



Monthly Report on Violations of Human Rights and Public Freedoms In the Palestinian-controlled Territory July, 2010

This monthly report highlights major human rights violations as monitored and documented by the **Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR)** throughout the Palestinian-Controlled Territory during the month of July, 2010.

Based on ongoing monitoring and documentation of violations of human rights and public freedoms during the month of July 2010, ICHR concludes the following:

1. Several death cases occurred due to different reasons including family disputes and negligence of public safety measures. Some of these cases happened in mysterious circumstances.
2. Torture of detainees continues in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, as indicated by detainees' claims and complaints filed to ICHR.
3. Detention of persons without regard to due process and conditions of the Basic Law and the Penal Procedural Code in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank continues.
4. Non-implementation or procrastination of the courts' decisions. Cases that gained a release decision are then referred to the Military Judiciary and receive decisions of imprisonment.
5. The Ministry of Interior in Ramallah continued deny the Deposed Government the supply of passport books.

Below is a detailed description of the aforementioned violations:

I. Violation of the Right to Life and Personal Safety

ICHR monitored nine death cases during July in the Palestinian – controlled Territory, including five in the Gaza Strip and four in the West Bank. As for the cause of death; these cases are distributed as follows: three cases were due to clan disputes and manslaughter. One case occurred in the West Bank and the other two in the Gaza Strip. One case occurred in mysterious circumstances in the Gaza Strip and four others occurred because of negligence of precautious safety measures. Two of these cases happened in the West

Bank and two in the Gaza Strip. The last death case among these nine cases is tunnel-related.

The following provides more details on the death toll during the month of July:

1. Deaths due to clan disputes and manslaughter:

On 13\7\2010, **Mahfouz Ahmad al-Masri**, 29, from Khan Younis, succumbed to his wounds sustained on 12\7\2010. He was shot to the abdomen in a clan dispute that took place in the area where he was living. Fire arms were used by the combatants at that dispute. According to the information of ICHR, the police force arrived at the scene, opened an investigation into the incident and arrested a suspect.

On 8\7\2010, **Ahmad Hasan Shaladah**, 74, from the town of Saer in the vicinity of Hebron passed away due to his injury in the back and the abdomen. He was stabbed with a knife in a clan dispute in his town. According to the information of ICHR, the police arrived at the scene along with prosecutors. A forensic doctor examined the corpse of the deceased before burial.

On 9\7\2010, **Issa Ahed Issa**, 30, from the village of Salem in the vicinity of Nablus, passed away due to an injury with a sharp tool which occurred during a clan dispute in the village. According to the information of ICHR, the police arrived at the scene, opened investigation into the incident and arrested a number of suspects.

2. Deaths in Mysterious Circumstances

On 31\7\2010, the police found the dead body of **Abdu-Allah Mahmoud al-Mughayer**, 11 years old, from the city of Rahah. According to the information of ICHR, the family of the deceased child informed the police of its child missing during a wedding party of one of his relatives on 29\7\2010. The police opened investigation into the case and arrested three suspects.

3. Deaths due to Negligence and Failure to Adopt Public Safety Precautions

On 1\7\2010, **Fatin Mahmoud Sultan**, 30, from the town of Beit-Lahia, passed away due to an electric shock. According to the information of ICHR, the incident occurred in a Cafeteria on the beach of Beit-Lahia when an electric contact happened in the tent attached to the Cafeteria operated by the family of the deceased. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the case.

On 5\7\2010, **Mansour Salama Abu Sausien**, 45, from Rafah, passed away due to an electric shock he was exposed to on 1\7\2010. According to the information of ICHR, the incident happened when Mansour was repairing an electric line in the suburb of al-Shabura in Rafah.

On 25\7\2010, **Hassan Hussien Abdu-Allah Hamarah**, 61, from the town of Husan in the vicinity of Bethlehem, passed away due to falling in a well under construction. He slipped off an iron ladder and fell off unto the well. He was then announced dead in the governmental hospital of Beit Jala. According to the information of ICHR, the police arrived at the scene and found no criminal effect.

