



JLAC

JERUSALEM LEGAL AID AND HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER
مركز القدس للمساعدة القانونية وحقوق الإنسان

JLAC's *Annual Report 2009*

35 Years of Defending Human Dignity

“ Dignity consists not in possessing honors, but
in the consciousness that we deserve them. ”

Aristotle

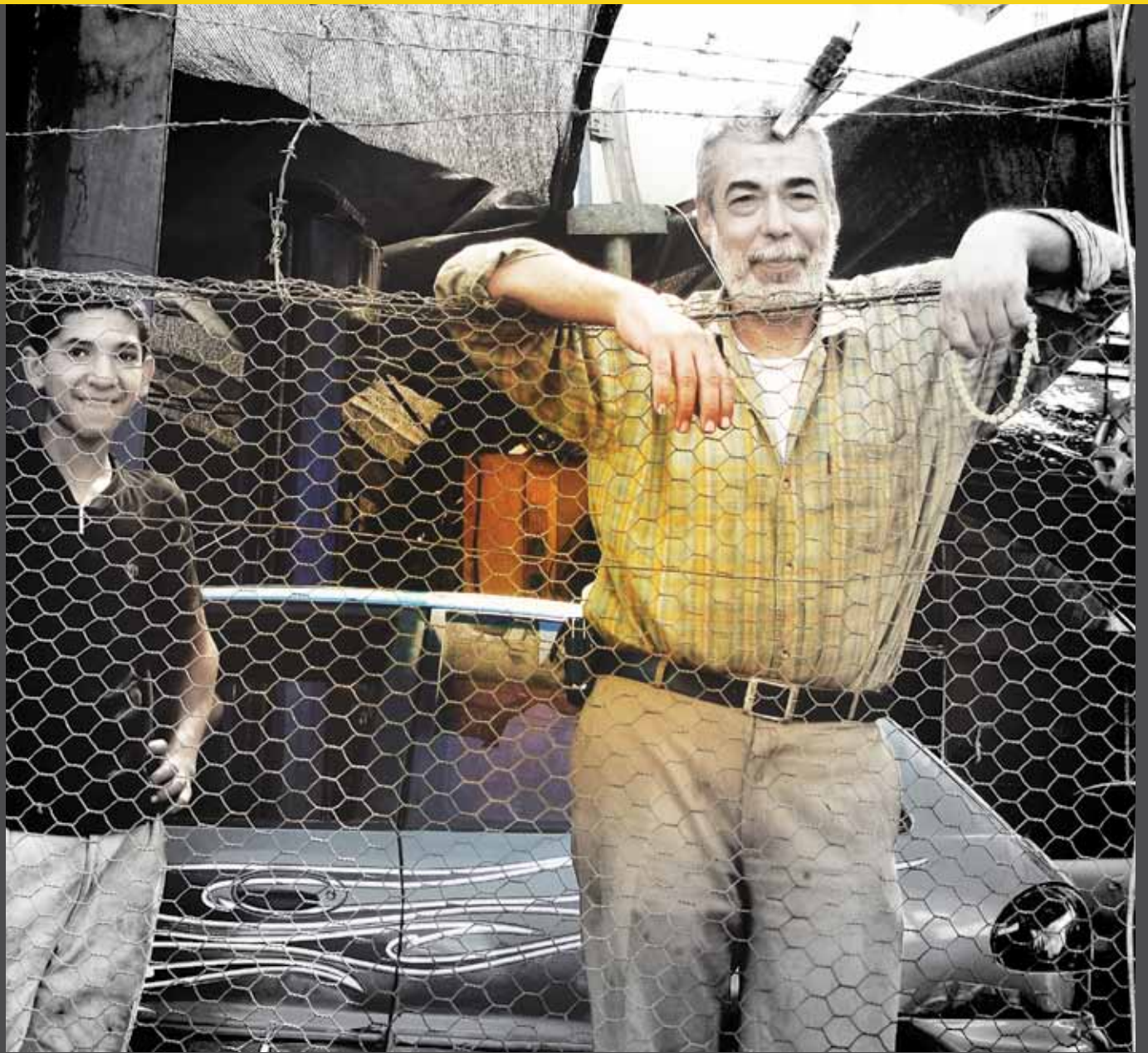


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The photos featured in this report were captured by [E.Y. Farsakh](#) during several JLAC project field visits.

A Message from the Chairman and the Director

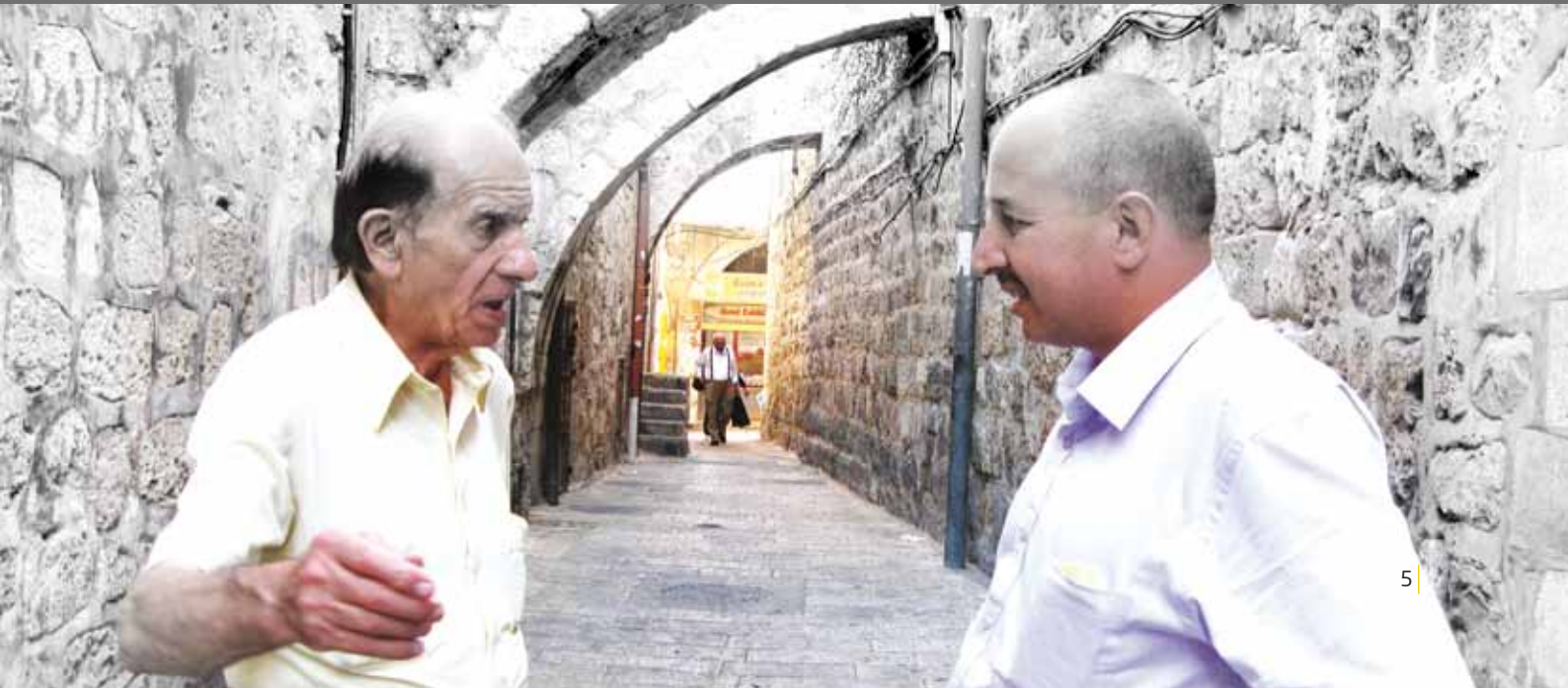
2009 brought with it a further downward spiral in the political and democratic state of the occupied Palestinian territory. The most prominent features of which (and that have served to affect the work of JLAC during 2009) included the continued political division of the West Bank and Gaza and its resulting escalation of human rights violations (i.e. political arrests, torture, and infringements upon the freedom of opinion, assembly, and expression). Moreover, Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip brought further desolation to our already devastated brethren in Gaza. Though in a paradoxical turn of events, the matter being raised by the international community of Israel's aggression on Gaza and its accountability as an occupying power and signatory of Geneva Conventions served to open the way for legal and documentary efforts towards imposing sanctions on Israel for its violations of international humanitarian law.

Furthermore, political changes within Israel served to form the most extreme right-wing government in the nation's history; in which ministers are voicing their views of racism towards Palestinians and Arabs, policies are geared towards the demolition of Palestinians' houses and confiscation of their lands as to make room for settlement expansion, and actions aimed at the Judaization of the city of Jerusalem (void of Palestinian inhabitants) are intensified. Such prompted an increased willingness among the donor community to fund programs and projects for the defense of Jerusalemites' rights, a subject matter which had been previously difficult to attain funds for. This willingness served to reflect positively upon the means and capacities of JLAC's Jerusalem office.

More upon a positive note, the improved security situation in the West Bank and the development and activation of the judiciary (through the provision of additional personnel and formal decision that the government comply with the provisions of the judiciary) has helped in beginning to establish rule of law, restore confidence in the judicial system, and

diminish the culture of taking the law in one's own hand. Such has not served to abolish human rights violations being made by the security services, most notably their subjection of civilians to military justice, arbitrary detention, so-called 'security checks', and the continued closure of a number of non-governmental organizations.

It is in this environment of grave breaches of human rights, implemented by multiple violators upon all the facets entailed in living a dignified life, that JLAC continued and expanded its programming in 2009. Efforts to safeguard the Right of Dwelling & Living were intensified with 419 cases being undertaken. The intensified demolition of houses in East Jerusalem, coupled with the emergence of a new donor, served to motivate JLAC to broaden the scope of its Right of Dwelling & Living program to include such cases being undertaken in East Jerusalem. Moreover, the 21 fold augmentation in the course of one year of the number of persons whose Jerusalemite IDs were revoked (4,557 such persons in 2008 vs. 8,700 persons between the years 1967 and 2007 as per figures provided by the Israeli Ministry of Interior), prompted JLAC to intensify its efforts. Such is evident in the 10% increase in the social and economic rights cases undertaken by JLAC in Jerusalem in 2009 as compared with 2008.



