

Monitor of Israeli Imperialism and the Policies of Apartheid

A monthly newsletter prepared by a specialized team at the Institute for Palestine Studies. It monitors the most important apartheid policies, positions and steps taken by the Israeli occupation in Palestine.



A plan to increase the number of settlers to one million settlers in Nablus (Source: Sicha Mekomit)

Executive Summary

This report, which covers the month of August, reinforces the general trend that has emerged in the previous three reports and has been ongoing for more than three months, which is the targeting of Bedouin communities in Palestine from the Negev, through Al-Aghwar areas, and till the densely populated Palestinian cities, in the vicinity of which Bedouin communities live such as the "Wadi Al-Sik" community near Ramallah. In general, these targeted Bedouin communities live in the so-called Area C, representing about 61% of the total territory of the West Bank. It is considered the largest reserve of open lands in the West Bank and is also located in the middle of Areas A, where Palestinian cities with high population density are centered. Hence, it is important for the Occupation to target them, since settlement there and the displacement of Bedouin communities therefrom, prevents geographical communication between the Palestinian governorates, and makes them closer to isolated islands that are easy to isolate, one from the other, with a mere decision of closing a barrier.

In this context, the report shows the complementarity between settler violence and state violence, represented by the army. While the army confiscates iron fences, demolishes buildings, and prevents these communities from being connected to water and electricity and from protecting themselves, settlers carries out daily attacks, under the protection of the army, making the life of these communities very difficult, and

eventually pushing them to leave their place of residence and move to other areas to protect themselves and their children from settler violence, as happened with the "Ain Samia" community in July. This comes at a time when the army is connecting settlement outposts and temporary "caravans" to water and electricity, which the settlers have imposed as a fait accompli, on the way to institutionalizing them and creating the infrastructure that allows them to expand. The strategic dimension of this type of settlement, which is worth mentioning, is that it excludes the possibility of establishing a geographically contiguous Palestinian state, and practically annexes Areas C, without an official announcement regarding this annexation - which are the areas that Israel was originally seeking to annex.

In the same context, -land control and the Occupation's intention to resolve the conflict in the West Bank-, the report refers to a plan submitted by the head of the Shomron-Nablus Settlements Council, Yossi Dagan to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, aiming to increase the number of settlers in the northern West Bank area, from 170,000 settlers currently to one million settlers by the year 2025. A large part of the settlements, according to the plan, will be established in the Jenin area and south of Nablus, which became possible after amending the "disengagement" law referred to in the report for the month of May. The plan was preceded by a legislative and operational preparation process, which began with changing the law and continued with rebuilding the "Homesh" religious school and moving it to the so-called "state land," which was endorsed by the Israeli Supreme Court. The support that the plan received from a group of ministers from the ruling party - Likud, - the Prime Minister's party-, including the minister of economy and the minister of culture, tourism and immigrant absorption, shows the seriousness and importance of the plan.

This month, 21 Palestinians were martyred, including 3 children under the age of 17. The average age of the martyrs is 22 years. In this context, it is important to point out that, for the third consecutive month, the average age of martyrs in Palestine does not exceed 25 years, which clearly indicates targeting youth as a general policy that is perpetrated monthly and appears as a pattern in which young men are executed without any trial. Israel justifies it through statements accusing the young men it executes of carrying out operations, with a one-sided narrative issued by Israeli intelligence through the media.

As far as detainees are concerned, the report refers to a legislative and operational attack led by Israeli Minister of National Security Itamar Ben Gvir, which aims to contain the prisoners on two levels: the first, on the level of communication with their families, as it intends to reduce visits to one every two months, instead of the current norm, i.e. monthly visit; The second is to prevent the release of prisoners sentenced for a period of less than 4 years before the end of their sentence, which is a policy followed to reduce the overcrowding of Israeli prisons endured by prisoners. This policy would still apply on Jewish criminal prisoners. It is important to note that during the month of August, the occupation forces arrested approximately 485 Palestinian men and women - that is, more than 10 Palestinians every day. These arrests are usually accompanied by night raids and intimidation of families, children and women, invading their privacy, and making them feel unsafe in their homes.

