



Israeli Arson Attacks

August 2026



London | Washington

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“My 17-year-old son, Mohammad, had returned home around 1 a.m. after spending the evening with friends and had just settled into his room when he heard glass shatter on the balcony. [When my son woke us up] I woke up to a choking smell and flames rising in the guest room. The fire had already caught the couches and was spreading quickly.

If my son had been asleep that night, we would’ve all burned inside the house — just like the Dawabsheh family. [...]

They [the Israeli Occupation Forces] tried to claim the fire was caused by an electrical short circuit. But we saw the settlers with our own eyes. The settlers want to terrorize us so we leave.”

Basel Mohammad Hamayel

a Palestinian from Abu Falah, northeast of Ramallah.¹



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Israeli Arson Attacks in the Occupied West Bank



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01

Israeli Arson Attacks in the Occupied West Bank

Israeli arson attacks are prolific in the occupied West Bank, typically carried out by Jewish supremacist, illegal settlers, under the protection of the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF).² In recent years, Israeli settlers have conducted arson attacks against Palestinians, their homes, livestock, mosques, cars, trees, and agricultural land, which have increased significantly in number and scale since Israel escalated its genocide against Palestinians from October 2023.³

Some of the most significant Israeli arson attacks across the occupied West Bank include:

The Burning of Palestinians

July 2015

Israeli settlers firebombed a home in the Palestinian village of Duma, burning to death three Palestinians, 18-month-old Ali Dawabsheh and his two parents, Riham and Sa'ed.⁴

Their other child, four-year-old Ahmed, was critically injured, suffering serious burns over 60 percent of his body.⁵

October 2025

Israeli settlers ambushed Hikmat Shtwei, a Palestinian farmer from the village of Kafr Qaddum near Tulkarem, while he was harvesting olives.⁶ The settlers beat him before pouring gasoline on his unconscious body and unsuccessfully attempting to set him on fire.⁷

June 2026

Israeli settlers doused a 92-year-old Palestinian man, Yaser Saeed, with gasoline during an attack on the Palestinian town of Deir Dibwan, in an attempt to burn him alive.⁸ He was able to move away before he was set alight along with the mosque where he was praying.⁹

The Burning of Palestinian Animals

September 2023

Israeli settlers set fire to a Palestinian livestock enclosure on the outskirts of the Palestinian village of Deir Dobwan, injuring a goat.¹⁰ The rest of the herd managed to escape.¹¹

May 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to a Palestinian-owned livestock pen belonging to Khalil Abu Ghanam in al-Samu, south of occupied Hebron, killing 75 goats and sheep.¹²

July 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to Palestinian beehives in the village of Kafr Qaddum, near Qalqiya in the occupied West Bank.¹³

Israeli Arson Attacks in the Occupied West Bank continued...

The Burning of Palestinian Homes and Vehicles

November 2025

Dozens of masked Israeli settlers set fire to vehicles and other property in the Palestinian villages of Beit Lid and Deir Sharaf in the occupied West Bank.¹⁴

January 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to Palestinian homes in Masafer Yatta in a devastating pogrom, and brutally attacked multiple Palestinian families across three villages.¹⁵

February 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to Palestinian tents and vehicles in the village of Susiya in the occupied West Bank.¹⁶

March 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to several Palestinian homes and vehicles in the Palestinian village of al-Fandaqumiya and the town of Seilat al-Dahr, in the occupied West Bank.¹⁷

April 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to a Palestinian home in Beit Imrin in the occupied West Bank, and prevented the family from escaping.¹⁸ At least eight Palestinians were injured by the attack, including a one-year-old baby.¹⁹

The Burning of Mosques

Since 2025, Israeli settlers have burned or vandalised over 45 mosques in the occupied West Bank.²⁰

November 2025

Israeli settlers set fire to a mosque in the Palestinian town of Deir Istiya in the Salfit governorate of the occupied West Bank.²¹

February 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to Abu Bakr as-Siddiq Mosque, located between the towns of Sarra and Tal, near Nablus in the north of the occupied West Bank.²²

May 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to a mosque in the Palestinian village of Jibiya, northwest of Ramallah.²³

June 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to al-Marah mosque in the Palestinian town of Deir Dibwan near Ramallah, and al-Noor mosque in the neighbouring Palestinian town of Burqa.²⁴

July 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to two mosques in the Palestinian villages of Qusra and Kour in the occupied West Bank, one of which was newly completed.²⁵

Israeli Arson Attacks in the Occupied West Bank continued...

