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الاتحاد الأوروبي



Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms
"MADA"

Violations of media freedoms in Palestine during the first
half of 2020

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This report is produced by the Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms
– MADA - As part of the project (A step forward towards enhancing freedom of
expression in Palestine) funded by the EU/ European union

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Preamble:

The first half of the year 2020 witnessed a decrease in the total number of violations against media freedoms in Palestine compared to what it reached during the same period last year 2019, due to two main reasons: the sharp drop in the number of Palestinian violations, while the second reason is due to the almost complete paralysis of Public life during the period covered by this report as a result of the closure due to the spread of the Corona epidemic, which spanned for more than two months (approximately one-third of the period covered by the report). On the other hand, the rate of occurrence of Israeli violations during the first half of 2020 actually increased (if the issue of the closure is taken into account), while there was almost no change in the number of violations committed by Facebook compared to what it was in the first half of 2019.

In addition to the above, a third reason is the stopping of the activities of the peaceful return marches that are organized in the Gaza Strip in protest against the closure and blockade of the Strip by the Israeli occupation, which formed the most prominent and widening point of friction with the Israeli occupation forces during the first half of last year 2019. It should be mentioned that during the first year of 2019 dozens of Israeli attacks against journalists / media outlets witnessed during their coverage of these marches, which decreased during the first half of 2020, to touch almost zero, after stopping these marches.

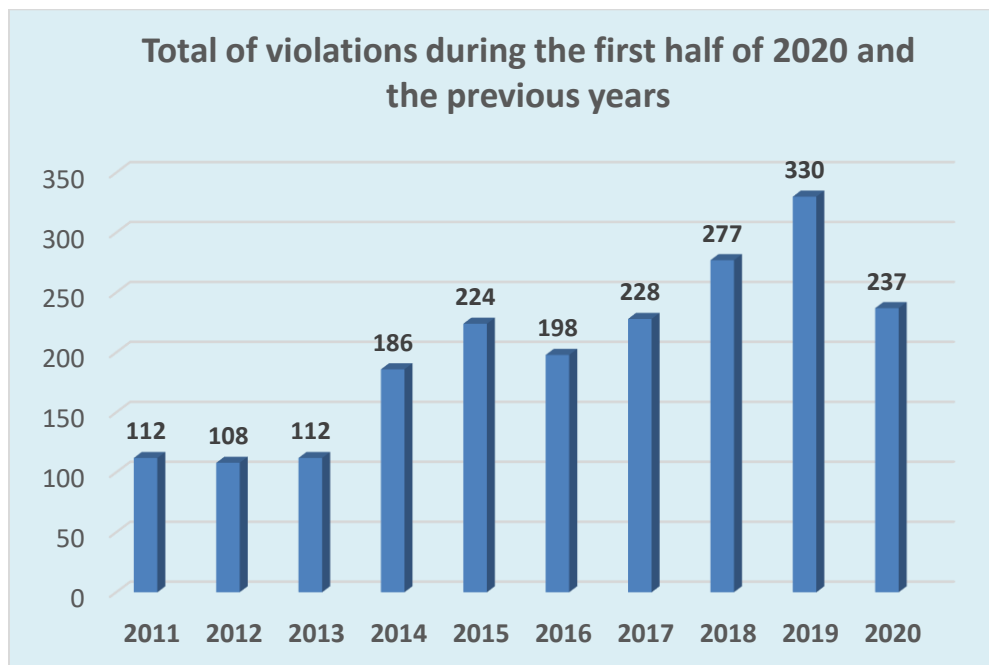
The total number of violations, Palestinian and Israeli, and those committed by the Facebook Company during the first half of 2020, a total of 237 attacks, compared to a total of 330 attacks that were monitored during the same period in the previous year 2019. That is, a total decrease of 93 attacks, or about 28% of what it was.

(Total violations against media freedoms during the first half of 2020 and the years before)

First Half of	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Number of Violations	112	108	112	186	224	198	228	277	330 (65 by Facebook)	237 (64 by Facebook)

It is important to know where the decline in the number of recorded violations came, especially since the report deals with three main parties responsible for committing these violations: the Israeli occupation, the Palestinians, and social media companies, especially Facebook.

A comparative view of the map of the distribution of violations (according to the perpetrators) during the first half of the current year 2020 and the corresponding period in the past year 2019, and the distribution of declines, show that 68 violations of the total retreat of 93 violations came from Palestinian violations that decreased sharply, 25 violations were the size of the retreat from the Israeli attacks, and a single violation came as a decrease in the number of violations committed by Facebook. Moreover, the Palestinian violations (which decreased significantly) did not constitute only 35% of the total number of violations for the first half of 2019, while the Israeli violations constituted 45%, and Facebook violations 20% of them.



In the first half of 2020, the Israeli occupation committed a total of 125 violations against media freedoms in the West Bank including occupied Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip, while a total of 47 violations were committed by different Palestinian parties, and Facebook Company committed 64 violations. The latest violation was committed by the Associated Press news agency, which fired a reporter Iyad Hamad, because of his participation in advocacy activities for journalists who were attacked.



The 237 attacks recorded in the first half of 2020 affected a total of 130 people¹, including 118 male journalists and 12 female journalists.

The main reason for the concentration of most attacks among (male) journalists compared to their female colleagues is due to two reasons; the first of which is generally related to the total number of female journalists working compared to the journalists (they make up according to different estimates about 30%), and the other reason is related to the limited number of female journalists who work in field and photography, as most female journalists work in "office jobs", that are relatively far from being subjected to direct attacks, compared to what is the case when working in the field.

(Israeli and Palestinian violations during the first half of 2020, by type)

Type of Violation	Israeli occupation	Palestinian Parties	Facebook Company	Other Parties
Physical assault - injury - beating	38	3	0	0
Arrest / detention - administrative transfer	7	10	0	0

¹ Some of the victims of these attacks were subject to more than one attack during the period covered by the report, in addition to the fact that some of the attacks targeted media institutions and press crews and did not directly target specific individuals.

Detention (often interrogated)	9	2	0	0
Summoning	9	13	0	0
Confiscation / detention / damage of equipment	4	4	0	0
Raid an organization / house	0	2	0	0
Preventing of coverage	47	4	0	0
Target to prevent coverage	3	0	0	0
Delete material or photage	3	1	0	0
Close / destroy institutions / blocking	1	0	64	0
Exclusion from Jerusalem	1	0	0	0
Torture / ill-treatment	0	2	0	0
Threatening	0	2	0	0
Induction - defamation	0	2	0	0
Other attacks	3	2	0	1
Total	125	47	64	1

➤ Israeli violations

The number of Israeli violations monitored during the first half of 2020 decreased, compared to during the same period in the previous year 2019. The number of Israeli violations decreased from 150 attacks monitored in the first half of 2019 to 125 attacks in the first half of this year 2020.

Most of the Israeli attacks occurred in the West Bank (121 of them), while the number of Israeli attacks in the Gaza Strip was limited to only four, knowing that the number during the first half of 2019 was 59, most of them were physical injuries with live ammunition.

The decrease in the number of Israeli attacks in the Gaza Strip came as a result of the stopping of the peaceful return marches that were being organized in the Gaza Strip, and

consequently the absence of opportunities for friction with the citizens and the media that they used to cover.

(Violations of the Israeli occupation during the first half of 2020 and the years before)

First Half of	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Number of Violations	44	67	78	132	114	133	127	208	150	125

In addition to the impact of the stopping of the return marches in Gaza, the decrease in the number of Israeli violations (despite its limitations) came in part as a direct result of the process of comprehensive closures imposed by the Palestinian government on the various governorates as part of the measures to combat the outbreak of the Corona pandemic, as the comprehensive closures imposed by the Palestinian government continued towards 80 days (from March 5, 2020 to May 25, 2020), as well as partial closings involving many governorates in other periods, as happened in Bethlehem with the onset of the first cases of the disease, rather than measures to prevent public gatherings of citizens and other precautionary measures that was applied before and after all in the Palestinian territories.

It is worth mentioning that these measures obligated Palestinian citizens to stay in their homes for a period of no less than two months, and the general movement was almost completely crippled, and it disappeared or almost completely disappeared in various field activities, especially anti-occupation, and media attention was limited to the Corona pandemic file, and thus missed opportunities for daily friction with The Israeli occupation forces in the field, which usually witnesses Israeli attacks against journalists, to prevent them from covering it.

(Israeli violations during the first half of the year 2020, by month)

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Number of Violations	23	31	4	1	18	48

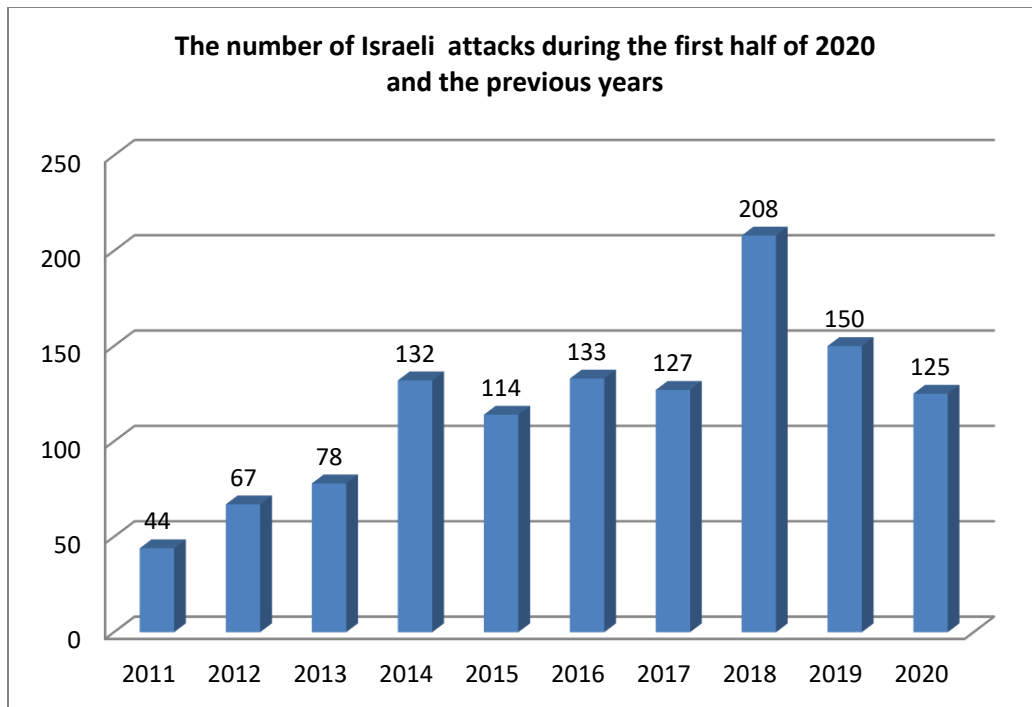
The decrease was clearly evident during the months of March and April (the closing months), as March 4 witnessed Israeli attacks, while April witnessed only one Israeli violation, which directly led to a decrease in the number of Israeli violations recorded

during the first half of the year 2020 covered by this report. Which, if these unusual and urgent circumstances happened, we would have witnessed a major jump compared to the first half of the previous year (see the table of the distribution of Israeli violations according to months).



Without counting the impact of the stoppage of the return marches in the Gaza Strip, the frictional shrinkage and consequently the violations to almost zero, if these two exceptional months (April and May) are excluded, then we will find that the average number of Israeli attacks during the first half of 2020 reached 30 attacks every month. This exceeds the rate of attacks recorded during the first half of the year preceding 2019, in addition to exceeding the overall average recorded during the first half of the past nine years (between 2011 and 2019), which is 19.5 attacks each month by 54%.

On the other hand, if the months of March and April, which witnessed paralysis in public life, resulted in the cessation of various activities, and consequently friction with the Israeli occupation, the average number of attacks recorded during the first half of 2020 remains higher than the overall rate recorded over the past nine years (125 attacks in the first half of 2020 compared to 117 attacks, which is the average of the first six months of the past nine years).



The Israeli attacks came within 11 types, all centered around one central idea or goal, which is to keep the media and journalists out of the field, and to obfuscate the policies and attacks of the Israeli occupation, by physically targeting journalists or by preventing them from reaching the location of events or closing locations or destroying what some may have been able to document with a picture, sound or information, and other means that serve one goal is to prevent the submission of any other account of what is happening on the ground of practices and attacks other than the Israeli version.

Physical attacks:

The physical attacks targeting journalists / media outlets are considered the most dangerous to their lives, as happened, for example, with the photojournalist Tayseer Abdel Mohsen Shalaldeh, who was attacked by a rubber-coated metal bullet, which caused him to break diastole in the skull. The doctors had a 5-pole head injury, noting that Shalaldeh was in a state of cramping, lost consciousness, and fell to the ground the moment he was wounded on 2/2020 while covering a demonstration in the city of Hebron.

The total number of physical attacks committed by the Israeli occupation army against journalists in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the first half of the year 2020 totaled 38 physical attacks (beating or wounding live or metal bullets or sound and gas bombs).

The direct physical attacks, and the arrests and detentions that took place during the period covered by this report, totaled 45 journalists / 36% of the total Israeli attacks.

(Violations of the Israeli occupation during the first half of 2020, by type)

Type of Violation	Number
Physical assault - injuring - beating	38
Arrest / detention - administrative transfer	7
Detention (often interrogated)	9
Summoning and interrogation	9
Confiscation / detention / damaging equipment	4
Prevention of coverage	47
Targeting to prevent from coverage	3
Deleting material	3
Closure of institution	1
Exclusion from Jerusalem	1
Other	3
Total	125

Prevention of coverage:

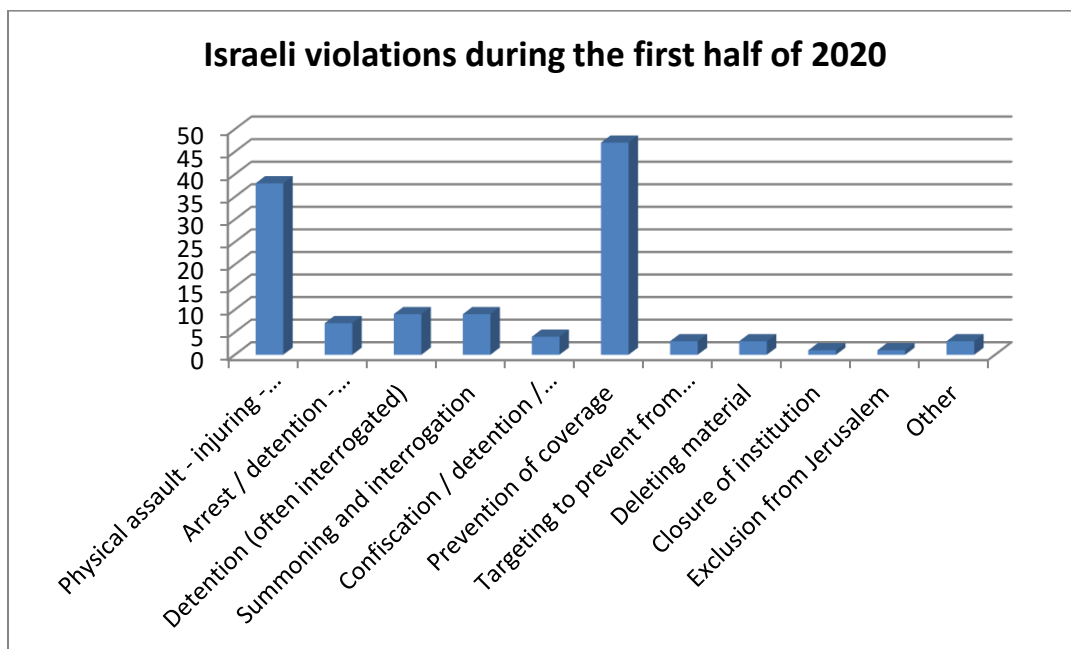
Prevention of coverage is the primary objective of the occupation forces and authorities from the operations of repression and attacks carried out against the media and journalists, as shown by various facts and facts related to the suppression of media freedoms.

While the number of direct prevention of coverage (such as removing journalists / away from the event or preventing them from reaching it) reached 47, or about 38% of all Israeli assaults, in reality the prevention of coverage includes a more extensive group of targeted attacks achieving this goal. If we do not say that all Israeli attacks aim to achieve this, in order to limit what is presented to the local and international public opinion regarding what is going on in Palestine with the Israeli version only.

Under this category, there are also direct targeting of some journalists (as happened, for example, with journalists Hassan Abdel Fattah Islah, Ashraf Abu Amra, Muhammad al-Mashharawi and Ayman al-Razi, whom the army opened fire on while they were

preparing reports about farmers harvesting wheat fields east Khan Younes). Additionally, the operations of detaining journalists in the field, confiscating or destroying some of their equipment, or removing photographed or recorded material, leading to the exclusions from some hot areas for periods of time that may extend for months (especially in occupied Jerusalem), as happened with the journalist, Sundus Owais, who was expelled from Al-Aqsa for three months, this is in addition to the closure of some media outlets, as happened with Palestine TV, which the occupation closed its office in Jerusalem late last year for six months by order of the Israeli Interior Minister, and renewed on the tenth of May 2020 to close it for another six months and prevent its crews from doing any journalist work or media coverage from Jerusalem. These attacks presents one of the most dangerous violations, given that it represents an open ban to cover events and obfuscation of what is happening for long periods, and not only one event.

The total violations that fall within the processes of direct and open prevention of coverage (previously mentioned) amounted to 68, meaning 54% of the total Israeli attacks recorded during the first half of 2020. Noting that the rest of the Israeli assaults do not shy away from the idea of preventing coverage and obfuscation of what is going on, especially the physical attacks aimed mainly at preventing journalists from reporting.



➤ **Facebook Company:**

Facebook continued to carry out systematic prosecutions and closings, which affected hundreds of pages and accounts of Palestinian citizens, which included dozens of journalists, under the pretext of violating Facebook standards.

The Facebook administration closed pages and personal accounts of 64 journalists during the first half of this year, in connection with their content, and without providing these people most of the time with any explanation for the reasons for closing their accounts.

The pursuit and closure operations by Facebook have become systematic in many cases, as the use of certain terms or names has become subject to a ban or closure, according to the experiences of dozens of journalists who were subjected to this violation by Facebook.

It is noteworthy that the Israeli occupation authorities reached nearly four years ago understandings with Facebook Company, which is essentially monitoring the Palestinian content that is published through Facebook, and deleting everything considered by the Israeli occupation authorities, under the name of fighting "incitement to violence and terrorism." Facebook has shown a high response since then, and has deleted most of the requests requested by the occupation authorities in this regard, ignoring the contents of thousands of pages and Israeli accounts on Facebook that are racist and inciting to violence.

➤ **Palestinian violations**

The Palestinian violations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the first half of 2020 witnessed a sharp decline compared to the same period in the previous year 2019, which led directly to a decrease in the total violations, despite the fact that the Israeli violations witnessed only a slight decline, and there was almost no change to Facebook company violations.

A total of 47 Palestinian violations were monitored during the first half of 2020, a figure that constitutes only 41% of the number of Palestinian violations that were recorded during the same period of the year before 2019, which reached 115 violations.

(Palestinian violations during the first half of 2020 and the years before)

First Half of	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Number	68	41	34	54	110	65	101	69	115	47

of Violations										
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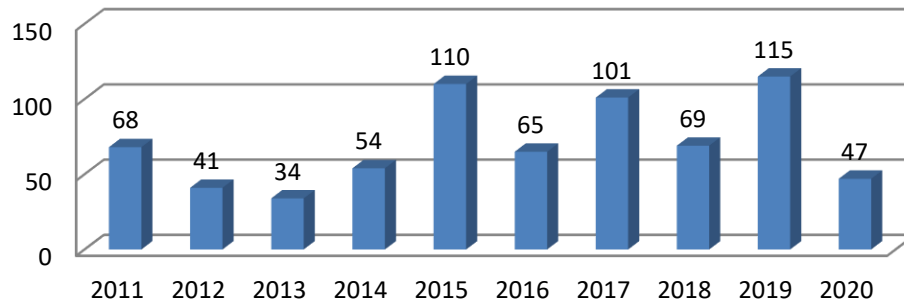
The Palestinian violations that were monitored and documented during the first half of 2020 were divided into 19 violations that occurred in the West Bank and 28 violations in the Gaza Strip.



It is noted that a sharp decline occurred in the number of Palestinian violations in the Gaza Strip, as it decreased from 88 violations in the first half of 2019 to 28 violations, meaning that during the first half of 2020, less than a third of what was recorded in the corresponding period of 2019.

However, for the second year in a row, the number of Palestinian violations that occurred in the Gaza Strip came out greater than those in the West Bank, knowing that the West Bank, as it is known, is more populated, and there are more media outlets and journalists / compared to the Gaza Strip.

Palestinian violations during 2020 & the previous years



The Palestinian violations in the Gaza Strip in the first half of 2020 accounted for 60% compared to 40% in the West Bank, noting that the Palestinian violations in Gaza during the first half of 2019 constituted 77% compared to 23% in the West Bank.

The distribution of Palestinian violations before that (i.e. during the first half of the year 2018) was the opposite of what it is now, as the Palestinian violations that took place in the West Bank constituted 78% compared to 22% in the Gaza Strip.

(Palestinian violations during the first half of 2020, by type and location of occurrence)

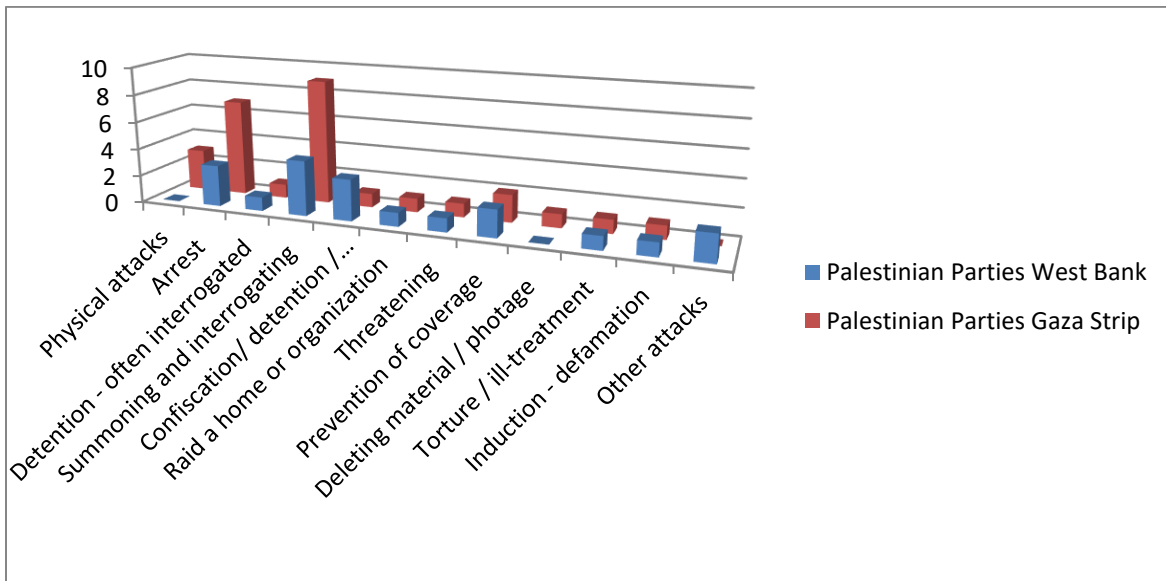
Type of Violation	Palestinian Parties	
	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Physical attacks	0	3
Arrest	3	7
Detention - often interrogated	1	1
Summoning and interrogating	4	9
Confiscation/ detention / equipment damage	3	1
Raid a home or organization	1	1
Threatening	1	1
Prevention of coverage	2	2
Deleting material / photage	0	1

Torture / ill-treatment	1	1
Induction - defamation	1	1
Other attacks	2	0
Total	19	28

The Palestinian violations during the first half of 2020 were among 11 types, the most prominent of which are 13 cases of summons and interrogations, and the arrest and detention operations of 10 journalists. These two types of violations constituted about half of all Palestinian violations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (49% of them).

Two of the cases of arrest and detention (one in the West Bank and the other in Gaza) witnessed torture and ill-treatment of detainees, knowing that the first half of the year 2019 witnessed a total of 16 cases of torture and ill-treatment out of the total number of cases of arrest and detention which amounted to 37 cases, which shows a significant decline in one of the most serious violations.