On 12\7\2010, **Tareq Murad Thabet**, 15, from the village of Beit Reema in the vicinity of Ramallah and Al-Bireh passed away due to an electric shock in the bathroom of his house. According to the information of ICHR, the police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. It is still waiting for the forensic report to affirm the cause of death.

4. Tunnel-Related Deaths.

ICHR monitored a single work accident death case in a tunnel on the Egyptian Palestinian border. It occurred due to an electric shock inside the tunnel.

5. Death Sentences

During the period covered by this report, a court in Gaza issued a death sentence against the citizen (A, F), 23 years old, from the refugee camp of Al - Nussierat. The Dier al-Balah Court of First Instance sentenced the aforementioned citizen to death by hanging after convicting him of killing Ahmad Mousa Faraj Allah, 11 years old, in November, 2009.

6. Injury Due to the Misuse of Firearms

- On 28\7\2010, **Tayseer Baker Duheir, 14**, from the city of Rafah was shot in the foot while he was attending a wedding party. According to the information of ICHR, the child was injured in a wedding party for one of his relatives where some of the participants shot fire in the air expressing their joy. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 5\7\2010, **Adnan Muhamad Zanin, 38, Sufian Adnan Zanin, 9, Muhamad Abed Jabar Zanin, 17**, from the town of Bet-Hanun sustained light injuries when a suspicious device went off. According to the information of ICHR, the victims were injured while they were tending to their family's farm. They were rushed to Bet-Hanun hospital for treatment. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident. According to the police, the suspicious device was of the Israeli occupation leftovers.
- On 9\7\2010, **Khaled Zuheir al-Mughyer, 33**, from the city of Rafah, sustained a bullet wound to the shoulder. His condition was described as moderate. According to the information of ICHR, he was standing on the roof of his family's house when the incident happened. The source of fire was not discovered, and the injured was rushed to Abu Yousif al-Najar hospital in the city. The police opened investigation into the incident.
- On 11\7\2010, **Karam Jamal Abu Rumi, 11**, from the city of Rafah, sustained a bullet wound to the thigh while he was playing with his friends near the house of his grandfather in eastern Rafah. His condition was described as moderate. According to the information of ICHR, the source of fire was unknown, and the boy was rushed to the hospital of Abu Yousif an-Najar in the city for treatment. The police opened investigation into the incident.
- On 11\7\2010, **Sabri Muhamad Madi, 63**, from the city of Rafah, sustained a bullet wound to the neck. His condition was described as light. According to the information of ICHR, the citizen was wounded by unidentified people while he was walking down the street of the city. He was rushed to hospital and the police opened investigation into the incident.
- On 12\7\2010, **Jihad Abed Rabu Audwan, 21**, from Rafah, sustained a bullet wound to his right foot. His condition was described as moderate. According to the information ICHR got from the police, he was wounded while he was running after a calf alongside his family. Gunshots were fired during the event.
- On 14\7\2010, **Riham Rabei Abu Marseh, 10**, from Gaza, sustained a bullet wound to the chest. Her condition was described as moderate. According to the information of ICHR, Riham was injured in her uncle's nearby house where the police was dispersing a gathering for the members of the Islamic

Gathering Party. Shooting was heard in the area. She was rushed to al-Shifa' hospital in the city for treatment, and the police opened investigation into the incident.

- On 21\7\2010, **Muhamad Abdu-Alkareem al-Zien, 14**, from the town of Bet-Lahia was injured when a suspected device went off. A finger of his left hand was amputated and two others were fractured. According to the information of ICHR, Muhamad was injured when he was playing with a suspected device in a land nearby her family's house. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.

7. Torture during Detention – Cruel, Inhumane and Degrading Treatment

ICHR expresses its deep concern over the ongoing serious violation of detainees' rights by the security agencies and considers all forms of ill-treatment and torture practiced by these agencies in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank prohibited and punishable by law. ICHR continued over the month of July and the previous ones to receive complaints from persons claiming they were subjected to torture by the security agencies operating in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip.

In the West Bank, ICHR received 132 complaints during July against the security agencies including 11, (8%) of the total complaints, in which the complainants claim that they were subjected to torture or ill-treatment.

