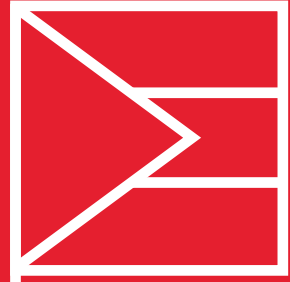


Israel's Ethnic and Religious Cleansing of Jerusalem

March 2026



London | Washington



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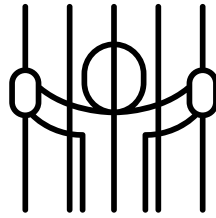
01	Israel's Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinians from Jerusalem 5	05	Israeli Attacks Against Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem 21
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At a glance

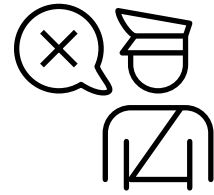
In occupied Jerusalem, from 2021 to 2025, the IOF and Israeli settlers have:¹



Killed
144
Palestinians



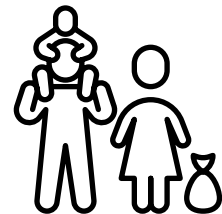
Arrested
11,555
Palestinians



Deported
2,386
Palestinians



Demolished
1,732
Palestinian
buildings



Displaced
33
Bedouin
communities

In 2025 alone, Israeli settlers made **73,871** attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.²

“The [IOF forces] broke the windows of the mosque and started throwing stun grenades at us. There were young children, elderly men, and women stuck inside. Another group came through a door and started firing tear gas, stun grenades and rubber-coated bullets at the people. They attacked the people, beating them on the head with sticks ... people fainted, people suffocated, people were bleeding. Then they started arresting us. Huge numbers of people were taken. They kept swearing at us the whole time, pushing us onto buses that took us to the police station in Atarot where we were made to lie on the floor with our hands cuffed behind us.”

Bakr Owais

a Palestinian student at Birzeit University who was worshipping at Al-Aqsa Mosque during an attack in Ramadan in 2023.³



01

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Israel's Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinians from Jerusalem



01

Israel's Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinians from Jerusalem

For decades, the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) and illegal settlers have sought to ethnically cleanse Palestinians from Jerusalem and occupy their land.⁴

Simultaneously, new construction projects encircling Jerusalem – such as the E1 settlement plan – aim to sever Palestinians in Jerusalem from the occupied

West Bank, preventing Palestinian access to Jerusalem and dividing communities.⁵

Israel's ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from Jerusalem is not a new phenomenon, but rather a central focus of the Zionist project since its inception, and has continued unabated since the Nakba.⁶

1948

During the Nakba, Zionist terrorists destroyed 38 Palestinian villages in the district of Jerusalem and ethnically cleansed their inhabitants, including over 80,000 Palestinians from neighbourhoods in West Jerusalem alone.⁷

These areas included Baq'a and Talbiya, al-Maliha, Lifta, Deir Yassin, and Ein Karem.⁸

1967

Following Israel's occupation of East Jerusalem after the Naksa, the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) demolished 125 houses and forcibly displaced their inhabitants, to construct the plaza in front of the Western Wall.⁹

1982

Despite being promised full ownership rights to their land by 1959, the ownership status of the 28 Palestinian families in Karm Al-Jaoni in occupied East Jerusalem was not recognised by Israel and they were designated merely as tenants without ownership claims for their properties.¹⁰

2000 – 2008

The IOF demolished more than 670 Palestinian homes in occupied East Jerusalem.¹¹

2003

Nahalat Shimon, a US-based charity with the express purpose of “Judaising” Jerusalem – a euphemism for forcibly displacing Palestinians and colonising all of the city – registered its ownership over Palestinian homes in Sheikh Jarrah, in an escalation attempt to expel Palestinian families from Sheikh Jarrah and build a Jewish settlement of 200 residential units.¹²

2008 – 2009

IOF forces forcibly displaced the Ghawi, Um Kamel, and Hannoun families in Karm Al-Jaoni, Sheikh Jarrah, and supported settler incursions into the house extension of the Al-Kurd family.¹³

Since 2009, the Al-Kurd family has been forced to share their house, and use the same entrance, with changing groups of settlers brought in by Nahalat Shimon and other similar organisations.¹⁴

Israel's Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinians from Jerusalem continued...

