

====   ====   ====   ====  
====   ====   ====   ====

Ynet-News, February 28, 2023 – Tuesday

2.28.23 – Tu- - - News      Placed in February 28 spot – Tuesday  
US State Department expects Israel to prosecute settlers over retaliation riots

2.28.23 – Tu- - - News      – Tuesday  
7,283 people donate \$291,015 to Palestinian victims of settler riots

2.27.23 – Mo- - - News      Placed in February 27 spot – Monday  
Settler riot in Huwara leaves 75 PA homes damaged, 35 homes & 95 cars destroyed

2.26.23 – Su- - - News      – Sunday  
400 settlers riot, set Huwara homes, cars on fire after PA terror attack

2.26.23 – Su- - - News      – Sunday  
Two Israelis in car killed from a passing vehicle shooting in West Bank

2.26.23 – Su- - - News      – Sunday  
Palestinian ex-convict who converted to Judaism denied Israeli citizenship

2.26.23 – Su- - - News      Placed in February 26 spot – Sunday  
21 arrested at Tel Aviv anti-judicial reform rally; Netanyahu proposes public dialogue

2.23.23 – Th- - - News      Placed in February 24 spot – Friday  
Israel strikes Hamas in Gaza weapons depot near mosque, school and clinic

2.28.23  
US State Department expects Israel to prosecute settlers over retaliation riots

2.28.23  
U.S. ‘expects’ Israel to prosecute settlers over riots  
State Department spokesperson says Biden wants to ensure that Netanyahu can enforce internal discipline among hardline pro-settler ministers; ‘We expect the Israeli government to ensure full accountability and legal prosecution of those responsible,’ said American official  
i24NEWS, Ynet|06:59

The Biden administration stated on Monday that it anticipates Israel to bring criminal charges against the settlers responsible for the murderous rampage in a Palestinian town

and pay damages to the Palestinians whose homes and property were damaged or destroyed.

“We expect the Israeli government to ensure full accountability and legal prosecution of those responsible for these attacks in addition to compensation for the loss of homes and property,” State Department Spokesperson Ned Price said during a press briefing.

He called the Sunday night riots by hundreds of settlers in the northern West Bank town of Huwara “completely unacceptable.”

Price also denounced the “horrific” terror attack that came before the shooting rampage that claimed the lives of two Israeli brothers as they drove through Huwara, as well as the terror shooting on Monday night that claimed the life of a 27-year-old Israeli-American. “Accountability and justice should be pursued with equal rigor in all cases of extremist violence and equal resources dedicated to prevent such attacks and bring those responsible to justice,” Price said.

At the briefing, Price underlined Washington's appreciation for the statements made by President Isaac Herzog and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urging Israelis to refrain from enforcing their own laws. Following that, Price was asked about the small number of coalition members who had declined to denounce the Huwara rampage and discounted an Israeli promise made during a summit in Aqaba, Jordan, to defuse tensions.

“None of these members are the prime minister of Israel,” Price said. “We work directly with the prime minister, with his team. We are going to — and this applies to governments around the world — judge governments on their actions.”

Reprinted with permission from i24NEWS

2.28.23

7,283 people donate \$291,015 to Palestinian victims of settler riots

2.28.23

Thousands of Israelis donate to Palestinian victims of settler riots

Labor Party member Yaya Fink set a \$27,275 initial goal for the project, but raised over \$291,015 after some 7,283 people contributed; 'I came to the conclusion that I needed to raise a different Jewish, Zionist, Israeli voice,' he says

i24NEWS|02:57

In less than 24 hours, Israelis gave more than \$272,750 to help Palestinians whose homes and businesses were destroyed by dozens of rioting settlers in the northern West Bank town of Huwara on Sunday.

A 37-year-old Palestinian man was killed, 300 were wounded - four of them seriously - and dozens of buildings and vehicles were set on fire in the mass riot that followed the killing of two Israeli brothers in a terror shooting in the same town.

Labor party member Yaya Fink started an online crowd-funding campaign the morning following the attack.

