



HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

17 February - 23 February 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
17 February
2025

Lebanon: Destruction of Infrastructure Preventing Returns

Israeli attacks in southern [Lebanon](#) between October 2023 and December 2024 destroyed vast swathes of critical civilian infrastructure and public services, preventing tens of thousands of Lebanese from returning to their homes, Human Rights Watch said on February 17, 2025.

Since the November 27 ceasefire deal between Israel and Lebanon came into effect, Israeli attacks have reportedly killed at least 57 people in Lebanon, including at least 26 who were attempting to return to villages that remain occupied by the Israeli military. As of February 5, 2025, nearly [100,000 people](#) remain displaced in the country from the recent conflict, according to the United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM). People affected by the war should be able to realize their rights to reparations, housing, education, electricity, water, and health care, among others.

Between October 2023 and December 2024, Israeli attacks in Lebanon killed more than 4,000 people and displaced over one million. Tens of thousands of housing units, businesses, and agricultural establishments across Lebanon have been damaged, according to the [UN Development Programme](#) (UNDP). Much of the damage was caused by the Israeli military's use of explosive weapons in populated areas."

Israeli Army Opens Fire on Media Crews in Houla

On Sunday, February 16, 2025, the Israeli army opened fire on media crews covering the return of residents to the border town of Houla. Among those present were *Al-Akhbar* newspaper correspondent Amal Khalil and freelance journalist Mohammad Zenati, who sustained a knee injury after falling to the ground while attempting to take cover from the gunfire.

Providing further details, Khalil stated in an Instagram [post](#) that "the occupation forces opened fire on us and the civilians after soldiers advanced toward the crowd."

Meanwhile, Zenati wrote on [Facebook](#): "As the occupation forces fired live bullets at us, I fell on my knee and sustained a minor injury."

23 Bodies Retrieved from Rubble in Meiss el-Jabal, Kfar Kila, Odaisseh, and Markaba; One Injured Person Hospitalized

Rescue teams from the General Directorate of Civil Defense, in full coordination with the Lebanese Army, [continue](#) their search and comprehensive field survey operations in the areas affected by the Israeli aggression. This effort is carried out in accordance with the directives of the Acting Director General of Civil Defense, Brigadier General Nabil Farah. In this context, on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, specialized teams managed to retrieve the bodies of 14 individuals in the town of Meiss el-Jabal, 3 bodies in the town of Markaba, 3 bodies in the town of Kfar Kila, and 3 bodies in the town of Odaisseh. Meanwhile, Civil Defense ambulance teams transported an injured person from the town of Meiss el-Jabal to Tebnine Governmental Hospital after he was wounded by Israeli fire, according to a statement issued by the General Directorate of Civil Defense released on February 18, 2025.

Israeli troops stay inside south Lebanon after withdrawal deadline

Israeli forces have pulled out from towns and villages in southern Lebanon but remain in [five locations](#) along the border in what the Lebanese government [describes](#) as a violation of a ceasefire deal, according to a news report released by the BBC on February 18, 2025.

Tuesday marked the end of the deadline for the Israeli withdrawal from the country, which was part of a truce that came into force in November and put an end to 13 months of conflict between Israel and the Lebanese militant and political movement Hezbollah.

The agreement, which was brokered by the US and France, also stipulated the removal of Hezbollah fighters and weapons from southern Lebanon and the deployment of Lebanese soldiers to the area where the group has been the dominant force for decades.

But a day earlier, the Israeli military announced its forces would remain at five "strategic" hilltops until the Lebanese army fully implemented its part of the deal.

Lebanon demands full Israeli troop withdrawal from south

Lebanon has [demanded](#) that Israeli forces fully withdraw from its territory in the south as agreed under a ceasefire agreement involving Hezbollah.

On Tuesday, Lebanese leaders said the Israeli military's presence in the country in five locations is an "occupation" and said that Beirut was in touch with France and the United States to press the Israeli army to completely withdraw from southern Lebanon, according to a news report by Al Jazeera released on February 18, 2025.