2012

From 1967 to 2012, the IOF demolished at least 2,000 Palestinian homes in occupied East Jerusalem.¹⁵

2013

The IOF destroyed 72 Palestinian homes in occupied East Jerusalem, leaving 301 Palestinians homeless, including 176 children.¹⁶

2019

The Abu 'Asab family was forcibly displaced from their home where the family had lived since 1952, after a legal battle of over four years.¹⁷

2020

The occupation's Magistrate Court accepted a petition brought by Nahalat Shimon to evict the Al-Kurd, Iskafi, Al-Qassim and the Al-Jauni families from their homes in Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood.¹⁸

Later the same year, the court issued a forced eviction order against the Al-Daoudi, Dajani and Hammad families.¹⁹

2021

In May, Palestinian families in Sheikh Jarrah, a neighbourhood in occupied East Jerusalem, began protesting against Israel's plan to forcibly evict them from their homes to make way for illegal Israeli settlers.²⁰

In support of the demonstrations in Sheikh Jarrah, thousands of Palestinians across occupied Palestine held their own protests in support of the families, and against their shared experiences of ethnic cleansing and ongoing Nakba.²¹

The plot of land where a forcibly displaced Sheikh Jarrah resident, Um Kamel, had built her solidarity tent was seized by the occupation's municipality purportedly for a public park.²²

2022

Following sustained protests and global solidarity demonstrations, the occupation's Supreme Court temporarily annulled the Magistrate Court's ruling against the Al Kurd, Iskafi, Al-Qassim and the Al-Jauni families.²³

2025

The Israeli Ministry of Housing signed an agreement to fund infrastructure construction for the illegal E1 settlement that will sever Jerusalem from the occupied West Bank.²⁴

Israel's Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinians from Jerusalem continued...

2026

In February, Israel unveiled a development plan to the northeast of Jerusalem to build 2,570 housing units between the illegal Israeli settlements of Geva Binyamin (Adam) and Neve Yaakov in occupied East Jerusalem, effectively marking the first expansion of Jerusalem's boundaries since 1967.²⁶

The OCHA warned of “irreparable harm” and the “irreversible de-Palestinianisation” of Jerusalem through escalating levels of systematic slaughter of Palestinians, large-scale demolitions, and forced displacement.²⁷

Increased numbers of checkpoints and road closures have effectively severed Jerusalem from the occupied West Bank, preventing Palestinians living outside Jerusalem from entering the city.²⁸

In March, Kurdish-Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir announced that Israeli residents across all Israeli neighbourhoods in occupied Jerusalem will be eligible to obtain gun licences based solely on where they live, significantly expanding access to firearms in the city.²⁹

These guns are specifically for the purpose of attacking Palestinians – especially during Ramadan when Israeli attacks against Palestinians increase substantially – as Ben-Gvir stated: “Especially during the war and during the month of Ramadan, the residents of Jerusalem have a basic right to protect themselves and their families.”³⁰

“When we went inside, we found the house in a shocking state, everything was topsy turvy and strewn about, and some of the furniture was ruined. Two settlers were sitting on the broken furniture in the middle of the house. [...] I was overwhelmed with sadness when I went inside and saw two settlers sitting in my home. This is the home where I was born and raised, where I got married and had children. It is the home that holds memories of my grandparents, parents, brothers and sisters, my wife and children. We were at home for about two hours, with a police escort. We took only the most essential items and left.”

Hatem Abu

a Palestinian father of six who was forcibly displaced from his home in the Old City of Jerusalem in February 2019.³¹



02

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Israel's Occupation of East Jerusalem



02

Israel's Occupation of East Jerusalem

Israel has illegally occupied East Jerusalem since 1967.³²

Since this occupation, Israel has worked to restrict and reduce the Palestinian population while increasing the Jewish population, part of a plan to cement control and 'Judaize' the city, by:³³

