

HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK 27 January- 2 February 2025



SOURCE: LEBANON MAP

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.



LEBANON

Monday 27 January 2025

Tuesday 28 January 2025

LBCI Team Assaulted by Group of Young Men in Deir Mimas and Khardali Road Area

According to a news statement released by LBCI on January 27, 2025, the LBCI team was subjected to a severe <u>assault</u> in the Deir Mimas area, which resulted in the <u>injury</u> of photographer Tony Kirlos, with bruises that required his transfer to the hospital for treatment. Lara Al-Hashem and Robert Ghosn also suffered bruises, while the attackers proceeded to break the team's camera and the live broadcast vehicles. The attackers also pursued the team, blocking the Khardali road in front of it, continuing their double attack, during its media coverage of the entry of residents and the army into the villages of the eastern sector in southern Lebanon.

Lebanese Army Deploys in Border Areas as Residents Push to Return Despite Israeli Presence

The Lebanese Army has deployed military units in Yaroun – Bint Jbeil in the central sector, Marwahin, Barakat Richa – Tyre in the western sector, and other border areas in South Litani following the withdrawal of the Israeli enemy. This deployment, coordinated with the Quintet Committee overseeing the ceasefire agreement (Mechanism), comes amid ongoing Israeli attacks.Despite the presence of occupation forces, residents of southern towns continued their attempts to return to their villages. By midday Monday, residents of <u>Yaroun</u> reached the town square, accompanied by the Lebanese Army, amid calls to gather and expel Israeli vehicles, according to a news report released by Megaphone News on January 27, 2025. The army continues to escort civilians in border towns and maintains close coordination with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) regarding the situation in the area, in line with Resolution 1701.

Two killed and 26 wounded in the final toll of Israeli attacks

The Public Health Emergency Operations Center of the Ministry of Public Health issued the total toll of the Israeli attacks on January 27 2025, during citizens' attempts to enter their towns that are still occupied in southern Lebanon, where an individual was killed and twenty-six others were injured.

Israeli raid on Nabatieh results in the injury of fourteen people

The Public Health Emergency Operations Center of the Ministry of Public Health issued a statement on January 28, 2025 announcing that the Israeli <u>raid</u> on Nabatieh resulted in the injury of <u>fourteen</u> people, according to an updated toll.

Israeli Attack Injures Soldier and Three Civilians

Statement from the Army Command – Directorate of Orientation released on January 28, 2025: In the context of ongoing Israeli attacks in the southern border areas, the Israeli army opened fire at army personnel and civilians on the Yaroun - Maroun Al-Ras road. The attack resulted in the injury of a soldier and three civilians while the army was accompanying residents returning to their southern border towns.

Israeli army injures photographer Hassan Fneish with a bullet in his leg in Houla

On Monday, January 27, 2025, the Israeli army targeted freelance photographer Hassan <u>Eneish</u> with a bullet that injured him in the leg while he was covering the return of residents to the southern town of Houla. Fneish posted a <u>video</u> on his Instagram account showing his leg injury and his transfer by ambulance to the hospital for treatment, during his coverage of the residents' return to the southern town of Houla.

44 wounded in Israeli attacks

The Public Health Emergency Operations Center of the Ministry of Public Health issued a <u>statement</u> on January 29, 2025, detailing the total toll of the Israeli attacks. The casualties are as follows:

- Yaron: Six wounded as citizens attempted to enter their town.
- Raid on Nabatieh al-Fawqa: Twenty wounded.
- Raid on Zoutar: Ten wounded.
- Majdal Salm: Five wounded.
- Maroun Al Ras: Two wounded.
- Wounded released prisoner:

Crime in Mazraet Yachouh: Gas station owner tortured and killed

The Lebanese News Agency reported that the <u>body</u> of a gas station owner was found yesterday evening in a farm in Yashoua, on the Antelias road in the Matn District of Mount Lebanon Governorate, Lebanon. The body was found bound and dumped inside the station's restroom, showing signs of torture, according to a news report by Annahar released on January 28, 2025. The agency added that security forces arrived immediately and began investigations to uncover the circumstances of the crime.

Lebanon: Rights Agenda for New Government

Lebanon's new government should prioritize protecting and promoting human rights, accountability, transparency, and the rule of law, Human Rights Watch said on January 30, 2025 in a letter to new prime minister-designate, Nawaf Salam. The incoming government should enact reforms that guarantee everyone's rights in Lebanon and ensure accountability for past abuses and violations, judicial independence, and improvement of public services.

Human Rights Watch outlined ten key recommendations for Lebanon's incoming government, focusing on human rights, reconstruction, judicial reform, and social and economic reforms. The recommendations include ensuring accountability for war crimes, the 2020 Beirut blast, and the economic crisis; establishing an independent judiciary; protecting free expression and women's rights; and safeguarding the rights of marginalized groups like migrants, refugees, and detainees. The government should also ratify the Rome Statute to allow the International Criminal Court to address past crimes and ensure transparent, corruption-free reconstruction efforts. Additionally, it must address the extensive damage from Israeli strikes, which caused \$8.5 billion in losses, and improve public institutions' transparency and accountability.

Wednesday 29 January 2025

Thursday 30 January 2025 Friday 31 January 2025

<u> Israeli raid on Janta - Bekaa</u>

The Public Health Emergency Operations Center of the Ministry of Public Health issued a statement on January 31, 2025 announcing that the Israeli raid on Janta - Bekaa resulted in the final death toll of two individuals and the injury of ten people.

Ministry of Health Releases Updated Cumulative Report on Israeli Attacks Against Health Sector

The Lebanese Ministry of Public Health released its updated cumulative report on Israeli attacks on January 31, 2025, which targeted the country's health sector, including hospitals, primary healthcare centers, and emergency response organizations.

