after International Workers Day, are dedicated to Palestinian workers. **IDF troops** violently disperse the demonstrations along the border fence near Khan Yunis, Jabaliya refugee camp, al-Bureij refugee camp, Rafah, and Gaza City; at least 70 Palestinians are injured (3 critically). The IDF later states that its soldiers blocked 2 separate attempts to cut through the border fence. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians at Friday protests in Hebron and al-Bireh; there are no serious injuries. They also assault and injure 1 Palestinian during an arrest raid in Hebron, deliver stop-work orders to a Palestinian home under construction near Bethlehem, arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid near Salfit; and patrol near Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** set fire to a swathe of Palestinian farmland near Hebron, causing major damage. (EI, HA, MNA, Wafa 5/4; HA 5/5; Wafa 5/6; PCHR 5/10)

### 5 MAY 2018

An explosion in Dayr al-Balah kills 6 members of **Hamas** and injures 3 others. The circumstances of the blast are unclear. Hamas accuses Israel of assassinating the men. The Israeli authorities deny any involvement. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure 6 Palestinians approaching the border fence and allegedly throwing stones near al-Maghazi refugee camp. They also open fire on Palestinian paramedics working near Dayr

al-Balah, injuring 1. Hours later, the IAF conducts an air strike on a Hamas site near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing an unclear amount of damage and injuries. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** arrest 1 Palestinian, assault a 2d, and issue an arrest summons to a 3d during late-night raids near Hebron, Nablus, and Salfit; and patrol near Nablus and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians during a raid in Issawiyya. (Wafa 5/5; HA, JP, YA 5/6)

#### 6 MAY 2018

Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** shoot and kill 3 Palestinians allegedly attempting to cross into Israel near Khan Yunis. The IDF accuses the men of attempting to damage "security infrastructure." Later, IDF troops shoot and injure another Palestinian approaching the border fence near Khan Yunis. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct raids in Bayt Umar near Hebron overnight, arresting 3 Palestinians and sparking clashes; 1 Palestinian is injured. They arrest 12 Palestinians during additional late-night raids near Salfit, Bethlehem, Hebron, and Bethlehem; arrest 1 Palestinian at the Qalandia checkpoint when she is found with a knife in her bag; and patrol in and around Qalqilya and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in Issawiyya. (HA, JP, TOI, Wafa, YA 5/6; MNA 5/7; PCHR 5/10)

#### 7 MAY 2018

**Israeli forces** install 3 new road signs indicating the location of the new **U.S. embassy in Jerusalem**, which is set to open

officially on 5/14. Elsewhere in Jerusalem, Israeli forces arrest 4 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids in Issawiyya, Abu Dis, and Shu'fat refugee camp. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** arrest 18 Palestinians and confiscate 1 car during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Jenin, Salfit, Hebron, Nablus, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Tulkarm, Hebron, and Nablus. A raid in Jenin refugee camp sparks minor clashes with stone-throwing residents; 1 Palestinian is injured. Israeli settlers throw stones at Palestinian property near Nablus, sparking minor clashes between their IDF escort and Palestinian residents of the area; 4 Palestinian minors are arrested. Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** violently disperse **Great March of Return** protesters gathering near Gaza City and Khan Yunis; 3 Palestinians are injured. (HA 5/7; PCHR 5/10)

#### 8 MAY 2018

Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** open fire on small groups of Palestinians approaching the border fence near Bayt Lahiya and al-Bureij refugee camp, injuring 2 minors. Separately, Palestinians fly incendiary kites across the border fence into Israel, where they land and set fire to Israeli farmlands, causing damage. **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land along the border fence near al-Bureij refugee camp. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 8 Palestinians during raids in Issawiyya. (They arrest 19 Palestinians in the neighborhood within this week.) They also demolish a commercial facility and a gas station in Issawiyya. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** arrest 16 Palestinians during raids near Ramallah, Nablus, Jenin, Qalqilya, and Salfit; and patrol near Hebron. (Wafa, YA 5/8; HA 5/9; PCHR 5/10)

**U.S. president Trump** announces his decision to pull the U.S. out of the 7/14/15 Iran nuclear deal, **the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)**, calling it “disastrous” (see Update). Trump reportedly plans to reimpose all sanctions waived in the context of the deal, and to impose new ones. (ALM, BBC, HA, JP, NYT 5/8)

Hours after Trump’s announcement, the **IAF** conducts air strikes on a military base near **Damascus** used by **Iranian forces**, killing at least 15 people, including 8 Iranian soldiers, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The IDF also goes on high alert and instructs local authorities in the Israeli-occupied **Golan Heights** to prepare bomb shelters in case of an Iranian attack from Syria. (HA, JP, YA 5/9)

