



MA'AN Development Center

2017

D I A R Y







*Personal Data*

Name  
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Address  
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Office Tel. No.  
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Home Tel. No.  
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Mobile No.  
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Blood Type  
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# 2017 YEAR PLANNING CALENDER

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# 2017 YEAR PLANNING CALENDER

	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	
7	JULY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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8	AUGUST				1	2	3	4
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9	SEPTEMBER							1
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10	OCTOBER	30						
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11	NOVEMBER	28	29	30	31			
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12	DECEMBER	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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30	31							



Photo by Ibrahim Faraj





# *Palestine in Figures*

## Area

- Land area of historic Palestine: 27,009 km<sup>2</sup>
- oPt land size: 6,209 km<sup>2</sup>
- West Bank: 5,844 km<sup>2</sup>
- Gaza Strip: 365 km<sup>2</sup>
- Water area: 438 km<sup>2</sup>
- Green line: 323 km
- Separation & Annexation Wall length completed to date: 439.7 km (62% completed, 10% under construction and 28% planned). 85% of the actual and planned Separation & Annexation Wall falls within Palestinian territory.
- Area of West Bank illegally rendered inaccessible due to the Separation & Annexation (including East Jerusalem): 733 km<sup>2</sup> (11.9% of the WB)



## Population and Demography ( 2015 ):

### **Palestinians in the world: 12.37 million**

- oPt: 4,81 million (38.4%)
  - West Bank (includes East Jerusalem): 2.93 million (61%)
  - Gaza Strip: 2million (39%)
- Israel: 1.47 million (11.9%)
- Arab countries: 5.46 million (44.2%)
- Foreign countries: 685,000 (5.5%)

### **Palestinians in oPt less than 15 years old : 39.2%**

- West Bank: 36.9%
- Gaza Strip: 42.8%

### **Palestinians in oPt between 15-29 years old : 30%**

- West Bank: (30.1%)
- Gaza Strip: (29.8%)

### **Palestinians in oPt between older than 65 years old : 2.9%**

- West Bank: 3.2%
- Gaza Strip: 2.4%

### **Palestinians with disabilities in oPt (2011): 113,000 (2.7%) – (the same update since 2011)**

- West Bank: 75,000 (2.9%)
- Gaza Strip: 38,000 (2.4%)

### **Palestinian Refugees within oPt: 2,,296,000 (41.6%)**

- West Bank: 9 52,000 ( 26.3%)
- Gaza Strip: 1,344,000 – (67.7%)

## **Fertility rate 2014:**

- oPt: 4.1 per woman
- West Bank: 3.7
- Gaza Strip: 4.5

## Household size 2015

- oPt: 5.2
- West Bank: 4.9
- Gaza Strip: 5.7

## Population average growth 2016

- oPt: 2.8%
- West Bank: 2.5 %
- Gaza Strip: 3.3%

## Education [ 2016 ] :

- Average illiteracy rate for persons 15 years and above ( 2013): 3.3
- Number of schools: 2914 ( WB 2194/ 720 GS)
- Number of students: 1,053,513 elementary / 139,295 Secondary
- Number of school teachers 55,160

## Health 2015 :

- Number of functioning hospitals: 80 (32 of these were damaged during the July/August 2014 offensive against Gaza. 7 remain closed). 80 (50 in WB and 30 in Gaza)
- Physicians: 7,510 ( 3,701 WB/ 3,809 GS)
- Nurses: 13,188 ( 6,033 WB / 7,155 GS)
- Beds per 1000 of Population (2014): 1 6006 Beds/ 780 person per bed)

## Labour: [ 2015 ]

### Labour force participation:

- oPt: 45.8 ( 19.4 females/ 71.6 males)
- West Bank: 45.5%
- Gaza Strip: 46.4
- Youth participation in labor force: 41.3% ( 16.1% females/ 65.4% males)

### Unemployment:

- oPt: 27% ( 42.8% females/ 22.3% males) West Bank: 18%



Photo by Ibrahim Faraj

- Gaza Strip: 44%
- Unemployment in youth 32.3% ( 22.5% WB / 50.6 GS)
- Unemployment in youth females: 56.2%
- Unemployment in youth males: 26.7

#### **Average daily wage 2015**

- oPt: 79.95 NIS
- West Bank: 98.3 NIS
- Gaza Strip: 61.6 NIS

#### **Places of work 2015:**

- oPt: 859,400
- Israel: 114,200

#### **Palestinians working in Israel:**

- With a permit: 60,400
- Without a permit: 40,600
- With Israeli ID card/ Foreign passport: 13,200
- Daily wage: - 221,9 NIS

#### **Economics 2016 :**

- GDP: US\$ 12,715.6 million dollars
- GDP per capita: 1,654.6\$
- Total Exports: 676.3 Million Dollars
- Total Imports: 3,723.4 million Dollars

#### **Environment & Agriculture:**

- Land holdings 2010/2011: 105,238
- Cultivated area 2010/2011 (km2): 1,834
- Houses connected to waste water networks in oPt: 53.9%
- Houses that use cesspits for wastewater disposal: 31.8%
- % of educational establishments connected to the water public networks: 92%
- Houses connected to the water public network: 93.3%

### Distances from Jerusalem

Place	Distance	Direction
Akka	181 km	NW
Bethlehem	10 km	S
Gaza City	104 km	SW
Haifa	157 km	NW
Khalil (Hebron)	36 km	S
Jenin	106 km	N
Jericho	35 km	E
Nablus	63 km	N
Nazareth	135 km	N
Rafah	142 km	SW
Ramallah	16 km	N
Safad	234 km	N
Tiberias	198 km	N
Tulkarem	85 km	NW

### Conversions

Length		
1 centimeter (cm)	= 10 millimeters (mm)	= .03937 inches (in)
1 decimeter (dm)	= 10 cm	= 3.937 in
1 meter (m)	= 10 dm = 100 cm	= 1.0936 yards (yd)
1 kilometer (km)	= 1000m	= .6214 miles (M)
1 inch (in)		= 2.54 cm
1 foot (ft)	= 12 in	= 30.48 cm
1 yd	= 3 ft = 36 in	= 0.9144 m
1 mile	= 1760 yd	= 1.6093 km

Area		
1 sq cm	= 100 sq mm	= 0.155 sq in
1 sq meter	= 10,000 sq cm	= 1.196 sq yd
1 hectare (ha)	= 10,000 sq m	= 0.2471 acres
1 sq km	= 100 hectares (ha)	= .03861 sq M



1 sq in		= 6.4516 sq cm
1 sq yd	= 9 square ft	= 0.8361 sq m
1 sq M	= 640 acres	= 2.59 sq km
1 acre	= 4.0468 dunams	

### Capacity and volume

1 cu cm (cc)		= 0.0610 cu in
1 cu m	= 1000 cu dm	= 1.3080 cu yd
1 liter (l)	= 1 cu dm = 1000cc	= .2200 gallons (gal)
1 hectoliter (hl)	= 100 l	= 21.997 gal
1 cu in		= 16.387 cc
1 cu ft	=6.23 gal	= 49.86 pints (pt)
1 cu yd	=27 cu ft	= 0.7646 cu m
1 pt		= 20 ounces (oz)
1 gal	= 8 pt	= .16 cu ft

### Weight

1 gram (g)	= 1000 milligrams (mg)	= 0.0353 (oz)
1 kilogram (kg)	= 1000 g	= 2.2046 pounds (lb)
1 ton (t)	= 1000 kg	= 2,204.6226 lb
1 oz	= 437.5 grains	= 28.35 g
1 lb	= 16 oz	= 0.4536 kg

### Temperature

Temperature conversion	Degree C	Degree F
	0	32
	5	41
Degree F = (1.8*degree C) + 32	20	68
Degree C = (degree F - 32) / 1.8	50	122
	100	212







## What is MA'AN?

MA'AN Development Center is an independent Palestinian non-profit organization, established in Jerusalem in January 1989. The main office is located in Ramallah in addition to five branch offices in Jerusalem, Gaza, Khan Younis, Tulkarem and Jenin. MA'ANs work is informed by the necessity of creating independent, self-reliant initiatives that lead to the development of human resources for sustainable development, which incorporate values of self-sufficiency and self-empowerment

## MA'AN's Vision

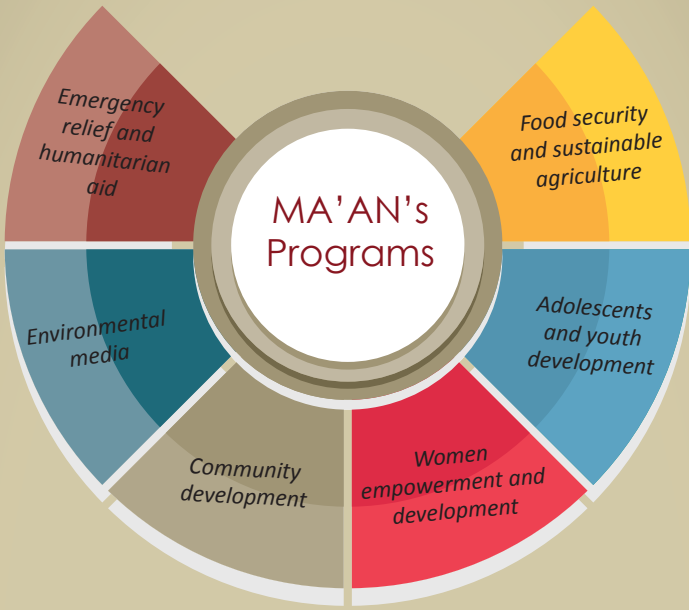
“Palestinians enjoy a decent life, are steadfast on their land, committed to their homeland, self-reliant and leading their communities, based on the respect of plurality, rule of law, social justice and human rights.”

## MA'AN's Mission

*To partner and work hand in hand with Palestinian non-governmental organizations, community based organizations, grassroots groups and popular committees, in the poorest and most marginalized areas, to promote community development that is guided by community participation, human rights based approach, investment of local resources and the empowerment of the poor and marginalized.*

*MA'AN works towards realizing its mission and vision through focusing on the following five strategic objectives:*

1. To improve livelihood outcomes for poor and vulnerable households.
2. Sustainability and protection of natural resources in rural areas to promote food sovereignty.
3. To promote the engagement of adolescents and youth as vehicles driving social cohesion in their local communities.
4. To advocate internationally and nationally for the rights of marginalized Palestinian groups and communities, in accordance with International Human Rights principles.
5. To enhance MA'AN's capacity to achieve its vision and objectives.



## Our Core Values, Principles and Beliefs

Our leadership, management and employees are guided by values that inspire and steer our policies, decisions and operations with all of our beneficiaries, partners and the local community we work with. We are committed to the values of:

- *Transparency*
- *Accountability*
- *Participation*
- *Partnership*
- *Commitment to national and development priorities and rights, and the courage to claim them*
- *Independence, professionalism and impartiality*
- *Justice and equality*
- *Appreciation, respect and human dignity*
- *Responding to emergency needs*
- *Credibility*
- *Volunteerism*
- *Environmental protection*





Photo by Ibrahim Faraj







# INTRODUCTION

2017 marks the tenth anniversary of the Gaza siege, a crippling blockade that was imposed by Israel following Gaza's 2006 democratic elections that ushered in the government Hamas. The siege, along with an international boycott in protest of the new government, has restricted the movement of people and goods. In addition to Israel's disastrous siege, the Israeli military has also waged three destructive wars and invested extensively in upholding the Palestinian internal division over the course of the decade. This has resulted in a complete closure policy in which Gaza has become an isolated political enclave following the creation of two separate political entities between the West bank and Gaza, and is often referred to as the "world's largest open-air prison", where citizens are deprived of basic human rights such as water and electricity, and overstretched health and education systems. This forms part of Israel's de-development policy in which Israel has not only systematically hindered progress, but rather intentionally crippled and undermined a functioning and sovereign state, leaving Gaza bereft of basic human rights.

The Gaza Strip is a small stretch of land located on the Eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea bordering Egypt on the South West. The strip consists of a total of 365 square kilometres and is home to 2 million people. Gaza, along with the West Bank, forms the Palestinian territories, despite their geographical and political separation. Palestinians in East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza are faced with the daily struggle of resisting Israeli occupation and asserting their right to self-determination in the face of Israel's on-going purging of Palestinian culture, identity, history and geography.