The Burning of Palestinian Olive Trees

October 2014

Israeli settlers set fire to agricultural lands in the Palestinian town of Huwara, south of Nablus in the occupied West Bank, burning over 100 olive trees.²⁶

June 2022

The IOF burned hundreds of olive trees in orchards near Rummanah village, west of Jenin in the occupied West Bank.²⁷

August 2023

Israeli settlers burned 10 olive trees, each more than 90 years old, in the Palestinian village of Burin in the occupied West Bank.²⁸ These trees had been the only survivors of another settler attack the previous month, which had burnt dozens of other olive trees in the same grove.²⁹

November 2025

Israeli settlers burned Palestinian olive trees outside two villages near the city of Qalqiya in the occupied West Bank.³⁰

June 2026

The IOF set fire to olive trees in the Palestinian village of Rummanah, northwest of Jenin in the occupied West Bank.³¹

Israeli settlers also set fire to 1 hectare of Palestinian olive groves in the village of Burqa, east of Ramallah in the occupied West Bank.³²

Israeli Arson Attacks in the Occupied West Bank continued...

The Burning of Palestinian Farmland

July 2024

Israeli settlers set fire to Palestinian farmland growing wheat and barley in the Bedouin community of Arab Al-Malihah, north-west of Jericho in the occupied West Bank.³³

January 2025

Israeli settlers set fire to farmland on the outskirts of the Palestinian village of Khirbet Abu Falah.³⁴

May 2025

Israeli settlers set ablaze hundreds of dunums of farmland in the Palestinian town of Duma, in the north of the occupied West Bank.³⁵

Israeli settlers also set fire to Palestinian agricultural land between the villages of Al-Mughayyir and Abu Falah, east of Ramallah in the central occupied West Bank.³⁶ This burning had become a daily occurrence in the agricultural areas east of Ramallah.³⁷

November 2025

Israeli settlers, accompanied by the IOF, set fire to Palestinian agricultural lands between Atara and Birzeit, north of Ramallah, in the occupied West Bank.³⁸

May 2026

The IOF burned Palestinian crops in Al-Mughayyir, near Ramallah, and settlers set fire to Palestinian hay bales in the Jordan Valley.³⁹

June 2026

In separate incidents, Israeli settlers set fire to Palestinian agricultural land in the Ramallah and Nablus governates of the occupied West Bank.⁴⁰

July 2026

Israeli settlers set fire to agricultural land in the Palestinian town of Tel in the occupied West Bank, as well as to a Palestinian house.⁴¹

“We saw more than 50 settlers. Two reached the balcony [of my home]. One sprayed a chemical, the other lit it. The fire caught instantly.”

Ahmad Mousa Al-Mash’ala

a 50-year-old Palestinian from the Palestinian village of Jaba, near occupied Bethlehem.⁴²



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Israeli Arson Attacks in Occupied East Jerusalem



© Heather Sharona Weiss, ActiveStills

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Israeli Arson Attacks in Occupied East Jerusalem

Israelis have also conducted arson attacks across occupied Jerusalem, killing Palestinians and destroying humanitarian facilities.⁴³

Notable instances of Israeli arson attacks include:

The Burning of Palestinians

July 2014

Israeli settlers abducted and burned alive 16-year-old Palestinian Mohammed Abu Khdeir in the Shuafat neighbourhood of occupied East Jerusalem.⁴⁴ They kidnapped him, taking him to a forest where he was beaten, covered in gasoline and set on fire.⁴⁵