Land Control

- "Peace Now" Foundation announced a [new plan](#) that the Israeli Minister in the Defense Ministry and Minister of Finance, Bezalel Smotrich, intends to start implementing. The plan stipulates, firstly, the establishment of a new unit within the framework of the Israeli "Border Guard", whose primary mission will be to demolish homes and monitor Palestinian construction in Area C, which amounts to about 63% of the total territory of the West Bank. The new unit will join the "Civil Administration" to be an auxiliary force to the administration that has come under Smotrich's authority, based on coalition agreements reached upon the formation of the Israeli government. This came in the framework of deliberations that took place in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. The Foundation published that the

settlement administration will invest in building agricultural areas, with the aim of controlling the largest possible amount of open land in the West Bank. It will also work to legalize about 50 farms within the framework of pastoral settlement, which also aims to control the open areas with as little human resources as possible. The Foundation also indicated that the minister announced his intention to begin monitoring Palestinian construction in Areas A and B, which was not done by the occupation forces within the framework of the Oslo Accords, which granted the Palestinian Authority administrative control over the two areas.

- The head of the "Shomron" settlement council, Yossi Dagan, submitted to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a plan entitled "[One Million for Shomron \(Nablus\)](#)", which is a settlement plan that aims to increase the number of settlers in the Nablus area from about 170,000 settlers at the present time, to one million settlers by the year 2050. It includes the construction of new settlements, industrial zones, and hospitals, in addition to an airport and a train station. The plan was described as operational, especially since the council sought the help of experts and professionals, with the aim of achieving this goal in 27 years. According to what was published in the media, the plan aspires to build settlements accommodating for a population of tens of thousands, in addition to expanding the current settlements to become large cities. Among these settlements is the "Homeshe" settlement, which was legalized after amending the law on "disengagement" from Gaza in order to kick off settlement in the northern West Bank. There is currently there just a religious school and some settlement units, which indicates the intentions of the settler leaders to expand settlement very significantly in the area.
- In this context, it must be noted that several settlements will be built, according to the plan, in the north of the West Bank precisely, and one of them will be the "Tanakh" settlement, in which the population will reach 30,000, in addition to a plan for an additional city in the south-west of the West Bank, which will be close to the Ariel settlement established on the lands of Salfit Governorate. It is supposed to welcome about 100,000 settlers. Among the prominent settlements that the plan also refers to is the "Avitar" settlement established on the lands of the town of Jabal Sabih, in the northern West Bank. It is a settlement that was previously evacuated by the Israeli army itself. [The settlers returned](#) to it in April of this year and began building and residing there again.
- [The Israeli Ministry of Justice has initially approved](#) a government project that allows for the actual legislation of settlement outposts that began as "neighborhoods" of large, recognized settlements. Thus, these settlements become independent in terms of budgets and interaction with government institutions, which would allow them to grow and expand further. If the draft government decision is pushed through, the Israeli government would have established the legal framework for one of the most important settlement patterns in the West Bank, as the outpost begins as a neighborhood that derives electricity and water from the neighboring settlement and expands until it becomes a de facto independent settlement in itself. In this way, the Israeli government also avoids official announcements regarding settlement legislation, which has repercussions in the international arena in particular. According to "Haaretz", for example, the settlements "Novi Firat" and "Alon" will be considered independent settlements with a budget reaching hundreds of thousands of shekels, after they were counted as neighborhoods within the "Kfar Adumim" settlement. The issue does not stop only at budgets, but extends to public service institutions, such as schools and clinics, which attracts more and more settlers and expands the settlement outpost.
- On August 17, occupation bulldozers bulldozed Palestinian lands in the southeastern region of the town of Qasra, south of Nablus, with the aim of extending high-voltage electricity lines to two settlement outposts, "Esh Kodesh" and "Ahiya," where settlers erected temporary buildings ("caravans") ahead of