Following the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, Gaza become home to a majority refugee population fleeing Zionist violence, persecution and expulsion, and for this reason, the demography is characterized by its rapid population growth and its extremely young population with 72.5% of the population being under the age of 29.<sup>1</sup> The refugee population reached around 200,000 people in 1948 who were confined into what

1) Palestinian Centre Bureau Statistics, Online

# INTRODUCTION

would become known as the Gaza strip. Today, the percentage of refugees in 2015 was reported to be 67.7% of the population. This puts further pressure and strains on the already dismantled economy and on land and space of Gaza. Ultimately, this unprecedented influx transformed Gaza from a minor port and agricultural hinterland into one of the most densely populated places on earth. Following the six-day war in 1967, Israel has upheld the illegal occupation of both Gaza and West Bank through which an encroaching colonial movement sought to seek control over the entire strip, its resources, and its people. Despite Gaza's large population, settlements came to dominate the majority of Gaza, securing access to the vital land, water, and sea resources.







## THE SIEGE: 10 YEARS ON

Although Israel has been enforcing severe movement restrictions on the Gaza Strip since the 1990's<sup>2</sup>, these restrictions intensified in 2007 in the face of the imposition of the siege, which consisted of a land, air and sea blockade that has gradually deteriorated every aspect of life for the citizens of Gaza. Israel maintains that this was a necessary response to the new ruling government.<sup>3</sup> As a result, the 2 million Gazans are locked inside Gaza, subjected to routine military bombardment and collective punishment, and deprived of movement and basic fundamental rights.

The land blockade imposed on the strip entails strict movement of people and goods, generating serious humanitarian and economic implications. Gazans are prevented from travelling to the West Bank and outside of Palestine, confining them to the Gaza strip. Due to Israel's border closures on the Erez crossing, the crossing through Egypt, Rafah, was the primary exit point for many years. However, due to political turmoil that erupted in the Sinai in 2013, the Egyptian authorities have imposed tighter restrictions and Gazans have since become dependent on Israel's Erez crossing. Whilst the number of people entering Israel yearly through the Erez crossing has steadily increased since 2008 until 2015, 2016 saw a sharp decline in the number of people allowed access with a %17.9 drop from 2015 to 2016.<sup>4</sup> There are approximately 900 citizens who still require medical treatment as a result of permanent injuries they sustained during Israel's 51-day offensive in 2014.<sup>5</sup> In aggravating the situation, Israel enforced a new law in June 2016 that restricts the residents of Gaza to only four one-month permits per year.<sup>6</sup>

2) OCHA *Gaza Blockade* <http://www.ochaopt.org/theme/gaza-blockade>

3) B ' Tselem, *Gaza Strip: The Siege on Gaza* 2011 [http://www.btselem.org/gaza\\_strip/siege](http://www.btselem.org/gaza_strip/siege)

4) OCHA *Erez Crossing: Movement of people into and out of Gaza* 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/erez-crossing-movement-of-people-into-and-out-of-gaza/>

5) MA'AN News Agency *On Anniversary, 900 Gazans Remain in Need of Care for Injuries Sustained in 2014 War* July 2016 <https://www.maannews.com/Content.aspx?id=772152>

6) Ibid. <https://www.maannews.com/Content.aspx?id=772152>

Tight restrictions imposed on goods exports and imports into Gaza have greatly contributed to the rapid decline in Gaza's economy. In recent years, 2015 in particular, Israel eased some of its longstanding restrictions on exports and imports in the aftermath of the 2014 hostilities. This included lifting the ban of exporting to the West Bank and Israel, and the exporting of non-agricultural products such as metal, clothes and furniture. In 2015, 12% of the truckloads exiting Gaza contained non-agricultural products.<sup>7</sup> Despite Israel easing its restrictions, the number of truckloads exiting Gaza within recent years still remains strikingly lower than those exiting prior to 2007 or within the first few months of the blockade. Whilst there have been short periods in which Israel has relaxed the border crossings, Israel has, overall, gradually stiffened its restrictions on Gaza's borders over the course of the decade long blockade since 2007. OCHA reports that the number of truckloads leaving Gaza in 2015 was less than 10% of those leaving during the first five months of 2007, prior to the imposition of the blockade.<sup>8</sup> The table below indicates the monthly average of truckloads exiting Gaza in 2007 in comparison to 2016.

Year	Monthly average of truckloads exiting Gaza
2007	481
2016	232
(%) Difference	51%

9

The table below illustrates the lowest percentage of truckloads exiting Gaza is designated for global markets. In this way, Gaza's exports by default strengthen and support the Israeli economy, whilst at the same time, undermine Gazan economy and further isolate Gaza internationally.

7) OCHA *Sharp Increase in Exports and Transfers from Gaza during 2015* May 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/01/sharp-increase-in-exports-and-transfers-from-gaza-during-2015/>

8) Ibid. <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/01/sharp-increase-in-exports-and-transfers-from-gaza-during-2015/>

9) OCHA *Gaza Crossings' Operation Status: Monthly Update* March 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/03/gaza-crossings-operations-status-monthly-update-july-2015/>

Destination of truckload	Number of truckloads and contents in February 2016
West Bank	agricultural products, clothing - 134
Israel	agricultural products, scrap metal - 25
International market	agricultural products - 17

10

Stretching along the Gaza- Israel boarder, the land and sea buffer zone, or often referred to as the “no-go” zone, was established as part of the Oslo Accords (1995). The buffer zone has become ever expanding and restricted more lands and resources for exclusive Israeli control. Initially, the zone was to consist of 50m of land west of the Israeli-Gaza border, but by 2009, the no-go area of land consisted of a strip of land that was 300m wide. The restricted zone constitutes 17% of the Gaza strip, making up 35% of the most fertile agricultural lands. This allows Israel to “legally” shoot anyone who dares enter the zone. In addition to the land zone, Israel has also applied a buffer zone on the sea. The agreement, according to Oslo, granted 20 nautical miles of access to Gazan boats. This figure, however, has been gradually reduced since 1993 to approximately nine nautical miles as of April 2016.<sup>11</sup> This current limit is a stark breach of the agreements of Oslo and is also in stark contravention of Geneva Conventions and International Law. In addition to the limited Palestinian waters, fishing often entails high personal risk as Israeli naval forces often shoot into the 3NM range. According to Human Rights Watch, during the first half of 2014, eight fishermen were wounded as Israeli forces shot or used force 181 times.<sup>12</sup>

Israel’s inconsistent application of regulations on the border crossings has led to severe shortages of necessary supplies and generated a humanitarian crisis, precarious living conditions, a soaring unemployment rate, a water crisis inflation, and a shattered economy. Moreover, the buffer zone affects the capacity

10) OCHA *Gaza Crossing’s Operation Status* February 2016 [http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/gaza\\_crossings\\_operations\\_status\\_february\\_2016.pdf](http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/gaza_crossings_operations_status_february_2016.pdf)

11) Palestinian Centre for Human Rights *Gaza Strip: Attacks in the Border Areas and their Consequences* February 2016 <http://pchrghaza.org/en/?p=8462>

12) Human Rights Watch *World Report 2015: Israel/Palestine* <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2015/country-chapters/israel/palestine>

of Palestinians to sustain themselves, and denies them control over their own resources and borders. Opportunities have therefore been limited for self-sufficiency, laying the foundations for full Israeli control.



# WATER

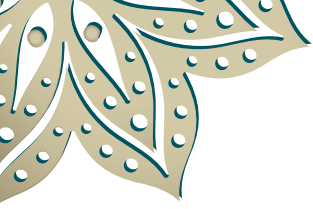
The water and environmental catastrophe in Gaza has been a central focus point of international attention. The implications of the siege on water and the environment raise serious questions about the legality and humanity of such practices. Whilst the siege has brought about numerous humanitarian consequences, the water crisis is currently the most pressing issue as it has contributed to a polluted environment, limited supply of safe drinking water, serious health concerns and has worsened the humanitarian crisis.

Gaza's water and wastewater resources were already in a critical state prior to 2007 under Israeli occupation. Initial Oslo agreements stipulated that Israel has control over the majority of water resources, agreeing to sell 10 million cubic meters of water each year to Gaza. These agreements, however, were intended to be merely interim and failed to account for the rapid growth of the population and depletion of Gaza's only source of freshwater. Even if Israel were to increase the water volume sold to Gaza, this would only present a short-term solution as a long-term solution would be sewage treatment, a solution now rendered impossible due to chronic electricity and fuel shortages.

The siege however ushered in tighter restrictions in 2007 that reduced the supply of water significantly, bringing about an environmental disaster. The energy crisis that emerged due to an Israeli attack on the sole power plant (GPP) in 2006 has severely undermined water services in Gaza and consequently, 90% of wells and wastewater treatment plants are unable to







operate due to power cuts or fuel shortages.<sup>13</sup> Moreover, the power outages have also impacted the sewage facilities, making discharges increasingly complicated. Prior to the 2014 offensive, approximately 90 million litres of raw or untreated sewage flowed into the Mediterranean Sea on a daily basis creating alarming pollution levels and increasing the dangers for public health due to lack of power supply.<sup>14</sup> The sewage system has continued to deteriorate to such an extent that in May this year, it collapsed. Wastewater now flows untreated due to the ceasure of sewage plants, causing rising water levels and high water contamination. The sole underground aquifer, which is the only water source for the entire population, has been over extracted and led to the intrusion of brackish seawater. The high levels of nitrates and chlorides streaming into Gaza, as a result of the use of fertilizers and pesticides, combined with the pollution sources due to untreated sewage has rendered nearly three quarters of the wells (95% of water) in Gaza unfit for human use.<sup>15</sup>



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13) OCHA *Gaza Water Disaster* August 2014 [https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/gaza\\_water\\_disaster\\_info\\_graphic.pdf](https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/gaza_water_disaster_info_graphic.pdf)

14) OCHA *Gaza: Water and Sanitation Services Severely Disrupted due to the Energy Crisis* November 2015 <http://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-water-and-sanitation-services-severely-disrupted-due-energy-crisis>

15) OCHA *120,000 People Across Gaza Disconnected from the Water Network due to Unrepaired War Damage* April 2015 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2015/04/120000-people-across-gaza-disconnected-from-the-water-network-due-to-unrepaired-war-damage/>

The insufficient amount of electricity and fuel to operate water pumps and wells, combined with lack of affordable water, has caused further reduction in the availability of running water for households, which has reduced from 80 to 55 litres per day.<sup>16</sup> Eight months after the round of hostilities in the summer of 2014, 120,000 people throughout Gaza were still left without a water supply due to the blows that the infrastructure suffered.<sup>17</sup> The lack of a continuous supply of water and environmental pollution has severely undermined living conditions and is the root cause of many health issues given that Gaza is the most densely populated region on earth. The WHO has announced that Gazans consume less than half of the water that is recommended, and as a direct result, has raised serious health concerns. OCHA reports that 50% of children suffer from parasites and 26% of children's diseases are a direct cause of contaminated water.<sup>18</sup>

*OCHA revealed in 2015 that 23% of the Gazan population are disconnected from the water network and that more than 70% of households in Gaza have access to water just 6-8 hours once every two to four days.*<sup>19</sup>

Israel's colonial framework of tight control over the Gaza strip and routine military bombardment that destroys and impairs almost all of Gaza's functioning water and energy facilities, further compounded by border restrictions where necessary parts for repairs are banned, has undermined the viability of functioning social infrastructure that has led to a water crisis, in which people are deprived of this basic necessity and human right.

