

Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC)

### **ANNEXURE B**

### **TESTIMONIAL EVIDENCE**

**Testimony 1** 

Name:	Adibeh S.
Age:	41
Location:	An Nabi Saleh, West Bank
Date:	11 March 2014

Summary: On 11 March 2014, around 20 Israeli soldiers wearing camouflage enter and search a home in a small Palestinian village in the West Bank at 2:00 a.m. and then photograph the entire family. The mother recalls how the experience terrified her children.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of An Nabi Saleh about 15 kilometres north of Ramallah.I am married with four children; one daughter and three sons.
- 2. My Husband woke up at about 2.00 a.m. and told me that there were Israeli soldiers in the neighbourhood. Since a new Israeli army unit arrived in our area they force their way into the village almost every night. Shortly afterwards the soldiers started to throw stun grenades around the village.
- 3. My daughter Nagham, who is 19-years-old, woke up when the stun grenades started to explode. We all got up and dressed because we were worried the army would soon break into our house.
- 4. Soon we could hear the soldiers coming closer. They started to shout out our neighbour's name ordering him to leave his house so he could be arrested. Our neighbour was working nightshift and his wife was staying at her family's house so their house was empty that night.
- 5. The soldiers then came to our house and started to bang on the door. As soon as I opened the door a group of soldiers barged their way in and immediately asked how many people live in

the house. I told them that there was the six of us and my mother-in-law. A soldier then told me to wake everyone up and bring them to the living room.

- 6. It was cold night when I woke my family up and I covered them with blankets so they wouldn't get sick. My sons, Ahmad (13) and Mohammed (10), were scared when they saw the soldiers who had camouflaged faces and were shouting. They both started to shiver from fear.
- 7. When I first woke up my son Mohammad he got very nervous seeing the soldiers and asked me to take him to the bathroom. The soldiers prevented me from taking Mohammad to the bathroom and pointed their weapons at us. Mohammad clung to me out of terror. I screamed at the commander and told him that my son needs to go to the bathroom. The commander then allowed us to go to the bathroom but with one of the soldiers accompanying us.
- 8. Once we were all gathered in the living room the soldiers started to look at a photo album they brought with them to see if any of the pictures matched us. The command and another soldier then took my 15-year-old son, Mahmoud, to the next room as they suspected he matched one of the photos. I became very sacred for my son as I thought that they would arrest even thought he doesn't participate in the weekly protests against the settlement. My husband started to argue with the soldiers because the boy in the photograph who they thought might me Mahmoud was wearing a mask making identification impossible.
- 9. The commander then took Mahmoud onto the balcony. He then asked the rest of the family to stand up so that they could photograph us from the sides and front. They did the same thing to Mahmoud.
- 10. The soldiers then started to search the house looking for clothes similar to the ones worn by the masked boy in the photograph. At the time there were nearly 20 soldiers in our house. I don't know how many more were outside.
- 11. I will never forget the look of terror on the faces of my sons when they saw the soldiers in our house. And I will never forget the way Mahmoud looked when he thought the soldiers were going to arrest him.
- 12. I was born in Jordan and was not used to such terror of soldiers breaking into houses like this.

Name:	Wijdan T.
Age:	48
Location:	An Nabi Saleh, West Bank
Date:	11 March 2014

# Summary: On 11 March 2014, Israeli soldiers enter the village of An Nabi Saleh, in the West Bank, at 2:00 a.m. and take photographs of some of the residents.

- 1. I was asleep when my sister Huda woke me up and told me that Israeli soldiers were in our village and very close to the house. It was 2.00 a.m.I woke up my 23-year-old son, Baha, and told him to be careful as he had been arrested once before.
- 2. I opened the window and saw the soldiers had divided up into groups and had started to search the neighbouring houses. While I was watching what was going on I heard loud banging at the door. I covered my head with a scarf and went to open the door.
- 3. I opened the door and told the soldiers not to knock so hard. There were almost 30 soldiers outside and 15 of them entered the house. The commander told me to bring everybody out of the house. I told him that my mother and father are old and sleeping and I won't let them go out in the cold weather. My mother cannot walk or move and my father is sick and cannot handle the cold weather. The commander allowed us to remain inside the house in one room and asked us to give him our cell phones. Huda told him that we don't have cell phones. Then the commander asked me if there was anyone else in the house. I said no as I thought Baha would have left from a window.
- 4. At that moment another soldier said there was somebody else in the house. The commander told me to turn on the lights in Baha's room and he was still under the bed sheets. The commander shook him and asked for his ID card. Baha told him that he lost his ID in Ramallah.
- 5. Then the commander asked to see my ID card and when he saw that I had a different last name to Baha he got angry as he thought I had lied to him about Baha. When Baha saw the commander yelling at me he became angry and started to scream back at him. I tried to calm the situation down as I didn't want Baha to be beaten. I explained how Baha's last name is from a different branch of the family which is why we have different names.
- 6. The commander asked me and Baha to stand up, and then they took pictures of us in profile and from the front. Then they started to compare our pictures with pictures in a photo album they brought with them, but there was not match.

Name:	Sulafa B.
Age:	40
Location:	An Nabi Saleh
Date:	8 April 2014

Summary: On 8 April 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a home in the West Bank village of An Nabi Saleh at 3.00 a.m. and ransack all the rooms before releasing tear gas and leaving.

- 1. I am married and I live in the village of An Nabi Saleh with my husband and three adult children (18 20 years-old).
- 2. On 8 April 2014, at about 3.00 a.m., we woke up to the sound of a loud explosion outside and violent banging at our front door. I knew that it must be Israeli soldiers by the way they were banging on the front door. I was worried that they had come to arrest my 18-year-old son, Mutasem, who has been arrested twice before in the same manner.
- 3. I opened the door and saw a large number of soldiers outside. Some of them then entered the house in an uncivilized manner. We later discovered that they had thrown a stun grenade at the front of the house which caused the explosion we heard.
- 4. As the soldiers entered the house the young men of our village started to throw stones. The soldiers then started to chase the young men. I was a little relieved that the soldiers left the house without arresting my sons. However, a jeep remained parked outside and we could hear the sounds of clashes in other parts of the village, including the sound of stun grenades and tear gas being fired.
- 5. When the soldiers came back to their jeep they came back to our house and gathered us all in one room. Then some of the soldiers went to my bedroom and started to search it; dumping all my clothes and the mattress on the floor. They also did the same to the other bedrooms. One of my sons had 700NIS on his desk and when the soldiers left the house the money had gone missing. They continued searching the rest of the house including the kitchen and throwing things on the floor.
- 6. During their search, the soldiers didn't allow me to talk or move, but I was comforted that they did not seem interested in arresting my sons.
- 7. After they finished searching the house they left. My husband asked the commander whether he had a warrant to search the house. The commander told him to shut up and that his word was his warrant.

- 8. After the soldiers were gone I went to the bedrooms and was shocked by the damage they had caused. It looked like the house had been hit by an earthquake.
- 9. Suddenly we heard loud noises outside and we started to smell tear gas. The gas quickly filled the house making it hard to breathe. Later on we discovered that while the soldiers were searching the house they had opened the windows and then let off tear gas canisters around the house.
- 10. Although a lot of damage was done to our house I was just pleased that none of us had been injured.

Name:	Raeda T.
Age:	57
Location:	An Nabi Saleh
Date:	23 April 2014

# Summary: On 23 April 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a house in An Nabi Saleh in the West Bank at 3:00 a.m. and arrest a 21 year old male.

- 1. "I live in the village of An Nabi Saleh near Ramallah in the West Bank. I am married and have adult children.My sister-in-law lives with us in the same house.
- 2. On Tuesday, 4 April 2014, I was feeling tired so I went to bed early. When I went to bed I could still hear my children and their cousins talking and laughing making dinner as they celebrated the return of my 21-year-old son Mohammed, who had just been released from an Israeli prison two weeks before.
- 3. At around 3.00 a.m. I woke up to the sound of loud voices. I went to the living room and was shocked to see Israeli soldiers all over the place.All my family werelined up facing the wall. For a moment I thought I was dreaming. I couldn't work out how the soldiers got in the house without me hearing.
- 4. My son Rafat, who is 29-years-old, noticed me standing by the door looking confused and told me not to be scared. He told me that our front door had been open and the soldiers just walked in without breaking anything.

- 5. The commander asked everyone to present their ID cardsAll did but my son Mohammed who showed the commander his prison release paper. Each prisoner has such a paper until their ID cards are released by the prisons.On seeing the paper the commandertold Mohammed to get dressed and to go with them.
- 6. I held my son Mohammed and told the commander that he hadn't done anything wrong so why was he be being detained? The commander told me not to worry and that they were just taking Mohammad to the jeep to confirm his ID over the radio. I was still worried but soldiers had come the week before and checked Mohammad's release papers without arresting him and so I was hopeful.
- 7. After the soldier took Mohammed outside one of the soldiers threw a stun grenade inside the house so that we would not follow. At the same time I heard Mohammed screaming as they started to beat him. I hurried outside and saw Mohammed inside the jeep and three soldiers hitting him. The jeep then drove off before I could reach it. I was still able to hear Mohammed screaming as the jeep drove away. I started to run after the jeep so I could say goodbye to Mohammad.
- 8. I was not able to think straight all I wanted was to be with my son. Then I noticed that there were other soldiers about and my other sons were running after me yelling at me to stop. I was afraid that more of my children would be arrested so I stopped.
- 9. Everyone started to calm me down; they told me that Mohammed did not do anything wrong so he would be home soon.
- 10. Minutes passed very slowly but later that morning Mohammad was still not home. After two days Mohammed called us and told us that they finished interrogating him and that he had been moved to Ofer prison, near Ramallah. Three Israeli soldiers accused Mohammed of throwing stones at them.
- 11. Mohammed remained in prison for 20 days but was not charged with an offence for lack of evidence. I am always worried that he will get arrested again and he still has not had his ID card returned.

Name:	Fadwa T.
Age:	31
Location:	Kafr ad Dik
Date:	1 May 2014

Summary: On 1 May 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 3.30 a.m. accompanied by three dogs in order to conduct an arrest operation.

- 1. I am married and I have two girls and one boy, ages 3 to 12-years-old.
- 2. I live in the village of Kafr ad Dik in the West Bank. Two Israeli settlements were built on village land nearby.
- 3. On the 5 May 2014, at about 3.30 a.m., I woke up to continuous and loud banging at the front door. When I went to the door to find out who it was someone answered in Arabic that it was the Israeli army. I became very scared and my heart rate increased rapidly. I started to shiver out of fear. I asked them to give me a minute so I can change my clothes but they started to shout for me to immediately open the door. I feared that my children would wake up terrifiedby all the noise so I opened the door a little bit and begged the soldiers to let me change my clothes but they just forced their way inside.
- 4. Five soldiers entered the house accompanied by three dogs. One of the soldiers asked me where my husband was and I told him that he was in Ramallah. He repeated the same question but this time he screamed at me. I remained silent and did not respond. Then they asked for my ID card and followed me into the bedroom as I went to fetch it.
- 5. After checking my ID card the soldiers went next door to my brother-in-law's house. They searched the house for my husband and then searched my father-in-law's house.
- 6. After about 30 minutes the soldiers came back to my house and me to leave as they searched. I hurried to wake up my children and carried my youngest son outside. It was very cold and my children started to cry out of fear when they saw all the soldiers and dogs. We remained outside the house until about 7.00 a.m. I saw about 50 soldiers surrounding our house.
- 7. The soldiers were also surrounding other houses looking for my husband; suddenly we heard screams coming out of one of our neighbor's house where my husband was hiding. When my sisters and brothers-in-law realized that the soldiers found my husband they went to the house to try to get him released. The soldiers started to yell at us to go away and then they threw tear gas canister towards us to prevent us from reaching him.

- 8. One of my sisters-in-law was hit with a tear gas canister and it became very difficult to breathe. I sat down and watched as my husband was tied and blindfolded.
- 9. When I returned to the house everything thing was misplaced, nothing was left in place. I was so devastated and I couldn't sleep all night although I was exhausted and warned out. We still don't know what my husband is accused of doing.

Name:	Nuha T.
Age:	53
Location:	Kafr ad Dik
Date:	2 May 2015

### Summary: On 2 May 2014, Israeli soldiers entered the West Bank village of Kufr ad Dik at 3.00 a.m. and ransack a home before discharging tear gas and leaving.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village Kafr ad Dik with my husband and 12-year-old son.
- 2. On 2 May 2014, at about 3.00 a.m. I woke to the sound of someone trying to break into the house. I looked out of the window and saw a group of Israeli soldiers. The soldiers saw me and started to yell at me. Soon afterwards the soldiers broke in and spread out throughout the house.
- 3. I was still in my pajamas when the soldiers broke in. My husband became very angry because of this intrusion. He hurried to the living room and started to yell at the soldiers for entering our house in such a hostile without giving us the chance to get dressed.
- 4. The soldiers surrounded my husband and started to beat him using their guns and kicking him all over his body including his head and back. When I saw the soldiers beating my husband I couldn't handle it, so I started to yell at them to leave him alone. I grabbed the arm of a soldier to get his attention and another soldier pushed me to the floor.
- 5. After about 15 minutes another soldier entered the house and told the other soldiers to stop beating my husband. He also apologized to me and asked us to leave the house as they searched.

- 6. I went to my bedroom to change my clothes. Outside the house I saw another 50 soldiers and a number military vehicles. We watched as more soldiers entered the house with dogs. We remained standing outside until 7.00 a.m. and it was very cold.
- 7. Suddenly the soldiers started to throw tear gas canisters and stun grenades around our house. I found it difficult to breathe and my eyes stung.
- 8. The soldiers left the house after they caused a lot of damage to the furniture and our belongings. I was shocked to see everything in the house misplaced.
- 9. I get terrified when the soldiers show up suddenly at night. I find it hard to sleep now.

Name:	Najah B.
Age:	41
Location:	Abud, West Bank
Date:	5 May 2014

# On 5 May 2014, Israeli soldiers enter the West Bank village of Abud and ransack a house looking for a member of Hamas.

- 1. I live in the village of Abud, near Ramallah, in the West Bank. I am married and havetwo children aged 4 and 10 years and a baby on the way.We live in an apartment building with our extended family.
- 2. During 21 years of marriage my husband has spent only three years with me and our children. Recently my husband, Ibrahim, was interrogated by the Israeli intelligence more than once and was threatened with yet another arrest.
- 3. At about 1.00 a.m., on 5 May 2014, my husband received a phone call telling him that soldiers were in our neighborhood so to be careful. Ibrahim didn't want to be arrested again especially that he was so excited about the child I was expecting.
- 4. When Ibrahim tried to leave the house the neighborhood was already fullof soldiers and jeeps. It was as if they were going to war. My husband's only choice was to go up and hide on the roof.

- 5. I remained in the apartment with my children and my father who came to visit from Jordan. Shortly afterwards the soldiers were outside the main door yelling at us to open up.
- 6. I opened the door for the soldiers who entered the house in a rush and started to search everywhere. The commander came to me and asked me where my husband was. I told him that I didn't know.
- 7. The commander tried to call Ibrahim's phone using our phones hoping that Ibrahim will pick up thinking it was us. Ibrahim's phone was switched off which made the commander very angry. The commander started to yell and threatened to destroy everything in the house. I told him he could do what he likes because Ibrahim was not home.
- 8. I was worried that that the soldiers would become more violent and will somehow hurt my children or my father so I told them that my husband was at his sister's house. It thought that they would leave our house and go to her house giving Ibrahim the opportunity to run away. The commander asked me to call my sister-in-law and when she answered I asked her if my Ibrahim was there but she said that she hadn't seen him all day. I tried to emphasize that the soldiers were present and they wanted Ibrahim and if she sees him to warn him. I told her that In front of the soldiers so they would believe that Ibrahim was not home.
- 9. Unfortunately the soldiers didn't leave our house as we hoped but sent three jeeps to search my sister-in-law's house and the rest of the soldiers remained in my house.
- 10. At about 4:30 a.m., 30 minutes before dawn prayers, the soldiers wanted to leave before everyone woke up and there would be clashes. So the commander asked me again to tell him where my husband was. I repeated what I said before so he ordered his soldiers to completely destroy my bedroom, after that he came and asked me again. I gave him the same answer.
- 11. Then the commander took my phone and showed me that I called Ibrahim two hours earlier. I still denied knowing where he was.
- 12. As the time for dawn prayers drew closer the soldiers became more and more nervous. They started to destroy everything in the house. Then one of the soldiers yelled and they all ran to the roof and arrested Ibrahim.
- 13. They chained Ibrahim and took him down to the main road and didn't allow any of us to leave the building. We all stood by our windows singing to Ibrahim, being proud of him as he resisted this oppression and how they needed nearly a 100 soldiers to arrest him.

14. Two days later I gave birth to our son Adam. I do not know how long Ibrahim will spend in jail, and I don't know if I will see him again or not, especially because I am a Jordanian citizen and I do not have a Palestinian ID card.

### **Testimony 8**

Name:	Ikhlas T.
Age:	48
Location:	An Nabil Saleh
Date:	22 May 2014

# Summary: On 22 May 2014, Israeli soldiers enter the West Bank village of An Nabi Saleh at 1:30 a.m. and conduct an arrest operation.

- 1. I am widowed and I live with my daughter and four sons in the village of An Nabi Saleh, near Ramallah, in the West Bank.
- 2. I lost one son, Mustafa, on 29 December 2009. That day Israeli soldiers fired a tear gas canister at Mustafa which struck him in the eye from a distance of 2 metres. We tried to take him to the hospital but the soldiers closed the gate at the entrance to our village. Mustafa bled to death and only after he died did the soldiers allow us to pass, but by then it was too late. Since then I have a great fear of losing another son.
- 3. On 22 May 2014, at about 1.30 a.m., my 28-year-old son, Ziad, woke me up and told me that the military were surrounding our house. Ziad went to check the other rooms in the house to see who was home. One other son Odai was home but two other sons were out. When Ziad tried to open the front door he came face to face with a soldier who hit Ziad in the stomach and pushed him aside so that the rest of the soldiers could enter the house.
- 4. The commander asked Ziad who was home and Ziad told him that I was there and his brother. When my other son Odai came out of his room the commander asked him to present his ID card As soon as the commander saw Odai's ID he ordered the soldiers to arrest him.
- 5. I started to yell at the soldiers to leave him alone and not to touch him. They ignored me and handcuffed Odai before dumping him over the fence outside. They left out the back because they did not want to encounter men from our village out the front.
- 6. Five soldiers were waiting behind the fence and they put Odai in a jeep and drove away. I kept watching the jeeps and they stopped at the entrance to the village next to the military

watchtower. Later on when I saw Odai in the military court he told me that the soldiers kept beating him from the moment they took him out of the house to the interrogation centre.

- 7. Odai is the youngest of my children and he is 21-years-old. He has been arrested four times and was shot four times. The first time he was shot with eight rubber bullets in his chest. The second time he was inside an Israeli jail he was beaten so badly that they broke his chin and his teeth. The third time Odai was shot with a rubber bullet in his head. The fourth time he was almost shot in the head but the bullet missed him and hit the wall behind him. The shrapnel from the bullet punctured his face and he needed surgery to have it removed.
- 8. Some time ago the soldiers came at night and arrested all four of my sons. Their father was still alive and had a heart attack shortly afterwards. They all spent between three to eight months in jail. As soon as one of my sons comes out of prison another goes to hospital and so on.
- 10. To lose one of my children is very painful but I have got used to it after a while. But when my other sons are always under the threat of arrest this causes me a lot of anxiety.

### **Testimony 9**

Name:	Fatima M.
Age:	46
Location:	Deir Nidham, West Bank
Date:	22 May 2014

Summary: On 19 May 2014, two brothers are detained by Israeli soldiers and held until their 13-year-old brother presented himself. Three nights later, the military raid the family home at 2:30 a.m. and arrest the youngest son.

- 1. On 19 May 2014, at about 5.00 p.m., my brother-in-law came and told me that Israeli soldiers had detained two of my sons at the entrance to the village and wanted their ID cards. I gave their ID cards to my brother-in-law who then took them to the soldiers. Sometime later my brother-in-law returned and told me that the soldiers were not going to release my sons until my youngest son J., who is 13-years-old, went to the soldiers.
- 2. I was shocked because J. is young and has never taken part in any demonstrations in the village. My brother-in-law insisted that we take J. to the soldiers because otherwise they would not release my other two sons who they were already holding.

- 3. I then took J. to the soldiers who were still waiting at the entrance to the village. They then made J. speak to an Israeli policeman on the phone. The commander then told me that we had to bring J. to the Israeli police station inside Binjamin settlement the next day and if we didn't the soldiers would come back in the middle of the night and arrest him. The soldiers then released my other two sons at around 10:00 p.m.
- 4. After consulting with my husband, who was traveling at the time, we advised my son not to go to the police station. We wanted him to focus on his school exams.
- 5. A few nights later, on 22 May, at around 2.30 a.m., I woke up terrified to the sound of loud banging at our front door. I was home alone with my children as my husband was still abroad. I jumped out of bed and went to the door to see who it was. I heard the voice of soldiers shouting and banging at the door. I turned the key to signal to them I was about to open the door and rushed back to the bedroom to put some clothes on but the soldiers broke open the front door and moved on to break the bedroom door.
- 6. I was shaking from fear and confusion, I was totally terrified. Soldiers went into my children's bedrooms and woke them up. The commander asked all of us to gather in the living room and asked me about my 13-year-old son J. I asked him what he wanted from J. and told him to leave him alone as he was in the middle of his school exams. The commander told me they were going to take him for questioning and would return him the following day. Of course they never did.
- 7. They dragged J. outside where they aggressively twisted his arms behind his back and tied them with a plastic tie. I lost my mind when I saw this and realized my son was being taken away while I watched helplessly. I went crazy. The soldiers did not have any documents and didn't give us any details about where they were going to take J.
- 8. That night the soldiers also arrested another boy, M., who was also 13-years-old. Later that day, at around 2:00 p.m., J. called me to tell me that his father should go to the interrogation center. Then someone grabbed the phone from J. and told me that I would not see him for a long time.
- 9. My son and the other boy were released at 11.00 p.m., on 26 May 2014. He was released without charge and we didn't have to pay any money. When he got home he told me how he was slapped and kicked and badly treated. He missed two of his school exams which he will have to take again.
- 10. When he was released I could tell he wasn't able to concentrate of his school work and was always on the alert, watching and listening to what was going on outside the house for fear that there might be soldiers around. I strongly believe soldiers sometimes target young

children to teach them hard lessons. My son was released without charge but the experience was traumatizing, not only for him but for the entire family.

#### **Testimony 10**

Name:Nijmeh A.Age:67Location:Silwad, West BankDate:6 June 2014

### Summary: On 6 June 2014, Israeli soldiers enter the West Bank home of an elderly US couple at 3:00 a.m., confiscate their telephones and lock them in a room.

- 1. Me and my husband live in the U.S. and are American citizens. We are originally from the village of Silwad, near Ramallah, in the West Bank. Every year we come back to Palestine and visit our home town during the spring. This year we have been visiting Silwad since February.
- 2. It was around 3.00 a.m. on a Friday when my husband and I heard loud banging at our front door. At that time of night I expected it to be Israeli soldiers. My 75-year-old husband opened the door and was faced with around 13 soldiers who entered the house. The minute they were inside the house the soldiers asked us to hand over our cell phones and they took the landline and the internet wireless device so that we could not communicate with anyone.
- 3. We tried to explain that we have children and relatives in the U.S. phone us each morning but they were not interested. I noticed that one of the soldiers was carrying a map with all the houses of the village marked and our house was highlighted in red. That's when I realised they weren't going to leave our house anytime soon. The soldiers then put us in one room and locked us in.
- 4. Whilst locked up in my own home I could hear the soldiers moving around on the first floor but I could not tell what they were up to. My husband and I were terrified as this was the first time we had been treated this way. We have been living in the US for the past 45 years and we are not used to such terror.
- 5. Later that morning our phones were ringing the whole time but the soldiers didn't allow us to respond. At around 4.00 p.m. I heard voices of people screaming and getting closer to us until

the door of the room where we were locked-in was opened by a group of our relatives from the village. I was so scared that I could not speak.