In terms of the Freedom of Movement, JLAC has witnessed a negative deviation between the planned and actual number of cases adopted (100 planned vs. 46 undertaken) due to the Civil Administration's second consecutive year of objecting to legal appeals in this regard and their stipulation that solely personal appeals may be submitted. Thus, JLAC has focused its Freedom of Movement legal aid/consultation upon aiding individuals in seeking permits to visit family members detained in Israeli prisons and to enter Israel for medical treatment.

Towards combating human rights violations taking place by the governmental authorities in the West Bank, JLAC undertook 53 cases of political arrest in 2009 although none had been planned (39 beneficiaries have since been released from prison). In so doing, JLAC sought to safeguard the innate human right to freedom from detainment without cause, to uphold rule of law, and to ensure that plurality of thought exists. JLAC also strove to irradiate the military authority's infringements upon the judicial civil authority. Moreover, the phenomenon of unfair dismissal of governmental employees based upon suspicions of being affiliated with opposing parties, urged JLAC to adopt and litigate 100 unfair dismissal cases.

JLAC likewise undertook public interest interventions in 2009 that included efforts to reform existing planning policies in Area C and to protect farmlands adjacent to the Apartheid Wall from environmental harm. Moreover, the 'National Campaign for the Retrieval of Palestinian & Arab War Victims' Bodies & the Disclosure of the Fate of Those Missing' created and facilitated by JLAC witnessed its first legal triumph with the Israeli Authority decision to release the body of Mashour Saleh (whose body has been held in Israeli custody for the past 33 years).





More towards this end, JLAC developed a book centering around this campaign entitled; 'We Have Names and We Have a Homeland' which catalogues 302 cases of deceased and missing persons whose bodies remain held in Israeli custody.

Looking forward to 2010, JLAC will be losing one of its main core donors (The Ford Foundation) which has contributed to the Center's core programming since 1997. The Ford Foundation has taken a strategic decision to cease funding the human rights sector in the Palestinian Territory. Though this loss may serve to momentarily set JLAC back towards the end of 2010, JLAC remains optimistic that exit strategies put in place (i.e. a substantial phase-out grant, the recruitment of a professional fundraiser, etc.) and the attainment of new strategic partners will serve to mitigate such an occurrence. Additionally, the nature of JLAC as a provider of legal aid often results in certain activities (i.e. case litigation) remaining on-going past the duration of the funded project. Towards helping to alleviate such financially complicated ends, JLAC is interested in developing an 'emergency /contingency fund' to be tapped when such occasions arise. Moreover, the sudden growth in JLAC's scope of intervention and the resulting expansion in its human resources have pressed JLAC to decisively select new recruits and to more soundly manage existing human resources as to ensure program impact and efficiency. As to enhance JLAC's public interest interventions, there is a need for the Center to recruit persons specialized in research, IHL, and liaising with the press.

With much achievement behind us and much uncertainty lying before us, we remain optimistic that the will of Palestinians to live a dignified and free life will prevail.

Defending
Human
Dignity

A vertical yellow line is positioned to the right of the text, extending from the top of the word 'Defending' down to the bottom of the word 'Dignity'.



Who We Are?

The Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center- JLAC is one of the pioneering human rights organizations in Palestine. JLAC was established in 1974 by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) – formerly known as the Quaker Service Information and Legal Aid Center. During 1993, a local Board of Directors was appointed as a preliminary step towards JLAC's independence, with the Center officially becoming a Palestinian non-governmental and non-profit organization in 1997.

Since its foundation 35 years ago, JLAC has played an important role in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) by providing pro-bono legal aid and consultations to Palestinians, aiding them in confronting Israeli human rights violations. With the establishment of the Palestinian National Authority, JLAC developed a public interest program aimed at defending human rights in the oPt.

Our Vision

To establish a democratic Palestinian society, free from occupation and governed by justifiable laws.





Our Mission

To defend victims of human rights violations, according to local and international humanitarian and human rights laws.

Our Objectives

First: To reduce the suffering and improve the lives of victims of human rights violations, through tackling the following:

- Israeli orders and procedures aimed at forceful displacement within Area C.
- Israeli procedures aimed at demolishing Palestinian homes in Jerusalem and the West Bank.
- Israeli procedures aimed at demolishing agricultural facilities (or permitting attacks on land & property).
- Defending the social and economic rights of Palestinians in Jerusalem and the West Bank.
- Israeli policies and procedures restricting the movement and mobility of Palestinians.
- Adopting public interest cases towards confronting administrative and arbitrary procedures which violate laws in the oPt.
- Arbitrary procedures aimed at closing or freezing NGO activities.





Second: To reform public policies and laws in line with human rights and good governance practices, through undertaking the following:

- Exposing human rights violations and public interest cases towards creating public opinion.
- Creating a culture of human rights awareness and appreciation among individuals and organizations towards forming local forces of advocacy.
- Empowering the roles of Palestinian NGOs specializing in human rights and good governance towards the protection of human rights in the oPt.

Thematic Areas of Intervention



This past year, JLAC took great strides towards reducing the suffering and improving the lives of victims of human rights violations. Approximately 1,107 cases were adopted by JLAC and were taken before Israeli (945 cases) and Palestinian (162 cases) courts in 2009, with over 2,400 legal consultancies being provided between JLAC's Ramallah, Salfit, and Jerusalem offices and mobile legal clinics throughout the northern West Bank. The cases and consultancies provided by JLAC ranged in thematic area (from orders of house demolition issued by Israeli authorities to political arrests undertaken by the PA), but all fundamentally sought to empower poor and marginalized individuals and communities with the necessary legal aid and direction to combat and overcome breaches of human rights regardless whom the violator and what facet of living a dignified life is being violated.

Moreover, JLAC has waged efforts to eliminate the environment of legislative and regulatory deficiencies that enables the occurrence and perpetuation of human rights violations in the oPt. Such entails efforts to; create a culture of legal and human rights awareness among local communities and stakeholders, build strategic alliances and coalitions with sector players, advocate for the reform of existing legislation and regulations, among other efforts.



JLAC's multifaceted set of interventions center and revolve around the following thematic areas:

- a. Right of Dwelling & Living
- b. Social & Economic Rights of Jerusalemites
- c. Freedom of Movement
- d. Public Freedoms
- e. Public Interest
- f. Retrieval of War Victims' Bodies
- g. Outreach & Networking

Right
of Dwelling
& Living





2009 was characterized by its Israeli administration comprised of allied Likud and rightist parties and the resulting policy of settlement expansion, and the Judaization of Jerusalem (void of Palestinians). Towards this end, Israel has undertaken a deliberate policy aimed at confining/restricting the lives of Palestinians in various aspects. Among the most significant measures pertain to the zoning and planning policies applied within Area C (60% of the West Bank) that is under full Israeli military and administrative control. The current reality of such Palestinian villages, towns, and residential clusters is characterized by fixed and confined master plans, resulting overwhelmingly high population densities in the few areas allotted for building (and in the remainder of the West Bank in extension), and, ultimately, the construction of Palestinian homes and agricultural facilities without the possession of needed permits and their subsequent vulnerability to demolition. As Palestinians applying for such permits are often times being refused. Moreover, the existing zoning and planning laws and regulations applied by the Israeli government in Area C of the West Back enable further breaches to be inflicted upon the lives of Palestinians, such as the confiscation of land and the forced displacement of communities (as in the case of Bedouin communities in the West Bank).

As of the end of 2008, existing zoning and planning laws and regulations applied by the Israeli government created the reality in which approximately 150,000 Palestinians reside in homes vulnerable to demolition. Regretfully, the Palestinian population, particularly the poor and marginalized, lacks the ability to attain legal counsel towards combating such violations and threats of house and agricultural facility demolition, land confiscation, and forced displacement.





As attaining private legal counsel to safeguard their private property may oftentimes cost a petitioner more than the cost of the property itself. Such motivated JLAC to adopt six times the planned quantity of right to dwelling and living cases (house demotion, land confiscation, and forced displacement) for 2009. This decision, and the decision to widen the scope of JLAC's intervention as to include the matter of house demolition in East Jerusalem (see Social & Economic Rights of Jerusalemites), was facilitated by JLAC seeking and attaining additional funding.

JLAC's intervention in this regard entailed documentation and the provision of the forms needed in attaining required permits. Once power of attorney was attained, JLAC intervened by taking legal actions towards freezing demolition/ displacement orders. All related Israeli High Planning Council meetings were followed up, and the cases were taken before the Israeli Supreme Court. It is noteworthy to mention that each house/ agricultural facility demolition case undertaken by JLAC (364 cases) have positively resulted in securing the families presence in their homes/lands until the court orders otherwise. Moreover, 26 Bedouin communities have been protected from displacement. Among JLAC's other interventions include the development of new master plans as to allow legal expansion of rural areas in Area C. This year, three master plans have been developed in Al Sawyeh, Al Aqabeh, and Bruqin (with Khirbit Jbara finalized in 2008). JLAC likewise trained 32 local governments in regards to the legal steps and procedures to be undertaken in mitigating or combating house/ agricultural facility demolition, forced displacement, and land confiscation. They were likewise provided with a kit comprised of the needed forms and procedures as for them to be a resource for the local community. Furthermore, these trained local government



offices have come to serve as a referral system and linchpin between JLAC and victims of such violations.

JLAC also documented 75 housing clusters in Area C as to identify their general and legal needs. Such will serve to enhance JLAC's prospective interventions, as well as to empower these local communities in soliciting aid in fulfilling their general needs (e.g. water, sanitation, etc.). Training was also conducted for a group of JLAC volunteers in the Jordan Valley, Qalqiliya, and Salfit in regards to the proper methods of collecting necessary documentation towards enhancing/ expediting JLAC's legal aid. Additionally, various community awareness sessions were held for Bedouin communities (i.e Jiftlek, Jahaleen, Fasayal and Rashaydeh) and rural communities in Area C (i.e Al Sawyeh, Al Aqaba, and Qalqiliya) in which JLAC staff introduced new Israeli policies and JLAC's services and provided answers to their questions. Such meetings were followed up with weekly visits by a JLAC staffed lawyer to various communities in the north West Bank (via the local government councils) as to outreach the communities and provide them with legal consultation.