- Restricting the ability of Palestinians to build or expand homes in East Jerusalem by making it almost impossible for them to obtain construction permits.³⁴
- Destroying Palestinian homes, businesses, and other structures that are built without Israeli permits – which are not granted to Palestinians, leaving them with no choice but to build without permits.³⁵
- Aggressively encouraging Jewish settlers to move to East Jerusalem in violation of international law, often forcing Palestinians out their homes in the process.³⁶
- Building an apartheid wall on occupied Palestinian land, deemed illegal by the International Court of Justice in 2004, that cuts Palestinian neighbourhoods off from Jerusalem and severs it geographically from the West Bank.³⁷
- Systematically discriminating against Palestinian neighbourhoods when it comes to municipal planning and the allocation of funding and services, starving them of resources.³⁸
- Revoking residency rights and social benefits of Palestinians who stay outside Jerusalem for seven years or more to study or work, or who are unable to prove that their 'centre of life' is Jerusalem.³⁹
- Denying Palestinian residents of occupied East Jerusalem access to the venerated Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and Christian holy sites like the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.⁴⁰
- Denying millions of Muslim and Christian Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, occupied Gaza, and the diaspora, the right to visit East Jerusalem and worship at its holy sites.⁴¹

Across occupied East Jerusalem, there are over 230,000 illegal Israeli settlers residing across 14 settlements on stolen Palestinian land.⁴² These settlements cover 35 percent of the land in occupied East Jerusalem.⁴³

Since 1967, over 14,600 Palestinian residents of Jerusalem have had their residency rights revoked, and more than 5,000 Palestinian homes have been destroyed over lack of permits which are not granted to Palestinian residents.⁴⁴

Currently, around 1,000 Palestinians in occupied East Jerusalem are being threatened with forced displacement from their homes by settler groups and the Israeli government.⁴⁵

“We were forced out of the Al-Aqsa Mosque after the dawn prayer. Then Jewish settlers started to enter. After we saw two groups of them, we started to chant, and the Israeli forces tried to detain me. They are invading in big numbers. During this holiday (Ramadan) it is known every year that they, the Jewish visitors, invade Al-Aqsa Mosque. I am calling on everyone who can reach Al-Aqsa’s gates to come and support us.”

A Palestinian man worshipping at Al-Aqsa Mosque during Ramadan prayers.⁴⁶



03

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Israeli Attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque



© Menahem Kahana, AFP

Israeli Attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque

For Palestinians, Al-Aqsa Mosque is not just a religious site, but a symbol of Palestinian political, religious, and national identity.⁴⁷

The IOF and violent Israeli settlers have repeatedly attacked Al-Aqsa Mosque, through violent raids and brutality against Palestinian worshippers, forcibly entering sites of Islamic worship, preventing Palestinian worshippers from entering the compound, and conducting digging activities beneath Al-Aqsa Mosque in attempts to destroy it.⁴⁸

The Temple Mount Movement

Since the early 2000s, an increasingly mainstream group of Israeli Jewish supremacists have been encroaching on Al-Aqsa (Al-Haram Al-Sharif) Mosque complex, the third holiest site in Islam and where only Muslims are allowed to pray.⁴⁹

With funding and protective support from the Israeli government and IOF, the so-called 'Temple Mount movement' aims to build a Jewish temple for exclusive Jewish use inside the 1,300-year-old Al-Aqsa Mosque complex in occupied East Jerusalem and destroy the Al-Aqsa compound.⁵⁰

The Temple Mount Movement includes groups such as:

The Temple Institute

- The government-funded Temple Institute runs a museum and visitors' centre in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City near Al-Aqsa and is the most mainstream group in the movement.⁵¹ It is actively working towards building a temple in Al-Aqsa, including making plans with an architect, training priests, and making vessels for ritual use in temple ceremonies, and indoctrinating Israeli schoolchildren with the belief that building a temple in Al-Aqsa is a religious and national imperative.⁵²

- The institute's head, Rabbi Yisrael Ariel, previously ran for the Knesset in the 1980s with the overtly racist, fascist Kach party, second on the electoral list after its notorious leader, Meir Kahane.⁵³ Kahane's Kach party, Jewish Defence League, and offshoots carried out multiple terrorist attacks.⁵⁴ In 1983, Ariel was arrested on suspicion of plotting to take over the Al-Aqsa compound – just one year later he established the institute.⁵⁵

Return to the Mount

- One of the most extreme and dangerous Temple Mount groups, Return to the Mount, engages in provocations like attempting to sacrifice animals in the Al-Aqsa compound and offering money to any Jew who does so or is arrested trying.⁵⁶ Members also disguise themselves as Muslims to enter the compound and pray.⁵⁷ Return to the Mount is closely associated with the extremist Kahanist movement and Lehava group.⁵⁸

The Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement

- One of the oldest Temple Mount groups, the Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement openly calls for the removal of the Dome of the Rock shrine and Al-Aqsa Mosque, declaring on its website: "The Temple Mount can never be consecrated to the Name of G-d without removing these pagan shrines. It has been suggested that they be removed, transferred to, and rebuilt at Mecca."⁵⁹

Israeli Attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque continued...

