

Bedouin Proverb: Truth may walk through the world unarmed. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Civil Rights Leader: A right delayed is a right denied. Kofi Annan, 7th Secretary General of the United Nations: To live is to choose. But to choose well, you must know who you are and what you stand for, where you want to go and why you want to get there. Aung San Suu Kyi, Pro-Democracy Activist and Prisoner of Conscience: The quintessential revolution is that of the spirit, born of an intellectual conviction of the need for change in those mental attitudes and values which shape the course of a nation's development. Roger Baldwin: Silence never won rights. They are not handed down from above; they are forced by pressures from below. Aristotle: The law is reason free from passion. Plato: The measure of a man is what he does with power. Mahatma Gandhi: Be the change you want to see in the world. Martin Luther King, Jr.: An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity. Mahatma Gandhi: The Roots of Violence: Wealth without work, Pleasure without conscience, Knowledge without character, Commerce without morality, Science without humanity, Worship without sacrifice, Politics without principles. Kofi Annan: We will not enjoy security without development, we will not enjoy development without security, and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal.



**JLAC**  
JERUSALEM LEGAL AID AND HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER

# Annual **Report** 2010

As you prepare your breakfast – think of others.  
Don't forget to feed the pigeons.  
As you conduct your wars – think of others.  
Don't forget those who want peace.  
As you go home, your own home – think of others  
don't forget those who live in tents.  
As you sleep and count the planets, think of others  
there are people who have no place to sleep.  
As you liberate yourself with metaphors think of others  
those who have lost their right to speak.  
And as you think of distant others  
think of yourself and say "I wish I were a candle in the darkness."

**By: Mahmoud Darwish**



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# A Message from the Chairman and the Director

During a lengthy discussion by the Board of Directors concerning JLAC's Action Plan for 2011, much time was spent pondering the Center's strategy for growth. Should we broaden the breadth or focus the depth of our work?

Indeed, 2010 had brought with it an increase in the Center's budget, with 805,832 USD expended in 2010 as opposed to 599,996 USD in 2009. Accordingly, JLAC's services and number of beneficiaries likewise multiplied at a high rate. The area of intervention which particularly witnessed significant growth was that of the right to dwelling and living which encompasses; cases of house and agricultural facility demolition, land confiscation, and forced displacement in Area C of the West Bank and, more recently, house demolition and eviction in Jerusalem. According to JLAC's figures, the total number of right to dwelling and living cases adopted by JLAC in 2010 alone (351 cases) exceed the collective total of such cases adopted by the Center over the past four years (339 right of dwelling and living cases undertaken by JLAC between 2005-2009). This increase came as a response to the escalation on the part of the Israeli government in its effort to ethnically cleanse Jerusalem and large portions of the West Bank from its original inhabitants through such implements as discriminatory planning policies.

The decision to expand or limit JLAC's scope of operation must take into consideration the needs of the people, on one hand, and the resources made available to the Center, on the other, as to not threaten instructional stability and sustainability.

The matter of expansion is a difficult decision indeed, but one which is encouraged, indirectly in the direction of growth by partners and donors. To elaborate further through example; JLAC's Board

of Directors, with the Center's sustainability in mind, had taken a meditated decision to control growth and called for a reduction in the annual budget (which had already been at USD 743,000 for 2011). Shortly thereafter, a funding proposal was submitted by JLAC to a multi-lateral donor agency which had developed a new program targeting the human rights sector. It turned out that the agency classified applicant institutions into three levels (according to perceived size; 1-small, 2-medium, and 3-large) based upon the institutions' annual budget and number of staffed employees. Consequently, JLAC was classified as a Category 2 institution (medium sized) and, thus, was only eligible to receive up to USD 100,000 for the submitted annum. If only the Center had one additional employee or an extra USD 7,000, then it would have been eligible for USD 250,000 instead. Similarly, another major player in the human rights sector (a secretariat to several donors) which JLAC applied for funding from served to maintain a policy of only providing a percentage of applicants' deficits. In so doing, it likewise encouraged institutions to submit inflated budgets in an effort to secure needed funds.

Basically, all this means that any organization which chooses to raise its budget (without there being any apparent correlation to efficiency and effectiveness in impact) is encouraged to do so. Thus, we found ourselves in a state of remorse, for perhaps we had taken the decision (to control growth) at the wrong time. For to control growth is inherently wise, but such should be done in a manner as to allow for the endurance of efficiency without a reduction in services. Perhaps also resources may be redistributed in a manner to maintain high efficiency. Such is characteristic of JLAC's work, whose results have consistently been measured in terms of yield rather than expenditure. In this regard, we call upon donors to consider the efficiency of a candidate organization and its tangible impact on the long-term than to frame its selection within rigid equations which may come to pose more harm than good for the institutions it seeks to aid.

The expansion in JLAC's work witness in 2010 was prompted by the escalating human rights violations imposed upon

the Palestinian people, which are expected to continue to rise in incident and grow in extent. Regretfully, we expect 2011 to bring with it a worsened state for Palestinians residing in Jerusalem and Area C of the West Bank, particularly for its Bedouin citizens which dot the hillsides of the Jordan Valley. In the defense of what is to come, JLAC is in need of preserving its restricted resources. For unlike other institutions that adopt programs issuing a certain number of publications or coordinating a definite number of workshops, the grave violations which JLAC battles before Israeli (and Palestinian) courts are often waged over the course of up to five years. Our credibility and humanity cannot allow us to turn our backs on our beneficiaries in the middle of the road due to the lack of funding. Therefore, we appeal to our supporters and donors to likewise commit to long-term programs when vowing to defend principals of human rights.

In addition to the multitude of legal cases undertaken (1,622 cases in total) and legal consultations provided (2,775 consultations) by JLAC in 2010, JLAC also sought to invest in social media (i.e. Facebook and Twitter) as a means of sustaining and building upon its prior efforts to

effectuate human rights reforms through the training of young leaders. Additionally, efforts to address particular instructional shortcomings of JLAC's involved action in the areas of advocacy and programming and the use of information strategies in furthering the Center's programmatic achievements in addressing human rights offences of varying kinds. Moreover, efforts were made to improve the performance of the Center's staff and to invest in their mental wellbeing, on account of the unsettling issues dealt with on a daily bases.

With such external and internal challenges before us in 2011, we appeal to our supporters and friends to aid us in overcoming the multitude of offences faced. We likewise thank those whom have and continue to support us over the many years of our operation. We welcome our new donors and all those who put forth effort in the achievements made thus far; among them are long-term donors, our volunteers, our General Assembly and allies. Hand in hand we have stood in the face of many perpetrators seeking to prevent humanity from presiding over this tortured land.



# Who We Are

Since its inception over 36 years ago, the Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center (JLAC) has been at the forefront of defending Palestinians from the multiple human rights offences they have and continue to endure. Originally established by the American Friends Service Committee in 1974, JLAC was formerly known as the Quaker Service Information and Legal Aid Center. In 1997, JLAC became a fully fledged Palestinian non-governmental organization mandated with providing pro-bono legal aid and consultation in the defense of human rights in the oPt. More recently, JLAC has coupled its legal aid rendered to individuals with; public interest cases, legal reform, community awareness, advocacy, among other complementary interventions.





# 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 and 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.

# Our Thematic Areas of Intervention

Kofi Annan, 7th Secretary General of the United Nations To live is to choose. But to choose well, you must know who you are and what you stand for, where you want to go and why you want to get there. Aung San Suu Kyi, Pro-Democracy Activist and Prisoner of Conscience -The quintessential revolution is that of the spirit, born of an intellectual conviction of the need for change in those mental attitudes and values which shape the course of a nation's development. Silence never won rights. They are not handed down from above; they are forced by pressures from below. —Roger Baldwin "We will not enjoy security without development, we will not enjoy development without security, and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights." —UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan "The law is reason free from passion" — Aristotle "The ultimate value of life depends upon awareness and the power of contemplation rather than upon mere survival." — Aristotle "The measurement of inequality is to take the unequal things equal" — Aristotle "We are all born as a child who is afraid of the dark. The real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light." —Plato "The measure of a man is what he does with his light" —Leo Tolstoy "Conscience asks the question, 'Is it safe?' Expediency asks the question, 'Is it politic?' But conscience asks the question, 'Is it right?' And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular but because conscience tells one it is right." — Martin Luther King, Jr. Kofi Annan, 7th Secretary General of the United Nations To live is to choose. But to choose well, you must know who you are and what you stand for, where you want to go and why you want to get there. Aung San Suu Kyi, Pro-Democracy Activist and Prisoner of Conscience -The quintessential revolution is that of the spirit, born of an intellectual conviction of the need for change in those mental attitudes and values which shape

Through JLAC's three branch offices in Ramallah, Jerusalem, and Salbit, (which collectively employ 25 staffers and 10 researchers/ consultants, among them include 16 lawyers and trained paralegals) much achievement has been made over the past year in combating human rights offences in the oPt. JLAC's interventions in 2010 served to work towards; protecting 757 families from displacement and house demolition, reinstating 590 Jerusalemites with their due social and economic rights, providing 24 persons with the ability to access medical facilities and visit detained loved ones in Israeli jails, releasing 41 civilians subjected to Palestinian military trials, and allowing for two elderly parents to put to rest the remains of their son whose body had remained detained in Israeli custody for over 34 years. Indeed, the breadth of JLAC's legal interventions spans to encompass several areas of intervention, holding multiple authorities accountable for their actions. For JLAC stands to defend justice regardless whom the perpetrator and what aspect of living a dignified life is being violated.

JLAC's legal defense likewise includes efforts to reform the discriminatory policies and procedures which serve to create and perpetuate human rights offences. In this regard, JLAC undertakes test cases to challenge particular unjust policies, forges strategic partnerships and coalitions with sector players, and strengths the local level's capacity to combat human rights offences.

**The following are among the JLAC's thematic areas of intervention:**

- a. Right to Dwelling & Living
- b. Social & Economic Rights of Jerusalemites
- c. Freedom of Movement
- d. Public Freedoms
- e. Public Interest Cases
- f. Advocacy Campaigns
- g. Outreach & Networking

# Right to Dwelling & Living



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Israel's expansionist momentum to permanently control East Jerusalem and large portions of the West Bank, has served to fragment, ghettoize, and deny the development of Palestinian communities in the oPt. Such aims are actualized, in part, by the discriminatory zoning and planning policies applied within Area C (60% of the West Bank) that is under full Israeli military and administrative control. Palestinian villages, towns, and residential clusters are characterized by fixed and confined master plans, the inevitable construction of Palestinian homes and agricultural facilities without the possession of needed permits, and subsequent vulnerability to demolition. The existing zoning and planning laws and regulations applied by the Israeli government in Area C enable further breaches, as the confiscation of land and the forced displacement of communities (i.e. Palestinian Bedouins) to be inflicted upon the lives of Palestinians.

Israel's new policy of ethnically cleansing Palestinian out of areas classified as 'C' as to allow for more room for illegal colonial settlement expansion, is evident in the significant increase witnessed in 2010 of the number of stop work and demolition orders being issued by the Israel Civil Administration to Palestinians residing in Area C of the West Bank (under the pretext of building without a permit). An unprecedented amount of evacuation and demolition orders (under the same argument) were likewise issued to the many Bedouin communities which dot the hillsides of the Jordan Valley. In

total, 145 orders (involving demolition, forced displacement, and land confiscation) came in to JLAC in 2009 vs. 353 orders in 2010, an increase of 243% in the course of one year). 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.

Towards mitigating the above ends, JLAC applies a set of multi-faceted interventions. Included, is the provision of legal aid and consultation. During 2010, JLAC undertook 757 Right to Dwelling & Living cases in Area C as follows; 540 house demolition cases, 90 agricultural facilities demolition cases, and 99 forced displacement cases, as well as 28 land confiscation cases. 10 house demolition cases were likewise undertaken in East Jerusalem during 2010. Moreover, JLAC provided 2,775 legal consultations in 2010 between its Ramallah, Jerusalem, and Salfit branch offices. JLAC's intervention involves taking legal actions towards freezing demolition/ displacement orders, via attaining power of attorney, compiling needed documentation, attending related Israeli High Planning Council meetings, and ultimately taking cases before the Israeli Supreme Court. Each right to dwelling and living case undertaken by JLAC in 2010 served to positively result in securing the families presence in their homes/lands until the court orders otherwise.

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# House Demolition

A major implement in the quest to rid Palestinians from Area C is the Israeli authorities systemic policy of refusing to expand out-dated master plans (or creating functional new plans) towards confining Palestinian expansion within already congested urban centers (falling in Areas A and B) and restricting Palestinians' use of their countryside (falling in Area C). In so doing, Israel is depriving the citizens it occupies of the most inherent of human rights; the right to adequate housing which has bearings upon the right to live in dignity. Such is in addition to the exclusion of Palestinians from the urban planning process itself, with Israeli military personnel and neighboring Israeli settlers comprising the committees which determine their fate. In 2010, JLAC undertook efforts to reform the out-dated/dysfunctional master plans of the villages of Al Sawye (in the Nablus district), Brukin (in the Salfit district) and Khirbet Jabara (in the Tulkarem district), as well as to formulate an original plan for the village of Al Aqaba (in the Jenin district).

Mazusa from the village of Shuqba, knows all too well the implications which these policies have on Palestinians' daily lives. A widow and mother of five, she sacrificed a great deal to build a modest home on her family's land for herself and her small

children. Indeed, constructing her home took all her limited means and much of her father's and father in-law's resources. The day she moved out of her in-law's home and provided her children a little more space for growth, was a joyous moment after years of turmoil. Unfortunately, she was soon served with a demolition order, under the pretext of building without a permit. Mazusa approached JLAC for legal aid in combating the demolition order; at which point the Center promptly extended the allotted time for objection, collected needed documentation, and took the case before the relevant courts. JLAC has since secured Mazusa and her children (as well as her father whom also received a demolition order for his home which neighbors Mazusa) in their home by freezing the implementation of the demolition. In the mean time, JLAC's attorneys are working to have a building permit issued and/or have the demolition order cancelled.

Another case involves Ayman from the village of Sinjil (in the Ramallah district) who, along with his wife and children, shares a duplex with his parents. In March of 2010, Ayman received a stop work order from the Israeli authorities under the pretext of building without a permit. Soon after, he received

a house demolition order as well. It was then that he approached JLAC for legal aid. The Legal Unit (lead by attorney Bassam Karajah and Wa'il Qut) adopted and followed-up his case before relevant planning committees and succeeded in having his file permanently closed without the possibility of further breaches (under the guise of building without a permit). Similarly, a modest family from Silwad (in the Ramallah district) approached JLAC after receiving a demolition order regarding their home that dates back to the early 1960s. JLAC's attorney's intervened in their regard and challenged the order on the grounds that the Israeli Civil Administration is not permitted to issue such an order to a structure erected prior to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank (i.e. prior to its jurisdiction). JLAC's intervention proved successful with the file being permanently closed. If the homeowner had ignored the order, the demolition would have otherwise surely been implemented.