(Palestinian violations during the first half of 2020)



Details of Violations:

January

(6th Jan.) The occupation soldiers assaulted a number of journalists and prevented them from covering a Palestinian protesting march organized at the entrance of Nabi Ilyas Village, eastern Qalqilya.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, a peaceful demonstration was organized to take place on the afternoon of 6th Jan. 2020, on the settlement street 55, that passes near the entrance of Nabi Ilyas Village, eastern Qalqilya, and that many journalists and media agencies arrived to cover the demonstration. In the meantime, at around 12:00PM on that day, while ROYA TV staff, consisting of the West Bank reporter Hafeth Mahmoud Abu Sabra (32 years old), his coworker the cameraman Ashraf Mohammad Saleem Dar Zaid (35 years old), was presenting a live statement during the newscast, a group of soldiers approached and one of the soldiers pulled out the cable of the live broadcasting device while the staff was going on air, and thus cut the feed to the TV studio. Not only this, but the soldier also pushed the reporter Abu Sabra and ordered them to stay away by a distance of no less than two hundred meters claiming that it is “a closed military zone”. Furthermore, the occupation soldiers also prevented the remaining journalists from covering the demonstration which involved assaulting some demonstrators and citizens by settlers. The prevention from coverage escalated to pushing the following journalists very hard and ask them to stay away:

The Syrian News Channel Staff consisting of the reporter Jeries Khaleel Azer (30 years old), the Channel cameraman Mutasem Sameer Saqf Al-Hait (32 years old), Palestine TV reporter in Qalqilya Ahmad Othman Shawer (33 years old), and the freelance photojournalist Mahmoud Fawzi Ismail (30 years old), the Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission cameraman Mohammad Jihad Hamdan (29 years old).

(6th Jan.) The occupation soldiers assaulted a number of journalists and prevented them from covering the demolition and dismantling of a number of houses and facilities of Palestinian citizens in Al-Auja Village, northern Jericho.

According to the investigations of MADA field researcher, a force of the occupation army arrived in the morning on Monday corresponding 6th Jan. 2020 to Al-Auja Village, northern Jericho, and started demolishing three brics and dismantled more than 15 housing units of citizens in the village. A number of journalists arrived to cover the events, including Reuters Cameraman Adel Ibrahim Abu Neima (52 years old), from Jericho. At 9:30, while the journalist Abu Neima was alongside a number of colleagues who were

filming the demolition (was not wearing the PRESS helmet and vest), and they were next to a number of the village residents, while the Israeli soldiers were firing gas bombs, rubber coated metal bullets and live bullets at the residents not to mention they arrested a number of them including journalist Adel Ibrahim Abu Neima. One of the Israeli soldiers handcuffed Abu Neiman and took him by force to one of the military jeeps, detained him in there for two hours, preventing him from covering the demolition. At around 2:30PM on the same day, one of the soldiers arrested three journalists, pushed and prevented them from covering the events, namely: WAFA Agency cameraman Sulaiman Mahmoud Sulaiman Abu Srour (37 years old), who was threatened by the soldiers to be arrested if he did not leave the area forcing him to move away by 700 meters from the event location. They also impeded the arrival of his coworker, WAFA reporter Nadeem Ahmad Mousa Alawi (25 years old). Furthermore, the soldiers assaulted Al-Awda TV reporter, and employee of Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission Mohammad Jreir Tawfiq Hamdan (40 years old), as one of the soldiers sprayed a number of citizens with pepper spray including Hamdan resulting in his suffocation.

(13th Jan.) The Israeli Intelligence summoned the photojournalist Abdelmuhsen Tayseer Shaladeh and threatened him with murder if he continued filming around the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, the photojournalist Abdelmuhsen Tayseer Shalaldeh (28 years old), from Hebron, works for G Media and Al-Jazeera Documentary, received at around 6:00PM, on Sunday 12th Jan. 2020 a phone call from an Israeli officer who informed him of the need to come to Gush Etzion Settlement Cluster, the Israeli Intelligence Investigation Center, at 10:00AM, on the following morning Monday corresponding 13th Jan. 2020. The journalist Shalaldeh went on the said schedule to Etzion Investigation Center, southern Bethlehem, where an intelligence officer detained him for half an hour. The Israeli officer told Shalaldeh that filming around the Ibrahimi Mosque and the detainees bothers the (Israeli Intelligence Services and Army), and threatened him to stop and that this was his last warning. When Shalaldeh left the headquarters, another officer threatened with murder and told him that it was the last he will be questioned, next time he will be “assassinated”. Abulmuhsen asked the officer whether he was serious or not, and the latter replied that he was serious and things might end up with assassination.

(14th Jan.) Doctor at Jordan Hospital informed the cameraman Attia Mohammad Darwish who was injured by a gas bomb in the face fired at him by one of the occupation soldiers a year ago that he completely lost sight in his eye and there is nothing that can be done about it.

According to the investigations of MADA field researcher, Attia Mohammad Ali Darwish (32 years old), a freelance photojournalist working for several institutions including AL-Ray Agency in Gaza, has arrived in the afternoon of Friday corresponding 14th Dec. 2018 to Malka eastern Gaza to cover the peaceful return march organized weekly in Gaza Strip. At around 5:00PM on that day, and while he was 300 meters away from the separation fence on the other side of which the Israeli soldiers were deployed, taking photographs of the demonstrators, he was injured by a gas bomb in the face (lower his left eye) fired at him by one of the occupation soldiers. It should be noted that Darwish was in the known Press uniform (helmet and vest). Upon his injury, he was immediately transferred by an ambulance to Dar Al-Shifa Hospital, where he was taken to the ICU. Two days later (Sunday, corresponding 16th Dec. 2018) he underwent a surgery to remove the fragmented bone and place platinum in his face. He stayed in the hospital until 21st Dec. 2018, and then he was transferred to the Palestinian Red Crescent Al-Quds Hospital, where he stayed for a week under supervision. Then he was discharged and returned home on 28th Dec. 2018. Given his inability to clearly see post the injury, and since his attempts to get a medical transfer to the Eye Hospital in Cairo have failed, he traveled in February 2019, at his own expense, to Egypt, where the doctors informed him that there is nothing that can be done to his eye given the fragmentation caused to it as a result of the injury not to mention that a relatively long time passed since he was injured. He returned to Gaza Strip. On Wednesday, corresponding 15 Jan. 2020, he left Gaza Strip through Rafah Land Crossing and went to Jordan to receive treatment, after he got a medical transfer through the Palestinian Authority. On 18th Jan. 2020, he was admitted to Jordan Hospital in Amman, and once he was diagnosed, the doctors informed him that “there is not hope to treat his eye” and that he completely lost sight and it will always be like this. Darwish stayed at Jordan Hospital for one month as it was decided to perform a plastic surgery to his face and hearing since it was affected by the injury.

(15th Jan.) The Palestinian Authority Security officers have assaulted the journalists Mohammad Awad and Mohammad Al-Masri while they were in what is known as “Point 5/5” in Beit Hanoun/Erez checkpoint, Gaza Strip to cover the release of prisoner Alaa Abu Jazar from the Israeli Occupation Prisons, through Beit Hanoun Checkpoint.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Dunia Al-Watan e-Newspaper reporter, Mohammad Mahmoud Shaban Awad (30 years old), and the cameraman of Gaza Media Agency Mohammad Hazem Sami Al-MAsri (22 years old) have arrived on the afternoon of Wednesday 15th Jan. 2020, to what is known as (5/5) Point of the Palestinian Authority Services, at Beit Hanoun Checkpoint, Gaza Strip, to cover the arrival of prisoner Alaa Abu Jazar after he was released from the Israeli occupation prisons where he spent 17 years of his life. At around 2:30PM, the security officer evacuated the citizens and

journalists given the limited space. This resulted in altercation between the journalists (Al-Masri and Awad) and one of the security officers where one of the Palestinian Authority Security officers and three of his colleagues assaulted the journalists Awad and Al-Masri by beating and cursing, even though the journalists entrance was coordinated by the Palestinian Authority competent bodies to facilitate their mission. Their cell phones were seized by one of the police officers when they tried to contact the Crossings General Director Nathmi Muhanna. They were taken out of (5/5) point to the external gate. At that moment, the Director of Intelligence (Abu Ibrahim Al-Zaanain) came, and ordered the journalists to be taken to listen to their statements to find out what happened. After about half an hour, members of the National Security Agency came and asked the Director of Intelligence "Al-Zaanain" to take the journalists to another investigation room where 4 security officers of the intelligence and preventive security were present. They talked to them about what happened, and in the meantime the security office (with whom the altercation took place along with three of his colleagues) entered. His colleagues took him out of the room and continued questioning the journalists about what had happened and then took them out to continue their coverage of releasing the prisoner Abu Jazar. However, the security officer who assaulted them tried to come in their away again, which forced the intelligence director to ask the National Security officer to accompany the journalists Awad and Al-Masri on their way out to the gate of Point (3/3) of Hamad Security, where two Hamas security officers questioned them about what happened with them at the Palestinian Authority Security point, but they refused to respond unless in their institutions or in the presence of the Syndicate, and then they went home.

(21st Jan.) The occupation forces arrested the journalist Yazan Abu Salah, on his way back from Ramallah City to his house in Arraba, southern Jenin.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, at 2:00PM, on 21st Jan. 2019, while Yazan Jafar Fawzi Abdullah Abu Salah (24 years old), from Arraba, Jenin, a reporter of Ramallah News Newspaper, and Al-Hadaf Magazine on Facebook, was on his way home from Ramallah to Arraba, two Israeli military jeeps followed the vehicle Yazan was riding on the road after Zatar checkpoint, southern Nablus, pulled over the vehicle and arrested Yazan. Yazan's family contacted the complaints office in Jerusalem and learned that "currently" he was at Jalama Investigation Center.

(22nd Jan.) Preventing Palestine TV staff from preparing a press report on the death of a citizen whose house roof fall above her due to the heavy rain and other losses caused by the depression by officers who said they were from the "Internal Security" in Khan Younes, Gaza Strip.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Palestine TV staff, consisting of: reporter Mohammad Salim Abu Hatab (48 years old) and cameraman Hossam Attia Al-Masri (43 years old), both of whom are residents of Khan Younis camp, have arrived at around 9:30AM in the morning on Wednesday 22nd Jan. 2020, to the house of citizen Hind Kassab, who died as a result of the collapse of her house roof in Khan Younis, due to the rains, to prepare a press report, after asking the neighbors for permission. During filming (approximately at 9:45AM in the morning - that is, fifteen minutes after their arrival in the place), two civilians, dressed in civilian clothes, arrived and said that they were officers of the "Internal Security", and they asked Palestine TV staff to stop filming and leave the place immediately. The security officers asked the TV reporter, Mohammad Abu Hatab, for his identity card. The latter refused at first, asking them to show proof of being officer of the internal security, but they refused to respond to him. So the journalist Abu Hatab showed his card and gave it to one of the officers who checked it and gave it back. One of the security officers showed a card that did not clearly reveal the identity of holder. They asked the staff to leave the dead citizen's house and the staff responded. While the staff was leaving the house, one of the security officers made a phone call, and immediately asked the cameraman Hussam Al-Masri to delete whatever he has filmed in front of him. The cameraman responded and deleted the filmed material. Meanwhile, journalist Abu Hatab informed one of the security officers that he and his colleague intend to go to Salah El-Din Street near the European Hospital in Khan Younis, to prepare a report about an area that was drowning in rain water, for the sake of their report that they were trying to prepare about the weather conditions, but one of the officers told him: "you are not allowed to film anything in Khan Younis at all, neither you nor the TV, if you want to film, go see the Internal Security Office in the governorate and ask for authorization to film". This forced the staff to stop working and cancel the report they were about to prepare. The reporter then informed the TV Management –Gaza Strip Office of the incident, and they left the place at around 10:10AM on the same day.

(24th Jan.) Israeli security officers assaulted the photojournalist Iyad Abu Shalbak, while he was covering the participation of hundreds of citizens at Al-Fajir Prayer, Al-Aqsa Mosque, Jerusalem.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Iyad Hassan Abu Shalbak (39 years old), the cameraman of ROYA TV, arrived at an early house, on the morning of 24th Jan. 2020, to the square of Al-Aqsa Mosque to cover the participation of thousands of citizens in the prayers of Al-Fajir on Friday as part of the campaign "Al-Fajir Al-Atheem" launched by activists to perform Al-Fajir prayers. This is all part of Palestinian attempts to suppress semi-daily attacks by settlers in Al-Aqsa Mosque. At around 6:15AM, and after large forces of the Israeli occupation security and police raided several places in Al-Aqsa squares, the

cameraman Abu Shalbak went from the square of the farthest mosque to the Dome of the Rock square (150 meters away from where he was at) and there he saw dozens of soldiers carrying weapons in the square forcing the prayers and women to leave and assaulting them by beating and firing rubber bullets. While he was doing his work there, one of “Al-Yasam” Israeli military unit approached the cameraman Abu Shalbak and smacked him with a stick on his right leg. Then another security officer approached and smacked him again while yelling “do not film... do not film... get out of here... get out of her”. Note that these officers of the Israeli unit were smacking prayers violently and hysterically in the meantime. After about a minute, a third security officer attacked the cameraman Abu Shalbak, slapped him with his hand on his face and pushed him toward the stairs leading to the farthest mosque square, amid threatening him of arrest if he continued filming. The cameraman Abu Shalbak suffered bruises and scratches in the face and leg as a result of this attack, and he received first aid in the field by volunteer paramedics who were in the squares of Al-Aqsa Mosque in the meantime.

(25th Jan.) The Israeli occupation forces arrested journalist Thaer Abdel Nasser Al-Sharif, 28 years old, and detained him for several hours, during which they subjected him to severe abuse, after they sprayed him and his family with pepper.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Thaer Abdel Nasser Ahmad Sharif (28 years old), from Arroub Refugee Camp, northern Hebron, a show presented at Palestine TV, arrived at 5:30PM, on Saturday, corresponding 25th Jan. 2020 to his family house 10 meters away from the bypass road (60) in Arroub Refugee Camp, northern Hebron, to meet one of the persons working at his place in the second floor of his family house. When he arrived the house, two of the occupations soldiers and one officer were in front of his family house detaining two young men, the officer asked Thaer to step forward and show his personal identity card, and Thaer responded and showed his ID. However, the officer asked Thaer to bend and put his ID on the floor, but Thaer refused to do so. After few minutes of argument, the officer counted 3-2-1, and one of the soldiers assaulted him and punched him on his neck. Then he was assaulted by two soldiers who grabbed him from his hands and dropped him down on the floor while the officer squeezed his knee against Thaer’s neck. The young men started shouting at the soldiers and the latter pulled their weapons at the young men. The journalist Al-Sharif started shouting for his family, and immediately his father and three of his brothers rushed to him. In the meantime, the journalist managed to push away the officer and got up. Then the officer pulled out of his pocket a bottle of pepper gas, sprayed the journalist and his family, and forced them into the house, while his fluent Hebrew-speaking father remained arguing with the soldiers. Few minutes later, the officer asked the journalist Al-Sharif, who was suffering from suffocation due to inhaling gas (pepper) and his family, to

step against the wall and raise his hands up to be searched. The officer searched him and then handcuffed his hands to the back with a plastic cuffs, and tried to bend him down, but the journalist refused to respond. So, the officer punched him on his neck and took him to the military tower 50 meters away. While the two soldiers followed him, and beat him up with their hands on his head, back, and sides, until they reached the military tower. The officer walked the journalist Al-Sharif into a narrow corridor, and the soldiers started arguing, then the officer began insulting the journalist with humiliating words, and then blindfolded him with a piece of cloth, walked several meters and pushed him forcefully, until his head hit a concrete wall, and then asked him to sit on the floor. As soon as the officer finished talking, one of the soldiers kicked Al-Sharif strongly on his knees several times, until he fell on the ground, and continued beating him on his feet while Al-Sharif was screaming in pain of his feet and right hand, whose fingers are amputated as a result of an old work injury. Half an hour later, the beatings stopped, but the soldiers continued to insult him. One of the soldiers asked the journalist to stand up, but he could not, because of the pain in his legs and right hand, as a result of the beating and severe cold. Two soldiers helped him stand up and asked him to sit down again. Al-Sharif tried to sit down very slowly due to the pain he was feeling, but one of the soldiers violently kicked him on his legs and he fell on the ground. After that, the journalist was assaulted with hands by one of the soldiers on his abdomen, head and back. At around 7:00PM, a soldier took him to a small room and sat him on a chair with plastic flooring. The journalist was able to look from under the cover fixed to his head, and found himself inside a bathroom. Shortly after, he started screaming at the soldiers because of the pain in his feet and hands, and one of the soldiers opened the door and began to insult the journalist and slapped him on his head several times. Few minutes later, the journalist Al-Sharif began to feel a state of breakdown due to coldness and pain, so he shouted at the soldiers, and one of them came, spat on Al-Sharif several times, and beat him again. The insults and spitting by the soldiers continued intermittently for about an hour, after which the soldiers took the journalist out of the bathroom, walked him several meters and sat him on tinplate that was very cold and wet. Shortly after that, Al-Sharif tried to spread his legs to relieve them, but he felt something strongly smacking his (testicles), he screamed in pain while the soldiers continued to assault him with hands and spitting several times on him. In the meantime, the journalist was hearing pictures being taken from one of the soldier's cell phones, as if the soldier was filming the assault. At about 10:00PM, one of the soldiers helped him get up and walked several meters by him, removed the blindfold from his eyes, removed the plastic cuffs, and asked him to go to the officer who was standing on the other side of the road. Al-Sharif was unable to move, and he felt dizziness, until one of the citizens in the street approached him and helped him pass the road until he reached the officer who started threatening him with arrest and assault in case of

"violating the orders of the soldiers." Al-Sharif returned to his family house at 10:00, and he was exhausted and tired as a result of being beaten and subjected to severe cold.

(29th Jan.) The occupation forces detained three press staffs and prevented them from reaching Al-Maleh area in the northern Valleys to cover a peaceful event organized there to protest against Washington deal of century, which included enabling Israel to annex the Jordan Valley region. They also prevented the press staffs to cover another protest taking place in Al-Auja, on the same day.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, the journalist Fathi Khaleel Barahma and Omar Ahmad Hassan Abu Awad, who work for Palestine TV, as well as the journalist Adel Abu Neima who works for Reuters Agency, and journalist Sulaiman Mahmoud Sulaiman Abu Srou, who works for WAFA News Agency, all from Jericho, have took off, at 9:00AM, on Wednesday corresponding 29th Jan. 2020, from Jericho towards Al-MAleh area (eastern Tubas), northern Valleys, to cover a peaceful popular protest called for by the Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission and Tubas Governorate against the deal of century announced by Washington under which the Israeli occupation can annex to its territories the Valleys. At 9:40, the journalists who were together in the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation vehicle arrived to Al-Jiftlik Village (located on the road to Al-Maleh area where they were heading). The Israeli soldiers who had set up more than one checkpoint to prevent the citizens from going to Al-Maleh area to participate in the protest, stopped the journalists and asked them for their press and personal cards, and a soldier photographed the same on his mobile phone, and then he returned the cards of the journalists, Adel Abu Neima and Fathi Brahama. He asked the journalists, Sulaiman Mahmoud Abu Srou and the journalist Omar Abu Awad, to get off the vehicle and forced them to sit in a place about 25 meters away from the vehicle. The soldier was accompanied by an Israeli policeman and three people in civilian clothes. The two journalists, Abu Awad and Abu Srou, were pushed and threatened with arrest by the soldier and his companions if they saw them in the Valleys region. They seized WAFA Agency press card from Abu Srou, and the Journalists Syndicate card of Omar Abu Awad claiming they are invalid (expired on 31st Dec. 2019) and forced them all to go back to Jericho and prevented them from arriving to Al-Maleh area where they heading. On their way back, when they approached Fasayel Village, which is adjacent to Jericho, at approximately 12:00PM, they watched a popular march of Palestinian citizens at the entrance to the settlement of "Maali Ephraim", which is adjacent Fasayel Village. They stopped and got off the vehicle to cover the march, but the occupation forces that were in the place prevented the cameramen Omar Ahmad Abu Awad and Sulaiman Mahmoud Abu Srou again to cover the march. While an Israeli police officer tried to seize the camera of Palestine TV, and prevented the journalist Fathi Brahama from covering the

event. About 20 soldiers gathered at the location of the journalists and ordered them to leave the place and not to film, claiming that the place is a "military zone", and the soldiers threatened the driver of Palestine TV vehicle Samer Asaad Issa Abu Salman, to seize his driver's license, and the vehicle, and give him a ticket of 1000 NIS if he did not leave the place, which prompted him to leave the place immediately.

(30th Jan.) The cameraman Rabee Hassan Mouneer was suffocated until he passed out while he was covering a demonstration at Al-Bireh entrance that the soldiers attacked more than once with a barrage of suffocating gas bombs.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, at around 1:00PM, on Thursday corresponding 30th Jan. 2020, a march called for by the national and Islamic forces was launched to condemn "the deal of century" announced by the American President Donald Trump. About 200 people took part in the march, which was launched from the medical products company in Al-Bireh, and headed towards "Beit El military checkpoint, located at a distance of about 200-300 meters away from the launching location. When the march arrived "City INN" Square at around 1:30PM, three Israeli military vehicles came from the DCO gate and started firing a barrage of tear gas bombs at the demonstrators causing multiple cases of suffocation among them. The heavy firing of gas bombs wounded the cameraman of "Al-Arabi" TV, Rabee Hassan Mouneer, (38 years old), with a state of severe suffocation, as he was transferred by paramedics to an ambulance of the Palestinian Red Crescent, which was parked at a distance of about 30 meters, and there he was provided with first aid until his situation stabilized, and he returned to continue his work and cover the events of the demonstration again. At around 2:30PM, a large force of the occupation army raided the site again and fired heavy gas bombs at the demonstrators and journalists, resulting in dozens of cases of suffocation among the demonstrators. The journalist Rabee was injured again with suffocation, and shortness of breath until he passed out (fainted) which forced the ambulance staff in the area to quickly transfer him to Al-Mostaqbal Hospital, 2 kilometers away from the demonstration, where he received first aid and a respirator (Oxygen) was placed for him until he regain consciousness. At about 4:00PM, he was transferred to the Palestine Medical Complex in Ramallah, as he was suffering from chest aches as a result of this injury. He received further aid, examinations, Electrocardiography, and x-ray images to check his status that the doctors described as minor. He stayed in the hospital until 6:30PM and then he was discharged. The doctors recommended him to go see a pulmonologist and cardiologist.

(31st Jan.) The occupation soldiers assaulted and prevented Palestine TV staff from covering the clashes taking place in Arroub Camp, northern Hebron.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Palestine TV staff, consisting of the journalists: cameraman Fadi Taleb Khilaf (33 years old), cameraman Thaer Yousef Arjan (38 years old), and reporter Azmi Waleed Banat (24 years old), went to Arroub Refugee Camp, northern Hebron, at around 12:00PM, on Friday, corresponding 31st Jan. 2019, to cover a peaceful march called for by the national forces in the camp to condemn “the deal announced by the American President Donald Trump”. Once Friday prayer ended, the march moved and arrived the Distribution Center of UNRWA where the demonstrators started throwing stones at the occupation soldiers and the latter responded with sound and gas bombs randomly at them and the journalists who arrived to cover the events. This forced Palestine TV staff to go to one of the buildings near the clashes, and they went up on its roof on the third floor to cover what was going on. Meanwhile, the soldiers fired a gas bomb at the building where Palestine TV staff was located, resulting in suffocation. Minutes later, the staff returned to transmit the events live, during which three soldiers went up to the roof of the building, and they asked the staff to stop broadcasting. The soldiers tried to prevent them from broadcasting by placing their hands on the camera, the soldiers continued to harass the staff until they forced them to leave the building after they threatened the staff to use force, should it not obey the orders. Meanwhile, journalists were forced to leave the camp due to the heavy tear gas bombs.

