



## **Ministry of Education & Higher Education**



**Israeli Violations Against the  
Palestinian Higher Education Sector  
(1/1/2023 - 1/6/2024)**

# Violation Cases

**1** Human losses and injuries

**2** Detainees

**3** Disruption of the educational process

**4** Damage to Buildings and Infrastructure of HEIs

**5** Israeli Occupation Forces' Raids on HEIs

**6** Restrictions on the Freedom of Movement for Palestinian Students, Academics, and Foreigners

# Preface

Higher education sector in Palestine faces repeated and continuous violations by the occupation authorities which violates all international norms and treaties that regard education as a fundamental human right, as affirmed in the initial articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This right is also guaranteed by international humanitarian law and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

It is really important to highlight the continuous violations, and direct destruction of higher education institutions in Gaza. In addition to the targeting of students and staff, which has led to the loss of hundreds of lives among both groups.

Note: It should be noted that the information and figures provided are not final and are significantly greater, especially in the Gaza Strip, due to the ongoing aggression against Gaza, and attacks in the West Bank and Jerusalem, making it difficult to accurately quantify the number of martyrs, wounded, prisoners, and damage to higher education institutions' facilities.



## First: Human losses among Students and Staff in Higher Education Institutions

The number of student martyrs in higher education institutions in the Gaza Strip, whose names are known, exceeded 523 martyrs distributed across 19 higher education institutions. Additionally, the number of martyrs among the staff exceeded 100, including university presidents, academics, and administrators in these institutions. It is expected that the actual number of martyrs is much higher and difficult to quantify due to the ongoing aggression by the occupying forces. While The number of student martyrs in higher education institutions in the West Bank reached 32 martyrs.

### Total

- 555 students.
- 100 employees.
- total of 655.

### West Bank

- 32 students.
- no employees.
- total of 32

### Gaza

- 523 students .
- 100 employees.
- total of 623

# Injuries

The number of injuries among students reached more than (70) injuries among students of higher education institutions in the West Bank, not to mention dozens of people suffering from suffocation due to gas, used by the occupation army against our students, in addition to thousands in the Gaza Strip, whose numbers are difficult to monitor Precisely because of the ongoing aggression against the Gaza Strip.

Palestine Ahliya  
University

1

Nablus TVET Uni.

1

Al- Quds Open Uni.

3

Khadoorie Uni.