- 6. When our relatives discovered the soldiers in our house they started yelling at them and asking them how they could break into the house of an elderly couple. The soldiers looked scared and as they were leaving the house they let of tear gas canisters so that nobody would follow them. I think they released about 30 tear gas canisters in all. They also broke all the windows on our balcony before leaving. I have had open heart surgery and found it really difficult to breathe because of all the gas. Our relatives closed all the windows to try and keep the gas out.
- 7. We found out later that it was our niece that was responsible for our rescue. She had seen the curtains on the third floor of our house moving and she knew that we never go up their because of our age. She suspected that something was wrong and became more suspicious when we did not answer our phones.
- 8. My husband and I were forced to leave our house because we no longer felt safe. We feel sad and we are not happy to leave our house. This is our dream house that we built in stages over many years. We cannot handle the pressure and the feeling of insecurity anymore.

### **Testimony 11**

Name:	Anwar A.
Age:	22
Location:	Balata refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	17 June 2014

Summary: On 17 June 2014, Israeli soldiers raid an apartment building in the Balata refugee camp at 2.00 a.m. They arrest two men and blow up an apartment where a young family of three were living.

- 1. I live in the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus, with my husband and baby daughter.
- 2. It was around 2.00 a.m. when I heard sounds from outside the house. I looked out of the window and saw a large number of Israeli soldiers surrounding our building. We did not dare to move because we were afraid that there could be army snipers about, so we tried to remain calm and stayed in the living room. I was very worried that my child could get hurt or that my husband might be arrested.

- 3. Soon we heard the sound of soldiers breaking down the main door to our apartment building. The soldiers went first to my parent-in-law's apartment on the first floor and started to search it. After about half-an-hour the soldiers came up to our apartment on the third floor. My husband was ready to open the door for them because he did not want them to break it in and traumatize our little daughter.
- 4. The minute the door was opened about 25 soldiers rushed in and held my husband and started to beat him up. I started to yell at them while they continued beating him up. Then they dragged him down to my parent- in-law's apartment on the first floor. I followed my husband down to the first floor carrying our daughter even though a soldier tried to stop me. Meanwhile the soldiers started to search our apartment. By the time I arrived on the first floor my husband had been taken from the building.
- 5. Meanwhile, the soldiers held the rest of the family in the first floor apartment. When my mother-in-law asked to go to the bathroom a soldier told her "not to ask for anything or to talk". When my phone ran a soldier took it from me and it was never returned.
- 6. After about an hour the soldiers were on their way out of the house when one of them stopped on the first floor and said: "block your ears because you will hear a big explosion". We all remained on the first floor and thought the soldiers would throw some stun grenades. We had no idea what they had been doing on the third floor. Then I heard a soldier outside count to three and there was a huge explosion on the third floor above us. Then I realized that the soldiers had blown up our apartment.
- 7. That night the soldiers arrested my husband and his cousin. They were accused of being associated with a banned organization, Hamas. Up until today we don't know where they were taken to. We have spoken to lawyers and the Red Crescent in order to find them but we still don't know. I now feel anxious the whole time. I am now living with my parents-in-law as our apartment is uninhabitable. We are still paying of the debts we incurred to renovate the apartment which now we can't live in.

Name:	Rahmeh H.
Age:	50
Location:	Silwad, West Bank
Date:	17 June 2014

# Summary: On 17 June 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a house in Silwad at 1:45 a.m. and search the house for two hours causing considerable damage.

- 1. I live in Silwad with my husband and three children.
- 2. It was around 1.45 a.m. when I heard sounds coming from outside. It didn't even cross my mind that there might be Israeli soldiers outside. My husband looked out of the window and told me our house was surrounded by soldiers. He told me and our daughters to get dressed because he feared the army would break into the house. A short time later our door bell rang.
- 2. My husband opened the door and about 40 soldiers entered and started to search the house. The commander asked for our mobile phones. My daughters and I were held in one room and my husband was taken to another room. I became very worried fearing that they were going to arrest my husband. He has previously spent eight years in an Israeli jail but now that he is older I feared that he would not be able to take it. I was also worried that the soldiers might start harassing my daughters as there were no female soldiers present.
- 3. Meanwhile I could hear the soldiers breaking kitchen utensils and ruining our furniture. I was not allowed to leave the room that I was locked in by a soldier, who was standing by the door and preventing us from leaving. I felt so helpless and vulnerable not being able to protect my house and my family. As time passed, the soldiers became more tense and that scared me more. I was glad that my son was not home as he can be quite stubborn and he won't take orders from anybody. I could hear the commander talking to my husband about the three kidnapped Israeli teenagers.
- 4. While the soldiers were searching the house I remembered that my four-year-old grandson, Ibrahim, was still sleeping in another room. I worried what would happen if he woke up and saw his room full of soldiers. I asked the soldier who was guarding us to let me go to the other room and fetch Ibrahim. At first the soldier refused but as I insisted he accompanied to the other room and I got Ibrahim and brought him back to the room where we were being held.
- 5. The soldiers remained in our house for two hours. They searched everywhere and caused a lot of damage. Everything was thrown about. They took pictures down from the wall. They even hit the wall with a hammer. I don't know what they were searching for. After the soldiers left at 4:00 a.m. we spent the rest of the day cleaning up. My grandson told me that he had been awake in the other room and heard all the sounds of the home being destroyed. He had pretended to be asleep because he was scared of the soldiers. I don't understand why we must continue to be oppressed and terrorized in this way for a crime we did not commit.

Name:Mariam H.Age:70Location:Balata refugee camp, West BankDate:17 June 2014

Summary: On 17 June 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the Balata refugee camp at 2.00 a.m. and arrest one male after damaging the family's property.

- 1. I live in the Balata refugee camp in Nablus. I am a widow and my adult children also live in the camp.
- 2. On 17 June 2014, at about 2.00 a.m., I woke up to an unusual sound outside. A few minutes later I heard loud banging on the main door of my house. When I opened the door about 30 Israeli soldiers came inside the house. All of the soldiers were masked.
- 3. One of the soldiers asked me in Arabic "where the gun was"? I told him that I didn't have any weapons in the house. Some soldiers took me to the living room, while the others started to search the house. The soldiers caused a lot of damage to the furniture as they searched.
- 4. Thirty minutes later the soldiers went to the second floor apartment, where my son Mohammed lives with his family. Mohammed was not home but the soldiers searched the house anyway and caused a lot of damage.
- 5. The soldiers didn't stop there. They also went to the third floor apartment where my son Emad lives. The soldiers hit Emad in the face so hard that three of his teeth fell out and his jaw was fractured. They then arrested Emad in front of his children. Emad's children were terrified. It was very hard for me to hear my grandchildren crying. There was nothing I could do and the soldiers even prevented us from using the bathroom.
- 6. The soldiers claimed they were searching for a gun. They caused so much damage, arrested my son, but did not find any weapon. They also threatened to kill my other son if he did not surrender himself.
- 7. Two hours later the soldiers left us and went away. I feel so scared for both of my sons. I don't know what will happen next.

Name:	Rania A.
Age:	33
Location:	Salfit, West Bank
Date:	18 June 2014

Summary: A woman describes how on 18 June 2014, Israeli soldiers entered her apartment at 1:30 a.m. and arrested her husband who was released in a prisoner exchange several years earlier.

- 1. I live in Salfit with my husband and seven month old baby girl.
- 2. My husband spent 20 years in an Israeli prison. He was arrested in 1992 and was released in the prisoner exchange deal nearly two years ago. Three months after he was released we got married.
- 3. On 18 June, at around 1.30 a.m., we heard people talking outside the house. I looked out of the window but I didn't see anything so we continued chatting for a few more minutes when we heard the sound of vehicles. I looked out the window again and saw around 40 Israeli soldiers. I realised that they had probably come to arrest my husband as they were arresting men released during the prisoner exchange. I felt so sad and afraid.
- 4. Minutes later we heard loud banging on our neighbor's apartment door on the upper floor. The soldiers covered the spy hole in our door so we couldn't see what was going on. After about 15 minutes there was loud banging on our apartment door. The minute my husband opened the door a soldier grabbed him by the neck and asked him for his name in Arabic.
- 5. The soldier then asked for his ID card which was in the bedroom. Around seven soldiers accompanied him to the bedroom. I stood by my daughter's bed but they did not talk to me. The soldier took my husband's ID and commented that he should be arrested. At that moment I was shocked. I was unable to speak or cry.
- 6. The soldiers took my husband out of the bedroom to the living room. They spoke with him for about five minutes then they told him to say goodbye to us. My husband came to the bedroom again accompanied by seven soldiers. He told me to take care of myself and our daughter, then he changed his clothes while one of the soldiers was yelling at him to hurry up in Arabic.
- 7. The soldiers then took my husband and closed the bedroom door leaving me inside with my daughter. When I came out of the bedroom around 30 soldiers were searching the house. One

of the soldiers told me to go back to thebedroom until they had finished searching the house. The soldiers ruined our furniture and kitchen utensils and left the house at about 2.30a.m. A neighbour later told me that my husband was taken out of the house, blindfolded and handcuffed, and put in a military jeep.

8. The minute the soldiers left the house, I started to scream out loud. My neighbours came and took me to my brother's house. I have no idea where the soldiers took my husband or what they did to him. I hope that he will get out of prison soon so we can raise our daughter, Amena, together.

#### **Testimony 15**

Name:	Bushra A.
Age:	20
Location:	Ramallah, West Bank
Date:	21 June 2014

### Summary: On 21 June 2014, a house in Ramallah in raided and searched by Israeli soldiers at 2.30 a.m.

- 1. I live in the Um Al Sharait neighbourhood of Ramallah with my mother and three brothers. My father was imprisoned eight months ago by the Israeli military and he being held in administrative detention without charge or trial. In protest at being held without charge or trial, my father went on hunger strike with other prisoners.
- 2. As soon as we heard that three Israeli teenagers had been kidnapped we were expecting the military to show up and arrest members of our family. I was imprisoned for 18 months along with two of my brothers. We would stay up all night and monitor the media channels to find out where the army was raiding that night. Then we would sleep during the day.
- 3. On 21 June, at around 2.30 a.m., we heard the sound of jeeps outside. I looked out of the window and saw about 10 Israeli military jeeps about 500 metres away. Clashes then started to erupt between the young men of our neighbourhood and the soldiers. Me and my brothers got dressed fully expecting the soldiers to enter our house.
- 4. The clashes made it difficult for the military to operate near to where we live and we began to think that our house might not be raided. I felt a little comforted that we might be able to spend another night together as one family and none of us would be arrested that night. I told

one of my brothers that I would go and take some rest, while he stayed up following up the news updates.

- 5. But then after about one hour I heard jeeps outside. I looked out of my bedroom window and saw a number of jeeps. I got up just as my brother was opening the door of my room. One of my brothers quickly opened the door because last time the soldiers came to arrest my father they blew open the door.
- 6. About 15 soldiers entered our house and they gathered us all in the living room. They then took two of my brothers to another room. The commander asked me for my ID card so I told him that it was in my bedroom. When I entered my bedroom there were three soldiers and all my clothes, books, bed cover and mattress wereon the floor. I did not say anything and just collected by ID card.
- 7. The commander then asked me to go to another room with him. He kept the door open and said he would keep the door open so that I would not be afraid. I told him that he should have a female soldier with him and a search warrant before he breaks into peoples' houses like this. The commander replied: "I am the law and nothing else matters, you kidnapped our citizens and we are here to search for them". I told him that we did not kidnap anyone and that he will not find them among the books and papers that they scattered all around the place, neither in the bottles of oil, sugar, rice that they searched in.
- 8. The commander then asked me if we have any weapons so I told him that we have only kitchen knives and if he wants to take a look I can show him. I did not want to get into an argument with him. The commander asked me to go back to the living room where my mother and brothers were. The commander also asked my brother if they had any weapons. My brother told him that he had a weapon he used in karate training under his bed. The commander asked him to go with another soldier and bring it.
- 9. They gathered all of us again in the living room and the commander started to talk with my mother. "Imagine if some people kidnapped your youngest son, what would you do? Wouldn't this be a problem? You would miss him and he would miss you. Why don't you tell them to return the boys? The commander spoke as though the Palestinian people were the oppressors and he was the victim. My mother replied that she didn't know anything about the kidnapping and they could search wherever they like. After about an hour they left.
- 10. Our family has got used to family members being arrested so this is nothing new to us. But what is happening right now in the West Bank is savage and hard to imagine. We cannot sleep at night out of fear that our house will suddenly be invaded by soldiers. We now sleep during the day and stay up all night.

Name:	Mariam M.
Age:	58
Location:	Haris, West Bank
Date:	21 June 2015

# Summary: On 21 June 2014, Israeli soldiers raid a family home in Haris village at 1:30 a.m. A woman describes how her husband had a heart attack and was denied medical attention.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of Haris adjacent to the Israeli settlement of Barkan.
- 2. I was asleep when one of my daughters woke me to say Israeli soldiers were surrounding our house. It was 1.30 a.m. The soldiers also broke into our house five days earlier. I told my daughter to go and wake her father, who was sleeping on the roof because it was very hot that night. My husband was already up and he immediately came down and went to the front door.
- 3. By this time we could hear screaming coming from our neighbour's children. My husband wanted to check on them but the soldiers would not allow it and they got into an argument. I was worried for my husband, who was not outside, and went to see if he was alright. However, when I tried to approach my husband a soldier yelled at me in Arabic and told me to go back inside. Then I could hear my husband screaming in such a way that sounded like he had been hurt. We then hurried outside and saw around five soldiers surrounding my husband. In all there were over 100 soldiers in the area.
- 4. My husband looked like he was in great pain. His hands were on his chest and he was asking for an ambulance. He said he was having difficulty breathing and had chest pain. The soldiers prevented any of us from approaching him to help. One of my children borrowed the neighbour's car to take my husband to the hospital but was prevented by the soldiers. When my daughter started to beg the soldiers to let someone help her father she was told to shut up. One of my sons called ambulance which arrived about 15 minutes later. However, the soldiers prevented the paramedics from treating my husband.
- 5. Soon afterwards my husband died. When the soldiers were sure my husband was dead, one of them produced a camera and started taking pictures. The soldiers then left the area. We gathered around my husband thinking he might just be unconscious, but the paramedic told us that he died of a heart attack. There was also a bruise on his forehead. I started to scream hysterically. I now feel constant pain in my chest. I cannot stop thinking about what happened. I have no appetite for food or drink. I keep thinking that this must be a nightmare and I will wake up.

Name:	Huda S.
Age:	59
Location:	Ein Beit el Mai refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	22 June 2014

# Summary: On 22 June 2014, Israeli soldiers conduct a night raid at 1:30 a.m. and shoot a mentally handicapped man.

- 1. I live in a refugee camp near Nablus with my husband and children. A number of my children suffer from psychological and motor disorders.
- 2. On 22 June I was unable to sleep because my son Ahmad had had a nervous breakdown. It was 1.30 a.m. Suddenly I heard the sound of Israeli soldiers outside. We had no idea why the soldiers were in our neighbourhood. A short time later we could hear the soldiers approaching our house.
- 3. Ahmad became agitated and I tried to calm him down. He wanted to outside and stop the soldiers from entering our house. I asked one of my other sons, Mohammad, to make sure Ahmad did not leave the house. Ahmad managed to break away from Mohammad and he rushed outside and stood in front of an Israeli jeep. The soldiers inside the jeep got out and pointed their weapons at him. I did not allow Mohammed to go outside in case both my sons got hurt.
- 4. I hurried outside and I tried to explain to the soldiers that Ahmad was suffering from severe psychological and neurological disorders, but the soldiers started to shout at us. I went back in to the house and a few minutes later I heard gun shots. I ran outside with Ahmad's medical papers so the soldiers would believe that he was sick. I saw Ahmad on the ground surrounded by three soldiers. One of the soldiers was pointing his gun at Ahmad's shoulder whilst another soldier was prodding his stomach with his gun. Other soldiers pointed their guns at me.
- 5. I went back inside and a few minutes later I heard the sound of an ambulance. When the ambulance arrived Ahmad was still alive but the soldiers prevented the paramedics from helping him. Once Ahmad was dead the soldiers left. I couldn't believe that Ahmad died; I was calling him to stay with me and never leave. My heart aches because of my loss.

Name:	Miyasar H.
Age:	55
Location:	'Einabus, West Bank
Date:	24 June 2014

# Summary: On 24 June 2014, Israeli soldiers raid a family home at 2:00 a.m. and terrify occupants for over four hours.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in a village near Nablus, close to the Israeli settlement of Yitzhar.
- 2. We were asleep when I woke up to the sound of loud banging on our front door. It was 2.00 a.m. My husband looked out of the bedroom window and saw about 100 Israeli soldiers surrounding our house. One of the soldiers started to yell in Arabic for us to open the door.
- 3. My husband rushed down the stairs, from the third floor, and opened the door for them. The soldiers pushed my husband to get in, but my husband yelled back telling them to give us some time to get dressed. I was standing on the staircase and heard the argument. I immediately went back upstairs to wake up the children.
- 4. The younger children were terrified and I tried to calm them down. About 20-30 soldiers were already inside the house. A number of soldiers followed me to the bedroom and told me to bring all the children to the living room. They were pointing their weapons at us.
- 5. Meanwhile my husband was being held in another bedroom. My grandson started to cry when one of the soldiers threatened to "kill me" if I spoke. I told him not to be afraid. Then the solider pointed the gun at my grandson's head. The soldiers did not allow us to sit down or use the bathroom. I also suffer from high blood pressure which the situation did not help.
- 6. After about 30 minutes my grandson thought that he heard his grandpa calling him so he went near the window to see. The soldiers prevented him from approaching the window and asked him how old he was before locking him in a bathroom. He is 13-years-old. After an hour-and-a-half they let my grandson out of the bathroom. He told me that a soldier had pushed him on the head and hit him in his chest.
- 7. The soldiers remained in the house until 6:30 a.m. We were exhausted by the time they left as we had to remain standing the whole time. As soon as the soldiers left I went to check on the rest of the house and discovered it was a total mess. On top of that the soldiers stole jewelry worth over \$4,000, cash worth \$1,600, a Blackberry phone and an iPad. I was very tired after

they left but I couldn't sleep at all. I was worried for the children because they were frightened. I feel great anxiety whenever I see Israeli soldiers.

#### **Testimony 19**

Name:	Nadia E.
Age:	50
Location:	Hebron, West Bank
Date:	1 July 2014

Summary:On 1 July 2014, a five-story apartment building in Hebron is destroyed because one of the residents was suspected of involvement in the kidnapping and murder of three Israeli teenagers.

- 1. I live in Hebron in an apartment building with my husband and daughter. My married sons also live in the five-storey apartment building.
- 2. Since Israeli forces demolished our property in 1995, my daughter Bisan, who was 5-yearsold then, was traumatised. Up until this day she can never focus on anything and needs special care. On 1 July, at about 8:00 p.m., I was at home preparing for the Ramadan meal when my brother-in-law, who lives in the same street, came in and told us that a large number of Israeli soldiers were in the neighbourhood. Almost simultaneously, the soldiers started to break into our apartment building.
- 3. I was initially in shock and then managed to ask the soldiers what they wanted. They had already arrested my husband and sons a few days earlier. The soldiers did not respond to my question. Instead, they walked up to the dinner table and started throwing the meal on the floor. A soldier who spoke Arabic then approached me and told me to take everyone to one room as they wanted to search the place. We were then locked in one room guarded by soldiers. The soldiers pointed their weapons at us the whole time and would not even allow us to open a window. The children were terrified and started to scream.
- 4. The house was chaotic with soldiers all over the place. I could hear that our property was been smashed and destroyed. We remained locked up until around 10:00 p.m. Then the soldiers took us outside whilst other soldiers with dogs entered the house to search for something. One of the soldiers then told me to take my family to our neighbour's house. When I asked him why he told me I would read all about it in tomorrow's newspapers. He also told me not look out of the windows or leave the house when we hear explosions.

5. I took my family to my brother-in-law's house as ordered. I sat down and started to cry feeling helpless, there was nothing I could do to save us from this trouble. We remained at my brother-in-law's house for three hours while the soldiers smashed up our house. We then heard a loud explosion and our house caught fire. Now we have nowhere to live. I found out the next day that one of my sons was accused of kidnapping the three Israeli teenagers but we saw no proof of this.

#### **Testimony 20**

Name:	Manal T.
Age:	41
Location:	An Nabi Saleh, West Bank
Date:	6 July 2014

# Summary: On 6 July 2014, Israeli settlers and soldiers approach the village of An Nabi Saleh at 11:00 p.m. and provoke clashes with the local residents.

- 1. I live in the village of An Nabi Saleh, approximately 15 kilometres north of Ramallah. In 1977 the Israeli settlement of Halamish was illegally built 500 metres from my village.
- 2. During the last two weeks there has been increasing tension in the area in response to the disappearance of three Israeli teenagers. The Israeli military have been conducting more night raids on Palestinian homes and the settlers have been organizing marches during which they call for "death to the Arabs".
- 3. On 19 June 2014, at about 10.00 p.m., a group of Israeli settlers gathered by the entrance to our village and tried to attack us. That night we were at a party for our relative who was getting married the following day. Everyone was terrified of the settlers who were screaming and yelling threats at us. The settlers were prevented from entering the village by the military. They remained at the entrance for about 30 minutes and then left.
- 4. On 6 July 2014, at about 11.00 p.m., we were at home chatting with some friends when we heard men yelling. We went outside and saw around 10 to 15 settler cars at the entrance to the village. The men from our village gathered and dispersed to various parts of the village to protect us. Our men set fire to some tyres and started chanting loudly so the settlers would know that we were alert. I stayed in the house in order to protect my children. However, I was afraid for my husband and oldest sons who were outside with a video camera to document the event.

- 5. We know from experience that settler attacks are unpredictable. Sometimes the army steps in but nothing is certain. Meanwhile the screaming and yelling was getting louder and the military were firing luminescent flares over the village. Things were getting intense and I was becoming more and more worried. At around 1:30 a.m. a large number of settlers withdrew and returned to their settlement. The minute the settlers withdrew the military started to fire tear gas and rubber bullets in our direction. Then clashes broke out between the military and men from the village. When the clashes started I forgot to close the windows, as I usually do to prevent the tear gas from filling the place. I entered my daughter's room and it was filling up with tear gas. I turned on the light and couldn't find my daughter. I became scared and looked under her bed but she was not there. Luckily, she had already left her room. I finally found Rand in my bedroom under the bed shivering with fear.
- 6. I took Rand to the living room and I tried to distract her but the sounds of the explosions were so loud. The clashes went on until 4:00 a.m., when there was a pause for 30 minutes before they started again and lasted until 7:00 a.m. When my husband and sons returned home, one of my sons had been hit by a rubber bullet in his back and twisted his ankle while he was trying to run away.
- 7. Two nights later, the settlers attacked the neighbouring village of Deir Nidham. All the men in our village went to help the people of Deir Nidham defend their village. The soldiers on the other hand didn't allow the men of our village to enter Deir Nidham. The soldiers started to fire tear gas towards the men to stop them. I closed all the windows and doors of my house; I didn't want my children to get hurt from the gas. I took my children to the living room and started to watch television to distract them a little bit, I stayed with my children until they fell asleep. This time the clashes finished at about 5:00 a.m. As usual no one slept that night.
- 8. I don't usually get scared during the clashes because I am so used to them. But I am scared of the settlers who are out of control and protected by the army. I fear they will kidnap and hurt someone. This is the only life my children have ever known.

Name:	Fatima M.
Age:	55
Location:	Deir Ballut, West Bank
Date:	3 September 2014

Summary: On 3 September 2014, a 22-year-old man from the village of Deir Ballut, in the West Bank, is arrested by Israeli soldiers at 2:00 a.m. His family are not given any reasons for his detention.

- 1. The village of Deir Ballut has a population of nearly 4,000 and is located close to two Israeli settlements. I live in the village with my husband and two adult children.
- 2. On 3 September 2014, at about 2.00 a.m., we woke up to the sound of loud banging at the front door. The banging was so aggressive that I thought the door might break. My husband and I rushed downstairs to open the door. On the way downstairs I looked out of a window and was terrified to see over 50 Israeli soldiers outside.
- 3. My husband opened the door and about five soldiers entered the house and asked for our son, Judeh, who is 22-years-old. My husband told the soldiers that Judeh was sleeping and that he works all day in a factory with my husband, and so there is no way he could have done anything wrong. The soldiers insisted that my husband woke Judehup as they wanted to arrest him. At that point I couldn't take it anymore and my daughter held my hand and started to cry from fear.
- 4. My husband went to wake Judeh and they both returned to the living room. Judeh told the soldiers that he hadn't done anything but they did not listen. They tied his hands behind his back, blindfolded him and took him outside to a waiting military jeep. Then another group of soldiers started to search Judeh's room, knocking over the furniture and confiscating his laptop and mobile phone. After they had finished I followed them down the stairs as I wanted to see Judeh. However, when I got near to the front door the soldiers yelled at us to stay in the house until they had left, which was around 5.00 a.m.
- 5. After the soldiers left I sat on the ground and cried. I was afraid they would hurt or torture Judeh. I was very anxious because the soldiers did not give us any reasons as to why they wanted Judeh. Until now (18 September) we still don't know where he is being held. We have contacted the Red Cross hoping that they might be able to locate our son.