building a new settlement. After the army bulldozed the lands, settlers connected, on August 28, the temporary homes to [an electricity grid](#) on the lands of the town of Qasra. Connecting to electricity and water constitutes one of the most important stages of transforming these settlement outposts into permanent ones, becoming viable for settler families, after initially being limited to "Hilltop Youth" who carry out the initial appropriation, and then the State and army provide them with the necessities for survival and expansion.

Politicians and government decisions

- o [National Security Minister](#) Itamar Ben Gvir said, "My right and the right of my wife and children to roam the streets of Judea and Samaria is more important than the right of Arabs to circulate." He later clarified, saying, "My right to life precedes their right to movement." "I apologize, but this is the reality", he added. Although Ben Gvir's statements represent the height of racism and constitute an acknowledgment by an Israeli minister of the apartheid regime in place in the West Bank, this policy has always been followed by Israeli security in the West Bank, where the occupation forces, after almost every operation, impose a siege on Palestinian towns, close roads and set up checkpoints at the entrances to towns, in addition to main roads, as part of the policy of collective punishment of the Palestinians.
- o [A group of ministers from the Likud Party](#) - the Prime Minister's party and the largest party in the coalition - supported the ["One Million for Shomron \(Nablus\)"](#) plan - presented by the head of the Shomron-Nablus Settlements Council, Yossi Dagan, which aims to increase the number of settlers in the Nablus area to one million settlers by 2050. Among the ministers who supported the plan was Israeli Economy Minister Nir Barkat, who said, "The State's duty is to invest, build, and develop Shomron in order to settle the land for future generations, and I will follow the work closely." As for Tourism Minister Yisrael Katz, he said, "The plan is not only good news for the residents of Shomron, but for the entire State of Israel. Shomron has always been and will remain an integral part of the State of Israel, and I am convinced that the real solutions to the national challenges facing us are there."
- o National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir instructed the Israeli Prison Service to [restrict visits by families of prisoners from the West Bank](#) to Israeli prisons to once every two months, instead of a monthly visit as was the practice. This policy went into effect on Sunday, September 3. It applies to approximately 1,600 detainees out of 5,000 political prisoners who are entitled to visits from the West Bank. Reducing visits to Palestinian prisoners comes along another bill that came into effect on September 1, which the minister submitted, excluding Palestinian political prisoners from the law allowing the release of prisoners whose sentence does not exceed three years, due to the overcrowding of prisons and detention centers. According to the newspaper "Haaretz", the minister prevents the release of approximately 1,500 prisoners.
- o The [Ministries of National Security, Jerusalem, Jewish Heritage, and Finance](#) approved a joint plan to allocate a budget of 120 million shekels to strengthen the so-called "security sovereignty" in East Jerusalem. In this context, what is meant by security sovereignty is the strengthening of police forces in the Palestinian neighborhoods inside Jerusalem, in addition to the opening of new police stations, including in the "Jabal Mukaber" neighborhood, located south of the city of Jerusalem. It also include enhancing the technological oversight, by deploying a network of modern cameras in the neighborhoods of East Jerusalem in particular.
- o National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir, along with Housing Minister Yitzhak Goldknopf, personally supervised demolition operations belonging to Palestinians in the Negev, specifically near the "Tel Arad" area. Addressing the Palestinians who hold Israeli citizenship in the Negev, the minister said, ["You must](#)

understand well that we rule here, and that we are the house masters in this country." He said this during a press conference he held, while bulldozers were demolishing, in the background, a house inhabited by the Abu Joudi family, who were present in the house when the demolition vehicles arrived.