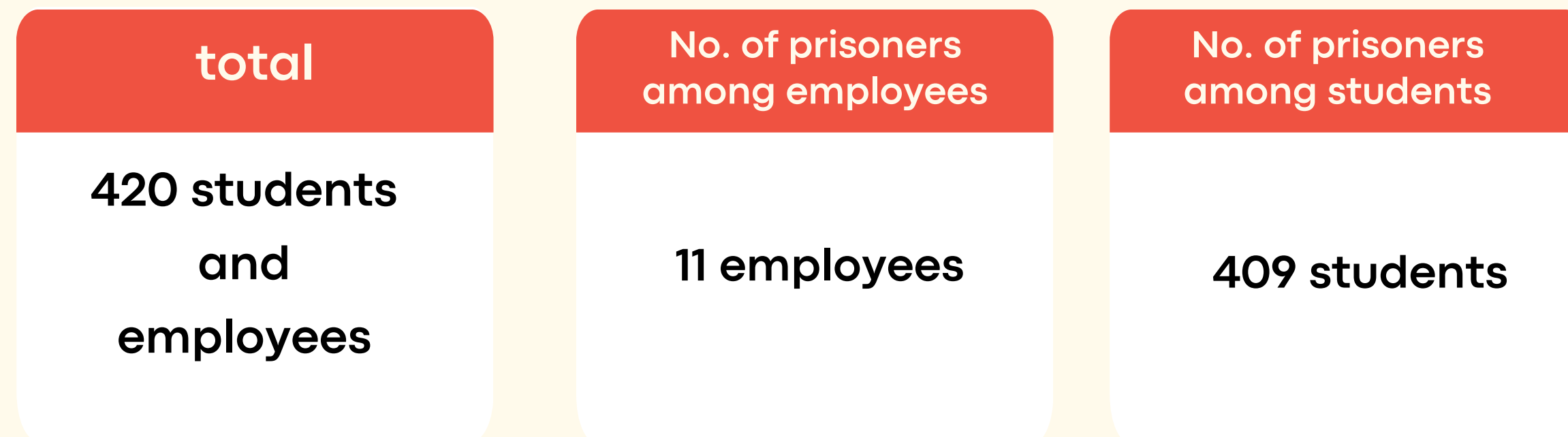
15

An- Najah Uni.

50

## Second: Detainees among Students and Staff in Higher Education Institutions

The number of prisoners among students and staff in higher education institutions reached (420) in the West Bank. However, it is difficult to monitor a similar figure in the Gaza Strip due to the ongoing aggression against our people.





### **Third: Disruption of the educational process in higher education institutions due to the occupation's policy.**



**The policies enforced by the Israeli occupation authorities, such as imposing closures and conducting raids, in addition to erecting barriers and iron gates at the entrances of cities, towns, villages, and camps, coupled with armed attacks by settlers on civilians and vehicles, either through gunfire or throwing stones, pose serious risks to the lives of students and staff members as they strive to access their educational institutions. This has directly impeded the regular functioning of the Ministry headquarters and educational institutions in the West Bank, while completely paralyzing the educational process in Gaza since October 7, 2023.**

# west bank



**138,800  
students**



**12,300 employees**

**34 HEIs**



closed for face-to-face education and have been relying on the online education system since the beginning of the aggression, with the exception of some practical courses.



