



United Against Torture (UAT) Coalition

Annexure A Supplementary List of Evidence¹

Supplementary Report For Consideration Regarding Israel's Fourth Periodic Report to the UN Committee Against Torture (CAT)

Submitted April 2009

A. Arrest, interrogation and detention of minors

1. Husam H.

15 year old boy arrested on 7 January 2009 and accused of throwing stones: 15 year old Husam was walking home from school in the village of Zeita, near Tukarm, when he was arrested by Israeli soldiers who accused him of throwing stones – hands tied with plastic ties causing them to swell – blindfolded – blindfold removed and replaced with a sack making it difficult to breathe – struck on the head with a metal helmet – transferred to Huwwara Interrogation and Detention Centre – during transfer one soldier kept stepping on his legs whilst another soldier grabbed his hair and pulled his head backwards – left tied and cold outside for three hours – transferred to Salem Interrogation and Detention Centre – interrogated for 30 minutes – shouted at but denied he threw stones – transferred to Megiddo

¹ Affidavits and testimony in this evidence supplement have been provided by Defence for Children International, - Palestine Section, Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights, B'Tselem, HaMoked, Addameer Prisoners Support and Human Rights Association and Physicians for Human Rights – Israel.

Prison inside Israel – on 26 January 2009 sentenced to three months in prison and fined 500NIS for throwing stones – no family visits or education.....

2. **Hamzi F.**

15 year old boy arrested on 11 January 2009 and accused of throwing stones - 15 year old from Sa'ir, Hebron arrested in a shop and accused of throwing stones at soldiers - grabbed by the neck and put in a jeep - tied and blindfolded - left outside in a yard for 30 minutes in only a T-shirt - threatened with physical violence if he did not confess - slapped across the face - continued to deny allegations - signed papers written in Hebrew without knowing the contents - detained Etzion Detention Centre and Ofer Prison – on 23 February 2009, he was sentenced to four months in prison, a further four months suspended sentence and a fine on NIS 750.

3. **Habib M.**

17 year old detained at 11:00am on Wednesday, 14 January 2009 and accused of throwing stones: 17 year old Habib from Qaryut Village, near Nablus was arrested outside the family home by Israeli soldiers - accused of throwing stones - hands tied with plastic cords and blindfolded - slapped, grabbed by the shoulder and shaken violently, head slammed into knees for five minutes - barefoot and bleeding - hit in testicles with assault rifle - lifted up and down by his plastic hand ties for 10 minutes - legs tied with rope - transferred to Huwwara Interrogation and Detention Centre - asked for hand ties to be loosened - hand ties tightened - verbal abuse - eight days later transferred to Salem Interrogation and Detention Centre - interrogated for one hour with hands and legs tied - told that his friend had confessed against him - eight days after arrest taken to Salem Military Court, detention extended for six days - further interrogation - detention extended.

4. **Osaid Q.**

12 year old boy arrested on 20 January 2009 and accused of throwing stones at the Wall: 12 year old from the village of Tura al Gharbiya, near Jenin, arrested from the family home at 2:00 am on 20 January 2009 - taken with his father to the local youth centre - soldiers shouted at him asking him why he threw stones at the Wall - Interrogator - *'I'll teach you and your father a lesson. Your father is being humiliated now because of you.'* – denied the allegation - given a brief medical examination by a doctor - transferred to Salem military base for further interrogation – scared and threatened with beating and detention - confessed to throwing stones - released on 22 January 2009 on NIS 3000 bail - next court appearance 15 February 2009 - on 15 February 2009 he was fined NIS 750 and sentenced to 1 month on probation.

5. **Imad A.**

15 year old boy arrested on 20 January 2009 and accused of throwing stones at the Wall: At 3.30 am on Tuesday, 20 January 2009, 15 year old Imad was arrested by soldiers with his brother from the family home in the village of Tura al Gharbiya, near Jenin - he was taken with a number of other boys to the village youth centre and interrogated - hit in the back with an assault rifle - transferred to Salem military base for further interrogation - interrogator slapped him and threatened to beat and detain him causing him to confess to throwing two stones at the Wall - released on bail of NIS 2,500 two days later on 22 January 2009 – next court appearance on 15 February 2009 - on 15 February 2009 he was fined NIS 750 and sentenced to 1 month on probation.

6. **Mohammad A.**

13 year old boy arrested on 20 January 2009 and accused of throwing stones at the Wall: At 3.30am on Tuesday, 20 January 2009, 13 year old Mohammad was arrested by soldiers from the family home in the village of Tura al Gharbiya, near Jenin - he was taken with a number of other boys to the village youth centre and interrogated - transferred to Salem military base for further interrogation - interrogator threatened to beat and detain him causing him to confess to throwing stones - released on bail of NIS 3,500 two days later on 22 January 2009 – next court appearance on 15 February 2009 - on 15 February 2009 he was fined NIS 750 and sentenced to 1 month on probation.

7. **Amir Q.**

13 year old boy arrested on 20 January 2009 and accused of throwing stones at the Wall: At 6:00 am on Tuesday, 20 January 2009, 13 year old Amir was arrested by soldiers from the family home in the village of Tura al Gharbiya, near Jenin - taken with a number of other boys to the village youth centre and interrogated - father threatened; hit in the back with an assault rifle - transferred to Salem military base for further interrogation; threatened with beating and detention unless he confessed - confessed to throwing stones - released on bail on 22 January 2009, on payment of NIS 3,000 – next court appearance on 15 February 2009 - on 15 February 2009 he was fined NIS 750 and sentenced to 1 month on probation.

8. **Bashir Q.**

12 year old boy arrested on 19 January 2009 and accused of throwing stones at the Wall: At 11:30pm on Monday, 19 January 2009, 12 year old Bashir was arrested by soldiers with his brother from the family home in the village of Tura al Gharbiya, near Jenin - he was taken to the village youth centre and interrogated – transferred to Salem military base for further interrogation - confessed to twice throwing stones at the Wall – scared by the soldiers shouting - released on 22 January 2009 on payment of NIS 1,500 – next court appearance on 15 February 2009 - on 15 February 2009 he was fined NIS 750 and sentenced to 1 month on probation.

9. **Mohammad Z.**

17 year old boy detained on 22 January 2009 and accused of membership of a banned organisation: At 8:00 pm on Thursday, 22 January 2009, Mohammad was at home in the Balata Refugee Camp, Nablus, when he was arrested by Israeli soldiers – his father was beaten during the arrest – his hands were tied behind his back with plastic cords and he was blindfolded – his head was rammed against a wall – dragged for more than 70 metres – pushed in the back of the neck with an assault rifle – kicked violently on his right leg – slapped and kicked inside a military vehicle for around 10 minutes – verbally abused – punched behind left ear – hit in testicles – beaten during transfer and hit on his knee with an assault rifle – fingers jabbed in his eyes five times and hair pulled – transferred to Huwwara Interrogation and Detention Centre – hands swollen from plastic cords – brief medical examination – interrogated on day eight and accused of membership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) – denies the accusation.

10. **Mohammad F.**

16 year old boy detained on 23 January 2009, and accused of throwing stones at soldiers: On Friday, 23 January 2009, 16 year old Mohammad was outside his house in the Sahla neighbourhood, Hebron, when he was grabbed by two soldiers - hands tied with plastic cords and blindfolded - placed in jeep and transferred for 30 minutes to Kirya Arba Police station - beaten with a stick, pushed, punched and kicked all over his body for five minutes - interrogated for one hour - accused of throwing stones at soldiers - denied the accusation - given papers in Hebrew to sign - initially refused - interrogator threatened to beat him and so signed confession in Hebrew - transferred to Etzion Detention Centre and held for 13 days - transferred to Ofer Prison - military court appearance on 3 February - bail denied - next appearance on 2 March 2009 – on 2 March 2009 he was sentenced to 4.5 months in prison with a further 4.5 month suspended sentence and a fine of NIS 700.

11. **Omar Z.**

14 year old detained on 26 January 2009, and accused of throwing stones at soldiers: At 3:00 am, on Monday, 26 January 2009, 14 year old Omar from Husan Village, near Bethlehem, was arrested from the family home - hands tied with plastic cords and blindfolded - made to walk for 20 minutes and then sit on the ground - small stones thrown at him for 30 minutes by soldiers - accused of throwing stones at soldiers - transferred to Etzion Detention Centre - not given anything to eat or drink - interrogated with hands tied - slapped and punched on his back and stomach for 20 minutes - signed a written confession in Arabic - transferred to Ofer Prison - sentenced to 91 days in prison and NIS 1000 fine.

12. **Mohammad W.**

15 year old boy detained on 9 February 2009 and accused of throwing stones at a settlement: At around 8:00 pm, on Monday, 9 February 2009, 15 year old Mohammad from Hebron, was detained for throwing stones at the lights surrounding a settlement - made to strip to underwear by soldiers and lie face down for 15 minutes - dressed and hands tied with a plastic cord and blindfolded - punched, slapped and kicked in abdomen and back for around 10 minutes - transferred to unknown location and interrogated further - transferred to Ofer Prison - appeared before Ofer Military Court on 17 and 24 February 2009 - detention extended to end of proceedings.

13. **Mohammad N.**

16 year old boy detained on 1 March 2009 and accused of weapon possession: At midnight, on 1 March 2009, 16 year old Mohammad from the Balata Refugee Camp, Nablus, woke up to find Israeli soldiers in his bedroom – a soldier cocked his gun scaring Mohammad – taken downstairs with the rest of the family – ordered to search the house with the soldiers – accused of possessing a gun – accusation denied – a soldier threatened to stab Mohammad unless he located the gun – soldiers shouting at Mohammad – a second soldier slapped Mohammad and a third soldier kicked him causing him to fall – hit with assault rifle while on the ground – *‘confess where you hid the gun or we will kill you.’* – Mohammad denies weapon possession – gun pointed in Mohammad’s face and cocked – house searched – no gun found – tied, blindfolded and beaten – hair pulled – thrown on floor of a military jeep and transferred to Huwwara Interrogation and Detention Centre – abused during transfer – Military Court extends detention for 15 days on 8 March 2009 - 10 March 2009 transferred to Salem Interrogation and Detention Centre.

B. Palestinian female detainees

14. **Fatema A.**

41 year old female detainee shackled after giving birth: Fatema, a mother of eight in her forties, was arrested on 20 May 2007 – pregnant – transferred to hospital and kept shackled both before and after giving birth – denied family visits.

15. **J.**

23 year old female detainee interrogated for 60 days and denied access to a lawyer: J was arrested in 2002 and accused of assisting a suicide bomber – beaten – interrogated for 60 days – denied access to a lawyer for 30 days – sleep deprivation – threats to family.

16. **Khawla Z.**

Female detainee arrested to obtain evidence against husband: Khawla was arrested on 25 January 2007 – forced to leave children – questioned about activities of her husband – detained for 18 months.

C. Medical Coercion: ISA Interrogation of patients exiting the Gaza Strip

17. **K.R.**

38 year old suffering severe portal vein thrombosis denied medical treatment when he refused to assist the ISA: On 28 October 2008, 38 year old M.K. died after he was denied entry into Israel for medical treatment after he refused to help the ISA.

18. **R**

Interrogation of a child cancer patient prior to being allowed to enter Israel for treatment: On 29 January 2009, R, a cancer patient, was interrogated at Erez crossing about her father and uncle prior to being granted entry into Israel for treatment.

D. Human shields

19. **Majid R.**

9 year old boy used as a human shield by Israeli military: During “Operation Cast Lead”, the Majid’s neighbourhood, Tel al-Hawa, was being bombarded – the boy along with family members and neighbours was sheltering in a warehouse close to his home – Israeli soldiers entered the warehouse and forced Majid at gunpoint to search the bags of neighbours containing their personal effects brought with them when they left their homes for shelter.

20. **Majdi A.**

Man repeatedly used as a human shield by Israeli military: During the course of three days, Majdi was forced at gunpoint to be a human shield providing cover for Israeli military whilst entering houses and walking between houses in Jabalia Camp – repeatedly sent alone into houses for reconnaissance and forced to strip naked before returning to military – his house was completely demolished – he now suffers from the physical and psychological repercussions of the trauma.

E. “Operation Cast Lead” (Gaza – December 2008 – January 2009)

The treatment of detainees

21. **M.A.**

Detainee from Gaza held in ditch for two days with 70 others: On 4 January 2009, M.A. was detained by Israeli soldiers and placed in a ditch with 70 others for two days - denied food and water for several days – interrogated – held for seven days before release.

Denial of access to medical care

22. **S. and two sons**

Father and two sons shot during ‘ceasefire’: On 16 January 2009, S. was driving with his sons towards their home in Khan Yunis, Gaza, during a ceasefire – car sprayed with bullets – denied access to medical treatment – sons bleed to death in the night.

23. **Maher S.**

17 year old cancer patient denied permit to seek treatment: 17 year old Maher received treatment for leukaemia in Israel in 2008 – condition deteriorates in January 2009 – denied permission to re-enter Israel for treatment – dies 25 January 2009.

The targeting of health professionals

24. **Dr Ihab Al-M., Mohammad H. and Hishmat A.**

Two health professionals killed and one seriously injured in a missile attack: On 31 December 2008, a doctor, medic and driver were hit by an Israeli missile whilst attending to the dead and injured in the Jabal Al-Rais district, north east of Gaza City. The doctor and medic were killed and the driver was seriously injured.

25. **Anas N., Rifat A. and Yasser S.**

Three medics killed in missile attack on ambulance: On Sunday, 4 January 2009 at around 16:00 in the afternoon, an Israeli plane fired one missile at an ambulance on route to rescue an injured person located east of Az-Zaytoun area. The attack killed three medics: Anas N., 25 years old, Rafat A., 25 years old, and Yasser S, 24 years old.

26. **Khaled S.**

Ambulance hit by shell killing two and injuring a third health professional: On 4 January 2009, an ambulance was hit by a shell in Al-Gharbi, Beit Lahiya, Gaza whilst attending to the wounded – two medical professionals were killed and a third injured.

27. **Yasser S., Rafat A and Hazim Al-B.**

Two health professionals killed and a third injured when their ambulance was hit by a shell: On 4 January 2009, an ambulance was hit by a shell in Tel Al-Hawa, west of Gaza City, whilst attending to the injured. Two health professionals were killed and a third injured in the attack.

28. **Unknown**

Two ambulances targeted by tanks: On Monday, 5 January 2009, at around 17:30, Israeli tanks invading Beit Lahiya fired at two Red Crescent ambulances causing partial damage. The two ambulances were on their way to evacuate the injured and retrieve the bodies of people killed in Al-Atatara area after arranging coordination through the ICRC.

29. **Hasan A.**

Clearly identified ambulance driver fired upon on 7 January 2009: On 7 January 2009, Hasan A. was carrying a dead body on a stretcher to an ambulance when he and his colleagues were fired upon – Hasan and his colleagues were clearly identified as health professionals – wounded in the leg.

The deliberate targeting of civilians

30. **Rawhiyya A.**

Woman shot dead whilst carrying a white flag: On 12 January 2009, Rawhiyya was shot dead whilst holding a white flag and leading neighbours to safety.

31. **Atiyah S.**

Father shot dead by soldiers as he raised his hands as ordered: On 3 January 2009, soldiers entered Atiyah's home in Gaza City and ordered him to raise his hands – shot dead in front of family – other family members wounded – surviving family members ordered to walk in the opposite direction from the hospital.

EVIDENCE

A. ARREST, INTERROGATION AND DETENTION OF MINORS

1. **Name of victim:** Husam H.

Age at incident: 15

Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I was born on 27 August 1993. I am in the 10th grade. I am from Zeita village in Tulkarm. I was arrested on 7 January 2009 and sentenced to three months in prison on 26 January 2009. My father is a farmer. My family consists of eight members. I will be released on 24 March 2009.

2. On 7 January 2009, at around 10:00 am, I was coming back from school early because we had a test on religion that day. I was walking in the street when some students told me that Israeli soldiers had entered the village. I decided to rush to the home to avoid trouble.
3. While walking in the street on my way back home, I was surprised by a military jeep coming from behind me. I kept walking. I became very scared and so I decided to enter the village medical clinic. I began running towards the clinic. When I reached the clinic, a nurse was standing by the door. I wanted to speak with her but I could not because two military jeeps stopped next to. Eight soldiers got out of the jeeps and rushed over and arrested a 16-year-old boy from the village. He was hiding in a store opposite to the clinic. I saw them throwing him on the ground and tying his hands behind his back with plastic cords.
4. When the soldiers completed the arrest of the other boy, a soldier with a long beard approached me and shouted at me in Hebrew. I could not understand what he was saying. He grabbed my shirt and forcibly dragged me towards the jeep. When we reached the jeep, I saw the other boy sitting next to it, a classmate called Laith.
5. The soldiers sat me next to Laith and tied my hands with plastic cords so tightly that I felt pain and my hands swelled. I asked the soldier to loosen them but he refused and shouted at me, saying words I did not understand. I started to cry because of the pain I felt in my hands. Laith and I sat next to the jeep for five minutes while being surrounded with soldiers.
6. Five minutes later, the soldiers ordered us to stand. They placed Laith inside the first military jeep, while I was placed in the second one. They placed me from the rear of the jeep. One of the soldiers pushed me with his foot into the jeep, causing my body to ram against a metal box placed inside the jeep at the back. They then blindfolded my eyes with a piece of cloth and sat me on the metal box. Four soldiers were with me inside the jeep.

Transfer to Huwwara Interrogation and Detention Centre

7. The jeep began travelling out of the village and stopped at the entrance of the village. Without knowing the reason, the soldiers pulled me out of the jeep and removed the blindfold. They replaced it with a sack. I could not see anything. I felt I was choking with this sack placed around my head. The soldiers then placed me inside the jeep again, which began moving. On the trip, one of the soldiers spoke to me in Hebrew but I did not respond or speak with him because I did not understand what he was saying. He then began shouting as he grabbed the sack and then hit it with his metal helmet. That really hurt me a lot.

8. The jeep stopped 15 minutes later, and the soldiers pulled me out. One of the soldiers dragged me and pulled me out so violently that I fell to the ground. One of the soldiers shouted at me and ordered me to stand up. They then removed the sack and replaced it with a blindfold. Before blindfolding me again, I looked around and found out I was near the village near the brick factory that belonged to a person named M.G. from my village. I then heard the sound of military jeeps arriving at the place. I could see some of the jeeps from beneath the blindfold. I also saw the soldier driving the jeep in which I was placed earlier handing my mobile phone to another soldier sitting inside one of the military jeeps that came to the place.
9. One of the soldiers took me to one of the jeeps that came to the place. I saw that they arrested four other children and placed them inside the other jeeps. The jeep drove away and stopped an hour later at Huwwara Detention Centre. During this hour, I was seated on an metal box. One of the soldiers kept stepping on my legs, as another one kept pulling my head backwards. He grabbed my hair and pulled it back which severely hurt my back.
10. In the noon hours we arrived at Huwwara Detention Centre. The soldiers pulled me out of the jeep and made me sit in the yard. I found myself sitting next to Laith. I could see him from beneath the blindfold whenever I lifted my head. Laith pushed me with his hands, thinking I did not see him. We did not speak with each other because soldiers were standing near us.
11. I sat on the ground for about three hours; Laith sat only two hours because he was taken away. I do not know where. After Laith left, the soldiers brought me a chair to sit on because my hands used to touch the ground which was very cold. My hands swelled due to coldness and plastic cords. They brought the chair so that my hands would not touch the ground. My hands swell because of coldness and become very painful. They sat me on the chair and loosened the plastic cords a little but my hands still hurt a lot because of the swelling, so the soldiers untied me for about three minutes and asked me to move my hands so the blood would flow into the veins.

