

HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

6 May - 12 May 2024



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
6 May 2024

Israeli raids on Sarbin, Aita al-Shaab cause severe property, infrastructure damages

The Israeli raid on the town of Sarbin caused severe damage to property, crops, and infrastructure, especially to the electricity and water networks, according to a news report released by the National News Agency on May 6, 2024. NNA also reported that at approximately 5:00 pm, Israeli warplanes raided a house in the town of Aita al-Shaab, which led to its destruction.

UNICEF: Children in Lebanon Are Paying the Price of 6 Months of Increasing Conflict

The lives of children in Lebanon have been upended after six months of escalating conflict with Israel, according to a news report released by UNICEF on May 6, 2024. Almost 90,000 people – including over 30,000 children – have been forced from their homes since October, with that number likely to increase. As hostilities have intensified, near-daily airstrikes are hitting deeper and deeper into Lebanon, putting more and more children and families at risk. By the end of April, these strikes had killed 344 people, including eight children and 21 women, and injured 1,359 people, including 75 children. Essential civilian infrastructure and facilities have been destroyed or damaged, disrupting education and access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

Tuesday
7 May 2024

Human Rights Watch: Israel: US Arms Used in Strike that Killed Lebanon Aid Workers

Human Rights Watch released a report on May 7, 2024, stating that the [Israeli strike on an emergency and relief center](#) in south [Lebanon](#) on March 27, 2024, was an unlawful attack on civilians that failed to take all necessary precautions. “If the attack on civilians was carried out intentionally or recklessly, it should be investigated as an apparent war crime. The strike, using a US-made Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) guidance kit and an Israeli-made 500-pound (about 230 kilograms) general purpose bomb, killed seven emergency and relief volunteers from the town of Habbariah, five kilometers north of the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.” The strike targeted a residential structure that housed the Emergency and Relief Corps of the [Lebanese Succour Association](#), a nongovernmental humanitarian organization that provides emergency, rescue, first aid training, and relief services in Lebanon. Human Rights Watch found no evidence of a military target at the site. Just a week before, Israel reportedly [submitted](#) written assurances to the US State Department that US-provided weapons were not being used in violation of international law.

Wednesday
8 May 2024

Lebanon's Foreign Ministry warns against escalation in Rafah

The Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants warned in a statement released on May 7, 2024, "against any escalatory action that would be launched by the Israeli occupation forces against the city of Rafah, as such an action threatens of a serious humanitarian catastrophe for more than a million Palestinians who were displaced to this region due to the ongoing Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip for seven months, which contributes to the implementation of Israeli forced displacement plans." The Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs called on "the international community and the influential and concerned countries to take immediate and effective action to stop the Israeli massacres and Israel's continued violations of international humanitarian law and relevant international resolutions, and to further strive towards establishing permanent ceasefire negotiations."

Intensive artillery, phosphorus shelling persist in southern Lebanon's Aitroun, Blida

The Israeli army shelled the southern Lebanese towns of Aitroun and Blida, using artillery and phosphorus shells according to a news report released by the National News Agency on May 8, 2024. Reports indicate that the bombardment, which struck a residence in the southwestern district of Al-Khiyam, resulted in casualties and destruction, prompting emergency medical teams to engage in debris clearance efforts.

Ministry of Public Health Publishes Updated Cumulative Emergency Report

In follow-up to the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon, the Ministry of Public Health published its updated cumulative health emergency report on May 8, 2024, indicating that "as reported from hospitals and up to 8 May, 2024, the number of casualties has reached 1413, including 351 deaths." The report added that "88% of cases were male, 95% Lebanese, 58% aged between 25 & 44," adding that "the most frequent mechanism of injury is: blunt 45%, blast 33%, and chemical exposure 17%.

Thursday
9 May 2024

Prosecutor Seghbini presses charges against 12 in TikTok child molestation gang case

Mount Lebanon State Prosecutor Tanios Seghbini on Thursday pressed charges against 12 individuals in the case of the TikTok child molestation ring, five of whom have already been detained, according to a news report released by the National News Agency on May 9, 2024.