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16) OCHA *Gaza's Sole Power Plant Shut Down Triggering up to 20 Hours of Outage a Day* April 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/04/gazas-sole-power-plant-shut-down-triggering-up-to-20-hours-of-outage-a-day/>

17) OCHA *Humanitarian Bulletin Monthly Report* April 2015 [https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha\\_opt\\_the\\_humanitarian\\_monitor\\_2014\\_05\\_29\\_english.pdf](https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_the_humanitarian_monitor_2014_05_29_english.pdf)

18) World Bank *A US\$2 million Grant to the Palestinian Water Sector Contributions to Strengthening Institutional Capacity* June 2015 <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/06/25/a-us2-million-grant-to-the-palestinian-water-sector-contributes-to-strengthening-institutional-capacity>

19) OCHA *Responding to water needs of hundreds of vulnerable households in southern Gaza Strip* March 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/03/responding-to-water-needs-of-hundreds-of-vulnerable-households-in-southern-gaza-strip/>





## ENERGY

The energy crisis of Gaza poses yet another strain to economic and social development. Following the Israeli airstrike on Gaza's sole power plant in 2006, electricity in Gaza began to suffer repercussions of the harsh implications of the Israeli blockade. Gaza has experienced a longstanding electricity deficit over the past ten years, which has disrupted and impeded the delivery of basic social services, especially water and health services, and further deteriorated already vulnerable living conditions. Since 2013, the GPP has been functioning at half of its capacity (60 out of 120W), which has often been forced to shut down due to insufficient power supply.<sup>20</sup>

The functioning of the sole GPP (Gaza Power Plant) in Gaza has been impaired due to several reasons. These include ongoing disputes between the PA in Gaza and Ramallah over the funding of fuel, the destruction of fuel storage tanks by Israeli airstrikes, the restrictions on the imports of spare parts, equipment, and fuel in the context of Israel's blockade.<sup>21</sup> This has triggered energy blackouts increased to 18-20 hours per day, up from 12 hours, further undermining the delivery of basic services.<sup>22</sup> OCHA claims that service providers have therefore been forced to rely on back-up generators, which are unable to operate efficiently due to lack of fuel and lack of spare parts. The essential materials required for the maintenance and construction of water facilities are barred from entering Gaza as Israel currently has up to 23 WASH items that include pumps, drilling equipment and disinfectant chemicals on the "dual use" list, a list that stipulates that these materials may potentially be used for both military and civilian use, and is thus barred from entering the strip.<sup>23</sup>

20) OCHA *The Humanitarian Impact of Gaza's Electricity and Fuel Crisis* July 2015 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2015/07/the-humanitarian-impact-of-gazas-electricity-and-fuel-crisis/>

21) OCHA *Gaza: Internally displaced persons* April 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/04/gaza-internally-displaced-persons-april-2016/>

22) OCHA *Gaza's Sole Power Plant Shut Down Triggering up to 20 Hours of Outage a Day* April 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/04/gazas-sole-power-plant-shut-down-triggering-up-to-20-hours-of-outage-a-day/>

23) OCHA *Gaza: Shortage of Sanitation Infrastructure Raises Health and Envi-*





The round of 2014 hostilities aggravated the already malfunctioning system, and it has been estimated that over 40 million dollars of damage in total has been inflicted on the electricity network as a direct result of Israeli military attacks.<sup>24</sup> In April 2016, the GPP was forced to shut down after exhausting its fuel reserves and being unable to replenish them due to a shortage of funds.<sup>25</sup>


Families have therefore been forced to rely on electricity generators in the face of the energy crisis, leading to intoxications, bad smells and noise pollution. Moreover, generators are unreliable due to their dependence on spare parts and scarce fuel as a result of border restrictions. According to MA'AN, generators led to hundreds of individuals being wounded and killed due to fire, explosions, lead poisoning, electric shocks, and the spread of diseases such as cancer, asthma, and heart diseases. The WHO reported that noise should not exceed 40 to 50 decibels, however in Gaza, it exceeds 100. If continually subject to 80 decibels or more, there is a chance of hearing loss,

*Environmental Concerns* July 2016 <http://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-shortage-sanitation-infrastructure-raises-health-and-environmental-concerns>

24) World Bank *Gaza: Factsheet* [http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/MNA/Factsheet\\_Gaza\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/MNA/Factsheet_Gaza_ENG.pdf)

25) OCHA *Severe Power Cuts in Gaza* June 2016  
<http://www.ochaopt.org/content/severe-power-cuts-gaza>





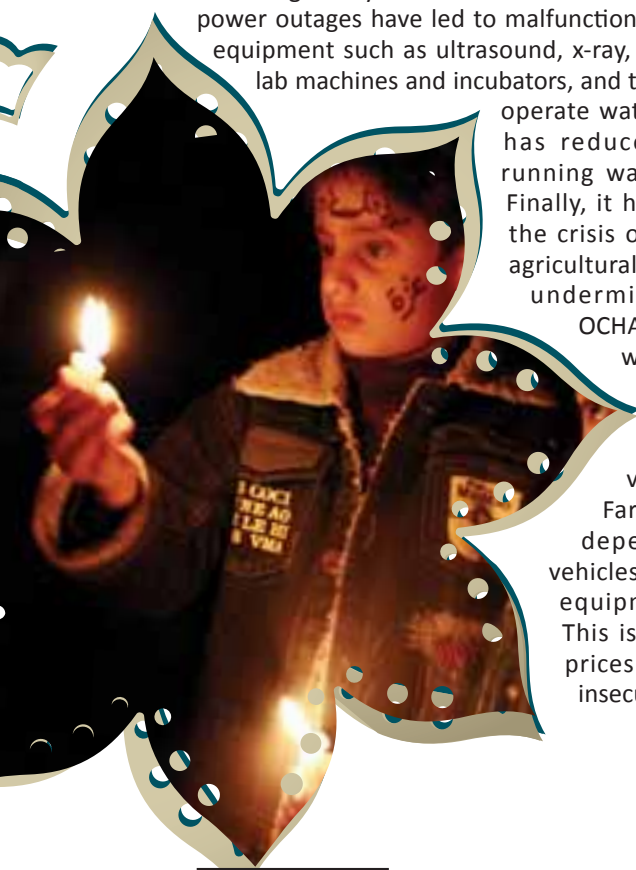
and rising tensions and stress levels. The noise and combustion of fuel has terrible impacts and poses one of the major health challenges in Gaza today.

The energy crisis has had a disastrous impact on many aspects of life in Gaza. Primarily, the provision of basic services has been severely undermined, as the social infrastructure that has been intentionally targeted throughout Israel's three military offensives, have been left to deteriorate without restoration. Additionally, constant fluctuations in power supply have negatively affected the health and water services as power outages have led to malfunctioning sensitive medical

equipment such as ultrasound, x-ray, sterilizing machines, lab machines and incubators, and the insufficient fuel to operate water pumps and wells has reduced the amount of running water to households. Finally, it has also exacerbated the crisis of food insecurity as agricultural livelihood has been undermined. According to

OCHA, 85% of agricultural wells are out of use and thus 140,000 dunums of land ripe with fruit and vegetables are at risk.

Farmers and fishermen depend on fuel to run vehicles and other essential equipment for irrigation. This is likely to push food prices up, increasing food insecurity.<sup>26</sup>



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26) OCHA *The Humanitarian Impact of Gaza's Electricity and Fuel Crisis* March 2014 <http://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-impact-gaza-s-electricity-and-fuel-crisis-march-2014>



# HEALTH

Since the imposition of the siege, Israel has continued to systematically target the healthcare system in Gaza. Israel's longstanding policies of restrictive borders, the ban of necessary medical supplies, military attacks on healthcare facilities, the lack of sovereign control over the system and budget freezes have destabilised health services in Gaza and pushed the system to the verge of collapse. This comes at a time when the majority of Gazans are in dire need of medical care due to the recent bombardment in 2014. This then creates further vulnerability in an already desperate situation where both physical and mental health issues are in urgent need of being addressed.



Photo by : Basel ELMaqsoui

The infrastructure of the health care system in Gaza is the product of historical developments within Palestine, in particular, the Israeli occupation. The system has been subject to many social, political and demographic developments and has developed in response to these realities. Therefore, little space has been left for effective planning and implementation, which has led to a fragmented system. UNRWA established a health care program in Gaza in 1949 and has since been one of the major contributors and providers to the health care system alongside the Ministry of Health (MOH) that was created after the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1995. The MOH has been



responsible for running the largest network of facilities in Gaza, however, it has been unable to upgrade the system due to its massive dependence on external assistance. UNRWA's budget has also steadily decreased since 2010, and in 2011 they reported a 30% cut in their programmes due to a serious funding crisis.<sup>27</sup> This compounds further constraints on the system as this was the only health care service provided free of charge.

Israeli strikes means the quality of health care is affected by structural damage, disruption of services, and exhaustion of staff.<sup>28</sup> WHO reported that Palestine has suffered the second highest number of healthcare attacks amongst emergency countries in 2014-2015.<sup>29</sup> The disastrous state of the health system is generating severe health issues, as the system is unable to fully support the needs of the people requiring assistance.

Number of health facilities attacked	attack 2008/9	attack 2014
Hospitals	15	17
Health Care Clinics	43	56
Ambulances	29	45

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In 2014, the MOH in Gaza declared a state of emergency due to severe shortages of basic medication and supplies. The WHO has reported that only 30% of essential drugs and 50% of disposable medical supplies were available in Gaza, even before Israel launched its destructive 51-day war.<sup>31</sup> The siege not only affects the availability of medicine, but also the extent to which the ambulance and the entire health system can function. The lack of fuel, coupled with the restrictive borders means that

27) UNRWA *Gaza on the Edge: Urgent Appeal to Help the Poorest of the Poor in Gaza* 2011 <http://www.unrwa.org/userfiles/2011091341838.pdf>

28) OCHA *Improving the Quality of Healthcare in the Gaza Strip* July 2009 [https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha\\_opt\\_health\\_cluster\\_quality\\_program\\_2009\\_07\\_29\\_english-20090828-094819.pdf](https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_health_cluster_quality_program_2009_07_29_english-20090828-094819.pdf)

29) World Health Organization *Attacks on Healthcare* 2016 <http://www.who.int/hac/techguidance/attacksreport.pdf>

30) MA'AN News *Health Ministry: Gaza Hospitals on Verge of Collapse* August 2015 <https://www.maannews.com/Content.aspx?id=767226>

31) World Health Organization *Gaza Strip Joint Health Sector Assessment Report* September 2014 [http://www.emro.who.int/images/stories/palestine/documents/Joint\\_Health\\_Sector\\_Assessment\\_Report\\_Gaza\\_Sept\\_2014-final.pdf](http://www.emro.who.int/images/stories/palestine/documents/Joint_Health_Sector_Assessment_Report_Gaza_Sept_2014-final.pdf)



Gaza has been unable to rebuild its infrastructure, prolonging and exacerbating its damage.

Due to the lack of health care access, many Gazans are therefore required to travel outside of Gaza in order to receive appropriate treatment, but since 2012, the approval rate for Gazans crossing Erez has sharply decreased, leaving more Gazans suffering from health disorders and diseases. OCHA reports that in the first seven months of 2016, 70% of applications for crossing were rejected.<sup>32</sup> Denying approval is yet another systematic tactic undertaken by Israel to prolong and exacerbate suffering.

A Palestinian oncologist from Gaza reported to the Electronic Intifada that over the previous two years, the number of cancer diagnosis has reached 14,600 with more than 120 new admissions of cancer patients each month. The sharp rise in cancer rates has been linked to Israel's destructive wars and weaponry that exposes the population to radioactive material.<sup>33</sup>

Many cancer patients in Gaza require referrals to West Bank or Israeli hospitals, as hospitals in Gaza are unable to offer radiation or chemotherapy treatments. Healthcare professionals have reported disturbing increases in the number of cancer patients. Many patients, however, are refused entry at Israel's border crossing as part of Israel's routine and systematic practice of isolating Gaza and confining its citizens into an overcrowded and enclosed territory. It is common practice for Israel to either refuse entry to family members accompanying the patient, or to blackmail patients seeking treatment. This results in many deaths, deterioration of illness and induces further suffering for ill citizens in Gaza.

Gazan residents are therefore subject to a wide variety of health issues, such as psychological trauma, poverty, and environmental problems, all of which have a negative impact on the physical and mental health of citizens. UNRWA reveals that the crisis of food insecurity means that residents are consuming insufficient daily

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32) OCHA *Gaza: Two Years After August 2016* <http://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-two-years-after>

33) The Electronic Intifada *Gaza Patients Battle Cancer and Israeli Siege* February 2016 <https://electronicintifada.net/content/gaza-patients-battle-cancer-and-israeli-siege/15576>



calories.<sup>34</sup> Rising unemployment and poverty rates also have long term effects on the physical and mental well being of citizens. The negative effect of poor living conditions combined with perpetual military violence has induced severe health issues, especially amongst children. Indicators of child health in Gaza has remained stagnant or even declined whilst the rest of the world has seen significant advances.