Crimes and violations

- The Israeli police expelled a Palestinian mother, Ghazia Qadan (51 years old), to the Gaza Strip, and separated her from her 12 children, who hold Israeli citizenship. The Israeli police claimed that Qadan does not have a permit to remain in Israel, even though she has been living there for more than 30 years, after she married a Palestinian with Israeli citizenship, who later left her and the children. She renewed her residence permit every 6 months. Qadan's story is considered a perpetuation of the law preventing Palestinian family reunion. She has been living for 30 years with permits that are renewed every 6 months, without fixed residency, without citizenship, due to Israeli discrimination laws that consider the marriage of Palestinians on both sides of the Green Line to be a demographic threat. It is important to note that Qadan was expelled without being allowed to speak to her children, and without giving her the opportunity to seek legal advice. She has four minor children.
- On August 8, the occupation navy fired live bullets from its gunboats at fishermen's boats in the Sudaniya Sea, west of Gaza City, forcing the fishermen to leave the area and preventing them from practicing their fishing profession. These practices were repeated periodically against fishermen in the Gaza Sea. On August 12, the occupation navy attacked a small fishing boat off the Sudaniya Sea, northwest of Gaza City, seized the boat, and arrested two fishermen on board. On August 25, the occupation soldiers fired bullets and poisonous gas at Palestinian farmers and shepherds east of Gaza City, with the aim of expelling them from those areas. This is a daily procedure practiced by the occupation soldiers against shepherds and farmers.
- On August 8, the occupation forces stormed the Askar camp, east of Nablus, to blow up the house of the martyr Abdel Fattah Kharousha. The occupation army forced 60 Palestinians, including 20 children, to leave their homes surrounding the house to be bombed; they were detained in the mosque. The house is located on the third floor of a residential building, housing 6 people, and was blown up after a siege that lasted 6 hours.
- On August 16, the occupation stormed Balata camp; a residential apartment owned by the Abdullah Abu Shalal family and a headquarters for the Fatah movement in the camp were blown up. A number of Palestinians were injured by bullets and suffocation. Ambulance crews were obstructed and attacked to prevent them from reaching the wounded. Medical personnel were also shot, and the storming of the camp coincided with the occupation's raid on the eastern region of Nablus to secure the settlers' storming of the Shrine of Joseph.
- On August 19, the occupation army shot a child, Abd Amer al-Zaghal (15 years old), in the head in the central neighborhood of Silwan. The army transferred the injured child to Hadassah Ein Karem Hospital.
- The Israeli army besieged, as of August 20, the town of Aqraba, south of Nablus, for several days. The town witnessed continuous raids and sweeps on homes during its closure, with the exception of the main entrance, where procedures were tightened, and witnessed major traffic congestion. The army conducted field investigations in the town, detained young men, and searched houses. The army was accompanied by a unit of trackers, reinforced by large numbers of soldiers and military vehicles.
- On August 20, the occupation police assaulted a young man, Orwa Sheikh Ali, from the Shuafat refugee camp in Jerusalem. The police mutilated the young man's face with the Star of David, which was imprinted on his face with hard objects. 16 Israeli police officers assaulted Sheikh Ali during his arrest

at his home. In justifying what it did, the Israeli police said that the mark came because of the policeman's shoelace, and the intention was not to print the Star of David on his face, which is considered an admission of assault. The police did not bring any charges against him and released him the following day, which indicates that the attack was arbitrary, and without any significant charge other than the abuse of Palestinians.