Name:	Fozia J.
Age:	39
Location:	Surif, West Bank
Date:	4 September 2014

# Summary: On 4 September 2014, a 13-year-old boy from Surif village is arrested by Israeli soldiers at 2:30 a.m.

- 1. I live in Surif with my husband and children. We live in a two storey building with our married son living in the ground floor apartment.
- 2. On 4 September, we were all asleep when we woke up to the sound of military jeeps outside. It was 2.30 a.m. I looked out of the bedroom window and saw a large number of Israeli soldiers and military vehicles outside. Then came the sound of loud banging on the main door to our apartment building.
- 3. My married son opened the door and the soldiers demanded to know where Waed was, my 13-year-old son. My eldest son told the soldiers that Waed was asleep. By this time my husband had gone downstairs to see what the soldiers wanted. He didn't want the soldiers coming upstairs and searching our house as he was worried they would damage our property. My husband asked the soldiers what they wanted with Waed but all they would say is that he must get up, get dressed and accompany them. The commander spoke to my husband in Arabic.
- 4. I became very scared and started to cry when I saw Waed going down the stairs. My husband was trying to calm me down and to comfort me, but it was hard for me to see Waed being detained again. Waed was detained once before by the Israeli military in exactly the same circumstances.
- 5. My husband then asked me to wake up the other children so that when the soldiers entered our apartment they would not be quite so terrified. Once Waed reached the soldiers they handcuffed his hands behind his back and blindfolded him. They then took him outside to a waiting jeep. Some soldiers then entered our apartment and searched without causing any damage. The whole process from the time the soldiers arrived until they departed lasted for about one hour.
- 6. The soldiers did not allow us to speak to Waed as he was taken away or say goodbye to him. After the soldiers left my other children started to cry fearing that their brother will be

harmed. I am very worried about Waed. Two weeks later we still don't have any information about how he is or where he is being detained. I don't know if is being beaten or humiliated.

#### **Testimony 23**

Name:	Mazozeh K.
Age:	80
Location:	Surif, West Bank
Date:	4 September 2014

Summary: On 4 September 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 2:00 a.m. and detain one adult mail. The family was not given any information as to why their son was arrested.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in Surif, near Hebron.
- 2. On 4 September, at around 2.00 a.m., we woke up to the sound of loud banging on the front door. We didn't know who it was but suspected that it was Israeli soldiers by the way they were banging. A soldier then started yelling for us to open up and he identified themselves as the Israeli army.
- 3. My husband rushed to the door before the soldiers became angry and smashed up the house or beat us up. There were about eight soldiers waiting outside. When my husband asked what they wanted they said that they wanted our son Arsalan to go with them. Arsalan is 43 years old and lives in the same building with his wife and young daughter. I was devastated when I heard they wanted Arsalan. He was in an Israeli prison for 12 years and was released in the Gilad Shalit prisoner exchange.
- 4. A few minutes later Arsalan was standing in front of the soldiers; five of them held Arsalan hands behind his back as they tied and blindfolded him. The soldiers then took Arsalan to a waiting military vehicle.
- 5. It's been two weeks now and Arsalan is still being detained by the Israelis. We have no information about where he is being held or why he was arrested. One of my other sons has contacted the Red Cross in order to try and obtain some information about Arsalan. I feel so frustrated and angry whenever Arsalan's daughter asks about her father. My heart aches each time I think of him being beaten up or tortured.

Name:	Asma E.
Age:	49
Location:	Silwan, East Jerusalem
Date:	8 September 2014

Summary: On 8 September 2014, a woman from the East Jerusalem neighbourhood of Silwan describes how armed Israeli police broke into her house at 2:00 a.m. and arrested her 17-year-old son.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the Silwan neighbourhood of East Jerusalem.
- 2. Due to the political situation in Jerusalem, five of my children have been arrested by the Israeli authorities over the years.
- 3. On 8 September 2014, at about 2.00 a.m., I was watching television while my husband and my children were asleep. I was suddenly shocked to see a number of men wearing black with masks on inside my house. They started yelling 'Police, Police'. The front door to the house was locked so I think they gained access from the roof. I was in my pajamas and was not wearing my headscarf. I was so scared I started to scream.
- 4. The police commander asked me where my 17-year-old son Abed was. My body started to shake the moment they said Abed's name who was sleeping in the next room. I asked the commander to allow me to wake up Abed because he is a heavy sleeper and I didn't want them to hurt him. The commander told me that I had five minutes to do so and to get him dressed and ready to be arrested. He also told me not to talk to my son.
- 5. Once I had woken Abed up he asked to use the bathroom. At first the commander refused, but eventually relented after I started to shout at him. Abed was allowed to use the bathroom but with his hands tied behind his back. A policeman pulled down his trousers and pulled them up after he had finished.
- 6. There were about 35 armed police in the house, not counting how many were outside. The police covered Abed's eyes with a piece of cloth and tied his hands behind his back with a plastic tie. Abed's twin brother, Muath, asked the police where they were taking him and was told to the 'Shabak' and that he should forget about his brother.
- 7. Next morning I called our lawyer and was told that Abed would be in court at 9:00 a.m. but that I was not permitted to attend because it was a 'secret trial'. Nevertheless I actually went to the court and waited outside. When they brought my son I was shocked to see he was

shivering and his face looked pale. I was still not allowed to talk to Abed or to attend his hearing.

- 8. Abed's lawyer later told me that the court ordered that he be held on remand for eight days. We later found out that Abed was charged with making Molotov cocktails and throwing stones at soldiers, rioting and incitement, and endangering the lives of soldiers. Abed has since had seven court appearances and I have only been able to see him once. His trial is now scheduled for 2 December 2014.
- 9. The situation here is so frustrating. Only last night some settlers who took over the homes around us threw tear gas inside our house. I was alone with my daughter. We ran out of the house and started to scream for help. We had to stay outside until the early morning because the house was still filled with gas.

### **Testimony 25**

Name:	Nada H.
Age:	54
Location:	Nablus, West Bank
Date:	11 October 2014

# Summary: On 11 October 2014, Israeli soldiers set off an explosion and enter a house in Nablus at 2:30am and arrest the family's sons.

- 1. I live in the West Bank city of Nablus with my husband and children.
- 2. On 11 October 2014, at around 2:30 am, a big explosion shook our house. We all ran out of our bedrooms to the living room to find about 10 Israeli soldiers in the hallway. The soldiers were pointing their guns at us. I and the rest of the household were shocked by the way they entered our house. There were around 10-15 military vehicles surrounding our house and a helicopter hovering overhead.
- 3. One of the soldiers spoke to us in Arabic and asked all the men of the house to sit in the living room. I asked the commander what they wanted but he told me to 'shut-up'. The soldiers gathered all the men of our house and tied their hands with plastic tiesbehind their backs. One of my step-sons, Mohammad, who is 19-years-old, has bad vision andneeds glasses especially at night. The soldiers wouldn'tallow him to get his glasses and then tied and blindfolded him.

- 3. After almost an hour, my son Mohammad started to shiver from the cold. He was only wearing shorts and a thin top. He asked me to bring him something warmer. The soldiers prevented me from getting Mohammad some warm clothes, so I looked around and found a blanket on the couch. When I moved towards Mohammad with the blanket one of the soldiers pointed his gun at me and all of the soldiers yelled at me in Arabic to step back and go into the bedroom. When I got to the bedroomI decided to use the bathroom as I had no idea how long this ordeal would last. When I started to shut the bathroom door a soldier pushed it open and I screamed at him until he allowed me to close the door.
- 4. The soldiers arrested Mohammadand took him to their jeep, and then they came back and arrested the rest of his brothers, aged between 19 and 34. Then they started searching Mohammed's room and confiscated whatever electronic devices they found, phones and laptops, they even took my Ahmad's car keys.
- 5. Three days later four of my sons were released except Mohammad and Muntaser. We were informed by an Israeli NGO (Hamoked) that they were being held in Petah Tikva, inside Israel. My sons were interrogated about an explosive device that was placed at the entrance of Ariel settlement. They were specifically asked where they were on Wednesday night before their arrest. That night they were all at a wedding.
- 6. When I saw my sons being arrested I started to shiver. I don't know how Mohammad will cope without his glasses.

Name:	Nora A.
Age:	52
Location:	Deir Ballut, West Bank
Date:	13 November 2014

### Summary: On 13 November 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 2:30 a.m. and tell a mother that they are 'dropping in to visit'.

- 1. I live in the village of Deir Ballut with my husband and children.
- On 13 November 2014, at about 2.30 a.m., I was worried, for no specific reason, and I couldn't fall asleep. I got up and started to prepare some garlic seeds to plant later in the day. My husband and my son Hamzeh were working late at the coffee shop that we own and

sometimes they sleep over to guard it. I was home with my daughters and their children and my little son Muhannad, who is 15-years-old.

- 3. When I had finished preparing the garlic seeds I started to feel sleepy again. Just minutes after I went back to bed I heard loud banging at the front door. At first I thought that my son Hamzeh just got back from work and he was joking around with me. So I said out loud to Hamzeh to stop joking, but someone responded in Arabic 'open the door, it's the military'. I walked towards the door still thinking that it was Hamzeh joking around. The minute I opened the door I saw a large number of Israeli soldiers outside the house. I estimate that there were as many as 80 soldiers. I was in total shock as this was the first time they had come to my house.
- 4. I opened the door for the soldiers and only seven or eight of them entered. The soldiers were talking in Hebrew and I didn't understand a word. Then I asked them if anyone spoke Arabic. One of the soldiers responded and walked towards me. I asked the soldier what they wanted from us, and he told me that they were 'only dropping in to visit'. The soldier was calm and did not yell at me. Then the soldier asked me who was at home, so I told him me and my daughters. Then he looked in one of the bedrooms and saw Muhannad and asked me who he was. I didn't tell the soldier about Muhannad at first because I was afraid that they would arrest him. So when the soldier saw Muhannad I pretended that I forgot that he was home.
- 5. Muhannad was sleeping and the soldiers started to yell at him to wake up. Muhannad woke up and was ordered to present his ID card, but he doesn't have one as he is under 16. Then the soldier asked me about my other son, Hamzeh, and I told him that he was at the coffee shop with his father. The soldier then said that he was sorry for disturbing us. Meanwhile my daughter became very anxious and felt dizzy. The soldier asked what was wrong with her and I told him that she was scared of them.
- 6. Half-an-hour later the soldiers left the house. At around 5:00 a.m. my son Hamzeh arrived home. I told him that the soldiers had come, but he did not comment as he only wanted to go to bed. At 12:00 p.m. that same morning my son received a phone call from the Israeli commander who asked him to present himself at 3:00 p.m. at an Israeli military base nearby. The commander told Hamzeh that if he didn't hand himself over they would come again and arrest him. My Husband took Hamzeh to the military base. My husband was not allowed to go in with Hamzeh and he returned home by himself. Hamzeh went in alone and we were not able to get any information about him.
- 7. The very next day my husband called the Red Crescent to help us locate our son and to find out why he was being detained. Five days later the Red Crescent told us that Hamzeh was locked in Huwwara military base and he would appear before a military court on 22 November 2014. However, no one was allowed to go to the military court.

8. I am constantly thinking about why the Israeli authorities arrested my son. He has never been in trouble with them before. I am very worried that my son will get hurt somehow, or that he will be tortured under interrogation. I am afraid that Hamzeh will be imprisoned for a long time.

### **Testimony 27**

Name:	Suhila M.
Age:	39
Location:	Deir Ballut, West Bank
Date:	13 November 2014

# Summary:On 13 November 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 2:30 a.m. and arrest a young man without providing the family with any reasons.

- 1. I live in the West Bank town of Deir Ballut with my husband and children. We live on the second floor whilst my brother-in-law and his family live downstairs. During the week my husband sleeps at his place of work inside Israel.
- 2. On 13 November 2014, at about 2.30 a.m. I was asleep when suddenly I heard loud banging at the door and my brother-in-law was yelling out of his window for us to open the door. That night I was home alone with my children as my husband was in Israel.
- 3. We looked out of the window and saw around 60 Israeli soldiers surrounding the house. My son Wahbi looked frightened and confused. Wahbi opened the door and nine soldiers entered the house along with my brother-in-law. My brother-in-law came up with the soldiers as he knew my husband was away and he did not want us to panic.
- 4. I was very scared and I asked the soldiers what they wanted from us. One of the soldiers responded in Arabic and told me not to be afraid but they had come to arrest Wahbi, who is 22 years. I started to cry and asked them why they were arresting my son. They just told me to ask my son. I begged the soldiers not to take my son, but there was nothing I could do.
- 5. The soldiers then told me to remain in the bedroom with my two youngest children. I had to wake them up gently so that they would not panic when they saw the soldiers. One of the soldiers guarded the door to the bedroom. Another soldier told my other children to remain in another room. One soldier who wore a mask started to stare at me which made me feel very uncomfortable and I started to shiver.

- 6. After about 30 minutes the soldiers left the house with my son Wahbi. I started to cry and yell at the soldiers to leave us alone. A few minutes later the soldiers allowed my son to come back to the house to say goodbye. Then the soldiers put Wahbi inside a military jeep and they asked his uncle to bring them a piece of cloth to cover his eyes with. We didn't give them a piece of cloth but my sister-in-law saw the soldiers blindfolding Wahbi inside the jeep.
- 7. At about 5.00 a.m. the jeeps started to leave and I could hear Wahbi yelling my name. This was too much for me. My other son, Ihab, tried to comfort me. At about 9.00 a.m. we received a phone call from one of the soldiers who told us that Wahbi was being held at a military base near Huwwara.
- 8. The next day one of our neighbors, whose son was also arrested that same night, came and informed us that Wahbi would be taken to the military court on 22 November. I feel great pain and I can't sleep well thinking about my son. Everywhere I look about the house I am reminded of Wahbi and wish I could live somewhere else until he is released.

Name:	Huda A.
Age:	49
Location:	Deir Ballut, West Bank
Date:	13 November 2014

# Summary: On 13 November 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 3:30 a.m. and arrest the family's 27-year-old son.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the West Bank village of Deir Ballut. We live on the first floor of the house whilst my married son Dahoud, who is 27, lives on the second floor.
- 2. On 13 November 2014, at about 3.30 a.m., my daughter-in-law woke us up to tell us that the Israeli military were in the village raiding houses. My daughter-in-law was shivering out of fear, so my husband started to calm her down and asked her to go back to her apartment on the second floor. Just then we heard loud banging on the main door of the house. My husband hurried to open the door and around 40 soldiers entered.
- 3. I was standing right behind my husband when one of the soldiers asked him where Dahoud was. One of the soldiers then tried to enter one of the bedrooms and my husband tried to prevent him. The soldier pushed my husband out of the way and my husband started to
scream at him for not considering that there were women and children sleeping inside the room. Then my husband asked the soldier to at least allow him to wake them up first.

- 4. The soldier then told my husband to separate the women from the men and put them in separate rooms. I was very scared. The soldiers all wore masks and were carrying weapons. It was terrifying.
- 5. My husband asked to speak to the commander and a soldier stepped forward. My husband told the commander that the way they entered the house and tried to enter bedrooms without respecting women's privacy was disrespectful and that they could've sent a letter to Dahoud to come to hand himself in to the Israeli authorities instead of raiding our house in the middle of the night.
- 6. I sat in the room with my daughters and my daughter-in-law for about 30 minutes. My son Dahoud entered the room accompanied by five soldiers to say goodbye to us before they took him away. I started to cry and I asked the soldiers why they were taking him away. The soldiers arrested my son without saying one word about why or what he was accused of, they just took him away.
- 7. The very next morning my husband reported Dahoud's arrest to a Palestinian NGO. Two days the organization called us and told us that Dahoud was in a military base near Huwwara. We were also told that Dahoud would be appearing before an Israeli military court on 22 November and we could attend.
- 8. On 22 November 2014, we went to attend my son's case before the military court. I was very upset when I saw Dahoud's hands and legs tide up with metal chains; he was barely able to walk. We waited all day long but the hearing was postponed until another date.
- 9. I am really worried for my son. I cry most of the time when I think of him as I fear that he will be tortured or sentenced for a very long time.

### **Testimony 29**

Name:	Haniyeh K.
Age:	42
Location:	Deir Ballut, West Bank
Date:	13 November 2014

# Summary: On 13 November 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 3:00 a.m. and arrest one of the family's sons.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the West Bank town of Deir Ballut.
- 2. On 13 November 2014, at about 3.00 a.m., I woke up to the sound of loud and terrifying banging on the main door of my house. I was really scared because my husband and eldest son were at still work. I immediately assumed it was the Israeli military. I quickly got dressed an woke my son Murad, who is 19 years old. When I opened the door I was shocked to see around 25 Israeli soldiers. At least 10 soldiers then entered the house. They all wore masks over their faces.
- 3. Without saying a word, the soldiers passed me and walked into the house. I shouted at them saying that there were children sleeping inside. I also asked them what they wanted. I didn't want my children to be terrified so I tried to turn the light on, but one of the soldiers prevented me. Meanwhile my children woke up and standing behind the doors of their bedrooms. One of the soldiers then asked all of us to gather in the living room.
- 4. I told the soldiers that I was alone with the children and that my husband was at work. Then they asked me about my son Tarik and I told them that he was also at work. The soldier wanted me to call Tarik and to tell him to come home, but I didn't have a credit in my phone so the solider called Tarik from his phone and asked him to come immediately. Tarik thought that the soldier was one of his friends joking with him and didn't take the soldier's phone call seriously. The soldier asked me to call Tarik and tell him that this is serious. I called Tarik again, his cousin answered and I told his cousin that this was a serious matter and he must come home immediately.
- 5. Fifteen minutes later one of the soldiers asked from my son Murad to bring his ID card. As Murad entered his room, one of the soldiers followed him. I yelled at the soldier asking him not to enter the room because my youngest daughter was still sleeping and she would freak out if she woke up and saw a soldier in her bedroom. The commander asked the soldier to come back to the living room immediately. The commander took Murad's ID card and started to check it. I tried to ask what they wanted with Murad but one of the soldiers pointed his gun towards me and towards the rest of the family. My children were shivering from fear.
- 6. Half-an-hour later my son Tarik arrived home accompanied by his uncle and cousin. Three soldiers held Tarik and tied his hand behind his back with rubber bands. I was watching them from the living room. Then they pushed Tarik's cousin into one of the chairs. A soldier took Tarik outside the house and the rest of the soldiers followed. I started to scream at them asking them where they were going and under what authority were they doing this.

- 7. Later that morning, at about 8:00 a.m., a soldier called and confirmed that Tarik was being held at Huwwara military base. We reported the arrest to a Palestinian NGO which later told us that Tarik would have a hearing in the military court on 23 November.
- 8. I attended my son's military court hearing on 23 November. When I saw Tarik with his hands and legs chained I was very upset and started to cry. The hearing that day was postponed to the 27 November. On 27 November Tarik was imprisoned for four months and we had to pay a fine of 1,500 NIS. I don't know what the accusation was and I don't know why he was arrested. I am really traumatized from this incident, I worry a lot about my son, I cry a lot and I can't sleep thinking of Tarik.

Name:	Aisha E.
Age:	60
Location:	Deir Ballut, West Bank
Date:	13 November 2014

## Summary: On 13 November 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 3:00 a.m. and arrest one of the family's sons. No reasons are given.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the West Bank town of Deir Ballut. We live on the first floor of a three storey building, with our married sons living on the other two floors.
- 2. On 13 November 2014, at about 3.00 a.m., I woke to the sound of car engines outside our house. I thought it could be the Israeli military so I looked out of the window. There were around 25 soldiers outside as well as military vehicles. I later found out that the military was spread throughout the village that night.
- 3. I woke my husband up just as there was loud banging at the front door. Someone was yelling our loud in Arabic for us to open the door. My husband rushed to open the door and I was just behind him shivering from fear. When my husband opened the door about 15 soldiers entered the living room. The soldiers wore fabric masks with only their eyes showing. One of the soldiers stepped forward and spoke to me in Arabic and told me to gather everyone in the living room. I told him there wasn't anyone in the house but he pointed his weapon at me and told me to shut up. I got really scared and I sat down while my body was shivering.
- 4. The soldier started to ask my husband about my two married sons, Hatem and Rami. My husband told the soldier that they were not home because they were sleeping at their place of

work. The soldier asked about our third son Sami, who is 19 years old. My husband told the soldier that Sami was sleeping in his bedroom and asked if Sami did anything wrong? The soldier didn't respond and went directly to Sami's room as if he knew exactly where it was and banged on the door with his fist. Sami woke up and opened the bedroom door.

- 5. The soldiers then took Sami and led him out of the house where they put him in a military vehicle. We tried to follow the soldiers but they told us to remain in the house. I opened the door again to see my son but the soldier yelled at me to stay inside. After about 30 minutes we heard the jeeps drive away.
- 6. I had no idea where the soldiers took Sami. I was afraid that Sami would be harmed somehow. I still cry when I think about it. I knew from other families in my village, whose houses were also raided, that my son would appear before a military court on 23 November. This date was then postponed until 22 December. I was also told that there was an NGO that could help me obtain information about my son. I don't know anything about Sami. I can't sleep at night thinking about him.

#### **Testimony 31**

Name:	Adileh Q.
Age:	65
Location:	Deir Ballut, West Bank
Date:	4 December 2014

# Summary: On 4 December 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 1:30 a.m. and detain one adult.

- 1. I am a widow and I live with two of my children in the West Bank town of Deir Ballut.
- 2. On 4 December 2014, the sound of the door bell ringing woke me up. It was about 1.30 a.m. At that time in the morning I thought it must be the Israeli military. I woke up my children and my adult son Basem, who is 27, opened the main door to the building. Five soldiers then entered the house. The soldiers wanted to see Basem's ID card and then they told him to get dressed as he was under arrest.
- 3. When the soldiers tied Basem's hands behind his back I started to cry. Outside there were at least 10 military vehicles in front of our house. We weren't told why the military were arresting Basem. I was so afraid I became dizzy and one of my daughters brought me a chair to sit on. After about 30 minutes in the house the soldiers left with Basem.

4. At about 5:30 p.m. later that day, a solider called us and told us that Basem was in Huwwara military base and he would be brought before a military court on 7 December. We have been told by a human rights organization that Basem will not be told what he is accused of. I am very worried and can't sleep at night.

### **Testimony 32**

Name:	Abeer R.
Age:	38
Location:	Silwan, East Jerusalem
Date:	14 December 2014

# Summary: On 14 December 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a home in Silwan at 9.30 p.m. intending to arrest a 12-year-old boy.

- 1. I live in Silwan with my husband and children. Our youngest child is two-years-old.
- 2. On 14 December 2014, we were asleep when I woke up to the sound of loud banging on the front door. It was around 9.30 p.m. My husband was not at home at the time. I remained in bed until they started knocking for a third time. Then someone said that it was the police and told us to open the door. I became scared and thought maybe they had come to arrest my husband as they had recently arrested a number of men from the neighbourhood.
- 3. I opened the door slowly. The commander asked if this was my husband's house and I replied that it was. The soldiers remained outside the house until my husband's cousin came as he saw the soldiers surrounding my house. Around 10 soldiers entered my house along with my husband's cousin. The commander asked me to bring my ID card. I went to my bedroom to fetch my ID card and when I came back to the living room my husband had arrived home.
- 4. The commander told my husband, Kayed, that they wanted to arrest our 12-year-old son, Mohammad. My husband explained how young Mohammad was but the commander responded that he only receives orders to arrest people by their names and not by their age so he must arrest Mohammad. I became nervous after hearing they wanted to arrest Mohammad. My husband refused to wake Mohammad up as he did not want him to be scared. The commander then told us to bring Mohammad to the police station the next day at 9.00 a.m. The commander made it clear that if we didn't bring Mohammad to the police station they would return to arrest him.

