

**A report on  
the Israeli Destruction  
of Palestinian Academic  
and Scientific Institutions**



**D**uring the Israeli incursions into the Palestinian cities, and especially during the latest military operation in April, almost all scientific, academic, and research and development institutions have been stormed by the Israeli military forces which had taken the liberty to take over, causing a state of total havoc in addition to inflicting severe damage on the institutions. Among those institutions were the Palestinian universities, educational centers, and of course our own Palestine Academy for Science and Technology. Since the Academy aims at and is mandated to act as an umbrella organization for institutes engaged in basic and strategic research and scientific information services in addition to playing a fundamental role in coordinating scientific efforts between the private and public sectors, the Academy has taken the initiative to assess the damage that was inflicted on those institutes. To that aim, the Academy was responsible for preparing and circulating a questionnaire whose contents you will find outlined in this report. It must also be noted that this report, in addition to providing a physical assessment of the damage, more importantly provides the ramifications and adverse implications of that damage especially the disruption of the educational process for extended periods of time and the halting of all scientific and research activities.

Moreover, since both the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education are the two governmental bodies that have strong interaction with Palestinian Universities and our Academy, this report also features a briefing on the damage that was inflicted on them.

Finally, the material presented in this report is in the exact form that the Academy has received with minor editing performed.

During the incursion on the city of Ramallah, Palestine Academy for Science and Technology offices were broken into by Israeli forces.

## **Damage Inflicted on Palestine Academy for Science and Technology**

**I**n order to get in, the Israeli soldiers blew up the balcony door, which has not only destroyed the door, but has also shattered all the Balcony glass windows. Next, the soldiers were encountered with a second metal door which was definitely more difficult to open, thus it is presumed that a larger amount of explosives was utilized. This has, of course, not only damaged the door beyond repair, but it has also damaged parts of the Academy walls especially of the meeting room and the adjacent office that belongs to the Academy Secretary General.

This office has been subjected to a lot of damage including the surface and sides of the desk, either from blows or from the blast, in addition to the drawers that were smashed on the floor and emptied of all their content.

Moreover, the computer including the hard drive and the screen were thrown on the floor, in addition to the printer which has also been turned over. In the same office, the glass of the book cabinet was shattered and the wooden doors were opened by force, thus damaging the surface of the wood. Then, the files and some of the books were opened and scattered on the floor.

As for the hardware room, the photocopier machine has been thrown on the floor and smashed. In addition, the server cover has been taken off and it is not clear whether it will function properly. Another book cabinet in the same area has been opened and all the books, magazines, brochures and newsletters have been thrown and scattered on the floor.

In another office, the office utensil cabinet has also been opened and its contents were dispersed on the floor. Furthermore, a printer has been thrown and smashed on the floor. In the same office, the drawers of the secretary's desk have been forced open, probably using

a screwdriver, and all their contents were scattered. In addition, the petty cash box has also been opened by force and the money inside it was stolen. The same thing also happened in other offices.

At the end, the sentence “sorry for all the damage” in Hebrew was written on the Academy Board.

## **Bethlehem University**

### **Bethlehem**

#### **Physical Damage:**

##### **1) External Damage (*i.e. the external structure of the building*)**

**Damage Suffered October 23 to 27, 2001**

#### **Chapel**

- High-Explosive Grenade hits on roof: 2
- Bullet Damage to stone work
- Five Stained Glass Windows damaged in multiple locations
- High-Explosive Grenade Hits on walls: 6

#### **Brothers' Residence**

- Hit by at least 110 bullets
- Broken Windows: 6
- Hole in TV Dish Antenna

#### **Bethlehem Hall**

- Structural Damage to Bridge
- Water Tanks hit: 3
- Water Tanks destroyed: 4
- Solar Heating Panels destroyed: 2
- Broken Windows: 16
- Main Entrance Door hit by 15 bullets
- High-Explosive Grenade Hits: 25
- Decorative stone work damaged in many places

### **Main Building**

- High-Explosive Grenade hits: 17
- Broken Water Pipes: 3
- Broken Windows: 25

### **Library**

- Broken Windows: 7
- High Explosive Grenade hits: 2

### **Institute for Community Partnership**

- Broken Windows: 3
- High-Explosive Grenade hits: 1

### **Millennium Hall (Still under construction in October 2001)**

- Broken Windows: 56
- Faculty Lounge: Four Large Plate Glass Windows Destroyed
- Water Storage Tanks: 8 with bullet holes
- Solar Panels hit: 3
- Water Boiler hit: 1
- Ventilation System hit
- Many Scars due to bullet hits
- High-Explosive Grenade hits: 17