Fink set a \$27,275 initial goal for the project. But, by around 6 a.m. on Tuesday, some 7,283 people had contributed \$291,015. Fink told The Times of Israel in a Monday interview: "It's only a small deed, but as the Jewish proverb goes, 'A little bit of light can dispel a lot of darkness.'"

"As a religious Jew myself... I felt that I could not be silent under such circumstances," Fink said. "They're creating a warped new Judaism and bearing the name of the true one in vain. I came to the conclusion that I needed to raise a different Jewish, Zionist, Israeli voice."

When asked how he intended to distribute the funds to Huwara residents, Fink replied that he was contacting local leaders through former Israeli security personnel. He estimated that it would take roughly three weeks to identify the precise families whose homes and businesses had been vandalized. In addition, in order to prevent any of the funds from going to Palestinians with a history of security violations, background checks will be carried out.

Reprinted with permission from i24NEWS.

2.27.23

Settler riot in Huwara leaves 75 PA homes damaged, 35 homes & 95 cars destroyed

2.27.23

Palestinians wake up to mass damage after settler riot in Huwara

According to Palestinians, 75 homes were damaged, 35 burned to the ground in arson by settlers on rampage after terror killing in West Bank town; IDF deploys more forces to area in anticipation of additional violence

Ynet|01:14

Palestinians from the West Bank town of Huwara woke up Monday to a horrifying image of burned-down homes and cars, trying to grasp the extent of the damage following a massive riot by settlers, carried out in retaliation to an earlier terror attack.

Palestinian sources said that some 75 homes were damaged during a riot on Sunday night, with 35 of them burned to the ground. Some 95 cars were also destroyed by the flames.

During the riots - which broke out after the terror attack that killed two brothers from the settlement of Har Bracha near Nablus - one Palestinian was killed, and hundreds were wounded, many from smoke inhalation.

Just six of the rioters were arrested after the worst outbreak of settler violence in recent history.

According to the Palestinian authorities, 66 Palestinians died in the two months since the beginning of 2023, from IDF or settler gunfire, a staggering figure that causes concern among Israeli security officials.

At the same time, 13 Israelis died in terror attacks in the past month alone, prompting the military to bolster troop deployment to the area, with three new battalions arriving on Monday.

The Palestinian town of Huwara, just south of Nablus is a main thoroughfare used by both Palestinians and settlers. Friction there is unavoidable and occurs on nearly a daily basis.

Images of the town, the morning after the settlers' rampage show much destruction.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged the rioters to end their violence in a video post on social media, but his request was ignored.

Far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich also posted a call for the rioters to cease their rampage, but only hours after they began setting fire to homes and property.

Earlier, Smotrich "liked" a social media post by Samaria Regional Council Deputy Mayor David Ben Zion, in which he said that Huwara should be whipped off the face of the earth in response to the earlier terror attack.

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, however, remained silent. The minister who is usually quick to comment on security matters did not condemn the violence of the settlers, many of whom are his constituents.

Members of his Otzma Yehudit (Jewish Power) party, in fact, egged the settlers on.

MK Limor Sonn Har Melech said she supports "the settlers' just outcry." Prominent settler leader Daniela Weiss asked in dismay, "Why should I call on them to stop?"

On Tuesday, another member of the party, Tzvika Fogel, said a burned Huwara is what he wants to see. He also called to arrest opposition leader Yair Lapid, who condemned the riots, for treason.

Meanwhile, the identity of the Palestinian terrorist who murdered the two Jewish brothers, Hillel and Yagel Yaniv on Sunday, remains unknown. The manhunt to apprehend him continued on Monday.

He apparently approached their car driving slowly in a traffic jam in Huwara and shot the two from point-blank range.

2.26.23

400 settlers riot, set Huwara homes, cars on fire after PA terror attack

2.26.23

Hundreds of settlers riot, set homes, cars on fire in Huwara after terror attack

Some 400 settlers arrived at the West Bank town to protest the killing of two brothers from nearby settlement shot at point-blank; rioters burned 30 cars, threw stones at passing Palestinian vehicles; Netanyahu urges calm

Some 400 settlers rioted and clashed with Palestinians in the West Bank town of Huwara on Sunday after two brothers from a nearby settlement were shot dead there by a terrorist earlier in the day.