House Demolition & Agricultural Facilities

Existing zoning and planning laws and regulations applied by the Israeli government have created the reality in which thousands of Palestinians reside in homes vulnerable to demolition. For instance, Israeli Military Order 418 served to permit the modification of the Jordanian Planning and Building Law for the year 1966 (applied in the West Bank) in terms of eradicating the role of Palestinian village and town council representation in the planning council meetings, and replacing their role therein with that of Israeli settlers. Moreover, despite efforts to reform existing policies, Israel continues to implement related British Mandate Laws and master plans which date back over 70 years, though they no longer serve to meet the needs of today's Palestinian population. The Israeli administration has also persisted in its practice of refusing to expand the master plans of villages in Area C as to accommodate the natural growth of rural Palestinian areas. Moreover, such villages and towns are deprived of needed development/infrastructure needs (i.e. construction of necessary schools, roads, industrial zones, etc.).

As per Israeli policies and outdated master plans, there exists numerous Palestinian villages (such as Al Aqaba, Khirbat Al Daba, etc.) that are deemed entirely illegal (as they have been erected after World War II) for various reasons, such as being located in close proximity to Israeli military bases and settlements. Additionally, the existing plans fail to equally provide for the entirety of the village families, in that certain families may have all of their lands within Area C, and thus, are prohibited from naturally expanding their homes. According to international laws and the International Humanitarian Law, an occupying authority is obligated to uphold the best interest of the citizens of the occupied territory. Regretfully, Israel is in violation of this compulsion.

One example of such a case is that of a modest home situated in the Village of Al Aqaba, a village considered illegal as per Israeli planning. The equally modest income of the home's owner does not afford him the ability to purchase a new home nor new land to build a home upon, beyond what he possesses in Al Aqaba. The owner of this home, and father of six, came to JLAC for legal aid in combating a house demolition order which he received from the Israeli Authorities.

Attaining private legal council may have cost him more than the value of his modest home. JLAC's attorneys intervened by providing the man with consultation in submitting a building permit application, which was later denied. JLAC then went on to attend Higher Planning Committee meetings on the man's behalf and to appeal the demolition order, which was also refused. At which point, JLAC's attorneys submitted (as per the Israeli zoning policy) a revised master plan for the house to the Higher Planning Council, which was likewise rejected. Lastly, JLAC's lawyers submitted a petition to the Israeli Supreme Court and succeeded in attaining the issuance of a positive ruling and, ultimately, freezing the demolition of the house.

Development of Master Plans

JLAC, in an effort to update existing planning master plans that date back over 70 years, develops new master plans through engineers and raises them for adoption by the Israel Higher Planning Council. One such master plan was developed for the Village of Al Aqaba that is situated in the southern most of the Jenin governorate and is home to a population of 340 persons. The majority of the village's populous have come to flee the village due to construction and expansion restrictions imposed by the Israeli government. For the Israeli government refuses to acknowledge Al Aqaba to be a 'village' on the grounds of security reasons, as an Israeli military base was situated in close proximity to the village. Such has caused further disenfranchisement to the village populous, as many have died or been mutilated as a result of the base's presence. As a result of this 'status' all facilities/infrastructure in this village (i.e. homes, schools, roads, etc.) are considered at risk for demolition. JLAC has intervened in this regard in two ways; 1) undertaking individual cases of demolition orders, and 2) developing a newly revised master plan (taking into consideration new population changes and services needed). The master plan developed for Al Aqaba (through a specialized engineering firm) has since been submitted to the Israeli Higher Planning Council. JLAC is currently following up the matter with the council and relevant authorities, and is optimistic that the master plan was developed and submitted within the law.

Similarly, JLAC intervened by generating recommendations for needed improvements regarding the Israeli master plan for the village of Bruqin (situated between the cities of Nablus and Salfit, within the district of Salfit). This master plan serves as a demonstration of Israel's negligence and unsound planning. For the majority of Bruqin's agricultural lands were confiscated by the Israeli authorities for the purpose of erecting an Israeli industrial zone (called Barqan) upon the terrain. Moreover, the Israeli developed master plan failed to meet the needs of the village on various other levels. For instance, the plan is not compatible with the number of village residence nor does it afford them with the opportunity for natural expansion. It also fails to maintain cohesion between the neighborhoods (i.e. East and West) of the village. Rather, the master plan created a rift between the two portions of the village.

As a result, and since JLAC has provided individual legal representation for Bruqin residents since the early 2000s, the Bruqin village council sought the aid of JLAC in objecting to the master plan. At which point, JLAC reviewed the master plan and came to the conclusion that it lacks in terms of the technical criteria entailed in adequate planning. For instance, the limited areas allotted for expansion fail to be fairly divided among the village's families. JLAC has since generated recommendations for revising the master plan towards better meeting the village's needs and has raised them to the Israeli Higher Planning Council.

Forced Displacement

Bedouin Communities

Bedouins, a historically marginalized and impoverished segment of the Palestinian population, were displaced from the areas they inhabited in southern Palestine (Bir El Sabe' and southern Hebron) during 1948. The Israeli authorities have forced their displacement on several other occasions without alternative equitable solutions being posed. Today, the Bedouins of Palestine continue to live under constant pressures by the Israeli authorities (whom seek to gain footholds in the terrains which the Bedouins inhabit under the guise of 'State Land') to urbanize and forgo their way of life. Though 'State Land' is to be utilized by an occupying power for the betterment of the occupied populous (i.e. for green areas, highways, etc.), the Israeli authorities are confiscating such alleged lands for their own gains aimed towards granting a stolen life to Israeli settlers (i.e. settlement expansions, ring roads, etc.).

Efforts to appropriate Palestinian lands under the guise of 'State Land' (via Israeli military orders 58 and 59 of 1968) serve to dissolve the Bedouin communities, forcibly displace them and other fractions of the Palestinian populous out of Area C, and to, ultimately, confiscate and control more of the West Bank's land (i.e. the entirety of Jordan Valley). Towards helping to maintain Bedouin's presence in their land and the continuation of their way of life and livelihood, JLAC's Board of Directors urged the Ministerial Cabinet to formulate a National Plan for the protection of the steadfastness of Bedouins; for in effect, the steadfastness of Bedouins serves to maintain a Palestinian foothold in lands classified by Israel as 'State Lands' and to hinder Israeli settlement expansion. JLAC's intervention in this regard, likewise, involves the adoption of displacement order cases. One such adopted case is that of a group of families from the Fasayel area whom received a military displacement order stipulating that they must evacuate the area under the pretext that they are residing on 'State Land'. JLAC represented the families before the Israeli Supreme Court and succeeded in attaining a ruling to freeze the displacement military order. In effect, the families are currently legally residing in the area until a final rule is reached.



Land Confiscation

Further to the above devastations faced by Palestinians, they are likewise subject to confiscation (by the Israeli army or civil administration authorities) of their private properties. General Israeli military orders (issued in the 1970s and subsequently updated) concerning 'State Lands' and 'absentee lands' served to initially confiscate much of the uncultivated lands of the West Bank and private lands (registered under the names of persons not featured in the registrar of persons residing in the West Bank initially following its occupation in 1967) under the pretext of 'security'. To this day, the limited lands that remain in Palestinian custody are still under threat of confiscation if the need arises for the Israeli military command or civil administration to seize it for such gains and interests as; setting up military bases and check points, constructing the Apartheid Wall, creating new settlements, expanding the boundaries of existing settlements, for settlement roads, among other purposes. Individuals receiving appropriation orders from the Israeli Military Commander (via the Israeli Civil Administration) approach JLAC for legal counsel in combating such threats. In 2009 JLAC adopted 7 new land confiscation cases, adding to the 22 such ongoing cases.

Such infringements by the occupying authorities are in grave violation of international law, international humanitarian law, as well as the Geneva and Hague Conventions, that obligate the occupying authority (as represented by the Israeli Military Commander) to safeguard the best interest of the occupied population and their property and to maintain the existing legal regime in the occupied territory. Moreover, Israel is obligated to utilize 'State Land' for such uses as the provision of needed infrastructure and facilities (i.e. roads, telecommunication, etc.) for the Palestinian population. Such conventions and laws likewise prohibit the transfer of citizens of the occupying power (Israelis) for settlement in the occupied territories.

One such case of land confiscation undertaken by JLAC involves the case of a man from the village of Deir Balut.

The man (along with his siblings) owns a small stretch of land upon which they reside and cultivate. One ordinary day, as the man and his sons and nephews were tilling their land, a written communication was delivered to him by the Israeli Civil Administration informing him that his land was being appropriated and that he and his family are ordered to evacuate the premises and cease cultivation efforts (on the grounds that the land is 'State Land'). And, though constructed upon their private property, the buildings/ facilities (that are situated upon the land in question) which belong to him and his family are, thus, subject to demolition by the occupying authorities (under the pretext of building without a permit). After investigation, JLAC found that the family's land (along with adjacent Palestinian lands) were declared as 'State Land' in 1982 for the purpose (as stated by the World Zionist Organization) of establishing the Israeli settlement of Beit Aryeh upon the lands of the existing Palestinian villages of Deir Balut and Rafat. JLAC has since submitted an objection to the evacuation order to the relevant authorities, and the case remains open for consideration. JLAC anticipates a positive (i.e. freeze in the case) ruling in this regard.

A second such example is the case of a man whose agricultural land near the Israeli settlement of Shvut Rachel has frequently been attacked by settlers (i.e. cutting of olive trees) in the presence of the Israeli army, despite the fact that he must enter his land with prior coordination. The man raised several complaints to the Israeli police; however his file was closed under the pretext of 'lack of knowledge of the actor and a lack of evidence'; as the majority of complaints raised by Palestinian citizens to the Israeli police against settler attack often close. JLAC has since adopted the case and is working to seek restitution for the man in question. Moreover, JLAC is working to empower such vulnerable persons and communities (whose lands reside in Area C of the West Bank) by developing their capacity in documenting settler attacks and identifying their aggressors, as to mitigate claims of 'lack of evidence'.