- The occupation demanded that the Sab Laban family pay a fine as well as home evacuation fees. The owner of the house, Noura Sab Laban, said that the decision includes paying 17,187 shekels to the occupation police, in exchange for 160 hours of work in the house to secure the evacuation, and paying 17 thousand shekels to a private contracting company that evacuated the house, in addition to 13 thousand shekels as legal expenses related to challenging the settlers' lawsuit to control the house and restrict movement, including a travel ban, and seizure of their property, including vehicles and real estate, in the event that the fine is not paid soon. In July, the occupation had expelled the Sab Laban family from their home located in the Khalidiya Aqaba in the Old City of Jerusalem and handed it over to the settlers to control it, as part of the policy of Old City control and transfer to settlers. In this context, it is important to point out that the building in which the Sab Laban family lived consisted of three floors, two of which were seized by the settlers, and the Sab Laban family was the last in the building. Three Palestinian families lived there before the settlers took over her house, and the building became their property.
- On August 23, the occupation forces stationed behind the border fence east of Khan Yunis fired bullets and tear gas bombs off the Sharab Al-Asal area in the town of Al-Fukhari, forcing them to leave their lands. The occupation forces deliberately target farmers on a daily basis with bullets and poisonous gas, preventing them from accessing their border agricultural lands in the north and east of the Gaza Strip.
- On August 31, the occupation authorities arrested two Jerusalemites (a vehicle driver and a school employee), who were on their way to a private school that teaches the Palestinian curriculum in the Old City and confiscated Palestinian curriculum textbooks. In this context, this attack is considered part of a comprehensive assault carried out by the Israeli authorities against the Palestinian identity in Jerusalem, by targeting schools and the educational curriculum, which it considers "terrorism," according to Israel's understanding of terrorism. It is important to note that the previous July report referred to a legal attack that criminalizes the Palestinian curriculum in Jerusalem, allowing the dismissal of teaching staff and the confiscation of budgets from Palestinian schools in East Jerusalem.

Settler Attacks

- On August 4, settlers attacked the village of Burqa, east of Ramallah. Qusay Jamal Maatan (19 years old) was martyred after being hit by bullets from the settlers who attacked the village. They burned two cars and brought their livestock during the attack on the village, which is an indication of their intention to settle there.
- On August 6, a settler ran over a child, Gabriel Muhammad Suraka (4 years old), with his vehicle, while the child was in front of the house located in the village of Kisan, east of Bethlehem.
- On August 14, settlers carried out a series of terrorist acts in Nablus and Hebron. They attacked the entrance to Al-Sawiya village, south of Nablus, and set up a mobile room (caravans) in the eastern area of Burin village in Nablus. They also destroyed water lines in Khirbet Tana, affiliated with Beit Furik in Nablus. In Hebron, the settlers held a provocative march. They marched through Al-Shuhada Street and

Al-Sahla neighborhood, all the way to the Ibrahim Mosque. They were armed and chanting slogans against the Arabs.

