



**Right-Wing Jewish Extremism: The Double-Edged Suffering of the Landowners and the Occupation**



**ECHRD**

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**The Egyptian Coalition for Human Rights and Development.**

**The coalition consists of human rights organizations and civil associations in 14 governorates, and it consists of more than 550 associations and organizations whose activities vary between charitable, developmental and human rights.**

**A non-profit entity. Governed by Law No. 149 of 2019 of NGOs and Private Foundations.**

**Main coordinator: The Forum for Development and Human Rights (FDHRD).**



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## Introduction

Israel has built and continues to build settlements that are illegal under international law and present obstacles to the peace process in these territories. More than 600,000 Jewish settlers now live in the occupied territories, in light of the continuous polarization of Jews and settlement expansion and they threaten to displace some Palestinian families from their Palestinian-owned homes, as well as carry out acts of sabotage inside Israel, and this barbarism led by settlers is called "terrorism." The Jew". This term is not from our invention, but from the use of the occupation inside as a result of the repeated violence by the settlers and their parties and associations.

The suffering of the Palestinian people goes back to 1948; The defining year in the future of the Palestinian cause "the Nakba", where the Palestinians were forced to leave their homes due to the outbreak of war and the defeat of the Arabs. The fighting ended with a truce that eventually led to the control of the Jewish militias over most of the area and the city of Jerusalem was divided between the militias on the western side and the Jordanian forces on the eastern side. Israel occupied East Jerusalem and the West Bank as well as most of the Syrian Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip and the Egyptian Sinai Peninsula in the 1967 war.

Palestinian refugees and their descendants remained in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, and Israel did not allow them or their descendants to return to their homes. Where in Zionist visions such a return will lead to sweeping the country and threatening its existence as a Jewish state. The West Bank is still under occupation and the Gaza Strip is besieged and Israel says that all of Jerusalem is its capital, while East Jerusalem is the capital of the future Palestinian state in accordance with UN resolutions.

We are currently witnessing an escalation of talk about settler violence, due to the publication of several human rights organizations reports condemning these violations, after vigorous follow-up to them at the level of prosecution documentation and publication and part of them moved to the Knesset, which witnessed several discussions related to this issue.



In fact, Palestinians are affected by Jewish violence, in a racist way, from terrorist attacks by settlers, which are protected by Israeli army and police forces.

The Jewish violence, in a racist way, as a result of terrorist attacks by settlers, is protected by the forces of the Israeli army and police. On the other hand, Israeli society classifies this extremism as "collective terrorism" by religious, Haredi or fundamentalists, and the Israeli media does not leave any incident carried out by them unless it condemns and highlights it. But when an "extremist" settler commits the same incident in the Palestinian territories, the media supports him and stands by him, in light of the apartheid against the Palestinians.

This report discusses the dimensions of this Jewish terrorism, its historical development, and its widespread forms against the Palestinians, and inside Israel.

## **Development of Jewish Terrorism**

Jewish terrorism in Palestine is as old, and in fact older, than the modern state of Israel itself. The use of political violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians and their property in the West Bank occupied in 1967 has also existed for decades.

There are similarities between Jewish religious terrorists and Western jihad networks, including: alienation and isolation from majority values, and the dominant culture, which they view as an existential threat to their society. And their ideology is not only religious, because it also tries to achieve political, regional and national goals, as they tried to disrupt the Camp David Accords or the murder of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin by Yigal Amir. However, newer Jewish groups tend to emphasize religious motives for their actions at the expense of the secular. In the case of Jewish terrorism in Israel, most of the networks consist of religious Zionists and ultra-Orthodox Jews who live in isolated and homogeneous communities, and Jewish terrorists engage in attacks that lead to collective casualties, such as the incident of Baruch Goldstein, the perpetrator of the Ibrahimi Mosque massacre in 1994, while they performed the dawn prayer on Friday in the middle of During the month of Ramadan, 29



worshippers were killed and 150 others wounded, before other worshippers attacked and killed him.

Its roots go back to the Jewish political and religious movement called “intolerance” of the first century, and it was one of the first examples of the Jews’ use of terrorism, as they sought to incite the people of Judea to rebel against the Roman Empire and expel it from Israel by force of arms. Violent disguise tactics were used against the Romans under their cloaks, and they hid small daggers at popular gatherings, particularly during pilgrimages to the Temple Mount. They stabbed their enemies (the Romans or Roman sympathizers, and Herodians), bragging after the deed to merge into the crowd to escape detection. In one account, given in the Talmud, the Sicarii destroyed the city's food supply so that the people would have to fight against the Roman siege rather than negotiate peace, raided Jewish dwellings and killed fellow Jews they considered apostates and collaborators.

