

# *Israeli Soldiers Shoot Three Palestinian Children, Detain Six in West Bank*

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Ramallah, May 15 (RHC)-- Three Palestinian children have been wounded and six others arrested after Israeli military forces attacked a group of young Palestinian students in the occupied West Bank.

On Thursday, clashes broke out between Israeli troopers and Palestinian students in the Jabal al-Tawil neighborhood of the city of al-Bireh, located 15 kilometers north of Jerusalem.

Israeli soldiers then started shooting to disperse the crowd, and three children sustained gunshot wounds as a result. The Israelis also arrested six students, all under the age of 10.

Separately, a young Palestinian man was injured in the leg after Israeli soldiers opened fire on a group of Palestinian youths in the central West Bank city of Bethlehem, located about 10 kilometers (six miles) south of Jerusalem.

The violence erupted after Palestinian youths threw rocks and Molotov cocktails at an Israeli military tower in the area. Israeli troopers fired live and rubber-coated steel bullets as well as tear gas canisters in return.

According to the Ahrar Center for Prisoner Studies and Human Rights, Israeli forces fatally shot seven Palestinians in the Palestinian territories and arrested at least 375 others, among them 55 children and 19 women, last month.

In recent months, Israeli forces have frequently raided the houses of Palestinians in the West Bank, arresting dozens of people, who are then transferred to Israeli prisons, where they are kept without any charges.

There have been many reports about the deteriorating health conditions of Palestinian prisoners held inside Israeli jails.

More than 7,000 Palestinians are reportedly held in 17 Israeli prisons and detention camps. Moreover, 540 Palestinians are held without any trial under the so-called administrative detention, which is a sort of imprisonment without trial or charge that allows Israel to incarcerate Palestinians for up to six months. The detention order can be renewed for indefinite periods of time.

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