According to UNRWA, the number of children suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder has doubled since 2012 when Israel carried out Operation Pillar of Defense attack, with the 2014 incursion further compounding the suffering. PTSD leads to mood disorders, anxiety, depression and social attachment issues. UNRWA also reported that in 2014, more than 350,000 children required mental health services due to persisting psychological trauma. However, with a fractured health care system that is unable to provide services, the health issues of hundreds of thousands of children go unattended, negatively impacting personal and educational growth.<sup>35</sup>

***44,000 children were displaced as a result of the 2014 offensive. 58% of parents report an increase of psychosocial distress in their children, but only 6% report having received assistance.***<sup>36</sup>

34) UNRWA *Health in the Gaza Strip* <http://www.unrwa.org/activity/health-gaza-strip>

35) Common Dreams *The Psychological Trauma of Catastrophe: Gaza's Children* August 2014 <http://www.commondreams.org/views/2014/08/10/psychological-trauma-catastrophe-gazas-children>

36) OCHA *Gaza: Internally displaced persons* April 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/04/gaza-internally-displaced-persons-april-2016/>

The siege has therefore driven the majority into Gazan population into poverty, creating poor living conditions and generating severe health issues due to its restrictions on the movement of people and goods, whilst further exacerbating destroying the social infrastructure of Gaza's health sector through military acts that is unable to cope with the demands of providing medicine and treatment. This perpetual cycle of harsh policies, also known as de-development, has pushed not only the health sector but rather the entire social infrastructure of Gaza to the brink of collapse, inducing endless cycles of poverty and suffering.

## ECONOMY

**G**aza's economy has been in steady decline since the imposition of the blockade in 2007. This has had a severe impact on the population, with more than 40% living below the poverty line. Whilst there are several factors that have a staggering cost on Gaza's economy and living conditions, such as regular cycles of violence, dependency on aid and the political division between Gaza and the West Bank, the all-encompassing factor is the Israeli blockade.

The blockade has exacerbated economic development to such an extent that Gaza's economic performance over the past two decades has been of the lowest globally, with only three other economies experiencing lower rates of growth. Given Gaza's educated population and proximity to the sea, it would be expected that Gaza's GDP increases by at least as much as 250% over the past twenty years in the





absence of military conflict and the blockade.<sup>37</sup> The World Bank, however, reports that Gaza has witnessed a growth of just 2% in GDP in the previous twenty years.<sup>38</sup>

One major cause of Gaza's economic paralysis is military destruction combined with other Israeli efforts of undermining the economy. The GDP in Gaza was reduced by as much as 15% in 2014 and ushered in a humanitarian crisis where one third of the population was displaced. Only 35% of those displaced have been able to return home.<sup>39</sup> Furthermore, Gazan infrastructure, both public and private, incurred losses and damages that amount to almost \$4.4 billion after electricity, water, sanitation, and telecommunication networks suffered significant destruction.<sup>40</sup> The restricted access to construction materials has impeded the reconstruction process, and therefore these damages, that have impacted economic output for various sectors continue to suffer. The fact that business were forced to completely shut down due to the inability to operate during the conflict caused the most significant economic impact.<sup>41</sup> The extent to whether the economy can rebound depends on several variables such as the degree of restrictions on movement of goods, people and financial flows in and out of Gaza and the availability of reconstruction materials.

Vital and important sectors that were once key pillars in Gazan economic activity have also come under systematic attack and decline over the course of the blockade. The Israeli restrictions have weakened the ability of these sectors to provide employment, affordable prices and basic needs.

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37) OCHA *Economic Monitoring Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee* May 2015 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2015/05/economic-monitoring-report-to-the-ad-hoc-liaison-committee/>

38) World Bank *Economic Monitoring Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee* September 2016 <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/474311473682340785/pdf/108205-V2-WP-PUBLIC-SEPT-14-2PM-September-2016-AHLC-World-Bank-Report.pdf>

39) OCHA *Gaza: Two Years After the 2014 Hostilities* 2016 [http://www.ochaopt.org/sites/default/files/gaza\\_war\\_2\\_years\\_after\\_final.pdf](http://www.ochaopt.org/sites/default/files/gaza_war_2_years_after_final.pdf)

40) OCHA *Economic Monitoring Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee* May 2015 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2015/05/economic-monitoring-report-to-the-ad-hoc-liaison-committee/>

41) Ibid. <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2015/05/economic-monitoring-report-to-the-ad-hoc-liaison-committee/>



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## FISHING:

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Fishing has played a vital role in Gazan economic and cultural life, with fishing activities traditionally supporting the livelihoods of many families throughout Gaza. The current limit on the nautical mile limit is in stark contravention of Oslo, as Palestinians are only allowed access to just 45% of the fishing range that was initially endowed to them. These restrictions have negatively impacted the 10,000 fishermen that were once active in 2000, a figure that has dropped to only 3,500 in 2013. This constitutes a 65% decrease in the total number of fishermen since 2000.<sup>42</sup> As a result, 95% of fishermen are now dependent on aid,<sup>43</sup> due to lack of employment opportunities. Israel's restrictions on fishing have also indirectly impacted the entire market as lower fish supply has led to a sharp rise in prices in the Palestinian market, incurring an annual loss of 0.01% in GDP.<sup>44</sup>



*Photo by : Basel ELMaqosui*

42) OCHA *Restricted Livelihood: Gaza's Fishermen* July 2013 [http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha\\_opt\\_gaza\\_fishermen\\_case\\_study\\_2013\\_07\\_11\\_english.pdf](http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_gaza_fishermen_case_study_2013_07_11_english.pdf)

43) Ibid. [http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha\\_opt\\_gaza\\_fishermen\\_case\\_study\\_2013\\_07\\_11\\_english.pdf](http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_gaza_fishermen_case_study_2013_07_11_english.pdf) [https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha\\_opt\\_gaza\\_fishermen\\_case\\_study\\_2013\\_07\\_11\\_english.pdf](https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_gaza_fishermen_case_study_2013_07_11_english.pdf)

44) The Applied Research Institute *The Economic Cost of the Israeli Occupation Report* 2016 <http://www.arij.org/publications/234-special-reports/special-reports-2016/766-the-economic-cost-of-the-israeli-occupation-report.html>



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## CONSTRUCTION:

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The housing and construction sector, two of Gaza's significant sectors, has sharply declined in recent years. The 2014 war saw a 83% decrease in the construction, the hardest hit of all sectors in Gaza. Furthermore, according to an assessment conducted by the UN, it was estimated that 13% of the housing stock fell in 2014.<sup>45</sup> A total of 228, 006 houses have been destroyed since 2008 over the course of Israel's three wars.<sup>46</sup> The rate of people employed in construction has dropped to 4.7% of all jobs as opposed to 6.6% previously, when there were previously 70,000 jobs.<sup>47</sup> The sector has always faced challenges in the face of Israel's tight border restrictions, which intensified in April 2016 when Israel announced that the import of cement to the private sector would be suspended.<sup>48</sup> This not only severely hampers the reconstruction process following destruction waged by Israel in 2014, but also impacts the economic well being of many Gazan citizens employed in construction, many of whom are continuously forced out of work.

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## AGRICULTURE

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Historically, agriculture was the backbone of the local economy in Gaza and a leader in citrus and fruit production in the Arab region prior to 1967. The siege, however, has induced barriers that prevent many agricultural workers from employment and restrict work on fertile lands. Gaza is now witnessing an unprecedented unemployment rate amongst agricultural workers, who were once around 60,000. The number is now estimated to be between

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45) UNDP *Detailed Infrastructure Damage Assessment* 2014 <http://www.ps.undp.org/content/dam/papp/docs/Publications/UNDP-papp-research-damageassessment2014.pdf>

46) OCHA *Internal Displacement in the Context of 2014 Hostilities* July 2015 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2015/07/internal-displacement-in-the-context-of-the-2014-hostilities/>

47) World Bank *Reconstructing Gaza – Donor Pledges* August 2016 <http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/rebuilding-gaza-donor-pledges>

48) OCHA *Gaza: Internally Displaced Persons* April 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/04/gaza-internally-displaced-persons-april-2016/>



25,000 and 35,000, a drop of less than half. This has pushed many into unemployment or forced them to seek employment in other sectors, increasing economic insecurity for thousands.

***Approximately 30% of Gaza's agricultural land cannot be worked on without severe personal risk of Israeli attacks that may result in injury or death of civilians.<sup>49</sup>***

Water scarcity and electricity shortages have also exacerbated the crisis of food insecurity as agricultural livelihood has been undermined. According to OCHA, 85% of agricultural wells are out of use due to the lack of water supply and thus 140,000 dunums of land ripe with fruit and vegetables are at risk. Farmers and fishermen depend on fuel to run vehicles and other essential equipment for irrigation. This limits agricultural production

49) Ibid. <http://pchrgaza.org/en/?p=5019>





and is also likely to push food prices up, increasing food insecurity.<sup>50</sup>

Despite the sector coming under attack, agriculture continues to play an important role in the Gazan economy, with recent improvements in performance emerging. Agriculture still counts for 5.2% of Gaza strips GDP and employs 6.6% of the population, remaining a key sector in Gazan economy. The revenue from agricultural exports during first half of 2016 was 5.6 million dollars, an increase from 2015,<sup>51</sup> with agricultural products comprising an overwhelming 85% of Gaza's exports.<sup>52</sup>

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## TOURISM:

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Gaza is home to more than 30 ancient sites that date back to Roman, Greek, and Mamluk periods. Although Gaza has never been a major tourist destination, visitors previously came to visit the beach and ancient sites. However, tourism has been severely hampered and has been almost non-existent throughout the last decade of siege. Gaza's Ministry of Tourism has reported that tourism contributed about five percent of the region's GDP prior to the siege, which now amounts to no more than two percent due to siege and current political situation.<sup>53</sup>

Reducing the viability of critical sectors denies Palestinians sovereignty over their own land and resources, thus reducing the potential for a viable socio-economic Gazan state. The imposed limitations have crippled the most important sectors in Gaza, undermining the ability of people to secure a living, bringing

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50) OCHA *The Humanitarian Impact of Gaza's Electricity and Fuel Crisis* March 2014 <http://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-impact-gaza-s-electricity-and-fuel-crisis-march-2014>

51) OCHA *Significant Rise in Agricultural Exports and Transfers from Gaza* June 2016 <http://www.ochaopt.org/content/significant-rise-agricultural-exports-and-transfers-gaza>

52) The Times of Israel *In Gaza, Using Agriculture to Grow the Economy* May 2016 <http://www.timesofisrael.com/in-gaza-using-agriculture-to-grow-the-economy/>

53) FSRN *Despite Numerous Historical Sites Gaza Strips Tourism Industry Barely Exists* May 2016 <https://fsrn.org/2016/05/despite-numerous-historical-sites-gaza-strips-tourism-industry-barely-exists/>





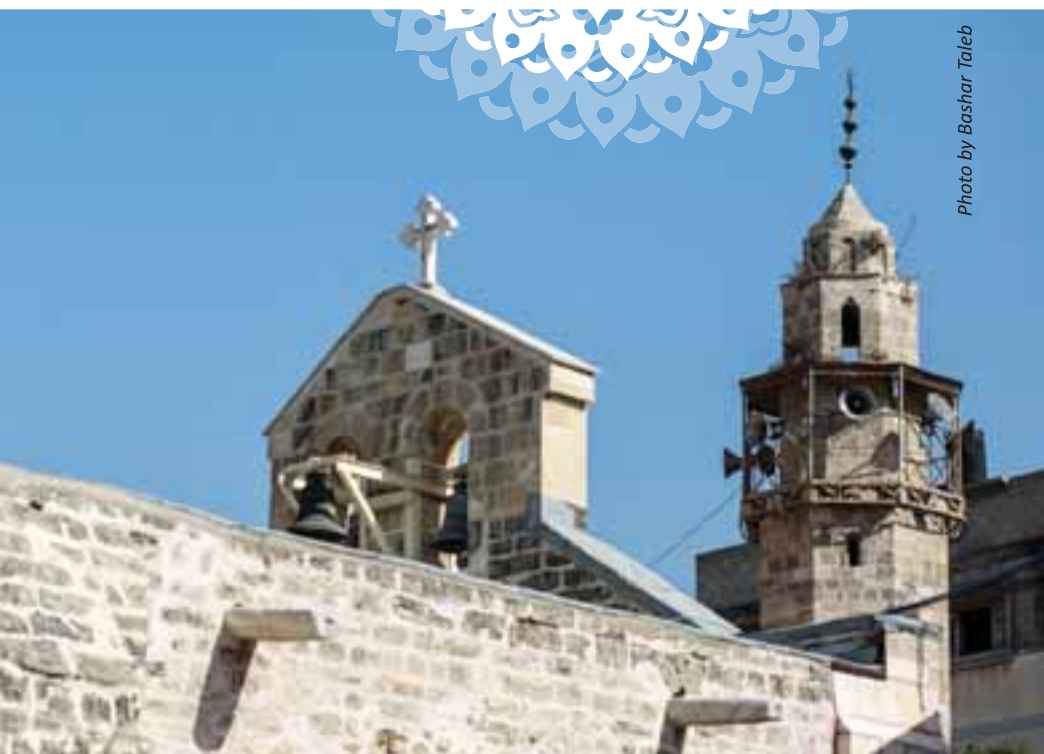


Photo by Bashar Taleb

thousands into economic stagnation. Furthermore, it has led to the loss of access to Israeli markets, pushing unemployment rates and food insecurity to an unprecedented record level.