- On August 18, settlers, protected by the Israeli army, stole a metal fence placed to protect Palestinian lands in the village of Farkha, west of Salfit. The metal fence was put to protect the lands from successive settler attacks on the village located in Salfit Governorate, where there are approximately 24 settlement blocs surrounding Palestinian towns. There is still a plan to seize 259 dunums of the governorate's lands for the benefit of establishing a new settlement bloc. Therefore, the confiscation of the fence is nothing but a statement from the occupation army to the settlers, with the aim of continuing the process of terrorizing and intimidating the population, by confiscating more lands.
- On August 19, settlers attacked and assaulted the crews of the Qaffin municipality, north of Tulkarm, under the protection of the occupation army, they prevented the municipal crews from rehabilitating the road linking the municipalities of Qaffin and Zabada and the areas of Jenin and agricultural lands. It is important to point out that this is not the first attack on municipal work crews that have been trying for some time to link the town's agricultural lands to residential areas, with the aim of creating geographical continuity between the residents and their lands targeted by the occupation, after it amended the "disengagement" law, allowing the return and settlement in the northern West Bank area, specifically Jenin, which is today the most targeted area in the West Bank. On the same day, settlers assaulted the Jerusalemite child Musa Abu Khalaf, near the Hebron Gate in the city of Jerusalem, which caused him fractures in his hand.
- On August 22, a settler opened fire on Palestinian homes in the village of Susiya in Masafer Yatta, south of Hebron. Settlers also gathered at the "Hagai" settlement roundabout, east of Hebron, and chanted racist slogans against the Arabs.
- On August 25, settlers attacked Munjid Ibrahim (51 years old), from the town of Kafr Rai in Jenin. He works as a truck driver. He was attacked near the town of Huwwara and was injured and bruised. Settlers also attacked citizens and their vehicles at the Qalqas roundabout, south of Hebron. They also stormed Qaryut spring, south of Nablus, under the protection of the occupation army.
- On August 29, the military security chief of the Kfar Adumim settlement detained a Palestinian child, a resident of Khan al-Ahmar, after threatening him with a weapon, shouting at him, intimidating him by screaming, and pointing a weapon at him. The settlement's security officer, Avichai Shushan, was recruited into the Israeli "Border Guard" unit, despite the many complaints against him, as he belonged to "Hilltop Youth". He attacked the Bedouin communities in the area several times, in addition to terrorizing and expelling the livestock belonging to the Bedouin communities, which is an action practiced by settlers with the aim of restricting these communities in Area C, and subsequently displacing them. After the Israeli police arrived, the child was released and two women who were there to free the child were arrested.
- Settlers attack on a daily basis, and sometimes several times during the same day, the Bedouin community of "Wadi Al-Sik", east of Ramallah Governorate. According to an investigation conducted by the newspaper "Haaretz", the settlers herd their livestock between the homes of residents in the small village and break sometimes into homes and intimidate residents and their families, in addition to attacking them with stones and imposing a curfew on the town residents. The settlers' herds of livestock eat the village's crops. Residents also began buying fodder for their livestock, after the settlers prevented them from grazing their livestock on their lands. According to the "Al-Baidar Organization for Defending Bedouin Rights", settlers attacked on August 13 the Bedouin community school, wreaked havoc on its

premises, and destroyed its windows and property. On the same day, settlers stormed the [Ras al-Tin Bedouin community school](#), located in the villages of Kafr Malik, Khirbet Abu Falah, and al-Mughayir, east of Ramallah, and destroyed the furniture of the school. This school is among the Altahaddi schools built by the Palestinians in Area C in the West Bank. On August 24, settlers attacked Palestinian shepherds in Khirbet Makhul in the northern Al-Aghwar area, under the protection of the occupation army, and prevented the Palestinian shepherds from grazing in those areas.

Martyrs and Wounded

During the month of August, 21 Palestinians were martyred, including 3 children under the age of 17. The average age of the martyrs is 22 years. The highest number of martyrs was in Jenin Governorate (7 martyrs), followed by Jerusalem, Ramallah, and Nablus (3 martyrs in each governorate), then Tulkarm and Jericho (two martyrs in each governorate), and one martyr in Hebron Governorate. More than 290 Palestinians were injured by live and metal bullets or died by suffocation.

- [On August 1, the occupation soldiers fired bullets at a child, Muhammad Al-Zaarir, 15 years old](#), from the town of As-Samu', south of Hebron. He is a school student who completed the ninth grade with distinction at Al-Bukhari Elementary Boys' School. When he was hit by bullets, the occupation army prevented medical teams and ambulances from reaching him and providing him first aid.
- On August 4, [live bullets were fired from zero range at a young man, Mahmoud Abu Saan](#) (18 years old), during the storming of Nour Shams camp in Tulkarm, which led to his martyrdom.
- On August 6, [the occupation forces assassinated three young men, Louay Abu Naasa, Nayef Abu Sweis, and Baraa Fayez](#), who were riding in their vehicle. Their assassination took place at the Arraba town junction, south of Jenin.
- On August 7, [a young man, Ramzi Hamed from the town of Silwad, was martyred after he was hit by settler bullets near the Ofra settlement](#), on August 1, 2023. Hamed had suffered a severe pulmonary clot after being hit by live bullets in the chest and abdomen.
- On August 22, [Othman Abu Kharj, 17 years old](#), from the town of Zababdeh, south of Jenin, was martyred during the occupation forces' storming of the town.
- On August 23, [fisherman Muhammad Bakr was injured by occupation navy gunfire in the sea north of Gaza](#). This comes as part of daily measures practiced by the occupation against Gaza fishermen.
- On August 30, the occupation police [shot the child Khaled Samer Al-Zaanin](#) (14 years old) near Damascus Gate. He was left to bleed until he died.