These complaints were lodged against the following security agencies as follows:

- Six complaints against the police agency (3, general investigation department, 2, civil police, 1, suburbs' police).
- Five complaints against the preventive security agency.
- The torture allegations range from holding in a painful position "Shabah", beating, punching, flogging, threatening and psychological torture to ill-treatment.

In the Gaza Strip, ICHR received during the same month 56 complaints against the security agencies including six, (11%) in which the citizens claimed that they were subjected to torture or ill-treatment during detention by the internal security and the police adhering to the Ministry of the Interior off the Deposed government.

Torture allegations varied according to the affidavits of the complainants ranging between holding in painful positions (Shabh) for long hours, flogging, tying the hands behind the back, suspension, blindfolding, beating using sticks and pipes, punching and ill-treatment.

II. Violation of the Right to Proper and Fair Legal procedures – Arbitrary Detention – Detention for Political Affiliation.

ICHR is still deeply concerned over ongoing arbitrary detention and non-compliance with proper legal procedures during the period of detention. Such measures constitute a stark violation of personal freedoms without any legal justification. Detainees are deprived of one of their major rights by being denied access into

civil judiciary. Bringing detainees before the military judiciary constitutes a clear breach of the Palestinian Basic Law and the Penal Procedural Code.

Arbitrary detention continued in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip disparately, and ICHR received several complaints from citizens who had been arbitrarily detained.

ICHR received **167** complaints during July in the West Bank, including **132 complaints** against the security agencies, **88** of which were focused on the impropriety of detention procedures as the complainants were held either arbitrarily or for their political affiliation.

In the Gaza Strip, ICHR received during July **78** complaints, including **56** against the security agencies adhering to the Ministry of Interior (MoI) of the Deposed government, 24 of which are focused on detention procedures and detention for political affiliation.

III. Encroachment on the Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and Freedom of Press

The following violations of freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of press occurred during the period this report covers:

- On 8\7\2010, a group of policemen stationed near Bet-Hanun crossing stopped the distributors of the three main local newspapers (al-Ayyam, al-Hayyat, al-Quds) and prevented them from receiving the newspapers. They notified them of the decision banning them from arriving at the crossing to receive these three newspapers after the Israeli authorities informed the director of the coordination and liaison office on 6\7\2010 that the entry of these newspapers into the Gaza Strip is allowed. According to the information of ICHR, the distributors of the newspapers referred to the MoI of the Deposed government, and it informed them of the banning on the entry of these newspapers into the Gaza Strip. The justification behind this decision was the decision of the government in the West Bank to ban printing and distribution of the newspapers of "al-Risalah" and "Falasteen" in the West Bank.
- On 13\7\2010, Gaza police prohibited the Islamic Liberation Party (Hizb al-Tahrir) from organizing a festival in northern Gaza city under the title: " The 89th anniversary of the demolition of the state of Islam"). According to the information of ICHR, the Party notified the police agency of its intention of organizing the festival beforehand and got its consent. Policemen came to the area where the festival was planned to take place and told the organizers that it is prohibited because it doesn't have the necessary permit. The citizens were forbidden to arrive at the place and those who were gathering were dispersed by force. A female child was injured while standing at the window of her family's house and a number of the members of the party were seized as a result. The police also held journalist Muhamad al-Baba, camera man for Agence France Press. They confiscated his camera, computer and mobile phone and took him to al-Shate' police center in the city for interrogation. Agence France Press intervened, and he was released after signing a memo whereby he undertook not to publish any photo relating to the incident.
- On 17\7\2010, the Islamic Liberation Party held a peaceful gathering (Annual Public Conference on the anniversary of the Caliphate Collapse) in Ramallah Boys' School. During the preparation for the gathering, members of the security agencies arrived at the scene and prevented the organization of the conference. They seized a number of the participants for long hours and sealed off the main street that leads to the school. According to the information of ICHR, the Party's members applied for a permit from the Ministry of the Interior but were faced with refusal.
- On 23\7\2010, the Islamic Liberation Party organized a rally in Qalqeelia on the anniversary of the collapse of the caliphate, but the security services and the police broke it up on the pretense that it lacked permit. They also seized a number of the participants and put them in the prison of the military intelligence. According to the information of ICHR, some of them were released while others remained in detention.