Transfer to Salem Interrogation and Detention Centre

12. After three hours of sitting on the ground, the soldiers placed me inside a Toyota Tundra and transferred me to Salem Detention Centre. There were two soldiers as well as the driver.

Interrogation

13. We reached Salem Detention Centre two hours later, and the soldiers took me to the interrogation room that had a desk with a computer on it. Two interrogators were inside

the room. They removed the blindfold and sat me on a chair. One interrogator began asking me general questions but he did not introduce himself or inform me of my rights. He accused me of throwing stones at the soldiers. He said that the soldiers already had given him their statements; that they saw me throwing stones. I denied the accusation and told them I did not throw any stones.

14. The interrogator began shouting at me and saying that I was lying. I kept swearing it wasn't true but he did not believe me and kept shouting at me. He also told me that other kids who were arrested said they had seen me throwing stones. He did not tell me their names or show me any statements. He then said that Laith confessed that we threw stones together. I told him I was not with Laith and I only saw him when they arrested me and put me with him in the jeep. The interrogator asked me other questions and accused me of many things that I do not recall. I denied every accusation during the interrogation that lasted for half an hour.
15. After the interrogation ended, the interrogator took me to a room and lifted my fingerprints. He took the papers that had my fingerprints. I want to say that from the moment I was arrested until the end of interrogation they did not give me any food. They only gave me water once and they also allowed me to go to the bathroom once.
16. After the interrogator lifted my fingerprints, he allowed me to go to the bathroom to wash the ink off my hands. I found Laith near the bathroom but I could not speak with him because one of the interrogators was standing next to him.
17. One of the interrogators took me out to the yard. The same soldiers who brought me to the detention centre came and started taking photographs with me. A girl who was with them also took a photograph with me.

Transfer to Megiddo Prison (Israel)

18. I was then transferred to Megiddo Prison. They took me to a medical clinic and the doctor did not examine me. He only asked me general questions about my health and filled out a questionnaire. After that, the soldiers took me back to Salem Detention Centre. I was taken to the administration room and I told the jailer who wanted to receive me that my mobile phone was with the soldiers. He went to the soldiers and took the mobile phone and then placed it in the safe. I believe that the soldier wanted to steal the mobile phone because he did not give it to anyone and kept it in his pocket.

Salem Military Court

19. After they searched me while being in the administration room, they took me to another room and I found Laith had been brought to this room earlier. He told me they brought him an hour ago. I was kept in Salem Detention Centre for six days, during which time

I was taken to Salem Military Court. No lawyer showed up that day because the lawyers were on strike in a protest of what was going on in the Gaza Strip. I told the military judge that my family does not know where I am. I asked him to let me call my family to tell them where I am. He ruled that I be allowed to speak with my family on the telephone in the prison. He then extended my detention until 26 January 2009.

20. When I was taken back from the court to the detention, I asked them to allow me to call my family according to the court ruling but they refused. I spoke with my family on the phone only when I was transferred to Megiddo prison.
20. After six days of being detained in Salem Detention Centre, I was transferred to Megiddo prison where I am now.
21. On 26 January 2009 I once again was taken to Salem Military Court. A list of charges was made against me. I was charged of throwing stones at military jeeps, and sentenced to three months in prison and a 500 NIS fine.
22. I want to say that until now my family has not visited me and I saw them only once in the courtroom. I want also to say that I am denied access to education like the rest of the detainees because I am sentenced to a short period of time.

2009

2. **Name of victim:** Hamzi F.
Age at incident: 15
Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I was born on 27 February 1993. I was arrested on 11 January 2009. At around 2:00 pm, I was walking down the street, and there was a military jeep coming from behind. When I felt that the jeep was following me, I ran away and entered a grocery store near the street. A soldier came after me into the grocery store. Only one person was inside the grocery store. The soldier then grabbed me.

Arrest and transfer

2. The soldier grabbed me from the neck and pushed me against the wall. He then dragged me out of the grocery store. He slapped me twice before placing me into the military jeep that was parked outside the grocery store. I was seated on a bench in the back of the jeep.
3. Inside the jeep, the soldiers tied my hands behind my back with plastic cords and blindfolded me. I could not see anything afterwards.

Interrogation

4. The jeep began moving and stopped after about an hour. None of the soldiers inside the jeep hit or attacked me. An hour later, I was pulled out of the jeep and taken to a room. The blindfold was then removed, and I found myself standing in front of a person sitting behind a desk. *“Did you throw stones at the soldiers?”* He asked. *“No! I didn’t throw any stones,”* I replied.
5. Before taking me to this room and being asked whether I threw stones or not, I was taken to a yard near the room, where a soldier asked me to take off my jacket. I was left in this yard for about half an hour, with only a T-shirt on. It was very cold outside.
6. Before reaching Etzion or near Etzion; I can not recall, the soldiers pulled me out of the jeep and I found myself in a room. The soldiers then removed the blindfold from my eyes. One of the soldiers was holding a one-metre metal pipe in his hand threatening that he would hit me with it. He then slapped me across the face, but he did not hit me with the pipe. *“If you confess that you threw stones at soldiers, we’ll let you go home,”* he said. I was then taken to Etzion to see the interrogator.

Etzion Interrogation and Detention Centre (West Bank)

7. In the interrogation room, the interrogator asked me whether I threw stones at the soldiers. I told him that *“I did not throw any stones. I was walking down the street when I saw the soldiers, and thought they were after me. I therefore rushed into a grocery store near the street. I was then arrested and brought here.”* The interrogator then asked me to sign papers written in Hebrew without translating them. I signed the papers.
8. I was then put inside a military jeep and transferred to Ofer detention centre. Conditions in this centre are good. I am detained with people older than me in section three in the tents. Each section contains four tents and each tent is allocated for 20 people.
9. The food here is also good; in terms of quantity and quality.

2009

3. **Name of victim:** Habib M.**Age at incident:** 17**Affidavit collected by:** DCI/PS

1. I live in Qaryut Village, Nablus. I was born on 21 July 1991. I am in the 12th grade. I am an A student. My father is a cook. My family consists of six members. The economic situation of the family is average. I was arrested on 14 January 2009.

2. On 14 January 2009, at around 11:00 a.m., I left school with my classmate Hisham M. after finishing a test. We decided to go to my house and sit there. When we reached the house, we started a fire because it was cold. Hisham and I are neighbours.
3. While sitting around the fire, we heard shouting outside the house. It was the voice of my little brothers Omar and Kareem. We went out to find out the reason for their shouting. We found five Israelis soldiers standing near the house. The children were shouting out of fear (one of the children is 7 years old).
4. A soldier saw us and asked us to produce our IDs. I went inside the house to get my ID, and Hisham went to his house to get his ID. We came back to the soldier and handed him over the IDs. He grabbed them and started talking through his radio. He asked us to stand aside. We could not understand what he was saying because he spoke Hebrew. He then asked the children to get inside the house.
5. After being seated on the ground for five minutes, the soldier asked us to stand and walk with him and the other soldiers. We were not tied at all. We walked until we reached the edge of a hill near the village. We climbed up the hill. When we reached the top, a soldier grabbed me, while another one grabbed Hisham. Our hands were tied behind our backs with plastic cords, and our eyes were blindfolded.
6. The soldiers then made us climb down the hill from the other side until we reached the main road. I did not see the road, but I heard cars passing by. After 10 minutes of standing by the road, I heard a van arriving and stopping near us. The soldiers placed us inside the van.
7. The van drove for about half an hour until we reached a place I don't know. We were pulled out of the van and seated on a bench. The soldiers shouted at us to lower our heads. We stayed sitting there with our heads down for 10 minutes.

Beatings

8. I heard a soldier asking Hisham to stand up and go with him. I heard them as they beat him. He was shouting and begging them to stop. I learned from him later that they slapped him, and grabbed his head and hit it against his knee.
9. When the soldiers finished beating Hisham, one of them approached me. I could hear his steps heading towards me. He did not speak with me. He dragged me by my clothes and began slapping me. He grabbed my shoulders and began shaking me. My head was moving very fast. He would grab my head, bring it near to my knees, and then hit it against them. This lasted for about five minutes.
10. The soldier then grabbed me by my clothes and began pushing me against a hard surface (it could be a wall). He pushed for like 20 meters. I did not know where I was. I also want to say that I was barefoot because the soldiers had thrown my shoes away while climbing up the hill. My feet were hurt, and they were bleeding.

11. The soldier asked me in Hebrew to sit down on the ground, but I could not understand what he was saying. He therefore pushed me and I fell. He then hit me with the barrel of his assault rifle in my testicles while I was on the ground. That really caused pain beyond description. He then grabbed me by the plastic cords and began lifting me up and down for about 10 minutes.
12. The soldier then asked me to stand up, but I could not. He violently lifted me up and I fell on the gravel. While on the ground, I felt him tying my feet with a rope, as I heard Hisham screaming. I felt Hisham was next to me. I learned from him later that they attacked him in the same manner. They tied his feet with a rope. We were kept like that for an hour on the gravel, with our hands and feet tied.

Transfer to Huwwara and Salem Interrogation and Detention Centres

13. We were then placed in the van after untying the rope wrapped around our feet. The plastic cords were further tightened. We began crying due to the pain. We asked the soldiers to loosen the cords, but they would tighten them further every time we asked.
14. We stayed in the van that kept moving from one place to another. We did not know where we were. We reached Huwwara Detention Centre at 3:00 am of the next day. That means we were transferred at 11:00 am on 14 January 2009 until 3:00 am of the next day; 15 January 2009. They insulted us and shouted at us while being transferred.
15. At 3:00 am, we reached Huwwara Detention Centre. We were taken to the doctor after untying the plastic cords. The doctor asked me general questions. I complained about the pain in my hands due to the tightened plastic cords, but he did not provide me with any help. Hishad did the same. The doctor asked us to fill in a questionnaire without offering any treatment.
16. Hisham and I stayed at Huwwara Detention Centre for eight days. We were then transferred to Salem Detention Centre. I have been detained in Salem Detention Centre for 14 days now.

Interrogation and Court

17. Seven days after my arrest, we were taken to the interrogation room in Salem. I was interrogated by an interrogator called Tameer. He said I was accused of Disturbing the Public Order and Throwing Stones. I denied it. During interrogation, another interrogator entered the room and began shouting at me and saying "*Confess now because your friend Hisham has confessed to everything.*" I did not listen to him and did not confess. During interrogation, my feet were tied, and my hands were tied behind my back. The interrogation lasted for about an hour.
18. Eight days after my arrest, we were brought to Salem Military Court, which extended our detention for six days. I was once again taken to interrogation on the very same day. I was interrogated in the same manner. I kept denying the accusations.
19. Yesterday, 3 February 2009, my detention was extended again for six days. So far no list of charges has been made against me.

20. I suffer from a severe infection in my teeth. They hurt very much. I have not been offered any treatment but pain alleviators.

2009

4. **Name of victim:** Osaid Q.

Age at incident: 12

Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I live near Al Khuljan Street, in the south neighbourhood of Tura al Gharbiya village, west of Jenin. The village is near the Green line with Israel.
2. Israel built the Wall on the village's lands, about 400 meters away from our house.

Dawn raid

3. On Tuesday, 20 January 2009, at around 2:00 am, a number of soldiers came to our grandfather's house near our house and surrounded it. They banged on the door and my grandfather opened it. Some of them then entered the house. I did not see them; I only heard their voices.
4. 20 minutes later, the soldiers came knocking on our door, shouting at us to open up. They had my grandfather with them. He asked me to open the door. My father and I answered the door. The soldiers asked my father to ask everyone in the house to go outside. We stayed outside the house for about 10 minutes. The soldiers took us back inside and asked us to wait in the guest room. They searched the house. My father was with them because he refused to allow them to search the house alone. My father went along with the intelligence officer. Around 15 soldiers entered the house. They searched all the rooms and ransacked the contents of the house.
5. We stayed for about an hour in the guest room without being allowed to leave. My mother asked the soldiers if she could check on my two-year old brother Moamen who was sleeping in my parents' bedroom, but they refused.

Arrest

6. The soldiers then asked us to go down to my grandfather's house. They did not let my mother come with us. They kept her in the house, with three soldiers standing at the front door. They asked for my father's ID, but he left it upstairs in the house. They did not allow him to go and get it. My mother brought it instead. They asked my father about me and Mohammad and our ages. One of the soldiers then produced a paper that had numbers on it and told my father that they would take me with them. They allowed me to

change my clothes. My father refused, but they shouted at him and threatened to take me by force. Half an hour later, they took my father, uncle Mahmoud (26) and me. We went out to the street and found around 30 soldiers with their faces painted black. They were very scary. They did not tie us. 10 soldiers walked in front of us, and another 10 behind us. Five soldiers were on our right, and another five on our left. When they heard the *muezzin* leading calls to prayer, they started mocking it and saying it was annoying. *“It’s ridiculous to go to the mosque at four o’clock in the morning,”* said the soldiers to my father.

7. We walked for around 15 minutes through the streets of the village. We saw a large number of soldiers scattered in the streets, on rooftops of houses, and all over the place. We saw three military jeeps, and soldiers were imposing a curfew in the village through loudspeakers installed on one of these jeeps. We were taken to the youth club in the northern neighbourhood. The club has a yard, two rooms and billiard rooms.
8. When we reached the youth club, we saw around 15 military jeeps and a large number of soldiers, policemen, and an intelligence officer near the club. I was so scared and confused that my father and my uncle kept comforting me and telling me not to be scared. We entered the yard and saw four or five young men, tied and blindfolded. They did not allow us to speak with each other. If they heard one talking, they would shout at him, attack and push him with their hands.

Interrogation

9. I was not tied. Half an hour later, an intelligence officer in civilian clothes came and asked my father about me. I was standing next to my father. The officer told my father that I had thrown stones at the Wall. *“Why did you throw stones at the Wall?”* The officer then directly asked me. *“I didn’t throw stones at the Wall,”* I answered. *“Why did you throw stones at the Wall?”* He asked me in a scary manner while shouting at me. I thought he was going to hit me. *“Why did you throw stones at the Wall?”* he shouted at me more than five times. *“I didn’t do it,”* I answered him each time he asked. The soldiers did not allow my father to speak. I kept my head lowered so that I would not appear to be scared.
10. The interrogator (the officer) told my father that I threw stones at the Wall. My father said it was not true and that I did not do it. The officer gave my father information about our house and the way he brought us up. Half an hour later, he showed my father some photographs. I was then taken to a room. Someone (an officer speaking Arabic) came to the room and said *“I’ll teach you and your father a lesson. Your father is being humiliated right now because of you.”* They were insulting me in front of my father and he could not do anything to protect me. This was humiliating.

11. A soldier photographed me while holding a piece of paper with writing in Hebrew. I did not know what was written on the paper. My father was still with me. They then took us to the front gate of the club where they asked my father to go home after they had untied him. My father argued with them, and they then told him that he had to leave. *“Don’t be scared. They’ll let you go after they finish and go,”* said my father to me.

Further interrogation

11. About 10 minutes after my father left, the soldiers tied my hands from the front with plastic cords. They also tied my friend Subhi Abu Hatab (12) in the same manner, as well Bashir Mrawih (12).
12. After 15 minutes of waiting without being allowed to speak, a policeman came and took us to one of the rooms in the club. He asked us to sit in one of the corners because we were going to stay there for a long time. A person came and said he was from intelligence. He was wearing black clothes. He was big and tall. He only introduced himself as being from intelligence. *“We were talking about you. You think yourselves men and don’t want to confess that you threw stones at the Wall. We’ll see if you’re men or not when we take you to Salem,”* said this person.
13. The soldiers then brought Mohammad Hatim (13), his brother Imad (15) and their father into the room. They placed them near us. Imad and his father were tied. The soldiers then untied us. One of the soldiers talked to Imad’s father and he was then released. They kept us in the room. The intelligence officer came back to the room holding a bag of chips. He offered us some, but we refused. None of us were now tied or blindfolded, except Murad and Imad. They then untied Imad.
14. Half an hour later, we asked to use the bathrooms, and they allowed us to go, one by one. After using the bathroom, a doctor came to the room. He introduced himself as a doctor and asked us not to be scared. He conducted some checkups like blood pressure. He asked us to open our mouths. He examined our ears. He then brought papers written in Hebrew and Arabic. It was a questionnaire with some medical problems listed such as Asthma and breathing difficulties. Next to each problem, there were two boxes; yes or no. He asked us to fill in the papers and sign them. We stayed in the same room. We asked them how long they would keep us here, and one of the soldiers said *“until 10:00 am; that’s when we transfer you to Salem.”*

Transfer to Salem and further interrogation

15. At around 10:00 am, the soldiers took us to a huge military vehicle. They pushed us against the vehicle and then placed all of us into it. We were not tied or blindfolded, except Murad (16). He was tied and blindfolded. Inside the vehicle, they blindfolded us

and prevented us from talking to each other. They also prevented us from lifting our heads.

16. Near Salem military base, the soldiers asked Murad to stand up. They then dragged him and pulled him out of the vehicle. We were pulled out of the vehicle in a different place. One of the soldiers asked us in Arabic to remove the blindfolds. My eyes were red and watering. One of the soldiers asked me why I was crying. I said it was because of the blindfold. They took us to interrogation one by one. They asked me whether I threw stones or not and why. They asked me why I threw stones at the gate. The interrogator began shouting at me. *"You need to be raised all over again,"* he said. *"Your friend confessed that you threw stones when you participated in Gaza demonstrations. We have photographs of you throwing stones,"* he said. *"Those are edited photographs. They show me carrying nothing,"* I said.
17. He became angry. He began banging on the table inside the room. *"You'll confess or you will be beaten and detained for a long time by the Intelligence,"* he said. He then produced a document and said it was Bashir's confession. Bashir was interrogated first. He only allowed me to see my name that was written in Arabic on this document.
18. There were two interrogators in the room. One of them began shouting and cursing God. I then told them I threw stones once because I was scared of him since he had threatened to beat and detain me. *"Only once?"* he asked. I said 'yes.' He was sitting down. He then stood up and became agitated and his face became red. He raised his hand as he approached to hit me, but the other interrogator calmed him down. I was then moved out of the room and another person was brought in.
19. We were each interrogated for about half an hour or more. After interrogation, we were allowed to use the bathrooms and drink water. They did not allow us to do so before interrogation. After everybody had been interrogated, they took us to the detention rooms. We were not tied or blindfolded. Then they took us to an open yard. They brought us some food and water. We could speak to each other in the yard.
20. They then tied us, and took us one by one to the inspection room. There, they untied us and searched us manually. They asked me to take off my trousers, jacket and T-shirt. After being searched, they took each one of us to a smaller yard that was used for exercise. It was surrounded with a net and wall more than six metres high.
21. After about 10 minutes when we all had been searched we were taken to room 6. Murad (16) and Imad (15) were taken to a different room. Once we entered the room, we heard *muezzin* leading calls to *Maghrib* prayer. They brought us food. It was very cold, but sufficient.