Social & Economic
Rights of
Jerusalemites





Palestinians in East Jerusalem are considered merely residents in Israel as opposed to full citizens and, thus, face violations of their civil, social, and economic rights. Such is evident in that if a Jerusalemite resides beyond the district limits of Jerusalem for 7 consecutive or non-consecutive years they may lose their resident ID and in effect come to lose all their social and economic rights as Jerusalemites. In 1995, the Israeli Government enforced a law entitled Center of Life Law which stipulates that Jerusalemites (in order to maintain their residency ID) must reside within the Jerusalem district limits. With this law, problems related to residency rights for Jerusalemites began. For prior to Center of Life Law, Jerusalemites lived in such areas beyond the Jerusalem district limit as, Al Ram, Dahyet Al-Barid, Bir Nabala, among other surrounding areas (no longer deemed within the Jerusalem district limit by the Israeli municipality) without complication. In the early 2000s, the repercussions of this law began to be felt with many persons (threatened with the loss of their ID) being deprived (through the Israeli Ministry of Interior) of their full health, education, and residency rights, as well as, their right to pass the ID status to children and spouses and their ability to reside within and have access to the district.

JLAC intervenes in this regard, as it has for several years prior, by facilitating the communication between disenfranchised persons seeking legal counsel and the Israeli government. This past year, however, JLAC witnessed a significant increase in the number of Jerusalemites following up matters of social, economic, and civil rights. For instance, in 2008 the number of persons whose Jerusalemite IDs were revoked was augmented by 21 folds in the course of one year. As per the Israeli Ministry of Interior, 4,557 Jerusalemite IDs were revoked in 2008 as compared with that of 8,700 persons between the years 1967-2007. For this reason, JLAC decided to intensify its efforts in undertaking such cases; as evident in the 10% increase in the number of cases adopted in Jerusalem during 2009 as compared with 2008. To a lesser extent, JLAC likewise provided consultations and direction to poor and marginalized persons seeking to formally reduce the heavy tax burdens placed upon them.

After seeing firsthand the significant number of Jerusalemites in need of legal interventions towards attaining their full civil, social, and economic rights, JLAC felt the needed to raise the local communities' rights awareness in this matter. Thus, via its IEPALA funded program, JLAC undertook 8 community awareness sessions and 3 symposiums throughout the various neighborhoods of Jerusalem. Networking with various local civil society organizations was likewise made.

In 2009, JLAC also felt the need to intervene in the matter of house demolition in East Jerusalem (a decision facilitated by funding provided by the Norwegian Refugee Council) as prompted by the Israeli government's intensified house demolition efforts. Between 2004 and 2008, over 500 homes were demolished in East Jerusalem, with 87 homes demolished in 2008 alone and 459 house demolition orders being issued; adding further suffering to the already marginalized communities of East Jerusalem. Prior to intervening, JLAC built the capacity of its staffed lawyers in undertaking house demolition cases in East Jerusalem through specialized legal training and coaching. Such involved peer working groups comprised of selected local Palestinian NGOs, as to exchange information and collectively empower each other's adopted cases. Currently, JLAC is laying ground works for undertaking house demolition cases in East Jerusalem during the coming year.

A study was also commissioned by JLAC aimed at identifying the legal needs of Jerusalemites within the Old City of Jerusalem (with a focus on house demolition). Quantitatively, the study sought to identify the number of persons facing threats of demolition, legal counsel which they may have attained, their socio-economic status, level of income, number of persons residing in the particular households, time and financial resources invested in overcoming demolition orders, among other information. Among the most critical matters stemming from the study's generated analysis is the matter of 'self-demolition', in which persons unable to afford the fees imposed by the Israeli Government in demolishing their home are compelled to self demolish their residence. Moreover, the study confirmed that the prospect of legal intervention in preventing house demolition in the Old City of Jerusalem is very narrow, as all cases of construction face threat of demolition (in addition to the fact that the municipality, under false pretenses, is not approving building permits to Palestinian residents). Consequently, the study concluded with urging for the formation of a body of lawyers and jurists, from varying institutional bodies, tasked with developing a legal plan of action in the Old City of Jerusalem; as the legal complexities of working in the Old City requires a collective and organized legal action.



Among the numerous beneficiaries of the legal aid rendered by JLAC's Jerusalem Office, is the case of a Palestinian from the West Bank whom is married to a woman from Jerusalem. The man originally sought consult from JLAC four years ago in attaining an annual (temporary) residence permit as to reunite with his wife. JLAC was successful in this endeavor. However, the man has since returned to JLAC due to the Israeli Ministry of Interior's refusal (for reasons unclear) to renew his residence permit under the pretext of a 'security screening' (which according to the Ministry may last for several months). JLAC's attorney intervened by dealing with the Ministry of Interior and related committees on the man's behalf, as to attain the necessary legal protection in securing his presence with his family in Jerusalem. The man's residency permit has since been renewed.

JLAC's Jerusalem office likewise provides consultations and direction to poor and marginalized persons seeking to reduce the heavy tax burdens placed upon them or to regain social insurance/security rights which they have been deprived. A case in point involves a 60 year-old Jerusalemite retiree whom is dependent upon the modest social insurance he monthly receives for subsistence. In February of 2009, this underprivileged man was informed that his social insurance allowance will no longer be allotted to him on the grounds that his relatives and children are in the financial position to provide for him and that, consequently, he does not deserve to be allocated the money. Upon his visit to JLAC (seven month later), the Center was quick to adopt his case; as the National Insurance Institute is not exempted from depriving the man in question of his due allowance since any assistance provided by an adult child to their elder parents is voluntary (and non-fixed as it may vary from month to month). JLAC's attorney went on to correspond with the National Insurance Institute on the man's behalf, urging the importance of re-allocating to him his due allowance; despite the fact that his adult children are willing to help in improving his situation given their own financial responsibilities/limitations. Within two weeks of JLAC's intervention, the National Insurance Institute awarded the man his social insurance allowance for the previous period (seven months) and has since continued to render him monthly payments without problem.

Freedom of |
Movement



Israel has undertaken a deliberate policy aimed at restricting Palestinians' access to Israeli areas (i.e. for medical treatment, visit of prisoners, worships, education, etc.) and movement within the Palestinian territory. In regards to travel within Israel, the Israeli Civil Administration approves solely a portion of the permit applications submitted by Palestinians under the pretext of 'security checks' and unjustified discriminatory profiling. For its second consecutive year the Civil Administration has objected legal appeals in this regard and has solely permitted persons denied access to Israel with the option of personally submitting their appeals. JLAC offers such persons with needed forms and consults them on the procedures to undertake. As a result of the inability to undertake legal actions, JLAC has witnessed a negative deviation between the planned (100) and the actual (45) number of cases undertaken. Thus, JLAC has focused its freedom of movement legal aid/ consultation to facilitating the attainment of permits for individuals seeking to enter Israel for medical treatment and visiting family members detained in Israeli prisons. In prohibiting next of kin to visit detained relatives in prisons, Israel is in violation of the Fourth Geneva Conventions (that stipulates the prohibition of detaining or deporting/transferring occupied persons from the occupied territory to the Occupying Power's jurisdiction or any other nation). In 2009, JLAC has undertaken 45 freedom of movement cases as follows; 16 cases for the purpose of attaining medical treatment, 28 cases for the purpose of visitation of detained family members, and 1 travel ban.

Moreover, related Israeli policies and procedures prohibit certain Palestinians from crossing out of the Palestinian areas through Jordan (the only travel route for Palestinians in the West Bank as they are prohibited from flying out from the oPt) as to reach the outside world. Similarly, and for the second consecutive year, Israel has prohibited the submission of legal appeals via attorneys in this regard and has solely allowed persons denied the right to travel through Jordan the option to individually and personally appeal their case. Given this limitation, JLAC provides such persons with the needed forms and consultations in expected procedures. JLAC has however, taken on one legal petition to the Israeli Supreme Court for the approval of a humanitarian case involving a blind woman seeking to travel beyond the oPt, which JLAC succeeded in attaining a positive ruling for.

The woman, blind, suffering from a severe heart condition, a mother of three, and married to a West Bank resident arrested in Israeli prisons, sought legal aid in being permitted to reach Jordan as to attain needed medical treatment given the limitations of the Palestinian medical sector. For if she were to reach the West Bank- Jordan Border on her own, the woman will surely be returned to Gaza, losing her ability to attain the needed medical treatment in Jordan and the ability to live in the West Bank with her family in the process. Through word of mouth, she was lead to JLAC to seek legal aid and assistance in this matter, as poverty stricken she could not afford a private attorney. JLAC intervened and attained approval from Jordan (via the Jordanian Embassy and the Legal Supervisor of the Israeli Office) in order for her to travel via the West Bank, as well as the needed permission from the Israeli Government as to ensure her return to the West Bank. So far, she has taken 3 medical trips to date. This is an exceptional achievement, as any person holding a Gaza ID in the West Bank would have otherwise been denied access to the outside world and been surely sent back to Gaza.



KARAMA CAMPAIGN

Further towards alleviating this end JLAC (in conjunction with three established committees– the legal, economic, and public relations and communications committees) has developed a campaign concerning the right of movement entitled, the International Campaign for Freedom of Movement for Palestinians (KARAMA). KARAMA (which means ‘dignity’ in Arabic) is a public and national campaign aimed at promoting the independence of Palestinians, alleviating their suffering while travelling within and outside of Palestine, and ensuring their freedom and dignity. The Campaign is aware that the fundamental solution to the freedom of movement and travel for Palestinians is for the Israeli occupation to cease, and for Palestinians to achieve freedom and sovereignty over their borders, land, water, and air; towards which the Campaign likewise aspires.

As a first phase, however, the Campaign commenced with taking on the matter of travel between the West Bank and Jordan (via Allenby Bridge/King Hussein Bridge) which is the only exit point through which Palestinians residing in the West Bank may reach the outside world.



Palestinians have the right to travel to and from Jordan with freedom and dignity, devoid of financial burdens. Exhaustive routine procedures must also be reduced and an immediate improvement must be made to existing travelling conditions. In this regard, the Campaign has raised demands to the relevant Jordanian and Israeli authorities, as well as the PA, concerning such matters as; the need for Palestinians to be permitted to travel directly between the West Bank and Jordan in their private cars (as afforded to Israelis), freely without the adherence to a specific time and/or day (as borders are operated around the globe), and with minimal procedures and fees.

Public |
Freedom



The continued political division in the oPt following the coup d'état of Hamas in Gaza served to create a further rift between the West Bank and Gaza. This new reality and its resulting shows of political control have resulted in the further degradation of the state of human rights. Among the violations occurring in the West Bank include political arrests and unfair dismissals (from public sector positions) of persons based upon their political affiliations.