### **Science Building**

- Internet Connection Wire severed in four places, power line cut
- Broken Windows: 13

### **Social and Cultural Center**

- Broken Windows: 45, including 3 1m x 2m Plate Glass Panels
- Cafeteria Window Frame destroyed
- High-Explosive Grenade hits, including Basketball Court, Amphitheater and Steps: 35
- Broken Water Pipe: 1

### **Telephone Connections**

- Connections cut to three buildings

### **Tennis Courts**

- High Explosive Grenade hits on practice wall and playing surface: 3
- Court lighting seriously damaged

- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>October Totals:</b> High-Explosive Shrapnel Grenade Hits: 102</li><li>- Broken Windows: Over 177</li></ul> |
|---|

### **Damage Suffered March 8 - 9, 2002**

Struck by four Israeli missiles on the nights of March 8 and 9, 2002, Bethlehem University suffered severe damage to its two newest facilities, Millennium Hall, the new classroom and office building that had been in service for exactly one month, and the addition to the university library building, the Turathuna Center (Palestinian Heritage Cultural Center), which has been in use for less than one year.

It has been determined that the missiles which struck Millennium Hall and the University Library were TOW Anti-Tank Missiles, with components made in the USA. Substantial residue from the missiles has been recovered from the areas of impact. The weapons used were Tube Launched, Optically Tracked, and Wire Guided (TOW) devices. They are designed to penetrate the armor of a Soviet T-80 tank. They can be pinpoint aimed by the user, are highly accurate and are equipped with night sights for use after dark.\*

### **Millennium Hall**

- \_ Substantial Damage from three direct hits by TOW Anti-Tank Missiles
- \_ Broken Windows: 62
- \_ Solar Panels hit: 2
- \_ Roof slab penetrated and roofing damaged
- \_ Substantial damage to exterior stonework with the exterior walls completely penetrated in two locations. (The third missile struck a window frame and entered the window to damage the interior wall.)
- \_ Solid steel doors blown open by blast destroying emergency locks: 4
- \_ Aluminum window frames destroyed: 7

### **Social and Cultural Center**

- \_ This building was not hit, but because of the strength of the explosion from the missiles which struck Millennium Hall eight windows were broken.
- \_ Steel exterior doors blown open and damaged by force of explosion: 4
- \_ Large Plate Glass Windows and Doors destroyed: 4
- \_ Sky light damaged: 1

### **Library — Turathuna Center**

- \_ Substantial Damage from a direct hit by TOW Anti-Tank Missile which penetrated the wall, went through the Turathuna into the Library proper
- \_ Broken Windows: 38

### **Main Building**

- \_ This building was not hit, but because of the strength of the explosion from the missile which struck the Library a large number of windows in faculty offices, classrooms, the coffee shop and bookstore were broken.
- \_ Broken Windows: 40



### **University Chapel**

- \_ Stained Glass Windows damaged: 5
- \_ Ordinary Windows broken: 2

**March Total:** Broken Windows - Over 142

## **Damage Done by Israeli Military Occupation of Bethlehem University Campus 2-6 April 2002**

### **Brothers' Residence**

- \_ Br. Joseph Loewenstein was shot at with an automatic weapon when he stepped to the door of the residence on the night of the invasion of the campus. At least three bullets struck the walls and ceiling in the entranceway, the front door and the internal walls behind the door. It was a miracle that Br. Joseph was not hit himself since the bullets passed within inches of where he was standing. A bullet also hit the community van parked at the entrance of the residence.

### **Social and Cultural Center**

- \_ Top Floor - Glass door to outside broken open
- \_ Cafeteria Floor - Door to the outside broken open
- \_ Interior doors destroyed: 2
- \_ Social/Cultural Center Gates to Street:
  - o Personnel gate - broken open
  - o Vehicle gate - track broken by tanks, gate off track

### **Main Building**

- \_ Entrance Door to building near the Chapel forced open

**Total Broken Windows in the three incursions is over 320.**

## **2) Internal Damage (*i.e. the internal structure of the building*)**

### **Millennium Hall (March)**

- \_ Moveable partition between two classrooms seriously damaged with its support system
- \_ Dropped ceiling extensively damaged in four classrooms and numerous panels damaged in other locations.

### **Library Turathuna Center (March)**

- \_ Interior wall partition destroyed
- \_ Wall Display cases broken: 4
- \_ False ceiling badly damaged in several rooms
- \_ Many light fixtures broken

### **Social and Cultural Center (April)**

- \_ Green paint sprayed on doors of rooms checked
- \_ Bottom Floor Room 115 - Coaches Room - Door broken open
- \_ Bottom Floor Room 109 - Maintenance Area - Door broken open
- \_ Bottom Floor Room 116 - Women's Lock Room - Individual lockers broken open

### **Main Building (April)**

- \_ Spray paint on the doors to the following rooms: A-107, A109, and A-153.