22. On Thursday, 22 January 2009, we were transferred to the court after our legs were tied. We saw our families in court, but they were not allow us to speak with us. They seated us inside a cage. The judge came and began calling our names found in the files before him.
23. My file was the first one. There was a translator in the courtroom. The judge called my name and asked me whether we ate or not. He also asked me whether I annoy the teacher inside the classroom. He said that I annoy the teacher inside the classroom while explaining the lesson. He asked me whether I am scared of the teacher or not. He then spoke with my family. I sat down, and another person was asked to stand up. The judge sentenced us to be released on bail. My bail was 3,000NIS. When we were taken back to the room, the soldiers; around 12, began making fun of us. One of them called us "*shepherds*" in Arabic. They were talking to each other in Hebrew.
24. I was taken back to room 4. Two hours later, they provided us with food. It smelled and tasted bad. We were then taken out of the military base and given papers written in Hebrew. We went back home with our families who had been waiting for us at the checkpoint. Our trial is on 15 February 2009.

2009

5. **Name of victim:** Imad A.

Age at incident: 15

Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I live in the south neighbourhood of Tura al Gharbiya village, west of Jenin. Israel built the Wall on lands from the village. The Wall is built near the Green Line.

Early morning raid

2. On Tuesday, 20 January 2009, at around 3:30 a.m., a number of Israeli soldiers stormed our house from all directions. They banged on the door and shouted "*Open the door,*" in Arabic.
3. When they entered the house, they asked my father who answered the door to wake us all up. They entered the bedrooms and asked us to stand up. My brother Mohammad (13) and I were in one room, while my mother was in another one. They asked my father for his ID. They wrote down some information on papers that one of the soldiers had. They then ordered us to stand in one corner in the guest room. They entered the rooms and began searching. Around 10 soldiers entered the house to search it. They opened the closets and threw the clothes out. They ransacked the contents of the house. They searched every place.

4. The soldiers kept searching the house for half an hour. They did not allow us to speak with each other. Five soldiers were standing near us. They prevented us from talking or looking at them. My father was with the soldiers who were searching the house. When the search completed, four soldiers had a meeting in a room without closing the door. My father asked them if he could stay, but they refused. They told him that one of them was an intelligence officer and it was not allowed to sit with him or approach him. They ordered my father to sit with us. The intelligence officer met with the three soldiers.
5. The meeting lasted for 20 minutes. The soldiers then returned my father's ID. They also photographed my father. Some of them spoke Arabic, while others spoke Hebrew.
6. During the whole time the soldiers were in our house, they did not allow us to use the bathroom or speak with each other. At around 5:00 a.m., the soldiers withdrew from the house without asking for anything or saying anything.
7. At around 6:00 a.m., seven soldiers came back to the house. The intelligence officer, who had a meeting with soldiers in the house, was not with them. I just want to say that the intelligence officer was not wearing military uniform like the soldiers. He was wearing a different uniform. The seven soldiers came and knocked on the door. We saw them marching towards the house. They asked my father to get my brother Mohammad and me out to the front yard of the house. We got out of the house, and one of the soldiers took my father around the house; from north to south, and entered the greenhouse. My brother and I were kept in the front yard. We were not tied.

Village youth club

8. Searching the house from the outside lasted for 10 minutes. The soldiers then ordered us to accompany them to an unknown place. We did not ask where they were taking us. We began walking in the middle of the soldiers. Two soldiers walked behind us, while the other five walked in front of us. They were talking to each other in Hebrew. Five minutes later, we reached the village youth club, north of the village.
9. While walking to the club, we were not beaten, or tied, or blindfolded. One of the soldiers did hit me with his rifle on the upper side of my back at the gate of the club. "*Why did you hit me?*" I asked him. "*It's none of your business,*" he said. When we reached the club, the soldiers asked us to sit in the yard. Two other people from the village were already in the yard. Other people were also inside rooms. We did not see them at that time. We saw them later on.
10. We stayed in the yard for about 10 minutes. The soldiers prevented us talking to each other or moving around. Around 15 soldiers were in the yard, including Israeli police in their police uniform.

Interrogation

11. After 10 minutes, one of the soldiers came and asked us to walk with him towards the rooms. We entered a room that contained soldiers, as well as the intelligence officer who came earlier to our house. The intelligence officer was wearing civilian clothes with a dark blue jacket on top. Once we entered the room, they began showing us photographs of me and Mohammad, standing some where. The photographs were very clear. *“Are you the ones appearing in the photographs?”* they asked. *“Yes, it’s us,”* we answered. I was wearing the same jacket that appeared in the photographs. My hands were in my pockets when the photograph was taken. *“You’re wearing the same jacket?”* asked the officer whilst laughing. I said *“yes”*.
12. The soldiers then photographed us while holding a piece of paper with something in Hebrew written on it. I asked the soldier what was written in Hebrew on the paper we were holding and he said it was our names. We were then taken to another room in which we found M.Q. (16), B.Q. (12), O.Q. (12), A.T. (13), and S.A (12). My father was asked to leave when they finished taking our photographs. *“Don’t be scared. They won’t hit you,”* said my father before leaving.
13. When I entered the room, one of the soldiers came and tied my hands and blindfolded me. No one else in the room was tied or handcuffed, except Murad (16) who was tied and handcuffed as well.
14. We stayed in the room until 10:00 a.m.. We were not allowed to talk to each other. We were sitting, and the soldiers did not allow us to stand up. We were not allowed to go to the bathroom though we asked. However, they brought us food and water. When we refused to eat or drink, one of the soldiers insulted us and said *“To hell with you.”*

Transfer to Salem and interrogation

15. At around 10:00 a.m., the soldiers moved all of us out of the room to a large military vehicle, after they removed Murad’s blindfold and mine, but kept us tied. They placed us inside the vehicle, and tied and blindfolded everyone. They did not allow us to talk to each other while being transferred. We were taken to Salem military base. About an hour later, we reached the military base. They removed the blindfolds and pulled Murad out of the vehicle. The vehicle kept moving and stopped at an open yard near some rooms. We were only tied. They did not allow us to talk to each other.
16. We were then taken one by one to the interrogation room. The interrogator was wearing a police uniform. He asked me about my name and whether I threw stones. I told him I did not throw stones. He slapped and shouted at me. I heard someone’s voice outside the room. *“There’s someone outside waiting for me to let him beat and smash you,”* he said. That scared me; therefore I told him I had thrown stones. *“At what? The Wall or a*

jeep?” he asked. “*At the Wall,*” I said. “*How many stones?*” he asked. “*Two,*” I answered.

17. The interrogator asked me to sign a document written in Arabic. I read it and signed because I was scared. He also ordered me to place my fingerprints on some paper, which had something in Hebrew written on it. I asked him about it and he said they would keep it in case I did something in the future. The interrogation lasted for about half an hour. The soldiers then brought me back to the yard.
18. They allowed us to go to the bathroom when we were in the yard. They brought us food and water, but we refused to eat or drink. When everyone had been interrogated we were taken to the inspection room one by one. The soldiers took off all our clothes, even our underwear. We were then taken to the detention rooms. Murad and I were taken to room 2 that had four adults, aged over 20 except Khaled (16). The others were all taken to room 6. Our room had no bathrooms. It had eight mattresses. The food was bad and insufficient. The showers were outside the room.
19. We were kept detained until Thursday. I want to say that a lawyer visited us the day after our arrest and asked us about our treatment, and our names. He took our families’ phone numbers.
20. On Thursday, 22 January 2009, at around 1:00 pm, we were all taken to the courtroom. Five minutes later, the judge made an appearance, and we were asked to rise. The lawyer was there. The judge asked Osaid to stand up and he asked him whether he had been beaten. Of course there was an interpreter. Osaid said he had not been beaten. The judge sentenced us to be released on bail varied from one to another. My bail was 2500 NIS. We were then brought back to the detention rooms until the bails were being deposited. We stayed in the detention rooms until 4:30pm. We were all then tied and taken out of Salem military base. Our families were waiting us at the checkpoint. We went back home. The next session was assigned to 15 February 2009.

2009

6. **Name of victim:** Mohammad A.
Age at incident: 13
Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I live in the south neighbourhood of Tura al Gharbiya village in Jenin. The Wall is constructed on the village lands near our neighbourhood.
2. On Tuesday, 20 January 2009, at around 3:30 a.m., Israeli soldiers stormed our house from all directions. There were more than 20 soldiers. They banged on the door, shouting in Arabic at us to open it.

3. My father answered the door and the soldiers entered into the house and asked him to wake everyone up. They entered the bedrooms and asked us to get up. My brother Imad (15) and I were lying on our beds. We woke up to the shouts and sounds of knocking on the door. The soldiers asked for my father's ID. They wrote down something. They gave back the ID when they withdrew from the house.
4. The soldiers asked all of us to stand in one corner in the living room. They began searching the rooms. They opened the closets and took out all the clothes. They messed up the contents of the house. The number of soldiers who entered into the house was around 10. They kept searching for around half an hour. They did not allow us to talk or move to any place or even look at them. Around five soldiers were surrounding us, while the rest kept searching the house. My father was with them. After the search ended, they asked my father to join us. He tried staying with them, but they did not allow him. One of the soldiers told him that the intelligence officer wanted to sit with some soldiers and it was not allowed to approach them. The meeting was held inside one of the rooms. The attendants of the meeting were four, including the intelligence officer who was wearing civil clothes, not military like the rest of the soldiers.
5. The meeting lasted 20 minutes. The soldiers then photographed my father. Some of them spoke Hebrew, while others spoke Arabic. We did not hear anything while they were meeting, and we did not know what they were talking about.
6. The soldiers did not allow us to use the bathroom or talk to each other while they were in the house.
7. At around 5:00 a.m., the soldiers gradually withdrew from the house after returning my father's ID. They did not tell or ask us anything.
8. At around 6:00 a.m., seven soldiers came back and knocked on the door. The intelligence officer was not with them. We saw them through the window heading towards the house. My father opened the door and they asked him to bring Imad and me to the front door of the house. We came, and one of the soldiers took my father to show him around the house for about 10 minutes. My brother and I stood at the front door, while soldiers surrounded us. We did not speak with each other. When the search was completed, they told my father that they would take us with them. We walked with them without asking where we were going. My father came with us.
9. The soldiers were talking to each other in Hebrew. Two soldiers walked in front of us, while the other soldiers followed us. We were not beaten or tied. Five minutes later, we reached the village youth club. We were seated in the yard which contained around 15 Israeli soldiers and policemen. Two people from the village were also there. The soldiers did not allow us to talk or move for 10 minutes. One of the soldiers then took us to one of the rooms. The intelligence officer who came to our house earlier was

sitting in the room. He was in his civilian clothes with a dark blue jacket on top. A number of soldiers, I don't know how many, were in the room. When we entered the room, the soldiers showed us photographs of Imad and me in the village playground. *"Is this you?"* The soldiers asked. *"Yes it is,"* we answered. The officer laughed because Imad was wearing the same jacket he was wearing when he had been photographed. They then photographed us while holding a paper with something written on it in Hebrew. They claimed it was our names. They asked my father to leave and return home. *"Don't be scared. They won't hit you,"* said father before leaving.

10. We were then taken to another room where others were being held; M.Q. (16), B.Q. (12), O.Q. (12), A.T. (13), and S.A. (12). Once we entered the room, one of the soldiers tied my brother's hands. No one was tied except Murad, who was also blindfolded.
11. We were then placed inside a van and the soldiers tied and blindfolded us. They did not allow us to speak or look at them. They ordered us to keep our heads down. We were seated on long narrowed metal seats.

Salem military base and interrogation

12. We were taken to Salem military base. The trip took around an hour. Murad was pulled out of the van at the front gate of the military base. They took us to an open yard inside the base after removing our blindfolds. They kept us tied. We were then taken to a small room one by one. There was an interrogator in police uniform inside the room. He asked me for my name and questions about throwing stones at the Wall. *"We'll beat and detain you,"* he threatened. I told him I did not throw any stones. He shouted at me; his face became red and his voice was loud. He asked me to look at his big hands and feet. He said I will not bear his beating. That scared me and made me say that I threw stones twice at the Wall. He made me sign a paper that was written in Hebrew and Arabic. The paper was my confession that I threw stones twice at the Wall. I was then brought back to the yard. They allowed me to use the bathroom. They brought us food and water, but we refused to eat or drink because we were afraid because they arrested us and we did not trust them.
13. Each one of us spent around half in hour inside the interrogation room and then would be brought back to the yard. After the interrogation ended, they moved us to another yard while being tied. We waited there for around an hour. They manually searched us one by one. They took off some of our clothes. They then took us to the detention room and kept us there until Thursday. We used to leave the detention room three times a day and go to a small yard, and use the bathrooms. During the night, we had to use a bucket instead of going to the bathrooms.

14. On Thursday, 22 January 2009, we were transferred to the court. Our legs were shackles each time we were taken to the court, but our hands were not tied and our eyes were not blindfolded. The lawyer and our families were there.
15. The judge called our names. He talked to Osaid, the youngest one. He asked him about his name, whether he was studying or not, and whether he is scared of teachers. He also asked whether he threw stones at the Wall or not. Osaid told him he did not throw stones at the Wall. The judge asked all of us whether we threw stones or not. I told the judge I threw only two stones at the Wall. He sentenced us to be released on bails varied from one to another, after he had spoken with the families and asked them about each one of us. My bail was 3500 NIS.

2009

7. **Name of victim:** Amir Q.

Age at incident: 13

Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I live in the west neighbourhood of Tura al Gharbiya village in Jenin. The village is near the Wall that was built by Israel on the village's lands near the Green Line.
2. On Tuesday, 20 January 2009, at around 6:00 am, soldiers came knocking on our door so heavily that it woke me up. I did not know how many soldiers came to the house. I went back to sleep and woke up to see soldiers surrounding me in the room. I was very scared because I did not expect them in my bedroom. They had my father with them.

Interrogation

3. The intelligence officer who was with them then told my father they would take me with them. I was terrified. My father refused and insisted on accompanying me because I am young. He argued with them and they threatened to hit him in front of me. They then took us to the guest room. Only my father and I were there.
4. They showed us a photograph of some child holding a stone and standing near the Wall. They claimed the child was me. I appeared in some photographs while playing football with other children very far away from the Wall. I said the first photograph was not a picture of me. The intelligence officer kept saying it was me. I remember his clothes were different from the other soldiers. When I said it was not my photograph, he began shouting at me and saying they would beat and arrest me. My father told them it was not my photograph.
5. The officer said we must go with them to the village youth club. In the meantime, other soldiers were searching the house. They entered my sisters' bedroom and approached them to make sure they were girls. My sister, Suha (20) asked them to let her go to do her

exam at al Quds Open University in Jenin. My father asked them the same, but they refused and said that the whole village was under curfew.

6. One of them threatened my father and wanted to hit him to shut him up and make him stop arguing and only respond to their questions. They then took me and my father to the house yard. They tied my father's hands behind his back. They then transferred us to a place nearby. We waited for an hour among soldiers. The whole area was filled with soldiers. There were about 20 soldiers near our house.
7. As my father and I waited, the soldiers stormed our neighbour's house. The house belonged to my uncle Husam Qabaha (44). They brought him with his son Mohammad (9) after tying my uncle. Mohammad and I were not tied. Before my uncle and his son arrived, there was a large bald soldier who kept staring at me. This really scared me. I told my father who asked the soldier "*What do you want from the kid?*" He said "*nothing.*"

The village youth club

8. The soldiers took us towards a military jeep, and some of them wanted to place us inside it, but a soldier objected and asked not to put us inside the jeep. They took us towards the village youth club. Some of them walked behind us, while others walked in front of us. I do not know how many soldiers were there. While walking, we saw military jeeps and soldiers roaming the streets of the village.
9. The soldier who refused to transfer us in the jeep hit me while I was walking in front of him. He hit me three times with the barrel of his assault rifle in the back. "*Why did you hit me?*" I asked. "*Because you're a big boy and you can bear it,*" he answered. He hit me for a fourth time, and then did not hit me after that.
10. We reached the club five minutes later. We were kept there for around 20 minutes in the yard near the front gate without being allowed to talk to each other. The school principal saw us and told my father that they would let him go, but keep me with them. The soldiers began shouting at him.

Interrogation

11. A person in black came and showed me the same photograph of the other child. I said it was not me in the photograph. The soldiers then took me to a room and asked me about throwing stones. "*I didn't throw any stones,*" I said. "*Is this your photograph?*" asked the officer. "*No, it's not,*" I answered. It was not my photograph. "*Even if it's not you, we're going to arrest you anyway,*" said the officer. Only two persons in the room spoke with me. There were other soldiers inside the room, but I do not know how many. I was scared because they threatened to hit me and take me to Israeli intelligence to detain me.

12. The soldiers then took me to another room. They asked my father to leave the club and go back home. *“Don’t be afraid. Just tell them it’s not your photograph and you didn’t throw stones,”* said father to me before leaving. My uncle and his son Mohammad also left because the soldiers saw that Mohammad was very young, and scared just like me. One thing to say is that my father was with me in the interrogation room.
13. The room I was transferred to contained my classmates Osaid Qabaha (12), Bashir Qabaha (12), Subhi ‘Awni (12), and Murad Qabaha (16). I stayed with them in the room. The soldiers prevented us from moving or talking to each other. We were not tied or blindfolded, except Murad who was tied and blindfolded. Later on, they brought in some other kids; Imad Qabaha (15), and his brother Mohammad (13). They tied Imad’s hands. They did not allow us to use the toilets even though we asked. They did bring us water.

Transfer

14. We stayed in the room until 10:00 a.m. when we were transferred in a huge vehicle. They placed us inside the vehicle after removing Murad’s blindfold. Inside the vehicle, they tied and blindfolded all of us. They ordered us not to move or talk to each other. The soldiers were laughing at us, and speaking in Hebrew.
15. The soldiers then transferred us to Salem military base. The trip took half an hour. We were not beaten while being transferred. Upon arrival at the military base, they pulled Murad out of the vehicle at the front gate. They removed the blindfolds off our eyes after pulling him out. The vehicle then drove 20 meters or more, and stopped in an open yard near the interrogation room that we would be taken to later on. The soldiers pulled us out of the vehicle. A police officer came and asked us not to be scared. They took us to the interrogation room one by one. The soldiers shouted at us, prevented us from looking at them and insulted our religion as they took us to the interrogation room.

Interrogation

16. Inside the interrogation room, the interrogator was a police officer who asked me about throwing stones. I said I did not throw any stones. *“Is this your photograph?”* he asked. *“No, it’s not,”* I answered. I spent about half an hour in the interrogation room. He began shouting at me that I should confess and not to deny it. He threatened to beat and detain me. He had a baton with him. He then asked me to sign a document written in Hebrew. I signed the paper. Something in Arabic was also written on it, but I did not read it because he did not allow me to.
17. Once everyone was interrogated, the soldiers tied us and took us to another yard nearby. As I said they took us to the interrogation room one by one, and did not allow us to use

the bathroom until the interrogation was completed. They brought us food and water, but we only ate in the detention center.