IV. Assault on Liberties and Personal Freedoms

On 15\7\2010, Eight men wearing ski masks and black clothes, armed with rifles and clubs intruded on the wedding party of Abdu-Alqadir al-Shawaf , from the town of Abasan al-Kabira east Khanyounis. They dispersed the participants by force. They threw a stun grenade in their direction and opened gun fire in the air. They also beat some of the participants with clubs and set the platform of the bridegroom on fire. When the police force arrived at the scene, a scrimmage took place between them and the family of the bridegroom following a heated argument between both sides. The police dispersed the participants using the butts of the guns and clubs. They also seized a number of the relatives of the bridegroom for two days. Afterwards, they opened investigation into the incident and detained a number of suspects.

- On 23\7\2010, a group of ten masked people carrying rifles attacked the house of the family of Jihad Hamdan Fayyad in the area of Qarawa in the vicinity of Khanyounis where the family was celebrating the wedding of one of its sons. The masked group asked the family to cancel the celebration. When they were asked why, they beat some members of the family and forced them to cancel the party after dispersing the participants.

V. Assault on Public Institutions, public and private property.

The following assaults happened during the period this report covers:

- On 13\7\2010, a grenade was thrown at the Gaza city based-“YMCA”. The grenade splintered off in the play ground of the “YMCA”, but no injuries were reported. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 17\7\2010, the car of **Ramzi Fayeze Abu Ali, 35**, from the town of Jabalia was set on fire by unidentified persons while it was parked near his house. According to the information of ICHR, the car was fully torched and some damage was caused to Ramzi’s house. The police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.
- On 19\7\2010, an unidentified man opened gun fire in the direction of Qalqeelia’s municipality building causing damage to the public services office. Four bullets penetrated the office. According to ICHR information, the police arrived at the scene and opened investigation into the incident.

VI. Delays in Implementing Palestinian Courts' Decisions in the West Bank.

Non-implementation of courts’ decisions and rulings during the month of **July** in the West Bank continued. Such conduct by the Palestinian courts regardless of their levels is a stark breach of the Palestinian Basic Law and article **106** of it in particular. Article 106 of the Palestinian Basic Law states that: “Judicial decisions are enforceable and any form of refraining from that is a crime punishable by imprisonment and dismissal from office”.

As for the implementation of decisions of both the Palestinian High Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance, **ICHR** documented a number of complaints on the non-implementation of them. The High Court of Justice issued some decisions, but the executive authority, in both its civil and military wings, failed to implement those decisions until the writing of this report. Among these cases are the following:

First: In July, ICHR received a number of complaints relating to release decisions due to the illegality of the detention procedures, but these decisions went unimplemented.

Number	Name	Place of detention	Date of detention	Date of issuance of verdict
1	Muhamad Amin Abdul-Minim Khufash	Preventive security agency - Ramallah	13\4\2010	4\7\2010
2	Ziad Mousa Hamid	PGI-Ramallah	25\6\2010	5\7\2010
3	Muhamad Isam Dahir Sulaiman	Preventive security agency – Ramallah	2\4\2010	10\7\2010
4	Samir Isam Dahir Sulaiman	Preventive security agency – Ramallah	27\4\2010	7\7\2010
5	Imad Khalil Tanbur	Preventive security agency - Nablus	24\4\2010	8\6\2010
6	Iyad Mahmoud Stieti	PGI-Nablus	23\4\2010	4\7\2010
7	Juma' Asad Abu Jabal	PGI-Nablus	27\3\2010	11\7\2010
8	Nidal Mustaf al-Asmar	PGI-Nablus	8\4\2010	4\7\2010
9	Mansour Kjalil Dawabshi	Military Intelligence Agency-Nablus	26\4\2010	He was brought before the military court on 13\7\2010 and was sentenced to two months in prison. In spite of serving this term being detained on 26\4\2010, the military intelligence agency turned its back on this verdict.
10	Adel Muhamad	Preventive	11\4\2010	4\7\2010