From 2010 to 2015, the Temple Institute and an associated group received approximately \$361,000 from the Israeli Ministry of Education and about \$210,000 from the Israeli Ministry of Culture and Sports.⁶⁰

Temple Mount extremists also receive funding from foreign-based registered charitable groups, including in the US, Canada, and the UK, making contributions to them tax deductible in those countries.⁶¹ They also receive support from right-wing evangelical Christian groups.⁶²

Rabbis increasingly approve of and encourage Jews to visit the compound and urge the Israeli government to allow them to pray openly there.⁶³ By 2016, the movement had become so mainstream that Israel's Chief Ashkenazi Rabbi David Lau publicly declared that he wanted to see a temple built in the Al-Aqsa compound.⁶⁴

Knesset members have also held official debates, committee hearings, and introduced legislation, to force the compound open to Jewish prayer and impose full Israeli control over it.⁶⁵

Since at least 2019, members of the movement have made frequent visits to Al-Aqsa Mosque compound to pray accompanied by paramilitary IOF police protection, and offer money to Jews who pray there.⁶⁶ They have also dressed up as Muslims to enter the compound before performing Jewish rituals inside.⁶⁷

They have also attempted to enter the compound to slaughter animals on Passover and have offered money to anyone who succeeds in doing so or is arrested trying.⁶⁸

Members of the Temple Mount also march through the Muslim and Christian quarters of the Old City of East Jerusalem near Al-Aqsa compound chanting, "The Temple will be built, burn the mosque" and "Muhammad is dead!" and wearing shirts depicting the destruction of Al-Aqsa Mosque and a Jewish temple in its place.⁶⁹

Israeli Attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque continued...

Attacks on Palestinian Worshippers

IOF and settler attacks against Palestinian worshippers, and restrictions on Muslims' access to the complex have been steadily increasing in number and intensity in recent years.⁷⁰ In the 1990s, settler incursions into the compound were rare. However, tens of thousands of settlers now raid the site each year under IOF protection.⁷¹

Major attacks on Palestinian worshippers at Al-Aqsa compound include:

1990

IOF killed 17 Palestinians and injured over 150 others during protests after Temple Mount extremists announced plans to lay a cornerstone for a temple in the compound.⁷²

2000

Ex-Israeli general and then-opposition leader Ariel Sharon visited Al-Aqsa compound to assert Jewish-Israeli sovereignty over the complex, accompanied by hundreds of riot police.⁷³ In ensuing protests, IOF killed dozens of Palestinians and wounded hundreds more, sparking the Second Intifada.⁷⁴

2014

The IOF forcibly closed Al-Aqsa Mosque for the first time since 1967.⁷⁵

2015

Israel passed a regulation outlawing the Murabitat and Mourabitoun, Palestinians who defended Al-Aqsa Mosque from attack.⁷⁶

2016

Several Palestinians are injured by IOF during protests against Jewish incursions into Al-Aqsa compound.⁷⁷

2017

The IOF shut down Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, cancelling Friday prayers for the first time since 1969.⁷⁸

2018

Hundreds of illegal Israeli settlers storm Al-Aqsa compound under IOF protection.⁷⁹

2019

IOF soldiers use tear gas and rubber-coated bullets on Muslim worshippers, injuring many.⁸⁰

2021

IOF storm Al-Aqsa compound during Ramadan, injuring hundreds of Palestinians.⁸¹

2022

IOF injure over 100 Palestinians and arrest hundreds more in a raid of Al-Aqsa Mosque during Ramadan.⁸²

2025

In 2025 alone, Israeli settlers attacked Al-Aqsa Mosque compound 73,871 times.⁸³

2026

The IOF forcibly closed Al-Aqsa Mosque for nearly two weeks during Ramadan, obstructing thousands of Palestinians from prayers, including two consecutive Friday prayers and nightly Tarawih prayers.⁸⁴

“Especially during Ramadan, access limitations have gravely curtailed Palestinians’ ability to participate in religious life. These acts must be understood in their totality: the ethnic cleansing of Palestine, by whatever means, whatever the cost and whatever crimes it takes. This environment is coercing Palestinians to leave their homes and life in a city where their roots run deep.”