18. In the yard near the detention room, the soldiers took us one by one to be searched manually. They would take off some of our clothes. Then, they took us to a yard covered with a net. When this was completed, we were taken to room 6, except Imad and Muard, who were taken to room 2. We underwent a medical examination by a doctor who asked us whether we suffered diseases. The doctor filled in some questionnaires for each of us. It was not a real medical examination.
19. The detention room had no bathrooms. Each of us had a mattress and blanket. The bathrooms were outside the room.
20. The soldiers then brought us food; rice and some soup. It was cold, bad and insufficient. They let us use the bathrooms during the recess. We were allowed to leave the room three times per a day. At night, they would bring us a bucket to use instead of going to the bathrooms. They counted us twice per a day, during which they forced us to stand.
21. When we sang in the room, a huge soldier came in carrying a stick and threatened to beat us if he heard our voices again.
22. On Thursday, they took us twice to the court where our feet were shackled. They brought us back because it was not our turn. At around 1:00 p.m., the soldiers took us again to the courtroom with our feet shackled. The lawyer and our families were inside the room. An interpreter was also there because they spoke in Hebrew.
23. The judge called our names, and spoke with Osaid, the youngest one. He asked him some questions about his age, school, whether he was studying or not, and whether he is scared of teachers. He also asked him about the soldiers and whether they beat us during arrest and transfer. Osaid told him the soldiers did not beat him and that he did not throw stones at the Wall. He also said he is not scared of teachers, but scared of soldiers.
24. The judge asked us the same questions as well. I told him I am not scared of teachers or soldiers and that I did not throw stones at the Wall. He then spoke with the lawyer and families. The interpreter translated what he said but I could not understand his interpretation. After that, the judge sentenced us to be released on bail. I was sentenced to pay 3,000 NIS. The next session was assigned on 15 February 2009.

2009

8. **Name of victim:** Bashir Q.
Age at incident: 12
Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I live in the east neighbourhood of Tura al Gharbiya village in Jenin. Our neighbourhood is not far from the Wall that Israel is building on village lands.
2. On Monday, 19 January 2009, at around 11:30 pm, Israeli soldiers stormed our house from all directions. They knocked on the door, and my brother Murad (16) answered the door. We live in a two-storey house. We live on the first floor, while my big brother and his wife live on the second floor. When the soldiers stormed the house, around three of them entered into the house, while around 30 soldiers or more stayed outside. The soldiers asked Murad for his ID after they asked him for his name and ordering my father to wake up everybody. They gathered us all in the living room on the first floor. They took Murad's ID, and one of them was examining a piece of paper he had on him. They then spoke with each other in Hebrew. One of them spoke Arabic and said "*Murad is wanted.*" He seemed to be a Druze border soldier.
3. The soldiers asked my father about a weapon. "*There is no weapon in our house,*" father replied. They began searching the house. My father was with them. They first searched the store, and the kitchen. They searched through the contents and turned the place up side down. I saw this after they left. They then searched the living room where we all were. They found nothing. They then found a small flag behind the shoe wardrobe. They took the flag. They moved to the bedroom and searched it. They found an iron pipe and two bullets. "*You said there was no weapon,*" said the soldiers, addressing my father. "*This is not a weapon,*" father replied. "*We have information that this belongs to Murad,*" they said. They earlier pulled Murad outside the house and tied and blindfolded him. They then brought explosive experts to the house. They confiscated the pipe and the bullets. They stained the whole floor with dirt and mud marks from their combat boots. They then turned everything up side down.
4. At around 2:30 am, the soldiers left the house and took Murad with them. We did not know where they were taking him.

Village youth club

5. Half an hour later, 12 soldiers came again to the house and knocked on the door. "*We want to search the house,*" they said. "*You searched the house and turned everything up side down a while ago,*" answered my father. They asked him about me. "*He is wanted because he threw stones,*" said the soldiers. "*But he is young,*" argued father. "*Prepare yourself to accompany him to the village youth club,*" said the soldiers.
6. 15 minutes later, they took us to the youth club. The 12 soldiers accompanied us, but they didn't tie us. We reached the club and minutes later, they took us to one of the rooms inside the club. We reached the club 15 minutes later, and they made us stand in the yard for less than five minutes. My father argued that I was young, but the soldier said I was

big and *"He's as tall as you."* They then photographed me while holding a piece of paper with my name in Hebrew written on it; as my father told me.

7. They then brought two pictures of me throwing stones at the Wall from the playground, 600 meters away from the Wall. *"I didn't throw stones at the Wall,"* I said. I denied it. They then brought us back to the yard. They asked my father to leave. After a long discussion with them, they told my father they would let me go in an hour. My father went back home thinking so.
8. The soldiers tied me. They brought O.Q. (12) and S.H. (12) and tied them too. I saw my brother Murad in the yard. He was tied and blindfolded, with Mohammad (30) from the village standing next to him. One of the soldiers took the three of us to a room inside the club. We were not allowed to move or talk when we were in the yard, or even look at the soldiers. However, in the room we talked to each other in a very low voice. The soldiers let us use the bathroom. We did not ask for water. They did not beat us, but they threatened to transfer me to the Israeli intelligence if I did not confess of throwing stones.

Transfer to Salem

9. The soldiers then brought I.Q. (15) and his brother Mohammad (13). They also brought A.Q. (12), and my brother Murad who was tied and blindfolded, whereas Imad was only tied. They did not blindfold us. At around 10 am, they brought a big vehicle and placed us inside this vehicle one by one. Inside the vehicle, they tied and blindfolded us. They did not allow us to speak with each other, or lift our heads up. Half an hour later, we reached Salem military base. They took Murad out of the vehicle at the front gate of the base, and took us to the end of the base. They removed the blindfolds while we were inside the vehicle. They then placed us in an open yard near the interrogation room. They took us to the room one by one.

Interrogation

10. There was one interrogator inside the room. He asked me whether I threw stones at the Wall or not. I told him I threw stones twice because I was very scared; especially when I saw pictures of me holding a stone in my hand, though I denied this earlier at the club. *"Who was with you when you were throwing stones?"* He asked. *"Those who are with me,"* I answered. *"Why do you throw stones?"* He asked. *"Because you confiscated our lands, and for Gaza,"* I replied. *"We'll detain you. You threw stones more than twice as it appears in the photos,"* he said. *"I threw stones only twice,"* I said.
11. The interrogator made me sign a document written in Arabic without allowing me to read it. A policeman came to the room and took me to another room and asked me to leave my fingerprints on special paper. I was then seated in another place, but not in the yard. They allowed us to use the toilets and drink water. We stayed in this place until they completed

everyone's interrogation. I spent about half an hour in the interrogation room. As far as I know, the special papers were used to lift my fingerprints.

12. They then shackled us and moved us to another open yard, and took us to an inspection room one by one. A doctor came and asked me if I was suffering from any diseases. He asked me to fill in a form. They also took off our clothes and made us wear the prison uniform. The search was conducted manually. When they searched all of us, they then took us to the detention rooms. They put us in room 6, while Murad and Imad were put in room 2. They brought us food, which was good. The bathroom was outside the room and we were allowed to use it when necessary. They scared us and shouted at us. They hit the window of the room from outside. The room had a small barred window. They would suddenly hit the bars at night, and that really scared us.
13. On Thursday, 22 January 2009, they shackled our feet and took us to a court very nearby. However, they took us back twice because it was not our turn to enter the courtroom. Our turn was at 1:00 pm. They took us to the courtroom. A lawyer was there, as well families of some of us. We were all locked in a cage, except Murad who was not brought that day.
14. The judge spoke to each one of us. We had a translator. "*Are you scared of the teacher?*" asked the judge. "*No!*" I answered. "*You'll not be released because your family is not here,*" said the judge. I cried. "*Don't be afraid. You're father is on his way,*" said the lawyer. My father actually came and paid 1500 NIS out of 3000 NIS as a bill. They forgave him the rest of the money. They took us back to the room, and were released around 4:00pm of the same day. They took us to a nearby checkpoint where our families were awaiting. We will appear in court on 15 February 2009.

2009

9. **Name of victim:** Mohammad Z.
Age at incident: 17
Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I was born on 1 March 1991. I am in the 12th grade. I was arrested on 22 January 2009. My father works in Nablus municipality. My family consists of nine people. The economic situation of the family is average.
2. On 22 January 2009, at around 8:00 p.m., I was watching television in my house in Balata Camp. Our apartment is on the first floor. I heard some knocks on the door. I turned down the volume of the television. I thought it was a cat, and then I heard bangs on the door. "*Open up! It's Israel's Defence Forces,*" the voice said. I went into my bedroom while my father came out and opened the door.
3. I then heard something falling over on the ground and the sound of beating. I realized they had attacked my father. I woke up everyone in the house and changed my clothes.

My brother Ahamd was the first to approach the soldiers who pushed him against the wall next to my father. The soldiers asked my father to gather everyone in the living room. My father brought my brothers, aged 16, 14, 13, and 11. My sisters; younger than us, were still sleeping. The soldiers asked my mother to wake them as well. I then went to the living room.

Arrest and transfer

4. When I entered the living room, I saw around 15 soldiers. One of them approached me and asked me for my name. I told him my name, and he asked to see my ID. I did not have it with me, so my mother went and fetched it. When the soldier read the ID, he grabbed me and pushed me out of the house. The rest of my family remained inside. Outside the house, the soldier asked me to stand against a wall with my eyes fixed to the ground. He pushed me and my head rammed against the wall. He bound my hands tightly behind my back with plastic cords, and blindfolded me. He then dragged me for about 70 meters to a military vehicle. I heard many engines in the area.
5. When we reached the vehicle, I heard a soldier opening the door. He removed the blindfold from my eyes, and I found myself standing before an officer sitting on the front seat of a military jeep. The officer asked me general and personal questions. After I answered the questions, the door was closed and the blindfold was back on my eyes.
6. The soldier forcibly dragged me and made me stand for about five minutes. I felt I was standing near the jeep, though I was still blindfolded. The soldier asked me to sit on the ground. Soldiers were on my right and left. One of them asked me to lower my head. He placed his assault rifle on the back of my neck and pushed. It really hurt my neck.
7. Five minutes after I was pushed with the rifle on my neck, the soldiers made me stand and they began dragging me. I could not walk because I could not see due to the blindfold on my eyes. One of the soldiers kicked me violently on my right leg and that really hurt me a lot because I was shot in this leg. I still feel pain in this leg today. Back in 2004, the Israeli soldiers shot at me and my friends for no reason while we were walking.
8. The soldiers took me to the military vehicle. Before being placed inside the vehicle, a soldier slapped me violently on my neck. My head began to shake left and right. He then pushed me into the vehicle. They then closed the door. Five minutes later, one of the soldiers opened the door and insulted me. He then climbed into the vehicle and began slapping and kicking me all over my body for about 10 minutes. He then got out of the vehicle. Another soldier then opened the door and punched me hard behind my left ear. My left ear swelled. He also insulted me. I still feel pain from that punch until this very moment. I stayed inside the vehicle for about half an hour. The vehicle was still in front of our house.

9. Half an hour later, a soldier opened the door of the vehicle and pulled me out. Another soldier violently hit me in my testicles. The soldiers then took me back to the vehicle. Apparently it was a military truck. 12 soldiers then entered the truck; I counted as they called off their names. The truck began moving. While inside the truck, four soldiers surrounded me and began attacking me all over my body. I cried and begged them to stop but they did not. A soldier then hit me with his rifle on my knee, using all his strength. The truck stopped after 20 minutes, and the soldiers got out. I did not know why it stopped. Five minutes later, the soldiers then got back into the truck. One of them sat on my leg.
10. I then heard one of the soldiers shouting that he had found a bullet behind my back. He began slapping me and saying that the bullet was mine. A soldier sat in front of me and began pushing me towards the side of the truck. He then lifted my trousers and started to pull the hair on my leg. I shouted loudly. He then jabbed two of his fingers into my eyes five times in a row, and my eyes became sore. He then grabbed my hair and pulled my head down to my knees several times. A soldier then began singing, while another one started drumming his hands on my head for a long time.

Huwwara Interrogation and Detention Centre

11. In the morning, we reached Huwwara Detention Center. A soldier grabbed me and made me stand up. He grabbed the plastic cords and pushed me on the floor of the truck. That really hurt me. I was then pulled out of the truck and seated on the ground. A soldier approached me and pushed my head towards the ground, using his rifle. My hands began to swell because the plastic cords were very tight. My hands hurt and I cried and asked them to untie them. A soldier quickly came over to me and pulled me by the plastic cords. I shouted out in pain. Another soldier then untied them, and replaced them with new plastic cords.
12. The soldiers took me to a room and removed the blindfold off my eyes and took me to the doctor who asked me general questions. I told him about the beating but he did not do anything. My ear was swollen due to the beating. I was then taken to the detention rooms.
13. I spent seven days in Huwwara Detention Centre. On the eighth day, I was taken to Salem Detention Centre. After eight days of my arrest, my detention was extended for 12 days and the next session is due to take place on 9 February 2009.
14. On the eighth day of my arrest, I was interrogated at Salem Detention Centre. I was charged of belonging to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in 2003, but I denied that.

10. **Name of victim:** Mohammad F.
Age at incident: 16
Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I was born on 22 April 1992. I live in Sahla neighbourhood of Hebron. I work in a pottery factory. My family consists of 12 members, including my father and mother. Our economic situation is average.
2. On 23 January 2009, at around 1:00 p.m., I was around the house when an Israeli military jeep came and approached me. The jeep stopped and two soldiers got out of it. They grabbed me and tied my hands behind my back with plastic cords. A piece of cloth was also wrapped around my eyes. I was then placed inside the jeep.

Beating at Kirya Arba Police Station

3. The jeep started moving. I was seated on the floor. I felt the soldiers were close to my face and body. The jeep stopped half an hour later. I was pulled out of the jeep at Kirya Arba police station. Before entering the police station, I was beaten by the soldiers with a stick. The beating was focused on my back, and all over my body. From beneath the blindfold I saw the three soldiers who beat me. One of them beat me with a stick all over my body, while the other two kept kicking, punching, and pushing me. They kept beating me for five continuous minutes. I felt so much pain and shouted at them to stop, but it was pointless.
4. I was then placed near a room or an office. I was kept there near the door for half an hour. I was still tied and blindfolded.

Interrogation

5. I was then taken into the room. A person in casual clothes removed the blindfold off my eyes, but kept me tied. He said he was a police interrogator. He asked me whether I threw stones at the soldiers. I said I did not do anything and I did not know why they had arrested me. "*I was near the house and did not do anything,*" I told him, as he typed on his computer.
6. An hour later, he printed out several papers written in Hebrew, and asked me to sign them. I told him I did not want to sign any papers I do not understand. He began shouting and saying that if I do not sign, he would beat me. I became terrified, and therefore signed the papers without knowing their contents. The interrogation lasted one hour. I was the whole time sitting in front of him with my hands still tied. I was then blindfolded again and taken to a military jeep. I learned later that I was transferred to Etzion Detention Centre.

Etzion Detention Centre and Ofer Prison

7. In Etzion Detention Centre, I was taken to a nurse in this centre. I told him my feet hurt due to the beating I had experienced earlier from the soldiers and that I could not walk properly, but he did not care. He did not give me any medication. He filled in a questionnaire. A soldier then took me to another room that had two other detainees. I was kept in Etzion Detention Centre for 13 days.
8. I was then transferred to Ofer Prison. I am now in Section 2, which has rooms, not tents. It is a new section in this prison. The conditions here are sort of good, compared to those in Etzion Detention Centre.

Trial

9. On the eighth day of my arrest, I was taken to Ofer Military Court. The military prosecutors asked for my detention period to be extended until the completion of the legal proceedings. The session was adjourned to 3 February 2009 to give the lawyer time to study the case. On this date, 3 February 2009, I was once again brought to the same court. The lawyer asked the judge to release me on bail because I denied the charges, but the court denied his request because a soldier testified that I had thrown stones. I therefore was not released. My detention was extended until the completion of the legal proceedings. I have to appear in court on 2 March 2009.

2009

11. **Name of victim:** Omar Z.

Age at incident: 14

Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I was born on 22 April 1994. I am in the ninth grade. I live in Husan, Bethlehem. My family consists of nine members including my parents.
2. On 26 January 2009, at around 3:00 am, I woke up to the voice of my father. He woke me to tell me that Israeli soldiers were outside the house and they came banging on the door asking for me. My father said I should go with him.
3. I left my room, wearing my pyjamas, and headed towards the front door of the house. The soldiers were inside the house. They asked whether I was Omar or not. My mother answered them and said I was Omar. One of the soldiers who was inside the house said he would arrest me. My parents asked them to allow me to go and change my clothes, but this soldier refused. Instead, he grabbed me and took me out of the house.
4. I saw a number of military jeeps outside the house; around four military jeeps and a truck. Around five soldiers were in the house.

5. My mother brought me some clothes from the house and gave them to me to change out of my pyjamas. As I said before, the soldiers did not allow me to change inside the house. I therefore changed my clothes outside the house in front of the soldiers. I felt so cold.
6. I changed my clothes and my mother took my pyjamas. One of the soldiers then tied my hands behind my back with plastic cords and blindfolded me. He pushed me to make me walk. I walked along the street for about 20 minutes. The soldier then made me sit on stoney ground. I felt uncomfortable sitting on the small stones.
7. While sitting on the ground, I felt stones being thrown at me by the soldiers. One of the soldiers was kicking the ground, resulting in stones flying towards me. He kept doing this for about half an hour. I could see a little from beneath the blindfold.

Transfer to Etzion

8. One of the soldiers then grabbed me and made me stand up. He made me walk towards a big bus. There were 14 people from my neighbourhood inside the bus. I was seated on one of the seats.
9. The bus started moving and stopped in Etzion half an hour later. We were all pulled out of the bus and taken to a big hall that had chairs.
10. I sat in the hall for about an hour. I was tied and blindfolded. I was sitting on a chair. I did not go to the bathroom. We were not offered anything to eat or drink. I did not ask to use the bathroom during this time.

Interrogation

11. I then heard one of the soldiers calling me name. One of the soldiers came and grabbed my neck and took me to a room. He removed the blindfold from my eyes. There were two persons in this room. One of them was sitting behind a desk, while the other was standing. One of them asked me to take off one of my sweaters. I was wearing three sweaters. I could not take them off because my hands were still tied. This very same person, who was wearing civilian clothes, took off all my sweaters but one. I do not know what the purpose of taking off my sweaters was.
12. The same person then slapped me several times while saying "*Why do you throw stones at the soldiers?*" I said to him that I had not thrown any stones. He kept slapping me. He also punched me all over my body; with the focus on my back and stomach. He kept slapping me for 20 minutes, while I kept crying to leave me alone and stop beating me. He however kept slapping me and beating me all over my body.