The Burning of the UNWRA Compound

May 2024

Israeli settlers set fire twice to the perimeter of the UNWRA headquarters in occupied East Jerusalem, forcing the UN agency to temporarily close the site.⁴⁶ The fire caused extensive damage to outdoor areas of the compound before UNWRA staff were able to extinguish the fires.⁴⁷

A crowd of Israeli settlers, accompanied by armed men, were witnessed outside the compound chanting, 'Burn down the United Nations'.⁴⁸

The Burning of Churches

December 2020

An Israeli attempted to set fire to the Church of All Nations, near the Garden of Gethsemane in occupied East Jerusalem, a site revered by Christians as the place where Jesus prayed before he was crucified.⁴⁹

The settler poured flammable liquid inside the building and set it alight, burning a bench and a portion of the mosaic floor before a church guard was able to detain him and extinguish the fire.⁵⁰

March 2021

Israeli settlers set fire to the entrance to the Romanian Orthodox Church in the Musrara neighbourhood of occupied East Jerusalem, until a priest bought it under control.⁵¹

“As soon as the settlers reached the edge of the community [of Khalet Al-Sidra], they began setting structures on fire. The fire devoured everything that could burn. The attack lasted about 20 minutes, long and heavy minutes that felt like an eternity.

Extinguishing the flames often fails because [Palestinian] Civil Defense teams can only enter with coordination from the occupation army.”

Mohammed Al-Kaabneh

a 40-year-old Palestinian from Khalet Al-Sidra, a small herding community north of Mukhmas in the occupied West Bank.⁵²



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Israeli Arson Attacks in the Besieged Gaza Strip



© Ramadan Abed, Reuters

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Israeli Arson Attacks in the Besieged Gaza Strip

Arson has been used as a systematic tool of Israel's genocide in the besieged Gaza Strip. The IOF have burned forcibly displaced Palestinians alive in their tents, burned thousands of Palestinian homes to the ground, and burned humanitarian aid, in order to accelerate their extermination of Palestinian life.⁵³

Some of the most horrific arson attacks include:

The Burning of Palestinians

October 2024

IOF airstrikes on tents in the compound of Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in the besieged Gaza Strip burned to death 19-year-old Palestinian Shaban al-Dalou, his mother Ala'a, and two other Palestinians.⁵⁴

December 2024

The IOF burned alive 22 forcibly displaced Palestinians seeking refugee in the so-called humanitarian zone in Mawasi, Khan Younis, including eight children.⁵⁵ Eighteen others suffered from extensive burns.⁵⁶

April 2025

The IOF burned to death 15 forcibly displaced Palestinians sheltering in a tent encampment in the Mawasi area of Khan Younis, including eight children.⁵⁷

May 2025

IOF attacks burned alive dozens of displaced Palestinians sheltering in a school in Gaza City, including children.⁵⁸

June 2026

IOF bombing burned to death a Palestinian family of five as they slept in their home in Gaza City.⁵⁹ A further four Palestinians were killed in the attack.⁶⁰

Israeli Arson Attacks in the Besieged Gaza Strip continued...

The Burning of Palestinian Homes, Buildings and Vehicles

February 2024

From October 2023 to February 2024, the IOF set on fire over 3,000 residential units in the besieged Gaza Strip.⁶¹ IOF soldiers were directly ordered to do so by their commanders.⁶² Many IOF soldiers have filmed themselves setting fire to Palestinians' homes and uploaded the videos on social media.⁶³

July 2024

The IOF burned Palestinian homes in the west of Gaza City, as part of a four-day attack that slaughtered over 60 Palestinians, some of whose bodies were found charred.⁶⁴

October 2024

The IOF burned Palestinian homes in the Be'er al-Na'ja area west of Jabalia Refugee Camp in the north of the besieged Gaza Strip.⁶⁵

October 2024

The IOF burned Palestinian homes in the Be'er al-Na'ja area west of Jabalia Refugee Camp in the north of the besieged Gaza Strip.⁶⁵