UN experts and special rapporteurs,
in a press release on 6 March 2026.⁸⁵



04

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The 2021 Unity Intifada



The 2021 Unity Intifada

Palestinian protests began in April 2021 after IOF restrictions on access to the popular public space of Jerusalem's Damascus Gate during Ramadan.⁸⁶

In May, the attempt by Israeli settlers and the Israeli courts to forcibly evict Palestinians from their homes in the neighbourhood of Sheikh Jarrah in occupied East Jerusalem inspired more protests, escalating still further after repeated attacks by Israeli police on worshippers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.⁸⁷

The IOF injured at least 100 Palestinian worshippers in Al-Aqsa compound, and over 1,000 Palestinians in occupied East Jerusalem.⁸⁸

Over the following weeks, Palestinians across occupied Palestine protested in solidarity and shared struggle with Palestinians in Sheikh Jarrah, including Palestinians in occupied cities like Haifa, Jaffa, and Lydd. These protests and demonstrations were met with violent repression from the IOF.⁸⁹

These protests would culminate in the IOF's bombardment of the besieged Gaza Strip for 11-days from 6 to 21 May, in which the IOF massacred over 260 Palestinians.⁹⁰

On 18 May, Palestinians staged a historic General Strike, and circulated The Dignity and Hope Manifesto of the Unity Intifada, detailing the goals and vision of the uprising.⁹¹

The manifesto stated:

“In these days, we write a new chapter, a chapter of a united Intifada that seeks our one and only goal: reuniting Palestinian society in all of its different parts; reuniting our political will, and our means of struggle to confront Zionism throughout Palestine.

This long Intifada is, at its heart, an Intifada of consciousness. It is an Intifada to overthrow the filth of quietude and defeatism. Because of it, the brave generations to come will have been raised, once again, on the fundamental principle of our unity. It will stand in the face of all the elites working to deepen and entrench the divisions in and between our communities. This Intifada will be a long one in the streets of Palestine and in streets around the world; an intifada that fights the hand of injustice wherever it tries to reach, that fights the batons of cruel regimes wherever they try to strike. This is an Intifada of bared chests and foreheads held high armed with revolutionary goals, deep knowledge and understanding, and the organizational toil and commitment of every individual and collective in the face the bullets of the Israeli occupation wherever they are fired.”⁹²

“Over the weekend, starting on Friday, almost 500 Palestinians were arrested by the Israeli Occupation Authorities from Al-Aqsa Mosque and 170 were injured. [...] This is not particularly a unique incident; colonial violence is the norm in occupied Jerusalem, and we see this kind of escalation and violations happen in Al-Aqsa Mosque constantly. What is particularly alarming here is the Israeli Occupation Authorities’ attempt to install a new status quo, similar to the one in the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron, where Palestinian Muslims are forced to share their holy site, their 980-year-old mosque, with Jewish settlers. And it should raise eyebrows because Al-Aqsa Mosque and Damascus Gate are maybe the only remaining public spaces for Palestinians in the entirety of Jerusalem, where Palestinian existence is criminalised.”