	Shawarah	security agency – Beth-Lehem		
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Second: Decisions of release issued during previous months due to the illegality of detention but went unimplemented

Number	Name	Place of detention	Date of detention	Date of issuance of verdict
1	Musa' b Mustafa al-Hur	Preventive security detention center - Dahria	15\9\2009	19\5\2010
2	Numan Ahmad Ismael Darabei'	Preventive security detention center - Hebron	25\1\2010	10\5\2010
3	Muhamad Ahmad Sukia	PGI-Ramallah	2\6\2008	10\1\2010
4	Shareef Walid Ghanim	Military intelligence agency detention center - Ramallah	2\9\2009	22\2\2010
5	Ma'mun Ihsan Abdu-Allah Ashur	Preventive security detention center - Nablus	31\12\2009	2\10\2010 A military court sentenced him to two years in prison
6	Shadi Muhamad Akram Mustafa Shahin	Preventive security agency - Dahria	14\1\2010	16\3\2010
7	Muhanad Mahmoud Jamil Nairouhk	PGI's detention center - Jericho	10\10\2008	19\1\2010
8	Dia' al-Din Hamdan Ali Mislih	Military intelligence detention center - Ramallah	27\8\2009	1\10\2010
9	Tareq Abdu-Razaq Daoud Zaid	Military intelligence detention center- Nablus	8\11\2009	12\1\2010, he was sentenced to a year and a half in prison by a

				military court on charges of objecting to the public policy of the PNA
10	Khalid Jamil Khalil Saraj	PGI - Ramallah	Not mentioned in the complaint	12\1\2010, he was sentenced to a year and a half in prison by a military court on charges of objecting to the public policy of the PNA
11	Judeh Mahmoud Daghreh	Military intelligence agency - Ramallah	Not mentioned in the complaint	14\10\2009, he was sentenced to twelve years in prison by a military court
12	Ahmad "Muhamad Yusri" Ratib El-Ewiewi	PGI - Jericho	15\9\2009	3\2\2010
13	Majd Mahir Ribhi Ebied	PGI's detention center, Jericho	11\10\2010	3\2\2010
14	Wisam Azam Abdu-al-Muhsin	PGI's detention center	8\10\2008	19\1\2010
15	Wajdi Anwar Saed Faradneh	Military intelligence agency - Ramallah	12\1\2010	14\3\2010
16	Luay Fawaz Talab Abed	Preventive security detention center - Hebron	12\1\2010	14\3\2010
17	Saed Abdu-al-Rahman Abdu-al-Fatah Awawdi	Preventive security detention center - Hebron	12\1\2010	18\4\2010, from the court of the first instance. The bail was paid
18	Ali Mahmoud Nuhamad Rashid	Preventive security detention center	13\1\2010	19\4\2010, from the court of first instance. The bail was paid.
19	Hassan Mustafa Zagha	Military intelligence - Nablus	14\2\2010	Sentenced to two years in prison by a military court since 14\12\2009. after that

				the high court of justice issued a decision on 12\4\2010
20	Khalid Ruhi Susah	Preventive security- Nablus	12\11\2010	19\4\2010, the high court of justice. Sentenced to two years in prison by a military court.
21	Majid Muhamad Yousif	Preventive security detention center- Dahria	11\1\2010	22\4\2010
22	Jamal Hassan Hussien Awawdi	Preventive security detention center - Dahria	13\1\2010	5\4\2010
23	Murad Muhamad Issa Harbawi	Preventive security detention center - Dahria	21\1\2010	31\3\2010
24	Abdul-Majid Issac Maharic	Preventive security detention center - Hebron	12\1\2010	21\4\2010
25	Amer Abdul-Halim Muhamad Abu Arefeh	Military prison\ Hebron	11\5\2010	23\6\2010
26	Tareq Ziad Hassan al-Shiekh	PGI - Ramallah	21\3\2010	17\5\2010
27	Ahmad Ismael Abdul-Rahman Ghniemat	Preventive security detention center - Hebron	25\1\2010	23\5\2010, High court of justice

