

## HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

24 February - 2 March 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.

The articles shared in this brief are the liability of their respective news outlets and do not reflect the views of CLDH.



Monday 24 February 2025

## <u>Altercation Erupts Inside Hospital in Tripoli, Northern Lebanon, Leaving Four Injured</u>

The emergency department of the Islamic Charitable Hospital in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, witnessed gunfire on Sunday evening, resulting in the injury of four people, including staff and nurses, according to a news report released by Annahar on February 24, 2025.

According to available information, the altercation began when individuals from the "B" family attempted to admit a patient for treatment, leading to a dispute over medical procedures. The disagreement escalated into an attack on the emergency department by a group of individuals, involving property destruction and gunfire.

Security forces have launched an investigation to uncover the circumstances of the incident and arrest those involved.

**Tuesday** 25 February 2025

Israeli drone strike kills 2 in eastern Lebanon's Baalbek district despite ceasefire

An Israeli drone strike February 25, 2025 killed two people and injured two others in the Baalbek district of eastern Lebanon, according to media reports.

Lebanon's National News Agency, <u>NNA</u>, said the airstrike was carried out on the Shaara area in Janta, located in the Baalbek district near the eastern Lebanon mountain range.

**Wednesday** 26 February 2025

Lebanon's new government wins confidence vote in parliament

Lebanon's new <u>government</u> won a <u>confidence</u> vote in parliament on Wednesday, following a speech by Prime Minister Nawaf Salam promising to push for economic and financial reforms and to start negotiations with the International Monetary Fund, according to a news report by Reuters issued on February 26, 2025.

Salam's government won the backing of <u>95</u> lawmakers in the 128-seat chamber.

## More than 100 Syrian detainees and prisoners on a hunger strike in Roumieh Central Prison

For the past 15 days, more than 100 Syrian detainees and prisoners have been on a hunger strike in Roumieh Central Prison, where they have suffered over the past decade from abuse and mistreatment due to fabricated or inflated terrorism charges, as a result of their opposition to the ousted Assad Regime, according to a news report released by Megaphone News released on February 26, 2025. The prisoners are demanding that they be released or handed over to the new administration in Syria, which has yet to address their situation.

**Thursday** 27 February 2025

Israeli jet attacks Herml, kills two civilians

An Israeli jet attacked a small truck in the city of Hermel, northeastern Lebanon, killing two civilians on the evening of Thursday 27 February, 2025.

Another drone targeted "an area near the shrine of former Hezbollah Secretary-General Hashem Safieddine in Deir Qanoun al-Nahr, and the damage was limited to materials" according to TRT.

#### Israeli Army Targets Two Al-Akhbar and Al-Mayadeen Journalists with Live Fire and Stun Grenade in Al-Dhahira

The Israeli army targeted Al-Akhbar newspaper correspondent Amal Khalil and Al-Mayadeen TV correspondent Jamal Al-Gharbi with live bullets and a stun grenade on Wednesday, February 26, 2025, while they were covering its incursion into the border town of Al-Dhahira, according to a news report by Samir Kassir Eyes.

### Decline in children's mental health, nutrition and education after the war in **Lebanon: UNICEF**

The latest war in Lebanon has had a significant negative impact on children's lives, with effects continuing to reverberate even after the ceasefire came into effect in November 2024, according to a new UNICEF report released on February 28, 2025.

In a survey conducted by UNICEF in January 2025, 72 percent of caregivers said their children were anxious or nervous during the war, and 62 per cent said they were depressed or sad. This represents a surge from pre-war data collected in 2023. While 8 in 10 caregivers said they have seen some improvement in their children's mental health since the ceasefire, those who endured prolonged periods of traumatic stress could face lifelong health and psychological consequences. In Baalbeck-Hermel, more than half (51 per cent) of children under 2 years of age are experiencing severe food poverty. In Bekaa, the rate was 45 per cent, a dramatic increase from 28 per cent in 2023. Children are considered in severe food poverty if they consume two or fewer of eight key food groups.

The crisis extends beyond infants. Almost half of children (49 per cent) under 18 years of age in Bekaa and just over one third (34 per cent) in Baalbeck-Hermel had either had not eaten or had had only one meal on the day prior to the survey being conducted. Nationwide, the rate was 30 per cent.

Many children are unable to attend school due to financial barriers. Two-thirds of families with children out of school cite the high costs of school fees, transportation, and materials, a figure that has doubled since 2023.

#### The assessment also shows that:

- 45 percent of households were forced to cut spending on health, and 30 per cent on education to afford basic necessities
- 31 per cent of households did not have enough drinking water
- 33 percent of households did not have access to the medications their children needed
- 22 percent of households did not have any heating source for the winter

**Friday** 28 February 2025

#### Report reveals vast loot Israeli soldiers took from Gaza, Lebanon and Syria

Boxes of cash valued at nearly \$28m, gold bars, luxury jewellery and 183,000 pieces of weaponry. These are just a few of the items looted by Israeli soldiers from Syria, Lebanon\_and Gaza, according to a new report by Israeli outlet Ynet. The looting was so widespread that soldiers joked the items "broke their backs" from carrying them. Most of the looting has been conducted by and collected by special army units dedicated to "seizing" money and other property from "enemy" territory. But "independent" looting by soldiers has also been rampant. During the ongoing invasions of Syria, Lebanon and Gaza, soldiers have seized enough pieces of weaponry to form a small army, according to Ynet.

#### US aid cuts force UNICEF to reduce Lebanon nutrition programmes, official says

<u>U.S. aid cuts</u> have forced the U.N. children's agency UNICEF to suspend or scale back many programmes in Lebanon, with more than half of children under the age of two experiencing severe food poverty in the country's east, a UNICEF official said on Friday. "We have been forced to suspend or cut back or drastically reduce many of our programmes and that includes nutrition programmes," UNICEF's deputy representative in Lebanon, Ettie Higgins, <u>told</u> reporters in Geneva via video link from Beirut, according to a news report by Reuters released on February 28, 2025.

Saturday and Sunday 1 and 2 March 2025

#### Israel opens fire as 95 civilians and fighters killed in war are buried in Aitaroun

People mourned Friday, in the southern border town of Aitaroun, their loved ones killed in Israeli airstrikes during hostilities that lasted more than a year between Israel and Lebanon.

The <u>95</u> civilians had been temporarily buried outside their hometown as the Israeli military remained in an area of dozens of border towns past its withdrawal deadline.

During the funeral, Israeli soldiers opened fire at the village's southern outskirts, according to a news report by Naharnet released on March 1, 2025.

#### **Three Wounded in Armed Clash in Tripoli**

An armed clash broke out at the entrance of the old vegetable market in the Abu Ali Bridge area of Tripoli, escalating into an exchange of gunfire between the conflicting parties. As a result, three people were injured and transported to the city's hospitals for treatment, according to an *An-Nahar* news report released on March 1, 2025.

Initial reports indicate that the dispute stemmed from a conflict over street vendor stalls, leading to heightened tensions and the use of firearms. The atmosphere in the area remains tense, with residents experiencing fear and uncertainty.

# 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** 

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
- o **HOW**: A narrative description of what happened
- WHEN: Date of the episode (at least the year, if day and month are unknown)
- o **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.

