

# Appeal for Action

*The Enclaved Community of Dhar al-Maleh*  
Jenin Governorate

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**Submitted By:** JLAC- Jerusalem Legal Aid & Human Rights Center

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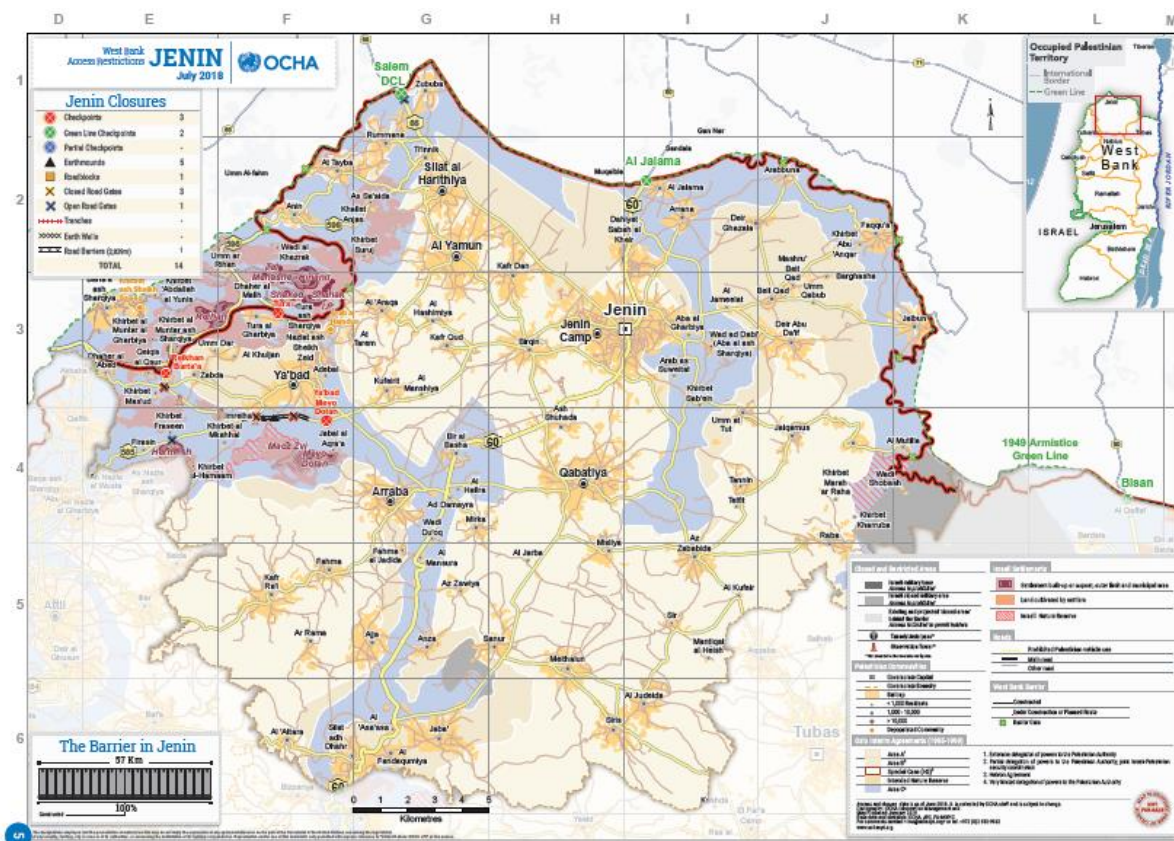
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### Community of Dhar Al Maleh

Situated in the north west of the Jenin governorate (in norther West Bank), the community of Dhar Al Maleh falls within a group of villages (i.e. Wadi al Khazrak, Umm ar Rihan, Barta'a ash Sharqiya, etc.) enclaved behind the Annexation Wall. The Wall delves far into Palestinian lands in that locality, towards facilitating the continuity of the Tal Menashe, Hinanit, Shaked, Reihan settlements with Israel at the expense of the Palestinians. Dhar al Maleh (a population of 350 people), located half a kilometer from Gate 300 of the Wall (along the eastern side of the village), suffers from harsh humanitarian conditions due to the oppressive practices of the occupation.



Among the restrictions associated with the Wall include:

- Gate number 300 open only from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm, limiting free movement for the community, especially students and employees.
- Community members humiliated and intimidated (through psychical attacks at gun point) while crossing electronic check points.
- Community members prevented from entering their villages in the cases of expired permits.

- Relatives of community members from the West Bank prevented from visiting on social occasions such as marriage or death, except with permits (with most requests for permits denied).
- Employees and students delayed to work/school outside the Wall, as well as teachers working in schools within the Wall.
- Palestinian medical staff and ambulances prevented from entering through the gates in case of emergency.
- Right to education negatively impacted, as reflected in reduced female university enrollment.
- Restrictions in carrying in daily essentials such as meat and produce, plants, animals, and household furniture freely, except through coordination with the civil administration.

Dhar al Maleh is dually faced with an assortment of other "push factors" from the occupation forces towards compelling them to leave their homes and lands (i.e. house demolition, land confiscation, and settler violence). The village suffers from planning and zoning restrictions with the village master plan confined to 60 dunums (60,000 sq m), including roads and public buildings. This is an insufficient amount of land to accommodate the existing population, let alone natural expansion. Already, 30 families have been forced to live outside the village due to Israeli occupation measures. Much of the village's farm land (i.e. olives or tobacco) have also been rendered inaccessible by the Wall and denial of permits during harvest seasons.

### **Dhar Al Maleh Village School**

In 2018, an elementary school was established in the village on donated land (accommodating 38 students pre-school through 7th grade), in an effort to alleviate the daily trauma of the younger children whom otherwise had to cross the check point back



and forth each day in accessing schools outside of the Wall (a photo of the school featured below). The Dhar Al Maleh School has since received several demolition orders being followed-up by private sector lawyers. Although of critical service to the school children, the school itself is lacking in basic infrastructure

(i.e. unpaved gravel leading up to the school and within the school grounds, no coverage for movement between classrooms, lack of outdoor facilities as playground equipment, shortage of book and stationary, etc.). The situation was further deteriorated on October 28, 2019 when Israeli occupation forces confiscated a portacabin being utilized as the school cafeteria along with construction equipment (demolition a portion of the school concrete fence in the process). The goods inside of the portacabin are estimated at NIS 1000. Intervention is needed in easing the conditions of the school, in a sound manner taking into consideration its vicarious legal situation as to do no-harm.