- 5. After about 30 minutes the soldiers left the house. I went to check on my children I found them already awake and they looked horrified and scared. I tried to calm them down by telling them that everything will be all right and that there was no need for them to worry. Mohammed woke up and stayed in his bed pretending to be asleep because he feared that the soldiers would arrest him.
- 6. The next morning my husband took Mohammad to the police station. He was interrogated for six hours until around 3.00 p.m. My husband and a lawyer were permitted to be with Mohammad during the interrogation. The interrogators asked Mohammed many questions mostly about throwing stones at demonstrations and where his father spent his time. Mohammad denied that he attended the protests. Due to a lack of evidence Mohammad was released the same day. I was scared the whole day and didn't relax until they came home at around 4.00 p.m.
- 7. I live in a continuous state of worry for my family. I never feel safe or secure.

Name:	Muyasar M.
Age:	56
Location:	Deir Nidham, West Bank
Date:	20 December 2014

# Summary: On 20 and 22 December 2014, a resident of a Palestinian village situated next door to a settlement describes intimidation by the military.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of Deir Nidham with my husband and two children.
- 2. My house is located near to the Israeli settlement of Hallamish. The settlement was built on land belonging to the village that was confiscated by the military authorities.
- 3. On 20 December 2014, I went out to our olive grove with my niece to pick sage. Shortly after we arrived there an Israeli military jeep stopped close by. These were the soldiers who usually guard the settlement. One of the soldiers was talking into a radio. I didn't understand what he was saying as it was in Hebrew. A few minutes later another jeep arrived, followed by two more. There were now around 20 soldiers standing behind the fence surrounding the settlement. The soldiers were talking amongst themselves and shaking the fence. I was scared and my niece and I started to run away.

- 4. Two nights later I was asleep at home. My husband was out working night shift. At around midnight, I heard footsteps on the roof and around the house. I was scared and I didn't want to see who was outside as it could have been settlers. I was so scared I stayed up until I could no longer here any sounds. In the morning I knew from other villagers that Israeli soldiers had come and surrounded my house.
- 5. The feeling we get is that this intimidation is intended to force us to leave the area. But we have nowhere else to go. This is our home where we have lived for generations.

Name:	Hiam Z.
Age:	54
Location:	Dura Al Qariae, West Bank
Date:	23 December 2014

## Summary: On 23 December 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 3.30 a.m. and arrest a 21-year-old man.

- 1. My village is located near the Israeli settlement of Beit El which was built on village land in the '70s. I live in the village with my husband and 21-year-old son, Mohammad. We live on the third floor of a six-storey apartment building.
- 2. On 23 December 2014, at about 3.30 a.m., we were asleep when we woke up to loud banging on the door. Someone was shouting for us to open up for the Israeli military. The soldiers were kicking the door making a huge amount of noise as my husband hurried to open up. I was terrified that they had come to arrest Mohammad who was detained for six-months in 2013.
- 3. As soon as my husband opened the door around 10-15 soldiers entered. The soldiers quickly spread all over the house including Mohammad's bedroom where he was still sleeping. The soldiers pointed their weapons at us. A few minutes later the commander entered the house and spoke to my husband in Arabic. He wanted everyone in the house to gather in the living room. He also wanted my husband to identify Mohammad who was to be arrested. My husband went to wake Mohammad up and asked the commander why they wanted to arrest him. The commander refused to answer my husband.
- 4. Meanwhile I stood still watching what was going on trying to cope with it. I just started to cry fearing for my son. Ten minutes later Mohammed came out of his room, yelling at the

commander for entering the house in such an uncivilized way. The commander yelled back at Mohammed and then asked him to talk alone in one of the rooms and closed the door. I was very nervous that they would hit my son, so I tried to follow them to the room but one of the soldiers yelled at me telling me not to move.

- 5. After about 40 minutes the commander came out of the room and asked some soldiers to arrest Mohammed. He then he left the house. Three soldiers held my son whilst the others left. When the soldiers prevented Mohammad from saying goodbye to us he started to yell. The commander then returned and allowed us to say goodbye. We then ran to the balcony to watch as they took Mohammad away. There were about 40 soldiers outside with a jeep and troop carrier. My son's hands were tied behind his back and he was blindfolded before he was put in the back of the jeep which then drove away.
- 6. Later than morning, at about 9.00 a.m., one of the soldiers called my husband and told him that Mohammed was detained in Ofer prison and would be brought before a military court on 25 December. I went to attend the trial but it was postponed to 1 January 2015.
- 7. I have become very tired since Mohammed's arrest. I suffer from high blood pressure and I cry a lot every time I think what might be happening to my son. I am no longer able to sleep well at night.

### **Testimony 35**

Name:	Fihmeih F.
Age:	45
Location:	Dura Al Qariae, West Bank
Date:	23 December 2014

## Summary: On 23 December 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 2:30 a.m. and arrest a 21-year-old male. The family are not given any reasons for the arrest.

- 1. I live with my husband and three children in the West Bank village of Dura Al Qariae.
- 2. On 23 December 2014, at about 2.30 a.m., I was asleep when I woke up to the sound of loud banging at the front door. I could tell it was Israeli soldiers by the way they were hitting the door. My husband got up and rushed to open the door. I opened a window to see what was going on and a soldier pointed his gun at me and told me to close the window and to remain inside. When my husband opened the door around 10 soldiers entered. The soldiers spread out throughout the house trampling mud from their boots all over the place.

- 3. A short time later the commander entered the house and asked us all to gather in the living room. The commander asked about our son, Mousa, who is 21-years-old, who was in his bedroom. My daughter Fahimieh, who is 15-years-old, came out of her room shivering with fear. I was worried that the soldiers would hurt Mousa so I tried to go into his room but a soldier screamed at me and prevented me from going to my son.
- 4. Then a soldier tried to search my bedroom and I stood in his way telling him he had no right to do so. I keep my money and jewelry in my room and I don't trust the soldiers. Two more soldiers came and forced their way into the room and started to search. By this time I was really irritated to see a soldier stepping on my bed with his muddy boots.
- 5. The commander stayed for about one hour with my son inside his bedroom, while the rest of us were guarded by soldiers in the living room. When the commander left the room he told the soldiers to arrest Mousa. My husband asked the commander why they were arresting Mousa but he was ignored. As they were arresting Mousa my other son, Walid, who is 19-years-old, handed him a jacket. The soldiers started to yell at Walid but my husband intervened and insisted that Mousa have a jacket as it was cold outside. The soldiers then allowed Mousa to put on the jacket.
- 6. At around 6:00 a.m., one of our neighbours came to our house and told us that he took pictures of the soldiers getting into the jeeps. He told us that they had tied Mousa's hands behind his back and had blindfolded him. Before they put Mousa in the back of the jeep they made him sit in a puddle of water. According to our neighbour there were about 12 military jeeps.
- 7. Two hours later we received a phone call from one of the soldiers who told us the Mousa was being held at Ofer prison, near Ramallah. He told us that Mousa would appear before a military court on 25 December.
- 8. My husband went to attend the military court hearing on 25 December but when he got to the court the authorities told him that the case had been adjourned to 1 January 2015. I am worried that they will detain Mousa for a long time. I feel very anxious.

Name:	Sukoot Q.
Age:	45
Location:	Dura Al Qariae, West Bank
Date:	23 December 2014

# Summary: On 23 December 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 2:00 a.m. and arrest a 20-year-old male without providing any reasons to the family.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of Dura Al Qariae with my husband and children. Our youngest child is aged seven-years-old.
- 2. On 23 December 2014, at about 2.00 a.m., I woke up to the sound of loud banging at the door with someone shouting to open up for the military. I was very scared that they had come to arrest my son Ibrahim (20) who was previously arrested in 2013 and spent five months in prison.
- 3. We got up and I went to the front door with my husband. When we opened the door around 12 Israeli soldiers entered our home. One of the soldiers yelled at us aggressively in Arabic telling us that everyone must exit the house. My husband told the soldier that our youngest children were still asleep and it was very cold and wet outside. The soldier then asked my husband for his ID card. The soldier took the card and went outside for a few minutes before returning and asking for Ibrahim's card. I went to wake Ibrahim.
- 4. Ten minutes later the Israeli commander came in and spoke to my husband in Arabic. My husband told the commander that Ibrahim stayed home recently because he was studying for his exams and he couldn't possibly have done anything wrong.. The commander insisted on talking to Ibrahim alone in his room. My husband asked the commander again what Ibrahim was accused of, but the commander ignored my husband's question and entered his bedroom and closed the door.
- 5. I was not able to hear the conversation that the commander had with Ibrahim. I remained in the living room with the rest of the family. My youngest children were hugging me because they were scared. About 30 minutes later the commander told us that Ibrahim would be arrested. Ibrahim managed to get dressed before the soldiers took him out of the house. He asked to use the bathroom before he went but his request was denied. We tried to follow Ibrahim and the soldiers out of the house but we were prevented from doing so. Then we heard the sound of Ibrahim being beaten so again we tried to leave the house but the soldiers shouted at us to go back inside.
- 6. At around 8.30 a.m., a soldier phoned us and said that Ibrahim would be brought before a military court on 25 December 2014. I went to the court on 25 December but the case was adjourned until 1 January 2015. I am really worried about Ibrahim.

Name:	Suad H.
Age:	50
Location:	Dura Al Qariae, West Bank
Date:	23 December 2014

# Summary: On 23 December 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 3.00 a.m. and detain a 19-year-old male without providing reasons.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of Dura Al Qariae with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 10-years-old.
- 2. On 23 December 2014, at about 3.00 a.m., I woke up the sound of loud banging at the front door. I immediately knew it was Israeli soldiers by the way they were banging. My husband went to open the door while I went to wake my children. I was scared for my son Qassam, who is 19, and was arrested before in 2012 and spent four months in an Israeli prison.
- 3. After I woke the children I went to the living room. There was about nine soldiers and my husband standing there. One of the soldiers asked my husband in English to bring everyone out of the house. I went mad and screamed at the soldiers because it was very cold outside and raining. The soldier then said that only the men had to leave the house. The commander then asked to speak to Qassam who took him outside 'for a talk'. I became really scared thinking that the soldiers might hit Qassam.
- 4. An hour later the commander entered the house with Qassam and told him to get dressed quickly because they were going to arrest him. I begged the commander not to hurt my son who in turn told me not to be afraid. Three soldiers held Qassam's hand and dragged him outside the house. We tried to follow them but they yelled at us to stay in the house. At about 5:00 a.m. one of our neighbors came and told us that the soldiers had tied Qassam's hands and blindfolded him before they put him in a jeep.
- 5. At around 9:00 a.m. a soldier phoned us and told us that Qassam was being held at Ofer prison and would be brought before a military court on 25 December. My husband and I went to court on 25 December but the case was adjourned to 1 January 2015. We still have not been told why Qassam was arrested. I am very worried for him.

Name:	Fairoz Bader
Age:	37
Location:	Beitillu, West Bank
Date:	30 December 2014

## Summary: On 30 December 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 4.00 a.m. and occupy the roof for the stated purpose of protecting the nearby settlement.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of Beitillu with my husband and three children. My youngest child is 14.
- 2. On 30 December 2014, we woke up to loud banging at the front door. It was 4.00 a.m. At first I thought there was something wrong with my children and then I realized only the Israeli army would bang on the door at such an hour. By the time my husband and I got down stairs the children had already opened the door and the house was filling with soldiers. I think there were around 30 soldiers inside our house, not counting the others outside.
- 3. I was so scared the soldiers would arrest my children. Although I know that my children never participate in any protest or did any harm to the soldiers. I asked the commander what they wanted and if they were going to arrest my children. The commander told me they had just come to use our roof and were not here to arrest anyone. He told us to remain in the house.
- 4. After a short while we heard something breaking on the roof. My husband went up to check what was happening. The soldiers broke coffee mugs that we had left up on the roof that day. When my husband told the commander they had to clean up the mess the commander shouted at my husband to go downstairs and threatened to throw him off the roof if he came up again.
- 5. Later the commander told us that the army would occupy our roof for a week in order to protect the nearby settlers and make them feel safe. I was very worried and concerned because I knew that having the Israeli military controlling our roof for a week may cost us our house as they turn it into a military outpost. We stayed up all night feeling very insecure knowing soldiers were in our house.
- 6. My children were very scared. They were holding onto me and my husband all the time fearing that the soldiers will arrest them. Some of their friends in the village had been arrested before. We tried to comfort them but they still felt very scared.

7. Later that morning the soldiers prevented my children from going to school. They stopped them by the door and searched their school bags and books. The soldiers also prevented my husband from going to work. At about 10.00 a.m. the soldiers left our house and the village.

#### **Testimony 39**

Name:	Suad R.
Age:	59
Location:	Beitillu, West Bank
Date:	30 December 2014

# Summary:On 30 December 2014, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 3.00 a.m. and stay until around 10.00 a.m.

- 1. I live in the village of Beitillu, north west of Ramallah, with my husband and children.
- 2. On 30 December 2014, at about 3.00 a.m., I woke up and s heard footsteps on the staircase that leads to the main door of our house. Seconds later someone started to bang on the door very aggressively. I immediately knew that it must be Israeli soldiers from the way they were banging.
- 3. When I opened the door there was a large number of soldiers wanting to come in. I immediately went to wake up my husband while about 20 soldiers entered the house. Other soldiers went to the roof. The soldiers who were inside the house gathered my family in the living room. I was sitting by the fireplace and moved a saw to make more room. The moment I picked up the saw a soldier screamed at me thinking I was going to attack them. I was immediately surrounded by soldiers and two female soldiers tied my hands behind my back.
- 4. I recently had had back surgery and the ties caused me great pain every time I moved. My husband tried to explain to the commander what had happened until eventually I was untied about an hour later.
- 5. Meanwhile, the soldiers were going up and down to the roof and inside and outside the house until 10.00 a.m. It was also wet outside and the soldiers trampled mud throughout the house. They also prevented my husband from going to work and my children from going to school.

Name:	Saadieh R.
Age:	58
Location:	Beitillu, West Bank
Date:	30 December 2014

## Summary: On 30 December 2014, Israeli soldiers surround a Palestinian home at 4.00 a.m. and remain until 9.00 a.m.

- 1. I live in the village of Beitillu with my husband and four children.
- 2. On 30 December 2014. I woke up at 4.00 a.m. as usual for the dawn prayer. As I was preparing myself for the prayer I heard sounds coming from the hallway. I thought it might be my brother-in-law and his son going to the roof because there house is right next ours and we share the roof. I opened a window to take a look and saw an Israeli soldier.
- 3. As soon as I saw the soldier I was terrified. I quickly closed the window. A few minutes later I heard the sound of soldiers on our roof. I was afraid that they might raid my house and arrest my 22-year-old son.
- 4. At around 6.00 a.m. my son wanted to go to work but he was prevented from leaving by the soldiers. We were stuck in the house until the soldiers left at 9.00 a.m. As they left I counted around 50 soldiers. The soldiers had no reason to come and invade our house. They come whenever they like and make us feel insecure.

#### **Testimony 41**

Name:	EntisarH.
Age:	53
Location:	Beitillu, West Bank
Date:	1 January 2015

### Summary: On 1 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 5.30 a.m. and order everyone outside.

1. I live in the town of Beitillu with my husband and children. A married son and his family also live downstairs.

- 2. On 1 January 2015, at about 5.30 a.m., I woke up hearing the phone ringing. I was very worried to receive a phone call at this time. It was my son warning me that Israeli soldiers were in our neighbourhood.
- 3. Before I had even finished the phone call I heard loud banging on the main door of the apartment building. I knew that it must be the soldiers. I was very worried because my neighbour's son was recently arrested after they beat his mother.
- 4. As I was going down stairs to open the door I came face to face with the soldiers who had already broken in. The soldiers then started to search the building. My daughter-in-law opened the door for the soldiers and told them that she was alone in the house with the children. The commander asked her to gather the children and take them outside the house.
- 5. I asked the commander if the children could remain inside the house because it was cold, but the commander refused. Once everyone was outside the soldiers did not even bother to enter the apartment. At around 6.30 a.m. the soldiers left and started to search other houses in the town.

Name:	Sana S.
Age:	32
Location:	Silwan, East Jerusalem
Date:	9 January 2015

Summary: On 9 January 2015, a youth is arrested from home at 4.30 a.m. by Israeli forces without the family being given any reasons.

- 1. I live in the Wadi Qadum neighbourhood of Silwan with my husband and children. Our youngest child is three-years-old.
- My son Mouaz has been arrested three times by Israeli soldiers on the accusation of stone throwing. Most recently he was sentenced to 15 days house detention and fined NIS 1,500. So far we have had to pay fines of NIS 7,000 relating to Mouaz's cases.
- 3. On 9 January 2015, at about 4:30 a.m., the whole family was asleep except me. I couldn't sleep and was watching television. Suddenly there was loud banging at the front door. I was scared and so went and woke my husband. My husband opened the kitchen window to see

what was going on. As soon as he opened the window an Israeli soldier told him in Hebrew to open the front door. When my husband opened the door the soldiers tried to enter but I stopped them because I didn't want them to terrify the children. Two days earlier they had come to our house and the children were terrified.

- 4. On 7 January, Mouaz and I were sleeping at my parents' house. My husband was working night shift and my daughters were home alone. At around 2:00 a.m. around 30 soldiers had surrounded our house. Some soldiers entered the house demanding to arrest Mouaz. The soldiers did not allow my daughters to call their father or even their uncle who lives next door. My daughters panicked and started to cry as the soldiers searched the house causing a mess. My oldest daughter, who is 17, could not stop crying for two days and my three-year-old now wets herself uncontrollably.
- 5. On 9 January the soldiers remained at the door and demanded that we hand Mouaz over. He was still asleep at the time. I asked why they wanted Mouaz as he had just finished his home detention two days earlier and we had paid off the fine. No one could give me an answer. My husband tried to convince the commander that because Mouaz was still a minor he should be allowed to accompany him to the police station and be present when he was interrogated. The commander refused. My husband then said that he would bring Mouaz to the police station later that morning but the commander again refused.
- 6. I started to cry because I didn't want them to take my son on such a cold night. I went to wake up Mouaz and tried to calm him down. I made sure he ware warm clothes. Four soldiers then grabbed Mouaz and took him outside to the waiting jeeps. Mouaz later told me that whenever he tried to close his eyes the soldiers would shine their torches into his face to keep him awake.
- 7. During his subsequent interrogation Mouaz was accused of attacking a soldier at one of the protests and leaving the house before his home detention period was over. Mouaz told us that the interrogator told him that his relatives had confessed against him but he did not believe it. According to Mouaz he was interrogated from 6.00 a.m. until 3.00 p.m. at various police stations. Every time he denied the accusations the interrogators would slap or kick him. He was also tied and shackled during his questioning and was not given anything to eat or drink.
- 8. Later that morning I went with my husband to the police station to ask about Mouaz. We had not been provided with any information by the authorities. My son was not present at that Russian Compound police station so we called our lawyer and he told us that Mouaz had been taken to another police station. He told us to wait at the Russian Compound as Mouaz would be brought back there. We waited for two hours out in the snow before left and walked home. We walked for over an hour as there was no transport. I was crying all the way. It was really cold and I was worried about my son.

- 9. Our lawyer called us at around 5.00 p.m. and told us that Mouaz would be brought to court on 11 January. However, when we went to court on 11 January we were told that the case had been adjourned until 20 January. I was very anxious waiting for 20 January.
- 10. On 20 January 2015, we went to court again. When Mouaz was brought to court I didn't recognize him. His face was all swollen and bruised. He later told me that he was beaten by two prison guards after he asked for better treatment. In court the judged didn't even bother to look at Mouaz and was busy talking to the lawyers about postponing the case for another 20 days and ordering house detention in another neighbourhood. Our lawyer asked the judge to look at Mouaz and when she saw his face she ordered an adjournment for an hour or so. When the judge returned she ordered Mouaz's immediate release. As soon as Mouaz was released we took him to the hospital for treatment.
- 11. I now spend a lot of time alone in my room thinking of how unsafe our environment is for our children and how I can't protect them.

Name:	Iman Z.
Age:	32
Location:	Silwan, East Jerusalem
Date:	11 January 2015

# Summary: On 11 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in East Jerusalem at midnight and terrify a mother who was home alone with her young children.

- 1. I live in Silwan with my husband and three children. Our youngest child is eight months old and the eldest is five.
- 2. On 11 January 2015, I was home alone with the children and my husband was working a night shift at a bakery. At around midnight I heard loud banging on the front door. I was very scared and asked who it was. Someone answered 'police, open the door'.
- 3. I opened the door and I was shocked to see a large number of Israeli soldiers and police, probably around 30. The soldiers were all wearing masks. The commander asked for my ID card and wanted to know where my husband was. Some soldiers entered the house and started to search. Meanwhile I phoned my husband who wanted to talk to the commander, but the commander refused to talk. My husband told me to remain calm and watch over the children. He told me to let the soldiers do whatever they want in the house.

- 4. The soldiers started to damage the furniture and threw our belongings on the floor as if they deliberately wanted to cause a mess. I couldn't help it but I started to shiver. The commander noticed me shivering and asked me why. I told him that I was afraid they would hurt my children. The commander told me that they saw a man just entering my house; I told him that he can keep searching but no one entered our house.
- 5. The soldiers eventually left the house after causing a lot of damage. I was so overwhelmed that I was not aware what time they left. I cried all night while trying to clean up the mess the soldiers created. Thankfully my children remained asleep and didn't see the terrifying scene of the house full of soldiers. This was not the first time soldiers raided our house, but on the previous occasions they came during the day without causing damage. I now hate my house because of the number of times the soldiers have violated it. But we can't afford to move and we know that the Israeli authorities want us to leave so they can take our land.
- 6. Since the raid my husband has been trying to shift his work hours so that he can stay home at night. I cannot bare the idea of being alone in the house and being exposed again to this terror.

Name:	Hanan H.
Age:	32
Location:	Al 'Eizariya, East Jerusalem
Date:	12 January 2015

# Summary: On 12 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in East Jerusalem at 1.00 a.m. and beat three members of the household and cause property damage.

- 1. I live in Al 'Eizariya with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 12. Our oldest son lives with his wife and children on the first floor of the building, whilst the rest of us live on the second floor.
- 2. On 12 January 2015, at about 1.00 a.m., I was asleep when I woke to the sound of loud banging on the main door to the building. My husband got up and rushed to see what was going on. Soon the main door to the building was broken in and the banging started on our front door.
- 3. My eldest daughter, Narmeen, who is 19, asked who was knocking and the response was 'open the door, bitch'. My daughter became angry and refused to open the door. The banging

continued until my son Bilal, who is 21, opened the door. About 20 Israeli soldiers then barged into the house. They wore black uniforms and were masked.

- 4. The soldiers started to search the house without bothering to tell us why. My husband tried to prevent them from entering the bedrooms where my daughters were sleeping, but they pushed my husband out of the way. When Bilal tried to stop the soldiers from entering the bedrooms they started to beat him, my husband and my daughter, Narmeen.
- 5. I started to scream and begged the soldiers to leave my family alone and stop hitting them. I was very scared, I sat on the ground holding my head down; I feared being hit the same way my husband and son and daughter were hit. By this time my other children were also screaming out of fear. They stood motionless too scared to move.
- 6. The soldiers caused serious damage to our house. They broke most of our furniture. They left the house after about an hour and arrested Bilal, Narmeen and my husband. My eldest son, who lives downstairs, was not home that night as he was staying with his in-laws. The neighbours called him but by the time he arrived home the soldiers were gone.
- 7. The next day my daughter and husband were released. But Bilal was detained and accused of throwing stones and hitting soldiers during a protest. We hired a lawyer who charged us NIS 6,000 and Bilal was released the next day.
- 8. I am still in a shock and I find it difficult to cope with what happened. I've always heard how Israeli soldiers raid Palestinian homes at night but never imagined it could be so violent or provocative. My daughter refuse to talk about the incident and have not left the house since that night. I no longer feel safe in my own home.

### **Testimony 45**

Name:	Fatima E.
Age:	36
Location:	Isawiyeh, East Jerusalem
Date:	12 January 2015

# Summary: On 12 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in East Jerusalem at 1.30 a.m. causing property damage as they search the house.

1. I live in East Jerusalem with my husband and four children. Our youngest child is one. We live next door to my in-laws. My brother-in-law, Samer El E'ssawi, who was detained by the

Israeli authorities for a long time.Our houses our constantly raided by the authorities simply because we are related to Samer.