November 2024

The IOF burned down Mahdia al-Shawa School in Beit Hanoun, which was being used as a shelter for forcibly displaced Palestinians in the north of the besieged Gaza Strip.⁶⁶

October 2025

The IOF committed their largest mass arson attack the night before the so-called 'ceasefire' came into effect in October 2025, destroying residential and sanitation infrastructure across the Strip, including Gaza City's last functioning sewage treatment plant.¹²⁰

IOF soldiers uploaded numerous photos of their arson rampage on social media, with sickening captions, including: "leaving a mark", "last memory", "final touches", "a small souvenir", and "good riddance".¹²¹

The Burning of Humanitarian Aid

December 2023

The IOF burned humanitarian aid supplies including food for forcibly starved Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip, which they filmed themselves doing and uploaded on social media.⁶⁷

August - October 2025

From mid-August to mid-October 2025, the IOF burned or buried over a thousand truckloads' worth of humanitarian aid in the besieged Gaza Strip.⁶⁸

Israeli Arson Attacks in the Besieged Gaza Strip continued...

The Burning of Palestinian Olive Trees

November 2023

During the first month of Israel's genocide in the besieged Gaza Strip, the IOF deliberately burned olive trees to prevent olive harvesting.⁶⁹

The Burning of Palestinian Farmland

May 2009

The IOF set fire to Palestinian crops along the eastern border of the Gaza Strip, destroying 200,000 sq kms of crops, including wheat, barley, vegetables, olives, and pomegranates.⁷⁰

April 2025

The IOF set fire to thousands of dunams of agricultural land in the north of the occupied Gaza Strip.⁷¹

June 2026

The IOF bombed agricultural land in Deir al-Balah in the besieged Gaza Strip, setting ablaze huge areas of farmland.⁷²

“Why did burning girls matter in Vietnam but not in Gaza? In Gaza, there are dozens of ‘napalm girl’ moments every single day. These images don’t arrive filtered through distant photo wires or delayed coverage; they come live, unfiltered, and relentless. The world is not lacking in evidence. It is drowning in it. So why doesn’t it react?”

Jehad Abusalim

former executive director of the
Institute for Palestine Studies.⁷³



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Israeli Arson Attacks in Occupied Lebanon



© Nabih Bulos, Los Angeles Times

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Israeli Arson Attacks in Occupied Lebanon

Since Israel began its occupation of southern Lebanon in 2023, the IOF has used arson attacks as a method to advance their occupation of southern Lebanon.⁷⁴ Since October 2023, the IOF has deliberately burned over 16,000 hectares of land in Lebanon.⁷⁵ The IOF has used hoses to pump flammable materials from occupied Palestine to occupied Lebanon in order to set fire to Lebanese villages near the border.⁷⁶ The IOF has also used medieval trebuchets to launch flaming projectiles over the border into Lebanon, in an attempt to burn vegetation and start wildfires in areas near the border.⁷⁷

These arson attacks have escalated since the so-called ‘ceasefire’ agreement came into effect on 17 June 2026.⁷⁸ From mid-June to mid-August, the IOF has dropped incendiary bombs almost every day in southern Lebanon, burning enormous areas of woodland that has affected around 30-40 percent of land in the Nabatiyeh region.⁷⁹

Lebanese firefighters are obstructed from containing the fires as they are forced to seek authorisation from the IOF and coordinate their movements before operating in areas under Israeli occupation.⁸⁰

Some of the most devastating IOF arson attacks in southern Lebanon include:

The Burning of Lebanese Homes

December 2024

The IOF set fire to several homes in the Lebanese towns of Qantara and Taybeh in the Marjayoun district.⁸¹

February 2025

The IOF set fire to several homes and buildings in the Lebanese towns of Rab El Thalathine and Odaisseh in the Marjayoun district.⁸²

April 2026

The IOF burned homes, trees, roads, and infrastructure in the Lebanese villages of Houla and Shaqra.⁸³

The IOF also burned several homes in the Lebanese town of Mays al-Jabal.⁸⁴

July 2026

The IOF burned homes in the southern neighbourhoods of the occupied Lebanese town of Hadatha,⁸⁵ as well as in the Saf al-Hawa area of Bint Jbeil and along the road leading to the town of Ainatha.⁸⁶

August 2026

The IOF detonated and set fire to Lebanese homes in the occupied towns of Majdal Zoun and Al-Mansouri in Lebanon’s South Governorate.⁸⁷

Israeli Arson Attacks in Occupied Lebanon continued...