#### 9 MAY 2018

Approximately 20 Grad and Fajr-5 rockets are fired from **Syria** toward northern Israel. Four of them are intercepted by Israel’s Iron Dome missile defense system, and the rest explode over Syrian territory, causing no major damage or injury. The **IDF** accuses **Iran** of being behind the attack and retaliates, bombing dozens of alleged Iranian weapons storage, logistics, and intelligence sites in Syria; 27 people are killed, including 19 Iranians, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (see Update). (JP 5/9; CNN, HA, JP, MEMO, NYT, TOI, YA 5/10; HA 5/11; AP 5/12)

Along **Gaza’s border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land and repair the border fence near Khan Yunis. Later, they open fire on Palestinian farmers working near Gaza City and al-Bureij refugee camp and **Great March of Return** protesters near Khan Yunis, Gaza City, Jabaliya refugee camp, and al-Bureij refugee camp; 6 Palestinians are

injured. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Khan Yunis, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a makeshift Palestinian home near Nablus. **IDF troops** arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids near Jericho, Tubas, Bethlehem, Ramallah, and Jenin; and patrol near Hebron and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces establish a checkpoint in Abu Dis, sparking minor clashes with Palestinian minors; 1 Israeli border police officer and 7 Palestinians are injured (3 Palestinians are arrested as well). (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 5/9; PCHR 5/10)

#### 10 MAY 2018

Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on a Palestinian landfill near Dayr al-Balah and at a group of farmers and shepherds near al-Bureij refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. They also violently disperse **Great March of Return** protesters near Rafah; 1 Palestinian is injured. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians marching through Bethlehem to commemorate the **Nakba** and protest the **U.S. embassy’s impending opening in Jerusalem**; there are no serious injuries. They also arrest 3 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during late-night raids near Qalqilya and Hebron, and patrol near Jenin, Tulkarm, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during a raid in Silwan. (WAFA 5/10; PCHR 5/17)

Breaking with Israeli policy not to take responsibility for any strikes in **Syria**, Israeli officials acknowledge the extensive attacks on **Iranian** infrastructure on 5/9. “If **Iran** hits us with rain—we will hit them with a deluge,” says **Israeli DM Lieberman**. He also says that the

IAF destroyed “nearly all” of Iran’s military infrastructure in Syria. (JP, NYT, TOI 5/10)

The **U.S. Treasury** announces new sanctions on 9 Iranian individuals and entities deemed complicit in an “extensive currency exchange network” that funneled millions of U.S. dollars to **Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps**. (AFP, TOI 5/10)

### 11 MAY 2018

Thousands of Palestinian protesters gather along Gaza’s border to continue the **Great March of Return** for a 7th consecutive Friday. The march’s organizing committee says that the theme of the demonstrations this week is “preparation and warning of what’s to come,” referring to the mass protests set for 5/14 to coincide with the formal opening of the new **U.S. embassy in Jerusalem**. **IDF troops** violently disperse demonstrations along the border fence near Khan Yunis, Jabaliya refugee camp, al-Bureij refugee camp, Rafah, and Gaza City; 1 Palestinian is killed and hundreds of Palestinians are injured. The killing today brings the death total stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 43. Meanwhile, Palestinians set fire to a pipeline leading from Israel to Gaza at the Kerem Shalom border crossing, causing major damage. In the **West Bank**, hundreds of **Israeli settlers** visit Joseph’s Tomb near Nablus overnight, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and Palestinian residents of the area; 16 Palestinians are injured. Israeli settlers torch a Palestinian home in Duma near Nablus, causing moderate damage. **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Nablus, Jenin, and Hebron; and patrol near Jenin, Tulkarm, and Hebron. They also violently disperse Palestinian minors throwing stones at IDF

posts in al-Bireh and Jericho; 2 Palestinians are injured. An unidentified driver allegedly rams and slightly injures an IDF soldier at a checkpoint near Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli police** violently disperse Palestinians gathering outside **Haram al-Sharif** to protest Israeli excavation work at an Islamic cemetery nearby; 3 Palestinians are injured and 6 are arrested. IDF troops also arrest 3 Palestinians during late-night raids in Silwan. (HA, JP, TOI, WAFA 5/11; PCHR 5/17)

### 12 MAY 2018

The **IAF** conducts airstrikes on Palestinian agricultural land near Bayt Hanun, causing moderate damage. The IDF later states that it was targeting a tunnel that had not yet been built into Israeli territory. Meanwhile, IDF troops stationed along Gaza’s border fence open fire on a Hamas observation post near al-Maghazi refugee camp, and violently disperse **Great March of Return** protesters near Jabaliya refugee camp and al-Bureij refugee camp (3 Palestinians are injured, including 1 minor). In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 13 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Bethlehem, Nablus, and Qalqilya; and patrol in and around Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Abu Dis. (HA, JP, WAFA, YA 5/12; PCHR 5/17)

