



HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

6 January- 12 January 2025



Human Rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of the nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language or any other status without discrimination. These rights are all universal, inalienable, interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

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LEBANON

Monday
6 January
2025

The Alternative Press Syndicate condemns the prevention and suppression of journalists: We reject the principle of prior authorization

On January 6, 2025, the Alternative Press Syndicate released a statement in which it condemned the prevention and suppression of journalists and rejected the “principle of prior authorization.” The statement highlighted the increase in assaults involving the prevention of journalists from carrying out their work and hindering them in various areas. The most recent incident involved members of Hezbollah preventing an [MTV](#) crew from completing a [report](#) in Beirut’s southern suburbs and forcing them, under the threat of weapons, to delete the footage they had recorded. The Alternative Press Syndicate reiterated its rejection of the principle of seeking permission from political parties to film or engage in journalistic work in certain areas that are not military zones. This practice also contradicts the freedom of the press and the freedom of journalistic work as guaranteed by the Lebanese Constitution. In this regard, MTV released a [statement](#) documenting the assault on its crew members.

Tuesday
7 January 2025

Lebanon: nearly 125,000 people are still displaced

More than one month since the cessation of hostilities, humanitarian needs in the country remain critical. While over 880,000 people displaced by the conflict have started to return to their home areas, many find their homes, as well as infrastructure and essential services, damaged or destroyed. Moreover, nearly [125,000](#) people are still displaced outside their areas of origin, unable to return, including to the more than 60 villages and areas for which the Israeli Army continues to reiterate that civilians should not return, according to a news report by OCHA released on 7 January, 2025.

Public Security stops Abdel Rahman Youssef Al-Qurdawi at the border crossing

In a statement released on Instagram, the Lebanese Centre for Human Rights stated that Public Security had stopped the Lebanese poet Abdel Rahman Youssef Al-Qurdawi at the border factory crossing after he left Syria based on the detention memorandum submitted by the Emirates and Egypt. [Civil society organizations](#) in Lebanon and Egypt urged not to turn in the demands on the basis of expressing their political opposition. His arrest followed [critical](#) comments [Qaradawi](#) made of the UAE, Saudi Arabian and Egyptian [authorities](#) in a video posted online, according to a news report by Al Jazeera released on 7 January 2025.

Wednesday
8 January 2025

Civil Defense teams recovered the bodies of eight individuals

Civil Defense teams recovered the bodies of eight individuals, five from beneath the rubble of a house near the Alma Al Shaab church and three from the Sheikh Ali neighborhood in Khiam. Rescue efforts are ongoing in Khiam to locate the missing, with field searches set to begin in Naqoura on Wednesday, according to a news report by Megaphone News released on 8 January 2025.

Human Rights Watch: Serious Risk of Abuse for Poet Deported to UAE

The Lebanese government on January 8, 2025 unlawfully deported Abdulrahman Youssef al-Qardawi, an Egyptian-Turkish poet, to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), where he faces a near-certain unfair trial and serious risks of other abuses including torture, Human Rights Watch said on January 8, 2025.

Lebanese authorities initially arrested al-Qardawi on December 28, 2024 at the Masnaa border crossing upon his return from a visit to Syria based on a provisional arrest request made by Egypt, his lawyer Mohammed Sablough told Human Rights Watch. Sablough said that on December 30, an additional arrest request was made by the UAE. The Lebanese government said in its decision that the UAE, on January 2, requested al-Qardawi's extradition, citing charges against him that included spreading fake news and rumors, disturbing public security, and spreading information that seeks to disturb public order. Sablough said the UAE's arrest request stems from a social media post during al-Qardawi's visit to Syria. Human Rights Watch reviewed the post in question and found that it did not constitute recognizable offenses under international law.

Deporting al-Qardawi to the UAE violates Lebanon's domestic laws and its international obligations, including under the international Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which Lebanon has ratified, Human Rights Watch said.

Israeli forces strike the house of the Bint Jbeil mayor

The Israeli forces struck the villa of the Bint Jbeil mayor on January 8, 2024, in their 401st violation of the ceasefire since the agreement came into effect on October 27, according to the Anadolu Agency tally.

Israeli forces abduct 6 individuals in Mays al-Jabal

While six Syrians were passing through the town of Mays al-Jabal, Israeli forces abducted them, according to a news report by the National News Agency released on January 8, 2025. Three of them—Mohammad Abboud Al-Jaddan, Khazneh Hussein Al-Khalaf, and her daughter Rawan—were later released and returned to the Wadi Al-Hijar area. They were detained by the Lebanese Army Intelligence. According to their statements, they had arrived from Beirut and will be handed over to the investigation department in Sidon.

Israeli forces detonate several houses in Al-Kharzeh

The National News Agency correspondent in Tyre reported on January 9, 2025 that Israeli forces recently detonated several houses in the Al-Kharzeh area, located between the border towns of Ramiyeh and Aita Al-Shaab in the Bint Jbeil district. The explosions were heard in the villages of the district.