- On 12 January 2015, at about 1.30 a.m., we woke up to the sound of loud banging on the front door. My husband looked out of the window and saw a large number of Israeli soldiers. We quickly got dressed and my husband found the soldiers already in the stairwell. Some soldiers had also made their way to the roof. The soldiers were dressed in black and wore masks.
- 3. As the soldiers spread throughout the house to search my husband asked them what they wanted. A soldier pushed him up against the wall and told him to shut up. I was so scared. I took my children to the kitchen and was so worried and nervous that the soldiers would hit me or my children and my husband.
- 4. The soldiers caused a lot of damage to the furniture while searching the house. They even pulled clothes from the cupboards and were stepping on them.
- 5. I have got used to soldiers acting in a hostile way. They raid our houses and terrify our children. This was not the first time and it will not be the last time they raid our house. As long as we are occupied we will never feel safe.

### **Testimony 46**

Name:	Samha R.
Age:	48
Location:	Beit Rima, West Bank
Date:	19 January 2015

## Summary: On 19 and 20 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 2.00 a.m. and beat family members.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the West Bank village of Beit Rima. Our youngest child is 10.
- 2. On 19 January 2015, I was asleep when I woke to the sound of a sound bomb exploding by our front door. It was 2.00 a.m. My husband and I rushed to see what was going on and saw at least 10 masked Israeli soldiers in the front yard. The soldiers were very violent and didn't allow us to speak. They told us to keep quiet or they would shoot us.

- 3. The soldiers entered the house. We tried to stop them entering the children's bedrooms, but they just pushed us aside with their guns. I was very worried for my children. Three soldiers entered the children's bedroom and pulled the bedcovers of my daughter Leila, who is 24. He put his hand on Leila's face. Leila woke up terrified and confused.
- 4. Other soldiers entered my father-in-law's bedroom which he shares with my 11-year-old son, Taher. The soldiers woke my father-in-law who wanted to know what was going on. A soldier pushed him and he fell to the ground. When my son Taher saw his grandfather on the ground he couldn't help himself but to yell at the soldiers to stop hurting his grandfather. The soldiers then beat Taher.
- 5. Thirty minutes later the soldiers started to withdraw from our house. As they were leaving the commander asked my husband about our son Jad, who is 22-years-old. My husband told him that Jad was sleeping over at his work. Then the soldiers left. We later found out that soldiers has arrested Jad at the farm where he works after beating him up.
- 6. On 20 January 2015, at about 2.00 a.m, about 20-30 Israeli soldiers raided our house again. This time the made me and all my family members evacuate the house. Once we were outside they started to beat us up. The soldiers also verbally abused my daughters. The soldiers beat my father-in-law and my son Taher again very violently. My daughters and I tried to push the soldiers away and that's when they pushed and swore at us.
- 7. During the second raid on our house, the soldiers were more brutal and violent than the first time. The beat and pushed anyone who moved or spoke. The commander asked my husband about our other son Suhaib, who is 19-years-old. My husband told the commander that Suhaib also sleeps over at his work on another farm.
- 8. While this was going on one of the soldiers was holding a video camera and filming the incident. Just like before, we later heard that the soldiers arrested Suhaib on the farm where he works. We also heard that they beat Suhaib before arresting him after waking him up with a sound grenade. We later found out that Jad was taken to Askelon prison inside Israel. We have no news about what has happened to Suhaib.
- 9. After going through these two horrible experiences I collapsed. I cry a lot and worry about my children. My husband can't work and Jad and Suhaib were supporting the family. The younger children are all traumatized by the experiences. I can't sleep at night feeling terrible about the way the soldiers treated my children.

Name:	Raja S.
Age:	49
Location:	Beit Rima, West Bank
Date:	19 January 2015

# Summary: On 19 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the village of Beit Rima at 3.00 a.m. and violently attack several family members.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the West Bank village of Beit Rima. Our youngest child is 7.
- 2. On 19 January 2015, I was asleep when I woke to the noise of a sound grenade exploding by the front door to the building. It was around 3.00 a.m. I was terrified. I rushed to the living room and was surprised to see three Israeli soldiers already inside my house. I asked the soldiers why they had broken in but they just pointed their weapons at me and told me to shut up. When I asked them again they threatened to shoot me. Three soldiers also entered my daughter's bedroom.
- 3. Other soldiers entered my son Yacoub's bedroom. He is 30 and was recently released from an Israeli prison. Yacoub has injuries to his eye and leg which he sustained while in prison. I heard Yacoub scream as the soldiers started to beat him. Ten minutes later the soldiers dragged Yacoub out of the bedroom and took him outside. Me and my daughter tried to follow but the soldiers pushed us back inside.
- 4. Then the soldiers went to the second floor and came down with other members of our family. The soldiers were pushing them violently down the stairs into the living room. As my son Ali tried to put on his shoes one of the soldiers started to beat him with his gun. When I saw the soldier hitting my son I went crazy and pushed the soldier. Then the other soldiers started to beat me, my husband and daughters, as well as continuing to beat Ali and Yacoub.
- 5. Soon afterwards the soldiers left the house taking my son Ali with them. I and my family ran after them but the soldiers yelled at us to stay home. Then we saw Yacoub lying on the ground unconscious. We carried Yacoub back inside and he remained unconscious for about two hours. A doctor gave him some treatment because the soldiers refused to allow entry to the ambulance. After two hours the ambulance made it to our house and Yacoub was taken to hospital.

6. The soldiers left our house at about 4.00 a.m. after arresting Ali. I still don't know what has happened to Ali and I am very worried. I am also scared that the same thing might happen to my other children.

#### **Testimony 48**

Name:Najah A.Age:48Location:Balata refugee camp, West BankDate:21 January 2015

# Summary: On 21 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus, at 1.30 a.m. and arrest a family member.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus. Our two married sons live in the same apartment building with their families. Our youngest child is 13.
- 2. On 21 January 2015, we were asleep when we woke to the sound of Israeli soldiers banging on the front door to the apartment and yelling. I was around 1.30 a.m. It sounded like they were trying to break in. Once the door was opened I was scared to see around 40 soldiers enter the house with dogs. They spread throughout the house and pushed anyone who got in their way.
- 3. The soldiers woke up my son Mohamed, who is 22-years-old, who was sleeping on the couch in the living room. They woke him in a very aggressive manner. Then few soldiers entered my daughters' bedroom while they were still asleep. The commander ordered all the men to stand in the kitchen and raise their hands while the women gathered in the living room.
- 4. Meanwhile, other soldiers were roaming around the house search through everything and breaking items of furniture, putting holes in the wall and ripping tiles from the floor. They deliberately allowed the dogs to walk over our beds.
- 5. I broke down when I saw the soldiers tying my sons' hands behind their backs and blindfolding them. When the soldiers started to hit my sons I started to feel sick and dizzy and I couldn't' breathe well. My daughters asked the soldiers to allow them to call an ambulance but the soldiers refused. After about an hour-and-a-half some soldiers took my sons and went down stairs. Then the commander asked me and my daughter to go to the bedroom.

- 6. My daughter Elan, who is 13, wanted to use the bathroom but the soldier prevented her. She asked the soldier again but he pointed his gun towards her and told her to shut up. I told my daughter that if she had to go she would have to use the bin. The soldiers smashed up my daughters' bedroom even though the girls begged them to stop.
- 7. Two-and-a-half hours later the soldiers started to withdrawal from the house. It was about 5.00 a.m. when the soldiers had gone taking my son Mohammad with them. I was very upset my husband told me they had taken Mohammad and then we discovered that NIS 30,000 in cash we had in the house had gone missing. My husband saw some soldiers take the money and took a photo of them holding the cash.
- 8. At about 8:00 a.m. a soldier phoned us and said that Mohamed was detained in Huwwara military base, near Nablus. I now feel worn out and I can't sleep. Last June the army arrested my 26-year-old son, Dia'. I now fear for the rest of my family.

Name:	Nimeh H.
Age:	45
Location:	Balata refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	21 January 2015

# Summary: On 21 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus, at 1.30 a.m. Family members are beaten and arrested.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus. Our youngest child is 12-years-old. We live in a three storey apartment building with our married children living on the top floors with their families.
- 2. On 21 January 2015, we received a phone call to say that a large number of Israeli soldiers were surrounding are building. It was around 1.30 a.m. My eldest son went downstairs with his friend to open the main door before the soldiers could destroy it. As soon as the door was opened the soldiers started to beat my son's friend until he started to bleed from his head. I think they were angry because they wanted to blow up our front door.
- 3. The rest of the family ran downstairs to try and intervene. Around 50 soldiers entered the building and the commander ordered all the men outside. He ordered them to lift their shirts and place their hands over their heads. All the women were told to sit on the floor in the living room. All the women remained setting on the floor and six soldiers surrounded us pointing their weapons in our direction. Other soldiers started to search the building.

- 4. My grandchildren were sleeping so one of the soldiers asked me to wake them up. I asked the soldiers to spare them and keep them asleep but he yelled at me to wake them up. The children started to cry and were shivering from the cold. Meanwhile I could hear the sound of things breaking on the upper floors, including the furniture.
- 5. Suddenly I heard my son Mohammad (29) and his friend screaming in pain. I could tell the soldiers were beating them. I got really worried for my son, although there was nothing I can do to stop them. I asked a soldier if I could sit on a chair, but he refused and threatened to shoot me if I spoke another word.
- 6. At around 5.00 a.m. the soldiers left the house. My husband came and told me that they had arrested Mohammad. My husband told me that once outside that soldiers had tied all the men and blindfolded them and then they were beaten.
- 7. I feel exhausted by all these night raids and arrests. I can't sleep and I have become depressed. I now take medication to try and sleep. I still don't know what has happened to my son.

Name:	Sojude S.
Age:	24
Location:	Balata refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	21 January 2015

# Summary: On 21 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the Balata refugee camp at 2.00 a.m.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus. We live in an apartment building and my husband's brothers live with their families on the top floors.
- 2. On 21 January 2015, at about 2.00 a.m., we were asleep when we woke up to see Israeli soldiers in the room. They had broken in through the front door.
- 3. About 30 soldiers entered the building and 10 came to our apartment. I was very scared when I heard the soldiers yelling. They were wearing masks and pointing their weapons at us. I quickly got dressed whilst my husband was trying to find out from the soldiers what they

wanted. Three soldiers pushed by husband and started to beat him on the back of his head with their guns.

- 4. The soldiers then yelled at us to leave the house. My husband refused and said that we had young children in the house and it was cold outside. The soldier told my husband to leave the house and told me to wake the children. I was shivering out of fear after my husband left the house. I woke up my children and carried my four month old baby, and then the soldiers locked us inside the bathroom while they searched the house.
- 5. My children were terrified and cold, they were crying all the time. I was able to hear the soldiers breaking the furniture and taking the tiles off the floor. I was also able to hear the soldiers breaking things on the upper floors. We were locked in the bathroom for three hours, until the soldiers left the place. My husband came and told us that it was safe to come out. This experience terrified me. My children are now sick and traumatized. I feel very insecure.

### **Testimony 51**

Name:	Rula E.
Age:	33
Location:	Balata refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	21 January 2015

### Summary: On 21 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the Balata refugee camp near Nablus at 2.00 a.m. after blowing open the front door.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus. Our youngest child is 5. My brother-in-law lives in the apartment upstairs.
- 2. On 21 January 2015, we were asleep when we woke to the sound of a loud explosion coming from the front door to our apartment building. It was around 2.00 a.m. My husband has a hip injury so I went to the living room to see what was going on.
- 3. I was shocked when I saw Israeli soldiers breaking down our living room door and I started to shiver from fear. When the commander saw me he asked me to come closer in Arabic. He asked me where my husband and children were. He then told me to wake them up and bring them to the living room immediately.
- 4. I woke up the children except my 12-year-old son who was sick. Meanwhile my husband crawled his way from the bedroom to the living room. When the soldiers saw that I brought

out only four children he yelled at me asking for the fifth child. I begged him to leave my 12year-old asleep because of his high fever. The soldier just yelled at me to bring my son and pointed his gun at me threatening to shoot.

- 5. The commander then told us all to leave the house. My husband refused because it was too cold outside. The commander then asked us to stay in the living room. Suddenly about five soldiers surrounded my husband and started to beat him on his head and back in front of the children. After they had finished they left him by the wall. The children got very scared and started to cry seeing their father being hit. I screamed crying to the soldiers to leave my husband alone especially because he is injured.
- 6. Two hours later my 12-year-old's temperature went up. I begged the soldiers to allow me to give him some medicine and some cold bandages to try and reduce the temperature. After 30 minutes of begging the soldier eventually allowed me to attend to my sick son. During this time the rest of the soldiers continued to search our apartment and my brother-in-law's house on the upper floor. The soldiers damaged our furniture and they deliberately scratched the couches with knives.
- 7. The soldiers left our building at around 5.00 a.m. after arresting my brother-in-law, who is 45-years-old and single. I now feel exhausted I get really scared from all these military night raids we have experienced in recent years.

### **Testimony 52**

Name:	Ebtihal K.
Age:	30
Location:	Balata refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	21 January 2015

## Summary: On 21 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 2.00 a.m. and terrifying the residents and causing considerable property damage.

- 1. I live with my husband and four children in the Balata refugee camp near Nablus. My youngest child is four months old and the eldest is 12 years. We live on the fourth floor of an apartment building and her in-laws live in the other apartments.
- 2. On 21 January 2015, at about 2.00 a.m. we were sleeping when we woke up to the sound of loud banging on the front door. Israeli soldiers were yelling for us to open the door. When my husband and I opened the door I was really scared to see around 20 masked soldiers

pointing their weapons at us and yelling. The soldiers had my father-in-law with them who they used to find our house.

- 3. Around six soldiers entered my daughters' room and asked me to wake them up. I woke my daughters up and held my baby, who is four-months-old, and we went to the living room as ordered. My husband was sitting in the living room guarded by three soldiers. My daughter Iman, who is 12-years-old, was very scared and started to cry. One of the soldiers yelled at her to "shut up", but my daughter kept crying. A soldier then grabbed her by the hand and wanted to take her downstairs. Iman then became really scared because she wanted to stay with us. The soldier then allowed her to stay with us.
- 4. At the same time some other soldiers were searching all the apartments in the building. They caused a lot of damage to the furniture and even broke doors off their hinges. When my husband asked the soldiers what they wanted they threatened to shoot him if he spoke again.
- 5. Two hours later the soldiers left the building and asked all the men in the house to go outside. My father-in-law gave me some money to hide before he left the building and one of the soldiers saw him. Ten minutes later some soldiers came back inside the house to search again. Then one of the soldiers yelled at me asking for the cash. I denied having any money on me, so the soldiers grabbed my hand and twisted it behind my back and pushed me down the stairs. My sister-in-law tried to catch me before I fell down but then the soldier started to beat her too.
- 6. Then the soldier asked all women and children to gather in one room. My baby kept crying everytime a soldier yelled. My daughter Iman was sitting behind the door. A soldier saw her and pushed the door against her and stepped on her feet, causing bruising.
- 7. At about 5.30 a.m. the soldiers left and the men came back inside the house. They told me that the soldiers had arrested by husband after tying and blindfolding him. At about 8.00 a.m. my father-in-law received a phone call from a soldier who told him that my husband was being held at Huwwara military base, near Nablus. I cried a lot worrying about my husband. I remained with the children who were traumatized and scared. I can't sleep and I always think of what will happen to my husband.

Name:	Mariam A.
Age:	70
Location:	Balata refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	21 January 2015

Summary: On 21 January 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus, at 1.00 a.m. and assault members of the family and cause considerable property damage.

- 1. I live with my husband in a four storey building in the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus. Each of our married children live in an apartment in the building with their families and our unmarried daughter, Naela, lives at home with us.
- 2. On 21 January 2015, at about 1.00 a.m., I was asleep when I woke up to see six Israeli soldiers in my bedroom. The soldiers were holding torches and wearing masks. They had broken in through our front door. My daughter asked the soldiers to let her put her head scarf on but they refused to let her. We were so surprised to see more than 30 soldiers in our apartment.
- 3. One of the soldiers asked me who owned the house. I told him Abu Imad. Then the soldier wanted to know where my son Mohammed was. I told him that he lives on his own floor upstairs. Ten minutes later about 20 soldiers went up to the other floors and then came down with all the women and children to our living room. The soldiers asked all the men to gather in a different room and then they tied, shackled and blindfolded my 24-year-old son Ibrahim. A soldier then asked Ibrahim where his brother Mohammad was. Ibrahim said he did not know and the soldier hit him in the back with his rifle.
- 4. Then a soldier dragged Ibrahim to the living room and asked him the same question again. Ibrahim told the soldier that if Mohammad was in the building the soldiers would have found him. The soldier didn't like Ibrahim's response and started to beat him. Ibrahim cried out in pain and his wife tried to stop the soldier but the other soldiers pointed their weapons at all of us.
- 5. After an hour Ibrahim started to shiver and his hands started to turn blue. We begged the soldiers to untie his hands but they refused. Ibrahim then lost his consciousness. We started to scream at the soldiers until one soldier cut off Ibrahim's hand ties. The commander then told all the women and children, along with Ibrahim, to go to another room while the other men remained in the living room. Three soldiers entered the room with us to guard us.

- 6. The soldiers caused a lot of damage to our furniture. I was able to hear them breaking things. A soldier came closer to Mohammed's wife and asked her where he was. She said she didn't know and a soldier started to beat her. They also threatened to arrest her if she did not say where Mohammad was. Mohammed's wife then asked the soldier whether he knew where his wife was and the soldiers went crazy and started to break everything in sight.
- 7. The soldiers finally left the house at about 5.00 a.m. The children were so scared and were shivering. Now the children pie in their beds at night. I don't know what my son Mohammed is accused

Name:	Safieh N.
Age:	66
Location:	Al Fawwar refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	10 February 2015

# Summary: On 10 February 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the Al Fawwar refugee camp and terrify the residents.

- 1. I live with my husband in the Al Fawwar refugee camp. Some of our married children live in apartments in the same building.
- 2. On 10 February 2015, at about 2.00 a.m., my son Majed woke us up and told us that Israeli soldiers were inside the building and they wanted everyone on our floor to go to the second floor and to bring our ID cards with us. I decided to stay behind with my son Saed, who is sick. I didn't want to leave him alone and I was afraid the soldiers might hurt him.
- 3. Fifteen minutes later I started to hear the soldiers yelling and breaking things on the second floor. I became really scared and I ran upstairs to see what was going on. I was shivering with fear. When I got to the second floor I saw around 20 soldiers pushing and beating my husband and sons. One of the soldiers was holding my husband's neck because my husband refused to allow them to search the bedrooms without him being present.
- 4. When a soldier saw me standing by the door to the living room, he rushed towards me and hit me with his gun and pushed me over. My sons went crazy when they saw me lying on the floor unable to breath. My son Mohammad ran over to help me but the soldiers pushed him and prevented him from approaching. My son pushed them back and brought me a glass of water and a chair to sit on, although the soldiers tried to prevent him.

- 5. The soldiers searched all the apartments but without causing damage. Then they wanted all our telephone numbers and car license plate numbers. One of my grandchildren, who is three-years-old, was hiding in the bathroom and crying from fear. I tried to bring him out of the bathroom but he would scream and refused to move because he was so scared of the soldiers.
- 6. I cannot describe how terrifying this night raid was and the behavior of the soldiers towards us.

Name:	Saida K.
Age:	35
Location:	BeitUmmar, West Bank
Date:	11 February 2015

## Summary: On 11 February 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in BeitUmmar at 2.30 a.m. and terrify the residents.

- 1. I live with my husband and two sons in BeitUmmar, near Bethlehem. Our two sons are four and seven years old and Saida is eight months pregnant.
- 2. On 11 February 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., I woke up during the night to use the bathroom when I heard people moving around the house. I peeked out of the window and was really scared to see over 50 Israeli soldiers surrounding the house and some entering the building. As I woke my husband there was some loud banging on the main door to the building.
- 3. My husband hurried to open the door and about 20 soldiers entered the house. The commander told my husband in Arabic to gather everyone in the living room. Meanwhile some soldiers started to spread out through the house searching and touching everything. I stayed with my husband in the living room while our sons remained asleep. The commander asked my husband some questions about his son from an earlier marriage Ali, who is 20-years-old.
- 4. Around 15 minutes later some of the soldiers left the house taking my husband with them. They wanted him to show them where Ali was. Four soldiers, two of them females, stayed with me in the living room. When the soldiers left the house they kept the door open and it was very windy and cold. I asked the soldiers to close the door but they started to yell at me. The shouting caused my two boys to wake up and they came to the living room. When they

saw the soldiers they panicked and started to cry and shiver. It was too cold for the children so I asked the soldiers to close the door again but they refused and then opened all the windows. Out of stress and cold I started to feel labor pains.

5. Three hours later clashes erupted between the men of our neighborhood and the soldiers. The soldiers started to fire stun grenades and tear gas. We almost suffocated from the tear gas. The soldiers finally left the house at 5.00 a.m. and warned my husband that if he didn't bring Ali to the military base by 9.00 a.m. they would find and kill Ali. My husband took Ali to the military base later that morning.

#### **Testimony 56**

Name:	Suad M.
Age:	48
Location:	Beit Ummar, West Bank
Date:	11 February 2015

## Summary: On 11 February 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in Beit Ummar at 2.00 a.m. and threaten to kill the family's adult son unless he presents himself for interrogation.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in Beit Ummar. Our married son lives in an upstairs apartment with his wife and children.
- 2. On 11 February 2015, at about 2.00 a.m., my son Habis woke me up to tell me that Israeli soldiers had surrounded our house. I looked out of the window and saw more than 50 soldiers outside. There was then loud banging on the front door. My husband and son tried to tell the soldiers that there was no need for them to behave so aggressively and that we would open the door. The soldiers continued to bang on the door and broke it down.
- 3. The commander told my husband to bring everyone to the living room. The commander asked specifically about our son Zain, who is 18-years old. My husband told him that Zain was sleeping over at his grandfather's house because he was sick. We all gathered in the living room and were guarded by soldiers. The soldiers searched the house but did not break anything. The soldiers refused to allow us to speak.
- 4. One of my grandchildren asked for a drink of water but the soldiers refused. My daughter-inlaw wanted to breast feed her baby but the soldiers also refused until my husband convinced them to allow her to feed her baby. An hour later the commander asked my husband to bring

Zain to the military base at 10.00 a.m. and threatened to kill Zain if he did not show up. Then the soldiers left the house.

5. Later that morning my husband took Zain to the military base. We called up a lawyer to follow the case but we still don't know why Zain has been arrested or what he is accused of. The last hearing was supposed to be on the 18 February 2015, but it was postponed. I am really scared and very worried about my son Zain. I fear that he will be mistreated or tortured.

### **Testimony 57**

Name:	Naimeh M.
Age:	43
Location:	Beit Ummar, West Bank
Date:	11 February 2015

# Summary: On 11 February 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in BeitUmmar at 3.00 a.m. and terrify the adults and children.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in Beit Ummar, between Bethlehem and Hebron. Our youngest child is 12-years-old.
- 2. On 11 February 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., my husband and I woke up to the sound of loud banging on the front door. I looked out of the window and was shocked to see a huge number of Israeli soldiers surrounding the house. I told my husband to open the door before the soldiers broke in.
- 3. When my husband opened the door around 25 soldiers entered. The soldiers went straight up onto the roof and completely ignored me and my husband they didn't even say a word. Ten minutes later the soldiers came down from the roof and spread throughout the house. When my husband tried to ask the soldiers what they wanted one of them hit him on the shoulder with his gun.
- 4. My husband complained again when the soldiers entered my daughters' rooms while they were still sleeping. This time eight soldiers attacked my husband and hit him very hard until he fill down. One of the soldiers then squirted my husband's face with pepper spray. When I yelled at the soldiers to leave my husband alone, a soldier struck me in the back with his gun. I went crazy when I saw my husband lying on the floor and shivering. Meanwhile my

daughters came out of their rooms accompanied by the soldiers without their warm clothes on.

- 5. My children became really scared when they saw their father in such a condition. My daughter Hiba, who is 22-years-old, tried to call an ambulance. Immediately she was pushed by the soldiers and her phone was taken. My sons started yelling at the soldiers to stop mistreating us and they were beaten too.
- 6. After about 30 minutes of this terrifying behavior the commander asked my husband about our 21-year-old son, Jihad. My husband told the commander that Jihad was not home and that this was the fourth night raid in a month where the army had coming looking for Jihad. On the previous occasions the army had asked my husband to bring Jihad to the military base which he had done. When they got there they were told to go home. This time the commander told my husband to bring Jihad to a different military base than the one he took him to on the previous three occasions.
- 7. My husband was in pain so I begged the soldiers to allow me to call the ambulance but they refused. At about 5.00 a.m. clashes started between the men of our neighborhood and the soldiers. The soldiers fired tear gas and stun grenades and then left.
- 8. Later that morning my husband took Jihad to the military base. Jihad spent a week there without us hearing anything from him. On 18 February 2015, my son Jihad was released at 12:00 a.m. I knew from Jihad that he was beaten on his head and stomach while in detention. He is now in a lot of pain and vomits blood.
- 9. I am really scared now. We are tired of these constant night raids. I wish the soldiers would just leave us alone.