Confession

13. He then asked me again whether I threw stones. *“All the others arrested have confessed they threw stones and they also have confessed on you,”* he said. I therefore confessed that I had thrown stones, and signed a statement written in Arabic after reading it. I spent almost half an hour inside the interrogation room. I was then taken to the detention room.

Ofer Prison and court

14. I was kept in Etzion for one day before being transferred to Ofer where I was given the brown uniform that belongs to Israeli Prison Service.
15. On the fourth day of the arrest; 29 January 2009, I was taken to the court and my detention was extended for six days. A list of charges of throwing stones several times at soldiers was made against me.
16. In the next court session convened on 3 February 2009, the lawyer asked for my release. The judge decided to release me on a 10.000 NIS bail, and that I should sign another bail of 5.000 NIS. The prosecution filed an appeal. The Court of Appeal suggested that the lawyer make a deal with the prosecution. An agreement was reached that I should be imprisoned for 91 days, and I should pay a 1000 NIS bail. This agreement was reached after the court of appeal had insinuated that it would accept the appeal filed by the prosecution, and extend my detention.

2009

12. **Name of victim:** Mohammad W.

Age at incident: 15

Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I was born on 4 April 1993. I am in the 10th grade. My family consists of nine members, including my father and mother. The economic situation is bad since my father does not work.
2. On 9 February 2009, at around 8:00 pm, my 18 year old cousin H.W. suggested that we go and throw stones at the nearby settlement of Mitsa’.
3. I agreed and we both headed towards the settlement. We approached the fence surrounding the settlement from all directions, with some lights installed on it. We picked up some stones and began throwing them towards the lights. A number of soldiers, around 20, came out and began shouting at us. The soldiers approached the fence and pointed their guns at us. We immediately threw the stones on the ground and lifted our hands up in the air and kneeled.

4. The soldiers kept pointing their guns at my cousin Hamzi and me. Only the fence separated us from each other. I understood from the signals of one of the soldiers that he wanted us to take off our clothes. Hamzi and I took off all our clothes except our underwear.
5. Five minutes later, a number of soldiers; around 10, came to us and asked us to lie down with facing the ground. There were stones on the ground, and it was painful and so cold because we were wearing only underwear. While lying on the ground, a soldier grabbed the clothes and thoroughly searched them for about 10 minutes. He then returned them after confiscating everything he found such as our mobile phone.
6. We put our clothes back on after 15 minutes of being naked and feeling extremely cold.
7. My hands were then tied behind my back with plastic cords, and my eyes were blindfolded with a piece of cloth. A soldier then took me to a military jeep which was nearby. He removed the blindfold and asked me in Arabic what happened and why I was there. He also asked me about some Molotov cocktails he found near the fence. "*We threw stones and set the grass on fire,*" I told him. I did not tell him I threw Molotov cocktails. He became angry and slapped me several times. He violently punched me on my abdomen and back. He kicked me all over my body. He also violently slapped me on my neck, which stayed red for the next five days.
8. After this 10 minute interrogation near the jeep, I was blindfolded again and placed on a seat inside the jeep, which began moving. I was not beaten inside the jeep. Half an hour later, the jeep stopped and I was pulled out and taken to a room. I could see things from beneath the blindfold. In the room, I saw a policeman sitting behind a desk. He removed the blindfold off my eyes. He was wearing the blue police uniform. He was called Yaakov, and spoke Arabic well.

Interrogation

9. The policeman asked me to sit on a chair in front of him. My hands were tied behind my back. This policeman began interrogating me. He asked me why I was near the settlement. I told him I went to the settlement to throw stones and that I burned some of the grass growing near the fence. The interrogation lasted about an hour or less than that. I was not beaten during interrogation.
10. The policeman wrote my statement in Arabic. He untied me and asked me to sign the statement. I signed it after reading it. It had only the things I had told him about.
11. I was then taken out of the room and taken to another room that had a long seat that seemed like those seats found at a bus station for waiting. There were no Arabs or

detained persons in this room. Four soldiers were sitting on plastic chairs in the room. I stayed in this room until the next morning. I slept on the seat that had no mattress or blanket or pillow. The seat was made out of wood, and therefore sleeping or even sitting on it was not comfortable.

12. I was allowed to use the toilets once after I had requested. Food was also brought once; an apple, a small can of chocolate, and another small can of yogurt.
13. During the night, I woke up and saw two soldiers sitting on the chairs in the room. I did not see the other two. None of the soldiers beat me that night.
14. The next day I was transferred to Ofer Prison. It is kind of comfortable here in this prison in terms of treatment by other detainees in the same section.

Court

15. On 17 February 2009, I was for the first time taken to the court after a list of charges had been made against me. The session was adjourned until 24 February 2009 upon the lawyer's request to study the case. On 24 February 2009, my detention was extended until the completion of the legal proceedings. The next session is on 16 March 2009.

2009

13. **Name of victim:** Mohammad N.
Age at incident: 16
Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I am from Balata Refugee Camp, Nablus. I was born on 8 February 1993. I am in the 10th grade. I was arrested on 1 March 2009. My father is a merchant. My family consists of 13 members. The economy situation of the family is bad.
2. On 1 March 2009, at midnight, I was sleeping on the second floor of our two-storey house. Marwan, my brother, was sleeping in the same room. I then heard him saying "*Wake up! Soldiers are in the room.*" I could not believe him because I was half sleep and thought he was joking. At this moment, a soldier cocked his weapon and I became very scared. My brother rushed out of the room. I looked around and saw the room packed with soldiers; I do not know how many. I learned later after going to the living room that the soldiers broke the door open using a lever without even knocking. The door was destroyed.
3. A soldier speaking Arabic ordered me to put on my clothes and go downstairs. I did what he ordered and went downstairs. Two soldiers walked behind me, while the rest of soldiers stayed on the second floor to search it.

4. When I came downstairs, I found the entire family were there standing against the wall. My one and a half-year-old niece who spent the night in the house was also with the family. The soldiers sat me next to my father and brothers. 10 minutes later, the soldiers ordered me to go upstairs to complete searching the house. Before going upstairs, they asked for my ID. I told them I did not have one. My father approached and handed them his ID appendix that has my name on it. "*Are you Mohammad?*" One of the soldiers asked. "*Yes,*" I said. "*Come with me upstairs,*" he ordered.
5. I went upstairs with the soldiers who surrounded me from all directions. An officer approached me and he asked me in Arabic my name as before. He asked me a number of questions about the family members; their names and ages. He just wanted to verify my identity. He then spoke with someone on the radio. He ordered me to speak with him. The person introduced himself as the intelligence officer in charge of the area. He also verified my identity and ordered me to accompany the soldiers. He then ordered me to speak with the officer in the room.
6. Once the officer finished speaking with the other officer, I heard the soldiers calling each other. They then surrounded me. The officer in the room approached me and asked me where I had hidden the gun that I possess. "*I have no gun. You can search the house as you wish and if you find a gun, do whatever you want with me,*" I said.

Threats and ill-treatment

7. A soldier then took a knife out of his pocket, and threatened to stab me if I do not say where I hid the gun. He was shouting very loudly in a way that really scared me very much. Another soldier approached me and slapped me so hard. A third soldier joined him and began kicking my legs. I fell over on the floor. While lying there, one of them began hitting me with the barrel of his rifle assault, saying "*Confess where you hid the gun or we will kill you.*" I told him I had no gun. He cocked his rifle and pointed it to my face, threatening to pull the trigger if I do not confess. All this happened on the second floor of my house. My family was on the first floor. The soldiers ordered me to go with them and thoroughly search the house. I went with them and they searched the house. They found my brother's military uniform and confiscated it.
8. The soldiers finished searching the house and they then took me downstairs. While climbing down the stairs, the soldiers pushed me but I did not fall. I wanted to say goodbye to my family but they refused. They shouted at me and did not allow my family to approach me.
9. The soldiers took me out of the house. At the front door, they made me lie down and then blindfolded me and tied my hands with tight plastic cords. They then took me to a military jeep. A soldier violently pushed me towards the jeep and I rammed against it.

They then pushed me inside the jeep, resulting in loosening the plastic cords. They pulled me out of the jeep by dragging me from behind. I fell out and they all began beating me, accusing me of untying the plastic cords. They lifted me up and one of them pushed me to another soldier who hit me, accusing me of hitting him. A soldier then grabbed my hands, and another soldier inside the jeep pulled my hair. I felt much pain in my head. They threw me on the floor of the jeep and tied my hands again. (I did not see any of the soldiers because I was blindfolded)

Transfer

10. Inside the jeep, one of the soldiers placed pressure with his legs on my feet, as another soldier placed pressure with his hands on my head from two sides. This continued for half an hour while the jeep was still standing in front of my house. The one pressing on my head threw the bags confiscated from our house at my abdomen. I begged them to stop but they refused. The soldiers began singing and shouting to annoy me. One of them suddenly shouted several times close to my ear. They asked me about my sister Ghufran and another girl named Arsabis in an attempt to provoke me.
11. The jeep began moving. On the road, the soldiers kept kicking me the whole time. One of the soldiers said dirty things to me *“I’ll fuck you from your ass”*. Another soldier laughed out loud. We then reached Huwwara Detention Centre.

Huwwara Interrogation and Detention Centre

12. We reached Huwwara Detention Centre at 2:00 am. The soldiers opened the back door of the jeep and pulled my legs out but I did not fall out because I stood up before falling. The soldiers then began walking while I was with them. They took me back and forth to an unknown place. They kept doing this until I heard the calls leading to dawn prayers. They all blew the smoke from their cigarettes towards my face, and I felt I was choking. I do not smoke.
13. At dawn, I was taken to the administration rooms in Huwwara Detention Centre where I was thoroughly searched while still being tied and blindfolded. They then removed the blindfold and a doctor examined me. He asked me general questions about my health and filled out a questionnaire. After examining me, the soldiers gave me the brown prison uniform and then took me to the detention room.
14. I spent 11 days in Huwwara Detention Centre, during which the jailers treated me badly. They made me do their laundry. An Arab jailer was among them and used to treat me badly and insult me saying *“Dog”* and *“fuck you.”*

Salem Interrogation and Detention Centre

15. On 8 March 2009, eight days after being detained, my detention was extended for 15 days. On 10 March 2009, I was transferred to Salem Detention Centre where I am still detained. The next court session will take place on 22 March 2009 at Salem Military Court.

Interrogation

16. After the court session held on 8 March 2009 finished, I was kept in Salem until a late hour, during which time I was taken to an interrogation room where my hands and feet were kept tied. A Druze interrogator called Jihad was in the room and he began interrogating me without informing me of my rights. He accused me of weapon possession and belonging to a hostile organisation, and that Ahmad Abu Thra' had confessed on me. I however did not confess to these accusations. Three days later I was brought to the same room, where another interrogator asked me the same questions which I denied.

2009

B. Palestinian female detainees

14. **Name of victim:** Fatema A.

Age at incident: 41

Report collected by: Addameer

1. Fatema, a pregnant woman from Gaza in her early forties and mother of 8 children, was arrested in May 2007 at Beit Hanoun (Erez) Crossing. Following her arrest, she was transferred to the Hasharon prison. In view of her age, Fatema required a higher level of care and medical supervision during her pregnancy. Instead, she suffered from severe weight loss and fatigue due to low-quality food and unsuitable conditions inside the prison.
2. On 17 January 2008, feeling labour pain, the Fatema was transferred to Meir Hospital in Kfar Saba where her arms and legs were kept shackled at the request of the IPS. The cuffs were removed only inside the delivery room, and put back immediately after childbirth. Fatema went through the dehumanizing experience completely alone, since her family and husband were not allowed to visit her even after the delivery of the baby.
3. She describes her painful experience:

"After delivery, both my arm and leg were tied to the bed. I was left in this position for several hours before being taken back to my room. My baby was brought to me for breastfeeding only twice a day."
4. After a two day stay in hospital, her transfer back to prison occurred under the exact same circumstances. Despite post-labour pain, both her hands and feet were shackled,

which prevented her from holding and taking care of her new-born baby. As she was not wearing seat belts her head kept hitting the side of the vehicle.

15. **Name of victim:** J.

Age at incident: 23

Report collected by: Addameer

1. J. was arrested on 7 June 2002 under the charge of providing help to a suicide bomber. She was beaten on her way to the detention centre, where she was interrogated for 60 continuous days.
2. Every session comprised of 12 consecutive hours and was conducted at night. Whenever she fell asleep a soldier would start knocking on the table next to her head to wake her up.
3. She was prevented from access to a lawyer or ICRC visits for the whole first month. The interrogators tried to exert mental pressure on her by threatening that they would arrest her brother if she did not confess. They would also blame her and attempt to make her feel guilty towards her own family. They would say: "*your mother is ill and you will be the cause of her death if you do not confess*". Rarely would they allow her to go to the bathroom.

16. **Name of victim:** Khawla Z.

Age at incident: Unknown

Report collected by: Addameer

1. Mother of two, Khawla Zitawi was arrested on 25 January 2007, 50 days after the arrest of her husband, who was detained under the charge of 'conspiring against the security of the state of Israel'. She was breastfeeding her 6 month old baby girl at the time.
2. The soldiers searched her whole house, tore apart the pillows, and threw her personal belongings and clothes on the floor. They confiscated private objects such as wedding pictures to use as a way of psychological pressure on her husband. She was questioned about her husband's activities and was continuously asked to provide the soldiers with her husband's documents and personal belongings.
3. When she finally said that she did not have anything in her possession, the soldiers informed her that she would be arrested and would not be allowed to see her children. They ordered the neighbors to come and take them away without giving her the opportunity to say goodbye. When she was finally allowed to leave the living room, the children were already taken. Even though she asked, she was not informed where she was being taken.

4. During her transfer Khawla was blindfolded, therefore she only realized that she was brought to the Petah Tiqwa Detention Centre when she heard her husband's voice. She was interrogated in a room located next to his cell. Afterwards he was transferred to a different cell, where they could not hear each other anymore. She was being interrogated by 2 different officers, each one of them playing a specific role. One would insult her, and constantly humiliate her by saying that she was a bad mother, while the other would play on her motherly feelings by trying to convince her to give out information related to her husband. He would say that she would be able to see her children right away if she confessed.
5. After her 8 day interrogation period she was transferred to the Hasharon prison and sentenced to 1 year and 8 months of prison for helping a wanted person, concealing evidence and information used for plotting against the state of Israel. She then asked in court for the permission to be reunited with her child in prison. The judge agreed to her request immediately; however she had to wait another two weeks for the decision to be implemented.
6. As her family lives in Kuwait, and her husband was in prison at the same time, Khawla did not receive any family visits during her entire sentence. The restrictions imposed on family visits and therefore their lack meant that Khawla's baby grew up without knowing either her older sister - who lived with her uncle at that time - or her father. Khawla was not allowed to bring any personal items inside, including pictures of their daughters.
7. Although visits between imprisoned spouses are permitted as per Israeli Prison Service regulations every three months if they be detained in facilities located close to one another and every six months in the opposite case, Khawla was allowed to see her husband only twice during the period of her imprisonment. The first visit took place after one year, the second one after another 5 months. Both visits were supervised and took place in a barred cell around which four guards were watching them.
8. Finding appropriate clothing for her daughter, who remained in prison with her was a challenge. She had to depend on families of other women to bring her clothes, but as this is only permitted once every 3 months, Khawla's child would always grow out of her clothes. As she was growing very fast, she would never get them on time.
9. Khawla was released on 25 August 2008.

C. Medical Coercion: ISA Interrogation of patients exiting the Gaza Strip

17. **Name of victim:** K.R.

Age at incident: 38

Report collected by: Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights

1. A 38-year old man, K. R., suffering from severe portal vein thrombosis, died on 28 October 2008, after being denied entry into Israel to seek medical treatment after refusing to cooperate with the ISA.
 2. According to the deceased's brother, K. R. had previously undergone surgery at Ain Shams Specialized Hospital in Cairo to prevent the vein from closing by inserting a plastic tube. In July 2008, however, his condition began to deteriorate. Due to the lack of suitable medical facilities in Gaza, the family began to make arrangements for his treatment at the Tel HaShomer hospital in Tel Aviv.
 3. On 9 September 2009, the ISA asked Mr. K. R. to attend an interview at the Erez border crossing. Although his medical condition was grave, he attended the interview, after which an ISA officer informed him that he would be allowed to enter Israel. However, while he was returning home from the interview, the ISA officer telephoned him again and stated that he would have to undergo a second round of questioning.
 4. At the second interview the following day, an ISA officer told him that he would have to provide information to the ISA about people from his local community in exchange for permission to enter Israel. K. R refused to cooperate, following which the ISA officer told him to go back to Gaza to get treatment there.
 5. After failing to arrange for his treatment in Cairo, Mr. K. R. passed away on 28 October 2008.
18. **Name of victim:** R.
Age at incident: Minor (unknown)
Report collected by: Physicians for Human Rights – Israel (PHR-Israel)
1. R., a cancer patient who is being treated at Tel Hashomer hospital in Israel, arrived at the Erez crossing on the specified date after being informed through PHR that her departure, accompanied by her mother, had been approved.
 2. When they reached the crossing point on 29 January 2009, at 9 a.m., they were told to sit and wait in the departure hall. At around 11:30 am, three ISA officers asked R. to follow them for interrogation.
 3. Despite the girl's tears and pleading, one of the ISA officers threatened that if she did not accompany him, he would send her back to Gaza. R. was separated from her mother and taken for interrogation. All this time, her mother was locked in the adjacent room and told to await her daughter.

4. The interrogation lasted an hour, and during its course, the girl's cell phone was taken, she was questioned about her uncle and her father, their place of employment etc. Upon conclusion of the interrogation, the girl was taken back to her mother, and at the end of the day, around 17:00 she was permitted to leave for Israel.²

2009

D. Human shields

19. **Name of victim: Majid. R.**
Age at incident: 9
Affidavit collected by: DCI/PS

1. I live in Tel al-Hawa neighbourhood in the southwestern part of Gaza City. I live in Tower 5 located on the main street that links the Red Crescent (150 metres to the west) with Barcelona Garden (about 100 metres to the east). My family and I live on the sixth floor of the seven-storey tower. The tower also has a warehouse for water tanks and other supplies used by the residents. The floor of the warehouse is made of clay.
2. The Israeli operation "Cast Lead" started on 27 December 2008 and many areas in the Gaza Strip were invaded. Warplanes bombed buildings and governmental facilities throughout the first week of the military operation. They bombed several official buildings in our neighbourhood such as the Ministries complex in the north about 500 metres away, and the office of the Prime Minister, 700 metres away from our house. I watched television and heard the news about martyrs and death everywhere. I was scared that something might happen to me because of the bombardment. I stayed inside the house and never left because I thought being in the house with my family was the safest place; especially since the schools were closed. I constantly heard huge explosions and tanks. I was very scared of the explosions and bombardment.
3. On 14 January 2009, the bombardment intensified and I heard explosions every five minutes. Everybody in the house was very scared. Inside the house was my mother Afaf (47), sisters Dalia (10) and Nisma (9), my half brother Nimr (40), his wife Mai (40) and their children Marah (13) and Mahmoud (6). Mai is a doctor at the Red Crescent Hospital. My mother tried to calm me and my sisters when we cried. We were afraid and did not know where to hide from the bombardment.