February:

(1st Feb.) The two cameramen, RajiAsfour and Abdullah Fawadleh, were suffocated by gas bombs by the Israeli occupation soldiers while they were covering clashes at the entrance of Al-Bireh.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Al-Jazeera TV cameraman, RajiOdehAsfour (38 years old), his assistant the cameraman Abdullah Fawadleh (42 years old), have arrived at 10:00AM in the morning of 1st Feb. 2020, at the entrance of Al-Bireh, where clashes were taking place between groups of Palestinians and the Israeli occupation soldiers. They began to take pictures of these events after they wore safety equipment while the occupation jeeps were firing heavy gas bombs towards the Palestinian demonstrators. Their coverage lasted for several hours, during which the occupation soldiers were harassing and screaming at journalists, demanding that they leave the area, and they targeted them more than once by firing sound bombs and rubber-coated metal bullets at them without causing any injuries. At 3:10PM, the situation calmed down and there were no clashes, but the two journalists, Asfour and Fawadleh, were surprised by the occupation jeeps firing heavy gas bombs automatically towards them, as they were unable to put in the masks to protect themselves from suffocation.

As a result, they suffocated severely, and the soldiers' heavy gas firing hindered the arrival of the staff of the Red Crescent Society who came to take them. They were transported by the staff away from the location, where they were provided with the necessary aid in the ambulance in the field.

(1st Feb.) The Israeli Intelligence Service detained the freelance journalist Sami Al-Saei twice on his way to and from Jordan, and questioned him.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, the freelance journalist Sami Saed Abed Al-Saei (40 years old), also a field researcher at MADA, has arrived at around 9:30AM, on Saturday 1st Feb 2020, to the Israeli section at Al-Karamah crossing (bridge), on his way to Jordan, where he was detained for an hour without being questioned before letting him continue his way to Jordan. Two days later, (Monday 3rd Feb. 2020), on his way back from Jordan to the West Bank, the Israeli Intelligence seized the passport of the journalist Sami Al-Saei again about three hours, during which he was questioned by an Israeli intelligence officer, who asked him about his work, and the party he works for, to where and why he traveled to Jordan and where he stayed there and which places he visited. The interrogator said to him: "Sami, why were you imprisoned in 2016 and sentenced for 6 months?" Sami replied that this was on charges of "incitement". The investigator told him: "so, you remember". Sami replied yes, and then the officer threatened him by saying: "It is clear that you do not remember, because your file is ready for a new arrest - and I advise you, to take care of your wife and daughters, and do not write. If you stay like this, you will come back to us once again (we will arrest you)". He took the name of Sami's page on Facebook, and then allowed him to continue his way back to the West Bank.

(2nd Feb.) The Journalist Abdelmuhsen Shalaldeh was wounded by a rubber-coated metal bullet in the head, while he was covering a peaceful march in Ras Al-Jora area northern Hebron.

According to the investigations of "MADA" researcher, Abdelmuhsen Tayseer Abdelmuhsen Shalaldeh, (28 years old), a cameraman for "J Media" Office for media services, a resident of Sa'ir, north of Hebron, went to a peaceful march organized by Hebron University students, at 11:30AM on Sunday, 2nd Feb. 2020, in condemnation of the "Deal of the Century" announced by US President Trump, and the demonstrators went towards Ras Al-Jora area, northern Hebron. When the march arrived the area of Al-Shaarawy Mosque, large forces of the Israeli occupation army were deployed there, and the journalist Shalaldeh, who was wearing his complete press uniform, came with a number of his fellow journalists to the place where the soldiers were located, so a number of soldiers approached the journalists and began shouting at

them in Arabic asking them to leave. One of the journalists spoke to the officer that they wanted to be in a place that keeps them safe from fire, and the officer replied “The last thing I care about is your safety” and forced the journalists, including Shalaldeh, to move away to a place where they were visible to the soldiers. Meanwhile, some of the protesters began throwing stones towards the soldiers, a number of whom passed by the journalists, and approached towards the demonstrators, and fired gas bombs randomly towards the stone-throwers. In the meantime, the journalist Shalaldeh placed his camera on the ground and wore a gas mask, so one of the soldiers from an estimated distance of 30 meters, fired a rubber-coated metal bullet in the direction of the journalist Shalaldeh, injuring the left side of his head. Shalaldeh fell immediately to the ground, and he suffered from seizure and loss of consciousness. The two journalists Sari Abdel Ghaffar Jaradat and Ahmad Halayqa, rushed and took him to a private vehicle all the way to Al-Ahli Hospital in the city. There he underwent medical examinations and x-rays, which showed the presence of a diastolic fracture in the skull, while the doctors stitched the place of the injury in his head with 5 stitches and placed him under observation for 24 hours.

The cameraman Abdelmuhsen Shalaldeh intends to file an official complaint against the occupation army soldiers for being targeted and injured after he was threatened to be killed when he was summoned to investigation on 13th Jan. 2020 by the Israeli Occupation Intelligence.

(2nd Feb.) A force of the Israeli occupation army arrested the journalist Mohammad Osama Melhem for 11 days after assaulting him while he was covering a peaceful march in Halhoul protesting against the century deal.

According to MADA researcher, Mohammad Osama Melhem (30 years old), from Hebron, a reporter of “Al-Marah” Radio and works in the sound engineering section, went on Sunday 2nd Feb. 2020, to Halhoul to cover a peaceful march organized to protest against the deal of the century, through voice messages forwarded from the field to the radio station. After the march began, the soldiers started chasing the demonstrators, while the journalist Mohammad Melhem was standing near the soldiers, as about six soldiers approached him, shouting at him, “Turn yourself in”. The journalist did not move from his position and told them he was a journalist, but the soldiers started beating him with their hands, legs, and rifles, on the face, neck, and back, which caused him bruises and broken teeth. Melhem took out his ID and press cards, and showed them to the soldiers and the officer. The officer took the card and arrested Melhem in the jeep. While he was being transferred to KiryatArba settlement located in the center of Hebron, to the intelligence center, Melhem was subjected to verbal abuse and humiliation by the soldiers, and when they arrived to KiryatArba Center, the journalist Melhem tried to persuade the

investigator that he is a journalist, and that he holds a media certificate and is working to cover the events. He asked them to bring his papers from the house and the radio office to prove his journalistic work but they did not pay attention to that as they transferred him to Etzion detention center. He did not see anyone in the first two days, as he was detained for two days. Journalist Mohammed Melhem was brought before the court on Tuesday 4th Feb. 2020, when the judge ordered his release, as there is no evidence that the journalist participated in "sabotage" as the soldiers claimed. However, the military prosecution requested that his detention be extended for 72 hours, which was repeated subsequently (the extension of his detention) at Ofer Prison Court until Thursday 13th Feb. 2020, when the Israeli military court decided to release the journalist on a bail of 5,000 NIS, and a trial session was set for him on Sunday (8th March 2020).

(3rd Feb.) Facebook Company closed Al-Hurriya Media Network claiming that it publishes material violating Facebook's General Policy.

According to MADA researcher, Al-Hurriya Media Network, is an advertising socio-political media organization, that has a Facebook page created in 2019, followed and liked by 30,000 users. On 3rd Feb. 2020, the page received a warning from "Facebook" Company about a number of posts claiming they "violate the general policy of Facebook". Soon later, the page was closed as the admins reported, knowing that during 2019, three pages belonging to Al-Hurriya Media Network were deleted by Facebook, claiming they violate the content policy.

(6th Feb.) The journalist and cameraman Mohammad Zaki Abu Ghania was injured by a metal bullet in the abdomen, which was fired by an Israeli soldier while he was covering a raid and clashes in the city of Bethlehem.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Mohammad Zaki Abu Ghania (47 years old), a cameraman of Reuters, from Bethlehem, along with a number of journalists, at around 7:30AM, in 6th Feb. 2020, went to cover a raid carried out by the occupation army to several areas (including the surrounding of Al-Arja Factory, the presidential headquarters and the Ducks Garden in Beit Jala). They first went to cover the raiding in the Garden area, and there the soldiers did not encounter them, the soldiers tried to prevent the journalists from filming when they raided the house. However, the journalists refused to comply with their orders and told them that the area is not closed military zone to prevent them from filming, and after the raiding ended in that area they left. At 10:00AM in the morning that day, the journalists went to cover the raiding in the presidential headquarters, where clashes erupted. Groups of Palestinian demonstrators threw stones at the Israeli army's patrols, while soldiers fired sound and gas bombs as well as rubber bullets. During their coverage of these events, the journalists were standing

in a central area between the soldiers and the stone throwers who were separated by about 100 meters (about 50 meters away from each side). They wore the press uniforms and helmets on their heads. In the meantime, one of the soldiers fired a metal bullet towards Reuters cameraman Mohammed Abu Ghania, injuring him directly in the abdomen. Immediately, a Palestinian Red Crescent crew in the area rushed to provide him with first aid in the field.

The journalist Mohammad believes that the soldier targeted him deliberately especially since he was wearing the press uniform which makes it obvious for the soldiers what was he doing.

(7th Feb.) The journalist Tareq Yousef Khaled Sarkaji (34 years old), was injured by two metal bullets in the thigh, fired at him by the occupation soldiers while he was covering events that erupted in Azoun town, eastern Qalqilya.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Tareq Yousef Khaled Sarkaji (34 years old), works for Jmedia Agency and Al-Jazeera Live, has arrived at 14:25PM, on Friday 7th Feb. 2020, to Azoun town, eastern Qalqilya, to cover the events taking place there after funeral procession of 1st Sergeant of PCP Tareq Badwan who was shot by the occupation soldiers bullets. Sarkaji was wearing the helmet and vest marked Press. There was great number of demonstrators in the town, dozens of them went to the entrance of the town (Azoun), and began throwing stones at the Israeli occupation soldiers, while the occupation soldiers were firing gas and sound bombs, metal and live bullets, heavily towards the demonstrators, wounding a number of them with live bullets. At around 15:10PM, while he was covering these events at a distance of about hundred meters and on the other side of the corner, clashes were taking place in the first square area in the town (about 200 meters away from the center of the town).

As soon as Sarkaji tried to approach the clashes not surrounded by demonstrators, he was injured by a rubber-coated metal bullet in the left thigh. Shortly after he was injured by another metal bullet in his left thigh as well, only few centimeters away from the place of the first injury. He realized that he was targeted by soldiers and retreated to the back next to the rest of his colleagues who were standing near the square directly behind the demonstrators. One hour later after his injury (almost at 16:15) Tariq left the site of the clashes without going to the Red Crescent's ambulance. After he arrived the house and took a rest, Tariq began to feel severe pain in the place of the injury which was heavily reddened. So, he went to Rafidia Hospital at 7:30PM, and there he was provided with the necessary treatment as compresses were placed on his injury to relieve the pain. The doctors recommended him to rest for three days.

(10th Feb.) The Internal Security Service summoned the journalist LoayNahed Al-Ghoul and questioned him for several hours about his work at the Palestinian Syndicate of Journalists.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, LoayNahed Mohammad Al-Ghoul (40 years old), the Director of the Palestinian Syndicate of Journalists in Gaza Strip, has received on 12:00PM, on Sunday 9th Feb. 2020, while he was at his house located in Al-Shate' Camp a notification from the Internal Security Service. His brother Saleh Al-Ghoul received the notification and it says that Loay must go to the headquarters of the Internal Security at 8:00AM, in the morning, on Monday 10th Feb. 2020 and to bring along his cell phone and identity card, without clarifying the reasons. Indeed, on the said schedule, Al-Ghoul went to the headquarters of the Internal Security where he first encountered a police officer who took his identity card, cell phone, and the money he had. He wrote down all of his information and after ten minutes, he took him to a place called "Bus/Al-bas" where individuals are detained. He stayed there for an hour and a half, along with another four persons.

At around 10:30AM, a police officer came and took Loay to the investigation room where an officer in civilian clothing was waiting. He started questioning him about his work, the central movement office of journalists, the activity of the Syndicate in Gaza and his political affiliation. The officer was recording the answers and the session lasted for an hour. The officer then took him to another room where he stayed for 40 minutes. At around 12:10PM, the policeman brought him back to the same officer who re-questioned him again about the journalists' central movement office, who to contact in case of a certain event. The officer showed him photos of some of the office personnel (11) and asked him about each one of them. The session lasted for an hour and then he was taken back to the "Bus/Al-bas". Twenty minutes later, he was taken back to the detention room and stayed until 2:30PM on the same day when he was released after his identity card, cell phone, and other belongings were given back to him.

(10th Feb.) The Israeli occupation soldiers detained a media student of Al-Khadouri University, named Ihab Al-Alami, for several hours, and deleted the material he filmed of the soldiers closing the entrance to Al-Aroub camp in the West Bank and preventing people from entering or leaving the camp.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, the media student at Al-Khadoori University, IhabIssa Mahmoud Al-Alami (22 years old), from Beit Ummar, northern Hebron, was on his way home at around 11:00AM, on Monday 10th Feb. 2020, after he finished classes at the college. When he arrived the main gate of the college, the one leading to the settlement bypass road (60), across the western entrance of Arroub Camp,

northern Hebron, Al-Alami saw two of the Israeli soldiers standing at the entrance of the mentioned camp which was closed by an iron gate, to prevent citizens to come in and out. Al-Alami approached to see what was happening, and he saw the soldiers preventing an old woman to pass through an opening next to the gate. Al-Alami called a number of his journalist friends and asked them to come to Arroub Camp to film the events. He opened his cell phone and started filming the soldiers' harassments of citizens. While he was filming, one of the soldiers shouted at him, approached him and asked him to stop filming. Al-Alami inquired about the reason but the soldier refused to talk to him. He took the cell phone and asked Al-Alami to follow him to the entrance of the camp 20 meters away from the college's entrance. When Al-Alami got closed to the soldiers, one of them asked him to sit on the ground. Half an hour later, Al-Alami started feeling pain in his back as he had a condition in the spine vertebrae. He asked the soldier to let him stand up, but the soldier refused. Two minutes later, he allowed him to stand up for less than a minute and then asked him to sit on the ground again. In the meantime, Al-Alami was listening to the conversation of the soldiers in Hebrew, which he knew. One of them addressed the other "just release him, why do you even have him?" the other soldier answered "let's just have fun". Soon after, the European Agency cameraman Abdelhafeeth Al-Hashalmoun, arrived and told the soldiers that Al-Alami is a journalist and asked them why were they detaining him but the soldiers refused to reply. At 1:00PM, Al-Alami's parents arrived after they saw photos of their son through the social media. His father addressed the soldiers in Hebrew: "why didn't you take him to a detention center if he is arrested, otherwise release him". The soldier replied "I am sending him to your God" and asked the parents to stay away. Shortly thereafter, a military vehicle arrived at the checkpoint, and the soldier handed over Al-Alami's cell phone to one of the soldiers inside the vehicle, and around 2:00PM, the soldier asked Al-Alami to leave the place, and gave him back his cell phone. After he left, Al-Alami found that they had opened his cell phone and deleted all the materials related to the soldiers and they also deleted the filmed material he made at the entrance of the camp.

(11th Feb.) Six journalists were severely suffocated and injured by rubber bullets while they were covering a demonstration organized at the entrance of Al-Bireh City.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, at around 12:00PM, on Tuesday 11th Feb. 2020, a march was launched from the center of Ramallah in which 200 persons were involved, to condemn and protest against the "deal of the century". The march headed towards Beit El Military Checkpoint, at Al-Bireh entrance, 4 kilometers away from the center of Ramallah. The demonstrators approached the "City Inn" square, 300-400 meters away from the checkpoint, and a number of journalists accompanied them in the march to cover it, while another number of journalists arrived later. Once the march

arrived to “City Inn” square, several Israeli patrols near the military checkpoint fired a barrage of tear gas bombs and rubber bullets at the demonstrators, which resulted in the injury of two of them by rubber bullets and 8 with suffocation.

Some of the demonstrators started throwing stones at the army patrols that continued firing tear gas bombs and rubber bullets at the demonstrators and journalists. At around 2:30PM, while the journalist FatenAref Abdullah Alawan (38 years old), Al-Hurra TV reporter, was a live broadcasting from the field to the TV, several Israeli patrols approached the demonstrators and fired a barrage of tear gas bombs. Due to several bombs falling near her, she was injured and so her cameraman NidalMohammad Ramadan Hassan (32 years old), with severe suffocation. She stopped broadcasting and moved quickly towards the Red Crescent ambulance which was parked 50 meters away from her. She got in the ambulance and was provided with the necessary first aid. Shortly after, at around 3:15PM, while ROYA TV reporter, Hafeth Mahmoud Abu Sabra (32 years old), was near a gathering of journalists transmitting to the channel live along with his colleague, the cameraman Wisam Abed Rabu, things escalated in the area and in the West Bank in general.

The occupation patrols started firing a barrage of tear gas bombs at the demonstrators who were relatively far from the journalists. Suddenly, one of the military jeeps directed the vehicle towards the journalists and started randomly firing bombs one of which injured the foot of journalist Abu Sabra after hitting the floor. Other bombs fell near him and made him severely suffocate. He was shouting and calling his colleagues for help, as he was feeling dizzy and threw the microphone. Soon later he lost consciousness and when he woke up, he found himself on a carrier surrounded by a number of Red Crescent volunteers providing him with first aid. He had a headache after that for several hours. In the meantime, Mohammad JreirHamdan (30 years old), a cameraman who works for the Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission arrived at around 3:00PM the entrance of Al-Bireh to cover the events. He was wearing the Press mask. Ten minutes upon his arrival he started filming the incidents, and then he was injured by a rubber bullet in the left shoulder fired at him by one of the occupation soldiers. Immediately, the volunteer paramedics transferred him to the ambulance and gave the necessary first aid. He later came back to cover the events and did not go to the hospital. But during the night hours he felt severe pain, so he went to the Palestine Medical Complex and imaged the injury, and the doctors reassured him, gave him a painkiller and then he was discharged. Moreover, Palestine TV cameraman Ahmed Manasra was also slightly suffocated while he was covering the events.

(16th Feb.) A force of the Israeli occupation Army prevented Palestine TV staff to access DeirNitham Village to cover an event taking place there.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Palestine TV staff, including the reporter and journalist Haneen Al-Helo (29 years old), and the cameraman Mohammad Radi (35 years old), went on 16th Feb. 2020 to DeirNitham Village in Ramallah, across the street close to "Halmeesh" settlement, where a military checkpoint is established by the Israeli army since the occupation forces closed the village entrances, even though the mentioned checkpoint used to allow vehicles to pass. The staff arrived to the checkpoint at around 11:30, and when the soldiers saw they were journalists, they asked them to show their press cards, seized the key of their vehicle, told them they were not allowed to access, and detained them for more than an hour. While they were detained, the occupation soldiers provoked the journalist Haneen and her colleague Mohammad, when they started the alarm of the vehicle more than once, by pressing the vehicle's key they seized earlier, and by cursing and insulting the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, kicking the front of the vehicle. One of the soldiers threatened the cameraman Mohammad Radi addressing him "if we see you in the area, we will beat you up" claiming that he films the soldiers. While one of the settlers approached the detained journalists' vehicle but the soldiers asked him to move away. During their detention, the soldiers seized the cell phone of journalist Haneen Al-Helo for about 15 minutes when they saw her calling the TV Administration to inform them of what had happened claiming that they thought she was filming the soldiers. After one hour of their detention, the Palestinian DCO intervened and released them.

(19th Feb.) A force of the Israeli occupation forces detained "Al-Jazeera Live" staff and prevented them from coverage, while the staff was carrying out live broadcast about settlement and settler attacks in Tormusaya, West Bank.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, journalist Alaa Al-Rimawi (41 years old), and cameraman Mohammad ShukriAwad (32 years old), from Tormusaya, have arrived at around 11:30PM, on 19th Feb. 2020, to live broadcast for Al-Jazeera Live, with a citizen from Tormusaya, who possesses lands in the eastern part of the town threatened to be seized and confiscated by the occupation authorities. About 25 minutes after the live broadcast to Al-Jazeera started, three Israeli military patrols arrived and the soldiers were accompanied by members of the Israeli intelligence, who immediately asked them for their ID cards and press cards, and seized their equipment and private phones, detained them in the rain and interrogated them about the reason they were in the place and for what agency they work. They remained in detention for an hour in the cold and rainy conditions, and then they released and instructed them to leave the place.

(20th Feb.) The Preventive Security Service summoned the photojournalist Nidal Al-Natsheh and questioned him about his press work.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, at around 10:00AM, on Thursday, corresponding 20th Feb. 2020, "France 24" TV photojournalist Nidal Mahmoud AbdelhafeethAshmar (32 years old), from Hebron, learned from a relative, through a phone call, that the Palestinian preventive security service came to his house and delivered a written notification to his family. The notification stated that Nidal must appear at the headquarters located in Hebron, on Sunday 22nd Feb. 2020, at 10:00AM. Accordingly, Nidal went to the headquarters of the Preventive Security in Hebron, and when he arrived they took his personal card and took him to a detention room, where there were a number of wanted persons waiting. Nidal waited until 12:00PM, and one of the guards took him to a room where one of the investigators was. The investigator started his conversation with journalist Nidal, about the nature of his work, the media agencies with which he works as a cameraman, how he receives his salary and its value, the people working with him in the same job, how to communicate with workers in the channels he works for, and the emails he uses to send the filmed material. Nidal answered that he works with known agencies and that the Preventive Security Service can inquire about anything from the Prosecution if it wants as it is the sole party having the right to investigate with him about that. After that, the investigator asked Nidal about a post on his Facebook page, about his nephew Mutasem who was arrested by the Service Security four months earlier, claiming that Nidal emphasized on the word (abduction) in the post which is inappropriate coming from a journalist. Nidal replied that he posted what exactly happened which was not arrest. The investigation session lasted for 15 minutes. Then the journalist went back to the waiting room, which was very small considering the number of persons who were waiting and which exceeded 20 persons. Journalist Nidal stayed until 2:15PM, after which he was taken again to an investigation room in which another investigator was present. He asked him the same questions that were discussed during the preliminary investigation session, but this time focusing on the nature of the press reports he prepares, how he receives his salary, and how he communicates with the media agencies he works with. During the investigation, the investigator told Nidal that his cell phone was monitored, and Nidal replied "The Preventive Security has no right to monitor my phone" and that if he managed to be certain that indeed his phone is monitored, he will go to the judiciary. The session lasted about 30 minutes, and before the journalist left the investigation room, the investigator asked him about his belongings they kept from the time of his previous arrest about 3 years ago: a laptop, 4 hard disks, 2 cell phones, and 8 USBs. The investigator informed him that he will contact him the next week about the said belongings. Nidal left the headquarters at 3:15PM.

(20th Feb.) A force of the Israeli occupation army detained the freelance photographer Mahmoud Mutan on his way to his town at night, for five hours, and questioned him.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Mahmoud Mohammad Mutan (34 years old), a freelance journalist and cameraman, at 11:30PM on Thursday 20th Feb. 2020 was on his way to his town Burqa eastern Ramallah where he lives. When he arrived DeirDebwan bridge, there were Israeli military patrols. They stopped him and the soldiers asked him to show his identity card. They got him off the vehicle, searched it thoroughly and fifteen minutes later, the soldiers handcuffed and blindfolded him. They took him to one of the military vehicles and detained him for five hours under investigation.

The occupation army arrested the cameraman Mutan on 17th April 2019 for 11 days in Ashkelon prison, and during his arrest, the Israeli soldiers seized computers and an amount of 11,000 NIS from his home at the time and he was unable to return the amount of money.

(21st Feb.)The journalist Mohammad Mahmoud Inaya (28 years old) was injured with rupture and bruises in his feet when the occupation bulldozer pushed large rocks at the demonstrators and journalists during a demonstration in KufrQadoun, Qalqilya.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Mohammad Mahmoud Inaya (28 years old), Palestine TV cameraman, arrived at around 11:40PM, on Friday, 21st Feb. 2020 to KufrQadoun to cover the weekly march organized every Friday against the closure of the village entrance and the settlement. He was wearing the helmet and blue vest marked Press, and there was great number of demonstrators. Immediately, Mohammad Inaya started filming the events between the demonstrators and the occupation soldiers. Dozens of citizens were in the march that was moving towards the closed street at the town's entrance (the street overlooking Qadomem settlement in KufrQadoun territories), and there the occupation soldiers attacked the demonstrators with gas and sound bombs as well as rubber-coated metal bullets heavily and randomly which resulted in the injury of a number of demonstrators. In the meantime, when it was 12:30PM, the demonstrators retreated dozens of meters to the back because they were suppressed by the army.