### **Testimony 58**

Name:	Hamdah K.
Age:	46
Location:	Beit Ummar, West Bank
Date:	11 February 2015

Summary: On 11 February 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in Beit Ummar at 2.00 a.m. terrifying the occupants and causing property damage.

- 2. On 11 February 2015, a phone call woke us up. It was one of our friends telling us that Israeli soldiers were in the neighbourhood. It was around 2.00 a.m. I looked out of the window and was shocked to see about 200 Israeli soldiers surrounding our house. I became extremely worried for my 14-year-old son Qusai who had received a summons to go to a nearby military base for questioning.
- 3. A few minutes later there was loud banging on the front door. My husband went downstairs to open the door and I stood at the top of the stairs. As soon as my husband opened the door about 40 soldiers entered the building; some went to the first floor and some came to our apartment. The commander ordered my husband to stay downstairs. He then came upstairs and told me in Arabic to gather all the women in the living room and for all the men to go down stairs. Then the soldiers spread out and started to search the house. As they searched the house they were damaging our furniture.
- 4. Around 10 minutes later my daughter-in-law and her baby came up and sat with us in the living room. The commander then started to question me about my 18-year-old son Mohammad. I told him I didn't know where Mohammad was and he then threatened to kill me and then threatened to arrest me if I didn't tell him where Mohammad was. An hour later my husband and one of my sons came up stairs with other soldiers and sat with us in the living room for another two hours.
- 5. The soldiers were pointing their guns at us while the other soldiers searched the house. My daughter Saja, who is 6-years-old, was shivering out of fear and also my baby granddaughter was crying the whole time. At around 5.00 a.m. the soldiers arrested me, my husband and my son Youssef, who is 22-years-old. The soldiers tied the men's hands and blindfolded them. We were then marched about 100 metres to a waiting military jeep. The jeep then drove to the centre of town where young men from the village started throwing stones at the soldiers. During the clashes the soldiers fired tear gas which made it difficult to breathe inside the jeep. About an hour later the jeep dropped us off back at the house.
- 6. At around 9.00 a.m. my husband called Mohammad and they both went to the military base. My husband came back home alone and he reported Mohammad's arrest to the Red Cross and other organisations that follows prisoners' cases. One of these organisation's called us the next day and told us that Mohammad would be brought before a military court on 18 February. We didn't go to court on the 18<sup>th</sup> because our lawyer told us that the case would almost certainly be adjourned. I now feel insecure and very scared for my children. These night raids are really exhausting and they cause so much chaos and damage to our house.

Name:	Kholoud A.
Age:	42
Location:	Beit Ummar, West Bank
Date:	17 February 2015

Summary: On 17 February 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 3.00 a.m. and cause property damage and arrest one of the family's sons.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the West Bank town of Beit Ummar. Our youngest child is five-years-old.
- 2. On 17 February 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., I was already awake preparing my husband's clothes for work as he leaves very early in the morning. I heard noises coming from outside the house and looked out of the window. I was shocked to see around 80 Israeli soldiers outside surrounding the house.
- 3. I quickly told my husband what I had seen and then there was loud banging at the front door. My husband went to open the door while I went to wake up our son Odi. My husband tried to prevent the soldiers breaking the front door to an empty apartment in the building but they broke it anyway. A group of soldiers then started to beat my husband and arrested Odi, who is 24. The soldiers were all wearing masks.
- 4. When the first group entered the house the commander asked me in Arabic to gather everyone in the living room. I tried to tell him that my daughters were asleep but the commander started to shout at me and insisted that I bring everyone to the living room. I woke up the children and brought them the living room.
- 5. It was very cold and the soldiers wouldn't allow us to bring blankets or even close the door to prevent the wind from coming in.My youngest child Amar, who is five-years-old, wet himself. A group of soldiers guarded us whilst the others searched the house. We could hear the sound of breaking furniture.
- 6. After about 30 minutes some soldiers came to the living room with my husband and Odi. They were holding Odi by the neck. One of the soldiers asked me to get some clothes for Odi as they were going to arrest me. When the soldiers left they also took a mobile phone and a laptop. As they took Odi outside we tried to follow them but the soldiers screamed at us to go back inside.
7. We still don't know what has happened to Odi. We don't know where he was taken or why he was arrested. I find it hard to sleep as I worry about Odi and it makes me angry every time I see the damage the soldiers did to our house.

### **Testimony 60**

Name:	Dima S.
Age:	34
Location:	Qabalan, West Bank
Date:	18 February 2015

## Summary: On 18 February 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 2.30 a.m. causing property damage and making an arrest.

- 1. I live withmy husband and children in the West Bank town of Qabalan, near Nablus. Ouryoungest child is 5-years-old.
- 2. On 18 February 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., my husband and I woke to find around 10 Israeli soldiers in our bedroom. The soldiers were pointing their weapons at us. We were shocked and terrified. I just couldn't believe my eyes.
- 3. The commander spoke to my husband in Arabic and told him to raise his hands and get out of bed. I was then told to go to the children's bedroom. On the way to the children's bedroom I saw around 25 soldiers searching the house. I sat with my children in their bedroom with two soldiers guarding us. Meanwhile I could hear our furniture being damaged and the sound of digging in the walls. My daughters started to cry out of fear and I hugged them to try and calm them down.
- 4. Two hours later they brought my husband into the room and he sat with us. The commander then asked my husband if he worked in Israel or had been imprisoned before. My husband replied no to both questions. He owns a butcher shop in town.
- 5. At around 5:00 a.m. three soldiers came in and grabbed my husband and took him outside. I followed the soldiers and saw them tying his hands and blindfolding him. There were around 50 soldiers outside and I saw that our car had been damaged. The soldiers led my husband away to a military vehicle and drove off.
- 6. This is the first time the soldiers have raided our house. Until now we still don't know why they have arrested my husband. I just can't believe this has happened.

Name:	Layali Hussein
Age:	30
Location:	Einabus, West Bank
Date:	18 February 2015

# Summary: On 18 February 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in Einabus at 2.30 a.m. and damage furniture as they search the property.

- 1. I live with my husband and four children in the town of Einabus, south of Nablus, in the West Bank. Our youngest child is seven months old and the eldest is eight.
- 2. On 18 February 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., I was up breast feeding my baby when I heard strange noises around the house. A few minutes later I heard loud banging on the door. I woke up my husband right away.
- 3. My husband went to look out of the window but I prevented him fearing that he might get hurt. My husband was previously detained by the Israelis for two years and he was only released last year. I looked out of the window and I saw about 50-80 Israeli soldiers surrounding our house and some of the neighbouring houses. I yelled at the soldiers to stop trying to break in as I would open the door.
- 4. As I went to open the door I was surprised to see the soldiers were already inside the house. There were about 30 soldiers accompanied by two dogs. I didn't even have time to dress properly.
- 5. The commander spoke to me in Arabic asking me to wake up my children and go the kitchen. He simply ignored me when I asked him to allow my children to remain asleep. At the same time the commander told my husband to rise his hands and took him to the living room with another soldier. They blindfolded my husband and then locked the door behind them.
- 6. The soldiers didn't even wait for me to wake up the children, instead they pulled the bed covers from them so they woke up terrified and started to cry. I quickly took the children to the kitchen. Meanwhile other soldiers started to search the house, creating a big mess and destroying furniture. They even ruined my children's toys. The soldiers allowed the dogs to walk over our beds and the house was covered in muddy footprints from the soldiers and the dogs.
- 7. Two hours later the soldiers brought my husband to the kitchen and he sat with us while the soldiers continued to search the house. At around 4.30 a.m. the soldiers left the house. My

children were shivering out of fear and cold. I was really scared for my husband when he was separated from us and I thought that the soldiers were going to arrest him.

#### **Testimony 62**

Name:	Israa B.
Age:	23
Location:	Bi'lin, West Bank
Date:	10 March 2015

## Summary: On 10 March 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the village of Bil'in at 2.00 a.m. and remain in the village until 5.00 a.m.

- 1. I live in Bil'in with my husband and two children. Our youngest child is 3-years-old. We live on the second floor of an apartment building while my brother-in-law and his family live on the ground floor.
- 2. On 10 March 2015, at about 2.00 a.m., we woke to the sound of loud banging at the main door of the apartment building. My husband rushed to open the door and I followed him. I was shocked when about eight Israeli soldiers entered the building. The soldiers spread out while the commander started to ask my husband many questions in Arabic, such as; "what is your name, your age, you identification card number, how many children do you have?"
- 3. My son Zain woke up when he heard the soldiers so I ran to his room and hugged him and put him back to sleep. I didn't want him to be terrified by seeing the soldiers in his room. One of the soldiers entered the room while I was with Zain and took a photo of us and also of the rest of the house.
- 4. About 30 minutes later the soldiers left our apartment and started to search my brother-inlaw's apartment on the ground floor. Then clashes started between the men of our neighborhood and the soldiers; the soldiers started to use tear gas and it entered our apartment. The children then woke up terrified hearing the explosions and they started to cry. We could barely breathe after inhaling some of the tear gas.
- 5. I rushed to close the windows. The clashes continued until 5.00 a.m. I had a pain in my chest and a headache from the gas. I was also very worried for the health of my children.

Name:	Hiba K.
Age:	28
Location:	Bi'lin, West Bank
Date:	10 March 2015

Summary: On 10 March 2015, Israeli soldiers enter the Palestinian village of Bil'in at 2.00 a.m. and terrify one family before clashes break out and tear gas if fired.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of Bil'in with my husband and three daughters. Our youngest child is under 2.
- 2. On 10 March 2015, at about 2.00 a.m., I woke up to the sound of loud banging at our front door. I was scared because my husband was not home that night as he works night-shifts as an electrician. I asked who was there and an Israeli soldier responded in Arabic telling me to open the door for the military.
- 3. When I opened the door three male soldiers entered along with a female soldier. The soldiers stood by the door of each room in the house while the female soldier started to ask me questions; 'where is your husband, how many children do you have, what are your children's names.' The soldier also wanted to see our ID cards. While I was answering the soldier's questions other soldiers were taking photographs inside my house, including the bedroom where my daughters were sleeping.
- 4. An hour later the soldiers left but I was still very scared. I looked out of the window and was shocked to see five military jeeps as well as other vehicles and around 30 soldiers. One of the soldiers saw me behind the window and yelled at me to stop looking or he would shoot, pointing his gun towards me. I was terrified.
- 5. Shortly after clashes started between the men of our neighborhood and the soldiers. The soldiers started to fire tear gas and sound bombs. The sounds of explosions woke my daughters who started to scream. I took my daughters to my bedroom and closed the door to stop tear gas from entering. Nevertheless we could still smell the gas and started to choke. My daughters were crying and shivering out of fear. I became really frightened as we were alone in the house.
- 6. The gas gave me a bad headache and it was difficult to breathe. The soldiers left at around 5.00 a.m.

Name:	Amina K.
Age:	53
Location:	Tuqu', West Bank
Date:	10 march 2015

# Summary: On 10 March 2015, Israeli soldiers enter the Palestinian village of Tuqu' at 2.00 a.m. and terrify the residents.

- 1. I live in Tuqu', near Bethlehem, with my husband. We live on the second floor of a twostorey building, with our married son Bashir and his wife and young daughter. On the first floor we have two apartments where two of our married sons live with their families.
- 2. On 10 March 2015, at about 2.00 a.m., we woke to the sound of loud banging at the front door. When my husband opened the door about 10 Israeli soldiers entered the house and immediately walked into my son's bedroom without saying anything. One soldier stepped on my son's stomach while another grabbed him by the neck as he lay in bed. Another soldier tied his hands behind his back and blindfolded him. My son was screaming in pain.
- 3. Five minutes later around 50 other soldiers entered the building and started to search the apartments while causing damage. The commander spoke to my husband in Arabic and told him to go downstairs and to tell all the women and children to come upstairs. My husband did what he was told even though the soldiers had already broken into the downstairs apartments. Meanwhile all the women were put in one room and the commander locked the door.
- 4. At around 4.00 a.m. one of the soldiers opened the door where the women were being held and told me to get some shoes for my son. When I saw how much pain my son was in I started to cry and asked the soldiers to loosen his ties, but they refused. I yelled at the soldiers to at least un-tie his feet so that I could put his shoes on and they did.
- 5. The soldiers took my son out of the house and prevented us from following. I looked out of the window and I started to cry when I saw the soldiers hitting him on his head and body with their guns and kicking him. There seemed to be hundreds of soldiers and some dogs. The young children were terrified and were crying. Even my grandson Mohammed, who is 2, now wets himself at night and wakes up crying.
- 6. We still don't know why my son was arrested.

Name:Ammina A.Age:50Location:Tuqu', West BankDate:10 March 2015

Summary: On 10 March 2015, Israeli soldiers enter the West Bank village of Tuqu' at 2.30 a.m. and terrify a Palestinian family before arresting a family member.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of Tuqu' with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 13.
- 2. On 10 March 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., my son Sami, who is 22, woke up and told me that Israeli soldiers had broken into our building and were on the first floor. The building was also surrounded by around 200 soldiers.
- 3. I hurried to the living room and I saw my husband yelling at the soldiers from the window telling them that the apartment on the first floor is abandoned and if they needed anything to come up. My husband opened the door of our apartment so the soldiers wouldn't break it down. About 50 soldiers entered our apartment.
- 4. I was standing in the living room with my children. The soldiers told my husband to take off his clothes and pointed their guns towards him. My husband refused to take off his clothes but he lifted his shirt to uncover his stomach. I could see the red laser sights on my husband's stomach as he lifted his shirt.
- 5. The soldiers then tied my husband's hands behind his back with plastic ties and pushed him outside. The soldiers did the same thing to my son Sami and his brother Ziad, who is 28. I was very worried for my family and followed the soldiers outside. I could see that the soldiers were beating Sami about his head. The soldiers then yelled at me to go inside the house or else they would shoot me.
- 6. Thirty minutes later a soldier asked me to help Sami put his shoes on. Sami was tied and the soldiers refused to untie him so he could put his shoes on. I yelled at the soldiers to untie him so that he could put his shoes on. The soldier then wanted me to go inside but I refused before I was allowed to say goodbye to my son. The soldier pointed his gun towards me and told my husband to tell me to go inside. I then went inside the house without saying goodbye to my son. I could not stop crying until the soldiers left the house with Sami about an hour later.

7. We still don't have any information about Sami and I am very worried.

#### **Testimony 66**

Name:	Suad Sabah
Age:	43
Location:	Tuqu', West Bank
Date:	10 March 2015

# Summary: On 10 March 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the village of Tuqu' at 2.30 a.m. and terrify a family before arresting one family member.

- 1. I live in the village of Tuqu' with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 3.
- 2. On 10 March 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., we woke to the sound of loud banging on the front door. Someone was yelling to open the door for the army.
- 3. My husband rushed down the stairs to open the door. I was shocked when I saw about seven Israeli soldiers coming up the stairs after they had broken down the main door. My husband tried to prevent the soldiers from entering the bedrooms until my daughters had time to get dressed but they pushed him away and entered the rooms.
- 4. One of the soldiers saw my son Saher, who is 20, sleeping on the couch in the living room. He grabbed Saher by the shirt and dragged him into one of the bedrooms. The soldiers then woke my other son, Ahed, by kicking him. Five minutes later one of the soldiers pointed his gun at my husband's head and told him to gather everyone in one room.
- 5. I sat with my children in one room with two soldiers to guard us. My husband and my son Ahed stood facing the wall of the room and were ordered to keep their hands raised. My baby son Mohammad, who is 3, was shivering out of fear. I was hugging him tight and trying to calm him down. We all were scared because the soldiers were acting very violently. Meanwhile the soldiers continued searching the house and thankfully did not cause any damage.
- 6. An hour later the soldiers came out of another room with my son Saher. Saher's hands were tied behind his back with plastic ties and he was blindfolded. My husband asked why they were arresting Saher but the soldiers didn't say a word. As the soldiers were taking Saher outside the house I tried to follow them, but the soldiers pointed their guns towards me. One

of the soldiers yelled at me in Arabic and threatened to shoot me if I followed them outside or if I looked through a window.

7. I am very worried about Saher. He has been arrested by the Israeli military twice before. I'm scared they will abuse him in prison.

### **Testimony 67**

Name:	Sameha M.
Age:	51
Location:	Tuqu', West Bank
Date:	10 March 2015

# Summary: On 10 March 2015, Israeli soldiers enter the West Bank village of Tuqu' at 3.00 a.m. and terrify a family before arresting one family member.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of Tuqu' with my husband. We live in a two storey building with two adult children and a disabled granddaughter. My granddaughter Raneem, who is 8, is blind and has a mobility disability. Her mother died during childbirth and so we look after her.
- 2. On 10 March 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., my son Mohammed, who is 20, woke me up to tell me that Israeli soldiers were surrounding our house. I looked out the window and saw around 300 Israeli soldiers in the neighbourhood. I could see that they had already arrested some young men who were tied and blindfolded as they were being led out of the village.
- 3. I started to tremble with fear when I thought that the soldiers might come to my house. Fifteen minutes later there was loud banging at our front door. My husband went to open the door but before he could the soldiers blew it open injuring his hand. About 10 soldiers entered our house and they pointed their guns at my husband's head and yelled at him to lift his shirt and raise his hands. The soldiers told my husband to do the same thing. The soldiers then told all the men to go outside.
- 4. As one of my sons was leaving the house he was stopped by the soldiers on the staircase and told to strip. My son refused to strip completely as his sister-in-law was nearby. The soldiers then tied all the men with their hands behind their backs with plastic ties and made them lie down on their stomachs. I tried to go outside but the solders yelled at me to go inside.
- 5. The commander then asked me to bring all the women to the living room. I begged the soldiers to leave Raneem alone but a soldier pointed his gun towards me and told me to bring

everyone, including my disabled granddaughter. I woke Raneem and carried her to the soldiers who then allowed me to take her back to bed. A few minutes later the soldiers closed the door to the house leaving the women inside and the men outside. I was very scared about what might happen to my husband and sons and I was also worried because it was very cold outside and they were not properly dressed.

6. About an hour later the soldiers left after arresting my son, Mohammad. After the soldiers had gone I ran outside and untied the men with a knife. Their ties were very tight. I am very worried about Mohammad. I start to cry every time I think about what might be happening to him I don't understand why the soldiers can't leave us alone.

#### **Testimony 68**

Name:	Ibtisam Q.
Age:	60
Location:	Tura, West Bank
Date:	1 April 2015

## Summary: On 1 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 2.00 a.m. and beat a 60year-old woman as she tries to get some clothes for her son who is being detained.

- 1. I live near the West Bank city of Jenin with my sick husband and one unmarried son who is 20-years-old. I also have two sons who are being held in Israeli prisons.
- 2. On 1 April 2015, at about 2.00 a.m., we woke up when we heard an unusual sound outside. I looked out of the window and was surprised to see at least 100 Israeli soldiers surrounding our house. Also in the house with us that night was my 3-year-old granddaughter, Toleen.
- 3. I quickly got dressed and told my husband what was going on. A few minutes later there was loud banging on the door to our apartment. The soldiers started yelling in Arabic to open the door. I hurried to open the door and asked them to be quiet because by granddaughter was still sleeping and I didn't want her to wake up and be terrified because of the soldiers.
- 4. About 30 soldiers entered the house and spread out to search. I told the soldiers that they did not have the right to come into my house in this way, but asoldier just pushed me aside and told me to shut up. Another soldier entered the room where Toleen was asleep and pointed a bright torch in her face until she woke up. Toleen was so scared and started to scream. I picked her up and tried to calm her down but it was not use. The soldiers then told us to go to the living room and two soldiers remained to guard us.

- 5. About six soldiers then entered my son Abdullah's room and started to hit him while he was still asleep. Abdullah woke up terrified. The soldiers then asked him to raise his hands and face the wall. At that moment I realised that they were going to arrest him.
- 6. I then tried to go to my bedroom to fetch some warmer clothes for Abdullah. One of the soldiers told me not to move and to sit down but I told him I was getting some clothes for my son. The soldier then hit me on my shoulder which made Abdullah angry. Abdullah ran into the room and started to yell at the soldier who hit me. Another soldier then told me to fetch the clothes.
- 7. I started to shiver from fear and could hardly focus on what clothes to get for Abdullah. The soldiers then forced Abdullah to face the wall with his hands up. He remained in that position for about an hour-and-a-half. Meanwhile the soldiers kept searching the house and damaging our furniture.
- 8. At around 5.00 a.m. the soldiers tied Abdullah's hands behind his back with plastic ties and blindfolded him. They then took him out of the house. Two soldiers and the commander remained with me and my husband inside the house and prevented us from following Abdullah. They then left about 10 minutes later. After the soldiers left I sat outside and I broke down and cried. Our neighbors told me that the soldiers beat Abdullah with their guns and kicked him.
- 9. Three days later my husband called a Prisoners' organization but they were unable to locate Abdullah. Six days later we received a phone call from the same organization that told us Abdullah was in Al Jalameh interrogation centre, inside Israel. We were also told that Abdullah would appear before a military court on 12 April, but the case was postponed to 10 May 2015.
- 10. I can't sleep at night because I am so afraid for my son and other children. I feel very frustrated.

Name:	Iman Shaqrawi
Age:	51
Location:	'Askar refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	3 April 2015

# Summary: On 3 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter the 'Askar refugee camp near Nablus at 3.00 a.m. and terrify a family before arresting one family member.

- 1. I live in the 'Askar refugee camp, east of Nablus, with my husband and children.
- 2. On 3 April 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., my son Ahmad woke me and my husband up and told us that Israeli soldiers were inside the house. We rushed to the living room and were shocked to see five soldiers. I was so surprised I had not even put on my headscarf. We asked the soldiers what they wanted.
- 3. The commander talked to my husband in Arabic and told him to gather everyone and go to the first floor. By this time the soldiers had already searched my brother-in-law's apartment downstairs. I put on my headscarf and went downstairs to my brother-in-law's apartment.
- 4. We all sat in the living room and were guarded by two soldiers. Meanwhile, three soldiers held my son Malik, who is 18, and made him sit on the stairs near the front door. I could see Malik and saw that he was shivering as he was still in his pajamas. Whenever I tried to move to close to the door a soldier told me to sit down and shut up. When my husband asked a soldier why they had raided our house he threatened to shoot my husband.
- 5. While we were being held downstairs around 10 soldiers searched our apartment. I could hear the soldiers turning our furniture over. They kept searching for about an hour. Then the soldiers tied Malik's hands behind his back with plastic ties and blindfolded him. They then took Malik out of the house without saying a word to us.
- 6. Three days later an NGO appointed a lawyer for Malik and we found out that he was being held inside Israel in Megiddo prison. We were told that he would appear before a military court on 16 April. I am really worried that they will beat Malik. I can't sleep at night and I am now on tranquilizers.

### **Testimony 70**

Name:	Rawieh D.
Age:	48
Location:	'Askar refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	3 April 2015

Summary: On 3 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter 'Askar refugee camp at 2.00 a.m. and terrify a Palestinian family before arresting one family member.

- 1. I live in the 'Askar refugee camp outside Nablus with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 5. We live in a three storey apartment building with six apartments. My brothers-in-law live in the other apartments with their families.
- 2. On 3 April 2015, at about 2.00 a.m., I was woken by my 20-year-old daughter, Jasmine, who said she could hear someone breaking into one of the apartments downstairs. The apartment was empty as my brother-in-law was traveling with his family. My husband and I looked out of the window and were shocked to see around 100 Israeli soldiers outside, accompanied by four troop carriers.
- 3. My husband yelled down to the soldiers telling them that there was no one in the apartment. One of the soldiers yelled back at him in Arabic to go inside or he would be shot. My husband insisted on knowing what they wanted. The soldier asked him who he was in Arabic and then told him to open the main door to our apartment. When my husband opened the door about 10 soldiers entered.
- 4. My son Yamin, who is 5, was sleeping in the living room. When the soldiers came into the living room one of them yelled at Yamin in Arabic to move quickly. Yamin woke in fear and started to cry. My husband yelled at the soldier because he yelled at a child in such a way then he hugged Yamin to calm him down.
- 5. The commander told all the women to gather in the living room. He then told all the men to go to another part of the house. Two soldiers remained to guard us in the living room, whilst other soldiers spread all over and searched. The soldiers caused a lot of damage and mess while searching the house. When my husband tried to ask the soldiers why they were searching the house they didn't respond.
- 6. At about 6.00 a.m. clashes started between the soldiers and the men of our neighborhood. The soldiers started to shoot rubber bullets and fired tear gas canisters. The smell of the gas made it difficult to breathe.
- 7. The commander told my son Riad, who is 22, to dress quickly because he was under arrest. I feared for Riad because he has a heart condition that makes it difficult for him to breathe. I didn't know what to do I just started to cry. At about 7.00 a.m. the soldiers left the house after tying and blindfolding Riad. I tried to go after them but the soldiers stopped me. Three days later we heard from a lawyer who was representing Riad that he would appear before a military court on 16 April. I am worried that the soldiers will beat Riad and I am finding it difficult to sleep.