Finally, Gaza's dependence on the influx of foreign aid and on the Palestinian National Authority also poses many challenges for the economy. Given the isolation from the West Bank, Gaza has been excluded from the private sector growth and reform that the rest of Palestine has witnessed, as the two regions are split into separate functioning entities. Ever since the internal divide surfaced in 2007, Gaza has been a continuous source of deficit and fiscal burden on the PA's finances. OCHA reports that 43% of the PA's expenditures are spent in Gaza, whilst only 13% of its tax revenues come out of Gaza.<sup>54</sup>

54) UN News Centre *Gaza Could Become Uninhabitable in Less than Five Years due to On-going De-development* September 2015 [http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51770#.V\\_N9z1cQigQ](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51770#.V_N9z1cQigQ)





## EMPLOYMENT

The blockade brought with it immediate negative economic consequences since its imposition in 2007, leading to inflation and rising unemployment rates. Gaza is now home to the highest unemployment rate in the world, which currently stands at 41.2%<sup>55</sup> with nearly 40% of Gazans living below the poverty line. Gazan youth and women are on the margins of economic deprivation with over 60% of youth and women facing unemployment. They experience the highest unemployment rate in the region.

Through the siege, Israel has choked the economy by restricting access to land and resources, prohibiting the entry of imports and goods, and imposing border restrictions making exporting extremely difficult. For example, within just the first two years of the siege, 120,000 private sector jobs were lost and around 70% of industrial establishments were closed down.<sup>56</sup>

The slump in employment opportunities has been exacerbated with the three military offensives that have occurred since 2008. The most destructive military offensive of 2014 brought about a rapid surge in unemployment, which rose to a staggering 45%, the highest since 2009.<sup>57</sup> Gaza also witnessed soaring poverty rates in the aftermath of the attack, which rose from 28% in 2013 to 39% in 2014.



55) Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_Rainbow/Documents/unemployment-2015-02e.htm](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/unemployment-2015-02e.htm)

56) The Guardian *UN: Gaza's Youth Denied Higher Education by Israeli Blockade* 2011 <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2011/mar/21/gaza-higher-education-blockade>

57) Gisha *New Gaza Construction Material Procedure* October 2014 <http://gisha.org/publication/3610>

Photo by Ibrahim Faraj



*“Gaza’s unemployment and poverty figures are very troubling and the economic outlook is worrying. The current market in Gaza is not able to offer jobs leaving a large population in despair particularly the youth,”*

*Steen Lau Jorgensen, World Bank Country Director for West Bank and Gaza.<sup>58</sup>*

58) World Bank Gaza Economy on the Verge of Collapse, Youth Unemployment Highest in the Region at 60 Percent May 2015 <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/05/21/gaza-economy-on-the-verge-of-collapse>

# EDUCATION

What was previously known as one of the most renowned education systems in the Arab world, the Palestinian system was replaced by the Israeli system following the Israeli takeover in 1967. The education system underwent a radical change in which material was immediately distorted or even removed as part of Israel's on-going attempt to erase Palestinian history, geography and culture. Moreover, Israel imposed high fees and cancelled compulsory education, making access to education incredibly difficult for Palestinians.<sup>59</sup> Education in Gaza has long suffered the brutal practices of Israeli occupation, which deteriorated in light of Oslo and the imposition of the blockade.

Following the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1995, the education system in Gaza has undergone severe fragmentation and division, denying thousands of children access to an adequate education. Although the MOEHE bears responsibility for the majority of schools in Gaza, UNRWA and the private sector are also responsible for the provision of education in Gaza. UNRWA has bore the brunt of underfunded budget, limiting the number of teachers that are employed and the number of available buildings for schools. This has led to overcrowding, with UNRWA's schools being forced to run on a double shift basis, reducing children's time in school by half and thus resulting in fewer hours of instructional contact with teachers. Israel's siege also has devastating impacts for schools as vital supplies such as books, science laboratory and other equipment are barred from entering. This lack of materials, upgraded systems information, and professional training for teachers has eroded the system entirely.<sup>60</sup> Recurrent conflict has also severely disrupted the education system as many as 252 schools were destroyed during the 2014 escalation, all of which have now been repaired, except six of the seven that were completely destroyed.<sup>61</sup>

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59) UNESCO *Palestine: Education for All 2015 National Review* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002326/232625e.pdf>

60) IRIN *Thousands Missing Out on Education in Gaza* July 2010 <http://www.irin-news.org/news/2010/07/05/thousands-missing-out-education-gaza>

61) OCHA *Start of New School Year in Gaza* October 2016 <http://www.ochaopt.org/content/start-new-school-year-gaza>



Photo by Ibrahim Faraj



Supervising Authority	No. of school buildings	No. of schools	No. of students	Classes operating on double shifts (%) year 2015/16
Government	265	395	234,892	67%
UNRWA	159	257	249,672	75%
Private	52	52	18,139	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>502,703</b>	

Source: <sup>62</sup>

The internal Palestinian divide and the creation of two separate systems by Israel has lessened educational opportunities for those in Gaza. According to the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights in Gaza, Gazans once comprised 35% of the student body in the West Bank's higher educational institutions, however the complete closure policy has eroded the possibility of Gazans attending univer-

62) OCHA Gaza Strip <https://www.ochaopt.org/location/gaza-strip>



sity in the West Bank. Gazan higher education has become the sole option, but high fees and high unemployment rates have made this inaccessible to many youth. Furthermore, those who attend university in Gaza face very limited and bleak employment opportunities upon graduating.

Education is a critical tool for reviving the economy, and empowering a population in order to create a functioning Palestinian state and society. However, the system is systemically discriminated and targeted against, primarily through military bombardment and the restrictive implications of the siege. Gazans also face a lack of funding and scholarship opportunities, and coupled with unemployment rates, many Gazans are thus unable to pursue higher and further education. This decline of education in Gaza has eroded the economy and exacerbated living conditions.



## YOUTH & CHILDREN

Palestinian youth and women are adopting leading roles in challenging Zionist colonisation and occupation of the Palestinian homeland, characteristic of global trends where youth are at the forefront of protesting and challenging economic exploitation, tyranny and social inequality. Amongst youth, women and girls are emerging as leaders of the movement in an attempt to overcome and free themselves of rigid traditional limitations and political oppression that has stripped them of many rights.

Gazan youth are on the fringes of Gazan society, and comprise a marginalized group within an already extremely vulnerable population. The youth are most harshly affected by the on-going Israeli siege and military bombardment of the Gaza strip, faced with extremely high unemployment rates, lack of educational opportunities and victims of psychological trauma and various other health issues. According to the UN, more than 65% of the Gazan population is comprised of youth under the age of 25.<sup>63</sup> With more than half of the population being youth, Gaza's future economic, social and political development lies in the hands of the youth. However, social and economic deprivation that has strangled Gaza as a result of the siege means that the progress and development of the youth in society has been severely hampered. Gaza's overall unemployment rate is 44% with the unemployment rate of youth reaching over 60% by the end of 2014, becoming the highest in the region.<sup>64</sup> The issue of youth unemployment is also tied in with the complexities of psychological trauma that children experience as a result of Israeli military aggression, a devastated education system that has failed to provide education to thousands of children, and the prevalence of child labor in Gaza that has emerged as a response to very few educational and job opportunities.

Despite the hardships facing the children and youth of Gaza, there

63) UNSCO *UNSCO Socio-Economic Report: Overview of the Palestinian Economy in Q2/2015* <http://www.unsco.org/Documents/Special/UNSCO%20Socio-Economic%20Report%20Q2%202015.pdf>

64) World Bank *Gaza Economy on the Verge of Collapse, Youth Unemployment Highest in the Region at 60 Percent* May 2015 <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/05/21/gaza-economy-on-the-verge-of-collapse>



*“There’s an olive tree in my garden, and I have always dreamed of seeing my children playing under it. Wherever I might be now, one day my children will be playing under this olive tree, in a free Palestine, without fear for their lives, and that is what I will keep fighting for.”<sup>65</sup>*

**Abu Yazan, GYBO blogger.**

65) Al-Jazeera *From Manifesto to Reality: ‘Gaza Youth Breaks Out’ Member Tells his Story* October 2012 <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2012/10/201210159115846939.html>



*Photo by Ibrahim Faraj*



has been a significant rise in the number of youth driven protest initiatives in response to the declining situation, not only in Gaza, but rather throughout the oPt. The creativity and activism stemming from Gaza demonstrates the youth's unwavering resilience in the face of Israeli occupation. These consist of grassroots collective movements on a local, national as well as international level that aim to bring about awareness surrounding Palestine and to address urgent social and political concerns.

**Gaza Youth Break Out** is an online manifesto that was formed by youth activists that works to raise awareness about the devastating implications of the Israeli siege on Gaza and it's citizens. They raise awareness through their online manifesto and their webpage that contains various articles written by Gazan bloggers, expressing their frustration and despair to break free from the shackles of Israeli control. They have participated in mobilizing large demonstrations within Gaza and the West bank, with the ultimate aim of achieving unity between Palestine's two political factions: Hamas and the Fatah. These demonstrations took place on March the 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and were met with opposition and eventually materialized into nothing but empty promises. GYBO also aims to mobilize an international audience to challenge and speak out against Israel's siege on Gaza, advocating for a Gazan society in which people live in peace, dignity and freedom.



Children are also disproportionately targeted and affected by Israel's military operations and siege. The UN reports that more than 551 were killed during the 2014 offensive, 3,374 were injured, a third of which now suffer permanent disabilities, and more than 1,500 children were orphaned. Thousands more Gazans were left traumatized.<sup>66</sup>

According to the International Labour Organization, the number of children in labour globally has fallen by a third since 2000.<sup>67</sup> On the contrary, Gaza is witnessing soaring levels of child labour below the legal age in unemployment as a direct result of the policies and practices that have pushed Gaza's economy into decline. There are approximately a third of children below the legal working age of 15 employed.<sup>68</sup> Children bearing the responsibility of supporting family members in light of bleak economic opportunities, along with emotional and psychological trauma caused by Israel's destructive war, further marginalizes children and youth, deteriorating their social and economic situation. Following the 2014 cycle of violence, 364 school drop-outs were reported, 307 of whom were boys, as a result of households resorting to child labour.<sup>69</sup> This is creating a new generation who find themselves in a

situation of despair, both socially and economically, with little hope for a prosperous future.



***The number of children aged between 10 and 17 in the labour force amounts to 9,700.<sup>70</sup>***

66) UNICEF *Children at Risk in the Gaza Conflict* [http://www.unicef.org/infoby-country/oPt\\_74620.html](http://www.unicef.org/infoby-country/oPt_74620.html)

67) Reuters *Child Labour in Gaza* <https://widerimage.reuters.com/story/child-labour-in-gaza>

68) Ibid. <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-palestinians-gaza-child-labour-idUSKCN0WW0YA>

69) OCHA *Gaza: Internally displaced persons* April 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/04/gaza-internally-displaced-persons-april-2016/>

70) Reuters *Child Labour in Gaza* <https://widerimage.reuters.com/story/child-labour-in-gaza>



# WOMEN

**P**alestinian women play a pivotal role in Palestinian society. Whilst developments in the West Bank and East Jerusalem have seen women increasingly contribute to society, economically, politically and socially, women in Gaza have been disproportionately affected by the siege and as a result, have been further pushed to the margins of society. The question of unemployment, lack of educational opportunities, military attacks and prevailing gender norms remain crucial issues pertaining to the rights and equality of women in Gaza.

The siege has drastically reduced educational and job opportunities for women, with only 20% of women currently participating in the labour force. The 2016 figure of unemployment for women has soared above 65%.<sup>71</sup> This figure, along with female unemployment, has plunged to the bottom of global figures. The table below indicates the extent to which unemployment rate amongst women has doubled throughout the last decade, following the imposition of the siege, in comparison with that of males. This is a result of the deliberate Israeli policies that deny education, jobs and actively destroy infrastructure, all of which act as barriers that prevent women from realizing their full potential.