The cameraman Mohammad Inaya and a number of journalists were close to these events. Forty minutes later (at around 1:10PM), while he was at 100 meters away from Omar Bin Al-Khattab Mosque, where the marches usually begin, an Israeli military bulldozer raided the area and attacked the demonstrators driving very fast and pushing large rocks at them. The cameraman Mohammad was standing few meters away from them filming what was taking place. Then he was surprised with the bulldozer pushing

one of the rocks at him which made him fall to the ground. His camera completely smashed as well as the camera tripod. Some of the demonstrators rushed to move him away and take him to the ambulance that was close to them. It was found later that both of his feet were injured. He then was immediately transferred to Darwish Hospital, Qalqilya, where he was imaged an x-ray. He stayed at the hospital until Sunday 23rd Feb. 2020 to make sure he does not feel any complications. A CT scan was done for him and it showed ruptures in both of his feet. The doctors recommended him to avoid walking for a week as he could not stand up of pain.

(25th Feb.) Around five journalists were suffocated by gas bombs fired deliberately at them by the occupation soldiers while they were covering a peaceful march against settlement eastern Tubas, northern valleys, West Bank.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, the Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission called for a march in solidarity with the families of the northern valleys to protest against settlement. On 25th Feb. 2020, several busses, in a peaceful march, went to that area located eastern Tubas. The Israeli occupation army closed the road to the demonstrators near the checkpoint and suppressed the march by firing a barrage of rubber bullets and tear gas bombs towards the demonstrators in the march, which was attended by a number of journalists. The occupation soldiers deliberately fired gas bombs at the media staffs while they were covering the suppression of the army to the peaceful march. This seemed flagrant to an Israeli officer who approached Mutasem Sameer Hamdi Saqf Al-Hait (31 years old), the cameraman of the Syrian News Channel, while he was few meters away from the gathering of demonstrators.

Without warning, the Israeli officer sprayed pepper spray directly and deliberately at the face of the cameraman Mutasem, which resulted in severe suffocation, his colleagues rushed to transport him to an ambulance, knowing that this assault was documented by a video clip. Moreover, Al-Ghad Channel cameraman Hazem Imad Husni Nasser (30 years old), was injured by a gas bomb in the right thigh, while he was filming an interview his coworker the Channel reporter Khaled Saleh Mahmoud Budair (31 years old) was conducting with one of the demonstrators when the occupation soldiers fired several bombs at them, one of which injured the cameraman Hazem in the right thigh directly, which is why he was taken to the Turkish Hospital in Tubas to receive treatment. His coworker Budair was severely suffocated and he received the field first aid by the Red Crescent crews. In similar circumstances, while Palestine TV cameraman, Loay Abdel Hafeez Aref Al-Samhan (40 years old), and his colleague Ameer Shaheen were preparing a report about the march in the same place, the occupation soldiers fired several gas bombs towards them, which caused Loay to severely suffocate and suffer shortness of breath

and fall to the ground. He was given first aid and was taken to the Turkish Hospital for treatment.

(25th Feb.) The Preventive Security Service arrested the reporter of "Sanad" News Agency, Mohammad Anwar Muna, detained him for about 20 hours, and re-summoned him more than once after he was released.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Mohammad Anwar FathiMuna (38 years old), a reporter of Sanad News Agency, received at around 12:00 midnight, 25th Feb. 2020, a phone call to his house phone in Zawata Nablus. The moment he asked the caller his name, the latter hung up. Fifteen minutes later, he received another call, and the caller who introduced himself to be from the "Preventive Security" asked him to open the house door, and he immediately did. He saw an officer in military uniform who gave him a paper and told him it was "an authorization from the prosecution to search the house". He informed him that there is an arrest order against him and asked him to bring his identity card and cell phone. The officer seized the laptop, cell phone and identity card of journalist Muna. While other Preventive Security officers, in 20 minutes, searched the house except for the children's room. Furthermore, his wife's (who is a teacher and uses the laptop for her work) laptop was searched as well. They arrested the journalist Muna and took him to Junaid Prison in Nablus. He arrived there at 1:00AM. He was brought before the medical services to be medically examined. Then he was taken to the Preventive Security headquarters in Nablus, where he signed a paper on what has been seized from his house, including the laptop, two cell phones, and a Sony video camera. They took him to a cell where he stayed until 10:00AM the next morning, and he was not allowed to go out to use the toilet, as no one answered his calls regarding this. At ten in the morning, he was questioned by a person called Jihad Bani Odeh (legal adviser) who asked him about the reason for his arrest without explaining anything to him, and then he was returned to the cell. At around 5:00PM that day, an officer who was in a civilian dress called him and took from him a statement about his name, the names of his children and their ages, the name of his wife and her work, the nature of his work, the agency he works for, how much he received as a salary, the agency's orientation, the names of his brothers and sisters and their work, and about his arrest by the Israeli occupation and the reason thereof, and his arrests by the Palestinian Authority and the reasons. After about three hours (at around 8:00PM) they summoned him again and handed him a notification to go to the Preventive Security Service at 10:00AM in the morning on Thursday 27th Feb. 2020 and released him after an arrest that lasted for 20 hours. On the mentioned date (Thursday 27th Feb. 2020), the journalist Muhammad Muna went to the headquarters of the Preventive Security Service in Nablus and there he

was detained until 5:30PM without even seeing him by anyone. Then he was given a new appointment on Sunday 1st March 2020 at 10:00 after they took his identity card.

(25th Feb.) A force of the Israeli occupation army detained Palestine TV staff and prevented it from accessing DeirNitham Village, where it was about to record an episode of "Today's File" program, claiming that Palestine TV was inciting in its programs against the Israeli occupation.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, a large staff of Palestine TV included 13 employees: the program presenter, journalist Salam Al-Deek, the director SuhaibFuad, the preparer OsaidSbaih, the broadcast engineers IyadHadeeb and HishamMughannam, the cameramen OdayHarbeyat, Mohammad Al-Arouri and Ahmad Habiba, the lighting engineer Ahmad Al-Nashef, the sound engineer MutazShehada, the transportation personnel Mohammad Rawashda and Mohammad Radwan, arrived at around 1:00PM, on 25th Feb. 2020, the entrance of DeirNitham village in three vehicles, to film the episode of the program with the families of the village. When they arrived the entrance, near Halmesh settlement, the Israeli soldiers, who were setting up a military checkpoint in the area, stopped them, detained them and seized their personal cards, took copies of the same. After about 40 minutes of their detention, Ahmad Al-Nashef spoke to one of the officers and asked him about the reason for their detention. The officer told him that Palestine TV crews are "inciting against the Israeli army" and showed him on his cell phone some pictures and reports that were broadcasted on the TV, claiming that they "incite against the Israeli soldiers". While the staff members explained to the officer that they cover the practices of the Israeli army as part of their press coverage, and that they have the right to move freely and do their professional work as necessary. After more than two hours of their detention, Harbeyat said they told the officer that they will not film. The officer photographed all of the staff members and told them that he will share their photos at all military checkpoints to prevent them from access. Accordingly, the army released the staff members, provided that they return to the city of Ramallah and stop their filming, but the TV Administration insisted on filming the episode and the episode was filmed from an area in the neighboring village Nabi Saleh close toDeirNitham, but instead of conducting interviews with the people of the village of DeirNitham as decided, it was sufficient to host the head of the village council, who was able to reach the location of filming in Nabi Saleh.

(26th Feb.) The Israeli occupation police arrested the journalist MujahidMuflih at a military checkpoint on Ramallah-Nablus Road, while he was accompanied by his wife and two children.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, the occupation soldiers stationed at Za'tara Checkpoint, on Ramallah-Nablus Road, have stopped, at about 5:00PM, on 26th Feb. 2020, Mujahid Mohammad BaniMuflih (30 years old), who works as an editor for Al-Quds.com Website, and AltraPalestine News Website, on his way to his town Beta along with his wife and two children. They arrested him, seized his cell phone, and his wife's cell phone, took him to the Ariel settlement police station, while his wife and two children remained in the car until one of his relatives (his uncle, Islam Al-Shurafa) came and drove the car and brought Mujahid's wife and two children to the family's house in Beta. He then learned that the journalist Mujahid contacted the Palestinian Prisoner Club from the investigation center in Ariel settlement and told them that the occupation police was questioning him on charges of "incitement through his social media page". On Sunday 1st March 2020, the journalist MujahidMuflih was brought before the Israeli Military Court in Salem. His detention was extended. And his trial was adjourned until Thursday 5th March 2020.

(28th Feb.) A Preventive Security force raided the family house of the freelance journalist Ayman Qawarek at night, in order to arrest him, but he was not home at the time, and told him to come by himself to the headquarters the next day.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, a force of the Preventive Security, after the middle of the night, on 28th Feb. 2020, raided the house of the freelance journalist¹ Ayman Faisal Mahmoud Qawarek (33 years old) with the intention to arrest him. But at the time, he was in Howarah town to cover an assault carried out by settlers there. He received a phone call from one of his brothers while he was in a live broadcast to Quds News Network. He did not pick up and dismissed the calls many times. But at 12:05, he received a call from a number not registered in his cell phone, so he stopped the live broadcast, and answered the call. The caller introduced himself as a preventive security officer and that they were in his family's house, to arrest him. Qawarek said that he was in Howarah to cover the assault carried out by settlers against the citizens there. The Preventive Security told Qawarek family that Ayman should come by himself to the headquarters and they seized two cell phones and two computers from the house. When the journalist's father asked to be given a document proving that they had seized the devices, they wrote a handwriting paper but did not give it to him. Journalist Qawarek did not go the next day to the Preventive Security headquarters in Nablus until Sunday 3rd Feb. 2020. It should be noted that he posted about the raiding of his family house on his personal page.

(29th Feb.) The Institutions Security Department summoned the reporter of WAFA Agency, but the latter did not respond, as the summons was later canceled after the Journalists Syndicate intervened.

According to the investigations of “MADA” researcher, the Administration of WAFA News Agency, on Saturday 29th Feb. 2020, contacted the journalist Rami Samara, one of its employees, and informed him that the Institutions Security Department at the Palestinian General Intelligence contacted WAFA on Thursday 27th Feb. 2020 and summoned the journalist Samara to come on Sunday 1st March 2020. At around 2:00PM on Saturday (29th Feb. 2020), the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate contacted journalist Samara and informed him that it had contacted the Institutions Security Department and canceled the summons. Journalist Rami Samara said that he does not know what is the reason for summoning him by the Institutions Security Department, and that no one from the Department contacted him to inform him about the matter after the Syndicate canceled the summons.

March:

(1st March) Photojournalist Mohammad Zuhair Sayeh was injured by a rubber bullet fired at him by one of the Israeli occupation soldiers directly and deliberately while he was covering the raiding of settlers and occupation forces to Mount Al-'Arma in Beta, southeast Nablus.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Mohammad Zuhair Yousef Sayeh (34 years old), from Nablus, the cameraman of An-Najah TV, has arrived before Sunday afternoon corresponding 1st March 2020 to Mount Al-'Arma located in Beta to cover clashes that have erupted between the families of Beta and the settlers who were seeking settlement in the territory and were protected by the occupation forces. Al-Sayeh was in his press uniform. At around 11:30, along with his coworker, An-Najah TV reporter, Othman Jamal Othman Al-Shuaibi (28 years old), the anchorman and preparer of programs at the TV, they were at 15 meters away from the soldiers broadcasting a message to An-Najah TV on the events taking place there in live broadcast, while the Palestinians demonstrators and protestors were 150 meters away. One of the Israeli Army patrols approached them quickly and suddenly, and when it reached 4-5 meters away from them, one of the soldiers shouted at them and cursed them to leave the area immediately and fired a tear gas bomb at them. They ran away, as far as they could from the soldiers. Only few seconds later, one of the soldiers looked at them, shouted and cursed them and asked them to leave again. Al-Sayeh pointed to the soldier that he is

walking away but the latter pulled up his gun immediately and fired a rubber bullet deliberately and directly at him. Al-Sayeh was injured in his right leg (tibia). The moment he was injured, Al-Sayeh tried to move away but fell to the ground and remained on the ground for five minutes waiting for the ambulance. However, one of the occupation soldiers fired two gas bombs directly at them which resulted in the injury of Al-Sayeh and his coworker with severe suffocation. Five minutes later (at around 12:00PM), the soldiers moved away from them for 200 meters. The demonstrators were able to reach them and move them in an ambulance. Al-Sayeh and his coworker Othman Al-Shuaibi were transferred to An-Najah Hospital after they were given the first aid. In the hospital, Al-Sayeh was imaged an x-ray and he was given the pain killers and medications. He was discharged after two hours of hospitalization.

(2nd March) The security services in Gaza Strip raided the headquarters of Sawt Al-Watan Radio to execute an imprisonment order against an employee working as the sound technician in the Radio.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Baha Al-Deen Fathi Ismail Al-Ruzi (32 years old), the sound technician at Sawt Al-Ghad Radio in Gaza Strip, located in Dawoud Tower, 14th Floor, has arrived to his workplace at 12:00PM, on Monday 2nd March 2020 to continue his work. At around 2:45PM on the same day, four officers of the Internal Security Services in Gaza (who were in their official uniform carrying clubs) raided the Radio headquarters without clarifying in the beginning why they were there. In the headquarters, Al-Ruzi was accompanied by his coworker Reem Al-Sakani. When the four security officers entered the Radio headquarters, they asked Al-Ruzi about his coworker Fayege Kuhail against the imprisonment order is issued, Al-Ruzi told them that he was not there and that he was in the morning present but then went home, but they did not believe him. Without showing any official document or notification, they searched the Radio and raided the entire headquarters. They seized the cell phone of Baha Al-Ruzi by force and took the number of his coworker Fayege (who is wanted according to the imprisonment order). Before leaving, they explained that they came due to an order by the Public Prosecution given the imprisonment order against Fayege, noting that the raiding took half an hour and then they left.

(2nd March) The Preventive Security Services arrested the journalist Ayman Qawareq from Aurta for three days during which he was questioned about his posts on the social media even though a force of the Preventive Security raided Qawareq's house on 28th Feb. 2020 at night to arrest him but he was not home then and notified him to surrender himself on the following day but he did not until he was arrested after few days in Beta.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Ayman Faisal Qawareq, a teacher and freelance journalist working for Quds News Network and Arab 48 Website, while at around 11:30PM, on Monday 2nd March 2020, was in Beta, a person in civilian clothing approached him and asked him to stop and accompany him when a blue civilian vehicle approached them immediately. There were two persons inside the vehicle in addition to the driver. He pushed him towards the vehicle and quickly drove away. After driving 50 meters, the vehicle stopped next to another vehicle to which the journalist Qawareq was transferred. Inside the vehicle, his hands were tied to the front and he was taken to the Preventive Security headquarters in Nablus. He was taken inside an office where his handcuffs were removed and he received his personal belongings. Two minutes later, officers (tall and black skin) started beating him up violently on his shoulders, chest and head. At the same time, other officers also were involved in beating him, one of them tried to suffocate him by pressing his hands to his throat. He was beaten for several minutes and then “drawn along behind on the ground” by force between the corridors of the offices; they even stepped on his body while laid on the floor screaming. After that, the person who first saw him in Beta the moment he was detained sat on him to allow his coworkers to tie his hands painfully and tightly. Then one of the officers pushed him to the ground floor where they sat him on a chair and tied his hand behind and transferred him to Al-Junaid Prison. The moment he arrived the prison, he was taken to the medical clinic and then to a (meter/meter) cell. Few minutes later, he was taken to another cell that was very cold, with not mattress or cover, and with iron beds only. He stayed in that cell until the evening hours during which he was questioned three times by an investigator who introduced himself as “Abu Al-Majd, the Director of Investigation in the Preventive Security of the northern area”. He was questioned about his press work and his personal views posted on Facebook especially that a number of his posts must not be published even if according to the law, because the “law is not always correct”. He was questioned about three posts, one of which about Oslo Accords and the other about the Century Deal while the third post criticizes the chief justice Mahbmoud Al-Habash and other posts. Qawareq replied that he is a journalist and he is expressing his view according to the law and Basic Law, after each investigation session they took him back to the same cell. On the following day, he was summoned at 11:00PM before “the legal counselor of the Preventive Security Services” who introduced himself as “Captain Asem Ramadan”. The legal counselor asked Qawareq what he was asked and questioned in the previous day while Qawareq asked about the charge attributed to him and the counselor told him that he was accused of “contempt of authority” and he was writing down the answers of journalist Qawareq on a piece of paper that was in front of him. Then he was asked to sign the statement, but Qawareq refused to do so and asked to read it. However, the investigator considered that Qawareq “did not want to sign and no need to read the

statement". After 12:00PM, he was taken and brought before the Public Prosecution in Nablus after waiting for two hours. MADA's lawyer Majd Qirmaz who was defending him was also present. The Public Prosecution accused him of "contempt of authority" and showed several posts of his on the social media including "plant Oslo and you will reap the century deal" and the post of criticizing Palestine partition map. The journalist Qawareq denied all of the charges attributed to him and told them that he was violently assaulted by the Preventive Security officers and that the abuse impacts were still evident on his body. He was then taken back to the Preventive Security headquarters to a cell where he stayed until the evening. He summoned again to investigation and felt like throwing up so they took him to the restroom and then back to the cell where he stayed until the third day of his arrest (Thursday – 5th March 2020) when he was brought before the court where the Public Prosecution requested to extend his detention for 15 days but MADA lawyer objected and presented what justifies his release rather than extend his detention. The judge refused the Public Prosecution's request and issued his release decision. Qawareq was then taken back to Al-Junaid Prison. Three hours later, he was summoned to investigation and asked him to give urgent statement about his personal posts and views. He replied the same as the previous investigation session. Then he was taken to the Preventive Security headquarters where he met one of the officers and they discussed together the freedom of opinion and publishing. At 6:30PM on the same day, he was release.

(11th March) The journalist Mohammad Sabah Abdelhaq was injured by a rubber bullet fired at him by one of the occupation soldiers while he was covering a sit-in against settlement in Mount Al-'Arma, Beta.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Baker Mohammad Sabah Mamdouh Abdelhaq (30 years old), the reporter of Palestine TV at Nablus, has arrived at around 8:30PM, on Tuesday 10th March 2020 to Mount Al-'Arma to cover a sit-in that landlords of Mount Al-'Arma and the families of Beta have organized to take place up the Mount to protest against the threats of the settlers to occupy the Mount for settlement purposes. He was sending short reports about the peaceful sit-in and he stayed in the place. At 5:00AM, at dawn, on Wednesday 11th March 2020, the occupation army patrols and the settlers stormed Mount Al-'Arma while the occupation soldiers were firing a barrage of gunshots, metal bullets as well as sound and gas bombs to disperse the protesting landlords and families up the Mount. At 6:10, while the journalist Abdelhaq was standing near the Red Crescent tent to present a report to the TV on the updates, his coworker shouted and told that one of the soldiers is pointing his gun at him but he could not move then as the distance was very close to the soldier, about one meter. He was injured in the left leg, and one of the Red Crescent paramedics rushed to provide him with medical

assistance but the soldier forced them to leave the area. Abdelhaq was unable to walk on his left leg due to the injury while the soldiers continued firing gas bombs at them. Abdelhaq was taken by one of the paramedics walking 2 kilometers. They were followed by the soldiers, and when they became close to them, one of the soldiers approached Abdelhaq and spit on his face and gave him the finger. Abdelhaq tried to talk to the officer, but the latter refused to listen to him and threatened him to fire a sound bomb at him if he would not move away. The journalist Abdelhaq along with other injured persons were taken via an ambulance to Rafidia Governmental Hospital to which they arrived at 7:00AM. Abdelhaq was out of consciousness and he received the first aid, oxygen and ventilation (due to the gas he inhaled). It was found that the gas caused him severe infection in the respiratory airways as to the rubber bullet fired at his leg, it caused minor fracture to his tibia. He stayed at the hospital until 11:00AM, and then went home after receiving the necessary treatment.

(13th March) A force of the police of Jabalia Al-Nazlah Center in Gaza Strip arrested the author Abdullah Mohammad Abu Sharkh at his house located in Al-Saftawi towers, near UNRWA agency/northern Gaza. He is still under arrest until the present time (1st April 2020).

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, a force of the police of Jabalia Center, at around 10:30PM, on Friday 13th March 2020, arrested the author, Mohammad Abdullah Abu Sharkh (56 years old), married with three children, lives in a house located in Al-Saftawi towers northern Gaza Strip, without warning, and without showing any arrest order according to the rules and law. The author Abu Sharkh used to work as a teacher. He was subject to assault and detention more than once as well as threatening by anonymous parties on the background of his posts on the social media and new media on issues of democracy, social and political development. The moment he was arrested, his wife (Basma Shehda AlBayari/Abu Sharkh) contacted several parties including MADA center represented by its lawyer Ihsan Abu Sharkh, to follow up on his case, visit and contact him in prison. His family learned from MADA lawyer, who was defending him, that he was arrested in Jabalia Center (later he was taken to the Central Prison northern Gaza known as "Abu Obaida" central Beit Lahia) as requested by the Public Prosecution for charges of writing essays and publishing them on his Facebook page, especially the post he copied and pasted for three minutes on his page about Al-Nusairat fire and deleted it later. The Prosecution and Judiciary extended his detention for 15 days. This is not the first time Abu Sharkh is arrested. He was before arrested by the security services in Gaza more than once due to his writings. According to MADA lawyer, the Attorney General of Gaza issued a detention order against the author Abdullah Abu Sharkh on the background of his post about Al-Nusairat fire. His detention was extended for 48 hours.

On 16th March 2020, he was brought before the detention judge who extended his arrest for 15 days even though the Public Prosecution accused of “misusing the technology means” according to Article 262 repeated Of 1936 in addition to the charge of “passing along rumors and lies disrupting reassurance” in contrary of Article 62 of Law Of 1936. It started investigation and questioned him about his “post” that was circulated by dozens of pages even though he deleted the mentioned post several minutes after posting it and asked his friends to do the same and delete it the moment he realized “it did not make sense”. MADA lawyer attended the investigation sessions of Abu Sharkh at the General Investigations in Jabalia Al-Nazlah Center and so the investigation sessions before the prosecutor of northern Gaza Prosecution Office. He asked for his release since he denied the accusations attributed to him and since there shall be neither criminalization nor punishment unless under a provision, not to mention that the above mentioned articles do not apply to the incident, the subject of investigation. Furthermore, the author Abu Sharkh did not have the deliberate intention as stated in Articles 62 and 262 – h 36. The lawyer further presented a legal memo to object on the detention order to the Attorney General and did not receive any response until the moment. He also filed for a bail according to the rules to Northern Gaza Magistrate Court. The special hearing took place on 23rd March 2020, however, the judge denied the request and accordingly the lawyer appealed the issued decision before Gaza Court of First Instance in its appeal capacity and renewed the appeal request. A hearing was scheduled on 9th April 2020, MADA lawyer reported that he intends to start food strike starting from the morning of Wednesday 1st April 2020 and asked him to officially announce this to the public.

(13th March) The cameraman and journalist Jafar Ishtayya was injured by a rubber bullet fired at him by one of the occupation soldiers while he was covering the weekly march events against settlement and closure imposed on Kufr Qadoun in Qalqilya.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Jafar Zaher Hussein Ihstayya (52 years old), works as a cameraman for the French News Agency, northern the West Bank, went on Friday 13th March 2020 to Kufr Qadoun, eastern Qalqilya to cover the weekly march organized by the families several years ago protesting against settlement and the closure of their town’s entrance by the occupation army. After the march was launched in front of Kufr Qadoun mosque at around 12:00PM, the Israeli occupation soldiers intercepted it east of the village where the demonstrators were heading to protest against the closure of their entrance which has been closed since 2003. The soldiers started firing tear gas bombs, rubber bullets and sound bombs at the demonstrators to disperse them while the demonstrators were throwing stones at the occupation soldiers. In the meantime, the journalist was standing near the demonstrators 60 meters away from the soldiers (the firing and stones). After he completed taking pictures of the events,

he went back to the area where the march was launched at around 1:30PM. On his way back, one of the soldiers who was hiding in the olive trees fired rubber bullet at him intentionally without any reason. The cameraman Ishtayya was injured in his leg from the back (behind the knee) even though he was wearing the press uniform and the safety press means. Immediately, he was taken by an ambulance where he received the first aid in field and was taken to his house. He completed the treatment with a specialized doctor who lived next door.