Name:Ahlam D.Age:46Location:'Askar refugee camp, West BankDate:15 April 2015

Summary: On 15 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home near Nablus at 2.30 a.m. and detain a man who is later given a 6-month administrative detention order.

- 1. I live in the 'Askar refugee camp near Nablus with my husband and three children. My children are aged between 14 and 17 years. I live on the second floor of an apartment building andmy in-laws living on the first floor.
- 2. On 15 April 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., we woke up to the sound of the main gate to the property being opened. Then we heard footsteps around the building. My husband went to look out of the window and was shocked to see around 100 Israeli soldiers surrounding our home. We quickly got dressed as the soldiers started to spread out around the building. I hurried to my children's bedroom and woke them up then told them to get dressed quickly.
- 3. A few minutes later I heard loud banging on the main door of our apartment building. The soldiers started to yell at us to open up. The minute my husband opened the door about 20 soldiers entered. The soldiers were wearing black masks and quickly spread throughout the building.
- 4. One of the soldiers told me to sit with my children in the living room. Two soldiers remained guarding us and pointed their guns towards me and my children. Meanwhile the commander told my husband to go outside the house although it was very cold. I sat with the children in the living room for about three hours. I was shivering from fear. The soldiers continued to search the house and flipped all the furniture upside down.
- 5. Then my husband came back into the apartment to change his clothes and say goodbye to me and the children before the soldiers arrested him. My children were crying because they thought their father would be hurt. I was very upset that my husband was being arrested.
- 6. At 8.00 a.m., my brother-in-law made some calls and found out that my husband was being held in Al Jalame interrogation centre, near Haifa, in Israel. He found out that my husband would be brought before a military court in one week. My husband was then

given a six month administrative detention order – which means detention without charge or trial. I miss my husband.

#### **Testimony 72**

Name:	Isra' S.
Age:	31
Location:	Asira, West Bank
Date:	15 April 2015

Summary: On 15 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 2.30 a.m. and detain one male after searching the house and damaging the furniture. A 4-year-old girl is left traumatized.

- 1. I live in a village near Nablus with my husband and children. My youngest child is 9-monthsold.
- 2. On 15 April 2015, at about 2:30 a.m., we received a phone call from my sister-in-law saying Israeli soldiers were raiding our building. Moments later there was loud banging on the main door to our apartment building. Someone was yelling in Arabic for us to open the door. Whilst my husband went to open the door I went and put on some clothes. I was shivering from fear.
- 3. After I was dressed I went to the living room and saw a number of Israeli soldiers putting masks on their faces as they entered the house. The commander asked everyone in the house to gather in the living room. My husband tried to explain that there were children sleeping, but the commander yelled at him to gather everyone in the living room."
- 4. I went to wake up the children. I was shocked when I saw my 4-year-old daughter, Sarah, hiding under her sheets and shivering in fear. She was trying to hide from the soldiers. I tried to calm Sarah down and I carried her while waking up the rest of my children before taking them to the living room.
- 5. The soldiers refused to let my husband use the bathroom. Then three soldiers took my husband another room for about an hour-and-a-half. Meanwhile other soldiers searched the house and caused a big mess. Our furniture was damaged and even the children's toys were ruined.

- 6. I was still very frightened and the children were panicking as they saw the soldiers damaging our property and yelling. About an hour later the soldiers told me to take the children to a bedroom while they searched the living room.
- 7. The soldiers confiscated two laptops and two iPads that belonged to the children as well as two cell phones that belonged to my husband.
- 8. At around 4.30 a.m. the soldiers arrested my husband and left the house. The soldiers didn't allow my husband to put on some clothes or even to say goodbye to me and the children. They tied his behind his back and left.
- 9. Four days later I called an organization that specializes in locating detained prisoners and they told me he was being held in a prison inside Israel and would be brought before a military court in 15 days.
- 10. My daughter Sarah is now traumatized. She wakes up in the middle of the night screaming.

Name:	Suhier Abu Wardeh	
Age:	42	
Location:	Balata refugee camp, West Bank	
Date:	15 April 2015	

Summary:On 15 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the Balata refugee camp at 2.30 a.m. and arrest on male who is later given a six-month administrative detention order.

- 1. I live in the Balata refugee camp with my husband and children. My youngest child is fouryears-old. My in-laws own a three storey apartment building; we live on the third floor and my brothers-in-law live on the other floors.
- 2. On 15 April 2015, I woke up at 2.30 a.m. to an unusual sound outside. I looked out of the window and was shocked to see a large number of Israeli soldiers outside. I woke up my husband and then hurried to my children's bedroom. On the way I was shocked to see around 20 soldiers were already in our living room. The soldiers were hostile and pointed their weapons at me.

- 3. The commander asked me where my husband and children were. I told him they were asleep. He told me to go and get them and to gather in one room. Three soldiers went to the bedroom where my husband was sleeping and I went to wake up the children. I was shivering with fear.
- 4. When I came out of the children's bed room my husband was setting in the living room surrounded by four soldiers. We gathered in the living room and were guarded by two soldiers with masks on their faces. When my son Omar, who is 18-years-old, asked to go to the bathroom the soldiers yelled at him and told him to shut up. He then started to shiver.
- 5. My daughter Sarah, who is 4-years-old, started to cry. I ignored the soldiers and went to get some water for my children. I no longer cared what they might do.
- 6. At around 5.30 a.m., my husband came to say goodbye to me and to the children before the soldiers arrested him. The soldiers then left the house leaving a big mess. Fifteen minutes later the two soldiers who were guarding us left the house too. We looked out of the window and I could see that my husband's hands had been tied behind his back.
- 7. At around 9.00 a.m. I called an organisation that works on prisoners' issues and was told that my husband would be brought before a military court in a week. My husband was then given a six month administrative detention order detention without charge or trial.

Name:	Tamam J.
Age:	49
Location:	Balata refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	15 April 2015

Summary: On 15 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the Balata refugee camp at 3.00 a.m. and detain one adult male who is later given a six-month administrative detention order.

1. I live with my husband and children in Balata refugee camp, near the West Bank city of Nablus. On 15 April 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., we woke up to the sound of loud banging at the front door. I immediately knew it was Israeli soldiers by the way they were banging. We got dressed and told the children to get dressed. As I left my bedroom I was shocked to see that soldiers were already in the house having blown open the front door with explosives.

- 2. The soldiers pointed their guns at me and told me not to move. They prevented me from going to my children's bedroom. When two soldiers went towards my daughter's bedroom I followed them because I wanted to make sure my girls were dressed. When I tried to enter the room a soldier pushed me out of the way in a hostile manner.
- 3. Two other soldiers held my son Hamzeh, who is 24, and tied his hands behind his back with plastic ties. The soldiers then told us all to go to the first floor. I remained with my children while four soldiers guarded us. My husband remained on the second floor with some more soldiers. Meanwhile I could hear the soldiers searching our house and damaging the furniture on the second floor. The soldiers also took some cash we had in the house. When I asked the soldiers what they wanted with us I was told to shut up.
- 5. At around 5.00 a.m., some soldiers left the house. A few minutes later the rest of the soldiers came down to the first floor along with my husband. They told my husband to say goodbye to us before because he was being arrested. The soldiers then took my husband outside whilst two soldiers remained guarding us. When I tried to follow my husband outside the soldiers pushed me back with their guns, shut the door and left.
- 6. Later that day I heard from an NGO that my husband would be brought before a military court in one week. Later on I heard that my husband had been given a six-month administrative detention order detention without charge or trial.

Name:	LinaR.
Age:	40
Location:	Nablus, West Bank
Date:	15 April 2015

Summary: On 15 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in Nablus at 2.30 a.m. A 12-year-old girl is hospitalized after suffering a nervous breakdown as a result of the experience.

- 1. I live in the West Bank city of Nablus with my husband and children. Our youngest children are twins aged four. I live on the first floor of a four storey building owned by her in-laws.
- 2. On 15 April 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., we woke to the sound of the front door to the apartment building being blown open. We rushed to the living room and were shocked to see around 20

Israeli soldiers in our house. Their faces were covered in black masks. The minute the soldiers saw us they pointed their weapons in our direction.

- 3. I became very scared when the soldiers when to the bedrooms to wake up our children. The commander then told us all to gather in one room and two soldiers remained at the door to guard us. The soldiers took my husband to another room. The soldiers then searched the house causing a lot of damage. They also confiscated my car, four laptops and some cash.
- 4. Throughout this ordeal my children were really scared and started shivering from fear. Whenever I asked a soldier for information I was yelled at and told to shut up. About 30 minutes later the soldiers told us to gather in the kitchen where we were held under guard.
- 5. At around 6.00 a.m. the soldiers tied my husband's hands behind his back with plastic ties and left the house. The children were crying and asked the soldiers to leave their father alone. I felt really sad seeing the children like this.
- 6. The next day I was told by an NGO that my husband was given a 6-month administrative detention order which means detention without charge or trial.
- 7. Following my husband's arrest our 12-year-old daughter, Dua', had to be hospitalized as she had a nervous breakdown.

### **Testimony 76**

Name:	Inas Sawalha
Age:	30
Location:	Asira, West Bank
Date:	Night raid

## Summary: On 15 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 3.00 a.m. and detain one adult male.

- 1. I live in the West Bank village of Asira ash Shamaliya with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 11-months-old.
- 2. On 15 April 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., we woke up to the sound of loud banging on the front door. We rushed to the living room and saw around 15 Israeli soldiers already inside our house. Whenever my husband tried to say something the soldiers told him to shut up. Four soldiers then guarded us in the living room while the other soldiers started to search the rest of the house.

- 3. The soldiers entered our children's bedrooms whilst they were still asleep. They also caused a lot of damage to our things as they searched. About an hour later the commander told me to wake the children up and gather in one bedroom. When I went to wake up my 6-year-old daughter, Misk, I found her already awake shivering under the bedcovers in fear. I tried to comfort Misk and make her feel safe as I woke up the other children and waited in a bedroom. Two soldiers remained and guarded us. The soldiers then locked my husband in another room.
- 4. We remained like this for about an hour-and-a-half. When the soldiers left they took with them three mobile phones and my laptop. Two hours later all of the soldiers left and took my husband with them.
- 5. Three days later my brother-in-law found out that my husband would be brought before a military court in two weeks. My children are now traumatized and they ask about their father all the time. I still can't believe what has happened.

Name:	Na'mieh Edieh
Age:	55
Location:	Nablus, West Bank
Date:	15 April 2015

## Summary: On 15 April 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in Nablus at 3.00 a.m. and detain a 57-year-old man. He is released one week later.

- 1. I live in Nablus with my husband. On 15 April 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., we woke up to a mechanical sound coming from the main door to our apartment building. We got up and went to the living room and found around 20 Israeli soldiers in our house.
- 2. Every time my husband tried to ask a question he was told to shut up. At the time, one of my daughters was sleeping over with her two children, Ahmad, aged 4 and Iman, aged 3.
- 3. The soldiers started to search the apartment and the little children woke up because of all the noise. About 15 minutes later the commander asked my, my daughter and her children to gather in one of the bedrooms. Meanwhile they were questioning my husband, who is 57-years-old, in the living room. We remained in the bedroom for about an hour whilst guarded by three soldiers. The children were crying and shivering out of terror.

- 4. We were then taken to the apartment upstairs. There were at least 15 soldiers in the upstairs apartment. Then the soldiers tied my husband's hands behind his back with a plastic tie and took him away.
- 5. Later that morning were told by lawyer that my husband would appear before a military court in one week. One week later my husband was released. I now feel very insecure. I can't believe what happened to us. It was like a nightmare.

Name:	Rawda Abbas
Age:	57
Location:	El Far'a refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	1 May 2015

## Summary:On 1 May 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the El Far'a refugee camp at 3.30 a.m. and detain a 26-year-old man.

- 1. I live in the El Far'a refugee camp with my husband and children. On 1 May 2015, at about 3.30 a.m., our 20-year-old son A'ahid woke us up and told us that Israeli soldiers were surrounding the house. Soon afterwards we heard loud banging at the main door to the apartment building. I was so confused and nervous that my body started to shake involuntarily.
- 2. My husband went to open the door but the soldiers told him to back away because they were going to blow it open. For some reason the explosives did not work and then they told my husband to open the door, which he did. About 10 to 15 soldiers then entered the apartment.
- 3. The soldiers started by shouting at us and telling us to gather in one room. They then started to search the apartment. They even took our clothes out of the wardrobes and threw them on the floor. They searched our children's bags and then collected all the mobile phones.
- 4. The children seemed to have little reaction to the soldiers as if they were used to such behavior. This was the second night-raid on our house in two weeks. The soldiers then grabbed our son Anas, who is 26, and tied his hands behind his back with a plastic tie. My husband noticed that Anas's hands were turning red and asked the commander to loosen the ties a bit. The commander then cut off the ties and re-tied them.

- 5. The soldiers trampled the flowers in the garden and also went onto our roof and checked the water tanks. Thirty minutes later the soldiers left with Anas. We were then locked in the house.
- 6. At around 7.00 a.m. we received a phone call from the commander who told us that Anas was being detained in Huwwara military base and would be transferred to Al Jalame interrogation centre inside Israel the next day.
- 7. I cried a lot for my son. I just wish we could live in peace and feel safe.

Name:	E'tidal Washaha
Age:	53
Location:	BirZeit, West Bank
Date:	5 May 2015

# Summary: On 5 May 2015, the Israeli military enter a Palestinian home in the village of Bir Zeit and arrest one male.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the village of BirZeit. One of my sons was killed by the Israeli military a year-and-a-half-ago. Another son was deported by the Israeli authorities for eight years and has now settled in Europe.
- 2. On 5 May 2015, I woke up at 3.00 a.m. because I heard sounds around the house. I looked out of the window and saw Israeli soldiers outside. I immediately woke everyone up and told them to get dressed. Then someone knocked at the door. I asked who it was and someone responded in Arabic to open the door for the army.
- 3. When I opened the door the commander told me to back up and turn around so my back was facing him. Then the soldiers gathered everyone in the house in the living room. The soldiers asked us to bring our ID cards which they checked. There were about 10 soldiers inside the house and more outside. The soldiers inside the house wore masks and were armed. Three soldiers guarded us in the living room and two more guarded the front door. The other soldiers brought two dogs and started to search the house. The dogs were scary and were barking.
- 4. The army raided other houses in the village on the same night. The commander then detained my son Fadi and tied his hands with plastic ties and blindfolded him. He was then led out of

the house. The army has raided my house many times in the past and arrested my sons. I was surprised this time because the army was less hostile than usual and allowed us to say goodbye to Fadi.

- 5. The next day we were contacted by an NGO who told us that Fadi was being held in Ofer prison, near Ramallah. We were told that he would be brought before Ofer military court in three days. We found out that he was accused of throwing stones and Molotov cocktails at soldiers. Fadi has now had a number of court appearances and our lawyer thinks he will be sentenced for 10-20 months, but he is not sure.
- 6. I am very worried for Fadi. The Israeli military have caused us so much pain but there is not much I can do but to accept the situation and stay strong for my family.

#### **Testimony 80**

Name:	Sahar Washaha
Age:	42
Location:	Bir Zeit, West Bank
Date:	5 May 2015

## Summary: On 5 May 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the West Bank village of Bir Zeit at 3.15 a.m. and detain a 19-year-old male.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the West Bank village of Bir Zeit, near Ramallah. My youngest child is 10-years-old.
- 2. On 5 May 2015, I woke up around 3.15 a.m. with a headache. I took some medication and was about to go back to bed when I heard loud banging at the front door. My son Tariq, who is 19, who was sleeping closest to the door, came running to our bedroom fearful and confused.
- 3. My husband went to the door and said we needed a minute to get dressed. Meanwhile I made sure all the other children were up and got dressed. When my husband opened the door about seven Israeli soldiers entered the house. The soldiers were wearing masks and had night-vision goggles on except for the commander.
- 4. The commander made us all gather in the living room and checked our ID cards. Four soldiers guarded us while the others searched the house. The commander then looked at Tariq and told him to get dressed because he was under arrest. I was very worried at the prospect of

the soldiers arresting Tariq, although he tried to calm me down. This was the first time the Israeli military had raided our house.

- 5. My daughter Sandy, who is 24, tried to explain to the commander that our family has nothing to do with any political parties, especially Tariq, who is very focused on his work and building his own house. The commander listened and then ordered his soldiers to arrest Tariq. The soldiers then left with our son.
- 6. The day after Tariq was arrested, Sandy called an NGO that deals with prisoners' issues. She was told that Tariq was being held in Ofer prison, near Ramallah, and he would be appearing in the military court the same day. We rushed to Ofer military court where I saw Tariq with his hands and legs shackled. Nothing happened in court and the case was adjourned.
- 7. Tariq appeared on Ofer military court again on 12 May, and the hearing was again adjourned. He had other court appearances on 18 May and 9 June. During these court appearances I was not allowed to talk to Tariq but I still tried to communicate with him. I made sure I did not cry in front of Tariq because I wanted him to remain strong.
- 8. I miss my son a lot. Every morning when I prepare breakfast I break down knowing that Tariq is missing. Tariq is a very calm and mature son; he only wanted to build his future and never caused troubles or harmed anyone.

### **Testimony 81**

Name:	Nijud Lafi Barahmeh
Age:	36
Location:	Wadi Al Far'a, West Bank
Date:	14 May 2015

## Summary: On 14 May2015, Israeli soldiers accompanied by a dog enter a Palestinian home at 3.00 a.m. and detain one adult male after damaging the household's furniture.

- 1. I live in the village of Wadi Al Fara'a with my husband and children. My youngest child is one-and-a-half years old.
- 2. On 14 May 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., Israeli soldiers entered our house. The front door was not locked. We got dressed and were shocked to find a large number of soldiers inside the house with a dog. There were also many soldiers outside. The children woke up in a panic when they heard the dog barking.

- 3. The soldiers searched my husband and then started to search the house. We were moved from one room to another as the search took place. The soldiers caused a lot of damage to our furniture as they searched. My youngest children were scared to death of the dog.
- 4. The soldiers confiscated a gun, two knives and a pair of scissors. My father-in-law used the gun to scare away wild dogs from our sheep. The soldiers then arrested my husband and did not allow any of us to say goodbye. The soldiers left the house at around 5.30 a.m.
- 5. I feel stressed out now without my husband. I have broken down twice and am seeing a psychologist. I don't know where my husband is being detained and I don't know what he is accused of.

Name:	Azizeh Jahaleen
Age:	53
Location:	Al Khadr, West Bank
Date:	15 May 2015

# Summary: On 15 May 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 3.30 a.m. and detain an 18-year-old male.

- 1. I live with my children in a town south of Bethlehem. My husband was killed by the Israeli military in 2013.
- 2. On 14 may 2015, I was very sick and stayed in bed most of the day. My daughter, Fatima slept over at the house that night. At around 3.30 a.m., my son Tariq, who is 18, woke us all up to say that he had seen Israeli soldiers raiding our neighbour's house. Soon after we woke up about 20 soldiers entered our house as the door was not locked. All of the soldiers except for the commander were wearing masks.
- 3. Tariq became very angry because the soldiers just barged into the house without any respect for our privacy. My other son, Ahmad, tried to calm Tariq down because he did not want him to get into trouble with the soldiers or be beaten.
- 4. The soldiers gathered us all in the living room and inspected our ID cards. The commander took longer looking at Tariq's ID card and then decided to arrest him. The soldiers tried to drag Tariq out of the house without allowing him to get dressed but his brother got him some clothes and was able to hand them to him. Tariq was barely able to put on his shoes before

the soldiers placed a hood over his head and tied his hands to the back with a plastic tie. The soldiers then took Tariq out of the house.

- 5. On 21 May, Tariq had his first appearance before a military court. I went to the court but was not allowed to speak to Tariq, although I did manage to have a quick chat. He had bruises on his body and he said that he was beaten during interrogation. He was accused of throwing stones at Israeli settlers.
- 6. I am really concerned for my son and I fear that he will not be able to take his final school exams. I felt completely helpless when he was arrested and I wasn't able to do anything.

#### **Testimony 83**

Name:	Rawa Sawalmeh
Age:	39
Location:	El Far'a refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	14 May 2015

## Summary: On 14 May 2015, Israeli soldiers break into a Palestinian home at 3.00 a.m. with a dog and arrest one adult male.

- 1. I live in the El Far'a refugee camp with my husband.
- 2. On 14 May 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., I woke up when I heard noises coming from the front door. I quickly got dressed and woke my husband. For some reason I suspected that it was Israeli soldiers. My husband went to open the door but before he could it was broken open by the soldiers who then entered our house.
- 3. Around six or seven soldiers entered our house accompanied by a dog. One soldier immediately tied my husband's hands behind his back with a plastic tie and took him to the first floor of the building. Meanwhile, other soldiers wanted to search the house but I tried to prevent them because my husband's 12-year-old niece, Tayma, was sleeping and I didn't want her to be frightened by the soldiers. The commander then ordered me to get my husband's ID card and mobile phone.
- 4. After I fetched these items, Tayma woke up and came running to me in a terrified state. The dog then tried to attack her and I tried to calm her down. Then a soldier hit me on the shoulder with the back of his gun. I started to yell for the commander and the soldiers walked away in a hurry. Meanwhile I could hear my husband screaming as if he was being beaten.

5. The commander allowed my husband to say goodbye and then he was taken outside to a waiting military vehicle. I haven't heard anything about my husband since he was arrested. I am now very worried and expect the soldiers to break into our house at any minute.

#### **Testimony 84**

Name:Samira HanajrehAge:57Location:Wadi Al Far'a, West BankDate:14 May 2015

Summary: On 14 May 2015, Israeli soldiers entered the bedroom of a 57-year-old Palestinian woman at 4.00 a.m. and took one of her sons as a hostage until another son surrendered himself.

- 1. I live in Wadi Al Far'a with my adult children. My husband died six years ago.
- 2. On 14 May 2015, at around 4.00 a.m., I woke up to the call to prayer. I was shocked to see around six Israeli soldiers in my bedroom trying to wake up my son. The soldiers took me to the living room and questioned my son Mohammad in the bedroom.
- 3. The soldiers started to search the house and threw my clothes on the ground. The soldiers found a gun and asked me who it belonged to. I told them it belonged to my 20-year-old son, Shaded, who uses it hunt pigs. Shaded was not home that night.
- 4. Suddenly I heard a big explosion coming from my son Bilal's house, which is located next door. I ran next door and found my daughter-in-law screaming because the soldiers had entered her bedroom while she was not properly dressed. Her 10-month-old child also woke up and was crying. Bilal was not home that night.
- 5. The soldiers took us all back to my house. They then asked me to get Mohammad some shoes and they tied his hands behind his back with a plastic tie before taking him away. At around 8.00 a.m. I received a phone call from the commander who said that Mohammad would be released as soon as Shaded surrendered himself at Huwwara military base. Shaded then went to the base at 1.00 p.m.

Name:	Amal Taqatqa
Age:	24
Location:	El Far'a refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	16 May 2015

# Summary: On 16 May 2015, Israeli soldiers enter the bedroom of a Palestinian couple at 2.30 a.m. and arrest a university lecturer.