# gaza strip

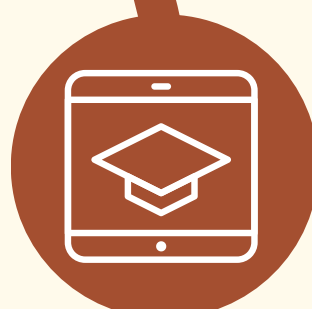


**88,000 students**



**5100 employees**

**19 HEIs**



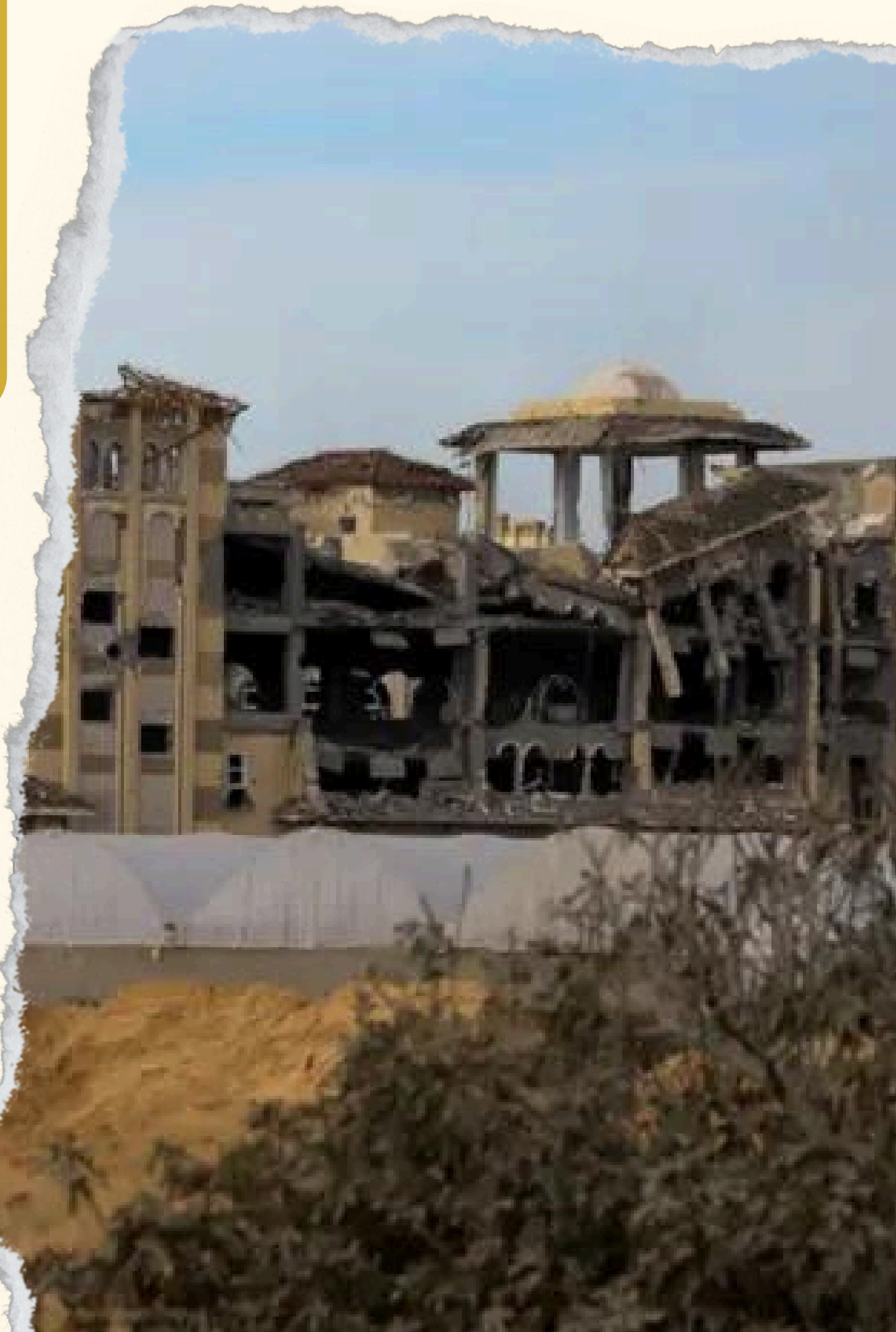
closed and teaching activities therein are completely suspended indefinitely





## **Forth: Damage to Buildings and Infrastructure of Higher Education Institutions**

**During its ongoing aggression on the Gaza Strip, the Israeli authorities targeted HEIs, as well as educational staff and students. They aimed to destroy university and college buildings and facilities by either bombing them or firing shells at them. This resulted in the total destruction of at least 31 buildings, and partial destruction of 55 buildings. this leads to losses estimated in the hundreds of millions of dollars, including the cost of buildings, laboratories, workshops, halls, and headquarters.**





## Fifth: Israeli Occupation Forces' Raids on Higher Education Institutions

Palestinian HEIs in the West Bank faced over (21) raids by Israeli occupation forces, during which:

- Numerous students and representatives of student bodies were arrested.
- Offices and storerooms of student movements were vandalized, and their media, publications, and documents were confiscated.
- Live ammunition, sound grenades, and tear gas were fired within the uni. campuses, resulting in injuries to dozens of students and the shattering of windows and glass within the buildings.
- Laboratories and workshops were invaded, their contents were tampered with, and they were vandalized.



## Sixth: Restrictions on the Freedom of Movement for Palestinian Students, Academics, and Foreigners

In 2022, the Israeli government issued what it termed special instructions for granting work permits and residency visas in the West Bank to foreign academics and students (including Palestinians who do not hold Palestinian citizenship) attending or studying at Palestinian HEIs. The decision stipulates the number of permits to be issued annually, with 100 for professors and 150 for students. Additionally, it sets the duration of stay for both students and academics in conflict with the standard academic year, and mandates that students and academics must apply for entry to Palestine through the Israeli embassy in their respective countries. Furthermore, Israeli authorities interfere in determining teaching subjects, academic qualifications, and specialties held by academics, negatively affecting the number of students and academics seeking enrollment in Palestinian higher education institutions.