The Burning of Lebanese Olive Trees and Fruit Groves

November 2023

During the first month of the genocide alone, the IOF burned more than 40,000 olive trees across southern Lebanon in over 130 different fires, scorching hundreds of kilometres of land.⁸⁸

March 2024

From November 2023 to March 2024, the IOF caused an additional 527 fires across southern Lebanon, that burned a further 20,000 olive trees and kilometres of land.⁸⁹

November 2024

Between late 2023 and November 2024, the IOF burned around 900 trees in the Lebanese village of Kfar Kila.⁹⁰

August 2026

The IOF set fire to Lebanese olive and fruit groves in the occupied village of Yaroun. All but 20 of the 900 houses in the village had already been bulldozed by the IOF.⁹¹ Some of the trees destroyed were around 150 years old.⁹²

The Burning of Lebanese Forests

August 2026

The IOF used flares to start a wildfire in a forested area of Khiam, in occupied Southern Lebanon, and used drone strikes to force Lebanese firefighters – who were attempting to extinguish the fire – to withdraw from the area.⁹³

The IOF created large wildfires in two heavily forested areas, in Kfarchouba, close to the border, and between Jezzine and the western Bekaa valley.⁹⁴

“They had already bulldozed the whole village [of Yaroun]. Then they set fire to the trees. What remained in this particular area were the olive trees – large groves, with very old olive trees. They started there, then the fire spread along the outskirts of the village.

Many of these trees, most of them, in fact, were inherited from our grandparents and parents. They have enormous sentimental value. The trees were also an important source of income for the people of the village.

They are trying to make the land uninhabitable. They are erasing our entire history, our entire culture, all our memories. Maybe the idea is that after some time, it will look as though nobody had ever lived here.”

Hafez Ghasham

the mayor of Yaroun, in occupied Lebanon.⁹⁵



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Israeli Arson in Greece



© Stefanos Rapanis, Reuters

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Israeli Arson in Greece

In August 2026, a 35-year-old Israeli tourist was arrested in Crete for starting a wildfire after lighting a barbecue at a rented villa, despite being warned – both verbally and in writing – that barbecuing was prohibited due to the high risk of fires.⁹⁶

A number of other Israeli tourists were also staying at the villa and participated in using the outdoor barbecue.⁹⁷

Sparks carried by the strong wind ignited dry vegetation, and the fire quickly spread into the surrounding open area. It took more than 60 firefighters, helicopters, and three special wildfire units over four hours to control the blaze.⁹⁸

While firefighters were tackling the blaze, the surrounding communities had to be evacuated.⁹⁹

“They burned our paradise. [...] What’s happening here is that they want to sell Patagonia to the Jews. This has been known for a long time, everyone here knows it. This place is crawling with Israelis, they’re buying all the land, and no one does anything.”

An Argentinian woman
in Patagonia interviewed on
Argentina’s A24 channel.¹⁰⁰



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Israeli Arson in Patagonia



© Marcelo Martinez, Reuters

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Israeli Arson in Patagonia



Chile

December 2011

In 2011, 23-year-old Israeli Rotem Singer was arrested for starting a fire in the Torres del Paine National Park in southern Chile, which burned more than 110 sq km (27,000 acres) of forest.¹⁰¹ The blaze killed an elderly man and thousands of animals.¹⁰²

The fire began after Singer started a bonfire using toilet roll in a protected area of the park where starting fires is prohibited.¹⁰³

Singer had served in a combat unit in the IOF.¹⁰⁴

January 2014

Four Israeli backpackers were expelled from the Torres del Paine National Park after being caught setting fires in restricted areas.¹⁰⁵