Political Arrests

The PA in the West Bank, as well as the Hamas Party in Gaza, are detaining members and supporters of their opposing political parties without due cause, without the issuance of warrants stipulating the charges of their arrest, and without undertaking the necessary legal detainment procedures. Moreover, speculation (and in some instances documentation) has been made concerning the use corporal torture (by Hamas and to a lesser extent by the PA) during interrogation, among other violations. Such practices are in violation of criminal procedures/protocols as per Palestinian law, as well as relevant international conventions. Similarly, the PA in the West Bank and the Hamas Party in Gaza have closed or ceased the operation of non-governmental organizations run or operated by members and supporters of their opposing political parties without due cause and/or without undertaking the necessary legal procedures as per the Palestinian law. Of course, the above are merely samples of the types of human rights violations taking place by the governmental authorities in the West Bank and Gaza.



JLAC in its role as a human rights non-governmental organization which upholds rule of law has undertaken 53 cases of political arrest this year (though no cases were planned). JLAC was prompted to intervene for three reasons: 1) to defend the innate human right of freedom from detainment without cause, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, among other human values, 2) to uphold rule of law and ensure that plurality of thought exists, and 3) to combat violations made by the military authority upon the judicial civil authority. As per Palestinian legislation, cases of public freedom fall under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Supreme Court and, thus, are dealt with relatively swiftly. Therefore, 39 of the 53 cases undertaken by JLAC and taken individually before the Palestinian Supreme Court (against the arrests themselves, the methods of detainment, and the authorities which issued the arrests) were successfully closed and the persons in question have since been released. The remainder of the cases remains on-going.

One such example entails JLAC's intervention to release three brothers from political arrest by the PA. The three civilians were individually arrested by military forces during the same month (under the justification of a law permitting security forces the authority to detain civilians for up to 24 hours prior to their transfer to civilian criminal authorities). However, this law is illegal as it stems from the times of the PLO's revolutionary era while associated with the various surrounding Arab Nations. It is thus, a law applied during a time of political revolution and not during the current era in which the Palestinian Authority has formed a judicial system and has established laws in regulating such processes (i.e. the Jordanian Feudal Law of 1960 applied in the West Bank and the Palestinian Criminal Procedure Law of 2001). Moreover, the place in which the brothers were held in for more than seven months is, likewise, in violation of the Palestinian Law of Centers for Reform and Rehabilitation of the year 1998. The law stipulates the standards to which reform/rehabilitation centers should adhere to in terms of physical structure, administration, monitoring, and the treatment of detainees. However, there are currently no such centers, rather detainees are held in rented buildings or former Israeli Civil Administration headquarters (which date back to the British Mandate era of the 1930s and 40s) since turned over to the Palestinian Authority.

Unfair dismissal of Public Sector Employees

Moreover, the PA in the West Bank (as well as the Hamas Party in Gaza) arbitrarily dismisses governmental employees based upon speculations of sentiments/ affiliations with opposing political parties. A 2007 Ministerial Cabinet decree permitted 'security checks' as a prerequisite for employment. Such stipulations for employment are found internationally as to ensure that public sector employees do not pose public threats, however in this case a problem lies in that the factor of 'political affiliation' has been added to the security clearance. Such a policy deems affiliations with opposing parties as criminal acts and, thus, a threat to security. Moreover, this policy is in violation of Palestinian laws regarding 'freedom of thought' and 'equal opportunity' in obtaining governmental employment (i.e. article 24, paragraph 4 of the Palestinian Basic Law). It is also in violation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, which the Palestinian constitution affirms.

Since the coup d'état of Hamas in Gaza, approximately 2,000 persons were dismissed from their governmental posts in the West Bank. This occurrence urged JLAC to adopt and litigate 100 unfair dismissal cases (comprising medical and education sector employees, with a concentration on education), through advertisements posted in the local papers informing such persons to seek local counsel through JLAC.

JLAC legally intervened by providing needed documentation, correspondence, and taking cases before the Palestinian Supreme Court (against governmental issued dismissal letters, the authorities issuing the dismissals, as well as the Cabinet's 2007 decree). As of the end of 2009, no such cases (either adopted by JLAC, by other organizations, or by private attorneys) have been deliberated. However, information and correspondences received from the high court (in addition to our convictions that the cases undertaken are securely rooted within the freedoms vested in Palestinian legislation) assure us that the cases will be ruled positively. One such case adopted by JLAC involves a woman whom (along with her husband, a medical lab technician) was dismissed from her governmental post as an elementary school teacher.

WELCOME TO "ATAROT" CHECK POINT

- YOU ARE NOW ENTERING A MILITARY AREA. TO MAKE YOUR TRANSIT EASY AND TO AVOID UNNECESSARY DELAY FIRST READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND THEN OBEY THEM.
- DO NOT ENTER CARRYING ARTICLES MADE OF METAL OR OBJECTS DECLARED FORBIDDEN BY THE AUTHORITY.
- PREPARE YOUR DOCUMENTS FOR INSPECTION.
- YOUR DOCUMENTS MUST BE PRESENTED AT EACH INSPECTION POINT.
- COATS MUST BE REMOVED.
- PERSONS REFUSING TO FOLLOW INSPECTOR'S OR SIGNPOSTED INSTRUCTIONS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO COMPLETE THEIR TRANSIT.
- WE WISH YOU A SAFE AND PLEASANT TRANSIT.

May y u go in peace nd return in peace

The woman received a letter, through the Human Resources Department of the PA, from the Minister of Education which stated that she is to be dismissed from her position due to her failure to meet 'security clearance'. All persons, even those affiliated with opposing parties, have a right as vested in the Palestinian legislation to live in dignity and earn a living within the means and skills they have worked hard to acquire. Moreover on a social and ethical front, if all persons whom are Hamas affiliated are unable to seek stable employment, perhaps such will lead to their desperation and compulsion towards committing 'violent acts'.

Public |
Interest



Since JLAC's inception over 35 years ago and since its transformation into a Palestinian civil organization governed by a Board of Trustees in 1997, JLAC has come to occupy a distinctive place in the realm of legal aid. The Center has gradually evolved towards the strategic direction of combining individual legal representation with the adoption of public interest cases. Many of the individual cases previously undertaken by JLAC indeed bear the stamp of public interest (i.e. legal reform/ activation, efforts concerning the matter of 'clearance'); for a case may be classified as a matter of public interest (even if involving only one individual) when the deliberation that arises in extension comes to affect persons whom are not case beneficiaries. Such cases are oftentimes related to discriminatory regulations and procedures that infringe upon the best interests of the population.

In 2009, JLAC tackled several matters which may be categorized as both individual representation or public interest, as in the case of the unfair dismissal of public sector employees under the justification of so-called 'security checks' and suspicions of political affiliation. While JLAC's efforts involved the adoption of individual cases aimed at revoking the various decisions to dismiss particular governmental employees (as for them to individually return to their posts), in principle JLAC served to defend the right of all citizen; for in adopting such cases, JLAC challenged that the security procedures being carried out (i.e. security checks) are illegal and litigated for their cancellation.

In 2010, JLAC intends to expand its public interest intervention as to include; the right of the poor and marginalized in accessing basic services, the role of monopolistic service providers, medical malpractice, among other issues of public concern. Such will involve research efforts, the recruitment of legal expertise of various kinds, and the formation of research teams and volunteers to conduct field work towards the collection and documentation of needed information. Moreover, public interest cases initiated during earlier periods (i.e. efforts to reform zoning and planning policies applied by the Israeli Authorities in Area C) will likewise be continued.

The following are among JLAC's key public interest interventions undertaken in 2009;

Reform of Existing Planning Policies in Area C

JLAC, along with two other human rights organizations (Rabbis for Human Rights and ICAHD), issued a legal memorandum on November 18, 2009 demanding the Israeli Higher Planning Council of the Israeli Civil Administration (responsible for planning in Area C of the West Bank) to cease its policy of neglecting urban planning of Palestinian communities located in the areas under its organizational control. The memorandum demanded the planning committees of the Israeli Civil Administration to cease their punitive actions of house demolition, undertaken since the start of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank in 1967. Additionally, the memorandum requested the planning committees to reform their existing planning policies in Area C.

The three organizations went on to elaborate that the planning policies applied by the Israeli Civil Administration in Area C of the West Bank are based on master plans (S15-RJ5) dating back to the British Mandate (in the 1940s), and thus are no longer adequate to meet the needs of the Palestinian communities.

The memorandum indicated that the utilization of these master plans is currently illegal and that the planning committees in Beit El have implemented them without taking into consideration existing changes, such as population density and the resulting need for the communities to build beyond the areas allotted in the master plans.

In certain cases, the planning committees prepared new master plans, however, they likewise



aimed at restricting Palestinian construction to narrow areas as to prevent the communities' natural expansion. In all instances, the residents of the Palestinian communities in Area C have been forced to build outside the allotted areas, thus becoming vulnerable to threats of demolition. While on other hand, the Israeli Civil Administration has gone on to develop and implement new master plans for the expansion of the illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank. Such prompted the three organizations to request (in the memorandum) of the Israeli Chief of Military and the Israeli Civil Administration to reform the planning policies in Area C, as to meet the needs of the communities and cease house demolition.

The memorandum was based on 140 cases of Palestinian residential clusters falling under the organizational control the Civil Administration. It also discussed the legal actions undertaken against the ongoing houses demolitions, which stem from the planning committees' refusal to approve the building permit applications submitted by Palestinians residing in Area C. Moreover, the memorandum included information and statistics gathered by Bimkom's planning for planners report entitled 'The Prohibited Zone; Israeli Planning Policies in the Palestinian Villages in Area C'. According to these statistics, 1625 houses were demolished in Area C between the years 2000 and 2007, an average of 240 demolished houses per year. As for the building permit applications, the planning committees approved an average of 13 out of 241 applications submitted per annum. It was likewise made apparent (from information provided by the Israeli Civil Administration itself) that the number of Palestinian houses demolished was substantially higher than those demolished in illegal Israeli settlements. The memorandum concluded with the attorneys Shaheen and Amar indicating that; Israel (as the occupying power and authority of organizational control) has the responsibility of ensuring proper planning in Area C.

Protection of Farmland


In 2005, the Israeli Authorities started erecting the Annexation Wall upon predominantly West Bank lands, as a means to confiscate more Palestinian lands in the process (approximately 13% of the lands in the West Bank were in effect cut off from the reminder of the territor, beyond the Wall, becoming inaccessible and probable to confiscation). The village of Beit Duko (the most significant agricultural village located in the Jerusalem District) is among the hundreds of villages that recently lost portions, if not all of their farmland to the Wall.