Mohammed El-Kurd

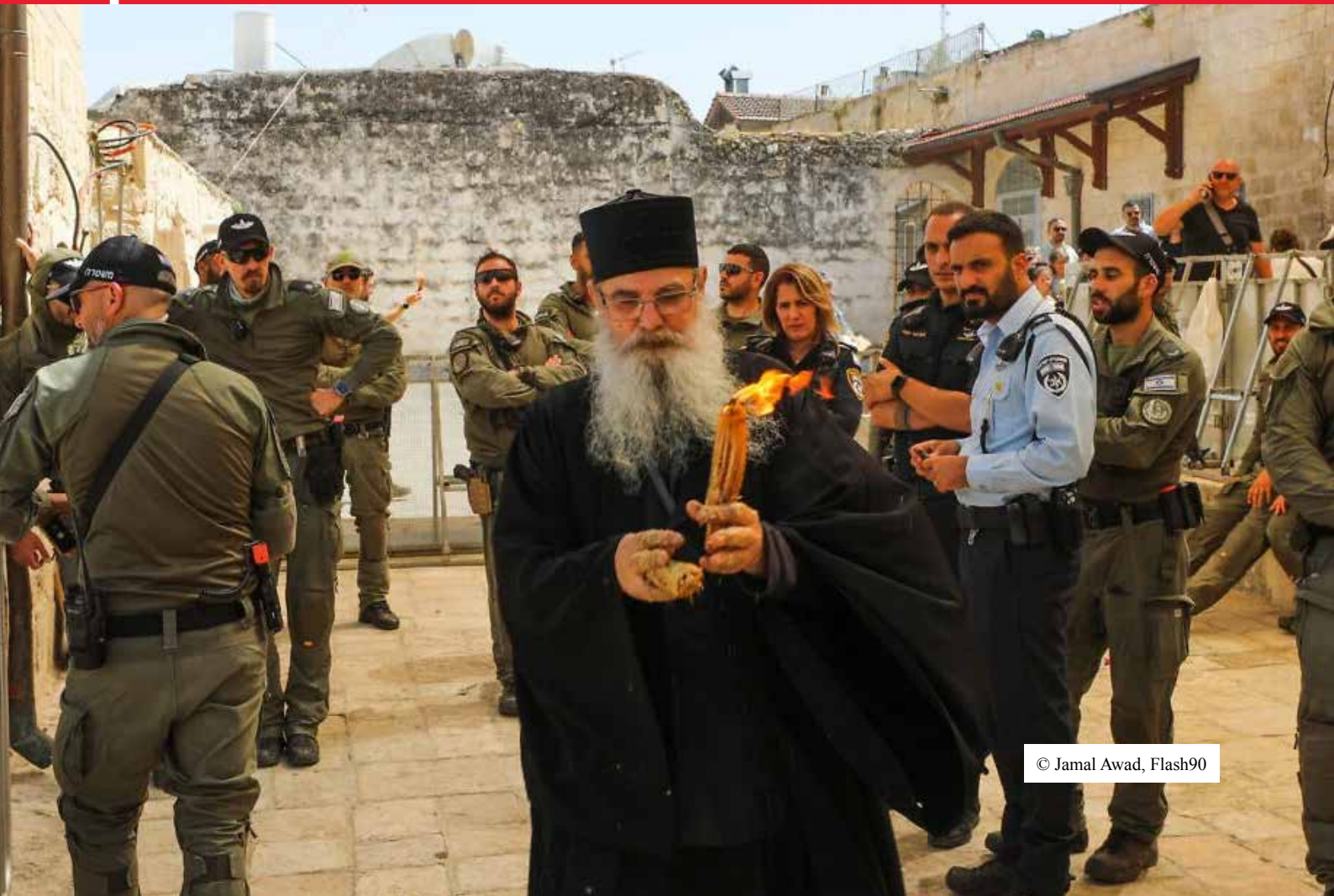
Palestinian poet and writer
from occupied East Jerusalem.⁹³



05

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Israeli Attacks Against Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem



Israeli Attacks Against Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem

Between 8,000 and 10,000 Palestinian Christians live in occupied East Jerusalem, primarily in the Christian Quarter of the Old City and neighbourhoods like Beit Hanina.⁹⁴

IOF forces and Israeli Jewish supremacists have repeatedly attacked Palestinian Christians attempting to celebrate Christian religious holidays in Jerusalem.⁹⁵

From 2024 to 2025 alone, IOF forces and Israeli Jewish supremacists committed at least 137 attacks against Palestinian Christians in the Old City.⁹⁶

For example, in June 2025, a group of Israelis were filmed attacking the Armenian Monastery and Christian holy sites during a raid on the Armenian Quarter in the Old City of East Jerusalem, which has come under attack numerous times.⁹⁷

Jewish supremacists also regularly spit and curse at Christian clergy in the streets of Jerusalem's Old City, becoming so prevalent that some priests have stopped visiting certain areas of the Old City.⁹⁸