² From the testimony of R., who was interrogated on 29 January 2009. Testimony submitted to PHR the same day. The patient suffers from a malignant tumor on the leg.

4. At around 9:00pm, my brother Nimr said “Let’s go down to the warehouse because it is much safer especially since the bombardment has intensified and I hear loud sounds.” I asked my brother about the sound and he said it was the sound of tanks approaching. We all carried our blankets and mattresses and went down to the warehouse. When we reached the warehouse, we found our neighbours from the same building were already there. I do not know their names but I recognized their faces. The warehouse has an iron door and it was opened by the neighbours. In the centre, there are stairs. On the southern side, there are water tanks, whereas the northern side is empty clay floor of about 300-square metres.
5. We sat on the northern side of the warehouse. There are two unfinished bathrooms on the eastern side. They are just two walls: 1.5 x 1 metres. We all sat on the empty floor. We tried to sleep a little. We placed the mattresses on the western side of the warehouse, and the men sat on the chairs next to the water tanks on the other side of the warehouse. By 10:30pm, there were about 40 people in the warehouse including men, women, and children. They were residents of the same tower. I did not know all of their names; only a few of them.
6. At around 11:00pm, the bombardment became so heavy that the windows used for ventilation shattered and my sister was injured in her head from the glass. “Don’t be scared. The Israeli army is far away and we are safe,” my mother told us, but I was very scared. I tried to sleep but would wake up now and then to the sound of explosions near the tower. This situation continued until the morning.
7. At 5:00 am, I heard doors being broken. I heard heavy fire and bullets entered the windows of the warehouse. We had no electricity; the only light came from my brother Nimr’s torch placed on a concrete pillar inside the warehouse, and our vision was limited. At this moment the tower superintendant Ahmad Abu Sha’ban came and sat down with the men on the southeastern side. “Go slowly to the side of the bathrooms,” he said in a low voice. The bathrooms were on the southwestern side, about 20 metres away. Everybody including women and children got up and went to the bathrooms. My family and I tried to enter the bathrooms but they were crowded; around 40 people were inside. Everybody was standing because there was no place to sit. We stood for about 10 minutes, during which the sound of explosions grew bigger. We heard Israeli soldiers shouting nearby, and the sound of gunfire entering the warehouse. I then heard the door of the warehouse being broken and Israeli soldiers shouting in a language that I later learned was Hebrew.
8. The soldiers entered the warehouse firing everywhere. I saw small red lights moving everywhere inside the warehouse. I saw the shadows of around 30 soldiers on the wall

in front of us. At this point, Ahmad Abu Sha'ban (50) shouted at us "Say katan...katan; a word in Hebrew meaning small." He was telling everyone, including the children, to say this. Everyone shouted but I did not because I was scared if they heard me they would shoot me. I then learned that katan means children. After the shouting stopped, the shooting also stopped. I saw two soldiers standing by the door of the bathrooms where I was hiding behind my mother. One of them lit a torch he held in his hand and said in broken Arabic "Come on, get out, one by one." My brother Nimr was the first to get out. Once he got out, the soldiers shot at him. I thought they killed him but then I saw him; he was still standing. He began taking off his clothes. Ahmad Abu Sha'ban and his sons, I do not know their names, got out and the other men followed them. The soldiers took them and forced them to lie down on the floor on the eastern side of the warehouse. My mother, sisters, and the other women and children got out as well.

9. At this moment, I saw a large number of soldiers standing in the warehouse. They were carrying weapons and wearing green caps. One of them was carrying a cleaver and that really scared me. Their faces were painted with the same color I see in action movies on television. A soldier spoke to us in broken Arabic that was difficult to understand. He told us to go to the southwestern corner of the warehouse. My mother, the other women, children, and I went to the southwestern corner as he said. I was very scared thinking they would shoot me. I was grabbing my mother's hands and hiding behind her. We stood for about 10 minutes as the soldiers walked through the warehouse searching the men and forcing them to strip down to their underwear. At this moment, a soldier came and stood two metres away from us. "Come here," he said while pointing at us. "Me?" my mother asked. "No, him," he said in broken Arabic as he pointed at me. He approached me and grabbed my shirt from my neck and dragged me away. "He's a child," my mother began shouting. I thought they would kill me. I became very scared and wet my pants. I could not shout or say anything because I was too afraid.
10. The soldier dragged me towards the bathrooms, 20 metres away. He pushed me towards the small corridor in front of the bathrooms. He began shouting at me and speaking a language I did not understand. I was very scared by the way he looked. He was very tall and his face was painted black, green, and other colors. He was wearing a cap. Everything about him scared me. He lit a torch he was carrying in his hand and I saw his face very well. He pointed his weapon at me. He was shouting at me and I did not understand him, so he grabbed me and pushed me against the wall.
11. He then started motioning with his hand and I figured out he wanted me to open the bags; small bags that the residents brought down with them containing their personal effects and money. The bags were similar to the bags used by football players. I

understood from his hand gestures that he wanted me to open the bags. There were two bags in front of me. I grabbed the first one as he stood one and a half metres away. I opened the bag as he pointed his weapon directly at me. I emptied the bag on the floor. It contained money and papers. I looked at him and he was laughing. I grabbed the second bag to open it but I could not. I tried many times but it was useless, so he shouted at me. He grabbed my hair and slapped me very hard across the face. I did not shout or cry but I was very scared. He dragged me away from the bags and forced me to stand against the wall, as he stood about one and a half meters behind me. He then shot at the bag that I could not open. I thought he shot at me, so I shouted and put my hands on my head. He then pulled me through the corridor. "Go to your mother," said another soldier who spoke Arabic well, but was dressed like them and was carrying a weapon. I ran to my mother and hid in her arms. "I wet my pants," I said to her. "It's fine," she said. I then saw the soldiers drag the men to the southern side of the warehouses near the water tanks.

12. As for us, the soldiers forced us to sit on the floor. I understood later that they asked who spoke English and my sister-in-law Mai talked to them. She asked us to sit on the mattresses on the floor. The mattresses and blankets were burnt from the gun fire. She then told us that the soldiers wanted us to sit in a circle with our backs facing each other. We did what they said. I was sitting next to my mother. A soldier then came and brought a chair, which was already in the warehouse, and placed it in the middle of the circle. I thought they would ask us to sit on this chair and then shoot us. I became very scared but could not do anything. However, the soldier sat on it and would shout now and then "Boom. Boom," like the sound of an explosion. We would all put our hands on our heads, and the soldier would laugh loudly. He repeated this about five times. He then went and sat about five metres away from us. Four other soldiers sat next to him. The soldiers pointed their weapons at us, and I would get scared. I could see the red light moving over my body and on my siblings and mother. There was a thin red light coming from their weapons. Whenever I saw them lifting their weapons or the red light, I thought they would shoot us. I relaxed a little whenever they lowered their weapons. The soldiers then took out chocolates and biscuits and began eating. I was very hungry. The soldiers looked at us and lifted their chocolate bars. I thought they would give us some. One of them then pointed at me to sit down, while another placed his hand against his neck, as if he was telling us they would slaughter us. I was scared to death and focused my eyes on the ground so that he would not see me. We stayed like this for about five hours. Some of the soldiers left and others came. Some of the children were crying for food. Others needed to go to the bathroom. After speaking with my sister-in-law Mai, a soldier allowed only the children to go to the bathrooms with their mothers.

But the bathrooms were in the corner in front of all the people and soldiers, so I did not go. Besides, I already wet my pants because I was terrified when the soldier dragged me out of the bathroom.

13. At around 3:00pm, a soldier came and told Mai as I understood to “Hold a white flag and head to the Red Crescent.” My mother took off her white headscarf and we all left the warehouse and headed west to the Red Crescent, about 150 metres away. The men remained in the warehouse and did not come with us. I did not see them when we left the warehouse. Mai walked in front, holding the white flag. I was holding my mother and siblings’ hands. I saw a tank positioned at the front door of the tower, while other tanks were on the street that leads to the Red Crescent. We did not hear that many explosions. We walked on the street that was full of rubble and destroyed cars. I saw small burning pieces in the street and my mother told us to stay away from them because they were phosphorus. Their smell was awful. We walked over the rubble until we reached the Red Crescent. We entered the reception hall and found a number of people and children just like us. Mai brought us biscuits and water. We then heard extensive fire and the sound of explosions grew bigger. The bombardment and shelling also intensified. The situation remained like this for several hours. We were scared and the children were crying. Some of the nurses in white dresses and other children tried to calm us down.
14. At around 8:00pm, I heard the doctors and some people shouting “Get out, the hospital is on fire.” I grabbed my mother’s hand tightly. My siblings were with us. My mother gave us white napkins and said “Lift them and let’s get out.” I lifted it and ran out to the street. I saw many people outside. I think they got out of the hospital just like we did. We quickly headed north to the main street. I saw black smoke rising from the hospital, especially from the top floor. At this moment, I heard a woman shouting “Come, come.” She was in an ambulance. I looked at her and saw it was Mai. We went inside the ambulance and it quickly drove away. On the street, I saw patients on hospital beds accompanied by doctors fleeing the area. I also saw something strange. There was a patient lying on a bed with a generator hanging from it. Another person was pushing the bed. The people were shouting loudly. Everyone in the street was shouting. The ambulance drove us to some relatives living in Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood. We spent the night there. We were less scared than before. There, my mother did laundry. She also asked me to take a shower. I took some clothes from my relatives and changed my dirty clothes. I slept in my mother’s arms that night and I did not leave her.
15. On 16 January 2009, at around 10:00am, my brother Nimr called to check on us. I think his wife told him where we were. An hour later, he came to us. We asked him what

happened to them. He told us, "They kept us near the water tanks in the warehouse. They made fun of us and searched us now and then despite the fact that we were wearing only our underwear. In the evening, they took us to the front door of the tower and held us there for about two hours. Then they locked us in the guard's room and left us there until morning when some people heard us and opened the door."

16. At school, I am afraid of remembering and talking about what happened. Some people from different organizations came to the school and talked to us about the events and all the dead and injured people. I am sometimes ashamed to talk about things in detail with people I do not know. I am also afraid to tell people about the difficult situation I experienced, which I do not like to remember. I don't even talk about it with my mother. I prefer to forget, and sometimes I cry when I remember. I talked to you only because you said you are from an organization that is devoted to helping children.

2009

20. **Name of victim:** Majdi A-R.

Age at incident: 41

Affidavit collected by: Al Mezan

1. I swear to tell the truth and to be held legally accountable for what follows:
2. When Operation "Cast Lead" began on 27 December 2008, I was in my house, which is two stories tall. Directly to the east is the Salah ad-Din Mosque on Izbat Abed Rabbo Street in east Jabalia camp, my house is built in the heart of the 260 square meter area. I live there with my wife, Asmahan Mohammed Mostafa Abed Rabbo (age 38), and my children: Ala, 16; Fatima, 14; Imad, 10; Al-Abed, 9; and Marah, 14 months. The wall outside my house leads to a courtyard that leads to the front door above a stairway. Its two doors to the west overlook the street between my house and the mosque, and the main door faces north and overlooks Izbat Abed-Rabbo Street. At the beginning of the campaign, I heard the sounds of explosions day and night, landing on northern Gaza.
3. At around 9:30 AM, on Monday, January 5, 2009, I was in my house when I heard a loud sound at my door. I said, "Who is it?"
4. I heard someone say, "Open the door," loudly and in broken Arabic. Judging from the accent, I expected it to be an occupation forces soldier. I walked through my house's inner door into the courtyard, and then through the courtyard door, which overlooks the street between my house and the Salah ad-Deen Mosque.
5. As I walked down the stairs toward the outer door, I saw IOF soldiers standing on the second floor of the mosque. They pointed their guns in my direction. I arrived at the door

and opened it. I was surprised to see an IOF soldier hiding behind a man in his twenties and pointing his gun at me.

6. He pointed at me and said, in Arabic, "Take off your pants." I took off my pants. Then he pointed at my underwear, so I took that off, too. My lower half was now completely naked. He then pointed at the clothes on my upper half, and I took them off. Then he said, "Put your clothes on," so I did.
7. 15-20 Israeli soldiers then entered the courtyard of my house, wearing their usual Khaki outfit and black makeup on their faces.
8. The same soldier asked me, "Who is in the house?" I told him my family was inside. He said, "Call them one-by-one." I called my oldest son, Ala, and he came out. At that moment, they tied the hands of the young man, whom they had been protecting themselves with, behind his back, and threw him behind an olive tree in the house's northern courtyard. Then they made Ala, a 16-year-old boy, take off his pants and his underwear, until he was completely naked on his lower half, as they had done with me. Then he put on his pants and they made him take off his shirt. Then they grabbed him and put him by the other young man in the courtyard.
9. I called my son Imad, age 10. They did the same with him. Then I called Al-Abed, age 9, and they did the same with him. Then I called my daughter Fatima, age 14, who was wearing sweats. They pointed at her to pull her tunic tight against her stomach and her hands and legs. I told her what to do because she didn't understand the soldier's hand signals. She did it. Then the soldier told her to turn around, and she turned around twice. He motioned for her to sit with her brothers. She did.
10. Then I called to my wife, and she came. He did the same with her as he had done with my daughter Fatima. She was carrying our baby, Marah, in her arms. She pulled her abaya tight against her legs and stomach. Then he said for her to take off Marah's trousers, our 14-month-old baby. She did it. Then he said to her to hit the baby's diaper. She did it. After she dressed the baby, he said to her, "Sit with the children in the courtyard."
11. Then the soldier said to me, "Is there anyone in the house?"

I said, "There is no one in the house."

He said, "I am going to search the house. If I find anyone, we will shoot you."

I said, "There is no one."

He spoke with the other soldiers in Hebrew. I couldn't understand what they were saying. He called to one of the soldiers outside of the house by name, "Bola," and spoke with him in Hebrew. The soldiers spread through the courtyard from the northwest where the door is.

12. At that moment, one of the soldiers grabbed my neck from behind and put his gun to the back of my head. Two other soldiers hid behind me, one on the left and the other on the right. The three of them were tightly grouped; one tightly gripping my neck.
13. The soldier who had been gripping me pushed me and said, "Yalla." His distinguishing features were that he spoke in Arabic, was short, about 160 cm tall, with light brown skin and a round face. He pushed me to enter the house with careful steps. I heard the footsteps of other soldiers following the three that had hidden behind me. They went through every room in the first floor, then the second, while holding me in the same manner. Then they told me to lead them to the roof, where they searched pigeon coops that I keep in two rooms there.
14. Standing in one corner of the roof, the soldier then asked me, "Whose house is that?" and pointed to the adjacent house to the south.
15. I told him, "That house belongs to my cousin Hatem Abed-Rabbo." Hatem Abed-Rabbo's house is connected to my house by a shared roof - there's no space between the two houses; just the wall.
16. He asked me about the owner of the house. I said, "He has been in Sudan for four years and the house and the house is locked."
17. He said, "Are you sure?"

I said, "Yes."

He spoke on a walkie talkie in Hebrew. Five minutes later, IOF soldiers appeared on the roof with my wife and my son Ala. My wife was still carrying my child Marah in her arms. From another corner of the roof they asked my wife the same question about the house and she answered the same as I had. They took her down again and then asked my son the same question and sat him down.

18. After that one of the soldiers brought a demolition tool (in colloquial Arabis 'mhaddeh') and said, "Drill a hole here." He pointed to the three-meter high wall that separates my house from Hatem Abed-Rabbo's. I began to drill a hole in the wall. A little while later, IOF soldiers came back with the same young man with whom they had first come in. As they arrived at the roof, I continued busting the wall and finished it. It was approximately 60cm wide and 50cm tall. Some of them spoke together in Hebrew. Then three soldiers

went through the hole to Hatem's house. The Arabic-speaking soldier said "Enter," and motioned in the direction of the hole. I entered through the hole to Hatem's house. There, he stood me in the eastern corner and they pointed their guns at me. More soldiers came through the hole in the roof, until there were about 16 soldiers in Hatem's house.

19. Some of them spoke together in Hebrew. One of the soldiers grabbed me from the collar behind my throat and put his gun to my head. The soldier who spoke Arabic watched and walked toward Hatem's stairs in the eastern side of the roof, pointed his gun in the direction of the wall and handrail, looked down at the stairs, and turned around. Two soldiers grabbed me violently and put their guns to my neck and the back of my head, making me follow the advancing soldier closely. Then the first soldier went down step by step with great caution, looking down at every step. Every time he looked around the two soldiers grabbing me would push me putting my head next to his. He went down five stairs, and the soldiers pushed me beside him. The soldier went five steps down; I was pushed by the two soldiers three steps down the stairs.
20. Then I heard the first soldier yell something in Hebrew. I was surprised two soldiers behind me who drug me back to the roof, then dropped me suddenly. I fell down and watched them retreat as a group outside to the stairs.
21. The translating soldier then said to me, "Get up. Get up," and grabbed me violently. I got up with him and entered with them through the hole back to my house roof, and they all went as a group down the stairs. This happened quickly, amidst the shouts of soldiers. The whole group was running. I didn't know exactly what was happening. The young man who had been with them from the start descended with us.
22. My wife and children were still in the courtyard, screaming and crying. When I saw them, the soldiers were still holding me and running. I heard my wife calling my name, and I heard the soldier shouting at her "Shut up and be quiet." Then the soldiers began to exit from the western door of my house that they had first come from, and I suddenly heard the sound of gunfire.
23. At that point the soldiers were leading me outside. I found myself in mud road, which separates my house and the Salah Ad-Din Mosque. One of the soldiers was holding me and making me run with him. Another soldier was bringing the young man with him in the same way, and that young man had his hands tied. I was running with them and falling to the ground every now and then, not knowing what was going. I could still hear the sound of heavy gunfire but I didn't know where it was coming from, whether it was from the soldiers that were taking me or from other soldiers.
24. They pushed me into the mosque through its main door to the north on Abed-Rabbo Street. I saw about 30 Israeli soldiers inside the mosque. They put the young man in one of the mosque's corners. They tied my hands in front of my stomach and tied my legs and

sat me down in the southern corner of the mosque in front of the entrance. It was 12:30 PM. I asked the soldier who spoke Arabic for some reassurance about my family and he told me, "Shut up or I'll shoot you."