In Beit Duko's western side (where the Wall runs along the terrain) the village lands are at a drastic incline and the rainwater comes from behind the Wall (through water ducts) with such force as it causes the erosion of topsoil and the uprooting of trees. Thus, the imposed Wall not only served to create social and economic turmoil for the village, but a geographic and environmental disruption as well.

The families which own and cultivate the impacted farms lands (an area adorned with stone coble terraces, and grape vineyards) came to JLAC for counsel in the winter of 2008 as to object the environmental disruption caused by the Wall. Rather than standing idly by, JLAC raised an objection to the Israeli Military Commander through his legal advisor that stipulated that; "the Wall in its current situation is causing detriments to the adjacent agricultural land and that the Military Commander (as the authority in the area, as the village lies in Area C) is responsible for finding an equitable solution. Moreover, if the Military Commander were to fail to comply, JLAC will then take the matter to the Israeli Supreme Court". The Military Commander's Office responded with their agreement to jointly visit the site as to determine the extent of the damage caused on the lands by the Wall. Indeed, a site visit was convened in the spring of 2009 between JLAC, the disenfranchised families, the Engineering Department of the Israeli Civil Administration, and the Israeli Military Commander. Following the site visit, the Military Commander and the engineering department decided that an engineering plan needs to be developed as to eradicate the existing environmental problem (e.g. via construction of a dam, enhancing drainage systems, etc.).

The engineering plan has since been submitted to JLAC (in the Fall of 2009) and was reviewed by its staffed attorneys, an external engineering expert, and the disenfranchised families. However, the engineering plan was found lacking in terms of providing a fundamental solution (since strong rains for consecutive days may still inflict harm on the agricultural lands, among other reasons). In response, JLAC submitted a new/alternative engineering plan to overcome the flaws of the Israeli plan and to better meet the needs of the families of Beit Duko. JLAC is currently awaiting the Commander's response.

Retrieval of War
Victims'
Bodies

A vertical purple line is positioned to the right of the text, extending from the top of the word "Bodies" to the top of the word "War".



Since the start of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 1967, Israel (the occupying power) has committed numerous violations of international law. While some of these violations gained attention by the public and organizations locally and internationally, other violations have gained lesser attention. One of the unnoticed practices is Israel's policy against the bodies of dead Palestinians. Israel is currently holding the bodies of many dead Palestinians in sites known as 'Cemeteries of Numbers', morgues, and refrigerators. While the exact number of Palestinians held in these cemeteries is not identified, JLAC believes (as per first-hand information gained directly from the families of the deceased persons) that the number is in the hundreds. JLAC has so far documented 302 cases. The bodies are those of; 1) Palestinian prisoners who died in Israeli prisons while serving imprisonment sentences, 2) Palestinians who were killed during direct clash with Israeli occupying forces, 3) PLO fighters who engaged in direct combat with Israeli forces, 4) Palestinians killed/missing while attempting to cross into/ out from bordering Arab countries, and 5) those of suicide bombers. The majority of the documented cases belong to the third category. The total number of the held bodies likewise includes Palestinians and Arabs who are believed to have disappeared.

Until recently, Israel has kept the sites of these cemeteries secret. The sites of the cemeteries are declared as closed military zones. Only four sites are relatively known to the public, but people are not allowed to approach them. These sites are the so-called; 'Daughters of Jacob's Bridge' in the Golan Heights, 'Adam Bridge' in the Jordan Valley, 'Refidim' gravesite in the Jordan Valley, and a gravesite called 'Shuheita' in Wadi al-Hamam near Lake Tiberias. Such gravesites are not properly maintained and tombs are not distinguished with clear markers or names as to identify the identity of all the dead easily. This situation prevails despite the issuance of military order No.380109 on 1 September 1976 that stipulates the construction of tombs. The whole burial process continues to be disorganized. This makes it difficult or even impossible to identify the dead. Indeed, graves hold certain numbers or codes that are supposed to refer to each deceased's complete details. However, in some cases, where DNA identification tests were conducted, the results of the tests and the details of the person in question did not match. The case of Issa Breijeyeh is an example of this. This may refer to the negligence with which the burial took place. Moreover, some graves are not deep enough to cover the body and, as such, bodies may be uncovered and possibly fall prey to wild animals. Especially vulnerable to this are the bodies buried in loose sandy areas.

Both conventional and customary International Humanitarian Law has determined that contesting parties in armed conflict, whether international or domestic, must respect the dead whether killed in the battle field or died while in detention. Bodies must be collected, evacuated, buried in properly marked graves and their families must be notified. International law prohibits the mutilation of dead bodies. Moreover, the return of dead bodies to the party that they belong to or upon the request of their next of kin is an international obligation duly recognized under international customary law and relevant treaties.

The policy underpinning these rules is the natural right of a family to know the fate of its members. Whether someone is alive or not has bearings relating to inheritance and distribution, and the right of the widow to know the fate of her husband so that she can determine if she wants to re-marry or to re-organize her life to raise her children . In addition, there are moral and humanitarian concerns which dictate the burial of the dead in accordance with their religious belief.

While the US Military Tribunal at Nuremburg stated that robbing a dead body “is and always has been a crime”, it may be, by analogy, added that mutilation of dead bodies, concealing the remains, or not returning the same is (in the civilized conscious) a crime as well. It may even be considered a ‘war crime’ since it is injurious to the individual honor, a crime which may fall under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court. The Geneva Conventions of 1929 and 1949, and the First and Second Protocols, have created a corpus of international jurisprudence which found its way to national legislations in many states. This confirms that respect for dead persons who were killed in a combat situation has become an established international custom that must be upheld with esteem, any contradicting view runs in fact against human dignity.



Palestinians have constantly demanded Israel, the occupying power, to return the bodies of the dead. Although a handful of victims' families sought out justice on an individual basis, never was there an organized and collective effort representing the entirety of the Palestinian and Arab dead held under Israeli custody prior to the formation of the National Campaign. In the past, a few families approached local chapters of the ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) and Israeli human rights NGOs, while others sought the legal assistance of Israeli lawyers in taking the matter to the Israeli Supreme Court. 'The National Campaign for the Retrieval of Palestinian & Arab War Victims' Bodies and the Disclosure of the Fate of Those Missing' was launched in 2008, within the framework of organizing and directing a collective effort towards these ends. The Campaign aims to retrieve the bodies of the dead and disclose the fate of those missing through undertaking the following;

Litigation: Document and develop legal cases and take cases before the Israeli Supreme Court.

Advocacy: Raise public awareness (locally and intentionally) as to build public priority, appeal to international human rights organizations for support and intervention, and place the cause on the political agenda of the Palestinian Authority, as well as that of governments abroad, etc.



The Center has document 302 cases to date, and has gone on to open individual cases for each deceased and to individually correspond with the Israeli Civil Administration on behalf of those cases with documented proof (54 cases to date). The ten strongest cases were raised to the Israeli Supreme Court for appeal, as to attain a 'prior precedence' for the remaining and prospective cases. Although only one case outcome has been deliberated, much has been materialized in terms of the Campaign's legal, political/diplomatic, community, and networking efforts. Fore and foremost, it succeeded in building trust and priority among the families of the dead and creating among them a local force of advocacy which is continually growing in number and support. The cause was brought to the attention of the media, as well as local authorities and was placed upon their political and diplomatic agendas as a result. The Palestinian Ministers' Cabinet, as declared by the Prime Minister Dr. Salam Fayyad (after meeting with the Campaign's leadership on August 2, 2009).

officially adopted the Campaign and its objectives on August 3, 2009, and declared August 27th the 'National Day for the Recovery of Palestinian & Arab War Victims' Bodies and the Disclosure of the Fate of Those Missing'. Memorandums were sent to the ICRC requesting it to intervene by visiting the cemeteries, morgues, and refrigerators, and to report on the conditions in which the bodies are being kept (i.e. such specifications as grave depth), and to subsequently exert pressure on Israel's Human Rights High Commissioner's Office. Diligent efforts were also being made to attain the necessary permission to allow the families of the deceased to visit their current graves. The Campaign's appeals to international human rights institutions and organizations are increasingly being met with heartfelt and positive responses. The Center has likewise been approached by interested local and international media agencies and journalists requesting campaign-related information and logistical support in interviewing victims' families. Moreover, growing community awareness is evident in both increased public support and participation in the Campaign's activities, as well as related initiatives being independently launched by the local community.

In terms of future plans; the Campaign's sole legal path tread has been the Israeli judicial system. There is a need, more than ever, to find new means of demanding and retrieving the bodies of the deceased Palestinians and Arabs held in Israeli custody. Towards this end, the Campaign intends to widen the breath of its advocacy efforts as to include international members/ arms undertaking actions on an international level. Such actions may come to involve demonstrations being held by international bodies in front of Israeli Embassies abroad and direct memorandums being sent by internationals to their governments (or that of Israel) upon the Campaign's behalf, among other actions. The Campaign's leadership may likewise participate in international human rights conferences and possibly preside before human rights missions abroad. Moreover, in the coming year the Campaign likewise aims to embark on a mission to document and collect data concerning the dead persons detained in Israeli custody from neighboring Arab countries such as Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Egypt (number approximated in the hundreds). In parallel, these neighboring Arab countries must begin internal efforts to demand that the bodies of their deceased be relinquished from Israeli custody. The Campaign's mounting achievements have only served to further augment the Center's sense of ethical, national, and social responsibility towards this cause, and its drive to fulfill the families' simple wish of honorably burying their dead. Towards the end of 2009, JLAC developed a book centering around this campaign entitled; 'We Have Names and We Have a Homeland'. The book serves to catalogue some cases of the deceased and missing persons

whose bodies remain withheld in Israeli custody. It features their photos and biographical information and a selection of comprehensive stories, as collected and composed to the best of JLAC's ability. Such was undertaken as to bring to light and affirm, that, indeed, behind every number there is a person and a family that grieves at their loss and at being deprived the right of burying them. Moreover, the book features excerpts from related international humanitarian laws and existing Israeli policies and practices, as well as the future plans of the campaign.