The settlers set some 15 homes and 30 cars on fire in what appeared to be a coordinated act of revenge with calls to like-minded residents of West Bank settlements to join protests in the town, according to reports on Israeli media.

Meanwhile, calls were heard from local mosques calling for Palestinians to come out and confront the rioting settlers, some of whom threw stones at Palestinian cars including a fire engine, and prevented firefighting teams from extinguishing the flames.

According to Palestinian health officials, at least 100 Palestinians were hurt many from asphyxiation caused by smoke inhalation and at least one man who stabbed and another was hit in the face with metal bars. The IDF reported that 3 of the settlers were hurt as well.

The Palestinians also reported one death in the village of Za'atara near Ramallah as acts of violence from settlers were reported there and in other locations in the West Bank. According to some unconfirmed reports Palestinians set a Jewish shrine in Nablus on fire as well.

The deputy mayor of the Samaria Regional Council said in a tweet that Huwara should be wiped off the face of the earth. "No more talk of suspending settlement construction. We must return the deterrence immediately, with no mercy," he said. His tweet was liked by Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich.

Forces attempted to separate the feuding sides in Huwara and restore order and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appealed for calm.

"I ask that even when the blood boils, not to take the law into your own hands," he said in a video posted on social media. "let the security forces do their job and I remind you they took out dozens of terrorists in recent weeks and prevented dozens of attacks. Let them complete their chase and together we will triumph over terror," he said.

President Issac Herzog denounced the rioters and said that was not the Israeli way. "Taking the law into one's own hands, rioting, and committing violence against innocents is not our way, and I express my forceful condemnation. We must allow the IDF, police, and security forces to apprehend the despicable terrorist and restore order immediately," the president said.

Defense Minister Yoav Galant said the settlers were endangering civilians and impeding the forces who were in pursuit of the terrorists. A battalion of reservist soldiers was brought into the town to attempt to regain control.

Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, himself a settler finally appealed as well to the rioters and asked that they allow the military to fulfill its mission to apprehend the terrorists. "My brothers," he said. "The pain is great and we are working hard to respond to terror in

a real way both militarily and in further settlements. But taking the law into your own hands and causing **anarchy is dangerous and could spin out of control** and cost human lives. let the government take action and let the military win," he said on social media.

Opposition leader Yair **Lapid** said, "**Smotrich's West Bank militia was on a rampage.**" "They set out to burn Huwara in order to block agreements reached with the Palestinians in Jordan," he said.

Former Defense Minister Benny **Gantz** **condemned** minister **Smotrich and Ben-Gvir** for **failing immediately to call on the settlers** to end their violent attacks.

"It is inconceivable that the IDF is compelled to deal with the rioting settlers instead of pursuing the terrorists," he said.

The Palestinian Authority said they condemned the settlers' terror. "meant to foil international efforts to end the current West Bank crisis. We hold the Israeli government responsible for this act of terror," the PA said.

**Hamas in Gaza** said in a statement that the strip's **residents were enraged by the settlers'** attacks in Huwara **blaming** the "fascist, **Nazi regime, in Israel.**"

Palestinians there were gathering along the border fence in preparation for what they called a night of harassment by Israeli force. They began burning tires.

Calls on Palestinian social media urged people to protest starting at 11 pm at flashpoints along the West Bank.

Meanwhile, another group of **settlers entered the area of Eviatar**, where they attempted to set up an outpost and Yeshiva last year, **claiming they will now settle there.** Border Police forces were attempting to remove them from the contested site.

Settlers at Eviatar on the West Bank

**The brothers were killed after being shot point blank by a Palestinian who approached their car as it made its way slowly through the town in heavy traffic.**

The assailant was still at large, and a manhunt was launched to apprehend him. At the same time, Israeli officials participated in a special meeting convened to de-escalate the level of violence ahead of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, in Jordan's southern city of Aqaba.