One killed, two injured in Israeli airstrike on vehicle in Baflay

One individual has been killed and two have been injured in an Israeli airstrike that targeted a vehicle on the road of Baflay town in the district of Tyre, according to a news report released on May 9, 2024 by the National News Agency.

Lebanese General Security announces roadmap to deal with Syrian refugees

On May 9, 2024, the media center for the General security released a statement announcing a number of new measures "to regulate the file of the Syrian presence in Lebanon." General Security departments and centers have begun implementing a number of procedures which include a specific period for Syrians in violation to regularize their status and leave the country, restrictions on work undertaken by refugees, the resumption of "voluntary return" operations, and new procedures for regulating residency.

Friday
10 May 2024

"Free Patriotic Movement" stages protest calling for the return of Syrian refugees

The "Free Patriotic Movement" staged a [protest](#) on May 9, 2024 in Gibran Khalil Gibran [square](#) facing the ESCWA building in Beirut. The protest called for the return of refugees who are currently residing in Lebanon to Syria, according to a video published by the official account of FPM on X.

Religious authorities filed complaints against a stand-up comedian Shaden Fakih

Lebanon's Muslim religious authorities have filed complaints against a stand-up comedian and LGBTQ rights activist, after a sketch of hers about Friday prayers sparked controversy online, according to a news article released by Naharnet on May 9, 2024. On May 10, 2024 the [Supreme Islamic Shiite Council](#) filed a criminal complaint against Fakih for "the crimes of blasphemy, insulting religious rituals and stirring sectarian strife," the state-run National News Agency reported. Parliament member [Imad Hout](#) also filed a complaint against her, NNA said. On May 9, 2024, Lebanon's grand mufti, [Sheikh Abdul Latif Daryan](#), ordered top Sunni religious authority Dar al-Fatwa to file a complaint against Fakih for "insult and blasphemy against the divine glory and Prophet Mohammed." [Dar al-Fatwa](#) also accused her of "inciting religious and sectarian strife," and "undermining national unity," NNA said. A judicial source told AFP the judiciary had not yet looked into the complaints against Fakih because the competent judge was still abroad. Rights activists expressed outrage that Fakih was being threatened with prosecution for simply expressing her opinions.

Two killed in drone strike in Tayr Harfa

Two individuals were killed on May 10, 2024, as a result of an airstrike carried out by an Israeli drone near MTC station in the southern Lebanese town of Tayr Harfa, which targeted the area with two rockets, according to a news report by the National News Agency.

Israeli army targets Odaisseh town with phosphorus shells

The Israeli army targeted the bordering town of Odaisseh with phosphorus shells, causing a massive fire that spread to nearby olive groves on May 10, 2024, according to a news report by the National News Agency. Additionally, the Israeli army fired incendiary and phosphorus bombs on Jabal Labouneh, and the vicinity of the towns of Naqoura and Alma al-Shaab. The outskirts of the southern Lebanese towns of Zebqin, Yarin, and Al-Jabain in the western sector were also subjected to hostile artillery shelling.

Prosecutor Seghbini presses charges 5 against other individuals in the "TikTokers Gang" file

The Public Prosecutor in Mount Lebanon, Judge Tanios Saghbini, pressed charges against the remaining 5 detainees, including a minor and an adult, in the "TikTokers Gang" file. The allegations include crimes of rape, harassment, human trafficking, money laundering, attempted murder, and violating the electronic transactions law.

The National Women's Affairs Commission publishes the number of complaints reported regarding domestic violence cases for the month of April

The National Commission for Women's Affairs published on May 11, 2024, the number of complaints about cases of domestic violence received by the hotline of the General Directorate of Internal Security Forces for the month of April 2024, as follows:

Cases of Physical violence: 60

Sexual violence: 1

Moral violence: 8

Economic violence: 0

This monthly report includes the number of calls related to cases of physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence that the security forces receive via the hotline 1745 and that are reported by the victim, family members, or anyone who witnesses them. It also reports the identity of the perpetrator or perpetrator in relation to the victim.

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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