Besides these decisions, administrative – related decisions were issued during the past months, but the executive authority didn't implement any of them. The following are some of these decisions:

1. On 24\6\2009, the Palestinian High court of justice issued a decision revoking the Ministry of the Interior's decision of **appointing a provisional Preparatory committee for the management of Yatta's Islamic Society for Orphans' Care** instead of the former elected administrative committee. The court ruled that the Ministry's decision didn't mention the case of such measure and the fact that it constitutes a breach of article '37' and the provisions of the charitable associations' law of 2001. Nonetheless, the decision of the court hasn't been implemented yet.
2. On 22\4\2009, the Palestinian High court of justice issued a decision reinstating **Nur al-Din Hamad** who was fired from his work for the police agency on 1\11\2007. This decision wasn't carried out up to the moment of writing this report.
3. On 8\7\2009, the Palestinian High court of justice issued a decision revoking the Ministry of the Interior decision of appointing a provisional preparatory committee for the management of Bet Umar Society of Orphans' Care instead of the former elected administrative committee. The court ruled that the Ministry's decision didn't mention the case of such measure and the fact that it constitutes a breach of the provisions of the charitable associations' law of 2001. The court's decision hasn't been implemented yet.
4. On 21\4\2010, the Palestinian High court of justice issued a decision reinstating **Muwafac Saadat** as a supervisor on physical education in the ministry of education and revoking the decision of demoting him to a teacher of physical education. It also revokes all the effects of the decision challenged because of its breach of the provisions of the civil service law.
5. On 15\3\2010, the Palestinian High court of justice issued a decision stipulating reimbursement of the monthly salary of **Jawad Ali Issa Dawawin** with ex-post effect in keeping with article (94) of the civil service law of 1998. Jawad is working as an Imam for the Waqf directorate of southern Hebron. The decision hasn't been implemented yet.

VI. Violation of the right to Movement and Travel.

- The citizens of the Gaza Strip are still suffering this problem as Gaza governorates have run out of passports since November, 2008 up to the period covered by this report.
- According to the information ICHR attained from officers of the MoI of the deposed government, the MoI in the West Bank refuses to issue passports for the citizens of the Gaza Strip depriving them of their right to move and travel. This situation has adverse impact on the patients who need to travel for treatment abroad. It also affects the students studying abroad and thousands of expatriates whose passports expired and need to issue new ones.
- On 1\7\2010, the passport of **Jihan Muhammad Sirsawi, 41 years old**, member of Fatah's district office in the town of al-Zahra' in Gaza city, was confiscated. Jihan informed ICHR that she was summoned by the internal security in Dier al-Balah. They questioned her about her relationship with Fatah movement and released her after confiscating her passport.
- On 2\7\2010, the internal security service confiscated the passport of **Yousif Younis Abdul-Wahab, 43 years old**, member of Fatah district office, from the city of Rafah, according to the affidavit he provided for ICHR, he was summoned by the internal security in Rafah and after he went there, they

withheld his passport and identity card without any justification. They released him without interrogation or charges.