Jewish terrorism existed in Israel during the 1950s, and was directed at internal Israeli Jewish targets, not against the Israeli Arab population, and in the 1980s the Jewish Underground was exposed. Then the phenomenon of “price tag” attacks began in 2008, hate crimes committed by extremist settlers, which usually involve the destruction of property or graffiti, particularly targeting properties associated with Arabs, Christians, secular Israelis, and Israeli soldiers. The phrase “pay the price” written at the sites of the attack states that the attack was a “price” for the settlements that the government was forced to abandon and take revenge for Palestinian attacks on settlers, or when the IDF is sanctioned by the terrorists, who then resort to violence against Palestinians in protest. This can be done by throwing stones at Palestinian citizens, attacking them in their homes, or hitting them with live bullets.

Jewish terrorism was directed not only against the Palestinians but also against the Israeli forces, as the Israel Security Agency complained that the Israeli government is too lenient in dealing with the religious extremism of Jewish extremists who want to establish a Jewish land on the basis of Jewish law. Ha'aretz News Agency also wrote an article stating that the Shin Bet is complaining about the very leniency of the courts, especially in the implementation of those who violate the deterrent judicial orders (injunctions) by deporting them from the West Bank or restricting their movement.



The Shin Bet also supported the position of Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon, who called for limited use of administrative detention against Jewish terrorists calling for the overthrow of the Israeli government and the creation of a new Israeli "kingdom" operating according to halakh (Jewish law). A week after the July 2015 attacks, the administrative detention of Jews suspected of terrorism was approved.

## **Jewish Settlement Violence**

There is a steady increase in violence and terror perpetrated by Jewish settlers against Palestinians. Israeli settler violence refers to violence perpetrated by Jewish Israeli settlers and their supporters against Palestinians and Israeli security forces in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, where they are concentrated and the settlements are dense.

In two reports of the European Union Heads of Mission in 2012, it was stated that Israeli security operations in the occupied territories had failed to protect the Palestinian population; It accused Israel of launching its military operations to reduce the impact of the ongoing campaign of settler violence on the Palestinians. It was noted that "more than 90% of the observed complaints about settler violence that Palestinians have filed with the Israeli police in recent years have been closed without charge," adding that "discriminatory protections and privileges for settlers compound these violations and create an environment in which settlers can act with Clear impunity."

The United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict confirmed rioting and violence in the West Bank in the run-up to the Israeli military operations in Gaza 2014. The report stated that the Israeli authorities took little, if any, action to investigate the violence against Palestinians, including killings by settlers and members of the security forces, and to prosecute and punish the perpetrators, resulting in a state of impunity. The mission concludes that Israel has failed to fulfill its obligations to protect Palestinians from individual violence under international human rights and humanitarian law. The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and a number of United Nations resolutions all



affirmed that Israel's practice of building settlements constitutes a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

## **2021 is the Year of Increased Settlement Violence**

Palestinian international and local reports spoke of increased rates of violence directed against Palestinian landowners by representatives of Jewish settlement, where the report of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) provided data on an increase in settlement violence rates from 2020 to 2021, and 410 attacks were recorded from Settlers accepted against Palestinians (302 against property and 108 against individuals), with an increase from the year 2020, in which 385 attacks were recorded, and from 2019 in which 335 attacks were recorded.

As for the Israeli “Yesh Din” organization, which consists of human rights volunteers, it issued a report in which it recorded an increase in attacks against Palestinians in recent years, reaching 540 attacks on West Bank residents, and stated that the rate of attacks between 2020 and 2021 increased by an average 2.5 incidents per day. Among these, Israeli Minister of Defense Benny Gantz discussed in November 2021 the sharp rise in the number of incidents between settlers and Palestinians in the West Bank, many of them resulting from attacks by residents of illegal outposts on Palestinians from nearby villages.

In 2021, there was another wave of settler violence that erupted after a 16-year-old settler died in a car chase with Israeli police after being stoned by Palestinians. This resulted in 44 extreme incidents within a few weeks, injuring many Palestinians. In the later parts of 2021, there was a marked increase in settler violence towards Palestinians in the West Bank, which was condemned by the United Nations Security Council.

Notably, the Palestinian police are prohibited from responding to violence by Israeli settlers, a fact that undermines their credibility among Palestinians. The rates of settler violence increase in particular during the olive picking season, when 42 attacks were recorded during 2021, 13 of which were physical attacks, 17 theft of crops, 12 burning and breaking of olive trees, and 4 cases of denial of entry to the lands. About 8000 olive trees were targeted, while settlers were





present in areas that needed permits in order to access them to pick olives, and terrorists directed soldiers to harass Palestinian farmers.

An incident occurred in a small village in the West Bank, the village of Al-Maqfrah, when a group of Israelis attacked a Palestinian shepherd near the village and stabbed a number of his sheep. From there, the scene turned chaotic, as the Israelis smashed solar panels and overturned a car inside the small village. Dozens of Jewish terrorists took part in this mob, which Palestinians in the area described as the most extreme incident they had witnessed in years. Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid condemned the attack, calling it "terrorism".