25. Gunfire calmed down at that point, so I prayed the noon prayer as I sat down handcuffed. Then, gunfire broke through the afternoon and it was going out of the mosque. I could distinguish from the sound of the exiting bullets and the falling bullet cases that hit the ground inside the mosque and on its roof. The gunfire continued for about 20 minutes, then calmed down, and one of the soldiers cut off my handcuffs and took me and the young man, who still had his hands tied, after me. They untied my hands and feet and we left the mosque through a hole that they had opened in its west wall.
26. We entered the house adjacent to the mosque on the west, which belongs to the Mazanen family. They took us out of that house and turned us toward another house next door to the south, then south on mud road to the houses of Abu Haytham Dhaher, the Zeidan family, and Abu Maatez Al-Katari. Near the Al-Katari house, they sat me and other men down under a shady tree. The soldiers spread out around us, some prostrate on the ground, others hiding against the walls of the house.
27. I asked the young man who was sitting next to me who he was. He told me, "I am your neighbor Mahmoud Dhaher, Abu Haytham's son," and pointed to his house, which I recognized. He told me the occupation forces had raided his family's house the evening of January 4, 2009, and taken him and his father and brother Haytham. He said they had been using him as a human shield since his arrest.
28. 15 minutes passed, and then the same soldier came and took me to the ground floor of the Al-Katari house, where there were two rooms and bathrooms. Occupation soldiers were spreading through the house and putting their bags on the ground floor. From the entrance, I saw women from the Al-Katari family detained in one of the rooms. They put me in the other room, where I found one of the house's inhabitants, Jamal Al-Katari, and our neighbor Abu Haytham Dhaher, and his son Haytham, three members of the Zeidan family, and Aboud Nabil Al-Katari. I recognized them all. They are all my neighbors. They sat me down in the room and left. I talked with the group and told them about what had happened to me. I told Abu Haytham about his son Mahmoud, who was in the same house but outside the room.
29. Thirty minutes passed and then I heard the sound of explosions and heavy gunfire nearby. It continued for about 15 minutes. After that, the soldiers came and took me, alone, and walked me outside the Al-Katari house, where I saw many occupation soldiers. They took me to my neighbor Jem'ah Abed-Rabbo's house, adjacent to the south Hatem Abed-Rabbo's house. It is a large house, 300 square meters. Its entrance is deep, and in it was an Israeli officer with a three-striped rank on his shoulder. Around him, a number of soldiers were standing together in the same outer entrance, hiding against the

walls. Once I arrived, the soldier who spoke Arabic said a few words to them, and then said to me, "In this house," and he pointed at Hatem's house, "There were gunmen and we killed them. Go take their clothes off and bring their guns and come back."

30. I refused. I asked him to let me return to my family. I said to him, "this (Going into that house) means death, and I don't want to die."
31. He spoke in Hebrew with the officer, who was very tall, with light brown skin and light hair. The officer walked toward me and spoke in very poor Arabic. He said, "You are here to do what we tell you." He took me by the shoulder and pushed me in the direction of Hatem's house, and kicked me with his foot on my buttocks and said, "Yalla, go."
32. I walked about 200 meters to the house, where I saw that the house had holes in it from a bomb. The doors to the storage chest below had also been destroyed. I went in. Inside, the stairway had also been destroyed. I couldn't walk on it. I walked back to the soldiers and told the translating soldier about the destruction and said I couldn't enter the house. He spoke with the officer and told me, "Enter the house through the hole we made in your house. Yalla, go."
33. I went alone, hoping to find my family in the house. I entered the courtyard but didn't find anyone. I expected the worst. I searched for signs of blood or anything else but didn't find anything. I called them all in a crying voice. No one answered. I felt psychologically terrible. I walked up to the roof and through the hole into Hatem's house and descended down the stairs. I started calling, "Hello, I am your neighbor Majdi Abed-Rabbo. The army sent me to you." I said this so I wouldn't be shot at. No one answered.
34. When I arrived at the entrance of the apartment, I saw three armed men standing there, wearing badges that said "Al Qassam Brigades." They appeared to be in good health. They were holding rifles only. I told them what had happened to me, and what the occupation forces had forced me to do. It was 6:00 PM. One of them said to me, "We saw everything." Then he said, "Go back now and tell them what you saw."
35. I went back up into my house then back down and out. I went toward the officer. Before I could get there, occupation forces stopped me at gun point and ordered me to take off all my clothes completely and hold them up piece by piece. Then I put on my underwear. The officer called me before I could finish putting on my clothes. I went to him with my clothes in my hands. He asked me what happened to me, and I told them there were three gunmen in the house, still alive, and the translating soldier asked me what kinds of weapons they had and I told them what I had seen. Then they spoke together in Hebrew. Then the soldier said to me, "The officer says he's crazy and if you are lying to him he swears by his mother he will shoot you."

35. I told him, "I only told you what I saw." They ordered me to put on my clothes, then tied my hands and took me to the Al-Katari house a second time and sat me in the ground floor by myself. A short time later, I heard the sound of heavy gunfire nearby. 20 minutes passed, the gunfire stopped, the soldiers came and took me back to the officer, and the same soldier said to me, "We killed them now. Go get them." I refused. I told them that they had told me that if I returned they would kill me, and he shouted at me, "We killed them." He said it in a sarcastic way as he motioned in the direction of one of the soldiers who was bending on a green metal pipe that was about one meter tall. He said, "We dropped two "Lau" bombs on them and destroyed an area of eight square meters."
36. They pushed me toward the house and said, "Go on." I went through my house through the same hole, entered the house and began to descend the stairs. I called before entering the apartment and no one answered, just as the time before. I descended to the door of the apartment house and saw the area that had been destroyed. I saw fire destroying the kitchen cabinets. Then my view fell on the three young men. One was seriously injured and bleeding; the others were alive and sound. I tried to help the injured man. He told me his name was Mohammed Farid Abdullah. I know his family well but I didn't know him. He asked me to send his wishes to his family. After that, the other two told me who they were - Mohammed Obeid and Eyad Obeid, from the Izbet Mleen section of Jabalia. I told them about my difficult situation, that the army was searching everywhere and that I couldn't help them. Eyad Obeid told me, "Tell the officer that if he were a real man he would come here himself, and he won't send you again."
37. I stayed in the apartment another 10 minutes, then went back toward the officer and the soldiers. Before I arrived, they made me take off my clothes as they had the last time. After dressing, I told them what I'd seen, and said what he [Eyad] had told me to say. They surprised me by attacking me, hitting and kicking me with their hands and feet and the butts of their guns. Then the officer came up and started to kick and hit me as well. He was provoked by the message to him from the resistance fighter. They tied my hands behind my back and tied my feet and took me back to the ground floor of the Al-Katari house as before.
38. There I heard the sound of that same soldier yelling loudly through a loudspeaker, saying, "You gunmen inside the house, come down and take off your clothes. Put up your hands. Give yourselves over. Shame on you. Give yourself up. Your commanders have fled underground. 'Khaybar Khaybar ya Hamas'. Give yourself up; you have a family and you have your children and father. We want to give you medical treatment. Come out and give yourself up." He yelled for 15 minutes, repeating the same things. Then I heard the sound of heavy gunfire. The area became dark. A few minutes later, I heard the sound of a helicopter hovering above. Then I heard the sound of a very loud explosion and felt the ground shake. A few minutes later the soldier came and untied my hands and took me outside, where it was dark. They took me to the officer, and the soldier told me, "We

bombed the by planes and now they are dead. Go and make sure they are dead. That's all."

39. I went into the house for the third time, taking the same path. I arrived and found my house severely damaged by the bombs. I saw a 30 cm hole in the roof of my house. The bathroom and water tanks were destroyed, and the place was filled with stones. I couldn't get to the stairs of Hatem's house. I returned through my house's stairs to the army. Before I got to them, they did the same thing with having me take off my clothes, but this time they shined their rifles' spotlights on me, pointing their guns at me. I told them that the bomb had fallen on my house and I couldn't get to Hatem's house.
40. They tied me up and took me to the Al-Katari house for the fourth time. Almost an hour passed and I heard the sound of a big explosion and the sound of heavy gunfire. After that they called me and took me to the officer just as the previous times. The soldier said, "Go and make sure they are dead. We bombed the house again with planes."

I said to him, "It's hard for me to get there. I can't."

He said, "Figure it out. Go on." He said it violently and pushed me hard. I went to my house and through the hole as before. As I descended into Hatem's house, the house was lit by the soldiers from the mosque and the neighbors' houses. With difficulty I entered the apartment. Inside, I saw the three men still living, but they were under the rubble. I couldn't help them as I was exposed to the soldiers. I was afraid the soldiers would find out.

41. I returned quickly. Before I arrived the army made me take off my clothes as usual. Then I told the officer that the three of them were either dying or dead. They took me back to the Al-Katari family's house for the fifth time and I stayed there, sitting on a plastic chair, my hands and feet tied.
42. 30 minutes passed. It was generally quiet. I didn't hear any gunfire. Then I saw them taking the men and women out of the room to the second floor of the Al-Katari house.
43. 30 minutes passed. I saw the soldiers entering and exiting the house as though they were switching shifts. I saw Israeli forces moving, carrying blankets and exiting with them. I saw new soldiers' faces.
44. They came and untied my legs, took me to the top of the house and put me in a small room with a bathroom. All the other men and women detainees were there in that room in the house. The men's hands were tied. I was shivering in the cold. One of the women put a blanket on me. The soldiers left me in the entrance and one of them stood at the door of the room. I had a terrible headache and was very cold. I was screaming and moaning.

45. One of the men called to the soldiers and asked them for medicine. They spoke in Hebrew. After speaking, the man translated the conversation. He said, "He says that if you don't shut up he will shoot you." Then I saw the soldier break some glasses and glass dishes against the room's door. He looked very tense. Then I asked what time it was and the detainees told me it was 1:30 PM. One of the women tied a piece of cloth around my head to help my headache. I tried to sleep but couldn't. I stayed awake all night.
46. Early the next morning – it was Tuesday – the soldiers took me to the street. It was biting cold. They sat me under a tree. Then they took me to the same officer. The translating soldier asked me, "How many people are upstairs and how many rooms in the house?" and other questions of that type. I told him what I had told him earlier. Then he put me back under the tree.
47. Then I heard the soldier call loudly a second time, "Gunmen inside the house, you have 15 minutes to give yourselves up. Izbet Abed-Rabbo is surrounded by special forces. If you don't come down, we have planes and tanks and rockets," and other things like that. Then I saw the soldiers enter the Al-Katari house and exit with one of the members of the Zeidan family and Jamal Al-Katari. They stood them against the wall in front of me. The same officer spoke with them through the translator. He gave them a camera and, I assumed, said he wanted them to go photograph the house. From their body language, the young men seemed to be refusing to go. I saw the soldiers beat them with hands and feet and the butts of their guns. Then they tried again to get them to go with the camera. The two men went through the door of Hatem's house, which had been completely destroyed. I could hardly see them go through holes in the wall as a result of the bombing. After a few minutes, they came out and gave up the camera to the soldiers.
48. A few minutes later, the soldier came to me and asked, "Are they the men you saw Inside?"
- I looked at the footage and saw that one of them had managed to get himself from under the rubble. I said, "Yes."
- The soldier said, "You were lying to us. You said they were beneath the rubble, right?"
- I told him, "Perhaps he managed to get himself out after I left."
49. At that point they began to beat me, hard. I felt terrible pain all over my body. They were beating me because of the man who hadn't been under the rubble. As they continued to beat me, I tried to explain how the man was no longer under the rubble. But they continued to beat me. They then tied me up again the way they had tied up the young men and sat us all together under the same tree. About 20 minutes passed.

50. I saw two soldiers bringing a big black police dog. They turned it toward the officer. I saw a headset on the dog's ears. It had something resembling small cameras on its head. I saw wires tied to its feet and stomach. It was carrying a lot of wire gadgets. They took a muzzle off its face and hit it on the back. I saw it run quickly in the direction of the house. After a short time I heard the sound of gunfire in Hatem's house. Then I saw the dog howl and run out of the place, bleeding from different parts of its body. The soldiers quickly took it back into the Al-Katari house.
51. I heard the soldiers yelling. Then the translating soldier yelled via a loudspeaker, "You have 15 minutes to give yourselves up," and similar things, just as in the previous times. I believe he was addressing the resistance members inside the house. A little later, I saw an Israeli bulldozer, accompanied by a tank, moving towards the place from the main street in the north. They entered the branch mud street. I saw soldiers firing at Hatem's house. The bulldozer started to completely demolish the outer wall adjacent to my house, and then the southern part of my house. I was watching my house being destroyed. The bulldozer then moved to demolish Hatem's house. It destroyed Hatem's house completely and the southern part of my house. After that, and before the bulldozer finished demolishing, the soldiers took me and the two young men to the Al-Katari house and put us in the ground floor.
52. At around 11:00 AM the sound of the bulldozer stopped. I realized it was standing on the rubble. At that moment, I knew my house had been destroyed. I burst into tears. I collapsed completely. I was so sad about what had happened to me and my house and my family.
53. A little while later, I saw the dog, wrapped in fabric, its paws wrapped in plastic. Then I saw the soldiers eating, and remembered that I hadn't eaten for the second day in a row.
54. I stayed in the same place until 3:00 PM. Then I saw them exit the house together. The soldiers took the two guys and then took me to the street, where I saw both my house and Hatem's house completely destroyed. I saw the bodies of two of the three guys that had been in Hatem's house laying on the ground next to the house. They turned me toward the south and took me as a human shield in front of them. They made me walk in front of them. They put their guns on my back. They used me to protect themselves. They walked behind me.
55. They made me open a hole in the wall of the house of Jom'ah Izzat Abed-Rabbo using a similar tool (mhaddeh). Then they put me in the house and searched the house completely. They forced me to break the door of an apartment in the house. There was no one in the house. Then they made me walk in another house. They forced me to open a hole in the wall of Ayman Abed-Rabbo's house, and searched it completely, forcing me to walk in front of them as a shield. Then they did the same thing in Mahmoud Abdullah's house. They wreaked havoc on the houses that they entered where there were

no inhabitants inside. They went through the houses one after the other, protecting themselves behind me. After searching, some of the soldiers exited with me to another house while some of the invading soldiers remained in the house.

56. A little later they returned me to the Al-Katari house as usual and put me in the same room where the other inhabitants were detained. There I saw Mahmoud Dhaher and told him what had happened to me, and he told me what happened to him. I slept for a few hours.
57. On Wednesday morning, it was the third day with the occupation forces. I hadn't had anything to eat or drink, or slept. I asked for water and food. They brought me a bottle of water and a cucumber. Then they cut the handcuff I had been tied with. One of the soldiers told us through one of the detained members of the Zeidan family - the one who could speak Hebrew - that they would evacuate the house in two hours, at 9:00 AM on Wednesday January, 7, 2009, and that at 11:10 we could return to our neighborhoods and go to our houses.
58. They did what they said. They returned to us at 9:00 and we stayed inside the house. Before 11:00 AM, we heard the sounds of tanks and bulldozers coming closer to where we were and start to demolish part of the neighboring houses. The women started to pray, afraid they would demolish the house on top of us. I watched from the window as the bulldozers demolished houses and farms of the houses neighboring the Al- Katari house. This continued until 10:00 AM. They didn't destroy the Al-Katari house where we were, but I saw a tank stationed right next to it.
59. Then things calmed down completely. One of the women went up to the roof to look, and told us that there were no tanks or soldiers in the area. We decided to leave. All the neighbors went west and I went east toward my uncle's Mohammed Mustafa Abed Rabbo's house, hoping to find my wife and children.
60. I went 300 meters down a side street and found occupation soldiers exiting a house, uninhabited and under construction, which my uncle was building. They pointed their guns at me, and forced me to take off my clothes completely and turn around twice. Then I put my clothes back on.
61. They took me to the second floor of the house, where I found the same officer inside. He asked me what had brought me here and I told him what the soldier had told us in the other house. After the conversation with the soldier who had told us to go home, the same translating soldier asked me why I had come here. I told him I was looking for my wife and children. He asked me about the rest of the detainees and I told them that they had gone west.

62. They tied my hands behind me and took me down to the ground floor, where I found all my neighbors and relatives in the house's lower room. There were about 100 people there. I knew them all. But I didn't find my wife. After sitting down, a relative told me that the daughters of my relative Khaled Moneeb Abed-Rabbo had been shot dead.
63. Then I saw soldiers holding the ID cards of the detainees and asking about their children. They were selecting some of them, tying them up and sitting them down in a one place, and others in the place where I was sitting in the unfinished sitting room of the house. A little after 10 PM on Wednesday 7 January 2009, a soldier informed us that they were going to release us all, and that we had to walk towards the west without looking around or turning right or left until we reached the Al-Jurun area in Jabalia. We left together as one group, walking straight ahead, west down Izbet Abed-Rabbo Street. On the way I saw soldiers standing in houses and pointing their guns at us. I saw my house that had been destroyed completely and shed tears for it. My relatives accompanied me on the walk west, where the mosque was still standing, and the soldiers also still standing. I saw the beginning of the western Izbet Abed-Rabbo neighborhood, the As-Safadi industrial plants still there, unaffected. I saw the bodies of six martyrs in the main Street and on the sides of the street. When we arrived at the Zimmo junction, I saw a white horse and cart, and saw gunfire shoot at it, killing it. The cart was carrying two bags of flour. The blood spread on the cart and on the bags of flour.
64. We arrived at the entrance of east Jabalia, to the intersection of Mahaka Street and Mas'oud Street. We passed the Ministry of the Interior building in Jabalia, then to the Jurun roundabout and the entrance of south Jabalia camp. Our relatives met us there and took us to Akram Eid's house in Nuzha Street. There I slept for a long time, after learning that my wife was still in Izbet Abed-Rabbo. I woke up on Friday morning, January 9, 2009. On Saturday evening, my wife came from Izbet Abed-Rabbo, accompanied by my children. I was so relieved to see them. They had escaped under fire more than once. I learned from my wife that she had hidden from gunfire the first time in the house, and that the bullets had hit the house entrance. She had stayed there six hours, and then, carrying a white flag, gone outside and ran toward our relative Abu Maher Abed-Rabbo's house, and hid in it. Then she had gone to her family's house east of Izbet, holding the flag, and stayed there until she and her family and some neighbors and some of the families in the same street were released in a similar manner as we were released.
65. I still can't forget what happened to me, and I won't forget it. I have digestive problems. I have nightmares at night. I can't sleep. My wife has urological problems. My children have severe psychological disorders due to what happened to us. We don't know what we did to deserve this.

