

Palestine News Forum 5/2/16-10/2/16

1. Israeli officer convicted for violation of privacy (5.2.16)

An Israeli officer is prosecuted for sharing information to extremists about a Jewish girl getting in a car with Palestinian friends, as the Ministry of Justice stated. The officer took a picture of the girl's ID and sent it to a far right Israeli organization, a racist anti-Arabian movement. The officer is being accused of violation of privacy and abuse of power. The date of his trial has not been set yet.

2. Palestinian journalist's trial is postponed due to his health situation (5.2.16)

Muhammed al-Qeq, the Palestinian journalist who was arrested by Israel's Shin Bet security service, has been on a hunger strike for 75 days. The Israeli authorities accused him of links with Hamas. He has been detained without charges or due legal process and he is the first to protest extrajudicial detention. His wife stated that he was "subject to all kinds of threats and torture methods". Israeli security officials and the Palestinian authorities are believed to be trying to reach an agreement, in order to shorten his arrest.

3. Israeli forces surround Palestinian town Kabatiya after deadly attacks (5.2.16)

Security forces made a number of arrests in Kabatiya operating in the West Bank city of Jenin from which three Arabs launched attacks against Israelis. Two 13-year-old Arab-Israeli girls launched stabbing attack against a security guard near Tel Aviv. According to Palestinian officers, 10 people have been arrested. This moment Kabatiya is facing conflicts with many wounded people by shooting and others attacked by the Israeli vehicles.

4. Palestinian poet receives support for release (6.2.16)

Ashraf Fayadh had been sentenced to death by a Saudi court for renouncing Islam and promoting atheism through his writings and poems. Many Organizations and International Poetry Festivals are calling for the drop of charges against the Palestinian, who has been in prison for eight years in Saudi Arabia.

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5. Israeli soldiers killed a 17-year-old boy (6.2.16)

A Palestinian was killed by Israeli soldiers and a second one was arrested after launching a molotov cocktail bomb to a military vehicle in the south side of the West Bank.

6. Latest developments on the West Bank (6.2.16)

After Israel decided to confiscate 154 hectares of land near Jericho in the occupied Palestinian territory, decisions have been taken to permit further settlement expansion, involving more than 150 new residential units. Several Palestinian residential structures in the south Hebron hills were demolished. Demolitions included EU funded structures. EU humanitarian activities are carried out with the sole aim of providing humanitarian support.

7. Israeli parliament suspends Arab MPs (9.2.16)

The Israeli Arab parliamentarians Hanin Zoabi, Basel Ghattas and Jamal Zahalka, met the families of Palestinians who carried out deadly attacks. Prime Minister Netanyahu lashed out at them in parliament, saying they had crossed every acceptable boundary in a democratic country. PM compared their actions to British parliamentarians standing at attention for the Islamic State group's Jihadi John or members of the American Congress honoring the San Bernardino attackers, in California.

8. Israeli bill targeting NGOs (9.2.16)

An Israeli bill targeting groups that campaign largely on Palestinian human rights is being proposed for legislation. The act has been criticized as it would only affect leftwing Israeli organizations, many of which are funded by the EU countries, and not rightwing NGOs, which are supported by private donations from wealthy supporters of Israel. The bill is being promoted by the rightwing justice minister Eyelet Shaked, who says it will boost transparency as the government seeks to find foreign interference and attempts to delegitimize the state of Israel.