IOF forces also prevent Palestinian Christians from practicing their faith by placing restrictions on Palestinian movement and access to religious sites.⁹⁹ It is no longer possible for Palestinian Christians to organise ritual walks from Bethlehem to Jerusalem on certain feasts, due to IOF checkpoints and permit restrictions.¹⁰⁰

These restrictions reach their peak on the holiest days of the Christian calendar, particularly in the days before Easter, when churches with a 10,000-person capacity are limited to just 1,500 worshippers.¹⁰¹

“We are approaching Lent season with so much concern, anxiety, and fear over the future, we are beginning to seriously think if there will be one day no Christian presence in Palestine. [...] We live in a new reality in which Jerusalem is isolated from the rest of Palestinian towns, including the Christian towns.

As a member of the clergy, I need a permit from the Israeli military to be able to go to Jerusalem. The majority of my congregation don't have that permit, and when we have permits, you still have to go through the checkpoint, and it's not guaranteed if you even will be allowed in. [...] This is the first time in history that Bethlehem and Jerusalem are separated.”

Reverend Munther Isaac

one of the most prominent representatives of Palestinian Christians, in an interview in February 2026.¹⁰²



06

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Preventing Palestinian Access to Jerusalem



© Majdi Mohammed, AP Photo

Preventing Palestinian Access to Jerusalem

Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and the besieged Gaza Strip are prevented from visiting Jerusalem by Israeli permit systems and apartheid walls, obstructing their access to family members, religious sites, medical care, and other services.¹⁰³

Since Israel's siege of the occupied Gaza Strip began in 2007, Israel has made it almost impossible for Palestinians from the Strip to travel to occupied Jerusalem.¹⁰⁴

Palestinians with West Bank IDs are unable to enter occupied East Jerusalem without Israeli permits, except for men over the age of 55 and women over 50.¹⁰⁵

85 percent of the apartheid wall runs inside the West Bank, hindering Palestinian access to and from occupied East Jerusalem, and 13 checkpoints along the wall separate occupied East Jerusalem from the rest of the occupied West Bank – only three of which can be used by Palestinians with West Bank IDs and Israeli permits.¹⁰⁶

In 2022, 15 percent of permit applications by West Bank Palestinians seeking medical care in East Jerusalem health facilities and 20 percent of permit applications for their companions were not approved by the time of the scheduled appointment.¹⁰⁷

Also in 2022, 93 percent of ambulance transfers to East Jerusalem were delayed due to the 'back-to-back' procedure, where patients are transferred from a Palestinian to an Israeli-licensed ambulance at checkpoints due to restrictions imposed by Israeli authorities.¹⁰⁸

Most Israeli permits issued to Palestinians from the occupied West Bank have been revoked or suspended since 7 October 2023, including more than 800 permits that had been issued for humanitarian workers.¹⁰⁹

Palestinian access to Jerusalem from the occupied West Bank will be further obstructed by the planned construction of the illegal E1 settlement, which was approved by the Israeli government in 2025 and would link thousands of illegal settlements in occupied East Jerusalem to the expanding illegal Ma'ale Adumim settlement bloc in the occupied West Bank.¹¹²

This would fully sever access to East Jerusalem from the rest of the occupied West Bank.¹¹³

“Masjid Al-Aqsa has been closed for over 12 days now in the month of Ramadan and in the last 10 days of Ramadan. [...] Of course, the pretext used by Israel is that this is a security measure because of the war they’re impinging on Iran and Lebanon, but we feel this is a pretext to a greater goal of the Israelis. There’s more people in Israel now calling for the destruction of Al-Aqsa Mosque and taking it over. And I think Muslims around the world need to be very careful about what is happening; pay attention to what the Israelis are saying about taking over Masjid Al-Aqsa. [...] The days of condemnations are over, Israel does not listen to condemnation. It doesn’t care about international law. It doesn’t care about UN resolutions or Geneva Conventions. What it requires is action.”

Ismail Patel

founder of Friends of Al Aqsa.¹¹⁰



07

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Western Media Bias

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'Al-Aqsa is a detonator': six-decade agreement on prayer at Jerusalem holy site collapses

Israeli police raid compound, arrest staff and curb Muslims' access as Ramadan begins



07

Western Media Bias

Presenting Israeli attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque compound as clashes

Western media outlets fail to portray the IOF and Israeli settlers as the perpetrators of attacks against Palestinian worshippers, instead portraying them as clashes.

