

Israeli Forces Clash with Palestinian Protesters Marking 1994 Massacre in West Bank



Ramallah, February 25 (RHC)-- Israeli military forces have clashed with hundreds of Palestinian protesters on the anniversary of a 1994 massacre carried out by a far-right Jewish settler in the southern part of the occupied West Bank.

Violence broke out in the city of Hebron, located 30 kilometers south of Jerusalem, on Friday as Palestinian youths hurled rocks at Israeli soldiers, who fired tear gas canisters and sound grenades to disperse the crowd. There were no reports of injuries.

On February 25, 1994, at least 29 Palestinians were killed and 125 others wounded when American-Israeli Baruch Goldstein opened fire on a large number of Palestinian Muslims, who had gathered inside the Ibrahimi Mosque to say prayers during the holy fasting month of Ramadan.

Also on Friday, dozens of Palestinians staged a protest in Hebron against U.S. President Donald Trump, who has voiced strong support for Israel. The protesters pelted a huge portrait of the businessman-turned-politician with shoes.

“This is a Palestinian product. He will get it in his face. He and everybody supporting him,” activist Issa Amro said. “Today we are here to send the message to the Trump administration that we exist; we deserve full rights as everybody in the world. We have no respect for this president, who does not see us as equal human beings with everyone.”

Elsewhere, in the West Bank town of Abu Dis, clashes erupted between Israeli soldiers and Palestinian stone-throwers protesting against the controversial separation wall that snakes across the occupied West Bank, isolating large swathes of Palestinian territories.

Palestinian protesters also burned tires during a weekly demonstration against the expropriation of Palestinian land by Israel in the northern West Bank town of Kfar Qaddum, located 13 kilometers west of Nablus.

The occupied Palestinian territories have witnessed tensions ever since Israel imposed restrictions on the entry of Palestinian worshipers into the al-Aqsa Mosque compound in East Jerusalem al-Quds in August 2015. Nearly 280 Palestinians have lost their lives at the hands of Israeli forces since the beginning of October that year.

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