A Palestinian minor succumbs to injuries sustained when the IDF violently dispersed peaceful protesters along Gaza’s border on 5/11. His death brings the death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 44. (HA, WAFA 5/12)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the first of 4 planned days. (AHR 5/14; OCHA 5/24)

Following the attack on a pipeline in Gaza on 5/11, **Israeli DM Lieberman** announces that the **Kerem Shalom border crossing** into Gaza has been closed and will remain closed indefinitely while the damage is repaired. Meanwhile, the **IDF** musters troops along Gaza's border in preparation for an escalation of the **Great March of Return** on 5/14. (HA, JP, YA 5/12)

### 13 MAY 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** violently disperse **Great March of Return** protesters gathering near Jabaliya refugee camp and Gaza City; 7 Palestinians are injured. **Israeli forces** conduct 3 limited incursions to level land near Gaza City, Khan Yunis, and Jabaliya refugee camp. During the late-night incursion near Khan Yunis, they also open fire on Palestinians in the area; 3 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, the **IAF** drops leaflets across Gaza warning protesters not to approach the border fence during the planned demonstrations on 5/14. In **East Jerusalem**, approximately 1,000 **right-wing Jewish activists** visit **Haram al-Sharif** in the morning, commemorating the Israeli conquest of Jerusalem and sparking minor confrontations between the **Israeli police** and **Islamic Waqf** guards; there are no serious injuries. Outside the sanctuary, Israeli police arrest 6 Palestinians gathering at an Islamic cemetery in the Old City to protest ongoing Israeli excavations at the site. In the afternoon, tens of thousands of right-wing Jewish activists march through the Old City in the annual **Flags March**, commemorating the Israeli conquest of Jerusalem in 1967; a number of Palestinians are arrested when they throw stones at the demonstrators at the Damascus Gate. Late at night, **Israeli settlers** vandalize 28 Palestinian-owned cars and spray-paint racist graffiti on

nearby walls in Shu'fat. Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid in Silwan. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 9 Palestinians during late-night raids near Tulkarm, Jenin, Hebron, and Nablus; and patrol near Hebron and Tulkarm. (HA, JP, Wafa, YA 5/13; HA, Wafa 5/14; PCHR 5/17)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for a 2d day. (AHR 5/14)

### 14 MAY 2018

Today, **Great March of Return** demonstrations see tens of thousands of Palestinians in Gaza gathering along the border fence to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the **Nakba**, to protest the opening of the **U.S. embassy in Jerusalem** today, and to call for the Palestinian refugees' right to return to their homes (see Update). **IDF troops** violently disperse demonstrations near Khan Yunis, Rafah, Gaza City, al-Bureij refugee camp, and Jabaliya refugee camp; 58 Palestinians are killed, including 3 who allegedly attempted to plant an explosive along the border near Rafah, and more than 1,300 are injured. After unidentified assailants open fire on IDF patrols along the border near Jabaliya refugee camp, the **IAF** conducts air strikes on **Hamas** posts near Jabaliya refugee camp, al-Bureij refugee camp, and Gaza City, causing moderate damage. The killings today bring the death toll related to the **Great March of Return** to 102.

Elsewhere in the oPt, thousands of Palestinians gather across the **West Bank** and **Jerusalem** to protest the official opening of the **U.S. embassy in Jerusalem** today. They also release 70 black balloons in Ramallah, marking the 70th anniversary of the **Nakba**. **IDF troops** violently disperse the protests at Qalandia checkpoint, Bethlehem, and Hebron;

at least 2 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** arrest 19 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem, Jenin, Nablus, and Hebron; and patrol near Jenin and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya and the Old City. (AJ, EI, HA, JP, MEE, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 5/14; PCHR 5/17)

Hours after Israeli troops open fire on peaceful Palestinian protesters along the border fence in Gaza, senior **U.S. and Israeli officials** gather for a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new **U.S. embassy in Jerusalem**. In a recorded video, **U.S. president Trump** celebrates the opening and says the U.S. “remains fully committed to facilitating a lasting peace agreement” between Israel and the Palestinians. Outside the ceremony, Israeli police violently disperse approximately 200 protesters, including Joint List **MKs** Ahmad Tibi, Dov Khenin, Jamal Zahalka, Yousef Jabareen, and Masud Ganaim; 12 Palestinians are arrested. (AJ, BBC, JP, MEE, NYT, TOI 5/14; EI 5/15)