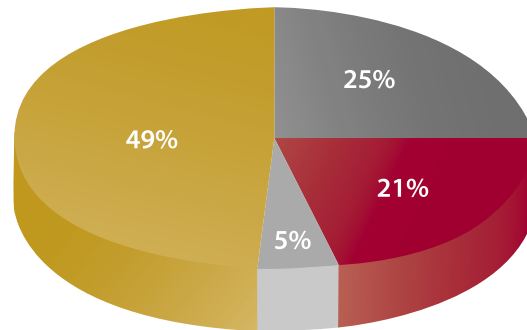
Oftentimes, not just individuals, but entire villages are negatively impacted by master plans, or the absences there of. The village of Al Aqaba (located on the dividing line between Area B and C in the district of Jenin) for example, is not recognized by Israel. As a result, all its residential houses and public buildings and facilities are at risk for demolition under the pretext of building without a permit. In order to address this situation,



JLAC tasked a specialized engineering firm with developing an original master plan for Al Aqaba's 500+ population (according to the Civil Administrations laws and regulations and the needs of the community as self-expressed through interviews and questionnaires). The completed master plan was submitted to the regulatory authorities in the Civil Administration. JLAC's attorneys (Bassam Karajah and Suleiman Shaheen) continue to legally follow-up the adoption of this master plan while providing legal aid on an individual basis to the tens of families facing threat of demolition in the village (of which all the undertaken cases have resulted in freezing demolition orders). When approved, the master plan will serve to resolve the majority of JLAC's Al Aqaba cases by default (as they will then lie within the bounds of a legal master plan). JLAC is optimistic that the master plan submitted for Al Aqaba was produced within the law and will yield positive results.

### Number of Stop Work and Demolition Orders by Legal Representative (June 1 2009- July 31, 2010) As Compiled by the Norwegian Refugee Council

- Society of St. Yves- 25%
- PA Wall and Settlement Unit-21%
- Rabbis for Human Rights (RHR)- 5%
- Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center (JLAC)- 49%



إن الشق وسط حبة القمح يرمز إلى أن النصف لك والنصف الآخر لأخيك. قد تسترّب الا شرعية دون أن تفتحن إليها كالمصاريف البسيطة المتكررة التي تأتي على ثروات بأكملها (أرسطو). إذا لم خترم الدولة قواعد العدالة. فإن العدالة لن خترم قواعد الدولة (فرانسيس بيكون). فطفوا الزهرة. قالت من ورائي برعم سوف ينور... قطعوا البرعم.. قال غيره ينبيض في ربحم الجذور... فلعوا الجذر من التربة.. قال إني من أجل هذا اليوم حيات البذور الصخرة حملت الكثير من الضربات لكنها تفتت عند الضربة الخمسين.. لم تكن الضربة الخمسين هي ما فعل ذلك لكن كل الضربات السابقة (د. أحمد خالد توفيق). هناك إنسان ما في مكان ما. يجلس الآن في ظل شجرة والنسب هو أن أحدهم ينادي إلى غرس شجرة منذ وقت طويل (وران بافيت). يمكنك أن خلم وتنتكر وتبدع أعظم الأفكار في العالم. من تسبب في سعادة إنسان خفقت سعادته (فولتير). ليس القوي من يكسب الحرب دائما وأما الضعيف من يخسر السلام دائما. إذا أخفني العدل من الأرض لم يعد لوجود الإنسان قيمة. من الأفضل أن تعاني من الظلم من أن تمارسه. خنونة عيشتي في البدو أشبهتني إلى نفسي من العيش الطريف فيما أسقي المسكن. من وطني بديلاً فحسبي ذلك من وطن شريف (أمرو القيس). أنا أحمكي عن الحرية التي لا مقابل لها الحرية التي هي نفسها المقابل (فسان كنفاتي). إن الشق وسط حبة القمح يرمز إلى أن النصف لك والنصف الآخر لأخيك. قد تسترّب الا شرعية دون أن تفتحن إليها كالمصاريف البسيطة المتكررة التي تأتي على ثروات بأكملها (أرسطو). إذا لم خترم الدولة قواعد العدالة. فإن العدالة لن خترم قواعد الدولة (فرانسيس بيكون). فطفوا الزهرة. قالت من ورائي برعم سوف ينور... قطعوا البرعم.. قال غيره ينبيض في ربحم الجذور... فلعوا الجذر من التربة.. قال إني من أجل هذا اليوم حيات البذور الصخرة حملت الكثير من الضربات لكنها تفتت عند الضربة الخمسين.. لم تكن الضربة الخمسين هي ما فعل ذلك لكن كل الضربات السابقة (د. أحمد خالد توفيق). هناك إنسان ما في مكان ما. يجلس الآن في ظل شجرة والنسب هو أن أحدهم ينادي إلى غرس شجرة منذ وقت طويل (وران بافيت). يمكنك أن خلم وتنتكر وتبدع أعظم الأفكار في العالم. من تسبب في سعادة إنسان خفقت سعادته (فولتير). ليس القوي من يكسب الحرب دائما وأما الضعيف من يخسر السلام. 14 إذا أخفني العدل من الأرض لم يعد لوجود الإنسان قيمة. من الأفضل أن تعاني من الظلم من أن تمارسه. خنونة عيشتي في البدو أشبهتني إلى نفسي من العيش الطريف. فيما أسقي مسوى وطني بديلاً فحسبي ذلك من وطن شريف (أمرو القيس). أنا أحمكي عن الحرية التي لا مقابل لها الحرية التي هي نفسها المقابل (فسان كنفاتي).



# Forced Displacement of Bedouin Communities

Historically, Palestinian Bedouins have been among the most marginalized and impoverished fractions of the Palestinian population. Forcefully displaced on several occasions since Israel's establishment (i.e. from Bir El Sabe' and southern Hebron in 1948, in the 1980s as a consequence of the establishment/expansion of Israeli settlements, etc.). In each instance of forcefully displacement, the Bedouin communities were failed to be presented with alternative equitable solutions.

Today Palestinian Bedouin communities (the majority of whom reside on lands classified as 'State Land') continue to live under the persistent threat of displacement by Israeli authorities. For Bedouins stand as a major obstacle between Israel and the alleged 'State Land' which it seeks to appropriate towards its own personal gains (that of acquiring a larger foothold in the West Bank.) In forcibly dissolving and displacing Bedouin communities (and other fractions) out of 'State Lands' within Area C, Israel in effect may come to confiscate and control more of the West Bank (i.e. the majority of the Jordan Valley). Such is in contradiction to the purpose of 'State Land', which is to be utilized by a state or occupying power for the betterment of the occupied indigenous populous (i.e. for green areas, highways, etc.).

Since Bedouin communities predominantly reside on lands classified as 'State Land' (whether declared as such prior to 1967 or during the years of occupation), legal intervention in their regard is particularly problematic. The sole legal action left available in their defense, is to 'buy time' as to postpone the displacement process and to go directly before the Israeli Supreme Court in resolving the issued orders (i.e. stop-work, demolition, and eviction). Moreover, this classification likewise prevents the communities from applying for and securing licenses for the tents/homes, livestock facilities, and water storage tanks essential for maintaining the herder lifestyle.

Among the legal claims which JLAC's lawyers (Bassam Karajah, Suleiman Shaheen, Wa'il Qut, and/or Mu'een Odeh) use before the Israeli Supreme Court in the defense of Bedouin communities situated in Area C of the West Bank include:

1. The right of Bedouins (as original inhabitants of the land) to be protected under international law and international humanitarian law. For instance, the Fourth Geneva Convention bans States from deporting the civilians whom it occupies from their place of residence. Rather, the convention stipulates that occupying powers must provide protection to civilians and afford all which is necessary in continuing their way of life.
2. State property (i.e. State Land) should be used for the benefit of the local population (i.e. Palestinians in this case). Bedouins comprise an integral part of the Palestinian populous; and thus have the right to reside and graze their animals on lands classified as 'State Land' (i.e. housing and grazing).
3. Right acquired over time; as many of the Bedouin communities have resided in the same location for tens of years.
4. Occupying Powers shall not give deportation or demolition orders without providing alternative housing arrangements or compensation.

In cases where Bedouin communities are situated on private property owned by other Palestinians (residing in proximity to the Bedouin communities or out of the occupied territories); all claims expect for that of 'State property' may be applied in their defense.

In 2010, 99 cases of forced displacement involving Bedouin families/communities where undertaken by JLAC.

Approximately 95% of the Bedouin cases adopted by JLAC yielded positive results for the plaintiff (i.e. freezing of demolition/ eviction orders in the interim until final rulings are made). Inevitably, the Civil Administration may choose to activate frozen demolition/eviction orders and reopen their files in court. Consequently, the only closed-ended solution for the Palestinian Bedouins (and all Palestinian communities threatened with displacement) is a political solution ending the occupation and rendering Palestinians full sovereignty over their territory and, in extension, the simple right of building upon their own land.

## **New Priorities in Displacement**

Further devastating the case of the Palestinian Bedouin communities are the pressures imposed by Israeli pro-settlement organizations upon the Civil Administration. Rijavim, an Israeli housing non-governmental organization (supported by a number of Israeli politicians, some of whom hold senior government positions), has raised several petitions to the Israeli Supreme Court against the Israeli Civil Administration for its failure to demolish 'illegal' houses of Palestinians. Such is the same Civil Administration whom at present is demolishing (or threatening to demolish) hundreds of Palestinian homes in its quest to rid Area C of its Palestinian inhabitants and allow for Israeli settlement expansion in the wake. Strangely enough, the Israeli Supreme Court ruled in favor of these petitions and ordered the Civil Administration to respond to Rijavim's demands.

In early 2010, the Civil Administration gave its reply to the charges raised against it by Rijavim, pledging to continue in its approach of house demolition and identifying the following priorities therein:

1. Houses or agricultural facilities built on land classified as State Land.
2. Houses or facilities in proximity to settlements, the Apartheid Wall, or security zones as classified by the Civil Administration.
3. Houses within Palestinian communities located in areas classified as 'C' as per the interim agreements.

The abovementioned priorities, serve to affect Bedouin communities proportionally the most in terms of eventual demolition and displacement by the Civil Administration; as they predominantly reside upon lands classified as 'State Land' (as classified following the Israeli occupation of the West Bank in 1967) and, at times as, 'State Property' (as classified during period of Jordanian rule in the West Bank between 1948 and 1967). Such is evident in the heightened activity of the Civil Administration's Inspection Committees in 2010, with hundreds of new notifications being issued and tens of demolitions being carried out. Bedouin communities were particularly brutalized, with Inspection Committees destroying dozens of tents, livestock facilities, and water storage tanks needed in maintaining the Bedouin social and economic life.

## **Bedouin Communities Serviced**

The following serves to summarize the cases undertaken by JLAC in 2010, involving assaults by the Civil Administration against Palestinian Bedouin communities in the oPt:

## Nwe'meh Community near the city of Jericho:

**Situation:** The community is comprised of tens of families whom had been displaced from Ein Gedi when it was occupied in 1948. The community was initially resettled in different regions within the West Bank, later settling (at different intervals) near the village of Deir Dibwan. In 1984, the Israeli army issued a declaration involving the land which the community resided upon in Deir Dibwan stating that the area was to be a closed military zone. Once again, the community was displaced, this time to the village of Rimmon. In 1998, the community relocated to the Nwe'meh area near the city of Jericho as to have some access to basic services (i.e. water, electricity, main roads) denied in Rimmon. The Nwe'meh area is disputed territory, in which the PA claims it falls within Area B and the Israeli Authorities argue that it is Israeli State Land. As a result, both the PA and Israeli Civil Administration have issued stop-work/demolition orders to the community (targeting many of their homes and livestock facilities). In November and December of 2010 alone, 17 stop-work orders were issued to the community by the Israeli Civil Administration.

**Intervention:** JLAC has on several occasions provided legal aid to the New'meh community, taking its cases before the Israeli Supreme Court and attaining precautionary orders (in effect freezing the orders) on their behalf. In regards to the 17 newly adopted cases, JLAC has since begun the necessary legal procedures and will continue to provide the beneficiaries with legal follow-up.



**Bedouin communities extending from the intersection of Route No. 60 with Street No. 90 of the Khan Al-Ahmar area, through the intersection of the Dead Sea before the city of Jericho:**

**Situation:** This stretch is home to approximately 1,645 individuals, 12,454 structures, and a small school. Proceedings against the communities commenced in 2009, with a decision to demolish the school and a collective decision to demolish the houses/facilities of the surrounding communities (i.e. Jahalin community). More orders were issued in mid 2010, with notifications delivered to all the communities by late September. More recently, the expansion of Street No. 90 indicates that Bedouin communities on both sides of the street will soon be banned from its use (as no entrance points have been created in the street to the sites of the communities); eventually resulting in an additional barrier to their presence in the land.

**Intervention:** Initially the cases were undertaken by a private attorney; with JLAC since providing further legal aid and (more recently) conducting a legal survey in their regard. JLAC has taken its adopted cases before the Israeli Supreme Court as to obtain an interim ruling to freeze the stop-work/demolition orders. The Center is awaiting the decision of the court regarding the community's cases.

**Bedouin communities located along bypass Road No. 60 and a bypass Road Alon (which connect the Israeli settlements East of Ramallah, so-called "Trans-Samaria"):**

**Situation:** More than 30 demolition orders have been issued in the area (along both sides of the road); involving 5 communities, their tents, livestock

facilities, and water storage tanks. It can be safely said that all groups and individuals in the area have been threatened with displacement. As most of the facilities of the communities in question are situated upon land zoned as 'State Property' (as per military orders issued by occupation forces), and to a lesser extent upon private property, they are unable to attain permits to legally reside on the land. Such is the case since proof of property ownership/rental is a prerequisite to apply and secure a license for placing anything prominent above the ground.

**Intervention:** JLAC intervened by adopting the majority of the cases involved and raising them before the Israeli Supreme Court. In so doing, it succeeded in freezing the demolition and relocation orders until a final ruling is reached. Such was the case of the Ka'abneh community near Ein Samia, the largest Bedouin cluster in the area. Other cases involved JLAC attaining time extensions for the files in question as to provide beneficiaries with the needed time in relocating to adjacent locations without being subjected to the destruction of their property and the trauma resulting from such an ordeal

**Al Ka'abneh Community along the Al Mu'arajat Road:**

**Situation:** This community has not received notifications of stop-work/ demolition for its houses/facilities on account of an agreement with the Civil Administration, relocating them to this site following a prior displacement. However, the community was issued demolition orders in regards to their school, health facility, and mosque.