In a statement released after the meeting, the **Jordanian government** said Israel had agreed not to advance further settlement construction for a period of four months. But Israeli ministers of finance and national security said no such agreement was binding to them. Netanyahu also said no change was agreed to Israel's policies, despite statements from the White House to the contrary.

2.26.23

**Two Israelis in car killed from a passing vehicle shooting in West Bank**

2.26.23

**Two Israelis killed in terror shooting in West Bank**

Israeli car shot at point-blank range from a passing vehicle south of Nablus; shooting occurs as Israeli and Palestinian officials meet in Jordan for summit meant to tamp down violence between sides

Elisha Ben Kimon, Einav Halabi | Updated: 06:34

Two Israeli nationals were killed Sunday when the car they were in was shot at point-blank range from a passing vehicle in the West Bank Palestinian town of Huwara south of Nablus, emergency services said.

First responders found the victims in unconscious and critical condition and began administering life-saving treatment before transferring them to Rabin Medical Center in Petah Tikva. The two succumbed to their injuries shortly after.

Yossi Dagan, head of the local Shomron Regional Council, said "Unfortunately, this is a very difficult incident. The government must change the paradigm and move from defense to attack, terrorists can't just shoot innocent civilians in broad daylight." The shooting occurred as Israeli and Palestinian officials met in the Jordanian Red Sea resort of Aqaba for a summit meant to tamp down violence between the sides a month before the advent of the holy month of Ramadan — a period characterized by heightened religious fervor.

\*This is a breaking news story\*

2.26.23

Palestinian ex-convict who converted to Judaism denied Israeli citizenship

2.26.23

Palestinian who converted to Judaism denied Israeli citizenship

Court rejects the petition filed by the former West Bank resident and ex-convict to be eligible for the Law of Return; man cooperated with Israeli security forces in his youth and received temporary residence permits

Attorney Alon Avrahamov | 06:06

A court in Jerusalem on Sunday rejected a petition filed by a Palestinian who applied for a citizenship after marrying an Israeli woman and converting to Judaism.

The former West Bank resident sought to obtain immigrant status under the Law of Return, having cooperated with the Israeli security forces years prior.

In his youth, the appellant and his brother collaborated with the security forces, receiving temporary residence permits in Israel, which expired in 2000.

During Sunday's hearing, Judge Tamar Bar-Asher sided with the government, ruling that at the time of the conversion he was not staying in the country legally, making his conversion certificate - issued by an Israeli court - not legally binding.

During his stay in Israel, the appellant was involved in criminal offenses. Following his conviction on charges of manslaughter, attempted robbery and conspiring to escape, he was sentenced to nine years in prison.

In 2005, after an early release, he appealed to the threatened persons committee to obtain a permit to stay in Israel on the ground that his life would be in danger if he returned to the Palestinian territories. His request was approved in February 2007, with a temporary residence permit due to be issued at a later date, provided the man would refrain from involvement in criminal activity.

In January 2021, the man obtained a Judaism conversion certificate from a private court in Gush Etzion in the West Bank. In addition, the Rabbinical Court approved his marriage to an Israeli woman, issuing them a marriage certificate. The couple shares three children.

Subsequently, he sought to get a permanent residence through the Law of Return, which allows every Jewish person to immigrate to Israel and automatically become a citizen of the state.

The request, however, was denied by the Interior Ministry on the claim that at the time of the conversion he was not residing in Israel legally. At that time, he was living in Israel by virtue of an agreement approved by a court ruling - granting him a temporary visa until a special committee reached the decision on his status.

The petitioner claims that at the time of the conversion, and in accordance with the law, he had a permit from the Civil Administration to stay in Israel, making his stay eligible.

2.26.23

21 arrested at Tel Aviv anti-judicial reform rally; Netanyahu proposes public dialogue

2.26.23

In escalation, 21 arrested at 100,000-strong Tel Aviv anti-judicial reform rally. Protesters break through police barriers, block Ayalon Highway and start fire on one of country's major traffic arteries; Netanyahu slams protest organizers for 'attempting to sow anarchy'

i24NEWS|01:08

Tens of thousands of demonstrators in Tel Aviv and elsewhere throughout Israel gathered on Saturday evening to protest the plan for judicial overhaul put forward by the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

This marks the eighth consecutive week of demonstrations.

