



Factsheet

Violation of Children's Rights in the Gaza Strip

01 May – 31 July 2013

This factsheet describes violations of children's rights in the Gaza Strip in accordance with the Monitoring & Reporting Mechanism on grave violations of children's rights in situations of armed conflict, which was adopted by the Security Council in its Resolution No. 1612 (2005). This Mechanism requires monitoring and documentation of killing and maiming of children, recruitment and use of children by armed forces or armed groups, attacks on schools or hospitals, rape or other sexual violence, forced deportation of children, abduction of children, and denial of humanitarian access. This factsheet covers the period from 01 May– 31 July 2013.

1. Deaths

During the reporting period, 3 children were killed¹ in incidents related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons in the Gaza Strip.

- On 17 May 2013, Basmah Naser Mohammed Saleh (13), from al-Bureij refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip, was killed by a bullet in the head. While she was in the balcony of her house, a family dispute erupted and one of the family members fired into the air in attempt to end the dispute. She was evacuated to al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir al-Balah, where she was pronounced dead.
- On 24 June 2013, Anas Mohammed Khalil Tamous (4), from Khan Yunis, was killed by a bullet in the chest in a quarrel between the families of Katou'a and Mahdi in Gaza. It should be mentioned that the child was with his mother on a visit to his grandfather's house.
- On 13 July 2013, Yousif Shadi Yousif Darwish (3), from al-Nusairat refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip, died of a wound he sustained to the head while playing in his family house yard. He was first taken to al-Aqsa Martyrs' Hospital in Deir al-Balah. Due to the seriousness of his injury, he was then transferred to Shifa Hospital, where he was pronounced dead at approximately 01:15 on Saturday, 13 July 2013. According to investigations conducted by the Palestinian police, Darwish was hit by a bullet in the head by an unknown source, and the police conducted investigations to identify the source of fire.

¹ This factsheet does not include the death of a child, aged 16 years old, from Shati'a refugee camp in Gaza, as she fell from the fourth floor of her family house. According to medical sources, she sustained fracture to the skull resulting in internal bleeding, which causes her death.

2. Injuries

During the reporting period, 6 children, aged 2 – 17, were injured in the Gaza Strip in incidents violating children's rights. According to PCHR's investigations, the six children were injured in incidents related to the state of security chaos and misuse of weapons in the Gaza Strip.

- On 08 May 2013, Nasha'at 'Alaa' Mo'in Kaskin (15), from al-Shati'a refugee camp in Gaza, was injured by a bullet in the abdomen. His father said that at approximately 09:30 on Wednesday, 08 May 2013, his son went to his neighbor's house, from 'Alyan family, and his friend, one of the family members, and he went up to the house roof. His friend was cleaning a gun when a bullet was accidentally fired and hit the boy. The child was taken to Shifa Hospital in Gaza to receive medical treatment, and medical sources at hospital described his injury as serious.
- On 17 May 2013, Amani Naser Mohammed Saleh (17), from al-Bureij refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip, was injured by a bullet to the palm of the right hand. While she was in the balcony of her house, a family quarrel erupted and a person fired into the air to end the quarrel.
- On 28 May 2013, Samir Ahmed Mohammed al-Borsh (31) from Jabalia in the northern Gaza strip, and his three children, Amal (11); Mahmoud (3) and Mohammed (2), sustained superficial shrapnel injuries and bruises all over their bodies due to the explosion of an explosive device inside their house. They were transferred to Martyr Kamal 'Edwan Hospital in Beit Lahiah to receive medical treatment. Medical sources at the hospital described their injuries as minor. According to the Palestinian police, the explosive device was not identified, and they opened investigations in order to discover the nature of the explosion.
- On 21 June 2013, Samih Suheil Khalil Nejem (17) from Gaza was injured by 3 bullets to the left leg while Palestinian officers were chasing him in order to arrest him following a quarrel between him and his brother, whom he attacked. According to Palestinian police sources, Nejem refused to surrender, and tried to attack one of the police officers, whom he threatened with death in case of arresting him. This led one of the police officers to shoot and then arrest him.

Violations of Children's Rights in the Gaza Strip 01 May– 31 July 2013

| Month | Deaths | Injuries | Arrests | Access to Education Services | Access to Health Services | Forced Displacement | Kidnapping |
|-------------------------|--------|----------|---------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| May, June and July 2013 | 3 | 6 | - | - | - | - | - |