(15th March) Some of the security and police officers in Rafah, Gaza Strip assaulted the journalist Yasser Abu Athrah, seized his cell phone while he was filming a protest against using two schools as centers for corona virus patients in Gaza Strip.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, the journalist Yasser Sulaiman Abu Athrah (33 years old), from Al-Shabourah Camp in Rafah, a cameraman and reporter for Kanan News Agency, arrived at around 3:00PM, on Sunday 15th March 2020, Al-Nasser Village eastern Rafah to cover the sit-in there protecting against the government procedure of turning Ghasan Kanafani and Marmarah Schools to quarantine centers for corona virus patients. When the journalist Abu Athrah arrived, he did not see any security officer in the location of the protest in front of the schools and he immediately started filming the protestors and conducting interviews with them on the cause of their protest and their demands. Twenty minutes later, while he was interviewing one of the protestors, he saw a number of citizens running from security officers in military uniform carrying weapons and sticks. They were running towards him, so he stopped filming immediately and suspended the interview he was conducting. He closed his phone, moved away and stopped 50 meters away from the security forces (in Salah Al-Deen main street overlooking the buildings of the schools). In the meantime, a person in civilian clothing, unarmed, approached him, and without introducing himself, attacked the journalist and tried to seize his cell phone even though Abu Athrah loudly said that he is a journalist. Soon after, five police officers came, pushed Abu Athrah and assaulted him with their hands on his chest and back without even considering the fact that he is a journalist. He was injured with bruises and suffered pain in his chest. They seized his cell phone by force, and left him in the location and went to the protest to join the remaining of officers who were trying to disperse it. Abu Athrah tried to contact the administration of the institution he works for, and with some of the officers to give him back his cell phone. He also contacted the Head of the Palestinian Media Assembly Alaa Salamah for the same purpose but could not reach him. At 4:00PM, the police officers forced him to leave the area. On the following day (Monday 16th March 2020) he retrieved his cell phone and received a phone call from a person who works at the Interior Media Office in Gaza, he asked him to come see someone working in the Ministry Media Office-Rafah

Office to get his cell phone. He went there and indeed took his cell phone, and he found the material he filmed of the protest near the quarantine center deleted. Days later, the Interior Media Office asked him to come, and a representative of the Office, Iyad Al-Bazm apologized to him for what had happened.

(25th March) The General Investigation and the Police northern Gaza arrested the caricaturist Ismail Al-Bazm from his house located in Jabalia Camp, Al-Falouja, twice in a row.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, and based on the statements of his brother (Rabah), the caricaturist Ismail Fayez Mohammad Al-Bazm (36 years old), married with two children, a caricaturist, was arrested by the Investigation Services at his house in Jabalia, at around 8:00PM, on Friday 20th March 2020, by two persons who arrived his house in civilian clothing and then took him to Jabalia Police Center. On Saturday, at around 8:30PM, the prison attorney was treating the detainees and prisoners very badly, repeating to them "I do not want to hear any of you", addressing them with profanity. Ismail intervened and objected, and one of the police officers assaulted him violently. After that, the prison attorney ordered to take Al-Bazm to a solitary confinement, that was filthy, with dirty water and with no lighting. He remained there for twenty minutes, and then was taken back to a cell that was 5 meters with 11 prisoners inside. During his detention, he was not questioned, and he was released on Sunday 22nd March 2020 at around 2:00PM, without returning his cell phone or personal belonging. But he learned that he was arrested under a complaint by the Attorney General without knowing the reason of the complaint. Two days later, specifically at 1:00PM, on Tuesday corresponding 24th March 2020, Ismail Al-Bazm went to the Police Center to receive his personal belongings and indeed he took them and left the center heading home. In the evening of Tuesday corresponding 24th March 2020, at around 8:00PM, the police sent him a notification to come again to the police center. In the morning of the following day, Wednesday 25th March 2020, he received another notification from the police center to come again. His brother, Rabah, received the notification and called Ismail and told that he is wanted and must go to the police center. At 12:30PM, on Wednesday, 25th March 2020, a police force (composed of three jeeps with 30 police officers) stormed the house violently searching for Ismail. He was arrested and they did not allow him even to change his clothes. His brother, Rabah, followed them to the police center with some clothes for Ismail, and to ask why his brother was arrested again. The police officer told him that it was because "of an old Facebook post" without clarifying the reasons. On the same day, his family contacted MADA center, represented by its legal counselor in Gaza Adv. Ihsan Abu Sharkh, to follow up on the case of arresting Ismail and release him. At 11:00PM on Thursday, 27th March 2020, someone called Ismail's brother and introduced himself as a

police officer of Jabalia Military Center. He asked him to open Ismail Facebook page and post an apology to the Attorney General as follows “I apologize to the Attorney General for the misunderstanding that had happened in the earlier incident”. His brother asked the police officer why should he post such an apology and what had Ismail even done to the Attorney General? And whether Ismail was arrested under a complaint by the Attorney General? And what offence he had committed? The Police officer replied that once this post is shared, Ismail will be released. Once the apology was posted, the Attorney General’s attorney contacted Al-Bazm and told him that he will be released after the apology. Al-Bazm tried to know what was the reason and mistake he did to the Attorney General whom he does not even know personally (as he stated) but he did not receive any answer or explanation and remained in detention without even knowing the reason and without being questioned during his detention. He was released at around 2:30PM on Sunday 29th March 2020 and his cell phones as well as his personal belongings were given back to him as they were seized when he was arrested.

(29th March) The journalist Mutasem Daloul was subject to a series of prosecutions and summons by security and official authorities in Gaza due to posting a comment on the fall of a girl at her school. He was notified that he will be arrested if he does not bring a waiver from the Ministry of Education on a case it filed against him on this regard.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, the journalist Mutasem Ahmad Ibrahim Daloul, who works for “Al-Monitor” Website, received on Sunday morning 29th March 2020, a phone call from “Al-Tufah Al-Daraj” Police Center in Gaza telling him the need to bring a waiver from the Ministry of High Education in Gaza on the case filed against him to close his file, otherwise, he will be imprisoned on the background of a complaint the Ministry has filed against him for defamation in connection to the death of Rahaf Zaino at Fahed Al-Sabah School, in February 2020, who fell from the 3rd floor at her school. Journalist Daloul posted on his Facebook page a comment on Wednesday 12th Feb. 2020 asking the Ministry of Education to open serious investigation in the case of the mentioned girl, Rahaf Zaino. On the following day 13th Feb. 2020, he received a phone call from the spokesperson of the Ministry of Education, Mutasem Al-Minawi, informing him that the Ministry of Education has nothing to do with the case and that the girl’s family is the party to be held responsible as the Ministry of Education has evidence. He summoned him to come to the Ministry to have a look at the details. On the following day, Daloul went to the Ministry after deleting the post as requested in the aforementioned phone call. In there, they talked to him in general that the girl “was suffering from psychological issues with her family and attempted suicide several times, and that the Investigation Police opened a serious investigation and informed her family that they caused her suicide, and that we do not wish to make this huge although we have

the evidence but we are ashamed to tell her family the truth". Daloul replied that what the Ministry said made no sense and that an investigation committee has to find out the circumstances of the incident. The Ministry spokesperson threatened him "if you do not delete the posts I will beat you up". When Daloul came back to his house, he reposted it (after he had deleted it earlier). Two days later, Daloul received on 15th Feb. 2020 a phone call from the Attorney General's Bureau Director Diaa Al-Madhoun, who praised the efforts of journalists and asked Daloul to delete the post and come to the headquarters of the Attorney General's Office to have a look at the details. Indeed, journalist Daloul went on 16th Feb. 2020 where they told him that the Prosecution opened an investigation in the incident under the supervision of the Attorney General, and once they complete the investigation, her family will be notified and the details will be published. When Daloul came back to his house he posted a new comment saying that there might be hope to reveal the truth after he met with the Attorney General in Gaza. Then he saw some comments of officials at the Ministry of Education on their personal pages "defaming" the girl. On 19th March 2020, Daloul received a phone call from "Al-Tufah Al-Daraj" Police Center asking him to come to the police center in Al-Zayton Neighborhood. When he arrived, he was questioned about what he had posted on Facebook on the case of the student Zaino and that he is accusing the Ministry of Education for her death. He replied that he commented that Zaino was murdered at her school by falling from the 3rd floor and that he demanded to open investigation to find out the truth of the incident. He was told that a case is filed against him by the Ministry of Education at the Prosecution and the police asked him to bring a waiver paper from the Ministry to close his file but he told them that he is not going to the Ministry and came back home.

Last Sunday, 29th March 2020, he received another phone call from the police telling him to bring the paper otherwise he will be arrested because the case file is not closed yet.

(23rd March) Facebook Company has executed a broad campaign of preventing posting and live broadcast. This has affected not less than 16 accounts of the below journalists claiming they violate the criteria of Facebook without clarifying to most of them the direct cause of preventing them from posting and broadcasting:

Journalist Najeeb Farraj, from Bethlehem, a reporter of Al-Quds Daily Newspaper, prevented from publishing and commenting through his account for a month starting from 23rd March 2020. He received a notification that said "you cannot post or comment for 30 days, since your last 34 posts have not followed Facebook criteria". This is not the first time he is prevented from posting "which represents part of my job as a journalist as I post news and reports away from views" as he stated.

Journalist Ameen Abdelaziz Ameen Abu Warda (5 years old), from Nablus, works for Asda Press Website. He was prevented from posting at his account on 26th March 2020 without clear warning even though he received notifications on violating privacy and Facebook policies. Abu Warda tried to activate the account with the assistance of specialists but with no use. Furthermore, the live broadcast was also shut down at his account for 7 days (starting from the abovementioned date) without any clear reasons.

Journalist Hafeth Abu Sabra (31 years old), a reporter of ROYA TV, received a message from Facebook Company Administration preventing him from posting or reacting through his account on Facebook starting from 26th March 2020 until 29th March 2020 claiming that he violates the posting policies. The journalist did not create any alternative account as the prevention period was short as he believes.

Journalist Aseel Subhi Eid (28 years old), from Qalandia, northern Jerusalem Ramallah, works for Palestine TV, a volunteer at Qalandia Media Center, prevented from reacting and live broadcasting through her personal account for a week starting from 26th March 2020. The Facebook Administration did not contact her but she received a message claiming that she “violates the Facebook criteria”. She was also prevented from scheduling news on the news pages she is admin in, including the page of Qalandia Media Center which was closed three times in varying periods during the past years even though it is followed by tens of thousands of users.

The freelance journalist Bilal Al-Taweel (29 years old), from Hebron, prevented from posting for a week as well as from live broadcasting for six months, starting from 26th March 2020. He received a message that he violated “Facebook criteria in the news, images and names he posts” for some martyrs. Furthermore, his Youtube Channel was also closed on 6th March 2020 for unlimited period and without prior warning.

Journalist Raed Ramzi Al-Shareef (35 years old), from Hebron, a reporter of Al-Ghad News TV. He was prevented to comment and post on his page for a week starting from 26th March 2020 claiming that he violates “Facebook” policy.

Journalist Dana Ghazi Mohammad Abu Shamsiya (32 years old), from Jerusalem, works for Palestine TV, prevented from posting on her page on 23rd March 2020 for 7 days. Just like the rest of the journalists, she received a message that she violates Facebook policy in posting the news.

Journalist Ameer Sami Dweikat (38 years old), from Nablus, works as anchorman at Tareq Al-Mahaba Radio broadcasting from Nablus, prevented from posting on his page for three days starting from 26th March 2020, and he is also prevented from live broadcasting on

his page for several months due to old posts, some of which were posted several years ago.

Journalist Qusai Yacoub Al-Halaiqa (36 years old), from Hebron, the owner and publisher of “Watan Weather Website”, an anchorman at Al-Hurriya Radio in Hebron, prevented from live broadcasting through his page for three months starting from 26th March 2020. He received a message from Facebook Company explaining the reason which was violating Facebook policy. He contacted Facebook Administration and filed an objection but did not receive any reply on this regard.

Journalist Rami Samarah (35 years old), from Ramallah, works for WAFA News Agency and Ajyal Radio, prevented from posting and commenting for three months not to mention blocking him from using live broadcast noting that this was not the first time.

Journalist Thaer Abu Alfellat (27 years old), from Halhoul, works for Al-Hurriya Media Network in Hebron, prevented from live broadcast on his page due to an old post he shared which was an image of the funeral of a Palestinian martyr. Abu Alfellat was notified to close the live broadcast on 26th March 2020 without specifying the term.

Journalist Abdelrahman Abdelkareem Mohammad Hassan (32 years old), from Bethlehem, works as a reporter of An-Najah TV and Al-Quds Today as well as a freelance photographer. Facebook Administration prevented him on 26th March 2020 to post on his page without sending him a message clarifying the reasons.

The Media Student at Birzeit University Naem Saed Miqdadi (19 years old), works for “Eye Palestine News” and “Palestine Times”, received on 1st Jan. 2020 a message from Facebook Administration preventing him to live broadcast for 90 days claiming he violates the policy of Facebook and that his account will be closed if he does not respond.

Journalist Sami Saed Abdelsae, from Tulkarem, works as a reporter for An-Najah TV in Nablus, and a field researcher for MADA, received on 26th March 2020 a message from Facebook Administration preventing him to post and comment through his page for 90 days, however the prevention did not take place. Soon afterwards, he received another message extending his prevention to live broadcast for 90 days claiming that “he violates the Facebook Policy” and apparently the fault was in the wording of the message only. He did not contact Facebook Administration or any other party to solve the problem.

Cameraman and journalist Issam Rimawi (36 years old), from Ramallah, works as a cameraman and journalist for Anatolia News Agency, and as a field researcher for MADA, prevented from live broadcasting through his page for 56 days starting from 26th March 2020 claiming that he violates Facebook criteria as explained in the message he received

on this regard, noting that he was prevented from live broadcasting several times and his prevention was renewed and extended several times the last of which was on 17th Dec. 2019.

Journalist Imad Jabreen (38 years old), from Bethlehem works as a freelance journalist, prevented from commenting and live broadcasting through his page for 90 days starting from 26th March 2020 claiming that he violates the criteria and policies of Facebook noting that this was not the first time his reaction through his page is restricted.

April:

(11th April) WAFA News Agency issued a decision on referring two journalists working for it, namely: Jafar Sadaqa and Rami Samarah, to an investigation committee, following the end of the state of emergency. Their salaries were also suspended claiming they breached the state of emergency, according to the correspondence both Sadaqa and Samarah received, but they believe that it is related to their posts on the Facebook.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, the economic journalist Jafar Sadaqa, received on 9th April a copy of the investigation committee letter through WhatsApp, since he was at the time in Jenin, sent to him by the Agency Management, signed by the Director General of the Financial and Administrative Affairs of the Agency, Ayman Al-Thaher. The letter was basically a notification to the journalist that an investigation committee will be formed “for not abiding by the emergency instructions” provided that committee initiates its work once the state of emergency ends. It seems that what they mean by breaching the state of emergency is what Sadaqa posts in his Facebook, as he was told by Ahmad Assaf, the Official Media Officer, some of the close people Sadaqa knows. Two days later, (11th April), the Journalist Sadaqa sent a message to the Prime Minister, Mohammad Ishtayya, through the Government Spokesperson, Ibrahim Melhem, to inform him of the decision he received. The Government Spokesperson contacted Sadaqa, and told him that it was not accepted or approved by the Prime Minister Ishtayya, and that it will be resolved. On 14th April, Sadaqa found out, through one of his friends, that his salary might be suspended, and he contacted the Head of the Financial and Administrative Affairs at WAFA Al-Thaher, who refused to give him any details on breaching the instructions of the state of emergency. Even when he insisted, Al-Thaher told him that he did not know any details and it is the Director General, Ahmad Assaf who knew everything about this matter. As to the salary, Al-Thaher was surprised to find that Sadaqa knew about this especially he was not informed about it. He told him that a letter was issued on the 9th of April to the Ministry of Finance asking the

latter to suspend his salary, and asking about the legality of this procedure even though there were no results by the investigation committee. Al-Thaher told Sadaqa "there are now laws, we're in an emergency state". Sadaqa contacted the Ministry of Finance and it confirmed that it indeed received the letter, but it was issued by Ahmad Assaf not the Personnel Affairs Bureau. "Sadaqa", who is working from home, received assurances from the Government Spokesman Ibrahim Melhem that the matter was with Dr. Ishtayyeh, which is unacceptable. Also, on April 15, Melhem, in a press briefing in which the Minister of Finance Shukri Bishara participated, asked the Minister not to suspend the salary.

As to the journalist Rami Samarah, on 13th April he received a phone call from his Line Manager in the Department Khaled Al-Khaldi, informing him to come to the Agency to receive a letter on forming an investigation committee for him. Samarah went to the Agency headquarters, specifically to the Director General of the Financial and Administrative Affairs Ayman Al-Thaher, to receive the letter. There were two more persons other than Al-Thaher at the office, Samarah Line Manager Khaled Al-Khaldi, and a security officer Fadi Al-Na'san, of the Presidential Guard. Before Samarah received the letter, Al-Na'san asked Samarah several questions about his Facebook posts, it was more like an investigation with him, mostly about his posts related to Palestine TV, even though Samarah did not post anything about Palestine TV (neither critical nor offensive). The discussion between them then escalated, until Samarah received the letter and left the Agency headquarters. After he left, Samarah contacted one of those working at the President Office to inquire about Al-Na'san's job and capacity that authorize him to come to the Agency and question Samarah (noting that it was the second time he did that). Shortly thereafter, Al-Na'san contacted Samarah and told him that his issue with WAFA Agency is administrative rather than security, which means that what Al-Na'san acted alone not by commission of the Institution. Few minutes later, Samarah received a phone call from the officer Fadi Al-Na'san, who apologized to Samarah, and told him that he was there by personal capacity and informed him that his issue with WAFA is administrative not security. The next after receiving the letter (13th April), Samarah asked his coworker Jafar Sadaqa, who received a similar letter earlier, to make a phone call with the Ministry of Finance to check whether the Ministry received a letter on suspending their salaries. Indeed, Sadaqa made that phone call, and found that the Ministry received a letter on suspending Sadaqa's salary while with regard to Samarah, the Ministry did not receive anything yet. To make sure, Samarah then contacted Ayman Al-Thaher, to inquire about his salary and whether there was a decision to suspend it or not, Al-Thaher told him that a decision was issued to suspend his salary and it will be sent to the Ministry of Finance. After that, Samarah went to some friends and acquaintances, including the Government Spokesman Ibrahim Melhem, who gave him oral assurances that the salary would not be suspended, and that the investigation committee is an administrative procedure that the

employee must be subjected to, but without any penalty before the committee's results are issued.

(25th April) The Security Officers in Gaza Strip prevented Palestine TV staff to conduct interviews with the citizens for a TV report on Ramadan in Gaza Strip in light of the spread of Corona epidemic. They took them to the Investigations headquarters and detained them for several hours. They were forced to sign a pledge not to work in the field without a prior authorization, before they were released.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Palestine TV reporter in Gaza Strip, Mohammad Saleem Salama Abu Hatab (48 years old), and his coworker, the cameraman Mohammad Ziad Issa Nassar (42 years old), at about 12:00PM, on Saturday (25th April 2020) were conducting interviews with some citizens in Al-Tars area, northern Gaza Strip, as part of a report they were preparing on Ramadan in Gaza in light of Corona pandemic. They were detained by three of Hamas security officers, after an argument and altercation between the staff and the security officers on the nature of their work and why they were in that area. They were prevented to complete their work claiming that they do not have a prior authorization. The security officers asked them to go to the Investigations Center at Jabalia Military Police via the TV vehicle accompanied by one of the security officers. Indeed, they responded, and when they arrived, the TV staff contacted the Management and the latter contacted the Syndicate of Journalists. The security officers contacted one of the officials who told them that the TV staff has to sign a pledge not to work again unless under a prior authorization. After they signed the pledge, they were released, after staying two and a half hours at the police headquarters.

(16th April) The Israeli Occupation Intelligence summoned Palestine TV reporter in Jerusalem, journalist Christine Rinawi, and questioned her about working for the TV even after its office was closed by the Israeli Occupation and prevented from working in the City of Jerusalem.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, Palestine TV reporter, journalist Christine Khaled Waleed Rinawi (31 years old), from Beit Hanina, Jerusalem, received at 10:00AM, on Thursday corresponding 16th April 2020, a phone call from one of the Israeli Intelligence officers, who asked her at first where she was at, Christine replied that she was at home, and he replied that he was in front of her house and that he came to arrest her because she was "wanted". Rinawi asked him to tell her what he wanted through the phone, as she was with her mother who is sick in their family house located in Ramallah since the start of closing the roads due to the spread of Corona virus, but he refused to tell on phone. At 11:00, Christine went to Al-Mascobiya investigation Center in Jerusalem, where she waited until 2:30PM. At first, she was questioned about "prejudicing the Israeli

sovereignty over Jerusalem and breaching the decision of the Minister of Internal Security". Since it was the fourth time Rinawi is summoned for the same charges, she replied "you've summoned me for the same charges which you can accuse Jerusalem Governor of or Jerusalem Minister since they exercise political activities, but I am a journalist and I do media activities. Therefore, you cannot accuse me of that just because I was doing my job as part of Palestine TV staff, which is an institution of the Palestinian Authority". They also questioned her about breaching the decision of preventing Palestine TV to work in Jerusalem, and she told them that the last services she did for Palestine TV office in Jerusalem were on 5th Dec. 2019. Even though the decision issued by the Israeli Minister of Internal Security Jelaad Ardan, under which Palestine TV office in Jerusalem was closed and its activities were suspended for six months, was signed on 13th Oct. 2019, which means it expired on 13th April 2020. During the investigation, the Israeli investigator showed Rinawi a video clip of her live broadcast transmitting news about Jerusalem in light of Corona pandemic. She replied that it was filmed from her family house located in Ramallah, and even if it was filmed inside Jerusalem, no one can hold her accountable. The investigator replied: "yes, I can hold accountable, it is prohibited to work for Palestine TV within the borders of Jerusalem City, even if it was filmed from the inside of your house". Since she proved that she was in Ramallah not Jerusalem, she managed to drop the charges, after she remained in detention until 5:00PM on the same day.

It is worth mentioning that this is the fourth time the journalist Christine Rinawi is questioned ever since the decision of preventing Palestine TV from working in Jerusalem was issued and its office was closed. The first time was on 20th Nov. 2019, when Palestine TV office was stormed in Al-Sowanah, Jerusalem, and closed.

(26th April) The Preventive Security officers detained Jana for Media Production staff, the journalists: Yousef Hasanah (42 years old), and Haitham Warasnah (29 years old) after searching their vehicle. They were taken to the headquarters in Yatta, southern Hebron.

According to the investigations of MADA researcher, a person belonging to Fateh Organization, at around 1:00PM, on Saturday, corresponding 26th April 2020, stopped a vehicle of the Islamic Society for Orphans Welfare, central Yatta, southern Hebron, while it was distributing bins of food to the orphans families. The journalists, Yousef Ibrahim Shehdah Hasasnah (42 years old) the Director of Jana for Media Production, and the cameraman Haitham Yousef Warasnah (29 years old) were inside the vehicle covering the event. After the vehicle stopped, the member of Fateh organization had a conversation with the society employees on the mechanism of distributing the bins of food. In the meantime, other members of Fateh came and asked the society employees to accompany

them to Fateh headquarters in the city. The journalists accompanied the Society staff to the headquarters, but Fateh officers asked them to leave the headquarters and they went to the vehicle, but before they moved away, a vehicle of the Preventive Security Service arrived, and a number of officers stepped off the vehicle towards the journalists' vehicle and asked for their personal cards. The journalists tried to clarify what happened to the Preventive Security officers who searched their vehicle and seized a laptop, bag of papers, their cell phones, their press cards and asked them to accompany them to the headquarters in Yatta. When they arrived the Preventive Security headquarters, some officers seized the cameras and filming equipment, in addition to the vehicle's keys and asked them to sit inside the vehicle. At around 6:30PM, after 4 hours of detention, the officers gave them back their cell phones and cameras and asked them to leave. The journalist Hasasnah asked them about the remaining of seized objects, and one of the officers informed him to go to the headquarters in Hebron. When the journalist asked for their personal identity cards since there were barriers of the occupation army on the roads, the officer replied "it your own problem". The journalists left the headquarters in Yatta. In the following day (27th April 2020), the journalist Yousef Hasasnah went to the Preventive Security headquarters in Hebron to receive their seized objects. He arrived at 10:00AM, and he was asked to wait outside. Four hours later of waiting outside the headquarters, the guard asked him to leave and come back the following day to take the seized objects and be questioned by the Institutions Security, he also told him to bring the laptop charger. The journalist Hasasnah left the headquarters in Hebron, contacted the Syndicate of Journalists, and he was told that a representative of the Syndicate will attend the interview with him. At around 10:00AM, on Monday 28th April 2020, Hasasnah went to the Preventive Security headquarters in Hebron by himself, after the representative could not make it. Hasasnah was taken to a room where two investigators were waiting: they started with personal questions, and then asked him about the nature of his work, about Jana for Media Production, its staff, the parties he works for, and the TV channels he works with. The journalist refused to answer these questions and asked to be told why was he there in the interview. In the meantime, the other investigator was going outside the room for a little bit and coming back asking about some of the files on the seized laptop. Hasasnah then figured that they accessed his personal laptop, emails and Facebook account. The interview lasted for an hour and a half. The investigator asked him about people he knew and worked with as his agenda book showed in connection to his press work as this book was seized from the vehicle. At 12:00PM, Hasasnah took his belongings which were seized and left.