Thursday
9 January 2025

Friday
10 January 2025

Lebanese Army: Arrest of 9 individuals as part of security measures in various regions

The Army Command – Directorate of Orientation issued the following statement on January 9, 2025:

As part of the security measures implemented by the military institution across various regions, army units, supported by patrols from the Directorate of Intelligence, arrested nine individuals:

- Arrest of Syrians (A.J.H.) and (A.H.H.) in the Saint Therese area, Southern Suburbs, for breaking into and robbing a residence.
- Arrest of Lebanese citizens (D.S.) and (M.S.) in the Ain Al-Shaab area, Aarsal, for possession of a quantity of military weapons and ammunition.
- Arrest of Syrian (A.J.) at the Al-Madfoun checkpoint in the North for possession of a quantity of narcotics.
- Arrest of Syrians: (Sh.M.), (A.Kh.), (F.H.), and (H.A.) at the Al-Mahatta checkpoint, Ras Baalbek, for entry into Lebanese territory, with the first individual brandishing a weapon at a soldier.

The seized items were handed over, and investigations with the detainees are underway under the supervision of the competent judiciary.

Legal Agenda: half of Naqoura's buildings are now completely destroyed

During the Israeli incursion into Naqoura, which lasted for 26 days, "Al-Mufakkira" documented demolition operations involving bombings and subsequent explosions carried out by the Israeli military over 12 separate days, drastically affecting the town. Based on satellite images, Israel destroyed twice as much during the ceasefire as was destroyed during the war itself, according to a news report released by the Legal Agenda on January 9, 2025.

"Al-Mufakkira" recorded the destruction of 87 buildings from Israeli shelling during the war, with 32 additional buildings sustaining damage, according to an analysis of satellite images dated December 10, 2024. These figures indicate that 32% of Naqoura's 370 buildings were affected during the war. However, the images we examined, taken on January 6, 2025, suggest that half of Naqoura's buildings are now completely destroyed, while the other half has suffered partial destruction or requires a field assessment to determine the extent of the damage. Although it is difficult to definitively assess the extent of damage caused by partial demolitions using bulldozers or by fires, it is estimated that 90% of the buildings in Naqoura have sustained varying degrees of damage. The total and partial destruction during the ceasefire period included residential, service, and commercial buildings.

UAE takes Abdul Rahman Al-Qaradawi into custody from Lebanon

The United Arab Emirates has taken into [custody](#) defendant Abdul Rahman Al-Qaradawi from the Lebanese authorities pursuant to a provisional [arrest](#) warrant issued against him by the General Secretariat of the Arab Interior Ministers' Council - Criminal Investigation and Data Bureau, at the request of the competent authorities in the UAE. Abdul Rahman Al-Qaradawi faces [charges](#) of engaging in activities that aim to stir and undermine public security, the official Emirates News Agency confirmed on January 10, 2025.

Six killed, two injured in Israeli drone strike on car in Tayr Debba town in Tyre district

The National News Agency correspondent reported that six people were killed and 2 were injured in the hostile Israeli raid that targeted a car and a van on January 10, 2025, east of the town of Tayr Debba. Ambulances transported the injured to Tyre hospitals. The army cordoned off the targeted area.

Israeli drone targets a car in the town of Kounine, Bint Jbeil, leaving two injured

In a new Israeli violation of the ceasefire agreement, an Israeli drone targeted a car on the main road of the town of Kounine, in the Bint Jbeil district, southern Lebanon according to a news report by Annahar released on January 11, 2025. Initial reports indicated that the driver survived, while the Lebanese Ministry of Health reported that two individuals were injured in the strike.

28 international rights groups call on UAE to free extradited poet Al-Qaradawi

In a statement released on Facebook, The Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms along with 28 other international rights groups called on the UAE to free the extradited poet AL-Qardawi. The organizations expressed their deep concern over the disappearance of journalist and poet Abdulrahman Youssef Al-Qaradawi on January 8, 2025, following his boarding of a private plane bound for Abu Dhabi. The organizations also called on the Emirati authorities to immediately disclose the location and conditions of Abdulrahman Youssef Al-Qaradawi's detention and to guarantee his right to communicate with his family and legal representation.

Recovery of the bodies and remains of 16 individuals

In a statement on Facebook, the General Directorate of Civil Defense announced on January 12, 2025 that the search and rescue teams of the General Directorate of Civil Defense, under the directives of Acting Director General Brigadier General Nabil Farah and in collaboration and coordination with the Lebanese Army, successfully recovered the bodies and remains of 11 individuals from the town of Tayr Harfa, as well as the bodies and remains of 5 individuals from the town of Alma Al-Shaab. This effort is part of their ongoing mission to search for missing persons following the recent Israeli aggression on Lebanon.

Israeli major bombing in Kfar Kila causes tremors in neighboring towns

The National News Agency correspondent reported that the Israeli army carried out a large bombing operation in the town of Kfar Kila, which caused tremors in the surrounding towns on January 12, 2025.

REPORTING A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO CLDH

If you wish to report an incident that may potentially constitute a violation of human rights, kindly send an email to the following address: [**violations@cldh-lebanon.org**](mailto:violations@cldh-lebanon.org)

You can also report an incident anonymously through our [**website**](#).

When making a report, please ensure to include the following information:

- **WHERE:** City/village, governorate, additional details (e.g. what prison)
- **WHAT:** Nature of the violation
- **HOW:** A narrative description of what happened
- **WHEN:** Date of the episode (at least the year, if day and month are unknown)
- **TO WHOM:** Information regarding the victim (name, nationality, gender, date of birth, city of origin, phone number). Only share this information with the consent of the person.
- **WHO** is the person reporting (name, phone number) and how were they identified (e.g., victim him/herself, family member, eyewitness, journalist, humanitarian worker...)

The information referred will remain completely private. It will be fact-checked and registered into CLDH's internal system. No action will be undertaken without the explicit and written consent of the reporter.



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