- On 3\7\2010, the internal security service confiscated the passport of **Ehab Hassan Abu Zaid, 34 years old**, a member of Fatah district office in Rafah. According to his affidavit, he was summoned by the internal security. They withheld his passport and released him without interrogation or charges.
- On 5\7\2010, the PGI in Ramallah refused the application of **Hussam Mahdi al-Amsi, 25 years old**, university student, from Gaza, for a passport. According to the affidavit of Hussam, he applied for a passport in the Ministry of the Interior in Ramallah, by an office of public services in Gaza. He was in need for the passport to accompany his sick brother in his travel for medical treatment. He was notified by the public services office that his application was declined by the PGI due to security reasons.
- On 6\7\2010, the internal security service confiscated the passport of **Atef Muhammad Shaath, 45 years old**, member of Fatah district office in Khanyounis. According to the affidavit of Atef, he was summoned by the internal security where his passport was confiscated. He said that he was blindfolded and interrogated about his relationship with Fatah movement for one hour. Before releasing him, he said, they set an appointment for interviewing him once again.
- 7\7\2010, the internal security confiscated the passport of **Ayman Zayed Farawna, 39 years old**, member of Fatah district office in Khanyounis. According to Ayman's affidavit, he was summoned by the internal security in Khanyounis where his passport was confiscated. He said that he was blindfolded and held in a small room for interrogation. He was questioned about his relationship with Fatah movement. Before releasing him, the officers of the internal security informed him that his passport would be withheld until the government in Ramallah lifts the restriction imposed on issuing passports for the citizens of Gaza.
- On 7\7\2010, the internal security confiscated the passport of **Mahmoud Yasin Shurab, 48 years old**, member of Fatah district office in Khanyounis. According to Mahmoud's affidavit, he was summoned by the internal security in Khanyounis where he was held in a cell for hours. Then he was interrogated about his relationship with Fatah movement and his passport and identity card were confiscated from him. He was informed by the interrogator that his passport would be withheld until the government in Ramallah lifts the restriction imposed on issuing passports for the citizens of Gaza. Before releasing him, they asked him not to participate in any of Fatah's activities.
- On 7\7\2010, the internal security confiscated the passport of **Ibrahim Abdul-Hadi al-Hamami, 40 years old**, member of Fatah's district office in Khanyounis. According to Ibrahim's affidavit, he was summoned by the internal security in Khanyounis where his passport was confiscated. He was blindfolded and informed that his passport was confiscated because the government in Ramallah refuses to issue passports for the citizens of the Gaza Strip. Then he was released without interrogation.
- On 7\7\2010, the internal security confiscated the passport of **Hatem Muhammad Abu Zakri, 37 years old**, member of Fatah district office in Al Nussierat refugee camp. According to the affidavit of Hatem, he was summoned by the internal security of Dier al-Balah. He was interrogated about his relationship with Fatah movement, and his passport was confiscated. He was informed that he would retrieve his passport after the Ministry of the Interior in Ramallah issues passports to the Gaza Strip.

- On 8\7\2010, the internal security confiscated the passport of **Mahmoud Muhammad al-Qalqili, 57 years old**, from al-Buriej, former Secretary General of Fatah movement in the central governorates. According to Mahmoud's affidavit, he was summoned by the internal security of Dier al-Balah. He was interrogated about his relationship with Fatah movement and then released. His passport was confiscated without justifications.
- On 8\7\2010, the internal security denied **Tamim Ahmad Abu Mumar, 34 years old**, a journalist working for the Voice of Palestine radio station, from Khanyounis, travel to Egypt through Rafah border crossing. According to Tamim's affidavit, he was accompanying his ailing uncle who got a medical referral for treatment abroad. He was informed by a security officer stationed on the border that he isn't allowed to travel abroad, but he wasn't informed of the reason for such a decision.
- On 12\7\2010, the internal security denied **Muhammad Judeh al-Nahal, 48 years old**, member of Fatah's revolutionary council, from Gaza, travel through Biet Hanun crossing. According to Muhammad's affidavit, he sent in a passport application to the internal security of the MoI in Abu Khadreh public compound to travel to Jordan for a surgery. He was informed that he isn't allowed to travel. He didn't receive any justification for that.
- On 21\7\2010, the PGI in Ramallah declined the application of **Yasser Sakib Atayah, 31 years old**, from al-Nussierat, working as a policeman, for a passport. According to the affidavit of Yasser's brother, Yasser applied for a passport in the MoI in Ramallah through one of the public services offices in Gaza to accompany him in his travel abroad for medical treatment. He sustained a serious injury to the head and the chest during the Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip in 2008. The public services office informed him that the PGI declined his application.

VI. Dismissal from Public Service

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education continues to fire teachers and employees of its departments or stop the procedures of their appointment. ICHR received over the month of **July 12** complaints against the Ministry in this regard. The number of the complaints lodged in this respect rose to **455** over July and the previous months. The complainants claim that they were fired by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education as unauthorized departments didn't recommend their appointment. ICHR considers such a measure as a breach of the civil service law and the Palestinian Basic Law and an infringement of the citizens' right to assume public jobs on equal footing without discrimination.