**Intervention:** JLAC went on to adopt the cases of the public facilities and to obtain precautionary orders

(temporary injunctions) against their demolition. The cases continue to be followed-up by the Center.

### Al Ka'abneh Community in Ain Al'oja:

**Situation:** Demolition/stop-work orders were issued to the community's mosque and a number of its other public facilities.

**Intervention:** JLAC adopted the cases and raised petitions to the Israeli Supreme Court in their regard. The court has yet to rule in this matter.

### Rashaida Community near the village of Fasayel- Jericho:

**Situation:** A number of the community's tents and facilities received stop-work/demolition orders in 2009, with more following in 2010. In total, 25 families have fallen under threat of evacuation during this short period.

**Intervention:** JLAC has gone on to adopt the said cases and attain temporary injunctions from the Supreme Court in their regard. The Center continues to follow-up the cases and has also succeeded in attaining an order preventing the demolition of the Bedouin School in Fasayel Al-Fawqa.

### Al Malihat Community West of the city of Jericho:

**Situation:** JLAC legally intervened on the community's behalf in early 2008, by adopting demolition cases involving 25 families. JLAC succeeded in attaining a decision to freeze the demolitions and has since been following-up the cases.



# Land Confiscation

Among the Israeli Civil Administration's various tactics in exerting control over Palestinian land for use by Israeli settlements and industries include; the so-called Absentee Property Law, and such categorizations as "Abandoned Land", "Waste Land", "State Land", or military appropriation and transfer of powers through direct order of the Israeli Military Commander (the supreme military officer with jurisdiction over Area C of the West Bank). 65% of the total land area in the West Bank is unsettled or unregistered due to the above measures and the nature of Palestinian urbanization. As historically, Palestinian territories had predominantly been augural with high dependence on rainfall. Such played an integral part in the determination of the areas of land cultivated in a given year. Such had bearing upon the Israeli effort to legitimize the confiscation of land (as per the Ottoman law deeming uncultivated land as subject to claim by state authorities). Such served to further complicate efforts of legal follow-up and to reduce prospects of successful legal interventions.

The above tactics have been played out by the Israeli authorities in the Palestinian village of Iskaka in the district of Salfit. On an early Spring morning, like any other, the head of Iskaka's local government council was surprised by the presence of Inspection Units (of the Israeli Civil Administration) in the village, whom

were there to deliver several village farmers with notices to stop cultivating their land or else they may face the confiscation of equipment and agricultural machinery. The pretext behind the order to confiscate the land was its alleged re-classification by the Israeli Government as 'government property'. Following that devastating day, the councilman approached JLAC for legal aid in this regard. In the coming days, JLAC submitted an objection on the community's behalf to the Military Objections' Commission of the Civil Administration. The case continues to be followed-up by JLAC, whom is optimistic that the legal intervention was applied in a timely and diligent manner.

JLAC served to legally intervene in regards to 28 such cases of land confiscation within 2010.

# Housing Rights in East Jerusalem

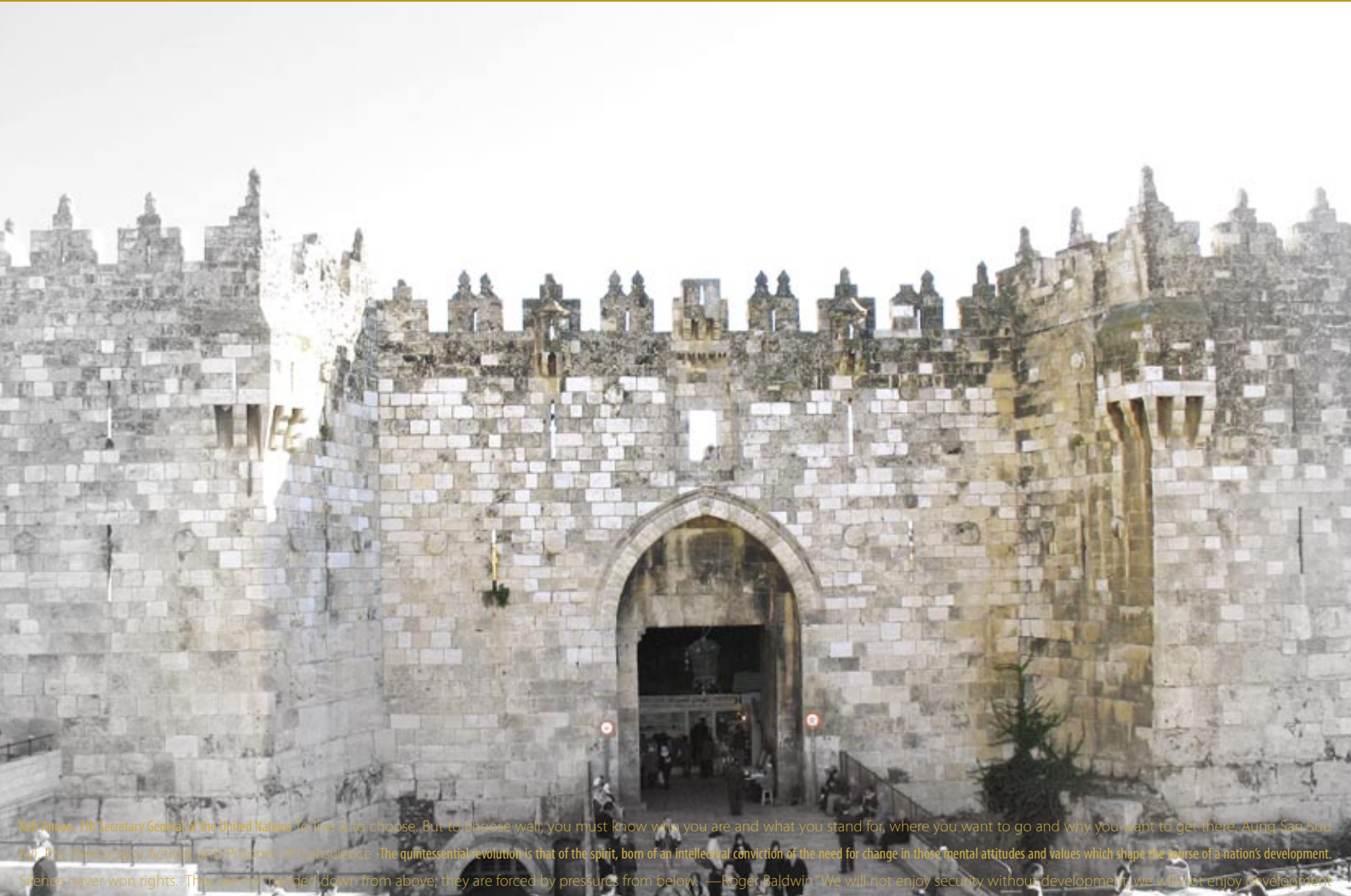
The Palestinians of East Jerusalem live under harsh and difficult conditions, stemming from the systemic aims of the successive Israeli governments to empty the city of its original inhabitants and to turn Palestinian Jerusalemites into a minority. Among the most severe of the human rights violations imposed upon the Palestinians of East Jerusalem is the demolition of their homes. House demolition in East Jerusalem began with the onslaught of its occupation in 1967; a practice rooted in efforts to Judaize the city as opposed to fulfilling the international obligations of an occupying power. As per international law and treaties, Israel (as an occupying power) is obligated with rendering such services to the local populous it occupies as the provision of urban planning for their villages and towns (East Jerusalem included).

Instead, Palestinians residing in Jerusalem are faced with the absence of urban plans, confined areas allotted for urban expansion (i.e. 12.5 % of East Jerusalem), and a high probability of being denied the necessary building permits in legally building on their own land or in extending their existing homes. Moreover, the cost of the permit application process is financially draining; with associated fees in obtaining a permit to build a house 200 m sq in area costing nearly 110,000 NIS and the construction itself costing 140,000 NIS. Added to this burden is the approximate 12 months which the permit application consumes.

Coupled, the above factors have compelled Palestinians in Jerusalem to often build without obtaining building permits towards accommodating their communities' natural growth. Regretfully, Israeli forces charge those whom built 'illegally' hefty fines or compel them to demolish their homes without addressing the root problem; that of the municipality's failure to provide the communities with master plans and adequate room for growth. Indeed, limiting the areas of East Jerusalem inhabited by Palestinians has served successive Israeli governments' effort to clamp down on the Palestinian communities residing with the city.

Towards combating of intensified house demolition/eviction in East Jerusalem, JLAC initiated a program in this regard in the beginning of 2010 (with preparatory training of JLAC's staff conducted in 2009). In 2010, JLAC served to adopt 10 cases of house demolition in East Jerusalem. Such is in addition to JLAC's parallel efforts of training lawyers in dealing with such cases and efforts related to conducting research and legal needs assessments.

# Social & Economic Rights of Jerusalemites



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## Revoking of Jerusalem IDs

The past several years witnessed a dramatic increase in the number of Jerusalemites coming to JLAC with cases of social, economic, and civil rights, much of which involved the revoking of Jerusalemite's IDs. 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; a 21 folds increase over the course of one year. The problem lies in that Palestinians in East Jerusalem are considered merely residents in Israel as opposed to full citizens and, thus, are subjected to loss of their residency.

Multiple conditions exist to Jerusalemites maintaining their resident ID (and consequently maintaining their full social and economic rights as Jerusalemites). Jerusalemites' IDs maybe revoked on the following grounds:

1. Residents of Jerusalem living more than seven years (even if not continuous) outside of Jerusalem, whether outside of the region or in the West Bank or Gaza,
2. Residents of Jerusalem who apply for or are granted permanent residency in a foreign country,
3. Residents of Jerusalem who apply for or are

- granted a foreign passport (except for Jordan),
4. Residents of Jerusalem who marry into a foreign nationality and receive this nationality, and more recently
5. Residents of Jerusalem who are suspected of posing a "national threat" to Israel.

In losing one's Jerusalem ID, in effect they come to be denied 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 by facilitating the communication between disenfranchised persons seeking counsel for having lost their IDs and the Israeli government.

## Family Reunification:

Jerusalemites, as permanent residents of Israel, likewise face difficulty in being able to legally reside with spouses whom hold Palestinian IDs (i.e. from the West Bank or Gaza Strip) in Jerusalem, as permanent residency is not automatically transferred through marriage. The process of family reunification (i.e. attaining ID cards for spouses and children) is lengthy and financially draining. JLAC

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intervenes in this regards by providing pro-bono legal consultation, assisting in the application of necessary forms, liaising with the Israeli Ministry of Interior, and undertaking legal intervention when need be.

One such family reunification case undertaken by JLAC in 2010 involved Rubhi (a Palestinian ID holding man whom sought to reside with his Jerusalemite wife and children in Jerusalem without threat of arrest or deportation). Over the course of the 5 years in which Rubhi's family has been requesting reunion, their multiple requests gone unanswered or denied on the grounds of "threat of security". Worse yet, Rubhi was arrested on several occasions for being illegally present in Jerusalem.

In March of 2010, Rubhi's family approached JLAC for legal aid in this regard, at which point JLAC's attorney (Haitham Al-Khatib) went onto adopt the case and correspond with the Israeli Ministry of Interior on their behalf. In following, JLAC's attorney appealed before the Israeli Supreme Court the Israeli Ministry of Interior's decision to refuse Rubhi's prior requests for reunion on the grounds

of "threat of security". The court has since ruled in the favor of the plaintiff, and Rubhi is made able to freely reside with his wife and children in Jerusalem without threat of arrest or deportation.

### **Child Registration:**

Similar to the complexities entailed in cases of family reunification, child registration for Jerusalemites is likewise an ordeal for those married to persons holding Palestinian IDs. For unlike Israeli citizenship, Jerusalemite's permanent residency is not automatically passed on to one's children. Rather, permanent residency is granted to children only under certain conditions (i.e. place of birth, residency status of parents, etc.). Recent figures released from the Israeli Ministry of Interior indicate that an estimated 10,000 children have gone unregistered in East Jerusalem. Such has bearings and implications upon the ability of that child to access basic education, health and other social services.

Two such children, having gone unregistered, are the daughters of Amina (a Jerusalemite married to a West Banker). Crossing the many boundaries which isolate Jerusalemites from their brethren in the remainder of the West Bank, Amina must

consistently defend herself before the Israeli soldiers manning the checkpoints in between that her two daughters are indeed hers. Often times, Amina came to be detained for hours at a time in the process. This not too peculiar case of Amina's, is a result of her difficulty as a Jerusalemite married to a West Banker to register her two daughters with the Israeli Ministry of Interior. This has also impeded Amina's ability to register her daughters in Jerusalem schools. It was at this point (in March of 2010), with several requests to the Israeli Ministry of Interior going unanswered, that Amina approached JLAC for legal aid in attaining birth certificates for her daughters towards facilitating their movement and registration in school.

JLAC's attorney, whom undertook the case (Mohammad Abu Snineh), immediately began to follow up Amina's file and applied for child registration on her behalf. He prepared Amina that her case, as those of the many other Jerusalemites facing similar infringements upon their social rights, may take an indefinite period of time to resolve. JLAC's lawyer was soon contacted by the Israeli Ministry of Interior in July of 2010 and was requested to submit multiple proofs of Amina's residence in Jerusalem (i.e. home leases over several previous years, electric and water bills since







unemployment benefits which have ceased in 2009. JLAC's attorney (Suleiman Shaheen), underwent a thorough review in this regard and revealed that an office error (in which required information was missing) by the Israeli Office of Labor was the cause of the stop in payments. The attorney went on to request (and receive) overdue payments from the National Insurance Institute on behalf of the beneficiary, and to ensure that prospective payments are reinstated. Moreover, the attorney submitted a request for unemployment benefits on behalf of the wife. She has since received a 60% allowance, with efforts underway to raise the provided percentage to a full 100%.

In total, JLAC served to undertake 590 cases of social and economic rights in Jerusalem (225 and 365 respectively).