## **3) Internal Damage (*i.e. Software, hardware, cabinets, desks, etc.*)**

### **Millennium Hall (March)**

- \_ Classrooms seriously damaged: 4
- \_ Teacher's desk damaged: 2
- \_ Projection screens destroyed: 3

### **Library Turathuna Center (March)**

- \_ Wall Display cases broken: 4
- \_ Books destroyed: 245
- \_ Library shelving and supports destroyed or damaged
- \_ Many light fixtures broken

### **Main Building (April)**

- \_ Office of Student Senate: cabinets forced opened, materials scattered on floor, equipment damaged
- \_ Prayer Room for Muslim Students: Doors and windows broken open, walls written on with spray paint, materials spread on floor

### **Millennium Hall (April)**

- \_ Audio-Visual Cabinet door broken open
- \_ Several computers turned on and used to contact Israeli sites

### **Science Building (April)**

- \_ Video Cassette Recorder smashed
- \_ Fiber Optics cabinets broken open

### **Library (April)**

- \_ Computer connections damaged
- \_ Furniture dislocated

### **4) Confiscation**

- \_ Nothing was confiscated from the Bethlehem University campus.

### **5) Theft**

- \_ One CD Drive was taken from a computer in the Physics Lab

### **6) Other**

#### **Vehicle Damage (October)**

- \_ New Nissan Truck - Very serious damage due to High-Explosive Grenade hit
- \_ Forino Truck - Bullet holes in windows
- \_ Brothers Community Van - one bullet hole in front of van (April)

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### **1) Material/Financial losses:**

During the incursion in October, a substantial amount of damage was done, with every building on campus suffering to some extent. Fortunately, most of the damage was external, but not structural. The cost of repairs for the damage in October was \$35,000.

The March incursion was not as widespread, but was more serious since two buildings were hit with powerful anti-tank missiles. Repair work has not begun because of the April events, but the estimate of the cost is \$50,000. This amount could go higher once the structure is investigated.

While the damage to university property during the April 2 - 6, 2002 occupation of the campus was less than that suffered during the October and March attacks, the financial loss to the university has been much greater because of six weeks of closure. During this entire period there has been no teaching, none of the offices have been able to accomplish their work, the auxiliary enterprises that generate small amounts of income have not been able to function. However, university costs such as insurance, equipment rentals, service contracts and employee benefits all continue. As of this date it is impossible to determine exactly what the future holds for the university. On 14 May classes resumed and the goal is now to complete the spring semester as soon as possible, but it is not clear that there will not be more interruptions in the near future. Because of the time lost, the decision has been made that there will not be a summer session this year. Since summer classes normally generate income in excess of expense, this will be another loss to the university. As of this date it is estimated that the financial loss to the university over this period will be in excess of \$300,000.

## **2) Scholastic Year:**

The academic year opened on 27 August 2001 and was scheduled to be completed on 28 May 2002. The interruptions of the Fall Semester caused a loss of five weeks, but by using some make-up days and shortening the break between semesters the Spring Semester began only 18 days behind schedule. As of 14 May 2002 a total of 28 days of classes for the semester have been completed, but 34 class days have been lost. In order to make sure the students get the instruction necessary to complete the courses in which they are enrolled, the semester will be extended and some classes will be held on Saturdays (the B.U. school week is usually Monday through Friday). Although it is too early to give an exact date for completing the semester, it appears that it will be approximately the middle of July.

A serious result of extending the semester will be that the university had to cancel the Summer Session for 2002. Normally, Bethlehem University offers a six-week Summer Session in which students can take two courses. This helps students graduate in four years, especially those students who have to begin their career with a course in Intensive English, which is in addition to the courses necessary to complete a BA or BS degree.

## **3) Students:**

All students were severely affected by the trauma of the invasion. Efforts are being made to assist the students in dealing with the situation, their losses, their opportunities for the future, how to work toward a better life and a free state in a non-violent way. Fortunately, not too many Bethlehem University students were imprisoned during this period.

A number of students who were planning on graduating at the end of the summer session (August 2002) will not be able to graduate until January 2003. The average number of August graduates for the

past several years is 45. The delay will impose a serious loss of income to those students since they will not be able to enter the job market until six months later than they planned.

In addition to this year's graduates, the first, second and third year students will also face a similar delay in graduation when they approach completion of their academic program since they will be short on two courses that they could have taken during the summer. This problem is compounded because in the summer of 2001 students were only permitted to take one course, instead of the normal two. This was due to the closures last year which reduced the time available for summer school from six weeks to three weeks.