May:

(4th May) Some Palestinian police officers have assaulted the journalist Nizar Habash and prevented him from filming a disabled citizen who arrived to the Prime Minister building located in Ramallah to attend the daily press brief on the updates of Corona Virus.

According to MADA researcher, the journalist Nizar Edmon Habash (34 years old) who works as a reporter for Watan Media Network, while he was at about 5:20PM on Saturday, corresponding 4th May 2020, in front of the Council of Ministers in Ramallah, accompanied by a group of journalists covering the daily press brief of the Government Spokesperson on the updates of Corona Virus, saw a disabled person heading towards the Prime Minister headquarters protesting. The journalist Habash went to him to find out what was he protesting against (he was 20 meters away from the press brief). However, three security officers in police uniform started shouting at the journalist asking him to stop filming. One of them grabbed his cell phone down to prevent him from filming while the other pushed him to the chest and shouted at him: "you cannot film here and you are not allowed to be here and you can never come back again to cover the brief".

The Palestinian Ministry of Interior subsequently issued a statement on what happened, in which it said that what had happened was by miscalculation, it stated in the statement, "In rejection of any action that would disrupt the work of any Palestinian journalist, the Ministry of Interior, following its full responsibility to maintain security and public order, emphasizes that every citizen has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and explains that what happened was not intended towards the journalist, and that it resulted from a miscalculation by some security officers, thus the Ministry expresses its respect for the journalist and the institution for which he works".

(5th May) The Internal Security Services in Gaza summoned the journalist Izz Abu Shanab and questioned him about the reasons why he was in Egypt even though he went for treatment purposes.

According to MADA researcher, Izz Abdelaziz Ahmad Abu Shanab (36 years old), a journalist who works for a number of Egyptian media outlets (Al-Ahram Newspaper, Al Gomhuria Newspaper, Al-Rai Newspaper, Egyptian Democratic), has received on Tuesday corresponding 5th May 2020 a summons from the Internal Security Services in Gaza Strip, to come to the Passports headquarters without identifying the reason of summoning him. On the following day, Wednesday 6th May 2020, the journalist arrived at 10:00AM in the morning to the Internal Security headquarters (passports), where he was questioned by one investigator on the reason why he stayed in Egypt for nine months. Abu Shanab informed the investigator that he stayed in Egypt for that long to receive treatment as he

was injured during the return marches. He was also questioned on a number of known persons including (Nabeel Tamous, Ayman Abu Al Hatal, Safwat Rahmi, Zaki Al-Sakani) who have left Gaza Strip following the fight that ended with Hamas movement controlling Gaza Strip in July 2006. He was also questioned about the nature of his work for Egyptian media outlets, his connection with the National Party of Egypt, and his appointment by the Party as the Goodwill Ambassador claiming that “no titles are given without anything in return”. Abu Shanab denied his connection with any party or activity and that he only been there for treatment. At 2:00PM on the same day he was released. A week later, on Tuesday 12th May, the journalist Abu Shanab was surprised that he was summoned again by the Internal Security Services. In response, on the following day, Wednesday 13th May 2020 he went to the Internal Security headquarters, and arrived at 9:00AM. Immediately he was taken to the investigation room where five persons were there, and the officer who questioned him last time was not among them. The investigators re-asked him the same questions that were asked in the first investigation session, and the journalist Abu Shanab denied his relationship with any of the people whom he was asked about. He reiterated that he was in Egypt for treatment only, and at about 2:00PM that same day he was released.

(5th May) The Israeli occupation forces arrested the journalist Mustafa Obeidat from his house, detained him for hours in the afternoon and questioned him for the charge of providing in-kind aids during the time of Corona pandemic and released him on several conditions.

According to MADA researcher, a force of the occupation intelligence and the Israeli Police, as part of the arrests campaign of several Jerusalemite leaderships and figures, raided at 5:50AM on Tuesday 5th May 2020 the house of the Programs Presenter of MAAN TV and Al-Ghad TV, journalist Tamer Mustafa Mohammad Obeidat (33 years old), located in Beit Hanina in the occupied city of Jerusalem. They searched the house and missed its contents for almost an entire hour. Then they arrested the journalist Obeidat and took him to what is known as “Rooms No. 4” at Moscobiya Investigation Center in Jerusalem. He arrived at 7:00AM, and two hours later (at 9:00) the journalist was subject to an investigation about his relationship with some people who have been arrested on the same morning, providing aids and food supplies to the needy during Ramadan given the spread of Corona pandemic and the party financing such aids. At exactly 12:00PM in the afternoon, journalist Tamer Obeidat was released on conditions including: Not to communicate with a number of Palestinian figures in the city of Jerusalem for a month, and to respond to the Israeli intelligence request to him at any time for a decision and attend at it if he was asked to attend for investigation or trial, and that he would pay a fine of 10,000 NIS (about 3000 USD) if he breaches these conditions.

(6th May) Some Palestinian police officers prevented Mohammad Ayyad from covering the events that have taken place in Abu Deis and deleted the material he had filmed.

According to MADA researcher, Mohammad Jamal Mohammad Al-Halabiya-Ayyad (30 years old), from Abu Deis, in Jerusalem, works as a freelance journalist, at around 12:15 after midnight on Tuesday/Wednesday 5th June 2020, arrived the crossroads of Abu Deis University, after hearing heavy fire shooting. He saw a gathering of 50 young man and 10 police officers. He started filming to make a report to “Al-Qastal” Network. One minute later, an additional force of the police arrived (more than five police and civil vehicles), while Ayyad continued filming and the police started demanding the citizens to clear the streets. Ayyad was the only journalist in the location, and while he was standing on a relatively high spot, 5 meters away from the citizens and police filming the events, a police officer in civilian clothing and small military hat on his head approached him and took his cell phone. When Ayyad told him he was a journalist, the officer asked him to show his press card but he did not have it then. The officer stepped away towards the gathering of the police officers while the journalist Ayyad followed him to take his cell phone back. In the meantime, one of the volunteers of the emergency committee members intervened knowing both parties (journalist Ayyad and some of the police officers). He confirmed to the officer that Ayyad was a journalist indeed and the officer addressed him “you just want to film things the way you want” and soon later he asked him to see the video clips he filmed. After seizing his cell phone for five minutes, he gave it back after he watched what he had filmed and deleted it.

(10th May) The Israeli occupation police and intelligence summoned the journalist Christine Rinawi and gave her a decision issued by the Israeli Minister of Interior on renewing the closure period and preventing Palestine TV from working in the occupied city of Jerusalem for another six months in addition to questioning her on the work of some of her colleagues.

According to MADA researcher, Christine Khaled Waleed Rinawi (31 years old), from Jerusalem, a reporter of Palestine TV, has received on 10th May 2020 a phone call from “Captain Baseel” at Moscobiya Israeli Police Center to come to what is known as “Rooms No. 4” at 4:00PM on the same day. The journalist Christine Rinawi asked to postpone the date because it was late for her, and the Israeli officer asked her to come at 10:00AM on the following morning (11th May 2020). After the phone call, Christine Al-Rinawi (on the same day, Sunday 10th May 2020) contacted the lawyer of the Prisoners Club, Mufeed Al-Haj, who tried to find out why she was summoned by the Israeli police and intelligence. The captain refused to tell him on the phone and asked him to tell Christine to come at 10:00AM on the following morning as she was informed. At 10:00AM, on Monday,

(11th May), Christine Rinawi arrived to “Rooms No. 4” where an investigator took a picture of her and collected her fingerprints then gave her a decision issued by the Israeli Minister of Interior Gilad Erdan on renewing the closure of Palestine TV Office and banning all of its activities across the city of Jerusalem for another 6 months. After she was given the decision, another Israeli investigator questioned her about the Jerusalemite journalist Lana Kamel and the nature of her relationship with Palestine TV since she was broadcasting programs on Palestine TV screen. Rinawi replied that the journalist Lana works for a production company and that this company sells some programs to Palestine TV. Then the investigator asked for Lana’s phone number from Christine and registered it. Having finished all questioned about Lana completely, at 11:45, the journalist Christine Rinawi was allowed to leave.

It should be noted that this summons is the fifth that Christine Rinawi had received since December 2019, as Palestine TV office was closed and prevented from working and operating in the city of Jerusalem.

(11th May) The photojournalist Kareem Khamaisa was injured by a rubber bullet fired at him by the occupation soldiers while he was covering the withdrawal of the occupation forces from Kobar, Ramallah after raiding some of the houses there.

According to MADA researcher, Kareem Khamaisa (21 years old), a freelance photojournalist, headed at an early hour on the morning of 11th May 2020 to Kobar in Ramallah to cover the raiding of the occupation forces and demolition of the family house of Birzeit University lecturer Widad Al-Barghouthi (the mother of prisoner Qassam Al-Barghouthi). Khamaisa headed up a hill overlooking the main street of Kobar to cover the withdrawal of the occupation forces from the town that witnessed clashes between the citizens and the occupation soldiers especially when they were withdrawing. The young men threw stones at the occupation forces as well as Molotov cocktails while some of the soldiers stepped out their vehicles and fired gas bombs, rubber bullets and sound bombs heavily towards the young men to disperse them. While he was filming the events, he got shot in the left knee and as a result headed to Palestine Medical Complex where he stayed for half an hour to receive the necessary treatment and do some checks to make sure his health condition was stable and leave the hospital.

(11th May) The Islamic Jihad Movement arrested the journalist Yousef Khalil Hassan twice and questioned him in connection with a press report he had prepared on the corruption of distributing aids to the poor families in Gaza.

According to MADA researcher, the freelance journalist Yousef Khalil Naem Hassan (25 years old), from Rafah, southern Gaza Strip, received on Monday 11th May 2020 a

summons from the Internal Security Services in Gaza, on the background of publishing a filmed investigation (video) on Sunday 10th May 2020 on his Facebook page, on suspicions of corruption in the aids coming to the poor families in Gaza Strip (especially about some of the persons belonging to the Islamic Jihad Movement that handles the distribution of humanitarian aids in Rafah). Khalil Hassan, the father of journalist Yousef, confirmed that his son was arrested in an anonymous place by Al-Quds Brigades, the Military Wing of the Islamic Jihad Movement in Rafah on the background of the same investigation, on Monday 11th May 2020, before he went to the Internal Security headquarters (on the same case that day). On the following day, the father received a phone call from the Internal Security asking him to come to the headquarters and bring along his son's cell phone. At 4:00PM, he went to the headquarters and brought the cell phone. He sat outside the investigation rooms and shortly after went back home without seeing or knowing anything about his son. It was found later that he was handed over from the "Brigades security" to the "Internal Security Services". He was detained again by the Brigades Security in an anonymous place. On the same day at night, as he learned later from Yousef, he was forced to record a clip of video in which he apologizes for the content of the press investigation he prepared and published. The Brigades Security accused Yousef that he mentioned one of the Brigades leaders in the press investigation and accused him of corruption, although he did not refer to any specific person directly or explicitly. Yousef remained arrested by the Brigades Security for four days, and he was released without any intervention from any security or governmental party on the grounds that he is a member of Al-Jihad Movement (which arrested him) and the Movement will protect him. On Tuesday night, 26th May 2020, Yousef received a phone call from an officer who works for Al-Quds Brigades Security, asking him to turn himself in. At 9:00AM on the following morning, (Wednesday 27th May 2020), he was detained and did not go back home until his wife tweeted on Facebook on the evening of that day saying that he was abducted and asking for intervention to know his place of arrest. Yousef remained in detention until the evening of Thursday 28th May 2020. On the afternoon of that day, a group of Al-Jihad Movement arrived Yousef's family house to close his case. The Brigades Security referred Yousef to the Attorney General in Gaza. On Monday 1st June 2020, Yousef posted on his Facebook page a 6-minutes video clip showing the details of his arrest.

(12th May) One of the Occupation soldiers assaulted the photojournalist Nasser Ishtayya, not to mention preventing him and the cameraman Majdi Ishtayya from covering events in Yabod.

According to MADA researcher, Majdi Mohammad Ishtayya (33 years old), a cameraman who works for the American Press Agency, and the cameraman, freelance journalist Nasser Sulaiman Ishtayya (50 years old), have arrived at around 10:00AM on Tuesday morning, corresponding 12th May 2020, to Yabod in Jenin, northern the West Bank, to cover the raiding and demolitions of some houses in the town carried out by the Israeli occupation forces, in search of a Palestinian that believed to have thrown stone from the roof of a building at one of the soldiers leading to his death. The moment the cameramen Majdi and Nasser arrived the town, they stopped at 100 meters away from the occupation soldiers and their vehicles, stepped out off their vehicle, put on their uniform marked with Press that is internationally recognized, they started taking pictures of the military vehicles from that distance. The soldiers saw them and shouted at them to leave the location. The cameramen Nasser and Majdi stepped back a little bit, and began taking pictures again. A group of soldiers approached them and one of the soldiers fired a sound bomb at them. In the meantime, Majdi has arrived near one of the houses entrances, while a soldier approached the cameraman Nasser and assaulted him, started kicking him which made him fall to the ground and get bruises in the chest and shoulder. In the meantime, Majdi tries to film and document the assault against his colleague, but the soldier stopped the assault when he saw him and started shouting at them to leave the location and stop filming.

(12th May) The occupation soldiers fired sound and gas bombs deliberately and directly at four of the journalists while they were covering the raiding of Yabod on the evening of 14th May 2020 which led to their suffocation.

According to MADA researcher, the journalists Tareq Husni Sulaiman Abu Zaid Al-Horani (38 years old), the cameraman of Palestine TV in Jenin, Mahmoud Younes Ibrahim Samoudi (41years old) the reporter of Palestine TV in Jenin, Mujahed Mohammad Saed Al-Saadi (31 years old) a freelance cameraman, and Mohammad Ali Abdelqader Ateeq (28 years old) a freelance journalist as well, have arrived at 10:00PM on Tuesday to Yabod in Jenin to cover the raiding carried out by the army. They headed to one of the houses' roof in Al-Salamah Neighborhood in the town noting that the occupation forces were 20 meters away from them. The journalists informed the soldiers more than once than once about themselves while they were at the roof not to mention they were in the press uniform. After about ten minutes, the soldiers pointed their guns at the journalists as their laser lights were pointed towards their chests. They started shouting and asked them to leave the area. Few minutes later, the soldiers again pointed their laser lights at the journalists from several directions. The four journalists lay down on the ground, and immediately the soldiers fired several sound bombs towards the house roof directly. The journalists shouted in Arabic, English and Hebrew that they were journalists and the

soldiers fired several gas and tear gas bombs at them. The journalist Tareq Al-Horani tries to throw away the gas bombs from the house roof, but there was a lot of heavy gas he could not do it which led to their severe suffocation. The journalist Tareq fainted and fell to the ground (on the roof), his camera also fell and its exterior screen broke as well as the camera holder (he was transmitting the events live). Tareq was treated in the field by the house owners who were on the roof and they left the location half an hour later after the occupation forces withdrawal.

(13th May) A force of the Israeli occupation army detained the cameraman Musab Shawer and deleted the pictures he had taken for a march that took place in Hebron.

According to MADA researcher, the photojournalist Musab Shawer who works for Al-Hadath Newspaper, went on the evening of 13th May 2020 to the old town in Hebron, to film a peaceful protest organized by the Palestinian citizens against the seizure of the occupation lands around the Sanctuary of Abraham by the occupation authorities, as a prelude to the establishment of routes for settlers to have access to the Sanctuary of Abraham. The march was launched in front of Al-Takya at around 9:00 and headed towards the Mosque, then to the old municipality building in Hebron. In the meantime, the occupation soldiers started warning the citizens and asking them to move away and disperse. Soon after, a group of soldiers attacked one of the citizens and assaulted him, then took him to a military point of the army in the city. While the journalist Musab Shawer was filming the march and the events, a group of soldiers headed towards him and ordered him to stop filming. They took him to a military checkpoint established by the army in that area, where one of them, in a military uniform, informed him that he was an intelligence officer and introduced himself as “Captain Mousa” and told him that “the law prohibits filming”. He asked Musab to delete the filmed material, but the latter refused and the soldiers pulled him camera and deleted the material, and then asked him to leave.

(19th May) The journalist Alaa Al-Zaro was directly threatened by the Palestinian Police to stop raising the arrest of journalist Anas Howari, who was arrested by the police, through the social media.

According to MADA researcher, the journalist Alaa Al-Zaro, from Hebron, works for Al-Hurriya Radio and Watan Agency, a member within a whatsapp group of journalists called “The Journalists Club”. Among the members of this group is the police media spokesperson, Coloner Loay Irzeqat. As a result of arresting the journalist Anas Howari by the police, there a discussion in the group between the journalists and the police media spokesperson that ended with a serious demand to give a reasonable reason why the journalist Howari was arrested. Days after that discussion, the journalist Alaa asked the

same question about Anas Howari and the reason behind his continuous arrest. The discussion started again between the journalists and the police spokesperson. Three days later, the Palestinian police spokesperson called Al-Hurriya Radio Board Chairman, the line manager of journalist Alaa, and asked him why would she raise the subject of Anas Howari and defend him, the Chairman replied that this is her work and profession and that he will never tell her what to write or how to express her opinion. At the same time, the police contacted one of Alaa's colleagues in the radio to send her a message that arresting the journalist Anas has nothing to do with him being a journalist, and that the matter is partisan and he explained to her that the police asked about her political belonging and intentions and advised her (because he cared about her and did not want her to get in troubles) to stop asking about such cases. This caused pressure even to her family as they did not want their daughter to get in troubles.

(1-30 May) Facebook Company blocked and closed several pages and accounts of media websites, as well as some pages belonging to Palestinian journalists claiming "they violate the Facebook privacy criteria".

This series of closures has affected the journalists listed below:

Samer Ameen Saed Khwaira (38 years old), from Nablus, works as an anchor for "Hayat" Radio, based in Nablus, he was prevented from posting on three Facebook pages he is an admin in: Journalist Samer Khwaira, Hayat Radio, and Holy Quran, without a prior and clear warning. He was also prevented from live broadcasting on his official account, as well as from sending messages through the Messenger between 5th May – 21st May, 2020, claiming he posts prohibited news and terminology according to the Facebook policy, such as news including the terms (prisoner or wounded). Later, he was allowed to live broadcast but is still prevented from posting on the above mentioned pages and also from sending any messages through the messenger, noting that his personal account has 900 followers.

Ameed Sami Dwaikat (38 years old), from Nablus, works as an anchor for Tareq Al-Mahabba Radio based in Nablus. The Facebook Administration prevented him from posting and commenting or even sending messages through messenger, between 5 and 16 of May, 2020, without any prior notification. It should be noted that this is not the first time he is prevented from live broadcasting, due to old posts he published more than five years ago. The block also included his personal account which has 5000 followers and the official page which has 22500 followers.

Sami Saed Abdelsae (*36 years old), from Tulkarem, a reporter of An-Najah TV based in Nablus, and a field researcher for MADA. The Facebook Company has closed more than

one account belonging to him. The first which had 5000 friends and 17000 followers was permanently closed on 5th May 2020. Four days later, (on 9th May 2020), two other accounts for him were also closed permanently. This made him create a new account named (Abu Ibrahim Alsae) and avoided posting any news or political material so that it would not be closed.

Emad Jabreen (38 years old), from Bethlehem, a freelance journalist. Facebook Company closed his personal account which has 5200 followers permanently on 5th May 2020 without prior notification.

Zaher Abu Hussein (65 years old), from Nablus, the director of the Media Department at the Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission. Facebook Company has closed his personal account on 6th May 2020, as he received a message from Facebook Administration asking him to confirm his identity. It should be noted that the closed account had about 5000 friends and 25000 followers. This is the sixth time this account is closed.

Mahmoud Barham, from Nablus, the Director of MAAN TV, northern West Bank. Facebook Company has closed his account for a month starting from 6th May 2020. This included not receiving and sending messages through the Messenger noting that the closed account had about 1000 followers. This is the third time this account is closed.

Ali Sadeq Saleem Samoudi (53 years old), from Jenin, a reporter of Al-Jazeera TV and Al-Quds Newspaper, and a cameraman of Reuters. His account which had 108,000 followers was closed on 5th May 2020, for three days, claiming he violates the policy of Facebook. This is the fourth time his personal account is closed.

Firas Ahmad Taninah (45 years old), from Ramallah, the Director of An-Najah TV. His verified account was closed by Facebook on 6th May 2020 claiming he breaches "Facebook" standards and policy. Later, the Company claimed that the account was closed due to "default in algorithms" but it was not activated noting that it has 4998 friends and 1200 followers.

Mujahed Salem Al-Saadi (38 years old), from Jenin Camp, a reporter of Palestine Today TV, his account was closed on 6th May 2020 claiming he violates Facebook policy and criteria. His account is still closed until the moment (end of May).

Muhannad Mohammad Hafeth Al-Sharif (31 years old), from Hebron, works as an anchor for Manbar Al-Hurriya Radio based in Hebron. He received a message from Facebook Administration on 6th May 2020 that his account will be permanently disabled (for the

first time) claiming that he violates Facebook criteria. His closed account had 4000 followers.

Mohammad Ali Abdelqader Ateeq (28 years old), from Burqen, Jenin, a reporter and freelance journalist who works for several parties. His account was closed on 4th May 2020. He received a message from Facebook Administration asking him to verify the user identity. A week later, he was officially notified that his account is permanently closed claiming he “violates Facebook criteria”. After a while, Mohammad Ateeq tried to create more than one account but they were all disabled few days after. His account had 5000 friends and 10,000 followers.

Sari Jaradat (34 years old), from Saeer, Hebron, a reporter for Refugees Gate. His account was disabled on 27th May 2020, as he received a message from Facebook Administration asking him to verify his (the user’s) identity. Then his account was disabled permanently noting that his account had 5000 friends and 2700 followers.

(1-30/May) Facebook Company has closed not less than 31 accounts and pages belonging to journalists and local media institutions. This has also taken place in Gaza Strip, claiming they “violate the privacy criteria of Facebook”.

According to MADA researcher in Gaza Strip, Facebook Company closed the accounts of these journalists without any prior notification. Some have received messages through the email and through Facebook stating that closure or restriction on posting, as a result of “violating the privacy criteria of Facebook”.

The closures implemented by Facebook Administration, during May, included a number of media outlets pages followed by thousands, namely: Palestine Media Facebook Page followed by (22,000), Palestine Online Facebook Page, followed by (10,000), and Pictures of Palestine Instagram Page followed by 10,000, without receiving any prior notification of closure.

The campaign of closures affected a great group of journalists in Gaza Strip: Alaa Abdelfattah Al-Namla (freelance journalist), Mohammad Majed Abu Duqqah (cameraman of Sharq Media Network), Saeed Al-Taweel Radwan (freelance journalist), Abdelhakeem Abu Rayyash (freelance cameraman), Ahmad Al-Naqah (freelance journalist), Mohammad Abu Redah (freelance journalist), Wael Abu Omar (freelance journalist), Mohammad Farawnah (freelance journalist), Mohammad Jarbou (editor of Sabaq 24 Agency), Mohammad Al-Jamal (reporter of Al-Ayyam Newspaper in Rafah), Rabee Abu Naqerah (reporter of Palestine Newspaper in Rafah), Mahmoud Al-Khawaja (coordinator of Palestine Today TV programs), Mohammad Washah (reporter of Al-Jazeera Live TV), Mohammad Abdelaziz Al-Najjar (freelance journalist), Ismail Al-Ghoul (freelance

journalist), Ismail Abu Omar (reporter of Al-Aqsa Radio), Abdelqader Al-Sharef (freelance journalist), Osama Al-Kahlout (reporter of An-Najah TV), Mahmoud Hanniya (editor of Al-Risala Newspaper), Jihad Baroud (director of Eid Media Network), Rami Abu Taima (reporter of Al-Quds Today TV), Bilal Awad (freelance cameraman), Muath Miqdad (editor of Al-Aqsa Media Network), Mohammad Abu Hayyah (editor of Al-Aqsa Network), Hussein Zaqout (Monitor for Al-Aqsa Network), Mahmoud Bassam Al-Jamal (freelance cameraman), his posting was restricted for three days, Atiya Darwish (cameraman of Al-Rai Government Agency in Gaza), Amer Al-Amour (reporter of Al-Shaab Radio in Khan Younes), his posting was restricted for 60 days, Mohammad Najeeb Al-Jbour (editor of Kanan News Network), Iyad Hassan Abu Reedah (editor for Al-Aqsa Radio), Abdelraouf Sameer Shaath (freelance cameraman).