# Freedom of Movement



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Regretfully, 2010 did not bring with it any positive changes in regards to freedom of movement, or rather lack thereof. Palestinians' access to Israeli areas and movement within the oPt continue to be deliberately restricted by Israeli policies. Each year, only a small number of permit applications submitted by Palestinians to enter Israeli areas are approved by the Civil Administration, with the majority unjustifiably denied under the pretext of 'security' and discriminatory profiling. Moreover, no room is provided for those denied to appeal the decisions through legal counsel. Rather, denied personal are solely allowed the option of individually and personally appealing their case. With such limitations imposed upon the extent of JLAC's legal intervention (in this regard), JLAC chose to focus its freedom of movement intervention to those persons seeking to enter Israel for medical treatment or visiting detained loved ones in Israeli prisons. In this regard, JLAC provides legal consultation in expected procedures, needed forms, and in some instances corresponds on behalf of the beneficiaries with the Legal Consultant of the Civil Administration.

Similarly, large numbers of Palestinians were prevented from traveling outside the West Bank through Jordan (the only route for Palestinians to reach the outside world as they are prohibited from flying out of the oPt) without clear justification. JLAC provides similar intervention in this regard as individuals banned from travel are also denied the right of submitting legal appeals via attorneys.

During 2010, JLAC adopted 24 freedom of movement cases as follows; 7 permits for access to medical treatment, 13 permits for prisoner visitation, and 4 travel bans. A notable decrease has been noticed in the number of family members approaching JLAC in seeking permits to visit detained loved ones (28 detainee visitation cases undertaken in 2009). JLAC attributes this decrease to its past interventions and efforts to solve the 'root' legal problem, for JLAC petitions the right of family members to visit detained loved ones (with permits automatically being received/renewed upon attaining a positive case ruling). In prohibiting families to visit detained relatives, Israel is in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention (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).

During JLAC's freedom of movement interventions in this regard (particularly from the correspondences exchanged with the Israeli Civil Administration) it has become apparently clear that these policies aim to deprive Palestinians of their right to freedom of movement, among the many other rights addressed by JLAC. Nowhere in Israeli law are such restrictions on movement by the Civil Administration justified, rather they are among the many fabricated restrictions employed towards restricting Palestinian liberty.

Among the thousands of Palestinians unjustifiably denied entry into Israel under the pretext of 'security' is Maram. Too often, the penalties imposed upon Palestinian prisoners of occupation come to extend beyond the confines of their own prison cells to encompass and restrain the liberties of their parents, wives, children and siblings, in a form of collective punishment. Such is the case of Maram from Beit Rima (the sister of Palestinian prisoner named Majdi), whom is steadily and silently facing arbitrary occupation measures in being denied the necessary permits by the Israeli authorities to accompany her terminally ill daughter for medical treatment in Jerusalem. On several occasions, Maram (as well as her husband







and eldest daughter) applied for a travel permit in this regard, but was denied by the Israeli General Security Service (Shabak) for reasons of ‘security’ and claims that Maram has ties with a Palestinian political faction; leaving her 15 year-old daughter to undergo grueling daily chemotherapy in treating her leukemia at Hadassah Hospital (Ein Kerem) alone.

Frustrated, Maram’s family approached JLAC in legally pursuing their case. At which point, attorney Haitham Al-Khatib began necessary correspondences to facilitate the issuance of a civil permit on humanitarian grounds. The attorney claimed that preventing the mother from caring for her terminally ill child in need of long-term treatment was unreasonable and inhuman. The initial response from Beit El was negative, with the requested permit being rejected on the basis of Maram posing a ‘security threat’. Such prompted Al-Khatib to request an urgent hearing before the Court of Administrative Affairs in Jerusalem. During a closed hearing (held on December 7, 2010), in which Al-Khatib presented medical reports and argued Maram’s case, the court ordered the Civil Administration to issue the necessary permits to allow Maram to enter Hadassah Hospital as soon as possible. Maram has since accompanied her daughter receiving chemotherapy in the city of Jerusalem.

# Public Freedoms



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The coup d'état of Hamas in Gaza served to create a political rift between the West Bank and Gaza; bringing with it a new reality characterized by shows of political control and degradation in 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; in so doing, undermining the right of association.

## Political Arrests

Political arrests of those politically affiliated with Hamas in the West Bank and those opposing Hamas in Gaza persisted through 2010 and increasingly involved torture and ill-treatment degrading to human dignity. Detainees are being held without due cause, without the issuance of warrants stipulating the charges of their arrest, and without undertaking the necessary legal detainment procedures. Moreover, as civilians they are being illegally subjected to military courts. Some continue to be detained after the Palestinian High Court has ruled their release. Such actions are in violation of international conventions on human rights, as well as, the Palestinian Basic Law and Criminal Procedures Law.

In this regard, JLAC undertook 41 cases of political arrest in 2010 (and followed-up 14 on-going cases from 2009). Upon receiving a complaint of arrest

by a detainee's family and after power of attorney is attained, a JLAC attorney (Bassam Karajah, Wa'il Qut, and/or Othman Hamdallah) goes on to directly investigate with the prosecution (which represents the military forces and the PA) in the person's regard. The attorney then requests the prosecution to undertake the appropriate procedures and to release the illegally detained person in question. Oftentimes, this request goes ignored, compelling JLAC to lodge a petition before the Palestinian High Court requesting the release of the civilian from military detainment.

The petition is often met with unjustifiable statements from the prosecution, such as that it is operating within the legal bounds of the 1979 Revolutionary Pinal Code. However, this law solely permits security forces the authority to detain civilians for up to 24 hours prior to their transfer to civilian criminal authorities. Moreover, 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 modified Palestinian Basic Law of 2003 and the Palestinian Criminal Procedure Law of 2001). More specifically, the Revolutionary Pinal Code contradicts the

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Palestinian Basic Law which clearly stipulates that civilians may only be subjected to civilian prosecution, not military prosecution.

JLAC's intervention usually yields positive results before the Palestinian High Court, with rulings in favor of submitted petitions to immediately release detainees from military custody. Following such proceedings, JLAC takes a copy of the court ruling to the prosecution and requests of them to draft a formal letter to the military forces in regards to the immediate release of the detainee in question. The prosecution's request often goes ignored; with the detainee continuing to be unlawfully detained (despite the ruling by the High Court for their release). Worse yet, the detainee may still be subject to a special military trial.

## **Unfair Dismissal from Governmental Employment**

Following the coup d'état of Hamas in Gaza, approximately 2,000 persons were initially terminated from their governmental posts in the West Bank on account of their personal political affiliation (under the guise of failing to meet 'security clearance'). Such serves to contradict the Palestinian Civil Service Law and the Palestinian Basic Law which grant equal opportunity employment. This occurrence urged JLAC to initially adopt and litigate 98 unfair dismissal cases (comprising medical and education sector employees, with a concentration on education) which have remained on-going through 2010. Though 2010 did not witness mass layoffs of governmental employees

in the West Bank, 7 individuals have approached JLAC for legal representation in this regard over the past year; bring the total unfair dismissal cases followed-up during 2010 to 105 cases.

JLAC individually, and at times collectively, brings unfair dismissal cases before the Palestinian High Court (the relevant/specialized court for addressing this matter) against the governmental issued dismissal letters, the authorities issuing the dismissals, and the Cabinet's 2007 decree permitting 'security checks' as a prerequisite for employment. The Palestinian Civil Service Law and its regulations clearly stipulate public employment criteria and necessary trial periods (one-year), which all the represented persons had fulfilled. Thus, the introduction of new employment criteria (that of 'security clearance') is illegal, as well as, discriminatory as it deems personal political affiliation with opposing political parties as a 'threat to security'.

Initial rulings by the Palestinian High Court involving cases undertaken by JLAC (as well as by other human rights organization and legal aid providers) proved negative, in that the court deemed itself irrelevant/not specialized to rule in this regard. In a new development, however, JLAC recently obtained one positive ruling regarding an educator from the Tulkarem area. The High Court ruled in his regard that the procedures undertaken in his termination were unlawful and ordered the cancellation of the decision dismissing him.

JLAC is optimistic that prospective cases will follow in the direction of this new shift and that the remaining government employees will return to their posts. The center warns of the negative social repercussions attributed to the marginalization of this particular fraction of society and hopes that the court will expedite the unnecessarily lengthy process of ruling in their regard.

## NGO Closure

Indeed, the political rift between the West Bank and Gaza Strip has heavily impacted the reality of civil liberties in both regions, with the of establishment and operation of non-governmental organizations among the many liberties trampled upon. Such is clearly evident from the stringent procedures and controls recently imposed on the establishment of associations (on the part of official authorities in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip). Such has included; the undertakings of comprehensive reviews of existing associations' assemblies and, in turn the closing down of a large number of associations as a result. In the West Bank, where JLAC operates, authorities have gone as far as dissolving Boards of Directors and administrative bodies and appointing new persons therein (in many cases from outside of the association). Moreover, there have been abuses of the application and interpretation of the provisions of the executive regulations within the Palestinian NGO Law.

There is an apparent need to conduct a comprehensive review of the regulations within the NGO Law, as to have the inclusion of associations' executive personnel be fully in line with the law and its provision. This matter stands among the main pillars in addressing the flagrant violations and abuses of power imposed upon Palestinian associations. More in this regard, JLAC calls for the restoration of associations closed in a manner in violation of the law and the reinstatement of their legitimate governing bodies, as per the Palestinian NGO Law.



# Public Interest Cases



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In 2010, JLAC undertook 6 new cases of classified as public interest before Israeli and Palestinian courts (2 and 4 cases respectively). Such is in addition to the 20 ongoing public interest cases brought in from 2009, 18 of which were brought before Israeli courts (i.e. legal action against; forged Israeli settler land sale documents, Israeli settler attacks on persons and lands, environmental degradation of lands caused by Apartheid Wall, prohibition of Palestinians to cultivate their own lands behind 'closed areas'; etc.). A case is classified as an issue of public interest when its outcomes come to benefit more than just the plaintiff at hand and has bearing upon such matters as; the implementation of systems or procedures in violation of the law, refusal in execution of the law, absence of regulations for particular laws, reform of discriminatory laws, etc. Accordingly, such issues serve to affect large numbers of citizens regardless of case outcomes. Moreover, there are specific criteria for the admission and litigation of such issues; (i.e. significance of issue, scope of prospective impact, likelihood of positive outcome in litigation, etc.).

In addition to litigation (whether before Israeli or Palestinian courts), JLAC's public interest interventions likewise involve lobbying and advocacy efforts, as well as, data collection, survey, documentation, research, among other tactics. Certain issues may likewise call for JLAC to ally itself with other civil society institutions as better means in attaining the desired ends. Such an alliance was forged (with Al Haq and Adameer) in tackling the cancellation of local elections. Similarly, JLAC allied

itself with two Israeli human rights institutions in raising a petition before the Israeli Supreme Court concerning the discriminatory planning policies imposed upon Palestinians residing in areas classified as C within the West Bank. Of course, there are numerous public interest cases which JLAC undertakes on an individual basis, such as issues addressing master plans in areas classified as C.

A new area within the realm of public interest tackled by JLAC in 2010 was that of protection of consumers regarding the services rendered to them by the Palestinian Authority. Such involved, the development of a comparative field and legal study addressing price variances in water utility service and the negative impacts therein on poor and marginalized communities.

## Cancellation of Local Elections

Among the most prominent public interest cases adopted by JLAC in 2010 was the case against the cancellation of local elections. This issue's significance lies in its close association with rule of law and good governance. In February of 2010, the Palestinian Ministers' Cabinet announced municipal and village council elections in all regions of the Palestinian Authority, and ordered the Palestinian Central Elections Commission to accordingly commence preparation for election to be held on July 10, 2010. A timetable of preparatory steps, in accordance with the Local Councils Election Law No. 10 of 2005, was also announced.

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As a result of the current political division, the Central Election Commission informed the Ministers' Cabinet that it will be unable to prepare for and oversee local elections in the Gaza Strip. It was then decided that local elections will only be held in the areas of the West Bank (in the interim). The Cabinet also identified June 10, 2010 as the last day to submit the list of electoral candidates to the Central Elections Commission. However, before this submission date had passed, the Cabinet issued a resolution halting elections until an indefinite date.

The Cabinet's resolution to in fact canceled local elections opposes the Local Councils Election Law, violates the Palestinian Basic Law, contradicts the inherent right of citizens to choose their representatives, and serves to represent a return to unlawful and obsolete recruitment policies. In the defense of such violations to the public interest, JLAC (along with other human rights organizations; Al Haq and Adameer) secured power of attorney from four nominee fractions and intervened in this regard by taking the case before the Palestinian High Court.

The prosecution maintained a legal position that; the said resolution was a matter of state sovereignty, which may not be subject to judicial control, and that the public interest requires that elections be postponed. The Palestinian High Court ruled to abolish the Cabinet's resolution, with the Court deciding that; the decision in question does not fall within state sovereignty, is not free from judicial control (as per Article 30 of the Palestinian Basic Law), and that the decision failed to maintain the election schedule in a constitutional and legal manner. As mandated by law, postponements in elections must be prompted by a request by Central Elections Commission, which it did not.

This ruling truly bespeaks of the Palestinian judiciary's independence. Moreover, it was followed by a statement leaked by the media that the Cabinet has decided to comply with the High Court's decision and has asked the Minister of Local Government to pursue its efforts in this regard.

## **Reform of Discriminatory Planning Policies in Area C**

In 2010, JLAC continued its efforts to reform discriminatory planning policies imposed by Israel in Area C of the West Bank, through undertaking several legal correspondences (addressed to; Ehud Barak – Israel's Minister of Defense, Yehuda Weinstein - Israel's Attorney General, and Yoel Poli Mordechai – The Head of the Israeli Civil Administration) in collaboration with the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD) and Rabbis for Human Rights. The demands addressed in the correspondences included; 1) the repeal or amendment of military orders which pertain to planning, specifically military order n. 418 and 2) the transferring of planning authority over Area C to the local populous, including the development and approval of master plans and the issuance of building permits.