Gender	Unemployment rate 2007	Unemployment rate 2015
Male	29.7%	37.4%
Female	29.7%	63.6%

Source: <sup>72</sup>

The challenges facing women in Gaza are intersected and multi-dimensional. Additional to the lack of job opportunities, women are also faced with the challenge of grappling in the aftermath of military offensives, and of particular concern are widowed women. In addition to the 299 women that were killed as a result of Israeli violence in 2014, at least 790 women were also widowed.<sup>73</sup> These

71) OCHA *The Gaza Strip: The Humanitarian Impact of the Blockade* November 2016 <http://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-strip-humanitarian-impact-blockade-november-2016>

72) OCHA *The Gaza Strip: The Long Term Impact of the 2014 Hostilities on Women and Girls* December 2015 [https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/women\\_factsheet\\_january2016\\_english.pdf](https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/women_factsheet_january2016_english.pdf)

73) OCHA *The Gaza Strip: The Long Term Impact of the 2014 Hostilities on Wom-*





women are confronted with the challenge of providing for an entire family with little or no income, lack of basic services such as water, electricity and healthcare, and displacement. Internally displaced women are forced to live in precarious living conditions in overcrowded places such as tents, shelters or rubble, exposing them to a range of security and protection concerns such as gender based violence and harassment, in particular domestic violence, limiting their social and economic agency and heightening their frustration and stress. Furthermore, the UNFPA reports indicate that economic instability is driving families to marry their daughters off early.<sup>74</sup> The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics reported in 2015 that 28.6% of women between the ages of 20-49 were married before the age of 18.<sup>75</sup>

Below is a table indicating the situation of IDP female-headed households in the aftermath of the 2014 war. Of all IDP households, 10.2% are female headed.<sup>76</sup>

IDP female headed households	
With no family members working	70%
Rely on humanitarian assistance	74%
Borrow Money	75%
Buy food on credit	81%
Believe that the war led to increased gender based violence	Over 70%

Despite being faced with economic and social marginalization, women are at the forefront of the daily assertion of resisting Israeli occupation and fighting for the realization of justice, equality and human rights. They have demonstrated considerable resilience in an attempt to not only empower women, but also to bring Gaza's dire situation to light on an international level. In Gaza's media sector there are currently five female only outlets

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en and Girls December 2015 [https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/women\\_factsheet\\_january2016\\_english.pdf](https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/women_factsheet_january2016_english.pdf)

74) UNFPA *One year after Gaza conflict, Situation for Women and Youth Remains Dire* August 2015 <http://www.unfpa.org/news/one-year-after-gaza-conflict-situation-women-and-youth-remains-dire>

75) Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics *International Women's Day 2015*. [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/WomenDy2015E.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/WomenDy2015E.pdf)

76) OCHA *Gaza: Internally Displaced Persons* April 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/04/gaza-internally-displaced-persons-april-2016/>

aiming to promote issues that are overlooked in the dominant media outlets. These outlets provide a platform for which cross cutting women issues are explored, in the hope of challenging prevailing stereotypes about women, giving a larger voice to women and creating more self-confidence to express concerns and raise questions.<sup>77</sup>

*“Palestinian women or as I call them “glowing face of Palestine” were from the very beginning fighting side-by-side with men. They proved to the whole world that they are strong enough to stand in front of armed soldiers with their bare hands and hopeful eyes without being afraid of being shot.”<sup>78</sup>*

- Intimaa Al-Sudoudi, GYBO blogger.



Photo by: Basel ELIMaqosui

77) Al-Monitor *Women Journalists Raise their Voices in Gaza* January 2016 <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2016/01/palestinian-women-media-gaza.html>

78) Gaza Youth Breaks Out <https://gazaybo.wordpress.com/2012/09/11/shareeda-from-gaza/>

# ISRAELI IMPUNITY INTERNATIONAL LAW

In addition to the withstanding siege that prevents basic necessities from reaching Gaza, Gaza has also been subjected to three violent military offensives since 2007. The most destructive round of hostilities, that lasted for a total of 51 days, since the imposition of the siege took place in July 2014. Despite Israel claiming that it was an appropriate and necessary response to rocket fire from Gaza, the scale of devastation and destruction was unprecedented. The offensive resulted in the death of 2,251 Palestinians, including 1,639 civilians. It also left 108,000 Palestinians homeless and over 110,000 people in need of shelter. The timing of Israel's attack, its deliberate targeting of schools, hospitals, homes and civilians all indicate that the military operation was punitive in nature and an attempt to slow, if not, completely obstruct social and economic progress in Gaza. The reconstruction and recovery depends on the aid flow and the easing of restrictions. It is thus Israel's responsibility as the occupying power to ensure the well being of the population and that all necessary supplies reaches the population.

*"I was sitting with my family at the table, ready to break the fast. Suddenly we were sucked into the ground. Later that evening, I woke up in the hospital and was told my wife and children had died".*

**Tawfik Abu Jama, a Gazan father of eight.<sup>79</sup>**

Completely destroyed homes	18,000
Partially destroyed homes	8,000

80

The destruction witnessed in the aftermath of the attack raises the question of the legality of such violence. Israel has been subject to international condemnation for its prolonged impunity in Gaza and international human rights bodies responded to

79) OHCHR *Report of the Independent Commission of Enquiry on the 2014 Gaza Conflict* June 2015 <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/ColGazaConflict/Pages/ReportColGaza.aspx>

80) World Bank *Gaza Factsheet* [http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/MNA/Factsheet\\_Gaza\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/MNA/Factsheet_Gaza_ENG.pdf)



the disproportionate attack by claiming that Israel continues to breach international law.

For example, according to international law, intentionally targeting the civilian population, non military objectives, personnel and installations that are involved in humanitarian assistance all amount to war crimes as stipulated in the Rome Statute.<sup>81</sup>

The extent to which Israel breached these laws is evidently clear. Israel has applied the policy of transforming an innocent civilian into a legitimate target if they do not leave their homes following warnings. They then become “voluntary human shields”. However, according to international law, advance warnings do not affect the civilian status and the legal protection they are afforded. Half of the victims of the 2014 attack were civilians thus Israel took very little steps in its efforts to protect civilian life. Whilst all hospitals and health care facilities must be protected and respected at all times, in 2014, Israel destroyed 17 hospitals, some of which were shelled without prior warning. Moreover, 18,000 houses were completely destroyed as well as over 200 hundred schools,<sup>82</sup> constituting an attack on civilians objects and intentionally attacking with the knowledge the strike will result in the loss of civilian life. Finally, Israel is obliged to ensure that those providing aid, those with injuries or disabilities, or paramedics must be protected from hostilities. Israel, however, breached this law when they refused to coordinate ambulances for a total of six hours, leaving four civilians to bleed to death, prevented the arrival of ambulances carrying medical supplies, and targeted paramedics. 407 Palestinians died as a result of delays in the delivery of aid. In addition, nine paramedics were killed and 41 Palestinians who were supplying aid. These were personnel involved in peacekeeping missions and are thus considered civilian objects who were directly targeted by Israel.

**“You don’t ask for authorization, no one asks for explanations.”<sup>83</sup>**

**– Statement from an IDF soldier, Breaking the Silence**

81) Rome Statute International Criminal Court [https://www.icc-cpi.int/nr/rdon-lyres/ea9aeff7-5752-4f84-be94-0a655eb30e16/0/rome\\_statute\\_english.pdf](https://www.icc-cpi.int/nr/rdon-lyres/ea9aeff7-5752-4f84-be94-0a655eb30e16/0/rome_statute_english.pdf)

82) Human Rights Watch *World Report 2015: Israel/Palestine* 2015 <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2015/country-chapters/israel/palestine>

83) Breaking the Silence *This is How We Fought in Gaza* <http://www.breakingthesilence.org.il/pdf/ProtectiveEdge.pdf>





## INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

The international community has witnessed long-standing unwavering support for Israel in recent decades through economic and military support. It is largely through this funding; predominantly from the U.S that Israel has been able to continue upholding its military occupation of the West Bank and the siege on Gaza. This is indicative of the global hypocrisy that embraces and preaches universal human rights whilst also being responsible and complicit in sustaining the brutal Israeli siege and occupation. This support and impartiality towards Israel further segregates and weakens Palestine whilst serving to reinforce Israeli military dominance.

Nevertheless, there is an international consensus that the siege on Gaza must be lifted in order for the realization of basic human rights to be brought about for Gazans. High UN and government officials have all called for the siege to be lifted and for an end to Israeli military impunity. For example, following the 2014 attack on Gaza, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and various other international bodies, as well as world leaders, outwardly condemned Israeli conducts in Gaza, claiming that their brutal actions were in direct violation of international law, and that the attack was a disproportionate response to rocket fire from Gaza. Israel thus became the subject of international condemnation. However, despite this severe criticism, the war crimes were never thoroughly investigated, as Israel denied entry to international human rights organizations into Gaza and therefore nobody was held accountable. Israel immediately announced that it would fail to co operate with the Commission of Inquiry established by the UN Human Rights Council. These restrictive policies ensure that no accountability is held and that Israel maintains military and political dominance over the strip. Furthermore, although Israel is obliged to conduct investigations into potential crimes, only one criminal investigation was carried out in the aftermath of 2014 that led to charges against just three soldiers. Israel's investigative system is structured in



such a way that it shields perpetrators from persecution and accountability. Respectively, international bodies have called on Israel to reform their domestic investigations system.

*“Failing to allow independent human rights monitors into Gaza smacks of a deliberately orchestrated attempt to cover up violations or hide from international scrutiny. Israel must cooperate fully with the UN Commission of Inquiry and grant international human rights organizations such as Amnesty International immediate access to Gaza to prove its commitment to human rights,*”

*said Philip Luther, Amnesty International.<sup>84</sup>*



84) Amnesty International *Israeli Forces Displayed Callous Indifference in Deadly Attacks on Family Homes in Gaza* November 2014 <http://www.amnestyusa.org/news/news-item/israeli-forces-displayed-%E2%80%98callous-indifference-in-deadly-attacks-on-family-homes-in-gaza>



## AID

In response to Israeli aggression and destruction, and since the imposition of the blockade in 2007, international donors and aid agencies have continuously been funding all the crucial sectors in Gaza. More than 70% of Gaza's population is now reported to be aid dependent, a figure that rose from just 10% prior to 2002.<sup>85</sup> Israel has failed however to allow the entry of necessary aid and funds. This has not only choked the reconstruction process, but has led to further poverty and hardship. These measures are incorporated into Israel's policy of de-development, which is to ensure that Gaza continues to deteriorate socially, economically and politically, through systematic authoritarian policies whilst Israel continues to uphold its illegal occupation and siege.

OCHA reports that throughout the first years of the blockade, between 2007 and 2010, Israel secured a tight policy in which almost no material entered Gaza. Following the "easing" of restrictions in 2010, Gaza has witnessed a larger influx of foreign aid, which is solely restricted to international organizations who prior to entering are required to go through a lengthly approval procedure.<sup>86</sup> Gaza requires approximately four million tons of construction materials in order to alleviate the impact of destruction caused in 2014 offensive for the reconstruction of schools, clinics, hospitals and homes etc. In response, donors pledged \$3.5 billion of support, only 46% of which transferred has been disbursed (as of July 2016) due to Israel's border restriction.<sup>87</sup> As a result, only 16% of destroyed homes have been repaired and reconstructed as of February 2016 following cash assistance from the UN or other international support.<sup>88</sup> This harsh policy has extremely impeded repairs and reconstruction, and extended into the suffering of an entire

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85) Save the Children *Gaza's Children: Falling Behind* 2012 <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Gaza%20Health%20Report%20FINAL-LR.pdf>

86) OCHA *Gaza: Internally Displaced Persons* April 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/04/gaza-internally-displaced-persons-april-2016/>

87) World Bank *Reconstructing Gaza – Donor Pledges* August 2016 <http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/rebuilding-gaza-donor-pledges>

88) OCHA *Gaza: Internally Displaced Persons* April 2016 <http://gaza.ochaopt.org/2016/04/gaza-internally-displaced-persons-april-2016/>

population, leaving the 28% of Gazans who were displaced with very little hope of returning to their homes and schools, the disintegration of social services who are unequipped with sufficient medical supplies, water and electricity and further crippling the economy.