SNHR Calls on the Syrian and Lebanese Governments to Take Urgent Action to End the Suffering of Syrian Detainees in Lebanon

The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) today released a statement on February 18, 2025 calling on the Syrian and Lebanese governments to take urgent action to end the suffering of Syrian detainees in Lebanon. The group estimates that around 2,000 Syrians are still detained in Lebanese prisons, including 190 who were detained over their involvement in the Syrian uprising.

On February 11, 2025, a number of Syrian detainees in Lebanon's Roumieh Prison announced their launch of an open-ended hunger strike to protest against their [harsh](#) detention conditions in these prisons and to demand their repatriation to Syria. This hunger strike comes in the context of worsening humanitarian conditions in Lebanese prisons, where Syrian detainees face continuous violations of their fundamental rights, having been subjected to arbitrary detention for years without any official response to their demands..

Tuesday
18 February 2025

Lebanese Army Expands Deployment in South Litani, Strengthens Presence in Eastern and Central Sectors

A statement issued by the Army Command - Directorate of Orientation on February 18, 2025 reads as follows:

On February 17 and 18, 2025, military units were deployed in the following towns:

- Al-Abbasiya, Al-Majidiya, Kfar Kila – Marjeyoun in the eastern sector.
- Odaisseh, Markaba, Houla, Meiss el-Jabal, Bleda, Mahaybib – Marjeyoun in the central sector.
- Marun al-Ras and the remaining part of Yaroun – Bint Jbeil in the central sector.

Units were also deployed in other border locations in the South Litani area, in coordination with the Quintet Committee overseeing the ceasefire agreement (Mechanism) and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), following the withdrawal of Israeli forces.

Specialized units have begun conducting engineering surveys, clearing roads, and addressing unexploded ordnance and suspicious objects in these areas. The Army Command urges citizens to adhere to the instructions of the deployed military units in the southern regions to allow the completion of these operations as quickly as possible, ensuring their safety and well-being.

Wednesday
19 February 2025

One Individual killed in Aita al-Shaab and Two Injured in Al-Wazzani

The Public Health Emergency Operations Center of the Ministry of Public Health issued a statement on February 19, 2025 announcing that an Israeli drone strike on a car in the town of Aita al-Shaab resulted in the death of one person. The Israeli army opened fire in the town of Wazzani, wounding two people.

Thursday
20 February
2025

Dima Sadek Faces Campaign of Incitement, Treason Accusations, and Threats

Since Thursday, February 20, 2025, journalist Dima Sadek has been facing a campaign of threats, incitement, and accusations of treason through messages and calls she has received via WhatsApp, due to her political stances shared on her account on the X platform, according to a news report released by Samir Kassir Eyes on February 20, 2025. Sadek later [removed](#) the post containing her political stances on her account on the X platform.

Friday
21 February
2025

Israeli warplanes strike crossings between Lebanon, Syria

Israeli warplanes on February 21, 2025 carried out overnight airstrikes on illegal crossings between Lebanon and Syria, specifically in the Wadi Khaled area of Akkar and Wadi Al-Wawiyat, according to a news report by the National News Agency.

Saturday and Sunday
22 and 23 February
2025

Israeli airstrikes target Lebanon amid late Hezbollah leader Nasrallah's funeral

Israeli warplanes [carried out airstrikes on several](#) towns in eastern and southern Lebanon on Sunday amid a mass funeral of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah and despite an ongoing ceasefire, according to a news report by Andalou Agency released on February 23, 2025.

The Israeli [attacks](#) targeted the towns of Zrariyeh, Zibqin, Al-Qlaiaah, Jannata, Deir Qanoun Al Naher, and Maaroub in southern Lebanon, sources said.

The state news agency [NNA](#) said a Syrian girl was injured near Al-Qlaiaah and was transferred to a hospital for medical attention.

The broadcaster said an airstrike was also reported in the Brisa area in eastern Lebanon, but no casualties were reported.

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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