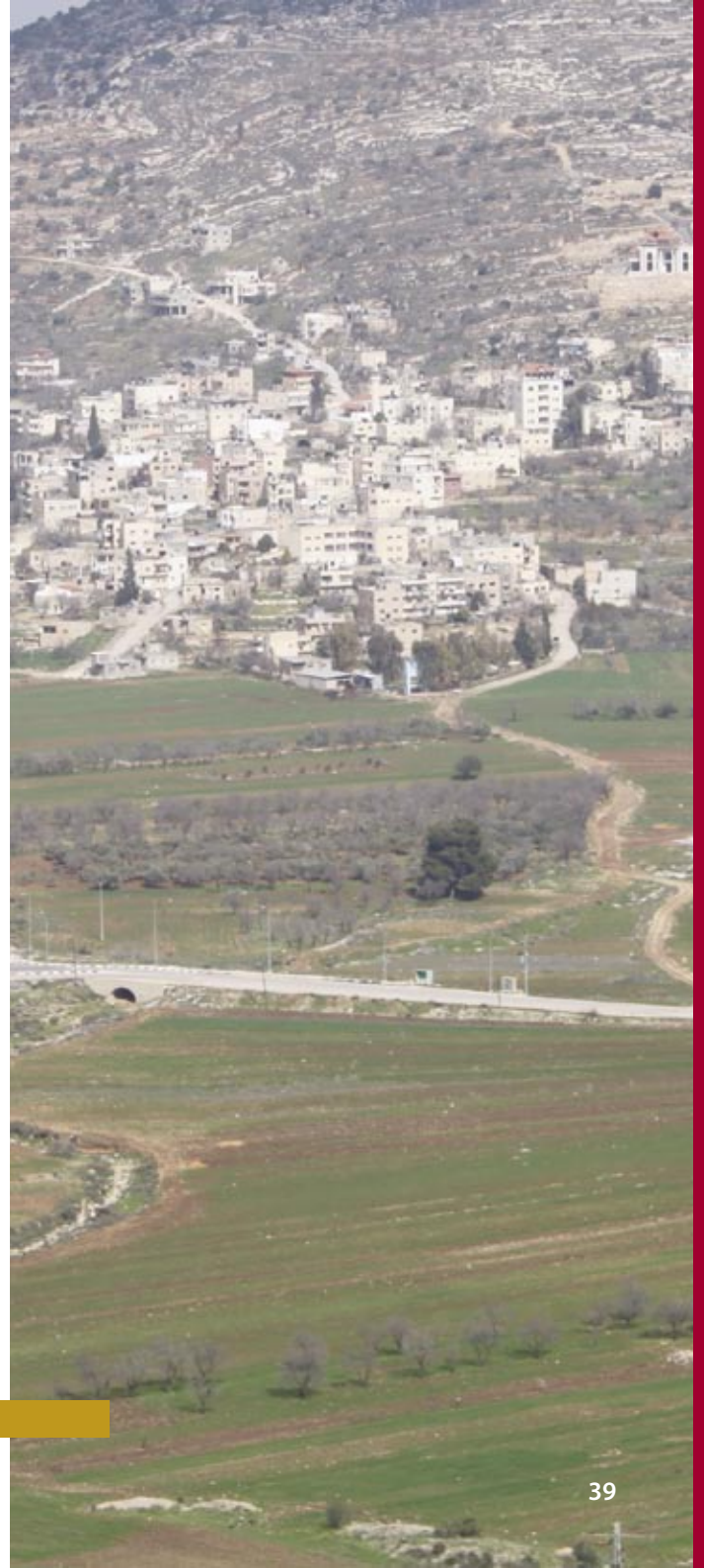
Military order No. 418 of 1971 served to legitimize the Israeli military commander and to amend the Jordanian Urban Planning and Infrastructure Law of 1966. According to this order, planning committees existing prior to the occupation of the West Bank in 1967 (which represented the local populous) and their vested authority were transferred to and replaced by the Israeli



Higher Planning Council, which went on to establish 7 branch committees comprised of Israeli settlers, military personnel, and the Legal Consultant of the Military Commander. Ultimately, military order No. 418 served to cancel the existing local committees and place the complete authority of development and approval of master plans and issuance of building permits within the hands of the Civil Administration.

Barred from the planning process and representation therein, Palestinian residents were only given the formal right to an appeal after the development of master plans. Such is in violation of contemporary planning models which urge a participatory process in community planning. The most important manifestation of this exclusion, was the adoption on the part of the Civil Administration of an undefined design scheme for Palestinian communities (not found within the Jordanian building codes, termed 'special partial schemes') which lacked minimal standards and requirements imposed by the Jordanian law for the preparation of master plans. Rather, the objectives behind the Civil Administration's planning policies were solely to limit the scope of Palestinian construction than the organizational development of space. Such prompted human rights organizations to call Israeli imposed master plans as "delimitation plans".

In parallel to the confiscation of the planning process from the local populous, military order No. 418 served to establish planning committees within Israeli settlements as to ensure their expansion, with certain committees



having the authority to issue their own permits and master plans without the approval of the Israeli Higher Planning Council. Over the years, the master plans for Israeli settlements became developed in a manner involving detailed structural quality and in effective joint preparation by settler representatives.

After the Oslo Accords, which served to categorize the West Bank and give administrative authority to the PA only over areas classified as A and B, with no authority given over areas classified as C (which comprises nearly 60% of the West Bank). Tens of small and medium communities came to fall completely within Area C as a result, with a large number of communities considered by the Civil Administration as 'unrecognized' and, thus not having master plans. Given such limitations, the construction in Area A and Area B began to encroach upon the periphery of and into Area C. As a result of this phenomenon, two fundamental problems have been witnessed:

1. A policy of refusal applied on the part of branch inspection committees in Beit El in granting building permits to Palestinians in Area C, a strict interpretation of the Jordanian regulations for master plans, and denial of building permits despite close proximity to Palestinian urban areas in Areas A and B.
2. Refusal on the part of the Civil Administration to develop master plans for communities lacking master plans in Area C and refusal to expand existing plans. In the cases in which master

plans have been developed by the Civil Administration, the plans lacked the minimum professional standards as stipulated by law.

During 2010, JLAC (and cooperating organizations) corresponded with the Legal Advisor of the Military Commander, among other officials, and requested the repeal or amendment of military order No. 418), as had been requested in a prior correspondence. The request specified that the change should comprise the creation of planning committees within the Palestinian communities in Area C, with actual planning authority being transferred to them (including the development and approval of master plans). The most prominent legal objections raised in the correspondences included:

1. A change as to repeal or amend military order No. 418 as per international humanitarian law, which starkly differs than the relevant Israeli imposed laws applicable in this area. The change should be fundamental, without any military/security repercussions endured by the local populous.
2. A planning structure present in Area C involving the farthest extent of Palestinian representation possible in the planning process in a participatory process and involving all fractions of society.
3. Even if the Oslo Accords created a reality in which Area C is under the authority of the Civil Administration, the Military Commander is still held accountable to international humanitarian law and human rights law in regards to the assurance of the local populous' need. In this regard, there is no doubt that the right to dwelling is among the first of the many obligations which the

Commander is to fulfill (through equitable planning policies in Area C).

4. The practice of the Military Commander in regards to planning is considered against interim agreements.

5. The presence of flagrant discrimination between the vast planning authorities granted to Israeli settlers and the 'authorities' granted to Palestinians in Area C.

6. The clear expression of these policies is evident in the hundreds of demolition orders and the methodological refusal of building permit requests submitted by Palestinians in Area C.

The reply to the first correspondence sent in the beginning of 2010 (by the Legal Consultant of the Military Commander and the Legal Consultant of the Israeli Minister of Defense) stated that; the Civil Administration works to develop specifications for community planning and that a survey will soon commence of community clusters in Area C built without needed permits. In following, decisions will be taken as to the planning of all the communities in Area C, in accordance with specifications. The reply affirmed that these mentioned steps are considered as a response to the requests of the coalition.

JLAC (and cooperating organizations) responded in a second correspondence that; the coalition does not see in these steps a response, a revision, nor a fulfillment of the demands. And from its end, a beneficial response to its requests means the undertaking of a change to the structure of the planning system and for Palestinians to implement the development of the master plans that will organize Palestinian space.

In a last development, one of the renowned experts in international law, Professor Marco Sasoli, agreed to provide an expert opinion to support the demands which JLAC (and cooperating organizations) provided within preliminary petitions to be submitted in the coming months to the Israeli Supreme Court.

## Consumer Protection

JLAC's public interest interventions likewise include; ensuring the right of the poor and marginalized in accessing basic services and monitoring the role of monopolistic service providers. In this regard, JLAC (through funding provided by TIRI) conducted a consumer protection study focused on legal and equitable water pricing. The objective of the study was to ensure consumer protection by analyzing existing public policies and practices towards; obliging regulatory bodies and water suppliers to fulfill their lawful obligations and responsibilities. The study involved the recruitment of research and legal experts, field work towards the collection and documentation of needed information, and sector roundtable discussions as to generate needed recommendations. A second phase of the TIRI project will involve the empowerment of citizens with knowledge of their rights as consumers, among other actions related to lobbying for policy reforms.

# Advocacy Campaigns



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## Retrieval of War Victims' Bodies

The year 2010 brought with it the first tangible success in the 'National Campaign for the Retrieval of War Victims' Bodies and the Disclosure of the Fate of Those Missing', with the remains of Mashour Saleh being released by the Government of Israel on 10/8/2010. Saleh's remains had been held in Israeli custody for 34 years, leaving his family with wounds unable to heal and deprived of the right to bury their beloved son in accordance with their own religious traditions and in a manner befitting of human dignity. In addition to this legal achievement, in 2010 the Campaign in parallel bore fruit through its political, diplomatic and other legal efforts, the most prominent achievements of which are detailed below.

**Documentation:** As of the end of 2010, the Campaign served to document 320 cases of detained bodies and missing persons, all of whose families reside in the occupied Palestinian territory. Moreover, in an effort to initiate similar documentation in surrounding Arab nations, the Campaign began its quest to search for regional partners in this regard.

**Strengthening of Campaign's Structure:** The Campaign, likewise, undertook efforts to develop its membership base and its local follow-up committees as to include the families of the newly documented war victims. A conscious effort was also made upon the more active victims' families (and those in solidarity with them) to make key changes in improving the leadership structure of the Campaign as to better allow it to maintain its team spirit and achieve its goals.

**National Consensus Building:** The multitude of activities undertaken since the Campaign's inception (i.e. demonstrations, awareness sessions, newspaper articles, television/radio interviews, book launchings, etc.) have collectively served to raise the profile of this otherwise

forgotten issue and to accelerate the construction of public opinion and its adoption by decision makers. Indeed, the Palestinian leadership has since adopted the Campaign and its objectives and has often partaken in joint Campaign efforts. The Campaign has likewise felt an increased cooperation from the Council of Ministers, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Prisoner Affairs, Justice, and Media. Such was also felt among the offices of Government Information and Education, the National Council and the Political Committees which it is comprised of. Moreover, parliamentary blocs in the legislature, political parties and national forces, trade unions, professional associations, the Federation of Student Councils, Palestinian universities, human rights organizations, and hundreds of volunteers have supported the actions of the Campaign.

**Internationalization of Campaign:** Efforts in 2010 to Arabize and to internationalize the Campaign were inspired by recommendation emanating from the national conference organized by the Campaign to address this matter (held in Nablus on April 13, 2010). Moreover, the conference served to identify follow-up mechanisms in building upon the prior steps taken by the Campaign. Among the most noteworthy efforts undertaken towards the Arabization and internationalization of the Campaign include:

- The Secretariat of the Arab League adopted the Campaign and its objectives. Concrete steps were also initiated towards placing the campaign on the agenda of the Arab Ministerial Councils. More recently, the Council of Arab Ministers of Justice has taken the decision to hold a seminar (targeting the Arab and international communities) bringing in relevant experts on the subject of international law as to examine probable methods in taking the matter of retrieval of detained bodies before international courts and the Human Rights Council. Such is in addition to the cooperation of ambassadors

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from among the Arab League (in coordination with the councils of Arab ambassadors) in exerting diplomatic pressure on the Government of Israel. The ambassadors are likewise extending support in raising this issue among human rights organizations through exposing the Israeli government's unlawful policy through the media and building networks of international pressure in this regard.

- In June of 2010 in Amman, Jordan JLAC's Director (on behalf of the Campaign) met with a special committee of the United Nations to discuss Israel's violations of human rights in the occupied Palestinian territory. During the meeting, he went on to elaborate upon Israel's violation of Palestinian human rights even in death, as evident in their detainment of war victims' bodies. The Commission vowed to follow-up the matter with the competent authorities at the United Nations.
- An increased interest and cooperation has been noticed on the part of the International Committee of the Red Cross, whose local delegation has relayed to the Campaign the rising interest among its chair Committee in Geneva regarding the issue of releasing detained war victims' bodies from Israeli custody.
- The adoption of the Campaign and its objectives was announced by leadership of the World Federation of Trade Unions, as well as by Mr. George Marvicos (Secretary-General of the union members of the Greek Parliament) whom vowed to initiate action at the level of the European Parliament. Marvicos later informed the Campaign's leadership of his decision to raise the issue of the retrieval of war victim's bodies before an international conference which will be held in Athens, Greece in April of 2011.
- The Campaign and its objectives were likewise adopted by the leadership of the Palestinian National Council and the parliamentary blocs comprising the Legislative Council.
- A number of Arab and/or progressive members of the Israeli Knesset have initiated efforts to meet with Israeli government officials as to demand the release of the detained bodies.

- An increased interest has been noticed on the part of the Arab and international media, with an apparent transition having been made from mere news coverage to the writing of investigative articles and television spots (i.e. as aired on French television's Channel 24). Such often came to involve investigation into the Campaign and its objectives and conducting interviews with the war victims' families and loved ones.
- The Campaign was invited to participate in regional and international conferences as follows; Jericho- end of 2009, Algeria - November 2010, Morocco – January 2011.

**Legal Follow-up:** In addition to the Campaign's success in liberating the body of Mashour Saleh, much effort has been made by JLAC's legal department in preparing additional cases of detained war victim's bodies to be taken before the Israeli Supreme Court. In this regard, JLAC is currently preparing to take 3 new cases to court. Such is in addition to the numerous correspondences JLAC's lawyers have made with Israeli law enforcement agencies in the Israeli Civil Administration in preparing the tens of cases lined up for litigation.

**The Case of Mashour Saleh:** After a two year long battle before Israeli courts, JLAC won its claim to return the remains of Mashour Saleh to his family for a proper burial. The body of the late Mashour had been held in the Cemetery of Numbers for over 34 years, with his family left wondering of his whereabouts and their wounds unable to heal. After being approached by Mashour's father, the center initially began working on the case with a correspondence (dated 22/5/2008 which addressed a group of war victims whose remains are held in Israeli custody) requesting relevant Israeli authorities to answer several questions regarding the remains of Mashour.