Police erected roadblocks restricting demonstrators from accessing the Ayalon Highway, one of the country's major traffic arteries; however, some broke through police barriers, blocking the road and starting a fire on the highway. At least protesters 21 were arrested.



Speaking at the protest, former Israeli prime minister Ehud Barak charged that the reform represents "an assassination of Israel's Declaration of Independence, a move certain to turn Israel into a dictatorship."

Over 30,000 turned up to a protest in the northern coastal city of Haifa.

Last week, the Knesset (Israeli parliament) passed the first reading of the first bill of the government's proposed judicial reform by a vote of 63 for and 47 against.

The showdown plunged the Jewish state into a domestic crisis, with both sides insisting that the future of democracy is at stake.

Protesters say the changes will threaten democratic checks and balances on the executive branch, while Justice Minister Yariv Levin argues the reform is carefully designed to limit judicial overreach.

Earlier on Saturday, Netanyahu criticized the protest organizers as "attempting to sow anarchy," adding that "responsible voices in the opposition with this lawlessness," proposing instead to hold a substantive dialogue.

Reprinted with permission from i24NEWS.

2.23.23

Israel strikes Hamas in Gaza weapons depot near mosque, school and clinic

2.23.23

Israel strikes Hamas targets in Gaza after rocket fire

Iron Dome intercepts 5 of the 6 rockets fired at southern Israel; military says it struck Hamas weapons depot situated near school and clinic proving Hamas places assets among civilian population

Ynet|02.23.23 | 00:02

Israel, on Thursday, attacked Hamas military targets in Gaza after six rockets were launched from the Strip earlier at southern communities.

The military said that among targets, it attacked a weapons storage facility that the Gaza rulers operated near a mosque, health clinic and school.

"This is further proof that the terror group positions its military assets in the heart of civilian population," the IDF Spokesperson said, "and is a considerable blow to Hamas's ability to arm itself."

The military said it considered Hamas to be responsible for any act of aggression coming from the Strip.

But the Islamic Jihad responded to the strikes in a statement saying the battle continues.

"We reject any attempt at moderation. The blood of our martyrs is not cheap. This is an open account," the PIJ said.

Islamist factions launched their rocket fire at 4 am activating air raid sirens along the border and as far north as Ashkelon. The Iron Dome missile defense system intercepted five of the rockets and one fell in open fields.

Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, on Wednesday, threatened retaliation after Israeli troops killed at least 11 Palestinians, among the civilians, in an anti-terror operation in Nablus. Over 100 others were wounded.

The forces entered the Old City of Nablus to arrest suspects involved in shooting attacks in the West Bank.

Meanwhile, on Thursday, a Palestinian woman was shot by security personnel at a West Bank checkpoint after she allegedly attempted to stab them, the military said.

====   ====   ====   ====  
====   ====   ====   ====

Ynet-News, February 23, 2023 – Thursday

2.22.23 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Saudi Arabia, Egypt Jordan condemn IDF Wwst Bank raid; 10 PA killed, 102 injured

2.22.23 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Israeli-linked rocket strike in Damascus hit Iranian military experts

2.22.23 – We- - - News Placed in February 23 spot – Thursday

Magnitude 4.4 earthquake hits offshore Lebanon Wednesday morning, felt in Israel

2.21.23 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Rabbi 'humiliated' after Jordanian airport security cut the strings of his Tefillin

2.21.23 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Netanyahu calls for dialogue to witness the change we've been craving for so long

2.21.23 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

American Jewish organization (JFNA) slams government legislation

2.21.23 – Tu- - - News Placed in February 21 spot – Tuesday

Israel passes several judicial reforms 63-47 vote to limit Supreme Court rulings

2.20.23 – Mo- - - News Placed in February 21 spot – Tuesday

Earthquake 6.3 hits Turkey-Syria border region, Monday after 7pm felt in Israel

2.20.23 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Netanyahu's son claims Shin Bet involved in 'coup' against his father