Despite the large presence of the Israeli army in the West Bank, this did not prevent the recurrence of settler attacks, as there were many and recurring incidents, and the rate increased by the government's leniency in punishing the convicts, as well as the Palestinians' fear of reporting their exposure to violence because this might expose them to exclusion from their jobs. According to a report from The Times of Israel, it is rumored that Palestinians who have reported being attacked will no longer be allowed to work in Israel. The Shin Bet (Israel's security agency) denies this claim, but the Palestinians say the fear of losing valuable permits is having a chilling effect anyway. The violence is often perpetrated by the so-called "hill youth", ultra-nationalist Jews who reside in unauthorized settlements.

There was an attack on a Palestinian citizen from the town of Hawara, where he was attacked, along with five of his friends. He says that the army continued to watch them being attacked and did not move. Upon reporting, he did not want to reveal his identity for fear of reprisal. He stated in an interview with the Times of Israel: "Whatever you do, don't say my full name, or else they will take my pass." Other Palestinians, such as farmer Imad Zaban in the village of "Burin", say they have submitted complaints to the Ramallah-based Palestinian Authority, which is tasked with referring claims to the Israeli authorities. He also spoke of repeatedly setting fire to olive fields but when they followed up with the Israeli police, the officers said the complaints never reached them.



In fact, unlike Palestinians, Israeli civilians living in the Palestinian territories are not subject to military or domestic law, but are prosecuted under Israeli civil penal law. This originated in the Emergency Regulations Law enacted in 1967, and has since been extended and gives extraterritorial rights to Israelis in the occupied territories. The human rights organization B'Tselem said: "The difference in the legal status of Israelis and Palestinians in the occupied territories has led to double standards in which Israelis are granted more legal rights and are punished lighter than Palestinians subject to military and domestic law. B'Tselem noted that the system violates principles of equality before the law.

### **Administrative Detention and Settlement Violence**

Following an attack by settlers on an Israeli army base on December 13, 2011, the Israeli government authorized administrative detention and court-martial for settlers who had engaged in violence, similar to the treatment received by Palestinian activists who engage in similar behaviour. The IDF was given the power to arrest terrorist settlers, and plans were announced to increase security in the West Bank and restrict access to known troublemakers. Former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu described the situation as "a handful of extremists within a group of generally law-abiding settlers." On January 8, 2012, the Jerusalem District Court issued an indictment against five Israelis from the West Bank who allegedly planned and participated in the attack on the army base.

Indeed, Jewish terrorists are arrested, but given the cases of administrative detention of Palestinians, they are negligible. Most of these administrative detention cases are against the backdrop of settler violence and settlers' barbarism. Administrative detention is detention without charge or trial. It depends on a secret file and secret evidence that the detainee or his lawyer cannot view. According to Israeli military orders, an administrative detention order can be renewed unlimited times, where an administrative detention order is issued for a maximum renewable period of six months.

Looking at the cases of administrative detention against Palestinians and Israeli settlers, we find that the rate of arrests against the indigenous population is greater and wider, and most of them are arbitrary, as the number of Palestinians arrested by the Israeli occupation army during the year 2021 reached about eight thousand, including more than 1,300 minors and 184 women. While the administrative detention of Palestinians lasts for an indefinite period and is always renewed, when an administrative detention order is executed against a settler, he is released after only a few months, such as the Jewish extremist who was executed for the first time in 2015 for his involvement in an attack on a house A Palestinian man in the northern occupied West Bank, which led to the burning of a baby.

Despite the Israeli government's assertion that it takes the necessary measures and implements administrative detention against the extremist settlers who deserve it, we find that it tolerates the majority of repeated incidents against the Palestinian people because of the settlers' terrorism and violence against the indigenous population. By carrying out administrative detention against Palestinians, Israel violates many human rights and the rules of the four Geneva Conventions. Administrative detention - unconditional detention - is one of the tools of the Israeli settlement to pressure the indigenous population to leave their homes.

## **Conclusion**

Jewish terrorism is one of the manifestations of the extremism practiced by the Jewish settlers in the occupied territories, and it is exacerbated by the deliberate silence of the Israeli authorities, which finance it in the annual financial budget. Although the population in Israel suffers from this terrorism, they encourage it to escalate its harassment of the Palestinians, without realizing that it has a significant impact on general stability due to its brutality and unrestrainedness. We call on the Israeli authorities to stop the settlement process in the West Bank, and we demand an end to the forced displacement of Jewish terrorists, as well as the demolition of homes in East Jerusalem. We also call on the international humanitarian community to recognize this terrorism practiced by Israel by forcing settlements and settlers on Palestinian property, and to investigate all crimes that caused losses to the Palestinian people.