E. "Operation Cast Lead" (Gaza – December 2008 – January 2009)

The treatment of detainees

21. Name of victim: M.A.**Age at incident: 40****Affidavit collected by: HaMoked**

1. On 4 January 2009, the army entered Gaza and began to bomb the neighborhood. My brothers and I live in this area. The soldiers began to shoot at my house, a 4-story building, and also to launch sound bombs. My neighbor's house was burned to the ground, as was my brother's home. My neighbor and my brother came to my house. We were 22 people in the house. The women and children cried all the time. I was constantly screaming at the soldiers to stop shooting at us. We are civilians, farmers, why are they shooting at us? It didn't help.
2. The next morning (5 January), the soldiers banged on the door and I continued to scream at them not to shoot. They separated the men from the women and children. They told the women and children to go to Jabaliya. They blindfolded and handcuffed me, my three children, my brother, his four children and my brother-in-law.
3. They put us in a ditch about three meters deep and there were around 70 other people there. We were there for two days (5-6 January), without food, without blankets and without water. They also didn't allow us to go to the bathroom. No one spoke to us and the whole time, the bombing continued. We were close to the American University – near the entrance to Dugit.
4. Afterwards, they loaded us onto trucks. I felt like the trucks were taking us through rural areas and we were thrown from our seats, bruised and beaten from constantly falling. They brought us to another ditch, 500 meters from Zikim. There was an interrogation facility there. I was blindfolded and handcuffed the whole time. There, they interrogated us, one by one, for about an hour.
5. The interrogator spoke Arabic. They asked us if we knew anything about Hamas, the tunnels, the rocket launchers; if we had any connection with them. We stayed there 3 days (7-9 January) without food, without water, without blankets. It was freezing there. Even when we asked to go to the bathroom, no one listened to us and the whole time the soldiers beat up anyone who asked for anything.
6. After three days (10 January), they took all 20-25 people to a bus, still blindfolded and handcuffed. They took us to a huge shipping container next to Beer Sheva. There were about 140 people standing around the container. I was sure there was an airport nearby, as I heard the noise of many airplanes. There, they told us to undress and gave us army overalls. Afterwards, they took each of us, one by one, by car (handcuffed and blindfolded) to an interrogation room. It seemed to me like the driver purposely drove around a lot in order to disorient us, he often drove in reverse, the room where they brought us was in fact very close by.
7. Once there, I was interrogated by a Druze-Arab interrogator. He asked me about the rocket launchers, Hamas and the tunnels. He showed me pictures of houses and told me to point out which ones belonged to Hamas and if I didn't, my house would be destroyed. I told him that I'm just a farmer and I want to support my children. The interrogation continued for about an hour. I was there for two days (10-11 January). At

the end of the interrogation, the interrogator threatened that if I spoke about this to anyone, he knows where my house is, and would come and destroy it.

8. Before my release (11 January), they made me sign three forms in Hebrew. I had no idea what was written there and I didn't ask. I was afraid they would beat me, as anyone who asked anything was beaten.
9. Afterwards, they took us to a bus, handcuffed and blindfolded. They ordered us to keep our heads down the whole time. Anyone who lifted their head, was hit on the head by a soldier. My neck hurt so much that I felt like the drive took three days.
10. We arrived at Erez. We were about 86 people. The soldiers ordered us to take Balsam Road, which leads to Beit Lahiya, Beit Hanoun, and Jabaliya. We were not allowed to look back; a UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) hovered just above us. No one shot at us on the return journey.

2009

Denial of access to medical care

22. **Name of victim:** S. and two sons

Age at incident: Unknown, 28 and 18 years respectively

Report collected by: PHR-Israel

1. On 16 January 2009, S. and his two sons (28 and 18 years-old) were travelling to their home in Khan Yunis at noon.³ They were informed that a ceasefire would come into effect from 10:00 to 13:00 that day.
2. S. drove the car and at some point he saw two Israeli tanks on his left side. He waved to the soldiers, who waved back, and he proceeded. After about 200m, the car was hit by gunfire. The front windscreen of the car was hit by 22 bullets and Mr. Shurrab was hit in his upper left arm. He lost control over the car and stopped at the side of the street.
3. The soldiers were in a house about 40m in front of the car. The soldiers shouted at them and ordered them to leave the car. When the sons left the car, they were shot at by the soldiers, one in the face and one in the leg.
4. S. managed to grab his mobile phone and called 101; the ambulance centre told him that they were prohibited from coming to the area to rescue them. He asked the soldiers to give them first aid, but the answer was a warning shot. Mr. Shurrab then contacted his brother, who phoned the ambulance centre; they recommended that the brother inform

³ For a media description of this event see, e.g., Amira Hass, "Legal weapons also kill," *Haaretz*, 14 February 2009. Available at: <http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1057369.html> (accessed 16 March 2009).

the media, which he did. S. was then called several times by Al Jazeera and the BBC, while lying on the road with his sons. He was also called by PHR-Israel.⁴

5. It became dark and cold. S. approached the body of his older son and found him dead. At about 20:00, he took his younger son into the car to protect him from the cold; the son continued bleeding from his leg and he died at about 00:30.
6. They were about 1 km from the European Hospital. An ambulance arrived at 11:00am the next day, 23 hours after the shooting. S. was hospitalized for five days.⁵

2009

23. **Name of victim:** Maher S.

Age at incident: 17

Report collected by: Al Mezan Center

1. 17-year-old Maher S. died in Gaza on 25 January 2009 while awaiting clearance from Israel to receive treatment for leukemia in Israel.
2. Maher was diagnosed with leukemia at Shifa Hospital in Gaza City in May 2008. He was granted a referral to Israel, and after waiting 40 days, he was able to travel with his father to Tel HaShomer Hospital outside Tel Aviv in June 2008. There he underwent chemotherapy treatment, after which the doctors concluded that he needed a bone marrow transplant. His family travelled to the hospital to be tested for a suitable bone marrow match.
3. In November 2008, the transplant was carried out successfully. He returned to Gaza after a recovery period, however, in early January 2009 his condition began to deteriorate rapidly. Doctors at Shifa hospital told his family that it was imperative for him to return to Israel to carry out the treatment at Tel HaShomer. Maher's family submitted an urgent request for permission to enter Israel on 12 January 2009.
4. Maher passed away on 25 January 2009 without having received any response to his request.⁶

⁴ See also, Physicians for Human Rights-Israel, "Summaries of the cases of wounded and trapped people who applied to PHR-Israel for assistance in evacuation, 16-17 January 2009," 19 January 2009. Available at: <http://www.phr.org.il/phr/article.asp?articleid=691&catid=55&pcat=-1&lang=ENG>

⁵ See: Sebastian Van As; Alicia Vacas Moro; Ralf Syring; Jørgen Lange Thomsen; Shabbir Ahmed Wadee, "Independent fact-finding mission into violations of human rights in the Gaza Strip during the period 27 December 2008-18 January 2009," (due April 2009), Testimony 1.

⁶ For further testimonies, see Al Mezan, "The Targeting of Medical Centers, Ambulance Teams and Civil Defense Teams during the Israeli Offensive "Operation Cast Lead" against the Gaza Strip, 27 December 2008-18 January 2009," and Sebastian Van As; Alicia Vacas Moro; Ralf Syring; Jørgen Lange Thomsen; Shabbir Ahmed Wadee,

The targeting of health professionals

24. **Name of victim:** Dr Ihab Al-M., Mohammad H. and Hishmat A.

Age at incident: N/A

Report collected by: Al Mezan

1. Israeli warplanes launched at least one missile at an ambulance carrying a three person team at around 1:50 am on Wednesday, 31 December 2008. The team members were Dr. Ihab Al-M., 33 years old, the Director of Az-Zaytoun Clinic in Gaza City, the medic Mohammad H., 30 years old, and the ambulance driver, Hishmat A., 30 years old.
2. The medical team was going to the area of Jabal Al-Rais, located north east of Gaza City as they had received news of killings and injuries in the area. Upon arrival, and as soon as they got out of the car, they were hit by an Israeli missile which killed Mohammad, the medic, immediately. Dr. Al-Madhoun died later that morning from his injuries. The driver was seriously injured and taken to Kamal Udwan hospital north of the Gaza Strip.

2009

25. **Name of victim:** Anas N., Rifat A. and Yasser S.

Age at incident: 25, 25 and 24 years

Report collected by: Al Mezan

1. On Sunday, 4 January 2009 at around 16:00 in the afternoon, an Israeli plane fired one missile at an ambulance on route to rescue an injured person located east of Az-Zaytoun area. The attack killed three medics: Anas N., 25 years old, Rafat A., 25 years old, and Yasser S, 24 years old.

2009

26. **Name of victim:** Khaled S.

Age at incident:

Report collected by: Al Mezan

1. At around 22:20 on Sunday, 4 January 2009, in response to a telephone call to evacuate the wounded from an area located near Adawar Al-Gharbi in Beit Lahiya, I went to an ambulance belonging to Al-Awda Hospital, accompanied by two volunteer medics – Ala' S. and Arafah D.. We were all wearing ambulance uniforms bearing the distinguishing insignia.

2. As soon as we reached Addawar Al-Gharbi located east of Al-Atatara area, by the area of Al-Qura Al-Khamisa which the Israeli occupation forces had invaded, we headed south on Beit Lahiya West Street. When we arrived at the place, we saw a number of injured people in one of the streets on the road to the west; the street which lead to Abu Ubaida Ibin Al-Jarah Secondary School for Boys. Ala' and Arafah, the medics, got down to move the wounded people into the ambulance, as there were three injured people in the area, and I remained behind the wheel of the vehicle, ready to drive to the hospital.
3. The medics moved the first two injured persons, as there was no other ambulance in the area to take him. When they reached the back door of the ambulance, I went to get out of the car to help them. I was shocked by a powerful explosion hitting the rear of the ambulance. I fell out of the ambulance with the force of the explosion. After a few moments, I checked myself and found that I was injured in the head. I got up and went to the rear of the ambulance to check on my colleagues. I saw my colleague Arafah kneeling and saying the shehada 19⁷ and I saw the third injured person who was being carried to the ambulance by my colleagues lying on the ground without his head or legs. I did not find my colleague Ala behind the ambulance, and then I heard his voice calling for help. I followed the voice and found him lying in front of the ambulance.
4. I called Al-Awda Hospital and the Red Crescent on my mobile phone requesting help, and during this time my colleague Arafah was bleeding from the chest, hand and right leg. Ala was bleeding from different parts of his body and complaining about his legs.
5. Two military medical services ambulances arrived and I began to help the medic carry my colleague Arafah to the car. I returned towards the ambulance that I was working in and I found that the injured person in the side seat had been cut into pieces. The injured person who was on the stretcher was alive, and I found that the back door of the ambulance had been directly hit and it had a hole in it around 50 cm.
6. I was taken with Arafah in a medical services ambulance to Al-Awda hospital. He was taken to the operation room immediately upon arrival. At around 13:45, he was pronounced dead. I found that I had been injured lightly, so I went back to work three days later.
7. After the Israeli forces withdrew from the area, I returned to the place of the incident. I noticed that the location in which the ambulance had been fired upon was visible from the site where Israeli tanks had been stationed. Because of this, I think that the shell that hit us was the shell of a tank that was watching us; and I think that their crew could see the ambulance, and the insignia on it and on our clothes, and that they had time and capability to see the ambulance team attempting to move the injured.

⁷ A prayer.

27. **Name of victim:** Yasser S., Rafat A and Hazim Al-B.

Age at incident: Unknown

Affidavit collected by: Al Mezan

1. I have worked as an ambulance driver for the Ministry of the Interior medical services for about a year. At around 15:15 on Sunday, 4 January 2009, a telephone call was received from an unknown person saying that there were injured people on Street 10 in Tel Al-Hawa, west of Gaza City on the stretch of Al-Sina'a Street on the land of the Al-Dahdouh family.
2. On receipt of the information, two ambulances went towards the place. My colleague Yahia Hussein, the ambulance driver, was leading the procession, along with my colleagues Yasser S. and Rafat A. It took us around ten minutes to get to the place. There were also Israeli tanks in the area of the former settlement "Nizarim" heading west in the direction of the sea.
3. We arrived at the place and went with the two ambulances into a side street, south of Ahmed Yaseen junction into land owned by the Quz'at family. We went west towards the house of the Al-Buradi family at the end of the street, where we saw a child of around 12 years old. I later found out that his name is Omar Al-B. He was standing in the Shammalakh family land and he was calling in a loud voice to the ambulance team, then he pointed to the location of the injured people in the Shammalakh land in the south. So, I went with the ambulance I was driving and the second ambulance was following behind me. When I got there I backed up the car to bring its rear towards the injured people to make the task of my colleagues easier and to make it faster to get to the hospital. My colleague Anas N. got down from the second car. They were carrying stretchers and wearing medical team uniforms (fluorescent orange) with a medical insignia on the front and back and phosphorus belts that light up at night.
4. Then, my colleague Yahia H., the driver in the second ambulance, called to tell me that that the ambulance he was driving was stuck in the ground and the wheels were turning in their place. I opened the door of my ambulance and went to get out, and then I heard the sound of an extremely powerful explosion behind the ambulance I was driving; I was thrown out of the ambulance involuntarily. I looked behind it and I saw black smoke and dust rising from the place of the explosion; I wasn't able to see for a few moments. I was in a state of panic and began to call "Shabab, shabab (guys, guys), where are you?" and then about ten meters away, I saw my medic colleagues who were torn into pieces.
5. I looked at the second ambulance and saw it withdrawing away towards the east, so I called my colleague Yahia who was driving it. I caught it up after around 40 meters, and another explosion went off in the place that I had been standing the first time. I got in the ambulance and while I and my colleague Yahia were leaving the area, I heard the sound of a number of explosions in the same place. The car that I had got down from was still

running with the emergency lights on and my colleague and I went back to the ambulance center at Al Wi'am hospital in Tel Al-Hawa.

6. I told the unit manager, Jamal S., what had happened to us, so he immediately called the ICRC and told them what happened. The ICRC promised to try to retrieve the two bodies of my colleagues. After around an hour, there was coordination with the Red Crescent ambulances, and so the Red Crescent ambulances went to get the bodies of my colleagues.
7. I went with some of my colleagues to wait for them in Shifa Hospital. Around an hour after they left, the Red Crescent ambulances arrived carrying the body of my colleague Yasser S., 23 years old. My colleague Anas N., 20 years old, was very seriously injured; his chest was torn apart by shrapnel of the shell launched at us. He died around half an hour after his arrival at Shifa hospital. The Red Crescent medics were unable to bring the body of my third colleague, Rafat A., 20 years old, because his body was not in the place.
8. The next day, during the hours of the "lull" at around 14:00 a Red Crescent ambulance went to bring his body, and the body of the child Omar Al-B., who had been calling the medical teams to rescue the wounded when we first arrived at the place. They brought Rafat's body without a head. The next day some people brought his head and I learned from them that his head had been around 100 meters away from his body.

2009

28. **Name of victim:** Unknown
Age at incident: N/A
Report collected by: Al Mezan

1. On Monday, 5 January 2009, at around 17:30, Israeli tanks invading Beit Lahiya fired at two Red Crescent ambulances causing partial damage. The two ambulances were on their way to evacuate the injured and retrieve the bodies of people killed in Al-Atatara area after arranging coordination through the ICRC.

2009

29. **Name of victim:** Hasan A.
Age at incident: N/A
Report collected by: Al Mezan

1. I have worked as an ambulance driver at the Palestinian Red Crescent, at the Jabalya ambulance center for ten years.
2. On Wednesday 7 January 2009, at around 13.00, I received a telephone call from one of the employees at the Red Crescent ambulance center saying that someone had been killed

in the Zimmo junction area east of Jabalya, next to the Red Crescent on Izbet Abed Rabbo Street. Israeli forces were invading Izbet Abed Rabbo.

3. I went in the ambulance with my colleague, Fayiz A. We arrived at the place around five minutes after being informed. As soon as we arrived, I found the body of the victim lying on the ground. He was a civilian of around 35-years-old. I don't know his name. I knew that Israeli forces were on top of people's houses and on the roofs of high buildings in Izbet Abed Rabbo.
4. I and my colleague Fayiz got out of the ambulance. We picked up the stretcher and went towards the body of the victim who was lying on the ground towards the east. We picked up the body and put him on the stretcher; then we walked for around three meters towards the ambulance in a western direction. Then, the Israeli soldiers began to fire intensely in the direction of me and my colleague from the roofs of the houses on Izbet Abed Rabbo Street as we were carrying the body and walking towards the ambulance.
5. My colleague and I were wearing insignia specific to medics (the color orange with the Red Crescent sign on it). Due to the intensity of the fire, we had to leave the body and run towards the ambulance for protection. During that time, I felt a severe pain in my left leg. When I checked my leg I saw blood pouring out of an entry and exit bullet wound. My colleague, Fayiz, took me to Al-Awda Hospital in Tel Az-Zaatar.”⁸

The deliberate targeting of civilians

30. **Name of victim:** Rawhiyya A.

Age at incident: Unknown

Report collected by: B'Tselem

1. On 12 January 2009, at around 8:00 a.m., in Khuza'a in the southern Gaza Strip, soldiers shot a woman (Ms. Rawhiyya A. carrying a white flag, and injured others after they ordered residents to leave their houses.⁹
2. Ms. Nuha A. describes the events: *“The soldiers called out, on a loudspeaker, to leave the area. I told Rawhiya that we had to leave the house with all the others. Around 8:00 a.m., we left. She went out first, holding a white flag. We all followed her. After walking a few meters, I told Rawhiya that I saw soldiers in the house of Fares Suliman a-Najar, next to us. A moment after that, I heard one shot and saw Rawhiya fall. Yasmin N., 23,*

⁸ For addition testimonies see, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, “The Targeting of Medical Centers, Ambulance Teams and Civil Defense Teams during the Israeli Offensive “Operation Cast Lead” against the Gaza Strip, 27 December 2008-18 January 2009,” pp. 22-25.

⁹ Testimony gathered by B'Tselem, available at: http://www.btselem.org/english/testimonies/20090112_soldiers_shot_woman_waving_white_flag_in_khuzaa.asp.

who was with us, tried to care for her, but soldiers also fired at her, hitting her in the leg. We all ran back and entered a nearby house belonging to our neighbor.”¹⁰

2009

31. **Name of victim:** Atiyyah S.

Age at incident: Unknown

Report collected by: B'Tselem

1. On 3 January 2009, Israeli soldiers entered the house of Mr. Atiyyah S. in Gaza City and killed him by shooting at him at a distance of three meters in front of his family.
2. The soldiers also injured other members of his family: *“Just as he reached the door, soldiers entered the yard. They stood about 3-4 meters from my father and ordered him to put his hands up. The second he raised his hands, a group of about 10 soldiers, with paint on their faces and branches on their shoulders, fired more than 20 bullets at him, and he fell.*
3. *The soldiers didn’t stop and fired also into the room at family members. The bullets struck my mother, who was hit in the back, Ahmad, who was wounded in the chest, Kan’an, who was hit in the thigh, ‘Abdallah, who was wounded in the thigh, Amal, who was wounded in the legs by shrapnel, and Faraj, who was hit in the head. I wasn’t wounded.*
4. *Then the soldiers came into the house and broke down the door to the second room. One of them threw something inside that exploded, and the room went up in flames. My father lay there bleeding, and we began to choke from the smoke coming from the other room.*
5. *We wanted to go out, but the soldiers didn't let us. Faraj said to the soldiers, “Katan, katan” [“small” in Hebrew]. One of the soldiers aimed a rifle with a flashlight on us and ordered us to go into the kitchen. We were there for 5-7 minutes and after that, the soldiers ordered us to leave the house. The brothers and sisters who weren’t injured helped the others. I picked up Ahmad, who was bleeding from the chest. We left my father’s body in the house.*
6. *The soldiers ordered us to walk straight, without looking right or left. We walked about 700 meters, to Salah-a-Din Street. There were soldiers on the roof of our neighbor’s house, and they ordered us to remove our clothes. We did that, and then they ordered us to get dressed and walk in the opposite direction, not toward Gaza, but toward Netzarim.*

¹⁰ Ibid.

I told them that I wanted to take my wounded siblings to the hospital, but they didn't agree.”¹¹

2009

¹¹ Testimony gathered by B'Tselem available at:
http://www.btselem.org/English/Testimonies/20090104_Soldiers_kill_Atiyah_a_Samuni_witness_Fahed_a_Samuni.asp.