This inquiry went unanswered by the Israeli authorities. JLAC's attorney (Haitham Khatib) sent another correspondence in March of 2009 which was also ignored. This prompted JLAC to take the matter before

the Israeli High Court in 19/10/2009, with a demand that the Israeli authorities release the remains of Mashour as soon as possible. Accordingly, the Israeli Supreme Court on 13/11/2009 ordered an Israeli army inquiry on the subject and gave the army 20 days to respond to the request. This was unprecedented, as the court in most cases, provides competent authorities with a 40 to 45 day window to respond. The Israeli army responded on 13/12/2009 with a statement that they have no reluctance to hand over the remains of Mashour. After numerous delays by the Israeli side, a hearing was set on 8/1/2010 (at JLAC's request) to expedite the release of Mashour's remains. As a result, the Israeli military authorities sent a letter to JLAC's attorney illustrating the importance of conducting DNA examinations of Mashour's close relatives as to match with the remains. Mashour's parents were directed to provide blood samples at the National Center for Judicial Medicine (the Abu Kabir Institute of Anatomy) on 25/2/2010. The results of the DNA testing (received on 15/4/2010) indicated that the blood samples provided by Mashour's family did not match the bone samples taken from the remains. Moreover, the report indicated that the bone samples tested were from two other persons. It is speculated that these bones belong to the two comrades (militants) whom died along with Mashour on 18/5/1976 (Hafiz Abu Zant from Nablus and Khalid Abu Ziad from Jaffa).

After two additional months, a second DNA report (date 14/6/2010) indicated that the new bone samples tested were that of Mashour's. This was followed with a complaint being raised by JLAC to the Israeli Supreme Court (on 13/7/2010) concerning the military's procrastination in delivering the remains of Mashour despite the attainment of prior approval by the Israeli army. On 9/8/2010, JLAC was notified that the remains of Mashour will be handed over on 10/8/2010. After 34 years of placelessness, the body of Mashour was greeted by his loved ones, venerated with the dignity of a hero's homecoming, and laid to rest in the warmth of his homeland.



## KARAMA Campaign

In July of 2009, JLAC (in conjunction with tree established committees) launched a campaign addressing the flagrant violations imposed upon the Palestinian people's freedom of movement, entitled; the International campaign for Freedom of Movement for Palestinians (KARAMA). KARAMA, which means 'dignity' in Arabic, seeks to ensure that all Palestinians are able to travel in dignity out from and within the Palestinian districts. Emerging during the height of the Israeli siege on the Gaza Strip and isolation of the city of Jerusalem, KARAMA sought to shed light upon and cease these many offences.

Although 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, and ports, the Campaign seeks to irradiate certain movement related violations in the interim. In this regard, the first matter tackled by the Campaign was travel between the West Bank and Jordan via Allenby Bridge/ King Hussein Bridge; the only existing point through which Palestinians residing in the West Bank can reach the outside world as they are prevented from flying out from the territory. The Campaign believes that travel to and from Jordan for Palestinians should be achieved in a matter befitting of human dignity and devoid of financial burdens. Moreover, extensive routine procedures must be reduced and immediate improvements must be made to existing travelling conditions. In this regard, the Campaign has demanded that the following changes be made:

1. The cancellation of hefty fees (amounting to 143 NIS per passenger over the age of two years).

2. The opening of the border around the clock (24 hours/day) as to accommodate travelers needs (i.e. extensive travel). Currently, citizens awaiting connecting flights out of Amman's airport often required to stay in Amman over night or for several days at a time, enduring hefty hotel fees and time loss in the process.

3. The cancellation of additional stations, as to allow for the direct travel from Palestinian and Jordanian city centers in buses and private cars without the need to change vehicles and wait for extended periods of time.

4. The improvement of transportation services and the reduction of travel fees, with matters such as the needs of the handicapped and the ill taken into consideration.

This phase includes media campaigns to raise awareness around KARAMA's demands and to collect signed-petitions in there regard. Nearly 9,000 signatures have been collected at the many KARAMA informational booths erected. The Campaign brought this matter before President Mahmoud Abbas, whom went on to enhance procedures at the Palestinian resting point and to reduce the related fees. The Campaign is now seeking to improve transportation procedures and reduce costs at the Jordanian side. However, it should be noted that Israel continues to be the major player in the harsh travel conditions at the Allenby Bridge/ King Hussein Bridge.

**Movement within the Palestinian Territories:** The Campaign began to tackle the constraints imposed by the Israeli authorities on movement within the Palestinian Territory in 2010. In this regard, the Campaign's demands address the opening of roads unjustifiably closed by Israeli authorities. One case involved launching legal petitions to open route No. 466; which lying between the northern and central West Bank, once served as the main road between the cities of Nablus, Jerusalem, and Ramallah. This effort also encompassed lobbying and media aspects. Through 2011, the Campaign intends to focus on internal movement, as well as, prior efforts to reform travel when crossing the bridge to and from Jordan.



## International Campaign against Revoking the Residency Rights of Palestinians from Jerusalem

JLAC (in coalition with several Jerusalem based human rights NGOs; the Jerusalem Center for Social and Economic Rights, the Palestine Counseling Center, and Saint Eves) initiated a new campaign entitled; 'International Campaign against Revoking the Residency Rights of Palestinians from Jerusalem'. The Campaign seeks to collectively benefit Palestinian residents of Jerusalem whose rights to reside and lead a normal life in the city are threatened or violated by Israeli authorities. The overall objective is to inhibit, halt, or reverse Israel's revocation of residency rights of Palestinians from Jerusalem. The Campaign also seeks to increase awareness of Israeli breaches of Palestinian residency

rights; recruit an international counter position to these policies; document cases of ID revocation and conduct research into their political, economic, and social repercussions therein. Among the most prominent Campaign activities include;

- Conducting research into the impact of current policies;
- Organizing legal workshops and seminars;
- Holding press conferences;
- Developing feature stories (on specific cases); and
- Undertaking domestic legal action on behalf of the victims (and international legal action if need be).



# Outreach & Networking



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Outreach and networking are considered essential by JLAC in; empowering individuals' ability to combat incurred offences, influencing policy in the direction of respecting and safeguarding human rights, maximizing programmatic results and avoiding overlaps/gaps therein, and facilitating information exchange among related organizations.

## **Trainings & Community Awareness:**

### **Local Council & CBO Training**

JLAC trains tens of local government councils and community based organizations (CBOs) each year concerning the legal steps and procedure to undertake vis-à-vis house demolitions, forced displacement, and land confiscation in the West Bank and matters such as the revocation of Jerusalem IDs, family reunification, and house eviction/demolition in Jerusalem. In so doing, JLAC strives to empower the local level's ability to combat human rights violations. Once trained, the local governments and CBOs became an essential linchpin between JLAC and victims of such violations. For the local level acts as a referral system directing persons to JLAC, as well as aiding the Center in attaining needed information in building victims' cases. Establishing partnerships with the local level further serves JLAC's programming, in that local meetings aid JLAC in identifying legal needs and organizing prospective legal capacity building interventions. In 2010, JLAC forged partnerships with 27 local government councils in the West Bank through three joint local councils (Kabalan Joint Council, Huwara Joint Council, and Beit Dajan Joint

Council). Additionally, partnerships were forged with eight local councils and CBOs in Jerusalem (i.e. Zahrat Al Madean Society, Issawye Committee, Silwan Committee, the Old City, Wad El Jouz Niebourghood, Althouri, Anata Local Council and Imlaysson Society).

### **Community Awareness**

JLAC implements community awareness sessions in cooperation with local government councils and CBOs, in an effort to empower the local communities' ability to combat human rights violations imposed upon them by Israeli occupying authorities. The awareness sessions (led by JLAC's attorneys and paralegals) serve to raise the local communities' basic knowledge of relevant Israeli procedures and legal actions to undertake in case of their violation. The awareness sessions likewise serve as a platform for JLAC's attorneys and paralegals to answer legal questions and provide consultation and direction. In the West Bank, the sessions' subject matters concentrate upon dwelling and living rights (i.e. house demolitions, forced displacement, land confiscation, and settler attacks) and in East Jerusalem the focus is on social and economic rights (i.e. residence rights, family reunification, social security and taxation, and more recently house demolition and eviction). In 2010, approximately 28 community awareness sessions were held by JLAC in the West Bank. In total, the sessions served to outreach 198 persons and their families. Similarly in Jerusalem, six community sessions (in Imlayson, Silwan, Anata, Jabal El Mukaber, Issawye, and the Old City) were held, with 133 persons and their families directly benefiting.

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## Rotating Legal Clinic

JLAC's lawyers weekly and in rotation operate out a number of local government councils situated in the northern West Bank. The lawyers' presence within these relatively impoverished and marginalized communities brings JLAC closer to its beneficiaries and eases efforts on their part to seek legal consultation/ aid and to follow-up their cases. The lawyers also serve to answer any related legal questions and to empower the local communities in knowledge of their legal rights.

## Advocacy Concentrations

There is a complementary relationship between JLAC's various campaigns, coalitions, and advocacy work, as all revolve around the same pressing issues. JLAC's various campaigns and coalitions are advocacy based in that they seek to; build public opinion, correspond and meet with decision makers and responsible bodies, gain international support and cooperation, and ultimately change practices and realities on the ground.

JLAC's advocacy efforts are concentrated on three main subjects:

1. The internationalization of the Retrieval of War Victims' Bodies Campaign (and the Disclosure of the Fate of Those Missing): Within this framework JLAC sent memorandums to United Nations' Fact Finding Mission investigating Israeli human rights violations, among others.
2. Displacement, house demolition, and Israeli efforts

to ethnically cleanse Palestinians from Area C: JLAC (individually and in coalition with others) composed memorandums in this regard and meet with relevant Israeli and Palestinian officials.

3. Public freedoms and public interest: JLAC (individually and in coalition with others) investigated Allenby Bridge/King Hussein Bridge fees and sought to ease transportation (i.e. ensure that vehicles are equipped for persons with special needs, reduce Jordanian security checks and fees, etc.). Additionally, efforts were made to reform discriminatory planning policies in Area C and to cancel the decree of the Palestinian Ministers' Cabinet cancelling local elections.

## Coalitions

JLAC chooses to be involved in coalitions towards better actualizing the following strategic directions:

1. The defense of human rights and public freedoms through challenging violations therein (via; the Human Rights Council, the Coalition for the Monitoring of Public Freedoms, the Palestinian Coalition against the Death Penalty, and the Palestinian Coalition Against Torture).
2. The protection of the independence of association and the enhancement of the role of civil society (via; the Palestinian NGO Network- PNGO).
3. The protection of Jerusalemites' social and economic rights (via; the Coalition for Jerusalem, the Civic Coalition for the Defense of Jerusalemites, and International Campaign against Revoking the Residency Rights of

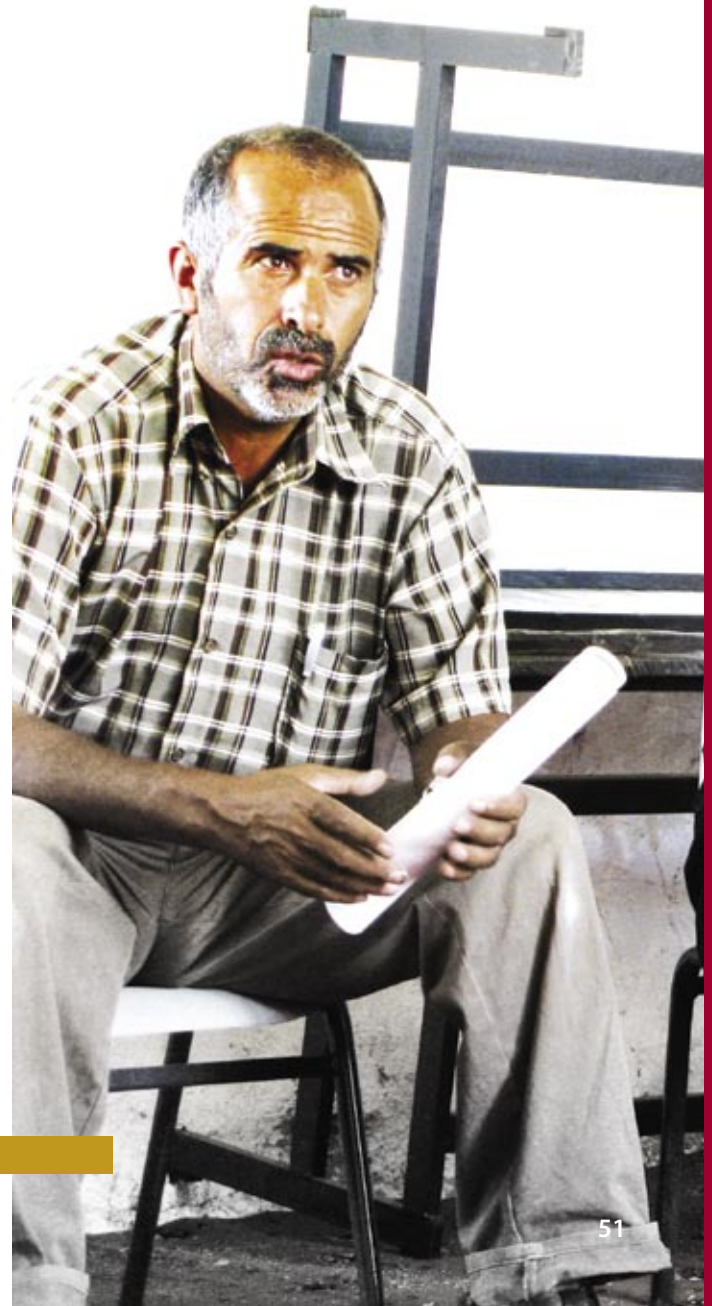
Palestinians from Jerusalem).

4. Addressing specific human rights issues (via ad hoc coalitions).

For the past several months, JLAC has been seeking to lessen the 'reaction based' nature of the coalitions it is involved in (although certain coalitions are relatively more structured). This has entailed interjecting more institutionalized and regimented norms, such as the development of strategies and plans of action.

## Working Groups

Since early 2010, JLAC has come to serve as the focal organization of the Displacement Working Group (led by OCHA and participated in by NRC, Red Cross, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNRWA, etc.) on matters related to legal aid and legal needs of communities at-risk for displacement. The group has also come to refer persons in need of legal aid (in such matters as house demolition, land confiscation, and forced displacement) to JLAC. Further in this regard, JLAC is part of the group's Legal Task Force, a platform for legal organizations working in Jerusalem to discuss pressing issues of concern and possible methods of intervention therein. JLAC participates in the working group's northern, central, and southern meetings. The most recent matter discussed by the group was the ambiguity of demolition orders and consequent self incrimination on the part of the home owners.