#### **4) Graduates:**

About 385 students who are scheduled to graduate at the end of the Spring Semester will still be able to do so unless there are further closures. They will be several weeks late, but they will complete their academic program and receive their degrees.

Of course, the damage caused by the incursion will have adverse impact on the graduates as they seek employment. The extent of the damage all aspects of life in Bethlehem and the continuing impact of the occupation greatly reduce the likelihood of finding a job.

#### **5) Scientific Research Activities:**

In the genetics research lab of Dr. M. Kanaan one cell line was damaged and he estimates they will need at least 3 more additional weeks to overcome the difficulty.

#### **UNESCO Biotechnology Center**

Bethlehem University is the site of one of five UNESCO Biotechnology Centers in the world. The local site, BETCEN, suffered considerable damage and loss of work due to the prolonged closure. Details on the loss and damage appear below.

## Background

All of the research work in the UNESCO BETCEN's laboratory involves the use of living specimens (Bacteria, insects, and plants), and expensive bioreagents, such as enzymes, antibodies, and DNA primers. The living specimens, whether being run in an experiment or held as a stock, need continuous maintenance onto fresh nutritional media or storage in an appropriate temperature. Most of the bioreagents and some bacterial stock cultures must be stored at temperatures below 0\_C continuously.

During the prolonged closure, cultures of living specimens were not maintained. Also, due to cuts of power supply, the temperatures in freezers, refrigerators and incubators were not maintained as required. As a result, living specimens died and bioreagents were destroyed.

### I. Damage to research on Entomopathogenic Nematodes.

- \_ Galleria Culture. The insect *Galleria melonella* is used for maintaining nematode strains and for running experiments with nematodes. The whole Culture of *Galleria* died due to absence of food. Reestablishing the culture will take a month. Hence, no experiments on entomopathogenic nematodes could be conducted during this month.
  
- \_ Selection for heat tolerance. In this experiment, six strains of nematodes were maintained at 31\_C for more than six months. Due to change in temperature and lack of transferring the nematodes to fresh *Galleria* larvae the whole experiment was ruined. The repetition of this experiment will last six months.
  
- \_ Maintenance of Nematode Strains. Some of the strains that were stored in the incubator died, probably because of change in the temperature. Also, other strains that were maintained on *Galleria* died.

\_ Restriction Enzymes for identification of nematodes. These enzymes were stored in the freezer. We do not know yet how their activity was affected.

## II. Damage caused to experiments with Plant Tissue Culture.

\_ Origanum stem culture. The culture died. Renewal will take two months.

\_ Tomato stem cultures. The cultures died. Renewal will take two months.

\_ Tomato plants regenerated from tissue culture. All plants died.

\_ Gypsophila suspension culture. The culture died. Renewal will take three months.

\_ Beat suspension culture. The culture died. Renewal will take three months.

\_ Experiment on germination and shoot regeneration from Gundella plant. All germinated seeds died. Repeating the experiment will take two weeks.

## III. Damage caused to experiments on plant viruses.

\_ Experiment on transfer of viruses through grafting. The grafted plants died. Experiment cannot be repeated.

\_ Experiment on indexing plant viruses on herbaceous plants. All plants died. Repeating the experiment will take about two months.

\_ Survey of Hebron area for stone fruit viruses. Four hundred samples were collected from orchards in Hebron area. The closure did not allow testing the samples, which were rotten during the closure. This work cannot be repeated till next year.



IV. Damage to Bacterial stock cultures stored in the deep freezer is under evaluation.

V. Damage to bio-reagents (kits and enzymes) is under evaluation.

### **Evaluation of total damage to BETCEN**

We evaluate a damage of about 4 months labor for each of our researchers, including the closure period. In addition to that, there is a loss of chemicals and bioreagents of about \$5000

For more information, please contact the following:

Brother Neil Kieffe  
Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Tel: + 972 2 274 1241  
Email: [georges@bethlehem.edu](mailto:georges@bethlehem.edu)

## **Birzeit University Birzeit.**

### **Physical damage**

1. The board of trustees building and some university apartments in Ramallah were stormed. Approximate damage amounts to 10,000 shekels. Please note that the university itself was not broken into.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### **1. Material/Financial losses:**

As a result of the last incursion alone, Birzeit University was closed for almost one month. This means that valuable teaching days were lost, employees were not able to do the work, scientific

research was stopped, community based programs were stopped etc... The approximate loss for the month is around half a million dollars.

## **2. Scholastic Year:**

The scholastic year is to be postponed for around twenty days. This will have its effect on the summer course and the next academic year.

## **3. