

Palestinian Daily Life

Israeli Minister announced new grotesque development in inhuman and degrading treatment of Palestinian detainees through "Crocodile Prison" plan

The treatment of Palestinian detainees by Israel, many of whom are detained without charges or due process and/or are victims of enforced disappearance, has become the subject of growing international concern following reports of increasingly harsh detention conditions and inflammatory public statements by Israeli officials.

Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir recently announced plans to place crocodiles around the perimeter of “Ketziot” torture camp, a proposal that drew widespread criticism from human rights organizations as a degrading and inhumane approach toward detainees.

Behind such rhetoric are thousands of Palestinian detainees enduring prolonged detention under horrendous conditions that violate their most basic human rights. According to human rights organizations, **94 Palestinian women remain imprisoned in Damon Prison, including three pregnant women**, amid continued reports of medical neglect, poor detention conditions, and restrictions on basic rights.

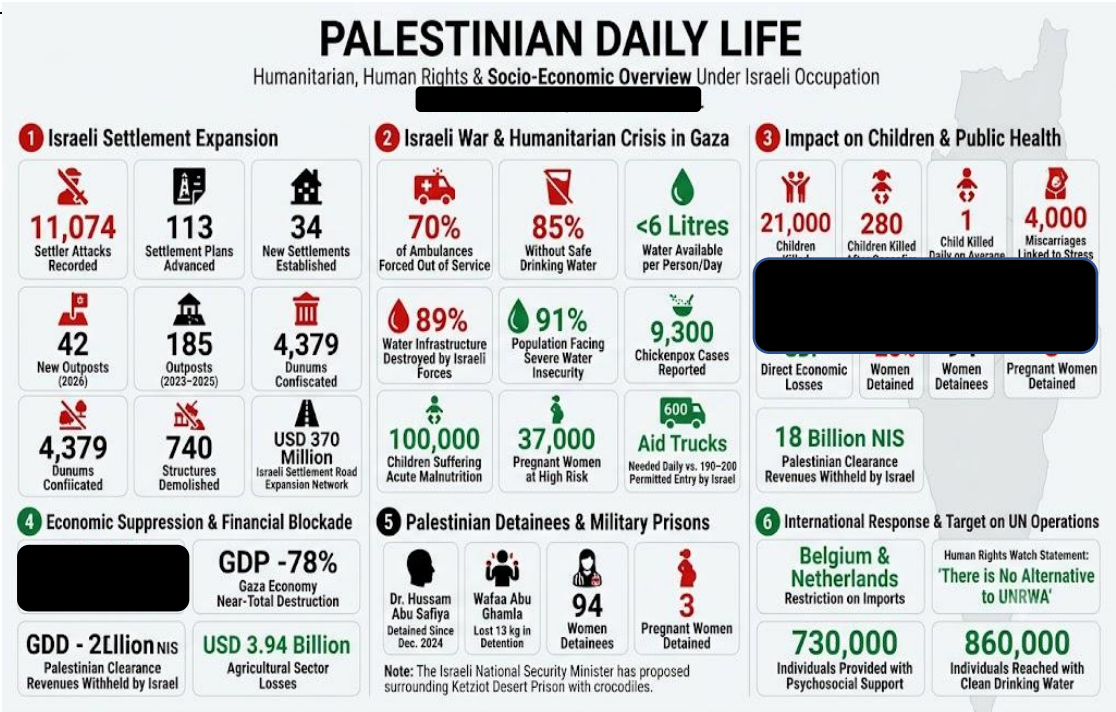
The experience of former detainee **Hamada Abdul Bana** illustrates the human cost behind these statistics. Hamada left home during the war searching for humanitarian aid to feed his family after his father was seriously injured. He was critically wounded in an explosion, spent months unconscious in an Israeli hospital, and was later transferred directly to Israeli detention without being reunited with his family.

For more than a year, his relatives believed he had been killed. They held a three-day mourning ceremony after losing all contact with him. Following his release, his first phone call was met with disbelief, as neither of his parents could accept that the voice on the other end belonged to their son. Only when he returned home did they realize he had survived.

His story reflects the suffering experienced by many Palestinians from the Gaza Strip, who have been victims of enforced disappearance, and their families, who endure prolonged separation, uncertainty, and the psychological trauma of not knowing whether their loved ones are alive.



Ben - Gvir moves to surround a torture camp for Palestinians with crocodiles.



Escalatory Israeli Statements and Settlement Expansion Raise Concerns Over Further West Bank Violence against Palestinian civilians



Palestinian families displaced from the Tulkarm refugee camp following Israeli military operations.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared his readiness to expand military operations across the occupied West Bank against what he described as "terrorist cells." Meanwhile, Israeli Defence Minister Yisrael Katz threatened to extend military incursions into additional Palestinian towns, villages, and refugee camps, replicating operations previously carried out in Jenin, Nur Shams, and Tulkarm refugee camps, largely destroyed by the Israeli occupation army. At the same time, *Haaretz* quoted Israeli military officials as saying that the political leadership is encouraging settler violence against Palestinians in the West Bank. Israeli security officials also warned that the recent escalation of incidents could trigger a broader outbreak of violence, with the army reportedly preparing for the possibility of a significant escalation.

Separately, Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich announced plans to continue expanding settlements in the occupied West Bank, stating that hundreds of new housing units would be constructed in the Eli settlement and that the settlement would be expanded to approximately three times its current size.

Israeli settlers and army attacks against Palestinian localities have become daily occurrences. These attacks are accompanied by violent assault against men, women and children, setting fire to houses, mosques, cars and crops, theft or maiming of sheep, and writing of racist or revenge graffiti on walls. More than 500 Palestinian civilians have been injured and 18 killed by Israeli settlers so far in 2026.

Palestinian women prevented from reaching hospitals give birth on the road or miscarry

Physicians for Human Rights reported that two Palestinian women were forced to give birth inside vehicles after Israeli occupation forces prevented them from reaching hospitals due to the closure of military checkpoints surrounding the city of Nablus. Denied timely access to essential maternal healthcare, both women were compelled to deliver under extremely difficult and unsafe conditions. In another incident reported by Wafa News Agency, a 6-month pregnant Palestinian woman from Qaryut village lost her unborn child after Israeli forces delayed her transport at the Awarta checkpoint near Nablus and searched her while she was heavily bleeding. The checkpoint closures have severely disrupted the work of ambulance crews, preventing emergency medical teams from reaching patients in Nablus and the surrounding villages. These restrictions continue to endanger the lives of civilians by obstructing access to urgent medical care and essential health services. About a week ago, a 30 year old woman from Sinjel village north of Ramallah died of a heart attack after Israeli forces delayed an ambulance from entering the town by closing an iron gate at its entrance (Wafa Agency).



Picture of Israeli soldiers preventing an ambulance from moving through gates that prevent movement from and to Palestinian localities in the West Bank.



Palestinian Workers Face Unprecedented Challenges Amid War, Restrictions, and Rising Unemployment

Palestinian workers are facing the most difficult conditions in decades amid the ongoing war, movement restrictions, economic decline, and unprecedented unemployment rates. Work has shifted for hundreds of thousands from a basic right into a daily struggle for survival, as military checkpoints, closures, and restrictions on movement have severely limited access to workplaces and employment opportunities in the West Bank. The economic crisis has been further intensified by the Israeli government's withholding of Palestinian clearance revenues, negatively affecting the labour market. In Gaza, the situation is significantly worse due to widespread destruction and the collapse of basic living conditions. Jobs remaining scarce as goods and materials required for recovery are blocked from entering. According to data from the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), unemployment reached approximately 68% in Gaza in 2025. In the West Bank, it also remains extremely high, at 29.5% during the first quarter of 2026, compared with 13% in the third quarter of 2023. Labour force participation in Gaza declined sharply to around 25%, compared with 40% before the war, reflecting the large-scale withdrawal of people from the labour market.

In the West Bank, the number of employed workers decreased from approximately 868,000 in the third quarter of 2023 to around 700,000 by the first quarter of 2026, mainly due to declining employment opportunities in sectors such as construction, manufacturing, transportation, and communications, and the ban of most Palestinian workers from returning to their workplaces in Israel. Palestinian unions claim that about 50 workers have been killed and hundreds injured while trying to cross the apartheid wall to access workplaces in Israel. In Gaza, around 74% of those, who were employed before the war, became unemployed or were forced out of the labour force. Young people aged 15–29 were among the most affected groups, with approximately 74% reported to be outside education, employment, or training. These figures reflect the severe impact of the ongoing crisis on Palestinian workers, their livelihoods, and their ability to access decent work and economic security.