## Volunteerism

Since its onset over 36 years ago, JLAC has relied on its network of volunteers in out reaching the community and providing it with relevant and efficient services. In fact, volunteers are a significant linchpin between JLAC and the local community, providing victims of human rights violations with information and forms and answering related questions. The Center's volunteers have predominantly been comprised of activists, members of local councils, former program beneficiaries, and more recently, fresh graduates. A recent project entitled; "Mobilizing Grassroots for the Defense of Human Rights", funded by the Ford Foundation, served to intensively train 300 youth volunteers in relevant international humanitarian and human rights laws and conventions, as well as in methods of monitoring and documenting violations thereof (whether committed by Israeli or Palestinian authorities). Moreover, the trainings served to enhance the fresh graduates' capacities in advocating for needed changes (i.e. building public opinion, dialoging with relevant authorizes, formulating memorandums, etc.). This extraordinary network of knowledgeable and motivated youth will be sustained after the completion of the project through; regional periodic meetings, a JLAC volunteers' website, social media (i.e. a specialized Face Book account), and a quarterly JLAC volunteers' magazine.

## Publications:

**Area C Report:** In an effort to build international knowledge on the subject of Israeli imposed

discriminatory planning and building policies in Area C, JLAC is developing a special report on the issue. This advocacy tool will address Israeli policies, analyze consequences on the ground, and show how Israeli actions are in violation of international law. The report will also discuss JLAC's strategies and interventions in this regards (i.e. legal aid, legal reform, development of master plans, advocacy, etc.). The last chapter serves to discuss several JLAC case studies in detail.

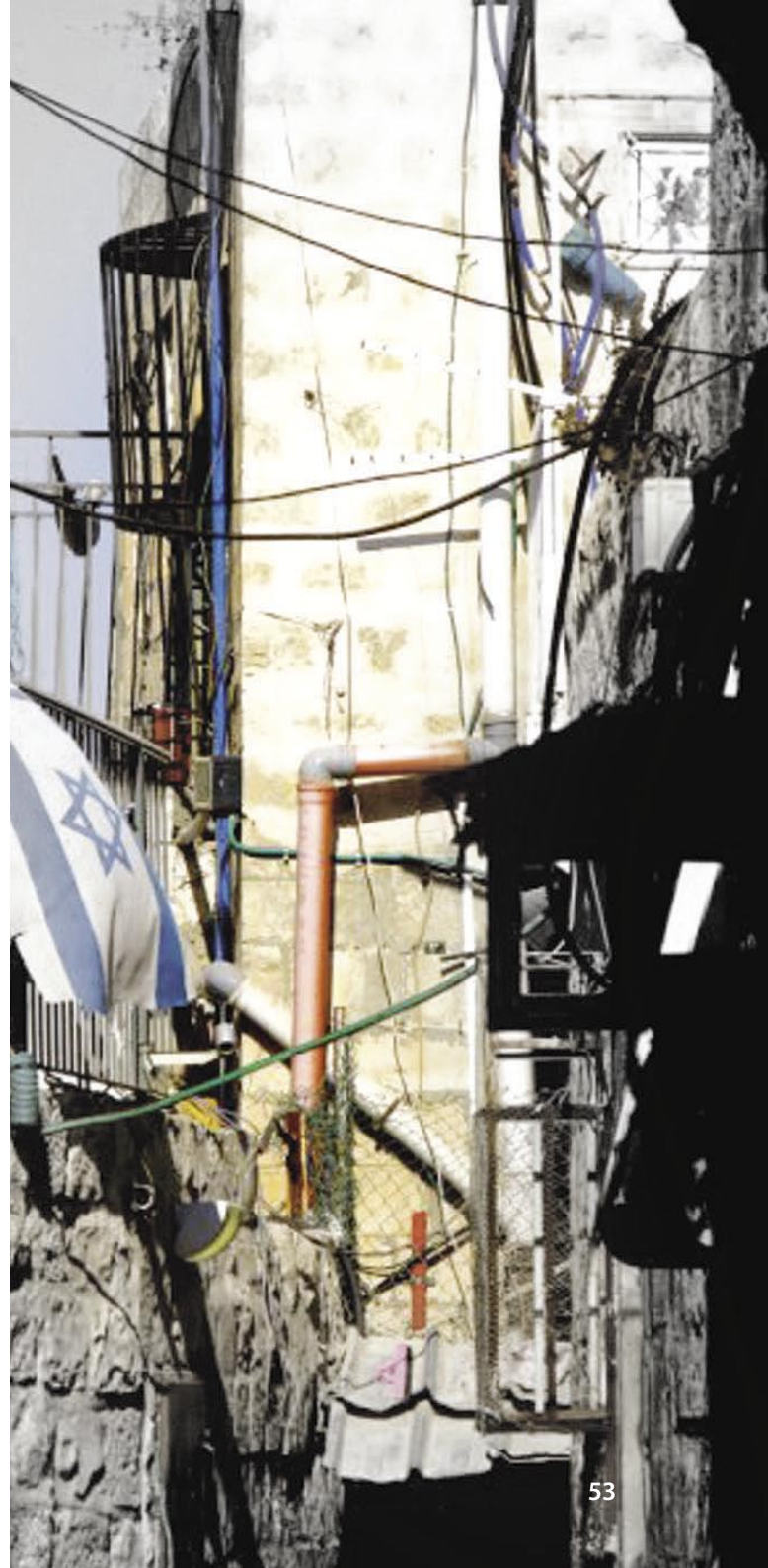
**Bedouin Legal Needs Assessment:** The Bedouin communities in the Khan Al Ahmar area are subject to Israeli aggressive policies aimed at evacuating them (among other Palestinian communities) from Area C. The current expansion of Road 90 (which runs through the area) may put surrounding Bedouin communities at an even greater risk of forced displacement. A case in point is the Khan Al Ahmar School which received a demolition order due to both its presence upon 'State Land' and its proximity to Road 90. Moreover, the road construction is failing to provide exits through which the Bedouins may access their places of residence. It is also speculated that once the road expansion is completed all Palestinians will be banned from travelling upon Road 90.

The added vulnerability of the Bedouin communities in the Khan Al Ahmar area as posed by the expansion of Road 90, has prompted JLAC to undertake a legal needs assessment of these communities, as a first step to providing legal interventions. JLAC expects to have the

legal needs assessment finalized in the coming weeks. The survey findings will be disseminated for advocacy purposes in a separate publication in early 2011.

### **Legal Needs and Self-Demolition in the Old City of Jerusalem:**

JLAC undertook a study of the legal needs of Jerusalem's Old City (with a focus on housing conditions and prior threats of demolition). The study affirmed complicated political, social and economic conditions which Jerusalemites live under as a result of the Israeli occupation and its practices. The study sample included 148 families who have received notifications from the ISF of the demolition of their houses for building extensions without needed permits. The study indicated that 83% of the sampled families built extensions to their houses that do not exceed 120 square meters. Such clearly illustrates how the constructions came as an answer to the demographic needs of the people (i.e. family growth and the consequent need to build additional rooms for children). In fact, the study also indicated that 73.6% of the family members of those surveyed sleep within the make shift extensions. The study also indicated that all houses surveyed had received demolition orders and fines (for having build without permit and charges for the cost of the demolition itself), with 74,4% of houses owners receiving orders of arrest for failing to comply with court orders. Most importantly, the study shed light upon 'self-demolition', in which Palestinian families in East Jerusalem are themselves carrying out the demolition of their own homes as a means of avoiding hefty demolition fines.



### **Comparative and Legal Water Study:**

Water cuts into all avenues of life from personal hygiene and public health to maintaining sources of livelihood as agriculture, livestock, and industry. Moreover, water is critical in building and securing any nation. With these factors in mind, JLAC sought to peruse a public interest effort to study and reform water utility practices which serve to (in particular) disenfranchise poor and marginalized communities in the oPt.

In conducting the questionnaire, comparative field study, legal study, and sector roundtables, JLAC was able to confirm speculated gaps of water utility pricing and to identify the complex factors contributing to this reality (i.e. variances in types of water sources, governing bodies' failure to fulfil their role of determining and unifying utility tariffs, the Legislative Council's failure to monitor regulatory bodies, absence of a national plan addressing the matter, etc.). Moreover, JLAC (through a Tiri funded project entitled: Protecting the Rights of the Poor/ Marginalized in Accessing Basic Services) served to bring sector players together to discuss initial study findings and their roles in existing water utility variances.

In addition to shortcomings attributed to the Palestinian end, the study also addressed the limitations posed by the Israeli government's unilateral control of water resources and the limited and out-dated water shares allotted to Palestinians as per the Oslo Accords. Among the

study's recommendations is that Palestinian water shares be reviewed and amended. Indeed, there is a need to continue the efforts initiated through this project, e.g. more sector dialogues, the development of a collective national plan, efforts towards legal reform (at the national level), learning from the experiences of other states, as well as diplomatic interventions as to attain more resources (via Palestinian-Israeli negotiations), etc. A second phase to this project may involve; litigation, lobbying, a national consumer awareness campaign, etc.

**Republishing of; 'Al Miri and Al Amiri':** In 2010, JLAC served to republish a historic document (originally published in 1936) addressing state and private land, as defined by Ottoman Law. As much of Ottoman laws pertaining to land and urban planning have been passed down and incorporated by the various occupying authorities in Palestine, the contents of the publication remain relevant to this day. Moreover, the publication includes a more current discussion of Israeli's manipulation of Ottoman and Jordanian laws to its favor, as to gain larger footholds in Palestinian land.

**House Demolition Documentary:** More in terms of the production of advocacy tools, JLAC is currently launching efforts to produce a documentary on the legal responses to house demolition in the West Bank. The documentary will be an advocacy tool that shows the effect of unfair Israeli policies in Area C in order to stimulate discussion and further trigger actions locally and internationally in helping to fight the discriminatory



procedures. It will also serve the purpose of educating the international public on the situation in Area C. The documentary is expected to be finalized in February 2011.

**French Television Spot:** A French television station developed a 15 minute television spot regarding JLAC's campaign for the retrieval of war victims' bodies. The spot included footage from an interview held with JLAC's Director and a family of one of the victims in September of 2010. The spot has since aired on French television's Channel 24.



## Cases Taken Before Israeli Courts 2010

	Case Type	Planned Cases		Actual Cases		Closed			On-Going	# of Petitions	Notes	
		New	Accumulated	New	Accumulated	Positively	Negatively	Other				
1	Public interest	20		20		0			20	0		
		2	18	2	18	0	0	0				
2	Settler attacks	6		4		0			4	0		
		5	1	3	1	0	0	0				
3	Land Confiscation	32		28		7			21	0		
		6	26	2	26	1	0	6				
4	Right of Dwelling	House Demolition	397		540		31			509	19	
			90	307	233	307	2	3	26			
		Agricultural facilities	60		90		5			85	0	
			10	50	40	50	0	0	5			
		Forced Displacement	41		99		9			90	0	
			20	21	78	21	0	0	9			
Dev. of Master Plans	4		4		0			4	0			
	0	4	0	4	0	0	0					
5	Jerusalemites	Social Rights	132		225		203			22	0	
			100	32	193	32	188	1	14			
		Economic Rights	134		365		346			19	0	
			100	34	331	34	337	4	5			
6	Freedom movement	Travel	1		4		0			0	0	
			1	0	4	0	0	0	4			
		Prision Visitation	27		13		1			12	0	
			20	7	6	7	1	0	0			
		Permits	23		7		2			5	0	
			20	3	4	3	2	0	0			
7	Retreval of Bodies Campaign	54		54		0			54	3		
		0	54	0	54	0	0	0				
8	Miscellaneous	12		12		0			12	0		
		0	12	0	12	0	0	0				
	Total	943		1465		604			857	22		
		374	569	896	569	531	8	69				
	Legal Consultations	2,000 by JLAC's Ramallah and Salfet offices and 775 by JLAC's Jerusalem office.										

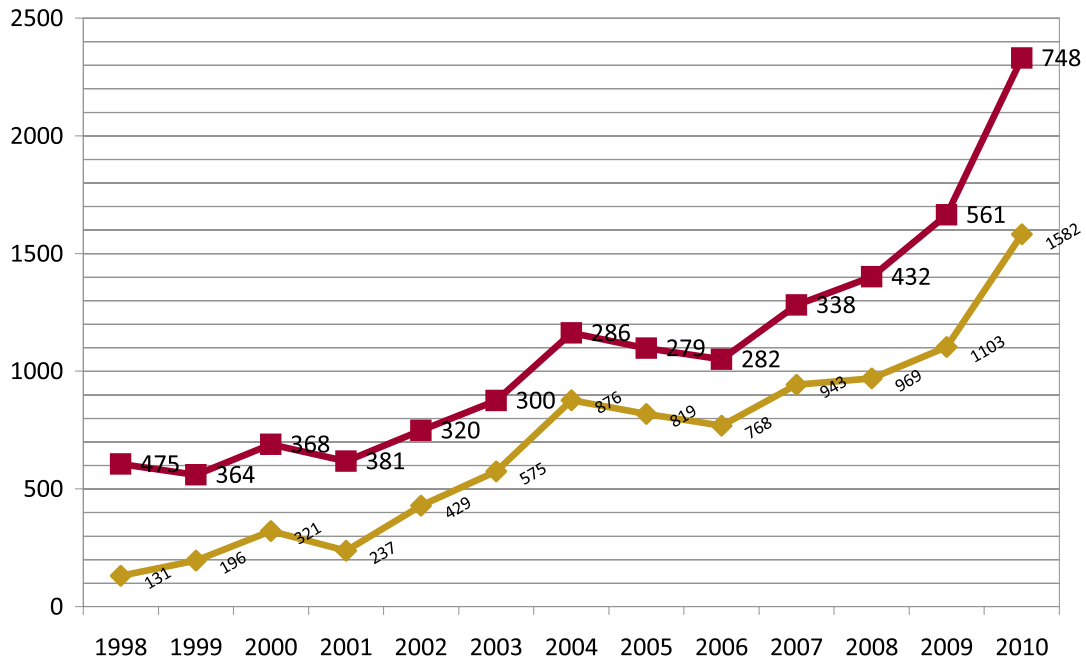
## Cases Taken Before Palestinian Courts 2010

Case Type		Planned Cases		Actual Cases		Closed			On-Going	# of Petitions	Notes
		New	Accumulated	New	Accumulated	Positively	Negatively	Other			
1	Public Interest	3		6		4			2	0	
		1	2	4	2	4	0	0			
2	Unfair Dismissal	128		105		2			103	0	
		30	98	7	98	1	1	0			
3	Political Detention	44		41		36			5	36	
		30	14	27	14	36	0	0			
4	NGO Closure	4		3		3			0	0	
		2	2	1	2	1	1	1			
5	Miscellaneous	2		2		2			0	0	
		0	2	0	2	0	0	2			
Total		181		157		47			110	36	
		63	118	39	118	42	2	3			

The below table serves to illustrate JLAC's 'efficiency' in managing its various donor grants and its 'optimal use of resources'. As made evident by the figures, JLAC's entire budget for 2010 was far less than the costs that would have otherwise been charged by private sector law firms in addressing the same legal issues.