- 1. I recently got married and live in the El Far'a refugee camp. My husband teaches at the Al Quds Open University. We live on the second floor of a two storey building with my in-laws living downstairs.
- 2. On 16 May 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., we woke up in shock to find Israeli soldiers standing around our bed. My husband hugged me so that I would not be too scared. I think there were around 10 soldiers in our bedroom and some were wearing masks. A soldier spoke to us in Arabic and then translated to Hebrew for the commander.
- 3. A soldier asked my husband if his name was Ibrahim. When my husband confirmed that was his name he was told to get dressed because he was under arrest. The soldiers turned on the light, but my husband turned it off again because I was not properly dressed. The soldiers kept their torches pointed at me and my husband.
- 4. Suddenly one of the masked soldiers started to beat my husband. I got the impression he was really angry with my husband. I tried to pull the soldier off Ibrahim but another soldier grabbed me and was about to beat me when another soldier intervened and motioned to everyone to calm down.
- 5. They dragged my husband to the living room and told me to go to my in-laws house downstairs. I refused as I wanted to be with my husband. The soldiers then searched the house and causing a big mess. My husband tried to put his shoes on but a soldier kept pushing him. I yelled at the soldiers to stop pushing him. Two of the soldiers then started to push me with the back of their guns, I think to try and scare me.
- 6. The soldiers confiscated our mobile phones and my sister-in-law's laptop. They said they were going to check them out and return them, but they never did.
- 7. At first the soldiers would not allow Ibrahim to say goodbye to me but after he insisted he was allowed. He was then take out of the house and I could hear them beating him and he

was yelling. I felt so bitter hearing the soldiers beating my husband when there was nothing I could do to protect him. I miss my husband very much and can't imagine living without him.

#### **Testimony 86**

Name:	A'isha Salah
Age:	71
Location:	Al Khadr, West Bank
Date:	18 May 2015

# Summary: On 18 May 2015, Israeli soldiers break into a Palestinian home near Bethlehem and detain two youths aged 16 and 17.

- 1. I live in a town just south of Bethlehem with my divorced son and his three children. My son's youngest child is 15.
- 2. On 18 May 2015, at about 1.30 a.m., I woke to the sound of our front door being broken in. About 20 Israeli soldiers then entered our house. The commander told my son to fetch his two sons, Omar and Dahoud. My son told the commander that Omar is only 16 and still asleep. The commander told him to fetch Omar. Dahoud is 17.
- 3. The commander then gave my son a document he wanted to him tom sign concerning Omar's arrest. My son refused to sign the document and protested when he realized they were going to detain Omar. The soldiers tied Omar and Dahoud's hands behind their back and took them to a waiting military jeep.
- 4. Before they were taken outside, my son told his children not to confess to anything they did not do. One of the soldiers heard this and threatened to beat my son. We were not permitted to say goodbye to the boys and the soldiers locked us inside the house.
- 5. I started to cry for my grandchildren as they are still young. I am really worried about them. I can't sleep now as I am always thinking of them.

Name:	Hind Seir
Age:	35
Location:	Al Khadr, West Bank
Date:	18 May 2015

# Summary: On 18 May 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 1.00 a.m. and detain a 16-year-old youth.

- 1. I live near Bethlehem with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 7, and the eldest is 16.
- 2. On 18 May 2015, at about 1.00 a.m., I woke up to the sound of Israeli soldiers chasing someone outside. I later found out they were chasing a 15-year-old boy from our neighbourhood. I looked out of the window and saw at least 50 soldiers outside spreading through the neighbourhood. Some of the soldiers were surrounding our house.
- 3. A few minutes later there was loud banging at our front door. My husband opened the door and five soldiers entered with a commander and a dog. The commander told my husband to gather the family in the kitchen. My husband asked the commander if the younger children could remain asleep and he agreed.
- 4. The commander then gave my husband a document and asked him to sign it. It related to our son Jihad, who is 16. That's when we realized they were going to detain Jihad. Jihad's hands were tied behind his back with plastic ties and we weren't allowed to say goodbye to him. There was nothing I could do. I knew that if I intervened it would be worse for Jihad.
- 5. I am now very anxious and unsettled. I cry a lot and miss my son. I can no longer sleep properly. We still don't know where Jihad is being held.

Name:	Ayda S.
Age:	42
Location:	El Far'a refugee camp, West Bank
Date:	19 May 2015

# Summary: On 19 May 2015, Israeli soldiers break into a Palestinian home in the El Far'a refugee camp and arrest a 19-year-old male.

- 1. I live in the El Far'a refugee camp with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 4years-old. We live in a two-storey building; we live on the first floor and my brother-in-law and his family upstairs on the second floor.
- 2. On 19 May 2015, at about 2.00 a.m., I was still awake when suddenly I heard a loud explosion. I immediately woke my husband so he could see what was going on. By the time my husband went to the living room there was already a large group of Israeli soldiers in our house. I quickly covered myself and went to the living room.
- 3. My husband was shouting at the soldiers complaining about the way they broke into our house with children inside. The commander told my husband to shut up in Arabic and ordered his soldiers to search the house. The soldiers then entered our daughters' bedroom whilst they were still asleep and started pointing their torches in the girls' faces. Our daughters woke up confused and in shock. The soldiers then left the bedroom having confirmed that they were girls.
- 4. My daughters got up and dressed and all the women were ordered into one room. Meanwhile the soldiers then started to search the girls' bedroom, pulling out all the clothes from the wardrobes and throwing them all over the room.
- 5. Then the soldiers entered my son Tawfiq's bedroom, who is 19-years-old. They pulled Tawfiq violently out of bed while he was still sleeping. Tawfiq was in his pajamas and the soldiers would not allow him to get dressed. I could hear a lot of commotion and I was very worried about my son. I could see that my daughters were all scared. We are so used to soldiers violating our rights in the camp that I thought we were now numb to the situation.
- 6. The soldiers damaged some of our furniture in the process. They then detained Tawfiq and tied his hands behind his back with a plastic tie. The commander told my husband that Tawfiq was going to prison. I was in shock. I feel really sad after the arrest of Tawfiq. I cried so much when the soldiers took him away and there was nothing I could do. My daughter,

Shahid, who is 15-years-old, has been in deep depression since Tawfiq was detained. They are very close and she now cries all the time.

7. I have not been in Tawfiq's bedroom since he was detained. I don't want to remember the incident or be reminded that he is not home.

#### **Testimony 89**

Name:	Dam A'si
Age:	28
Location:	Beit Liqya, West Bank
Date:	19 May 2015

## Summary: On 19 May 2015, Israeli soldiers break into a Palestinian home near Ramallah at 3.00 a.m. and detain an adult male.

- 1. I live near Ramallah with my husband and two children. We have a daughter, Halymieh, who is 7, and a son, Qassam, who is 1.
- 2. On 19 May 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., we woke to the sound of an explosion. We quickly got dressed and when we came out of our bedroom we found 15 Israeli soldiers inside our house. All of the soldiers, except for the commander, were wearing masks. The soldiers started to push my husband around. I intervened and stood between the soldiers and my husband holding our two children.
- 3. The soldiers tied my husband's hands behind his back with a plastic tie. Me and the children were then ordered to the living room where we were guarded by a soldier. We were left in the living room with the door closed for around an hour. I could hear the soldiers talking to my husband but I could not hear what they were saying.
- 4. Meanwhile other soldiers started to search the house and made a big mess. They caused damage to our cupboards and to the furniture. They threw everything in the kitchen on the floor and damaged a laptop. One of the soldiers tried to provoke me when he sarcastically said "your house is beautiful, isn't it?
- 5. The soldiers arrested my husband and left at around 4.30 a.m. Later that morning I went to the Red Crescent in Ramallah to try and get some information. They told me they would have some information in about 15 days. I found out that my husband is being held in the Al

Mascobiyye interrogation centre in West Jerusalem. I still don't know why he was arrested or what he is accused of.

6. Our children are very scared.

#### **Testimony 90**

Name:	Ayda A'si
Age:	24
Location:	Beit Liqya, West Bank
Date:	19 May 2015

## Summary: On 19 May 2015, Israeli soldiers break into a Palestinian home near Ramallah at 2.30 a.m. and detain an adult male who is given an administrative detention order.

- 1. I live near Ramallah with my husband and three children. Our youngest child, Judi, is twomonths-old, our eldest is 4.
- 2. On 19 May 2015, at around 2.30 a.m., we woke to the terrifying sound of an explosion. Within seconds our bedroom was filled with Israeli soldiers. I estimate that around 30 soldiers entered our house. The commander spoke to my husband in Arabic and told him to get dressed because he was under arrest. His hands were then tied behind his back with plastic ties.
- 3. The soldiers took my husband to the living room and I was left alone in the bedroom with a soldier guarding me. They started to interrogate my husband in the living room. I was not able to hear properly because the door was shut. Sometime later the soldiers left with my husband.
- 4. Later that day I went to an organization that handles prisoners' issues and found out that my husband was being held in Ofer prison, near Ramallah, and had been given an administrative detention order detention without charge or trial.
- 5. I am so anxious without my husband. The children keep asking where their father is. I miss him a lot.

Name:	Juhyna Mafarjeh
Age:	24
Location:	Beit Liqya, West Bank
Date:	20 May 2015

Summary: On 20 May 2015, Israeli soldiers blow open the door to a Palestinian home at 3.00 a.m. and enter the bedrooms. One male is detained and given an administrative detention order.

- 1. I live in Beit Liqya with my husband and 3-year-old son.
- 2. On 20 May 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., we woke to the sound of an explosion. Suddenly a large number of Israeli soldiers entered our bedroom. Or son was sleeping on the floor and a soldier stepped on him. He woke up and started to cry. I yelled at the soldier who stepped on our son and tried to calm him down. The commander then told the soldiers to be careful.
- 3. The soldiers then pulled my husband from the bed and started to search him. He was then taken out of the room. I followed them into the hallway and turned on a light. A soldier yelled at me to turn the light off. I then panicked when a soldier fired his gun at the light.
- 4. The commander then told me to get my husband's ID card. I went back to the bedroom to fetch it followed by a soldier. I handed the ID card to a soldier who then used the information to fill out a form. The soldier told me to stay in the bedroom but I refused and followed him to where my husband was. The soldiers then left the house taking my husband with them.
- 5. Later that day I had to install a new front door because the original one was completely destroyed. The next day I was contacted by an NGO who told me that my husband was being held in Al Mascobiyye interrogation centre, in West Jerusalem. They also told me that he had been given an administrative detention order detention without charge or trial.
- 6. I feel bitter and frustrated that my husband has been taken away.

Name:	Nidal Atwan
Age:	42
Location:	Al Khadr, West Bank
Date:	20 May 2015

Summary: On 20 May 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 3.00 a.m. and detain a 14-year-old boy who is later charged with throwing stones in a military court.

- 1. I live near Bethlehem with my husband and three children. Our youngest child is 9 and the eldest is 22.
- 2. On 20 May 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., my son Mohammad, who is 14, woke me up telling me that the Israeli soldiers were raiding our neighbor's house. I woke up our daughter and we got dressed. I left my youngest, Ahmed, asleep. I told Mohammad to prepare himself because I suspected he might be arrested as the army had been arresting young men of his age in our neighbourhood.
- 3. I looked out of the window and saw the soldiers were approaching our house. My husband quickly went to open the door before it could be broken in. Around seven soldiers entered our house. They were wearing masks except for the commander. It looked like there were around 50 soldiers outside in the neighbourhood.
- 4. The commander asked for Mohammad and his ID card. The commander made fun of me when I said Mohammad was underage and told me they were going to arrest him. At first the commander refused to allow Mohammad to get dressed but then relented. Mohammad was scared and I tried to comfort him and told him to be strong.
- 5. The commander asked my husband to sign a document but my husband refused. The commander tried to pressure us to sign the document by saying that signing the paper will give Mohammed his full rights in prison. My husband still refused and said Mohammad could look after himself.
- 6. The commanders asked for Mohammad's mobile phone and didn't believe us when we said he doesn't own one. I gave the commander my mobile phone but he said he didn't want it.
- 7. Mohammad put his jacket on and drank some water then the soldiers took him downstairs. Mohammad wanted to hug me goodbye but the soldiers refused, but I hugged him anyway. Within an hour the soldiers had left with Mohammad. They tied his hands behind his back with plastic ties once they were outside.

- 8. Later that morning, at around 9.00 a.m., the commander called us and told us Mohammad was being held in the settlement of Etzion. A lawyer later called us and told us Mohammad would be brought before a military court at Ofer, near Ramallah.
- 9. On 21 May 2015, we attended Mohammad's hearing before the military court. He was accused of throwing stones at Israelis which he denied. The case has been adjourned. I feel very sad and frustrated. I can't enjoy anything whilst my son is in prison.

Name:	Khitam T.
Age:	39
Location:	An Nabi Saleh, West Bank
Date:	1 June 2015

## Summary: On 1 June 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the village of An Nabi Saleh at 6.00 a.m. and detain a 19-year-old male.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the village of An Nabi Saleh, north of Ramallah. Our house is located very close to the Israeli military watchtower at the entrance to village.
- 2. On 1 June 2015, at about 6.00 a.m., I woke up to an unusual sound outside. I was already in quite a state of alert as my 19-year-old son, Aseed, had been given a summons to surrender himself to Israeli soldiers but he refused to do so.
- 3. I listened carefully and realized the sound was coming from soldiers. I hoped that maybe they were just passing by on the main road but then I could hear them getting closer and so I woke my husband and daughters and told them to get dressed quickly in case the soldiers broke into the house. I was so scared I could feel my heart beating faster.
- 4. Moments later there was loud banging at our front door. My husband opened the door and around 10 soldiers entered the house. They seemed to be irritated. More soldiers were outside and on our roof.
- 5. The commander asked for Assed who was still sleeping. Some soldiers grabbed Assed from his bed and started to search him in an aggressive way. They also started to search his room and threw all is belongings on the floor.

- 6. The soldiers then went to my daughters' bedroom and started to yell at them in a way that scared them. My youngest daughter, who is 12-years-old, started to cry out of fear.
- 7. I followed the soldiers around the house as they were searching. Suddenly I heard the soldiers laughing in the kitchen. When I went to see what was going on I saw a soldier pull a tear gas canister out of the onion basket. Straight away I knew they had planted it there so they could find a reason to arrest Assed.
- 8. The soldiers looked very pleased with themselves when the commander told them to arrest Assed, just as I thought. Assed was then tied and blindfolded. I started to cry but my husband told me to be strong in front of Assed. The soldiers then led Assed out of the house and walked him towards the watchtower at the entrance to the village.
- 9. After the soldiers left we started to clean up the house which looked like it had been hit by a bomb. Everything was misplaced or broken. Then I remembered I had put NIS 2,500 in a cupboard. I went to look for it and found it was gone. Later on our neighbour told us that the soldiers took NIS 300 out of her purse when her house was searched.
- 10. Assed was held in detention for about two week and then released on bail of NIS 1,500. The whole experience cost us a lot of money but I am so happy to have Assed home.

Name:	Amal H.
Age:	43
Location:	Silwad, West Bank
Date:	2 June 2015

# Summary: On 2 June 2015, Israeli soldiers break into a Palestinian home in the West Bank at 2.30 a.m. and detain a 19-year-old male.

- 1. I live in the village of Silwad with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 8.
- 2. On 2 June 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., I woke up suddenly to the sound of our windows being smashed. I quickly got dressed and was horrified to find around 20 Israeli soldiers inside our house accompanied by a dog. Many more soldiers were outside.

- 3. The commander told me to gather the family in one room. The commander allowed our younger children to remain asleep following my request. We sat in the kitchen while the soldiers searched the house. A soldier also videotaped everything.
- 4. The commander then told my 19-year-old son, Bara', to get dressed because he was under arrest. The soldiers then tied Bara's hands to the front with plastic ties and blindfolded him. I wasn't able to do anything and I was scared that if interfered they would hurt my son.
- 5. I was allowed to say goodbye to Bara' before they took him away. I hugged my son and asked him to be strong. I almost broke down in tears but I barely was able to hold myself together until they left. The soldiers put Bara' in a military jeep and drove away.
- 6. The very next day we were informed by an NGO that Bara' was being held in Al Jalame interrogation centre inside Israel. So far we don't have any other information about Bara' and I am very worried. I miss him.

Name:	Samar H.
Age:	48
Location:	Silwad, West Bank
Date:	4 June 2015

## Summary: On 4 June 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the village of Silwad at 3.00 a.m. and detain a 19-year-old man.

- 1. I am a kindergarten teacher and live in Silwad with my children. Our youngest child is 13. My husband works in the US.
- On 4 June 2015, at about 3.00 a.m., I woke up to the sound of loud banging at the front door. I immediately woke up the children, Ali (19), Minaieh (16) and Lina (13). As soon as I opened the door I saw many Israeli soldiers. The commander told me that everyone in the house must gather outside.
- 3. When we came out of the house we saw around 70 soldiers as well as some military vehicles. The commander told me that they didn't go into the house because my husband is absent. He then turned to Ali and told him to get ready because he was under arrest.

- 4. I brought Ali something to wear and the soldiers then tied his hands to the front with plastic ties and blindfolded him. The commander told me not to worry as they would bring Ali back. Ali was then taken to a waiting military jeep. My daughters started to cry fearing what would happen to their brother.
- 5. The next day an NGO called me and said that Ali was being held in Al Jalame interrogation centre inside Israel. So far I don't have any more information.
- 6. Every time I think about that night I start to cry. I really hope Ali will be released soon.

Name:	Fathieh H.
Age:	48
Location:	Silwad, West Bank
Date:	4 June 2015

## Summary: On 4 June 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home in the village of Silwad at 2.30 a.m. and detain a 22-year-old man.

- 1. I live in the village of Silwad with my husband and children. My youngest child is 16.
- 2. On 4 June 2015, at about 2.30 a.m., I woke up hearing loud banging at the front door. My husband looked out of the window and saw around 50 Israeli soldiers. I quickly got dressed and told my daughters to do the same. Meanwhile my husband opened the door for the soldiers.
- 3. About 10 soldiers entered the house with a dog. The commander gathered us all in the living room. Then the soldiers started to search the house and threw all of our clothes on the floor.
- 4. About 30 minutes later, the commander told Tariq, our 22-year-old son, to get dressed as he was under arrest. Tariq got dressed and the soldiers tied his hands with plastic ties and blindfolded him. They then took Tariq out of the house. I tried to follow the soldiers as I wanted to say goodbye to my son but the soldiers yelled at me to get back inside and close the door. I went back inside and broke down.
- 5. The neighbors later told me that they saw the soldiers beat Tariq with their guns when they forced him into a military vehicle.

6. We didn't hear anything for four days and then Tariq was released. He was questioned about being a member of Hamas but he has nothing to do with them. During those four days I couldn't eat. I'm so happy he is now safely home.

#### **Testimony 97**

Name:	Ezzieh Saa'dieh
Age:	66
Location:	Asira Ash Shamaliya
Date:	8 June 2015

# Summary: On 8 June 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 1.30 a.m. and detain a 24-year-old male.

- 1. I live with my husband and children in the village of Asira Ash Shamaliya, north of Nablus.
- 2. On 8 June 2015, at around 1.30 a.m., we woke to the sound of loud banging at the front door. As my husband was leaving the bedroom he found Israeli soldiers were already in our living room.
- 3. The commander gathered us all in the living room and told us not to move or speak. Meanwhile the soldiers searched the house and threw our possessions on the floor. About 15 minutes later the commander told my 24-year-old son, Makeen, that he was under arrest and gave him one minute to get dressed and to say goodbye.
- 4. The soldiers then tied Makeen's hands with plastic ties and blindfolded him. I stood there helpless. I thought if I said anything they would beat my son. I am really worried for my son and hope he will be released soon.

Name:	Hana Miladi
Age:	35
Location:	Einabus, West Bank
Date:	10 June 2015

## Summary: On 10 June 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 2.30 a.m. and arrest one male after searching the premises.

- 1. I live in the village of Einabus with my husband and children. My youngest child is 5.
- 2. On 10 June 2015, at 2.30 a.m., I was with my husband at my brother-in-law's house. We were sitting around chatting in the living room when there was loud banging at the front door. My husband opened the door and around 20 soldiers entered. More soldiers were outside.
- 3. The commander spoke in Arabic and told us all to remain in the living room. The soldiers then started to search the house and pulled items out of the wardrobes and threw them on the ground. About 15 minutes later the commander told my husband he was under arrest.
- 4. I started to cry and I asked the commander what my husband was accused of. The commander did not respond. The soldiers then tied my husband's hands with plastic ties and blindfolded him. He was then taken away without being given the opportunity to say goodbye.
- 5. The next day we were informed by an NGO that my husband was being held in Al Jalame interrogation centre, inside Israel. We have no further information.
- 6. I can't describe how I feel having my husband taken away from me and my children. I feel afraid having to spend the nights with my children alone in the house. I hope my husband will be released soon.

Name:	Elham H.
Age:	44
Location:	Nablus, West Bank
Date:	18 June 2015

## Summary: On 18 June 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home near Nablus at 3.00 a.m. and arrest two young men.

- 1. I live just south of Nablus with my husband and children. Our youngest child is 11.
- 2. On 18 June 2015, at around 3.00 a.m., I woke up because I heard an unusual sound outside. I looked out of the window and saw around 100 Israeli soldiers surrounding my house. I barely had time to wake my husband and children before the soldiers broke in.
- 3. I asked the commander what he wanted and if they had come to arrest one of my sons. I was sure I was going to lose one of my sons. The commander told my husband to shut me up and told me to go to the bedroom. Me and Aseel, my 15-year-old daughter, went to one of the bedrooms and we were guarded by a soldier. Aseel was terrified and started to cry.
- 4. Meanwhile the soldiers kept my husband and sons in the living room. The soldiers then started search the men and boys and ordered them to strip down to their underwear. The soldiers also searched the house, causing damage and pulling all our things out of the cupboards.
- 5. An hour later the soldiers arrested my sons Ala (24) and Omar (23). They tied their hands with plastic ties and blindfolded them before leading them to a waiting military vehicle. They were not allowed to say goodbye to us. I asked the commander what my sons were accused of but he did not reply.
- 6. The next day an NGO told us they were being held in Megiddo prison, inside Israel. We still don't know what they are accused of doing. I am heartbroken and hope they will be released soon.

Name:	Mustaydah K.
Age:	57
Location:	Deir Ibzi', West Bank
Date:	22 June 2015

# Summary: On 22 June 2015, Israeli soldiers enter a Palestinian home at 2.45 a.m. and detainee one male and search the premises.

- 1. I live in Deir Ibzi' village near Ramllah with my married sons. The apartment building is located at the entrance to the village.
- 2. On 20 June 2015, a settler's car was shot at on land belonging to the village and a settler was killed. Soon the Israeli military closed off our village and damaged a number of shops. They also took the CCTV cameras on the main street. The soldiers then started to raid houses in the village.
- 3. I was watching the soldiers from the roof of my house and wondered when our turn would come. One of my sons spent time in an Israeli prison and whenever there are disturbances they raid our house.
- 4. The first night went by butno soldiers came to our house. Again, I stayed up the second night expecting the soldiers to come, but nothing happened.
- 5. However on the third night, 22 June 2015, at around 2.45a.m.,we woke up terrified to the sound of an explosion at the main door to the apartment building. Because of Ramadan we had guests over and so there were 17 people in the building.
- 6. My son Essam went to open the door and my other son Jawdat followed him. When they opened the door the soldiers took them outside and forced them to strip down to their underwear. They hands were also tied.
- 7. The soldiers also ordered me and my daughters-in-law outside. My other son, Ala, who is 32, was in the shower when the soldiers came. He rushed out when he heard the explosion and the soldiers grabbed him and tied him and put him with his brothers outside.
- 8. The soldiers left the young children inside asleep, which is unusual. There were seven children inside aged between four months and 16 years. Essam asked the soldiers to go

inside to wake the children but they refused and a soldier hit him on the back of his head with his gun causing him to become unconscious. We had to call an ambulance to take him to the hospital in Ramallah.

- 9. The soldiers untied Ala and took him inside the house to help them search. They pulled out our clothes from the wardrobes, damaged the furniture and caused a big mess.
- 10. The soldiers then allowed my daughter-in-law to go inside the house to wake up the children after she insisted. My daughter-in-law went to her bedroom and found her four month oldchild buried under a big pile of clothes. If she had not gone in the baby could have suffocated.
- 11. My daughter-in-law also noticed the soldiers searching her purse and throwing her jewelry on the floor.
- 12. The children came out of the house and the soldiers then blindfolded Ala and put him in the back of military jeep.
- 13. I went inside the house and discovered that my son's iPhone 6 and my iPad were missing. Jawdat went outside and started to yell at the soldiers to return our property and they just pointed their laser sights on his body as if they were going to shoot him. I was very scared.
- 14. My son has lodged a complaint about the theft. The lawyer told us that Ala's detention has been extended for 13 days but we still don't know what he is accused of.