OCHA requested a total of \$570, 702, 496 million from donors following the destruction. As of November 2016, more than two years after the end of hostilities, only 34% of the budget has been met.<sup>89</sup>

In addition to the perpetual choking of international aid, Israel has also systematically indirectly targeted international aid agencies through repressive legislation. A recent example involved Israeli forces raiding the World Vision office in Gaza and arresting Mohammed al-Halaby, who was under the accusation of diverting funds to Hamas in an attempt to undermine Israel's security. The arrest produced an immediate effect within hours of Israel's announcement, with Australia claiming to suspend all funding to World Vision in Palestine. What's more, the incident has driven Israel to increase pressure on aid groups, conduct tighter security checks, which is further delaying the already slow recovery effort.

A recent study by Aid Watch has found that aid reaching Gaza is not only restricted, but rather Gaza's dependency on aid subsidizes Israeli occupation and relieves Israel of its obligations as an occupying power. It is inevitable that a proportion of the aid destined for Gaza will eventually reach the Israeli economy given Palestine's economic dependence on Israel. An expert concluded that at least 78% of aid money for the West Bank and Gaza is directly diverted to Israel and fails to benefit the Palestinian population. Israeli measures such as port, transportation, storage and security fees are paid to Israel from Palestinian aid budgets.<sup>90</sup>

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89) OCHA 2016 *Humanitarian Response* November 2015 [https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/2016\\_hrp\\_22\\_january%202016.pdf](https://www.ochaopt.org/documents/2016_hrp_22_january%202016.pdf)

90) Aid Watch Palestine *How Much International Aid to Palestinians End Up in the Israeli Economy?* <http://www.aidwatch.ps/content/how-much-aid>



# FUTURE OF GAZA

The UN has predicted that by the year 2020, Gaza will become an inhabitable place due to the population rate that will rise to around 2.1 million from the current rate of 2 million. This will result in 5,800 more people per square kilometre,<sup>91</sup> and therefore putting a strain on the already crippled and deprived economic and living conditions.

The already devastated infrastructure is anticipated to collapse by 2020 without immediate intervention, as services are not keeping up with the needs of the rapidly growing population. Whilst repairs in schools are on-going, there remains a large disparity between the number of schools in Gaza and the population growth. OCHA estimates that in order to support the population rise, at least 20 new schools must be built every year but over the past eight years only 20 have been built due to Israel's restrictions and siege.<sup>92</sup> By 2020, more than 440 additional schools, 800 hospital beds and 1000 doctors will be required in order for the social infrastructure to function efficiently. Moreover, Gaza's major water source, which already lacks sufficient water for the population, will become irreversible as the demand for drinking water is expected to increase by 60%.<sup>93</sup>

The challenges facing Gaza are extremely complex given the deteriorating political situation, namely the siege, military aggression and internal divisions between Palestinian factions and with ever-restrictive policies, Gazans are becoming subject to ever more inhumane policies, and deepening humanitarian needs are having a visible impact on various aspects of life. The undermining of Gazan sovereignty and the dismantling of the economy is not an accident or by-product of occupation, it is


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91) UNRWA *Gaza in 2020: A Liveable Place?* August 2012 <http://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/gaza-2020-liveable-place>

92) OCHA *Start of New School Year in Gaza* October 2016 <http://www.ochaopt.org/content/start-new-school-year-gaza>

93) UNRWA *Gaza in 2020: A Liveable Place?* August 2012 <http://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/gaza-2020-liveable-place>





a deliberate attempt through the process of de-development, which is imposed for the purpose of perpetuating Israeli military and economic dominance over the Gaza strip whilst also ensuring that the viability of Gaza as a functioning entity continues to dwindle. The international community thus must call upon Israel to end the siege, cease all war crimes, and comply with international law. There is also an urgent need for a reform in international discourse on the Gaza blockade and how discussions surrounding Gaza are framed within an international political context. The suffering of Gazans and the disintegration of Gaza as a state is predominantly a result of the siege, rather than it's ruling government, a statement that is routinely omitted from international discourse. The tendency to focus on Hamas as the cause of devastation in Gaza is a deliberate attempt to conceal gross human right violations on the part of Israel.

Humanitarian aid no longer comprises a long-term and viable solution as long as Israel continues to apply policies of de-development. It is vital that the international community begins to consider the legality and implications of Israel's siege on Gaza as there still remains a considerable gap in how the international community is shaping its policies regarding Palestine. Hypocritical stances continue to dominate, further contributing to the declining economic, social and political status of Gaza, inducing endless cycles of poverty and suffering. The only remaining solution to alleviate the suffering in Gaza is for the international community to ensure that Israel not only complies with international law but that the blockade is lifted in order for the citizens of Gaza to regain their dignity and basic human rights.




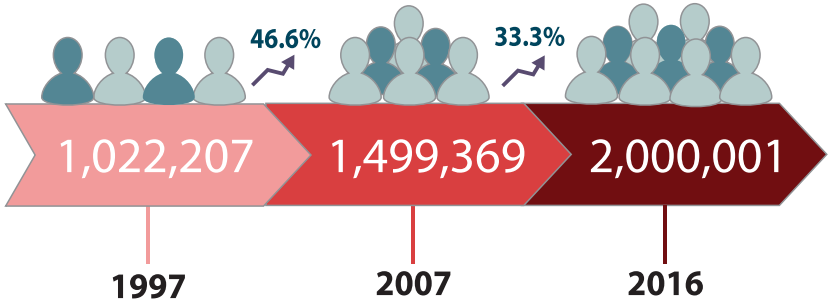


Photo by Ibrahim Faraj



# GAZA 2016

**95.6%**  
population increase in 20 years



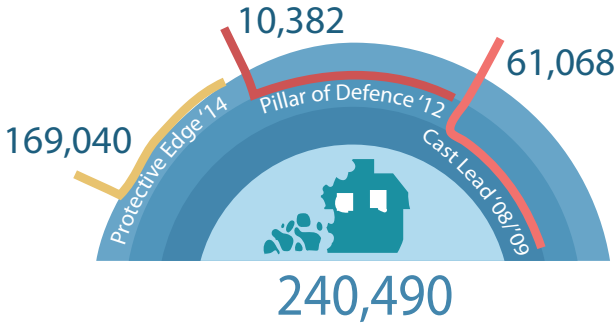
**72.5 %**  
of Gaza's Population is below the age of 29



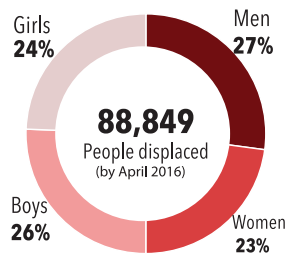
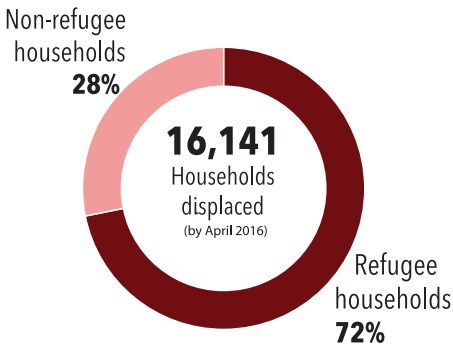
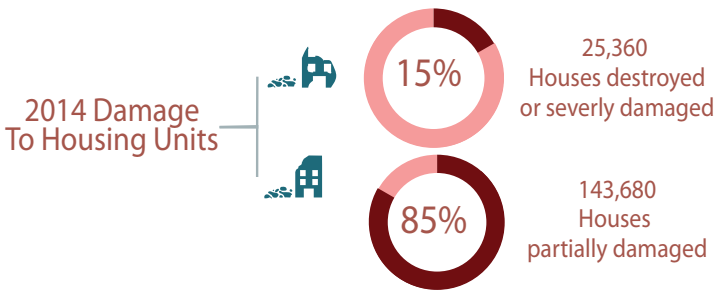
In the second quarter of 2016 the  
unemployment rate in The Gaza

Strip reached **41.7%**





## Houses Destroyed and Damaged in Israeli Assaults



## DISPLACEMENT





## Less than 45% of Gaza's electricity needs are being met



Insufficient electricity means that **70%** of Gaza's population only has piped water for 6-8 hours per day every 2-4 days

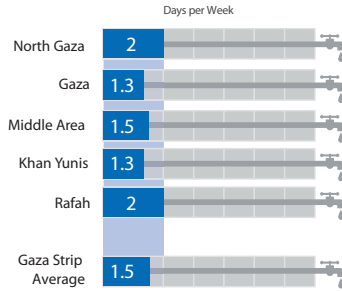


AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS SUBSCRIBERS PROVIDED WITH WATER WEEKLY IN SUMMER



Potable piped water

Due to aquifer depletion, municipal water pumped from wells and distributed through the network is saline and not potable

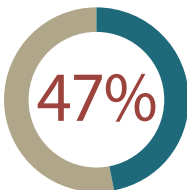


Average water consumption in Gaza is **120 L/day** is the recommendation of the WHO

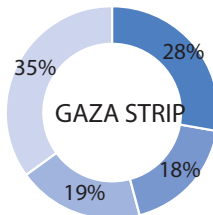


**50 %** of Gazan children suffer from Parasites

**26 %** of childrens diseases caused by contaminated water



Moderate/severe food insecure households



- Severely Food Insecure
- Moderately Food Insecure
- Marginally Food Secure
- Food Secure



2007

51.7% Decrease  
in tuckloads exiting Gaza



2016



181,229

people crossed  
in 2015

17.9 % Decrease  
in numbers of  
people crossing Erez



148,824

people crossed  
in 2016

## 9 Nautical Miles Fishing Limit, Enforced By Israeli Forces

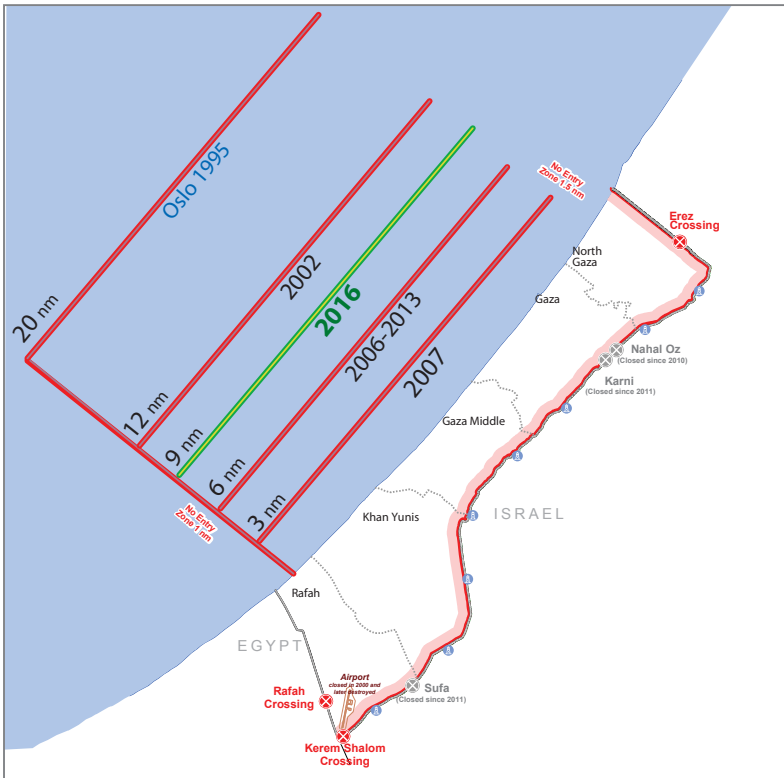




Photo by Ibrahim Foraj



D I A R Y  
2017









Sunday		1	الأحد
		<i>New Year's Day</i>	
8			13
9			14
10			15
11			16
12			17

Monday		2	الاثنين
8			13
9			14
10			15
11			16
12			17

Notes:

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JANUARY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Tuesday	3	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	4	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	5	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

Friday	6	الجمعة
<i>Epiphany</i>		

Saturday	7	السبت
<i>Christmas Day (Orthodox)</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	8	الأحد
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	9	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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JANUARY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Tuesday	10	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	11	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	12	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

Friday	13	الجمعة



Saturday	14	السبت
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	15	الأحد
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	16	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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JANUARY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Tuesday	17	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	18	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	19	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

Friday	20	الجمعة

Saturday 21 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 22 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 23 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal lines.

JANUARY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Tuesday	24	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	25	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	26	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	27	الجمعة

Saturday 28 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 29 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 30 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal lines.