Arrests, Detention Cases and Deportation

During the month of August, the occupation forces arrested 485 prisoners from different areas in Palestine. Three Palestinians were removed from their places of residence and from Al-Aqsa Mosque.

- About [70 administrative detainees](#) in the occupation prisons continue to boycott the occupation military courts, in the context of their opposition to the administrative detention offense. The number of administrative detainees in the occupation prisons exceeds 1,200 detainees, which is the highest percentage since the Al-Aqsa Intifada. Among the detainees are 21 children and 3 women.
- [Four detainees, including 3 administrative prisoners, continue their hunger strike in the Israeli occupation prisons](#), as a protest against their detention. The Prisoners' Club reported that two detainees,

Kayed Al-Fasfus from Dura/Hebron and Sultan Khalouf from Burqin, southwest of Jenin, have continued their hunger strike for 28 days. Abdul Rahman Baraqa, from Aqabat Jabr camp, south of Jericho, has been on hunger strike for 21 days, rejecting their administrative detention. Detainee Maher Al-Akhras has also continued his strike for eight days, refusing his detention. The occupation court extended his detention last Thursday for seven days for investigation.

- On August 28, [the occupation navy arrested five fishermen in the sea north of Gaza](#) and seized their boats, after opening machine gun fire in their direction. It also seized two fishing rods that belonged to the fishermen.
- The Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs Authority reported on August 24 that the [detainee Yazan Hanaysha](#) (23 years old) from the town of Qabatiya, south of Jenin, is suffering from difficult health conditions as a result of multiple fractures in his body, which he had incurred at the moment of his arrest. The prison administration is delaying transferring Hanaysha to the hospital to receive treatment.
- The Palestinian Prisoners' Club stated that [Israeli prisons are overcrowded](#), which has exacerbated the suffering of prisoners. In some detention centers, such as Etzion, the number of detainees reach 50 Palestinians, and the number of prisoners in each cell has increased to 3 prisoners, knowing that its space is very narrow. Despite this state of overcrowding, National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir led a campaign to amend a law that prevents the release of prisoners whose sentence does not exceed 4 years before the end of their sentence, with the aim of reducing overcrowding inside prisons.
- [Palestinian prisoners are subjected to deliberate medical neglect](#). It is reported that prisoner Shadi Amouri (43 years old) from Jenin suffers from a number of health problems in the stomach and eyes, as well as back and head pains. Prisoner Muhammad Bassem Khamis, from Hebron, suffers from heart problems and constant muscle spasms.
- On August 16, [the occupation navy arrested two fishermen in the sea of Gaza City](#) and seized their boat. "The occupation navy deliberately disturbs the lives of fishermen on a daily basis in the Gaza sea, by shooting them, arresting them, sabotaging their fishing nets, seizing their boats, and preventing them from fishing."
- On August 18, [the Israeli occupation removed three Palestinians from Al-Aqsa Mosque](#). They were: journalist Ahmed Al-Safadi, Ziad Al-Hamouri, director of the Jerusalem Center for Social and Economic Studies, and Fayez Aslan. The three were arrested at King Faisal Gate, beaten, and kept away from the mosque for a month, with bail amounting to 5,000 shekels.

Sources

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- PLO Negotiations Affairs Department.
- The Commission for the Affairs of Palestinian Detainees and Ex-Prisoners.
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- The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the Palestinian Territories.
- "Peace Now" Foundation.
- Palestinian Ministry of Health.