

THE STORY OF NOOR THE BRAVE AND HER SIBLINGS

Doomsday Terror; the 12th of April Settlers' Attack on Almughayer

WCLAC had Conducted a field visit to Almughayer village, a location frequently targeted by settler attacks. This visit was carried out by the International Advocacy Coordinator along with a WCLAC field researcher. The primary objective was to gather testimonies and data regarding these attacks and their impact on Palestinian women. Following a massive settlers attack that was coordinated on April 12th under the pretense that there was a "missing settler".

The Head of the village Council, Ameen Abu Alia who provided a comprehensive overview of how Settler Terrorist Attacks affect Almughayer Village, especially the attack that happened on the 12th of April, the picture he drew was quite grim and apocalyptic, this is the data he provided:

"On the specified day, 250 settler vehicles gathered on Main Street (Route 90). Despite contacting the civil administration with our concerns, they dismissed the issue, stating that the settlers were searching for a missing shepherd. Subsequently, the Israeli army established checkpoints, closing all exits to the village.

During the four-hour assault, over 76 individuals were shot with live ammunition by approximately 300 heavily armed and masked settlers. As a result, 15 young men suffered injuries leading to permanent disabilities. Furthermore, 13 homes were completely burned and destroyed, while 14 homes were partially burned. The attack also led to the destruction of 20 Bedouin tents, the theft or killing of 150 cattle, and the complete burning of 71 vehicles".

On that day Jihad Afif Abu Aliya, was one of the young men who were visiting relatives in one of these houses. When the settlers began shooting at the house, he helped the residents of the house evacuate the elderly to the roof of the house, which led to him being shot in the head by one of the settlers, and he was killed instantly.

Lamya, a 41-year-old resident of the outskirts of Almughayer, and her 17-year-old daughter Nour, a final-year high school student, recounted the events of April 12th. The women described hearing mosque speakers urgently calling on villagers to shelter their children and

take cover as the village came under attack. Nour's harrowing narrative vividly depicts the terrifying experience she endured that day:

"WhatsApp groups that are created by the villagers of Almughayer started blowing up with messages. My mother heard the calls through the mosque speakers, she got my sister Amal who is 8 and Khaled who is 12 and told them to run away and lead the sheep far away from our house to the center of the village. This is since every time they attack, they steal the livestock and burn the barns. Luckily the chickens ran away on their own.

As we tried to leave the house, a shocking scene unfolded before us. Hundreds of settlers, topless and armed with machine guns, had covered their faces with their T-shirts. They charged at us, screaming war cries and shouting sexual profanities. It was just me, my mother, and my 18-year-old brother, Muhammad. With no other choice, we prepared to defend our home.

Surrounded, I watched in horror as the settlers began pouring a flammable substance on our windows and doors before setting everything ablaze. The sound of gunfire erupted, and I saw my mother collapse to the ground. Thankfully, it wasn't a bullet-just a massive rock that struck her head, knocking her unconscious.



My brother and I ran to get her, but she was hit two more times. I thought she had died. We dragged her closer to the house, which was already engulfed in flames. Thick smoke filled the air, blinding me. Gunshots and screams continued to echo around us. My father arrived with my uncles, but I screamed at them to take cover as the gunfire persisted. Then, I felt something hot running down my leg. It took me a moment to realize that I'd been shot, not knowing what it felt like.



The next thing I remember is losing consciousness. I have vague memories of waking up and blacking out again in an ambulance, surrounded by bodies-others who had also been shot, I assumed. The trip to the hospital, which normally takes 15 minutes, took three agonizing hours due

to the Israeli Army obstructing the ambulance. When we finally arrived, I was operated on. The doctor managed to extract one bullet, but another remains lodged in a sensitive area of my leg. To this day, I can't put my full weight on it, and walking remains quite difficult.



After four days, I returned home. The scene was both frightening and heartbreaking. All I saw was devastation and destruction. Everything had been burned black. Our home was destroyed—nothing remained but charred walls. I ran through the ruins, crying out in desperation as I searched for my library, my books, and my clothes. All I found was a room reduced to ash.

My fellow students, Khaled and my friend Amal, had also been injured by live bullets from the settlers, just like me. Khaled was shot in the abdomen, leaving him completely paralyzed. I don't believe he will be able to continue his studies. He has lost a significant amount of weight and is in a pitiful condition.

As for me, I still suffer from fear, insomnia, and an inability to sleep. I'm always on edge, constantly feeling like the settlers could attack again at any moment. Every sound at night, every sudden phone ring sends me into a state of panic. I live in a state of internal unrest and instability. My only escape from all of this is through my studies. I convince myself that focusing on my education is the only way to forget the physical pain and the psychological terror."

Noor graduated from high school with a remarkable average of 77, despite all the pain and injuries she endured. She remains determined and resilient, stating that she wants to study journalism.