Legal Expenses 2010				
JLAC vs. Private Sector				
	Case Type	Number of Cases	Private Sector Cost (in USD)	Total Private Sector Cost (in USD)
Cases Taken Before Israeli Courts	Public interest	2	10000	20000
	Land Confiscation	2	3000	6000
	Settler Attacks	3	1000	3000
	House Demolition	223	1500	334500
	Agricultural Facility Demolition	40	1500	60000
	Forced Displacement	78	3000	234000
	Social Rights of Jerusalemites	193	700	135100
	Economic Rights of Jerusalemites	331	700	231700
	Travel Bans	4	500	2000
	Prisoner Visitation	6	300	1800
	Travel Permits	4	300	1200
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>22500</b>	<b>1029300</b>
Cases Taken Before PA Courts	Public Interest	4	10000	40000
	Unfair Dismissal	7	700	4900
	Political Detention	27	500	13500
	NGO Closure	1	3000	3000
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>14200</b>	<b>61400</b>
Petitions to Israeli Courts		22	3000	66000
<b>Total Cost Private Sector</b>		<b>947</b>	<b>39700</b>	<b>1156700</b>

The below graph depicts JLAC's growth in annual case loads and annual operational budgets over the past thirteen years.



■ Operational Budget (in thousands)

◆ Total cases undertaken

# JLAC's Internal Environment



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JLAC has made it a point to consistently maintain and develop a positive and quality work environment; as to facilitate the needed space for its working team to soundly perform and grow in their areas of expertise. Towards such ends, JLAC witness the following developments in 2010.

### **General Assembly and Board of Directors:**

The General Assembly held two pivotal meetings in 2010, during which three new members were added to the Assembly and a new Board of Directors was elected. The changes made allowed for JLAC's General Assembly and Board of Directors to have representation from among the Northern, Central, and Southern West Bank. The Board of Directors held four meetings in 2010, addressing a variety of institutional issues; from JLAC's finance and administrative standing, the impact of its work, and its coverage in the media to particular research undertaking as in the case of the Bedouin Legal Needs Survey.

### **Personnel**

**Staff Growth:** JLAC's working team likewise grew in size in 2010, with the Center's staff (including trainees and short-term consultants) reaching a total of 34 persons as opposed to 25 persons in 2009. The team is comprised of; 8 lawyers, 7 paralegals, 9 professions offering other specialties, and 10 short-term consultants. A number of the new positions were accommodated by additional projects initiated towards the end of 2010. On the whole, the growth witnessed in 2010 was a result of a meditated response to the need of expanding the services provided by JLAC. Towards JLAC's institutional and professional development, the Center hosted 3 new

lawyers in training (2 working out of JLAC's Jerusalem branch office, and 1 out of its Ramallah office).

**Capacity Building:** In order for JLAC to fully achieve its organizational objectives, its working team must be provided with the needed room to develop their capacities. With this in mind, a number of JLAC's attorney's participated in training to further their working knowledge in Israeli and international laws, with a particular focus on the right to housing. Further in this regard, the Center renewed its contract with two lawyers, i.e. one experienced in managing cases of house demolition in Jerusalem and the other tasked with coaching JLAC's lawyers in tacking on matters of house demolitions in Jerusalem. A legal library was also acquired in JLAC's Jerusalem branch office containing numerous fundamental legal references. Moreover, towards facilitating the various oversight and management needs of JLAC's programming, program managers have likewise been recruited.

### **Infrastructural Development**

**Equipment & IT:** An assortment of electronic equipment and office furniture were renewed throughout JLAC's branch offices as a means of creating a more comfortable and effective working environment for the Center's working team. In addition, JLAC initiated efforts to develop a program information management system to help convert data into information for analysis and monitoring purposes (i.e. monitoring trends in Israeli rulings of adopted cases). JLAC also developed and launched a new website for the Center, as to feature relevant information, news, and findings in a professional and user-friendly way.

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**New Headquarter:** JLAC's Board took a strategic decision to utilize the endowment at its disposal towards the procurement of a central headquarters for JLAC in Ramallah, as to reduce expenses incurred from extended rent payments. JLAC's Ramallah office is scheduled to relocate to this new facility in the beginning of 2011.

### **Improved Publications:**

2010 brought with it a significant improvement to the quality of JLAC's communications and advocacy tools; with annual reports, a booklet regarding the National Campaign for the Retrieval War Victim's Bodies (and the Disclosure of the Fate of Those Missing), a new JLAC brochure (in English), and a new logo, all aimed at updating JLAC's institutional identity.

### **Challenges:**

JLAC faced a number of institutional shortcomings in 2010, which it has since worked to alleviate through the recruitment/replacement of particular staffers (i.e. pertaining to the posts of advocacy and program coordinators). Additionally, JLAC's media coverage (though it has since been improved) failed to reflect the immense achievements made by JLAC's Legal Unit. Care has been made to enhance these particular pragmatic shortcomings in 2011. Moreover, JLAC's staff whom deal directly with the public have suffered emotionally on account of the heavy subjects they deal with. As a result, care is given to promote their emotional well being in this regard.





# Our Leadership

## The General Assembly

Dr. Faiha Abdul Hadi – Freelance Researcher.

Mr. Amin Al Bayed – Social Activist.

Mr. Khaled Al Batrawe – Businessman, Activist in Defending Human Rights.

Mr. Nasfat Al Khofash – Social Activist (Representative Elected by JLAC's Volunteers).

Mr. Tayseer Arouri – Lecturer at Birzeit University.

Mr. Sam Bahour – Entrepreneur.

Ms. Nuha Barghouthi – Activist, Retired Teacher.

Dr. George Giacaman – Professor at Birzeit University, Muwatin General Director.

Dr. Zaki Hasan – Professor at Birzeit University.

Mr. Amin Inabi – Director in the Ministry of Social Affairs.

Dr. Mohammad Jadallah – Monitoring Member at the Physicians' Bar Association.

Dr. Mudar Kassis – Assistant Director at the Institute of Law in Birzeit University.

Mr. Samih Khalil – Director of Al Mashreq Insurance Company.

Dr. Feras Melhem – Professor at Birzeit University.

Ms. Jannet Michael – Mayor of Ramallah Municipality.

Dr. Areej Odeh – Legal Consultant at the Ramallah Governor's Office.

Ms. Intisar Salman – Feminine Activist in Tulkarem.

Mr. Ahmed Samarah – Social Activist.

Dr. Na'el Taha – Law Professor at An-Najah University.

Ms. Nibal Thawabteh – Director of the Media Development Center at Birzeit University.

Dr. Basam Zubaydi – Professor at Birzeit University.

Ms. Ghada Zughayar – Executive Director of AMAN Coalition.

Dr. Akram Daoud – Dean of the Faculty of Law at An-Najah National University.

Ms. Haneen Zeidan – Feminine Activist.

Mr. Daoud Talhami – Political Activist, Writer.

Mr. Walid El Sheikh – Attorney at the Independent Commission for Human Rights.

## **The Board of Directors**

Mr. Tayseer Arouri – Chairman; Lecturer at Birzeit University.

Mr. Nasfat Al Khofash – Vice Chairman; Social Activist (Representative Elected by JLAC's Volunteers).

Dr. Mudar Kassis – Treasurer; Assistant Director at the Institute of Law in Birzeit University.

Mr. Amin Inabi – Secretary; Director in the Ministry of Social Affairs.

Dr. Areej Odeh – Member; Legal Consultant at the Ramallah Governor's Office.

Mr. Ahmed Samarah – Member; Social Activist.

Mr. Amin Al Bayed – Member; Social Activist.

Ms. Intisar Salman – Member; Feminine Activist in Tulkarem.

Mr. Samih Khalil – Member; Director of Al Mashreq Insurance Company.

# **Our Working Team**

## **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.

Fawzi Kassim – Advocacy Officer.

Violette Rafidi- Programs Coordinator

Salem Khilleh – Media Officer/Campaign Coordinator

Maisa Abu Ghazaleh- Media Coordinator (Jerusalem Branch)

## **The Administrative and Financial Unit**

Amin Dawabsheh – Accountant.

Ikhlas Qur'an – Financial Assistant.

Hussain Abu 'Ara – Administrative Support.

## **The Legal Unit**

Bassam Karajah – Head of the Legal Unit.

Wa'il Qut – Attorney.

Suleiman Shaheen – Attorney.

Haitham Khatib – Attorney.

Mohammad Abu Snineh – Attorney.

Ahmad Safadi - Legal Consultant.

Othman Hamdallah – Attorney.

Mou'een Odeh – Legal Consultant.

Osama Halabi- Legal Consultant.

Abdulla Abu Qutaish- Engineering Consultant.

## **Lawyers in Training**

Razan Mihsin

Mahbuba Al Kurd

Hazem Aoyue

## **The Fieldwork Unit**

Abdullah Hammad – Fieldwork Unit Manager.

Nabil Abdallah – Researcher and Fieldworker.

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



### The Irish Aid

JLAC's partnership with the Irish Aid began in 2007, with core founding since provided to the Center. JLAC's current core fund is in the amount of 60,000 Euros. The duration of the grant is for one year.



### Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World)

BftW is among the donor organizations that have been engaged with JLAC since 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) was allocated towards the defense of Palestinian victims of human rights violations as per Palestinian and International Law. The project's three year duration (2008-2010) was extended in 2010 to include 2011 as well.



### CAFOD (The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)

CAFOD has likewise been engaged with JLAC since prior to its establishment (while as the Quaker Service Information and Legal Aid Center). In 2010, a three year program (in the amount of GBP £97,500.00) drew to a close. The grant was allocated towards strengthening the role of civil society in promoting human rights and democratic reform and providing legal representation to marginalized Palestinians falling victim to injustice and violations of their fundamental freedoms.



Ford Foundation

### The Ford Foundation

JLAC's partnership with the Ford Foundation began in 1997. JLAC's current Ford Foundation fund is for the amount of 300,000 \$US, for the duration of up to 24 months. The grant pertains to the mobilization of 300 youth human rights defenders.



### NDC (NGO Development Center):

JLAC was first engaged with the NDC in 2008. Currently, the NDC's Human Rights and Good Governance Secretariat is providing a grant in the amount of 170,000 \$US (over the course of 2 ½ years) towards the promotion of human rights and good governance.

## Project-Based Donors



### **IEPALA (Instituto de Estudios Políticos para América Latina y Africa)**

JLAC has been engaged with IEPALA since 2007. JLAC is currently in the third year of a four year project funded by IEPALA (in the amount of 160,000 Euros) which aims at promoting public awareness of residency, social, civil, and economical rights in Jerusalem.



NORWEGIAN  
REFUGEE COUNCIL

### **NRC (The Norwegian Refugee Council)**

JLAC's partnership with the NRC began in 2009. Currently, the NRC is funding two JLAC projects in the West Bank and East Jerusalem respectively entitled 'Legal Assistance for the Protection of Palestinians Affected by Force Displacement' in the amount of 202,00\$ and 'Combating House Demolition in East Jerusalem' in the amount of 122,500.00 US\$.



### **Tiri**

In November of 2009, JLAC commenced a short-term project funded by Tiri (in the amount of 26,180 US\$), which extended into 2010. Entitled, 'Access to Basic Services: Protecting the Rights of the Poor and Marginalized', the project served to address speculated variances in water utility pricing and the ramifications of such on the poor and marginalized.



# Financial Review

# Statement sources and uses of funds

January to December, 2010  
in USD

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>332,569.00</b>
<b>Sources of Funds</b>	
Grants Revenue	579,424.71
Application Fees Income	8,070.42
Other Income	8,421.20
<b>Total Sources of Funds</b>	<b>595,916.33</b>
<b>Total Available Amount</b>	<b>928,485.33</b>
<b>Uses of Funds</b>	
<b>Salaries &amp; Staff Related Benefits</b>	
Staff Salaries	410,616.70
Prov. Fund	19,985.00
Severance Pay	29,102.00
Insurances (Health, National )	14,634.38
Income Tax	3,150.01
Adv. Association Bar & Professional Ins.	915.08
Currency Differences for Wages	26,088.00
<b>Salaries &amp; Staff Related Benefits</b>	<b>504,491.17</b>
<b>Office &amp; Operation Expenses</b>	
Rent Exp.	36,939.71
Utilities (water, electricity, gas, bank charges, etc.)	9,955.12
Offices Supplies , Stationary, Hospitality	8,822.81
Repairs and Maintenance	5,667.16
Communications	11,231.66
Transportation	11,434.09
Professional Fees /Auditors	6,020.81
<b>Office &amp; Operation Expenses</b>	<b>90,071.36</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	
Office Furniture	1,038.98
Office Equipment	3,942.56
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>4,981.54</b>



<b>Planned Activities/Program Supplies</b>	
<b>SO1: Reducing the suffering and improving the livelihood of the Palestinian victims of human right violations.</b>	
High Court Fees	22,580.51
Court Fees	2,160.72
Cadastral Maps	7,466.60
Researcher	8,250.00
Translation	496.42
Newspaper Advertisements	616.02
Hall Rent	165.28
<b>SO1: Reducing the suffering and improving the livelihood of the Palestinian victims of human right violations.</b>	<b>41,735.55</b>
<b>SO2: Influencing public policies and laws and their execution to be in tune with international human rights and good governance standards.</b>	
Membership Coalitions Networks	150.00
Newspaper Advertisements	1,822.78
Hall Rent	404.98
External Legal Consultants	21,940.00
International Interns	1,518.95
Printing Annual Report	4,442.60
Brochure	629.75
2 Reports	3,780.02
Volunteers	1,800.00
Food	11,631.47
Transportation	11,335.90
Hall rent	3,458.31
Stationary	3,282.33
Training for Trainers	8,120.00
Trainers	21,071.00
Documentary	10,311.00
<b>SO2: Influencing public policies and laws and their execution to be in tune with international human rights and good governance standards.</b>	<b>105,699.09</b>
<b>SO3: Building the capacity of JLAC towards meeting its mission professionally.</b>	
Training for Sta	81.89
Database & Website Re-designed	4,191.89
Books	1,861.50
<b>SO3: Building the capacity of JLAC towards meeting its mission professionally.</b>	<b>6,135.28</b>
<b>Planned Activities/Program Supplies</b>	<b>153,569.92</b>
<b>Total Uses of Funds</b>	<b>748,132.45</b>
<b>Sources less Uses</b>	<b>180,352.88</b>





# How to Contact Us

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