JANUARY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			





Tuesday 31 الثلاثاء

JANUARY

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday 1 الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday 2 الخميس

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday 3 الجمعة

Saturday **4** السبت

World Cancer Day

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday **5** الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday **6** الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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FEBRUARY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			



Tuesday 7 الثلاثاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday 8 الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday 9 الخميس

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday 10 الجمعة



Saturday

11

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

12

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

13

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

FEBRUARY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			



Tuesday	14	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	15	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	16	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	17	الجمعة



Saturday

18

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

19

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

20

الاثنين

World Day of Social Justice

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

FEBRUARY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			





Tuesday 21 الثلاثاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday 22 الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday 23 الخميس

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday 24 الجمعة

Saturday

25

السبت

Massacre of the Ibrahimi mosque  
in Hebron-1994

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

26

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

27

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes.

FEBRUARY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

Tuesday	28	الثلاثاء
FEBRUARY		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	1	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	2	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	3	الجمعة





Saturday

4

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

5

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

6

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

MARCH

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Tuesday	7	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	8	الأربعاء
	<i>International Women's Day</i>	
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	9	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	10	الجمعة





Saturday

11

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

12

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

13

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

MARCH

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Tuesday	14	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	15	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	16	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	17	الجمعة



Saturday 18 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 19 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 20 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

MARCH

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Tuesday		21	الثلاثاء
- International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.			
- 21-28 Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination.			
8			13
- Mother's Day.			
9			14
10			15
11			16
12			17

Wednesday		22	الأربعاء
World Water Day			
8			13
9			14
10			15
11			16
12			17

Thursday		23	الخميس
8			13
9			14
10			15
11			16
12			17

To Do:

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Friday		24	الجمعة

Saturday 25 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 26 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 27 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

MARCH

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Tuesday	28	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	29	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	30	الخميس
<i>- Palestinian Land Day (Yom al-ard)-1976</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	31	الجمعة

Saturday	1	السبت
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	2	الأحد
8	- Israeli forces besieges Bethlehem's church of the Nativity-2002	13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	3	الاثنين
8	Israeli forces begin a 7-day assault on the Jenin refugee Camp-2002	13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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APRIL

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



Tuesday	4	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	5	الأربعاء
<i>Palestinian Child Day</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	6	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	7	الجمعة
<i>World Health Day</i>		



Saturday	8	السبت
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	9	الأحد
8	- Palm Sunday - Deir Yassin Massacre-1948	13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	10	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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APRIL

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



Tuesday	11	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	12	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	13	الخميس
<i>- Holy Thursday</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	14	الجمعة
<i>- Good Friday</i>		

Saturday 15 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 16 الأحد

*Easter Sunday*

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 17 الإثنين

*- Palestinian Prisoners' Day*

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

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APRIL

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Tuesday	18	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	19	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	20	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	21	الجمعة



Saturday	22	السبت
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	23	الأحد
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	24	الاثنين
<i>- Isra' wal-miraj, expected date</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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APRIL

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



Tuesday	25	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	26	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	27	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	28	الجمعة



Saturday 29 السبت

APRIL

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 30 الأحد

APRIL

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 1 الإثنين

International Labor Day

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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MAY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Tuesday	2	الثلاثاء
<i>World Press Freedom Day</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	3	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	4	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	5	الجمعة



Saturday 6 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 7 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 8 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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MAY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Tuesday	9	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	10	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	11	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	12	الجمعة



Saturday **13** السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday **14** الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday **15** الإثنين

*Palestinian Nakkba 'Catastrophe'-1948*

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

MAY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Tuesday	16	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	17	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	18	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	19	الجمعة



Saturday **20** السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday **21** الأحد

*World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development*

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday **22** الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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MAY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Tuesday	23	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	24	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	25	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	26	الجمعة







Saturday

27

السبت

- Ramadan Begins, Expected date

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

28

الأحد

1964: Palestinian National Charter adopted

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

29

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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MAY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Tuesday	30	الثلاثاء
	MAY	
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	31	الأربعاء
	MAY	
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	1	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	2	الجمعة





Saturday 3 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 4 الأحد

International Day of Innocent Victims of aggression

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 5 الإثنين

- World Environment Day - 2nd Arab-Israeli war and annual commemoration of occupation of West Bank, Gaza Strip, east Jerusalem and Golan Heights-1967

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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JUNE

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Tuesday	6	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	7	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	8	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	9	الجمعة





Saturday	10	السبت
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	11	الأحد
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	12	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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JUNE

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Tuesday	13	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	14	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	15	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	16	الجمعة





Saturday

17

السبت

World Day to Combat Desertification  
and Drought

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

18

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

19

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

JUNE

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Tuesday	20	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	21	الأربعاء
<i>World Refugee Day</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	22	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	23	الجمعة







Saturday	24	السبت
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	25	الأحد
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	26	الاثنين
<i>Eid El Feter, expected date</i>		
<i>- International Day in Support of Victims of Torture</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

Blank area for notes.

JUNE

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Tuesday	27	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	28	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	29	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	30	الجمعة



Saturday 1 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 2 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 3 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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JULY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Tuesday	4	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	5	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	6	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	7	الجمعة



Saturday	8	السبت
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	9	الأحد
8	- Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Israeli Apartheid Wall-2004	13
9	- Palestinian civil society issues a call for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel until it complies with international law-2005	14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	10	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

Blank area for notes.

JULY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Tuesday 11 الثلاثاء

World Population Day

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday 12 الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday 13 الخميس

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday 14 الجمعة



Saturday 15 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 16 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 17 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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JULY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Tuesday	18	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	19	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	20	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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- .....
- .....
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Friday	21	الجمعة





Saturday 22 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 23 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 24 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal lines.

JULY

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Tuesday	25	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	26	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	27	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	28	الجمعة



Saturday 29 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 30 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 31 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal lines.

AUGUST

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Tuesday	1	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	2	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	3	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	4	الجمعة



آب

Saturday

5

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

6

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

7

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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AUGUST

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Tuesday	8	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	9	الأربعاء
	<i>International Day of the World's Indigenous People</i>	
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	10	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	11	الجمعة





آب

Saturday

12

السبت

- International Youth Day

- Tal Al-Zatar Refugee Camp Massacre in Lebanon-1976

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

13

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

14

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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AUGUST

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Tuesday	15	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	16	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	17	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	18	الجمعة







Saturday

19

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

20

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

21

الاثنين

*1969: Al-aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem suffers great damage when set on fire by Australian jew Dennis Rohan*

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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AUGUST

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Tuesday	22	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	23	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	24	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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- .....
- .....

Friday	25	الجمعة



Saturday

26

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

27

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

28

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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AUGUST

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Tuesday	29	الثلاثاء
	AUGUST	
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	30	الأربعاء
	AUGUST	
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	31	الخميس
	AUGUST	
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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- .....
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Friday	1	الجمعة
	- Eid Al-Adha, expected date	
	SEPTEMBER	

Saturday

2

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

3

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

4

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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SEPTEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Tuesday	5	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	6	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	7	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	8	الجمعة
<i>International Literacy Day</i>		

Saturday

9

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

10

الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

11

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

SEPTEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Tuesday		12	الثلاثاء
8	.....		13
9	.....		14
10	.....		15
11	.....		16
12	.....		17

Wednesday		13	الأربعاء
8	.....		13
9	.....		14
10	.....		15
11	.....		16
12	.....		17

Thursday		14	الخميس
8	.....		13
9	.....		14
10	.....		15
11	.....		16
12	.....		17

To Do:

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Friday	15	الجمعة
<i>International Day of Democracy</i>		
.....		



Saturday **16** السبت

- International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer  
- Massacre at Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut-1982

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday **17** الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday **18** الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes.

SEPTEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Tuesday 19 الثلاثاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday 20 الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday 21 الخميس

*International Day of Peace*

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday 22 الجمعة

*Al-Hijra, 1436 (Islamic New Year), expected date*

Saturday **23** السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday **24** الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday **25** الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes with horizontal dashed lines.

SEPTEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Tuesday	26	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	27	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	28	الخميس
<i>2nd Palestinian Intifada-2000</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	29	الجمعة



# أيلول تشرين أول

Saturday

30

السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

1

الأحد

- International Day of Non-Violence

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

2

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes.

OCTOBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



**Tuesday 3 الثلاثاء**

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

**Wednesday 4 الأربعاء**

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

**Thursday 5 الخميس**

- World Teachers Day

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

**To Do:**

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**Friday 6 الجمعة**

Saturday	7	السبت
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	8	الأحد
<i>- Al-Aqsa massacre-1990</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	9	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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OCTOBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Tuesday	10	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	11	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	12	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	13	الجمعة



Saturday 14 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 15 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 16 الإثنين

World Food Day

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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OCTOBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



**Tuesday 17 الثلاثاء**

*International Day for the Eradication of Poverty*

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

**Wednesday 18 الأربعاء**

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

**Thursday 19 الخميس**

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

**To Do:**

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**Friday 20 الجمعة**

Saturday 21 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 22 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 23 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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OCTOBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Tuesday	24	الثلاثاء
- United Nations Day & World Development Information Day - 24-30 Disarmament Week		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	25	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	26	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	27	الجمعة

Saturday 28 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 29 الأحد

*Kufur Qasim Massacre-1956*

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 30 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes.

OCTOBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Tuesday 31 الثلاثاء

OCTOBER

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday 1 الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday 2 الخميس

Balfour Declaration 1917

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday 3 الجمعة

Blank area for Friday activities.

Saturday 4 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 5 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 6 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

Blank area for notes.

NOVEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Tuesday

7

الثلاثاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday

8

الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday

9

الخميس

- International Day Against the Wall- Destruction of the Berlin Wall-1989

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday

10

الجمعة



NOVEMBER



Saturday	11	السبت
<i>Death of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat-2004</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	12	الأحد
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	13	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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NOVEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Tuesday

14

الثلاثاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday

15

الأربعاء

- Declaration of Palestinian Independence-1988

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday

16

الخميس

International Day of Tolerance

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday

17

الجمعة



NOVEMBER

Saturday 18 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 19 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 20 الإثنين

Universal Children's Day

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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NOVEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Tuesday	21	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	22	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	23	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	24	الجمعة

Saturday	25	السبت
<i>International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women</i>		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	26	الأحد
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	27	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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NOVEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Tuesday	28	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	29	الأربعاء
8	- International day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People - UN Resolution 181-1947.	13
9	- Recognition of Palestine as non-member state observer	14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	30	الخميس
8	Mawlid Al Nabi (Birth of Prophet Mohamed), expected date	13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	1	الجمعة
DECEMBER		World AIDS Day

Saturday

2

السبت

International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday

3

الأحد

International Day of Disabled Persons

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday

4

الاثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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DECEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Tuesday 5 الثلاثاء

International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday 6 الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday 7 الخميس

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday 8 الجمعة

- 1st Palestinian Intifada 1987



Saturday	9	السبت
- International anti-Corruption Day - Human Rights Day		
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	10	الأحد
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	11	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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DECEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Tuesday

12

الثلاثاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday

13

الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday

14

الخميس

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday

15

الجمعة



DECEMBER

Saturday 16 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 17 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 18 الإثنين

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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DECEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Tuesday	19	الثلاثاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Wednesday	20	الأربعاء
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Thursday	21	الخميس
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

To Do:

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Friday	22	الجمعة



DECEMBER

Saturday 23 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 24 الأحد

Christmas Eve

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 25 الإثنين

Christmas

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Notes:

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DECEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Tuesday

26

الثلاثاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday

27

الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday

28

الخميس

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday

29

الجمعة



DECEMBER

Saturday 30 السبت

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Sunday 31 الأحد

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Monday 1 الإثنين

كانون ثاني  
JANUARY

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Notes:

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DECEMBER

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	JANUARY 2018			



2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR





Tuesday

2

الثلاثاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Wednesday

3

الأربعاء

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

Thursday

4

الخميس

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

To Do:

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Friday

5

الجمعة

Blank writing area for Friday.

Saturday	6	السبت
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Sunday	7	الأحد
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Monday	8	الاثنين
8		13
9		14
10		15
11		16
12		17

Notes:

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**Tuesday 9 الثلاثاء**

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

**Wednesday 10 الأربعاء**

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

**Thursday 11 الخميس**

8	13
9	14
10	15
11	16
12	17

**To Do:**

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- .....

**Friday 12 الجمعة**







Notes

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of horizontal lines.

















## MA'AN Development Center

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**E-mail: [info@maan-ctr.org](mailto:info@maan-ctr.org)**

**<http://www.maan-ctr.org>**



**[/MAANDevelopmentCenter](#)**