The Campaign's First Legal Triumph

The latest development in the 'National Campaign in the Retrieval of War Victims' Bodies and the Disclosure of the Fate of Those Missing' comes in the form of an Israeli Authority decision to release the body of Mashour Saleh (whose body has been held in Israeli custody for the past 33 years) to his family through JLAC's attorney. The decision was relayed to JLAC by the Israeli Military Commander in the West Bank. The statement elaborated that JLAC's attorney will be informed of the procedures entailed in the release of the Mashour's body during the coming days. This decision was issued as a result of a petition lodged by JLAC to the Israeli Supreme Court, requesting that the family of the deceased be permitted to access the gravesite as to verify the identity of the body (as certified by DNA testing). Once the identity of Mashour's body is confirmed, it will be transferred to his family home in the village of Arourah (situated within the District of Ramallah) for burial in accordance with the family's religious traditions.

Mashour Talab Saleh was born in 1956 in the village of Arourah. He was educated in Arourah and Ramallah schools and afterwards, while in the prime of his life, he came to join up with a Palestinian militant group (the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine). His militancy caused him to be wanted by the Israeli occupying forces and, as a result, to be forced to leave the occupied Palestinian territories. On May 17, 1976, he returned to the occupied territories along with his military patrol (comprised of three Palestinian fighters; Hafez Waheed Abu Zint from Nablus, Khaled Abu Zayed from Jaffa, and himself). To complete their journey, the men crossed the Jordanian border and headed towards Nablus. Regrettably, the men were ambushed and killed by Israeli forces along the way near Jiftlek Camp. Though it took 33 years, Mashour will soon be home. He will reach his loved ones that await his bittersweet return and will at last rest from the exhaustion of numbers and placelessness.

Outreach |
& Networking



حمنة

حمنة

Coalitions

JLAC considers networking as an important tool in maximizing the programming and results of any human rights organizations, influencing policy in the direction of respecting and safeguarding human rights, avoiding overlaps/gaps and facilitating information exchange among related organizations. Towards this end, JLAC has participated in, and at times lead, coalitions aimed at upholding and defending human rights in the occupied Palestinian territory. The following is a description of the coalitions which JLAC is affiliated with;

1. The Palestinian NGO Network (PNGO): is a coalition of 132 Palestinian developmental and humanitarian civil organizations working in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and playing a critical role in reviewing policies, influencing policy development, and building the capacities of NGOs. JLAC has been an active member of PNGO's Steering Committee since 2006.

2. Human Rights Council: is comprised of 10 human rights organizations operating in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. JLAC, in its role as Council secretariat (which rotates between three members), has played an important role (along with other allied institutions) in rebuilding the Council. The work of the Council is characterized by the development/dissemination of statements, working papers, and joint strategies towards addressing gross violations of human rights.

3. Coalition for the Monitoring of Public Freedoms: emerged as a response to the aftermath of Israel's aggression on the Gaza Strip in early 2009 and the widespread human rights violations accompanied by the deepened Palestinian political division and exchange of illegal actions carried out upon the populous by the respective authorities. The coalition, in complete independence of the political division, includes representatives of PNGO, the Human Rights Council, national forces, parliamentary blocs, among other related stakeholders.

4. Coalition for Jerusalem: was founded in 2004 in order to address Israeli violations of international law (particularly international humanitarian law and the Fourth Geneva Convention) aimed at the Judaization of Jerusalem. For this reason, the coalition is adamant at continuing to have its office in Jerusalem. The coalition is comprised of allied civil society organizations, religious figures, national organizations, charities, and individuals. JLAC is an active member of this vital coalition.

5. Civic Coalition for the Defense of Jerusalemites: is comprised of 25 organizations operating in Jerusalem. JLAC has been engaged with this coalition since 2006, with JLAC directing the coalition's legal clinic program. In the third quarter of 2009, JLAC reached a decision to excuse itself from managing this program due to restructuring and administrative and policy differences. Though JLAC maintains its membership in the coalition, it holds to its opinion that the existence of multiple coalitions for Jerusalem should be re-examined as to identify whether they reflect a true need or merely narrow personal interests.

6. Palestinian Coalition against the Death Penalty: was established in 2008 by ten Palestinian human rights organizations towards raising awareness of and advocating for abolishing the death penalty. Though the Palestinian courts issued 16 death sentences (13 in the Gaza Strip and 3 in the West Bank) in 2009, none have since been implemented. Regretfully, the phenomenon of execution still exists in the occupied Palestinian territory; whether due to the role of militias, honor killings, or as a result of the security chaos. Among the coalition's more notable efforts is the undertaking of an annual conference aimed at raise awareness of this significant cause.

7. Palestinian Coalition Against Torture: was established by seven organizations in 2009 as a result of the multitude of complaints raised against the torture of Palestinians detained in prisons operated by the PA and Hamas (in the West Bank and Gaza Strip respectively) and the continuation of the use of torture by the occupying authorities. It should be noted that since the summer of 2007, reports from detention centers have indicated a decrease in some of the methods of torture applied in the politically divided and occupied Palestinian territory.



8. The Civil Coalition for the Code of Conduct: is comprised of five Palestinian civil society coalitions and networks aimed at developing and publishing works regarding principles of best practice for the betterment of the Palestinian civil society. JLAC's Director is a member of this coalition and dutifully participates in its activities.

9. Conflict Transformation Resource Group: is a group of Palestinian experts/sources aimed at developing the necessary skills to deal with and overcome conflicts by turning them into positive energy. The group is hosted by JLAC, in collaboration with the British-based organization, Responding to Conflict.



Volunteerism

Over the course of several years, JLAC has relied on its network of volunteers (comprised of activists, members of local councils, former program beneficiaries, etc.) in the implementation of its legal awareness efforts. As these volunteers act as linchpins between JLAC and the local persons and communities in need of legal counsel, provided by JLAC through; beneficiary-visits to its offices, at its periodic public meetings (throughout the West Bank), through its advisory publications, and even over the phone. Moreover, JLAC conducts training programs for groups of volunteers as to equip them with the necessary human rights knowledge in dealing with citizens' related questions or concerns in the event of formal/informal violations of human rights. The network of volunteers also serves to aid JLAC's legal representation efforts by collecting needed case documentation from beneficiaries and providing them with needed forms. This added value has been noticed in a marked acceleration/accuracy in the process of providing legal counsel and adopting and litigating cases.

In an effort to reinstate volunteerism as a rubric of human rights in the oPt and as a result of JLAC's increased reliance on volunteers (due to recent expansions in its programming), the Center sought out and secured specialized funding from the Ford Foundation for the development of its volunteer base. In 2010, this effort will serve to provide 300 volunteers with concentrated skills building (via human rights, monitoring, documentation, and reporting skills training), towards their admission into the sector as capable players.

Summary of Cases Under Taken

Cases Taken Before Israeli Courts										
	Case Type	Planned Cases	Actual Cases		Closed			On-Going	# of Petitions	
			New	Accumulated	Positively	Negatively	Other			
1	Public interest	3	18		0			18	0	
			3	15	0	0	0			
2	Settler attacks	0	1		0			1	0	
			1	0	0	0	0			
3	Land Confiscation	4	29		3			26	0	
			7	22	0	0	3			
4	Right of Dwelling	House Demolition	50	312		5			307	0
				111	201	0	0	5		
		Agricultural facilities	0	52		2			50	0
				15	37	0	0	2		
		Forced Displacement	15	26		5			21	0
				10	16	0	0	5		
Dev. of Master Plans	4	4		0			4	0		
		2	2	0	0	0				
5	Jerusalemities	Social Rights	100	199		167			32	0
				180	19	160	2	5		
		Economic Rights	100	189		155			34	0
6	Freedom movement	Travel	30	1		1			0	1
				1	0	1	0	0		
		Prision Visitation	20	28		16			12	0
				18	10	9	2	5		
		Permits	50	16		13			3	0
				14	2	0	3	10		
7	Retreval of Bodies Campaign	200	55		1			54	1	
			6	49	1	0	0			
8	Miscellaneous	0	15		3			12	0	
			1	14	2	1	0			
	Total	576	945		371			574	2	
			541	404	322	10	39			
	Legal Consultations	2400	1,900 by JLAC's Ramallah office and 500 by JLAC's Jerusalem office.							

Cases Taken Before Palestinian Courts

	Case Type	Planned Cases	Actual Cases		Closed			On-Going	# of Petitions
			New	Accumulated	Positively	Negatively	Other		
1	Public interest	1	2		0			2	1
			1	1	0	0	0		
2	Unfair dismissal	50	100		2			98	62
			60	40	0	0	2		
3	Political detention	0	53		39			14	49
			53	0	34	0	5		
4	NGO Closure	3	4		2			2	0
			2	2	2	0	0		
5	Miscellaneous	0	3		1			2	0
			3	0	1	0	0		
Total		54	162		44			118	112
			119	43	37	0	7		

JLAC's
Internal
Environment





JLAC's Strategic Plan (2008-2012), which was developed as a result of the recommendations of an external evaluation of the Center's work and activities, calls for the development of its work environment (particularly that of JLAC's Jerusalem Office) and the investment in needed staff. In 2009, JLAC took great strides towards improving its internal environment through; recruiting pivotal personnel, undertaking needed capacity building, and accommodating the Center's growth.

Personnel Staff Growth:

JLAC's staff at the end of 2009 reached 25 persons (7 staffed lawyers, 3 paralegals, and 15 professionals offering other specialties), compared with 17 persons at the end of 2008. More than a third (36%) of JLAC's staff is women. The sudden expansion in JLAC's human resources comes as a result of the growth in JLAC's scope of intervention which has pressed JLAC to decisively select new recruits and to more soundly manage existing human resources as to ensure program impact and efficiency. Among the professionals newly recruited include; a Fundraiser to head the Programs and Public Relations Unit, a Project Coordinator, four Field Coordinators to work in the West Bank (northern, southern, central, and East Jerusalem), and a Field Researcher in the city of Jerusalem. Additionally, a well experienced Senior Attorney was recruited to guide and supervise the work of the staffed lawyers, with respect to the Center's recent inclusion of house demolition in East Jerusalem into its programming.

JLAC's Organaizational Chart



Administrative Staff: As a result of the diversity of the tasks assigned to each employee, a decision was taken by JLAC to appoint unit directors (Legal Unit, Programs & Public Relations Unit, Fieldwork Unit, and the Administrative Unit) as to manage the daily related duties of the working team. The unit managers hold regular internal meetings with their working team, as well as attend regular managers meetings with the Director-General for administrative, planning, and programmatic purposes.