Key Findings from the Report:

Emergency Response Organizations:

- Total attacks: 237
- Deaths: 201
- Injured: 253
- Targeted centers: 67
- Targeted ambulances: 177
- Targeted fire trucks: 59
- Targeted rescue vehicles: 18

Hospitals:

- Total hospital attacks: 68
- Targeted hospitals: 38
- Hospitals forcibly closed: 8
- Hospitals partially operational: 7
- Hospitals still forcibly closed: 2
- Deaths: 16
- Injured: 74
- Damaged vehicles: 25

Primary Healthcare Centers:

- Total attacks on centers: 63
- Centers forcibly closed: 58
- Completely destroyed centers: 10

Partially destroyed centers: 50

Tension in Sarafand after car driver hits Hezbollah mourners' motorcycles

A driver <u>struck</u> several Hezbollah supporters on motorcycles on Friday during the funeral procession of two individuals on the Sarafand-Aaqbiyeh road in southern Lebanon. Four people were <u>wounded</u> as a result of the incident. It remains unclear whether the driver, who was later arrested by the Lebanese Army, intentionally hit the mourners.

Following that, young men from the funeral set fire to the car that had been used by the perpetrator, according to a news report by L'Orient Today released on February 1, 2025.

Residents of Aaqbiyeh reported that the driver is a supporter of Sheikh Ahmad al-Assir and was imprisoned on charges of belonging to Assir's group. The man is from the village of Yarine (Sour district) and a resident of Aaqbiyeh.

Saturday and Sunday

1 and 2 February 2025

<u>'I felt my heart leave my body': Lebanese citizens accuse Israel of torture during</u> <u>detention under ceasefire</u>

On February 1, 2025, the National released the following news report: "After the deadline passed for Israeli forces to withdraw from southern Lebanon under the terms of a ceasefire agreement reached in November, Moustafa Rizk and his father, Ahmad, decided to check on their properties in the border town of Houla.

What the father and son did not know was that Israeli tanks were still in Houla. Their attempt to return home would lead to their detention, along with five others, in what they describe as brutal conditions at an Israeli military base on the Lebanon-Israel border.

"They beat me with their hands and a stick. I felt my soul leave my body. They interrogated me three times, each session lasting three hours. We were freezing cold – no food, no water, no sleep," Moustafa said, his wrist still bearing the marks from being tied for hours. The Israeli army did not give an immediate comment and asked for more details on the incidents.

In separate interviews with *The National*, the father and son described being physically and verbally abused, and deprived of food, water and sleep. They said they were left on a bench in a cold room for days, their hands tied behind their backs. During repeated interrogations, they were beaten and insulted."

Lebanese Army Continues its Deployment South of Litani

The Lebanese Army Command – Directorate of Guidance issued the following statement on February 1, 2025:

Military units have been deployed in the town of <u>Aitaroun</u> – Bint Jbeil in the central sector and other border areas south of the Litani River, in coordination with the Quintet Committee overseeing the ceasefire agreement (Mechanism). This deployment comes as the Israeli army escalates its aggressions, including setting fire to homes in several towns such as Aitaroun – Bint Jbeil, Rmeish, and Adaisseh – Marjayoun. Additionally, Israeli airstrikes targeted vehicles participating in the recovery of martyrs' bodies in the town of Taybeh – Marjayoun.

In light of these ongoing attacks, the Army Command urges citizens to adhere to official statements, follow the guidance of deployed military units, and coordinate with local authorities to ensure their safety.

The Lebanese Army continues to support residents in border towns while working to implement UN Resolution 1701 and carry out necessary field measures in several locations south of the Litani.

Israel abducts fisherman Mohammad Jahir

The Israeli army kidnapped the fisherman, Muhammad Jahir, at Ras al-Naqoura point while he was sailing with his brother on their boat, according to a news report by the National News Agency released on February 2, 2025.

The Israeli army arrested Muhammad and took him to the occupied Palestinian coast, while his brother remained free.

Family of slain activist accuses Lebanon judge of halting probe

The indictment decision issued in the case of the assassination of activist and researcher Loukman Slim has sparked widespread disappointment and anger, especially since it was issued on the eve of the fourth anniversary of Slim's assassination, according to a news report released by Annahar on February 2, 2025.

The indictment was issued by the Acting First Investigating Judge in Beirut, Bilal Halaoui, who confirmed that "there is insufficient evidence about the identity of the perpetrators to arrest them and bring them to justice." He merely accused "unknown individuals of being behind the kidnapping and execution of Loukman Slim" and ordered an ongoing investigation to identify them.

Judge Halaoui stated in his indictment that "the investigations have not led to the identification of the perpetrators or suspects, and that the judiciary relied on cameras from the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) operating in the southern region, but the results of the analysis of their footage showed that the cameras installed at the international mission's centers do not capture their surroundings, and thus there are no surveillance recordings outside the centers." He also noted that the investigating judge "did indeed meet on May 23, 2024, with the German embassy's consul to Lebanon and a liaison officer from the German police, who presented a set of preliminary questions that were added to the file, and preliminary answers were provided with the possibility of another meeting if necessary. However, the German delegation later responded that technical assistance could not be provided."

The decision has provoked anger from Loukman Slim's family and the personal prosecution team, who <u>believe</u> that the investigating judge "succumbed to pressure exerted by Hezbollah and ignored all the memoranda submitted to him, while rejecting international cooperation in this matter." The prosecution team pointed out that the investigating judge "disregarded all the memoranda submitted and the requests made."

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
- **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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