FT FINANCIAL
TIMES

Israeli police clash with worshippers
at Jerusalem's al-Aqsa mosque

The New York Times

Israeli-Palestinian Clashes Brief Bouts of
Unrest Erupt After Jerusalem Friday Prayers

The
Guardian

Dozens wounded in Israeli-Palestinian
clashes at Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque

Western Media Bias continued...

B B C NEWS

**Al-Aqsa mosque:
Dozens hurt in Jerusalem clashes**

**The
Guardian**

**More than 205 Palestinians wounded
in Jerusalem al-Aqsa clashes**

B B C NEWS

**Jerusalem: Over 150 hurt in clashes
at al-Aqsa Mosque compound**

Western Media Bias continued...

Reducing ethnic cleansing to evictions

Western media has minimised Israel's ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from Jerusalem to evictions and demolitions – without naming Israel as the perpetrator – undermining the severity of Israel's Judaization policies in occupied Jerusalem.



‘I have been defeated’: hundreds of Palestinians face eviction from East Jerusalem



Bedouin face eviction as Israeli settlement spreads near Jerusalem



Israel steps up evictions of Palestinians from East Jerusalem



‘Constant anxiety’: hundreds of Palestinians face eviction threat in East Jerusalem

“Since [Israeli attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque are] becoming a lot more visible, it is an opportunity for journalists, particularly Western media, to be able to describe this objectively, because we have been seeing for the past weekend a lot of describing this as “clashes”, as if there is no imbalance of power here, as if there is no nuclear state using its rubber-coated bullets and tear gas against worshipers at a mosque.”

Mohammed El-Kurd
Palestinian poet and writer.¹¹¹



Endnotes

- 1-2 ‘UN experts warn against the irreversible ‘de-Palestinisation’ of Jerusalem’ OCHA (6 March 2026) available at <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2026/03/un-experts-warn-against-irreversible-de-palestinisation-jerusalem>
- 3 ‘Hear from the Palestinians attacked in Israel’s raid on Al-Aqsa’ *Al Jazeera* (5 April 2023) available at <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/4/5/hear-from-the-palestinians-attacked-in-israels-raid-on-al-aqsa>
- 4 ‘UN experts warn against the irreversible ‘de-Palestinisation’ of Jerusalem’ OCHA
- 5 ‘Israel Expands Colonial Road Network Near Qalandia’ *MEMC News* (11 March 2026) available at <https://imemc.org/article/israel-expands-colonial-road-network-near-qalandia/>
- 6-9 ‘The colonisation and ethnic cleansing of Jerusalem’ *Palestine Solidarity Campaign* (July 2012) available at <https://www.palestinecampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/jerusalem-factsheet-LOW-RES-July-2012-2.pdf>
- 10 ‘The Neighbourhood: Sheikh Jarrah’ *Forensic Architecture* (20 June 2022) available at <https://forensic-architecture.org/investigation/sheikh-jarrah>
- 11 ‘The colonisation and ethnic cleansing of Jerusalem’ *Palestine Solidarity Campaign*
- 12 ‘The House: The Story of al-Kurd Family’ *Forensic Architecture* (20 Jun 2022) available at <https://sheikh-jarrah.forensic-architecture.org/house>
- 13 ‘The Neighbourhood: Sheikh Jarrah’ *Forensic Architecture*
- 14 ‘The House: The Story of al-Kurd Family’ *Forensic Architecture*
- 15 ‘East Jerusalem : Key Humanitarian Concerns Update December 2012’ *OCHA* (7 December 2012) available at <https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/east-jerusalem-key-humanitarian-concerns-update-december-2012>
- 16 ‘Collective Punishment & Ethnic Cleansing: Israel’s Destruction of Palestinian Homes’ *IMEU* (20 November 2014) available at <https://imeu.org/resources/key-issues/collective-punishment-ethnic-cleansing-israels-destruction-of-palestinian-homes/271>
- 17 ‘Israel evicts Palestinian family in Jerusalem’s Old City and replaces them with settlers’ *Mondoweiss* (18 February 2019) available at <https://mondoweiss.net/2019/02/palestinian-jerusalems-replaces/>
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