Capacity Building: Towards achieving its objectives to the fullest, JLAC provides adequate space for its staff to broaden their scope of knowledge and expertise. In terms of knowledge in Israeli law, the Center's staffed lawyers attended three training sessions at the University of Tel Aviv. More specifically, as to be better able to address cases of house demolition in East Jerusalem, sessions were organized for the staffed lawyers to enhance their knowledge in this regard, a well experienced lawyer was recruited, and the legal library was expanded. Furthermore, a group from among the staff also participated in courses related to project management, as to better fulfill the various projects managed and implemented by JLAC.





Accommodating Growth: In response to the growth in the programming offered by JLAC in East Jerusalem, the Center moved its Jerusalem branch office to a new locale as to accommodate the space needed for the new personnel and training and meeting rooms. Procurement was also made for needed equipment and furniture in all three JLAC branches (Ramallah, Jerusalem, and Salfit) in order to create an effective and comfortable working environment for the staff. A social fund was established and financed by the staff as to reach out to each other during special occasions and times of need. The Center also developed a program to ease data entry and analysis generated from its programming and a specialized company was contracted to redesign and modify its website. Lastly, JLAC decided to use its BoD endowment for the purchase of a new headquarter in Ramallah.

Our Leadership

The Board of Directors

Name	M/F	Function	Occupation
Mr. Tayseer Arouri	M	Chairman	Lecturer – Birzeit University
Mr. Nasfat Al-Khofash	M	Vice Chairman	Social Activist – Representative Elected by JLAC's Volunteers
Ms. Ghada Zughayar	F	Treasurer	General Director – AMAN Coalition
Mr. Amin Inabi	M	Secretary	Director in the Ministry of Social Affairs
Dr. Areej Odeh	F	Member	Legal Consultant at Ramallah Governor's Office
Dr. Faiha Abdul Hadi	F	Member	Freelance Researcher
Dr. George Giaceman	M	Member	Professor – Birzeit University – Muwatin General Director
Ms. Intisar Salman	F	Member	Feminine Activist – Tulkarem
Mr. Samih Khalil	M	Member	Director of Al Mashreq Insurance Company

The General Assembly

NAME	M/F	Occupation
Dr. Faiha Abdul Hadi	F	Freelance Researcher
Mr. Amin Al Bayed	M	Social Activist
Mr. Khaled Al Batrawe	M	Businessman – Activist in Defending Human Rights
Mr. Nasfat Al Khofash	M	Social Activist – Representative Elected by JLAC's Volunteers
Mr. Tayseer Arouri	M	Lecturer – Birzeit University
Mr. Sam Bahour	M	Entrepreneur
Ms. Nuha Barghouthi	F	Activist – Retired Teacher
Dr. George Giaceman	M	Professor – Birzeit University – Muwatin General Director
Dr. Zaki Hasan	M	Professor – Birzeit University
Mr. Amin Inabi	M	Director in the Ministry of Social Affairs
Dr. Mohammad Jadallah	M	Physicians Bar Association – Monitoring Member
Dr. Mudar Kassis	M	Assistant Director – Institute of Law – Birzeit University
Mr. Samih Khalil	M	Director of Al Mashreq Insurance Company
Dr. Feras Melhem	M	Professor – Birzeit University
Ms. Jannet Michael	F	Mayor of Ramallah Municipality
Dr. Areej Odeh	F	Legal Consultant at Ramallah Governor's Office
Ms. Intisar Salman	F	Feminine Activist – Tulkarem
Mr. Ahmed Samarah	M	Social Activist
Dr. Na'el Taha	M	Law Professor at An-Najah Univeristy
Ms. Nibal Thawabteh	F	Director of the Media Development Center at Birzeit University
Dr. Basam Zubaydi	M	Professor – Birzeit University
Ms. Ghada Zughayar	F	General Director – AMAN Coalition

Our Working Team

JLAC's executive tier is comprised of the following units and personnel:

Executive Level

Issam Aruri – General Director

Rami Saleh – Jerusalem Branch Director and Administrative Manager

The Programs & Public Relations Unit

Mai Farsakh – Programs & Public Relations Unit Manager

Violette Rafidi – Programs Coordinator

Fawzi Kassim – Advocacy Officer

Salem Khilleh – Media Officer/ Campaign Coordinator

The Legal Unit

Bassam Karajah – Head of the Legal Unit

Wa'il Qut – Attorney

Suleiman Shaheen – Attorney

Haitham Khatib – Attorney

Mohammad Abu Snineh – Attorney

Nahed Abdeen – Attorney

Osama Halabi - Legal Consultant

The Administrative and Financial Unit

Amin Dawabsheh – Accountant

Ikhlas Qur'an – Administrative Assistant

Hussain Abu 'Ara – Administrative Support

The Fieldwork Unit

Abdullah Hammad – Fieldwork Unit Manager

Nabil Abdallah – Researcher and Fieldworker

Tahseen Elayyan – Volunteer Training Program Coordinator

Thourayya Hamid – Field Coordinator

Ala' Ghaith – Field Coordinator

Saher Sarsour – Field Coordinator

Jalila Irshaid – Field Coordinator

Jihan Mansour – Paralegal (Salfit Branch)

Abeer Hidmi – Paralegal (Jerusalem Branch)

Our Sources of Support

Core Donors



Ford Foundation

The Ford Foundation: The Ford Foundation has been engaged with and has mobilized core funding to JLAC since 1997. The current fund of 300,000 \$US, for the duration of one year and a half, was allocated towards mobilizing a grassroots movement of young people for the defense of human rights violations.



Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World): BftW has been engaged with JLAC prior to its establishment, while as the Quaker Service Information and Legal Aid Center. BftW's current fund (in the amount of 180,000 \$US, for the duration of three years) was allocated for defending Palestinian victims of human rights violations in accordance to Palestinian and International Law.



NDC (NGO Development Center): JLAC has been engaged with NDC since 2008, the current fund is in the amount of 165,000 \$US and was allocated for promoting human rights and good governance. The duration of the project was for one and a half years.



CAFOD (The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development): CAFOD has been engaged with JLAC prior to its establishment (while as the Quaker Service Information and Legal Aid Center). Its current fund (in the amount of GBP £97,500.00 and the project duration of three years) was allocated for; strengthening the role of civil society in promoting human rights and democratic reform, and providing legal representation to the deprived, underprivileged, and marginalized Palestinians who fall victim to injustice and violations of their fundamental freedoms.



The Irish Aid: JLAC has been engaged with the Irish Aid since 2007. The current core fund is in the amount of 70,000 Euros, and for a duration period of one year.

Project-Based Donors



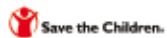
IEPALA (Instituto de Estudios Políticos para América Latina y Africa): Iepala has been engaged with JLAC since 2007. The current fund is in the amount of 160,000 Euros and for the duration of four years. It was allocated for promoting public awareness of residency, social, civil, and economical rights in Jerusalem.



NRC (The Norwegian Refugee Council): JLAC has been engaged with the NRC since the beginning of 2009, with project phases continuing through 2010. Currently, two projects are being implemented in the West Bank and East Jerusalem respectively entitled 'Legal Assistance for the Protection of Palestinians Affected by Force Displacement' in the amount of 56,550 US\$ and 'Providing Legal Representation on House Demolition in East Jerusalem' in the amount of 78,320.00 US\$.



Tiri: JLAC signed its first project cooperation agreement with Tiri, entitled 'Access to Basic Services: Protecting the Rights of the Poor and Marginalized' on November 1, 2009. The project amount is 26,180 US\$ and the duration is for 4 months.



Save the Children U.K.: JLAC signed its first consultancy agreement with Save the Children U.K., for the ECHO project entitled 'Prevention and Protection – A Programmatic Response to Forced Displacement in the OPT' for the duration of 3 month. The consultancy fee amounted to 2,024 Euros.

Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center Statement of Financial Position As of 31 December 2009

Assets		31 December 2009	31 December 2008
	Note	U.S\$	U.S \$
Current Assets			
Cash and Deposits with Banks	3	360,378	129,825
Grants Receivable	5	34,002	76,757
Staff Advances	6	17,201	16,462
Prepaid Expenses		9,200	13,475
Total Current Assets		420,781	236,519
Restricted Bank Deposits	4	308,837	350,663
Property and Equipment, Net	7	64,028	30,561
Total Assets		793,646	617,743
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Liabilities:			
Payables and Accruals	8	43,895	58,500
Reserve for Staff Benefits	9	131,088	106,778
Total Liabilities		174,983	165,278
Net Assets:			
Undesignated Net Assets (Deficit) (Statement - B)		14,901	(15,032)
Unrestricted - Board Designated		271,193	229,470
Temporarily Restricted (Statement - B)		332,569	238,027
Total Net Assets		618,663	452,465
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		793,646	617,743

Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center Statement of Activities Year Ended 31 December 2009

	Note	Temporarily		Total	
		Unrestricted	Restricted	2009	2008
		U.S\$	U.S\$	U.S\$	U.S\$
Revenues and Supports:					
Grants	11		698,379	698,379	485,418
Other Revenues	10	41,723	-	41,723	12,644
Total		41,723	698,379	740,102	498,062
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	11	603,837	(603,837)	-	-
Total Revenues and Supports		645,560	94,542	740,102	498,062
Expenses:					
Salaries and Related Expenses		421,494	-	421,494	360,750
Court Fees		14,009	-	14,009	7,848
Office Supplies, Printing and Hospitality		18,712	-	18,712	21,915
Program Supplies / Workshops		17,978	-	17,978	8,635
Transportation		19,861	-	19,861	13,836
Communication		8,042	-	8,042	9,024
Audit Fees		6,018	-	6,018	9,996
Occupancy and Maintenance Costs		55,375	-	55,375	48,300
Evaluation and Development		-	-	-	1,678
Total Expenses		561,489	-	561,489	481,982
Excess (Deficit) of Revenues and Supports Over Expenses					
		84,071	94,542	178,613	16,080
Depreciation Expense		(8,881)	-	(8,881)	(5,021)
Loss on Difference of Currency		(3,534)	-	(3,534)	(815)
Increase in Net Assets During the Year		71,656	94,542	166,198	10,244

THANKS

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