(25th May) The journalist Ihab Al-Jariri, the Director of FM24, based in Ramallah, was subjected to incitement and defamation through a Facebook page close to the Palestinian political system in the name of “Salaries and Promotions in the State of Palestine-Main Page” on the background of his opinions and criticism of the Palestinian Government performance with connection to the outbreak of Corona Virus.

According to MADA researcher, the page “Salaries and Promotions of the State of Palestine – Main Page”, on 25th May 2020, posted “To Ihab Al-Jariri: a misguided person is nothing but desecrate and miserable” attached with a photo of journalist Ihab Al-Jariri. The post included incitement insulting and offensive statements such as “the paid broadcaster: and “the one with the known agendas who works only for the Shekel”. Furthermore, the page also attacked FM24 Radio and described it as “part of the team instructed by the Coordinator (the Israeli Occupation Army Coordinator in the West Bank) to start internal battles between the people and the Government so that Netanyahu can annex the lands and implement the deal of the century”. The said page continue to attack Al-Jariri in the same post and accused him of receiving information from the Israeli Coordinator, as well as receiving the financing of “the internal unrest”. It also described Al-Jariri as the “drunk” and the radio he works for as “the radio of strife and corruption”. On the same day (25th May) the page attacked Al-Jariri with another post titled (questions for Al-Jariri ... Will he answer?!) saying that what “Mr. Al-Jariri is doing is following the instructions of specific parties aligned with the occupation, and the horn of the coordinator in attacking the Government, which we may disagree with but never on”. The page accused Al-Jariri of receiving funding of 800,000 Euros from the Europeans and Americans to open 24FM Radio in Jerusalem, considering it a city of peace. It also accused him of signing a document describing the Palestinian factions of being terrorists. The page continued attacking the journalist Al-Jariri as it posted on the following day (26 May) a new inciting post accusing him of mocking the Late President Yasser Arafat and President

Mahmoud Abbas as well as the security services and Palestinian Government. On 27th May, it posted a video of Al-Jariri thanking the personnel and security officers, which was basically a positive post for Al-Jariri, but it attached it with a comment “after those words Thank you ... and if you any rights ... you will always find our address with the Judiciary!”

The attack against Al-Jariri came as a result of a post Al-Jariri published on May 23 under the title “A Government that is always against the norm” in which he criticized the performance of the Palestinian government in light of Corona crisis, whether in relation to the file of Palestinian workers in Israel, or Wakfet Izz Fund, which was established to compensate the affected, or in connection with the checks of the workers, and the performance and management of the health minister of the case.

The incitement and attack against Al-Jariri across many closed groups has outpaced the WhatsApp application, as previously mentioned. It was not known who was behind the incitement and the attack on Al-Jariri, or who is running the page, especially since the admins of the page that launched the incitement campaign are in 3 different regions, Gaza Strip, Palestinian territories 1948 and abroad specifically France, but they’re definitely groups close to the Palestinian Political System”. Al-Jariri went to the Public Prosecution in Ramallah on 27th May to file a complaint and follow up with the case legally, even though he is not so sure this will lead to a result since the officials are outside the West Bank, according to the knowledge of the Public Prosecution, where the prosecution promised to do its best in this matter, knowing that the matter is not under its control.

(24th May) Some settlers have attacked the staff of “Russia Today” TV while covering the appearance of the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is accused of corruption cases, before the Israeli Central Court at Salahuddin Street in the occupied city of Jerusalem, where he made a statement before his supporters and the media before entering the courtroom.

According to MADA researcher, great numbers of the Israeli police and security forces have closed today 24th May 2020 the surrounding of the Israeli Central Court, eastern Jerusalem, before the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appears before the Court. They built iron roadblocks behind of which great numbers of settlers, the far-right politics and the journalists have gathered to cover the event. The staff of Russia Today TV, composed of the TV reporter Dalia Esam Al-Nimri (36 years old), and the cameraman Ashraf Ayed Dawoud Al-Shwaiki (33 years old), was also present. The TV staff asked the occupation police to pass the barriers placed by the Israeli police, but it refused and asked them to remain behind the barriers amid the crowds of settlers and extremists. They stayed from 1:00PM until 3:00PM, when the trial ended and Netanyahu left the court.

When the journalist Al-Nimri tried to document the closure of her report, some of the settlers started disrupted and provoking her by covering the camera lens with the Israeli flag and hold it above her head, not to mention cursing her and her coworker the cameraman Ashraf Al-Shwaiki. Moreover, some of them attacked her, pushed her and asked her to leave the location. Dalia Al-Nimri tried to move them with her hand, and some of them assaulted her coworker Al-Shwaiki with their hands and legs forcing him to use the tripod to move them away. Although this assault before some Israeli police officers, they did not intervene until they were called by Russia Today TV reporter Dalia Al-Nimri asking them to open the iron barriers so they can be able to exit amongst the settlers. One of the police officers approached and asked her how was she and her colleague assaulted, and asked them to go to the Israeli police center in Neve Yaakov to file a complaint. He told them that once they arrive (the officer) will explain to everyone in the center the circumstances of assault. At 3:30PM, on that day, Ashraf Al-Shwaiki and Dalia Al-Nimri went to the Israeli Police Center located in Beit Hanina, northern Jerusalem, to file a complaint against the settlers who assaulted them. However, the police claimed that it did not know of the incident and that it will open the cameras in the area to find out what happened in details. The reporter and cameraman of Russia Today will follow up the matter legally and will file an official complaint at the Israeli court against the settlers who assaulted them.

(27th May) Associated Press Agency has dismissed its cameraman in the occupied Palestinian Territories, Iyad Hamad, “due to a complaint filed by the Palestinian police against him at the Agency, alleging that he incited against the security services and attempted to cause chaos”, as Hamad said, which appears to be linked to his participation in a protest organized in Bethlehem against the arrest of the journalist, Anas Howari.

According to MADA researcher, the cameraman of Associated Press in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Iyad Nimr Abdelqader Hamad (63 years old), from Bethlehem, along with a group of journalists have organized a sit-in on Tuesday 19th May 2020 in front of the President Headquarters in Bethlehem, after receiving information from the Agency he works for that “the Palestinian Police has filed a complaint against him”. Shortly before this, an intense argument took place in the whatsapp journalists’ group, journalist Iyad Hamad was member in the group, with the Palestinian police spokesperson Loay Irzeiqat who is also a member in the group, on arresting the journalist Anas AL-Howari in Tulkarem. Days after this incident, specifically at 3:30PM on Wednesday 27th May 2020, the journalist Iyad Hamad received a phone call from the Agency Management through which he was informed that he is suspended for good from the Agency based on a “Complaint filed against him by the Palestinian Police”. According to their claim, the complaint included “acts breaching public order”. On the same day

(Wednesday 27th May 2020), the journalist Hamad received an email from the Agency accusing him (according to the police claims) of several violations, including attempting to cause chaos and incitement and threatening to set in fire rubber tires in front of the court in Bethlehem in objection of the trial Anas Howari who as arrested by the Palestinian police after he was assaulted at the entrance of Anabta in Tulkarem. It also included accusing him of calling for a protest in front of the security services in Bethlehem, as well as inciting against the security services and their work. The Colonel Loay Irzeqat, the police spokesperson, denied this claim categorically in a word he had with MADA. It is noteworthy that the journalist Iyad Hamad worked with the aforementioned agency for nearly 20 years, during which he covered events in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and in the Libyan, Tunisian and Egyptian Republics, and during his career path he was subjected to numerous assaults by the occupation army.

(29th May) The photojournalist Nidal IShtayya was injured by rubber bullet fired at him by one of the occupation soldiers while he was covering events in Kafr Qaddum, Qalqilya.

According to MADA researcher, Nidal Shafiq Taher Ishtayya (50 years old), from Salem Village, Nablus, a cameraman at Xinhua News Agency, has arrived at around 12:10PM, on Friday afternoon to Kuft Qaddum in Qalqilya to cover the weekly march on protesting against the settlement and the continued closure of the entrance of the town by the occupation army for years. When he arrived Kufr Qaddum, the occupation soldier have already raided the village half an hour before the usual march started. They sieged the Mosque located in the middle of the village where the march usually begins. There were around ten soldiers firing rubber coated metal bullets and tear gas bombs. The soldiers started chasing some of the young men of the town who threw stones at them. When they approached the Zakat Committee headquarters in the village, the young men started throwing stones again at the soldiers who fired back randomly. This resulted in the injury of journalist Nidal Ishtayya with a rubber bullet in his left thigh. Note that at that moment he was at a distance of about 100 meters away from the soldiers and about 50 meters away from the demonstrators. Immediately, three young men took him to one of the houses waiting for an ambulance because there was no vehicle or ambulance in the place. He was given the first aid, but the cameraman Shtayyeh was still in great pain, which prompted him to leave the place and go to Rafidia Hospital in Nablus, where he was provided with the necessary treatments. The doctor dressed the place of the injury and advised him to rest at home for three days.

(31st May) The Israeli occupation forces gave journalist Rose Al-Zaro a summons for investigation while she was covering a sit-in in the city of Jerusalem on the occasion of memorial of Faisal Al-Husseini.

According to MADA researcher, the occupation police and intelligence raided on 31st May 2020 a sit-in organized in front of the Orient House, Sheikh Jarrah Neighborhood, on the 19th memorial of Faisal Al-Husseini. The occupation police, when raided the sit-in, arrested Jerusalem Governor Adnan Gaith, the Prison Club Director Nasser Qaws, and member of Jerusalem Fateh Movement Awad Al-Salaimah, as well as one of those taking part in the event, the former employee of the Orient House Isaq Al-Qawasmah. The police also gave the others summons for investigation by the intelligence claiming they breach the Israeli sovereignty and attempt to impose the Palestinian sovereignty. The summons was given to journalist Rose Al-Zaro, the preparer of programs at Voice of Palestine Radio in Jerusalem, to go to the Israeli intelligence for investigation purposes on Tuesday 2nd May 2020.

(31st May) The occupation police prevented journalist Sondos Owais from covering the events of opening Al-Aqsa Mosque after it was closed for 69 days due to Corona Pandemic. They told her she was arrested and summoned her to the police center in Jerusalem and prevented her to access Al-Aqsa Mosque for a week.

According to MADA researcher, the Islamic Waqf Department, at 3:00AM, on 31st May 2020, re-opened the doors of Al-Aqsa Mosque in the occupied city of Jerusalem after it was closed for 69 days due to corona pandemic. Three gates of Al-Aqsa Mosque were opened: the Gates of Chain, Hattah, and Al-Majles. At 7:30AM, the Occupation Police opened Al-Magharbah Gate for the Israeli settlers who usually raid Al-Aqsa Mosque starting from there. When Al-Magharbah Gate was opened, the prayers started exclaiming Takbirs to the lens of journalists who were documenting the moment. On the other hand, the occupation soldiers were trying to keep the Palestinian citizens away from Al-Magharbah Gate and the Mosque squares to allow settlers to perform their Talmud rituals. They also tries to prevent the journalists to film the events. The freelance journalist Sondons Abdelrahman Owais (23 years old), who was there, asked an officer of the occupation police to let her film the events at Al-Qibli Mosque after she informed him that who she was and showed him her press card but the Israeli officer refused to let her film. He asked her to leave the area and go to the squares of the Dome of the Rock, and told her that he does not recognize her international card and only recognizes the Israeli press card. Sondos tried to talk to him to allow her to film but he refused and addressed her "you are under arrest now". Sondos Owais tries to clarify things for fear of being arrested, however the occupation officer asked her to go to Beit Al-Yaho Police Center located in the Gate of Chain at 8:30AM on the morning of that day. Indeed, she immediately went to the police center where she waited for fifteen minutes. She then met an occupation intelligence officer called Yuram who informed her that she was accused of incitement and causing riot inside Al-Aqsa Mosque, and this is why she was

asked to come to the police center. The Journalist Sondos explained to the officer the facts and details of what had happened and that she had only requested to film, but the Israeli officer ended the investigation with her within fifteen minutes and ordered her to sign her statement and released her on condition that she return again to the police station on Saturday (6th June 2020), for investigation. He also informed her she is prevented from accessing Al-Aqsa Mosque, its halls, and gates for a week, and threatened her with further period of being prevented from accessing the Al-Aqsa Mosque, which may last for six months.

June:

(3rd June) The Israeli occupation forces summoned four journalists while they were covering a sit-in protesting against the removal of Sheikh Akrama Sabri from Al-Aqsa Mosque, questioned them on their press work, and the coverage of the events and activities in Jerusalem.

According to MADA researcher, a sit-in was taking place in Al-Sowanah Neighborhood in Jerusalem on 3rd June 2020, to protest against the removal of Al-Aqsa Mosque orator, Sheikh Akrama Sabri, by the occupation authorities. Many media outlets went to cover the sit-in, and in the meantime the police and security officers raided the area, and handed over four of the demonstrators and journalists summoning orders for questioning, with different dates, namely: the cameraman Ahmad Othman Ahmad Jalajil (40 years old), a freelance journalist from Jerusalem and works for several institutions, Al-Jazeera TV cameraman Murad Mohammad Farouq Isaid (47 years old), from Beit Hanina in Jerusalem, the reporter of Al-Arabi TV Ahmad Nayef Hammad Jaradat (29 years old), from Al-Tour, Jerusalem, Russia Today TV cameraman, Ashraf Ayed Dawoud Al-Shwaiki, from Silwan, in Jerusalem.

At 10:00AM, the following morning (Thursday corresponding 4 June 2020), Isaid went to "Room 4" for questioning purposes at Al-Mascobbiya Center, where he waited for two hours until was summoned to an investigation session that lasted 20 minutes only (between 11:50 until 12:10PM). The investigator started the session by addressing him "Why don't I see you or know you?" he continued by inquiring about his present workplace and where does he see himself in ten years? Then moved on to ask him about the journalists he knows and how do they pass information about the events and their locations, and why wasn't he present a few days earlier in another sit-in organized in front of the "Orient House" in commemoration of the 19th anniversary of the death of Faisal

Al-Husseini, on Sunday, May 31, 2020. He was also questioned about the “PA” party he works for which was denied by journalist Isaid, and then he was allowed to leave.

Upon summoning him, the journalist Jaradat, arrived at 4:00PM, on Thursday, corresponding 4th June 2020 to the Investigation Center. His questioning lasted only for ten minutes where he was questioned about his whereabouts (while he was covering the aforementioned sit-in) and how he received information about this protest and its date. He answered that he knew about the incident by chance when he was coming back to his office at Al-Tour from a fieldwork, noticed the gathering, and stopped to film it.

As for the journalist Al-Shwaiki (based on the summons), he arrived at 4:00PM on Sunday corresponding 7th June 2020, to Room \$ for investigation, where he waited for 15 minutes until the investigation started and lasted for half an hour. The investigator asked him about the journalists he knows and about the way of circulating news in the field, as well as about the type of reports they make when covering the events. He mainly focused on asking him about the journalists he knows, how he knows them, how he knows about the events and activities taking place in Jerusalem.

Based on the summons, Jalajil went to Al-Mascobiya Investigation Center in Jerusalem, at 12:00PM, on 10th June 2020. Half an hour later, he was questioned about his presswork of covering different events taking place in Jerusalem. He was also questioned about his role in broadcasting news about the activities of Jerusalemite institutions, especially those funded by the Palestinian National Authority, which is prohibited and not allowed by Israel in Jerusalem. However, journalist Jalajil replied that he has been covering the political, artistic, and cultural news of Jerusalem and the different institutions there for more than 20 years, and that this is his job. The Israeli investigator threatened him that he will make every possible effort to take his Israeli press card, noting that Israel does not recognize any other cards. He addressed Jalajil and told him that he is able to suspend him from work permanently and prosecute him. The investigator told him that he is not allowed to cover the news of Palestinian institutions which Israel considers supported by the Palestinian Authority. At around 4:00PM, Jalajil was released even though he refused to sign the statement of the investigation he was subject to.

(3rd June) The Israeli occupation soldiers detained the Syrian News TV staff after they prepared a report on the demolition of tents in a Bedouin cluster in Jericho by the occupation forces, and they deleted some of the material that was filmed.

According to MADA researcher, the Syrian New TV staff, including the reporter Jeries Khaleel Dawoud Azer (30 years old), and the cameraman Mutasem Sameer Hamdi Saqf Al-Hait (30 years old) were heading to Deir Hejla, eastern Jericho (Al-Dawahik Cluster) to

make a TV report on the demolition of the village tents by the occupation forces and their attempts to evacuate the population. After they were done filming, they left the cluster and moved away by 200 meters. An Israeli occupation army patrol stopped them, and the soldiers asked them about their connection with the Bedouin cluster. Jeries and Mutasem replied that they are journalists and they went there to make a report. The soldiers seized their cards and asked them to follow them and drove towards the Bedouin Cluster. When they arrived, the soldiers detained them claiming they have filmed in a banned area and told them that they will be released only if they delete the material. The journalists replied that they were only doing their job and they have the right to film in their capacity as journalists. One hour and a half later, their IDs were given back to them and the material that was filmed on Mutasem's cell phone was deleted but the material on the camera was not. They were released two hours later of being detained.

(5th June) The Israeli occupation soldiers have arrested the cameraman of Palestine TV Ahmad Hababa after assaulting him on his way back to Beit Iksa, northwest Jerusalem, where he lives.

According to MADA researcher, at around 4:30PM, on Friday, 5th June 2020, the journalist Ahmad Kamal Hassan Hababa (28 years old), from Beit Iksa, northwest Jerusalem, works at the photography section in Palestine TV, on his way back to his house located in Beit Iksa via his vehicle, through the military barrier established by the Israeli army at its entrance connected with Bido (Ras Bido)²², the soldiers stopped him, started stalling him and even allowed for the other vehicles behind him to pass. It should be noted that this isn't the first time he is being provoked by the soldiers who deliberately stall him and harass him by making things up. Hababa pulled out his cell phone to film the soldiers' harassments, a female soldier approached him and asked another soldier to stand behind him to take his cell phone. They seized his cell phone and smashed it, then handcuffed him, and took him to a private room. They took him in the police vehicle to Ofer Prison, near Ramallah, where he stayed handcuffed for four hours and was subject to repeated assaults and beatings. Then he was taken to the investigation and promised him that he can ask a lawyer to come. His indictment was given to him in Hebrew, which he cannot understand and could not comprehend but one charge that said "assaulting the soldiers". He remained in detention until 12:00 midnight. An application on his trial at Ofer prison was submitted on the morning of Thursday corresponding 17th Dec. 2020. He asked them to take him back to the place he was arrested from at the barrier because his wallet and money remained in the vehicle and he does not have any money to call a taxi to come and pick him up. They refused and took him to Qalandia barrier, 9 kilometers away from

the place he was arrested in and his place of residence in Beit Iksa. He could not but wait in the road until he found someone to help him to go back home in Beit Iksa. Some photos shared on Facebook show the bruises on his body when he was assaulted the moment he was arrested.

(6th June) The Israeli occupation authorities removed the journalist Sondos Abdelrahman Owais (23 years old) from Al-Aqsa Mosque for three months claiming “she causes riot” in the Mosque.

According to MADA researcher, the occupation police, on 31st May 2020, stopped Sondos Abdelrahman Owais (23 years old), a freelance journalist from Jerusalem, while she was covering the re-opening of Al-Aqsa Mosque for prayers after the closure that lasted for 69 days, as part of the preventive measures taken to restrict the outbreak of Corona Virus. They took her to Al-Yaho Police Center at Alsilsila Gate, Jerusalem, where she was given a removal order from Al-Aqsa Mosque for a week, provided she shall go to the Police Center again on Saturday (corresponding 6th June 2020). Indeed, she arrived at 9:15AM on Saturday 6th June 2020 to Al-Yaho Police Center, at Alsilsila Gate, where she was not allowed to enter. An officer gave her an order of removal from Al-Aqsa Mosque, and when Sondos asked about the type of paper he gave her, he answered: it is a removal order from Al-Aqsa Mosque for three months, and that this decision was ready the moment she was arrested a week ago and that she must not access Al-Aqsa Moaque squares, its gates, arcades, and the roads leading to the Mosque.

(6th June) The Israeli occupation forces have fired live bullets at a number of Palestinian journalists while they were preparing a press report on the Wheat Harvest season, eastern Khan Younes, Gaza Strip.

According to MADA researcher, the journalists: the freelance cameraman Hasan Abdelfattah Islaih (33 years old), Ashraf Abu Amra (APA) Agency cameraman, Mohammad Al-Mashharawi (Sky News Arabia Reporter), and his coworker the cameraman Ayman Al-Rozi, have arrived eastern Khuza’a, at around 10:20AM, on Saturday 6th June 2020, via a jeep that was marked in both Arabic and English “Press” to prepare a report on the wheat harvest season. They specifically arrived at a wheat field in an area known as “Jakar street”, 300 meters away from the (border) separation fence, eastern Khuza’a, carrying cameras and filming equipment. Ten minutes after they started filming seven workers in the wheat field, at around 10:30AM, they saw some Israeli soldiers on a sandhill on the other side of the separation fence. The soldiers started firing gunshots at them, without prior alarm, which forced the journalists to lie on the ground. Fifteen minutes later (at around 10:45AM), they were able to get out and leave the area to their Jeep. They had to

move away and film from another location in town that was 700 meters away from the separation fence.

(9th June) Some officers of the Preventive Security have arrested Sami Saed Al-Sae, from Tulkarem, and detained him for three weeks.

According to MADA researcher, a force of the Preventive Security has arrested, at around 7:00PM, on Tuesday (9th June 2020) Sami Saed Abdelsae, an independent journalist and a field researcher for MADA, while he was at his mother's juice shop, at Jamal Abdelnasser Square, central Tulkarem City. The moment he was arrested, the security officer seized his cell phone, and at midnight that day, his wife learned of his arrest and was shocked with posts she saw on the social media about arresting someone who is managing a Facebook page called "Bint Tulkarem" that aroused indignation among citizens because of the scandalous defamatory material it posts. Two days following his arrest (Thursday morning 11th June 2020), Sami was transferred to Tulkarem Magistrate Court, and the Preventive Security Services informed the Public Prosecution officially that the investigation was over with Sami Al-Sae. However, the Prosecution decided to extend his arrest for 15 days claiming they need to complete the investigation for the charge of publishing news and information in violation of the Cybercrime Law through "Bint Tulkarem" Page. On a phone call, Sami informed his family on the same day (11th June 2020) that the police has officially informed him that General Investigations wants to question him and that he is accused of running a Facebook page called "Bint Tulkarem". He denied these charges, and he was transferred to the prison at Tulkarem Police directorate. On Friday corresponding 12th June 2020, Sami's wife and his mother were allowed to visit him. He expressed to them his fears of being subject to physical assault and psychological pressure to get a confession from him. He told them that he has not been questioned as of the moment he had been at the Police Directorate and that he was only questioned about what happened at the Preventive Security headquarters and it was done by a committee composed of the Preventive Security and the General Investigations. On Tuesday, 15th June 2020, Sami was visited by his wife, his health condition was good, but his psychological condition was bad. He informed her that he was going on a food strike. On Thursday 17th June 2020, MADA Lawyer visited Sami and learned he was on a food strike and taken to a solitary cell. On the same day, his wife visited him, in coordination with the lawyer, and asked him to stop his strike, and he responded. On Sunday 21st June 2020, the Preventive Security officers arrived to Sami's house with a search warrant. They searched the house, seized the cell phones of some family members, an old computer, a laptop that belongs to Sami, and two tablets, one for the wife and another for his children, an old Nokia, and a new mi6. On Monday 22nd June 2020, Tulkarem Magistrate Court denied MADA's lawyer request to release him, noting

that it was the 8th request the lawyer has filed and was denied since the decision of extending his detention for 15 days was issued. On Thursday 25th June 2020, Tulkarem Magistrate Court again extended his detention for another seven days, noting that the Prosecution has requested to extend his detention for 15 days. After that, MADA's lawyer filed for three requested for his release on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday corresponding 28th, 29th, and 30th June 2020. The first two requests were denied and the third will receive a response on Wednesday 1st July 2020, which is the last day of his detention after being extended for the second time.