In the evening, the **Palestinian leadership** convenes in Ramallah to discuss the opening of the **U.S. embassy in Jerusalem** and the violence in Gaza. **PA president Abbas** calls the new U.S. embassy in Jerusalem a “settlement outpost” and reiterates that he has no plans to engage in any U.S.-mediated peace talks “in any way, shape, or form.” The assembled officials decide to file a war crimes complaint against Israel to the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** at The Hague over settlement construction in the West Bank. According to **PLO secretary-general Erakat**, they also agree to a number of other unspecified responses. (TOI 5/14; AP, YA 5/15)

The **South African government** recalls its **ambassador** to Israel and **Turkey** recalls its

**ambassadors** from **Israel** and the **U.S.** in protest of the killings in Gaza today. “The victims were taking part in peaceful protests against the provocative inauguration of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem,” a South African statement reads. Meanwhile, the **U.S.** blocks the **UNSC** from adopting a **Kuwait**-backed statement condemning the deadly violence in Gaza and calling for an “independent and transparent investigation” into Israel’s actions. (ANA, TOI, WAFA 5/14; HA, TOI 5/15)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the 3d consecutive day. (AHR 5/14; OCHA 5/24)

## 15 MAY 2018

Palestinians across Israel and the oPt observe a general strike in commemoration of the **Nakba** and in mourning for the 58 Palestinians killed in Gaza on 5/14. Thousands march in their funeral processions, and thousands more gather along the border fence for a 2d consecutive day of **Great March of Return** protests. **Israeli forces** violently disperse these demonstrations, as well as smaller protests in **East Jerusalem**, Hebron, Ramallah, Bethlehem, and at the Qalandia checkpoint; 2 Palestinians are killed and 12 are injured. Meanwhile, IDF troops arrest 20 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Nablus, Jericho, Jenin, Hebron, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Hebron and Salfit. **Unidentified assailants** cut down 300 Palestinian-owned grapevines outside Bayt ‘Aynun village near Hebron and leave racist graffiti in the area. (EI, HA, JP, TOI, WAFA 5/15; HA, MNA 5/16; PCHR 5/17)

Two Palestinians succumb to injuries sustained during the deadly violence in Gaza on 5/14. The 4 deaths today bring the death toll stemming from Israel’s response to the protests

on 5/14 to 60 and the overall death toll stemming from the **Great March of Return** to 106. (MNA, TOI, WAFA, 5/15)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the 4th consecutive day (see Update). (AP 5/18; OCHA 5/24)

The Israeli authorities temporarily reopen the **Kerem Shalom border crossing**, having kept it closed since 5/12, after Palestinians set fire to a nearby pipeline. There are reports of Palestinian activists turning back 4 truckloads of medical supplies provided by the **IDF**. The organizers of the **Great March of Return** later confirm that they rejected medical supplies from “the executors of Monday’s massacre against the innocent.” (AP, TOI 5/15; MNA, JP, TOI 5/16)

**PA president Abbas** recalls **PLO envoy** in Washington Husam Zomlot in protest at the opening of the **U.S. embassy in Jerusalem** and the U.S. decision to block the **UNSC** from making a statement condemning the Israeli violence on 5/14. (WAFA, YA 5/15; HA, WAFA 5/16)

The **Turkish Foreign Ministry** orders **Israeli ambassador Eitan Naeh** to leave Turkey in protest of the killings in Gaza on 5/14. In response, **Israel’s Foreign Ministry** orders the **Turkish consul in Jerusalem** to return home. Turkey recalled its ambassadors from Israel and the U.S. in the wake of the killings on 5/14. (ANA, HA, JP, TOI 5/16)

## CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP	(Agence France-Presse)
AHR	(al-Ahram)
AJ	(Al Jazeera)
ALM	(Al-Monitor)
ANA	(Anadolu Agency)
AP	(Associated Press)
BBC	(British Broadcasting Corporation World Service)
C2	(Channel 2 [Israel])
CNN	(Cable News Network)
DPA	(Deutsche-Pressre Agentur)
EI	(Electronic Intifada)
HA	(Haaretz)
HQ	(al-Haq)
JP	(Jerusalem Post)
KNE	(Israeli Knesset)
MEE	(Middle East Eye)
MEMO	(Middle East Monitor)
MNA	(Ma’an News Agency)
NBC	(National Broadcasting Company)
NYT	(New York Times)
OCHA	(UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes)
PCHR	(Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
PNN	(Palestine News Network)
REU	(Reuters)
TOI	(Times of Israel)
WP	(Washington Post)
WAFA	(Palestine News Agency)
YA	(Yedioth Ahronoth)