January 2017

Three Israeli tourists were expelled from the Torres del Paine National Park for using a portable mini stove in an unauthorised area prone to wildfires.¹⁰⁶ Chile's National Forestry Director, Elizabeth Muñoz stated that from 2012 to 2017, 23 of the 36 tourists expelled from Chile's national parks were Israelis.¹⁰⁷



Argentina

In January 2026, an Israeli tourist was caught on video attempting to start fires in Los Glaciares National Park in Argentina's Patagonia region.¹⁰⁸

At this time, extensive wildfires had already destroyed thousands of hectares of forest across Patagonia, particularly in Chubut province.¹⁰⁹ Argentinian authorities stated that some of these fires had been intentional acts of arson.¹¹⁰

At the time, Argentinian authorities were also investigating the alleged discovery of M26 IM grenades, used by the IOF, scattered around Lake Epuén in Chubut province.¹¹¹

Simultaneously, the Argentinian government has gradually eroded restriction on foreign land ownership, defunded the National Fire Management Service, and undermined the Fire Management Law – designed to prevent land use after wildfires.¹¹²

Together, this gradual erosion of the legal safeguards has enabled Israelis to purchase land in Argentina, creating fears amongst locals that there is a direct incentive for Israelis to start fires.¹¹³

These fears stem from a historic context of Israeli interest in colonising Argentinian land, with Argentina being one of the potential destinations for Jewish settlement proposed by the founder of Zionism, Theodor Herzl, in 1896.¹¹⁴ He said that Argentinian authorities would “derive considerable profit from the cession of a portion of its territory”.¹¹⁹

Although this plan was abandoned, the involvement of Israelis in apparently intentional acts of arson in Argentina revives this fear, often dismissed by Zionists as an antisemitic conspiracy theory.¹¹⁵

Following the fire, massive demonstrations took place in Argentina and Chile, demanding: “Zionists leave Latin America”.¹¹⁶

“Our Argentinian Patagonia is burning: [...] new laws allow foreigners to freely purchase land and conduct economic activity in burned areas. A foreign state [Israel] has been identified by the locals themselves as responsible.”

César Milani

Argentinian politician and former Chief of the Argentine Army.¹¹⁷



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Western Media Bias



FRANCE
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WEST BANK

**Netanyahu
condemns settler
violence**

© France24

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Western Media Bias

Amplifying False Israeli Condemnations as Credible

Despite Israeli officials' long history of faux, PR-stunt condemnations of Israeli settler violence - which is carried out with the collusion and protection of the IOF - Western media outlets continue to promote these blatantly false condemnations as credible.



Netanyahu condemns settler violence by 'extremists' after West Bank village torched

The New York Times

Israel's President Excoriates Growing Israeli Violence and Brutality

Western Media Bias



Netanyahu condemns settler violence in West Bank amid rising international pressure



Netanyahu vows crackdown on Israeli violence after attacks on Palestinian villages



Israeli security chief condemns 'terrorism' of militant settlers

Western Media Bias

The BBC News logo, featuring the word "NEWS" in a bold, sans-serif font, preceded by the BBC logo symbol.

Israeli leaders condemn settler attacks in West Bank in rare rebuke of violence

The Guardian logo, featuring the words "The Guardian" in a blue, serif font.

Israeli president condemns 'serious' attack by settlers on West Bank villages

The ITV logo, featuring the letters "itv" in a stylized, lowercase font with a blue 'i', a yellow 't', and a red 'v'.

Israel's president says 'shocking' settler violence against Palestinians must end

“Our hearts are broken forever. My son Mohammed was burned once by these terrorists, but we feel that we are getting burned every day ever since we lost him.

The murder of our son has changed our lives for ever. We suffer from depression and we cannot go on with our lives because we keep thinking of Mohammed and what happened to him.”

Hussein Abu Khdeir

father of Mohammed Abu Khdeir, who was abducted and burned alive by Israeli settlers in 2014.¹¹⁸



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