(12th June) Three journalists were injured with three bullets by the Israeli occupation army while they were covering the weekly march protesting against the settlement in Kufr Qadoun, Qalqilya.

According to MADA researcher, the journalists: the French Agency cameraman Jafar Zahed Hussein Shtayyah (51 years old), WAFA Agency cameraman Ayman Ameen Ibrahim Nobani (34 years old), and Palestine TV cameraman Fadi Methqal Fayez Al-Jayousi (40 years old) who was injured by a metal bullet in his right-hand fingertips, have all arrived in the afternoon, on Friday 12th May 2020, to Kufr Qadoun, eastern Qalqilya, to cover the weekly march, organized after Friday prayers regularly since 9 years, to protest against the settlement and demand to open the main entrance closed by the occupation army for the interest of the settlers. The three journalists, along with another number of journalists who have arrived to the town wearing the Press uniform (the blue helmet and vest marked PRESS), were getting ready to start filming the march that started as usual after the prayers. When the demonstrators started getting closer to the closed street, at a distance of 200 meters away from it, the soldiers started suppressing the march by firing rubber-coated metal bullets at the demonstrators. In the meantime, the cameraman Ayman Al-Nobani was standing at an equal distance approximately away from the soldiers and demonstrators. There were three other journalists near him while the soldiers were firing bullets resulting in the injury of Ayman with rubber-coated metal bullet in the right thigh, even though he was 100 meters away from the soldiers at that moment. The moment he was injured, some demonstrators rushed and took him to the ambulance that was parked 200 meters away. He received the necessary aid but had to stop working due to the severe pain he was feeling. While the cameraman Ayman Al-Nobani was receiving the aid, the French Agency cameraman Jafar Shtayya was injured by a metal bullet in the left thigh, by the soldiers who were barricading inside water well on the closed road 500 meters away from the central village. The soldiers asked him to move back while he was moving forward to cover the events. Even when he responded and immediately moved back, one of the soldiers fired metal bullet at his left thigh. As a result, the clashes erupted between the demonstrators and the occupation soldiers who stormed the town firing

metal bullets and gas bombs, which forced the demonstrators to move back towards the central town. While Palestine TV Fadi Al-Jayousi was filming the events standing in one of the towns' alleys 300 meters away from the occupation soldiers, close to the demonstrators, he pointed his camera at the soldier to film him, but the soldier soon fired a metal bullet at him injuring his right hand fingers. He received the field medical aid, but his fingers swollen as a result of the injury.

(12th June) The Israeli occupation forces detained 5 journalists after seizing their cards and the camera memory of one of them. They interrupted their work while they were preparing a documentary and covering a peaceful march in Al-Zubaidat Village, Central Valleys.

According to MADA researcher, the freelance journalist Ameen Ibrahim Mohammad Naifa (32 years old), from Tulkarem, has arrived at 12:20PM, on Friday 12th June 2020, along with the Producer Ahmad Al-Biz, to Al-Zubaidat Village, central valleys, to complete a documentary he is preparing on the Valleys for "Russia Today" TV, under a commission from the TV. Several press staffs coming from Jericho have arrived to the same Village whose population were about to organize a march after Friday prayers. Before Naifa and his colleague arrived at the Village, a military barrier established by the occupation soldiers at Al-Hamra junction in the Valleys stopped them, their IDs were checked and they were asked where they were going and whether they were going to Al-Zubaidat Village, but they told the soldiers they were heading to Jericho. Fifteen minutes later, they allowed them to keep going their own way. After Friday prayers, Al-Zubaidat village population launched the peaceful march towards the main street where the occupation soldiers established barriers near the village entrances. Soon after the march was launched, the occupation forces started suppressing the demonstrators by firing sound bombs at them, while three male soldiers and four female soldiers stopped all the press staffs which were covering the march, asked them for their press cards and seized them. This included the journalists: Sulaiman Mahmoud Sulaiman Abu Srour (48 years old) works for WAFA News Agency, the journalist Mohammad Jawad Issa Zaghab who works for Dunia Al-Watan Agency, journalist Omar Ahmad Hassan Abu Awad who works for Palestine TV, journalist Adel Ibrahim Abu Nima who works for Reuters Agency, and the freelance journalist Ibrahim Mohammad Naifa. After seizing their press cards, at around 1:45PM, one of the soldiers asked all of the journalists to leave and move away. Journalist Sulaiman Abu Srour asked for his press card that was seized, but the soldier refused to respond to him and started pushing him to the back and even threatened him with arrest. A group of demonstrators pulled Sulaiman to the back, Abu Srour was not wearing the Press uniform. At around 2:00PM, one of the Israeli police officers returned the cards to the journalists and asked them to leave, and they immediately left the Village, except for

the journalist Ameen Ibrahim Mohammad Naifa who was waiting for his colleague Ahmad Al-Biz, in a location relatively far from the demonstrators' gathering to bring their vehicle. When one of the soldiers approached the journalist Naifa, and asked him for his personal identity card and press card, Naifa showed him a letter issued by "Russia Today" TV clarifying that he is a journalist working on producing documentaries. However, the soldier did not actually care and told him that he was "arrested" and even seized his camera. He also started pushing him towards the military jeep and addressed him "tonight you're coming with me and you're sleeping in a very nice place" referring to the prison of course, and detained him next to the military jeep. 45 minutes later of being detained there, the soldiers gave him back his card and camera after they seized the memory card where the filmed material is saved. He was released without his camera memory card.

(June) Facebook Company Administration has closed the account of journalist Sari Jaradat (33 years old), 7 times since the beginning of May in 2020.

According to MADA researcher, Facebook Administration has closed the page of Al-Mayaden TV reporter, journalist Sari Sharif Abdelghaffar Jaradat (33 years old), for the 7th time in a row, since the beginning of May 2020. The closure of accounts belonging to Jaradat started after the suspension of journalist Iyad Hamad, the cameraman of Associated Press World Agency (which, according to Hamad and the Agency, occurred based on a complaint filed against him at the Palestinian Police). The journalist Jaradat contacted Facebook Company several times and received a message stating that there is a room for governments in all countries to suspend accounts for people that are considered to violate the standards and policies. Jaradat also contacted the Ministry of Telecommunication and Information Technology in Palestine, and he was informed to file an application at the Palestinian Syndicate of Journalists and to the Ministry to follow up with his matter. However, he did not receive any positive response on this regard. During that period, Jaradat tried to create a new account on Facebook through different internet service providers but soon the account was deleted without any alarming messages.

(18th June) The Internal Security of Hamas in Gaza arrested the journalist Tawfiq Abu Jarad on the background of covering some activities and events of Fateh in Gaza Strip.

According to MADA researcher, on Thursday, corresponding 18th June 2020, the journalist Tawfiq Abdelaziz Mohammad Abu Jarad (38 years old), was summoned and called to come to the Internal Security headquarters on Sunday morning (21st June 2020). Two hours later after his summons, a police vehicle came to his house to inform him that he has to immediately come to the Internal Security headquarters but he was not home then. Two hours later, the security officers came back to his house but he was not home

either. He came back home later on that day and learned that the security officers asked about him. He went by himself to the Internal Security headquarters northern Gaza Strip, where his cell phone was seized as well as his personal card. He was transferred to a cell without any questioning until Saturday evening on 20th June 2020 when he was released provided he shall come the following day (Sunday 21st June) at 8:00AM. Accordingly, on Sunday morning he went to the headquarters and was questioned at 11:00AM for an hour. The questions were about his coverage of marches and events related to Fateh, and his Facebook posts about the political situation in general. After his questioning ended, he was taken to the cell where he remained in detention until 5:00PM, when he was released and was informed again to come to the Internal Security Center on Tuesday 23rd June 2020. At 9:00AM. On Tuesday morning, Abu Jarad arrived at the headquarters northern Gaza Strip, and he was taken immediately to the Investigation Room. At around 10:30AM, he was questioned about the content on his cell phone seized by the Internal Security, which includes images of events and an interview he conducted with a leader of Fateh Movement Fayez Abi Aita. At around 3:00PM on the same day, the Internal Security officers gave him his cell phone and personal card, and then he was released.

(19th June) The Israeli occupation forces detained three journalists and interrupted their work while they were covering a peaceful march in Susia, southern Yatta.

According to MADA researcher, at around 12:00PM, on Friday 19th June 2020, the journalists: Al-Ghad Al-Arabi TV reporter, Raed Mohammad Sameer Al-Shareef (30 years old), the cameraman Jameel Hashem Salhab (28 years old), and WAFA Agency cameraman Mashhour Hassan Mahmoud Al-Wahwah (36 years old), have arrived at Susia Village, southern Yatta, Hebron, to cover Friday prayers that was taking place outdoors to express diatribes against the decision of the occupation authorities on annexing parts of the lands of the West Bank in the beginning of July this year. The moment the three journalists arrived at the location, there were forces of the occupation army that has arrived at the village, and approached the gathering of citizens. Two soldiers approached the three journalists and asked for their personal identity cards for security check as the officer claimed, and they were prevented from filming for 10 minutes until their IDs were checked. After the prayers ended, the soldiers prevented the three soldiers to film the peaceful demonstration and tried to remove them from the location. They even disrupted their movement continuously to prevent them from covering the events while one of the officers was demanding them to leave the location. Before the demonstration ended, the journalists left the location for fear of being assaulted again especially that a group of settlers have arrived at the location.

(19th June) The Israeli occupation forces prevented several journalists and media outlets to access Arab Al-Malihah, northern Jericho to cover a peaceful sit-in that was taking place there to protest against Israel's endeavors to annex parts of the West Bank.

According to MADA researcher, the journalists: Reuters cameraman Adel Ibrahim Abu Nima (52 years old), the photojournalist Mohammad Jawad Zaghaf, and WAFA Agency cameraman Sulaiman Mahmoud Sulaiman Abu Srouf, via Abu Nima's vehicle, at around 10:50AM, on 19th June 2020, were heading to cover a peaceful protest Fateh has called for as well as Jericho and the Valleys Governorate in Arab Al-Malihah area to protest against the annexation plan of Israel with American support. When the journalists arrived at Al-Auja entrance, adjacent to Jericho, the occupation soldiers stopped them at the military barrier they established there, noting their vehicle was not marked PRESS. One of the soldiers asked them where they were going, and they informed him that they were heading to Al-Auja spring. The soldier searched the vehicle, and when he saw the filming equipment and the cameras, he learned they were journalists, and asked for their IDs. He asked the journalist Abu Nima to turn off the vehicle's engine and indeed he responded. Half an hour later, the soldier gave them back their cards and ordered them to go back to Jericho claiming "this is a military closed area and they have to go back to Jericho". The three journalists returned to Jericho and the same happened with the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation that was in the Corporation's vehicle behind them. After they came back to Jericho, the journalists had to take a bumpy road with the help of a young man that has an SUV to reach the location of peaceful protest in Arab Al-Malihah. The protest was covered quietly without any clashes given the location (threatened to be annexed along with other broad areas) is far away from any contact with the Israeli army.

(19th June) A police force in Gaza arrested the journalist Mahmoud Allouh from his house claiming he filmed an old lady being assaulted in Bureij allegedly by the Police.

According to MADA researcher, three persons have arrived between 4:30PM – 5:00PM, on Friday afternoon, corresponding 19th June 2020, to the house of Mahmoud Omar Allouh (30 years old), the presenter of programs and the reporter of Sawt Al-Shaab Radio, located in Al-Da'wa area, Al-Nusairat, without even searching the house, and without introducing themselves except being police officers. They arrested the journalist Allouh after seizing his cell phone, and took him to Al-Nusairat Police Center. The moment he arrived at the center, all of his belongings were seized and he was taken to a cell and reported to be arrested for investigation purposes (higher authorities' decisions). He remained detained in the cell for an hour and a half, and then he was transferred by bus to "Al-Breish" Police Center, where he was taken to a small cell. After that, he was taken to the Investigations and questioned about filming the incident in Bureij about the citizen

Om Jabr Washah who was assaulted. He was accused of filming her and taking her to the hospital which he denied and said “even if this happened, then I have only documented the incident as a journalist, but I never was there, so I did not document anything”. At 11:30PM on the same day he was arrested, after the contributions of several authorities (Independent Commission for Human Rights, the Popular Front, Sawt Al-Shaab Radio for which he works) he was released provided he shall come back the following morning, Saturday 20th June 2020. Indeed, he went to Al-Nusairat Center at around 10:00AM, and he was questioned again about Bureij incident and filming Om Jabr Washah. One hour later, at around 11:00PM, he was allowed to leave the center.

(22nd June) The Israeli occupation forces prevented a number of journalists and media outlets to cover a demonstration and events that have taken place at the southern entrance of Jericho as part of Palestinian protests against the Israeli endeavors to annex the Valleys.

According to MADA researcher, a group of journalists have arrived between 7:00PM – 7:30PM on 22nd June 2020 to the Israeli military barrier located at Jericho southern entrance after they learned about the demonstration of dozens of young men who were throwing stones at the occupation soldiers. These journalists were: the freelance journalists Mahran Sulaiman Barham Barahma (32 years old), WAFA Agency cameraman Sulaiman Mahmoud Abu Srou (38 years old), Pal News Agency cameraman Mohammad Jawad Zaghab (38 years old), the cameraman Mutasem Sameer Saqf Al-Hait (37 years old), and Palestine TV staff: the cameraman Omar Ahmad Abu Awad, the journalist Fathi Khalil Barahma, and the vehicle’s driver Samer Asad Abu Salman. Soon, the journalists started covering the clashes until the soldiers ordered them to leave the area claiming it is a closed military zone. When the journalists started leaving, the soldiers took advantage of them and used them as “shield” to cover themselves from the stones. One of the soldiers intentionally fired a gas bomb at journalist Abu Srou but did not injure him, not to mention threatening him with arrest by the soldiers if he does not leave the location immediately. Furthermore, the journalist Mohammad Zaghab was threatened and pushed by the soldiers and so Saqf Al-Hait and the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation vehicle driver was forced to leave before being detained after the TV staff was prevented to cover the events that have taken place after the popular festival in which Palestinian officials and diplomats have taken part against the annexation of the valleys that have taken place earlier that day.

(24th June) The Israeli occupation forces have prevented a number of journalists to access Fasayel Village, in the central valleys, to cover a festival that was taking place there, in support for the Valleys population and in denial of the Israeli plan of annexation.

According to MADA researcher, Zeidan Zakaria Mohammad Al-Razem (41 years old), a freelance journalist, the reporter for WAFA News Agency in Jericho Abdelrahman Mahmoud Saleh Al-Qasem, the journalist Doaa Mazen Jaber Al-Damnahouri (29 years old), works at the Media Department in Jericho, the freelance journalist Nidal Abdelmajeed Ahmad Fatafah, and the freelance journalist Salamah Mohammad Salamah Sataria (31 years old), were heading, at around 3:00PM, on 24th June 2020, via the vehicle of journalist Zeidan Al-Razem, to Fasayel Village, next to Jericho, to cover a meeting of the Council of Ministers and the PLO Executive Committee, that was announced to take place there, to be followed by a festival to protest against the Israeli plan of annexing the valleys area. When the journalists arrived to Jericho northern entrance, the Israeli Occupation forces established a military barrier at the city entrance, and saw dozens of vehicles in front of them at the barrier as the soldiers were stopping all of the vehicles, to check the identity cards of all passengers. When their turn came, one of the soldiers asked them for their personal identity cards, and saw the cameras with them, he said to them "Palestine TV going to Fasayel, turn around and go back". Zeidan tried to convince them that they were not Palestine TV, however the soldier insisted they go back to Jericho. As a result, the journalists went to the other entrance of Jericho, connecting to Al-Auja, but found out that the Israeli Occupation army has established a barrier there as well. The soldiers prevented them to pass and forced them to go back to Jericho. Therefore, they went to King Hussein Bridge area known as (The Yellow Gate) to be able to access the event location (they arrived there at 4:25PM). At 6:10PM, Zeidan and Nidal decided to leave and go back to Jericho City. When they approached their vehicle parked near the Local Council, they saw a group of young men throwing stones at a force of the occupation army that arrived at the village, while the soldiers were using a vehicle dedicated for spraying the Palestinian demonstrators with sewage. The soldiers were deliberately spraying the sewage water at the vehicle of Zeidan holding plate No. (9.4076.94) and smashed the back glass of the vehicle and thus drowned it with sewage water (while Zeidan and Fatafta were approaching the vehicle). They had to go back to Jericho to go through a quick cleaning operation causing suffocation to journalist Fatafta. She was treated in the field by her colleagues and was not taken to medical center.

At 4:20PM on the same day, the Israeli occupation forces also prevented the journalist Mohammad Jawad Issa Zaghab (32 years old) the cameraman of PalNews Agency, to access Fasayel to cover the event, and ordered him to go back when he arrived at the barrier at the northern entrance of Jericho. Mohammad could not reach the event location he was heading to cover.

(24th June) A force of the Israeli occupation army, at 3:00AM, on 24th June 2020, has stormed the house of journalist Mujahed Mohammad Saed Saadi (32 years old), located

in Al-Saadah Neighborhood, Jenin, a freelance journalist who was arrested without searching his house. They only entered the living room. Mujahed asked them to let him wear his clothes, and they asked him to bring along his identity card and his cellphone. They took him to an unknown place. On 28th June 2020, the Red Crescent informed his family (as his wife, Raya Imad Husni Zakarnah, stated) that the army moved Al-Saadi to Howarah Military Camp, southern Nablus, and that he will be brought before trial on Tuesday (corresponding 30th June 2020), and on that day he was transferred to administrative arrest for six months and his family did not know why was he arrested or what is he accused of or what is condition in detention.

(24th June) The Israeli occupation forces targeted four journalists by firing rubber bullets, sound and tear gas bombs at them while they were covering the demolition of a house under construction in Betunia, western Ramallah.

According to MADA researcher, a huge force of the occupation army, accompanied with three bulldozers, raided, at around 6:00AM, on 24th June 2020, the southern area of Betunia, surrounded the area and started the demolition of a house that was still under construction. The house belongs to the citizen Abdelaziz Froukh, and they claimed it was not licensed. A number of journalists went to cover the demolition, and while they were filming the event that lasted three hours, the occupation soldiers prevented them to approach the house and cover the demolition. They threatened them with arrest if they would not move away and leave the area. They even fired tear gas bombs, sound bombs and rubber bullets at them more than once, especially in the moment when the army was withdrawing from the area after completing the demolition at around 9:00AM. This assault and prevention from coverage was against the journalists: Mohammad Jreir Hamdan (30 years old), from the Public Relations Department at the Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission, Reuters Cameraman Mohammad Ali Turkman (50 years old), G-Media Agency cameraman Mohammad Hamoud Turkman (22 years old), and the cameraman Issam Huda Al-Rimawi (36 years old).

(28th June) The Internal Security Services in Gaza summoned the cameraman Omar Fasfous and questioned him about his comments on the Facebook.

According to MADA researcher, Ihab Omar Yousef Fasfous (46 years old), from Khan Younes, a freelance journalist, at around 11:00PM, on Thursday corresponding 25th June 2020, received a summons from the Internal Security Services in Khan Younes, through a security officer in civilian clothing that showed up to his house. The summons was headed "Summons to Testify" asking him to come to the Internal Security headquarters in Khan Younes, at 9:00AM, on Sunday, corresponding 28th June 2020. Indeed, Fasfous responded to the summons and went to the Internal Security on the said day. The

moment he arrived, before going to the investigation session, one of the security officers asked him to hand over his cell phone and open his Facebook account. Indeed, he gave them his cell phone and shared his Facebook data. In the meantime, the security officer addressed him “every time you show up here, you cause troubles ...”. Fasfous replied “what are the troubles I caused so we can discuss them” but the security officer did not answer him. When he entered the investigation room, one person only met him, and started questioning him by asking him whether he knows why he was summoned. Fasfous replied “I came to testify as the summons dais”, the investigator replied “no, you are here because you’re active, you liked the Israeli Coordinator Facebook Page, and commented on one of his posts saying (take the dollars but give us peace)”. However, Fasfous denied this, and the investigator replied that he is a journalist and can follow any page he wants but not an Israeli. He asked the investigator to prove what he claimed earlier but the investigator replied “I have a report in my hands that proves you have shown activity on the Coordinator’s page”. Again, Fasfous denied and demanded to see the proof, the investigator replied “you might have done it by mistake”. The investigation with Fasfous lasted for 45 minutes. He was then asked to leave the investigation room, but stayed in detention until 2:00PM when a security officer handed him his cell phone and allowed him to leave.

(26th June) The journalist, Hajar Mohammad Harb, was subject to incitement through the social media “Facebook” on the background of commenting on the statement of Hamas Military Wing spokesperson.

According to MADA researcher, the journalist Hajar Mohammad Ibrahim Harb (26 years old), from Rafah, southern Gaza Strip, currently in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for treatment purposes, was surprised that she was subject to incitement on the Facebook, even inciting to kill her, on the background of a post on Facebook, she shared commenting on the statement of Abu Obaida, Al-Qassam Brigades Spokesperson, Hamas Military Wing. Her post read “let us all agree that we are emotional, we have great capability to be influenced in the moment, but we a fish-memory. Announcing war will not change the Annexation decision at all, we are the first and last loser in this, this is what the logic says. Therefore, we should avoid such war instead of seeking to cause one or even suggest that it might be the best choice”. As a result, someone named “Mohammad Shuqair” shared on a Facebook group called “Gaza Commercial Market” on Friday 26th June 2020 “does anybody has an RBG we can shoot the one called Hajar Harb with”. Journalist Harb considered this incitement to kill her. She found later that the account that was inciting against her was holding a fake name and she could not file an official complaint at the security authorities.

The Israeli officer went to the patrol then came back with a ticket he issued for Shadi by (200NIS) even though some of the soldiers and journalists who were near the police were not wearing masks at the moment. The same happened with the cameraman Nasser Ishtayya, as the moment he stepped out his vehicle at around 11:45PM, one of the Israeli police officers approached him and asked him about his mask, Ishtayya pointed to the press mask (the gas mask) around his neck, and pulled the other medical mask from his pocket to put it on his face. The police officer asked for his ID card, took it and went to the police vehicle. Ishtayya followed him and found out that he was issuing him a 200NIS ticket for not wearing the mask. Ishtayya told him that he was about to replace the press mask he had on his neck with the medical one he pulled from his pocket and that he had not moved that far away from his vehicle. He also told him that some of the soldiers in the area were not wearing the masks as well. The police officer replied “this is none of your business” even though he was not wearing the mask on mouth and nose, he had it around his neck. As to the cameraman Mohammad Ishtayya, he arrived at Hares Village with the cameraman Jamal Raed Jamal Hasssan (24 years old). They were prevented in the beginning from entering the village, which is why they attempted to enter from the olive fields, after parking the vehicle at the village’s entrance. When they done with covering the events, they were prevented to leave from the main entrance, they had to leave from among the houses, until they reached the main street where they were surprised with the Israeli police, and one of the police officers asked them to show the vehicle’s papers, and the driver’s license of Jamal Hassan whose driving Palestine TV vehicle. A ticket of 250 NIS was issued for him claiming the vehicle was parked next to the road above the yellow line even though it was far from the said line and “it is clearly a vexatious ticket” as they expressed “to prevent the media staffs from covering the protest”.

¹ A freelance journalist who works with several institutions including Quds News Network and Tayaqan Website, 48 Arabs Website and others.

² This is the only entrance to Beit Iksa, as the second entrance was closed with gates and cannot be passed unless on foot. Beit Iksa is considered one of the isolated and besieged cities as it is located outside the borders outlined for Jerusalem City and within the West Bank. Entering and leaving Beit Iksa is threatening. For example, the ambulances and food supplies or even the gas vehicles cannot access unless after coordinating with the Israeli occupation authorities.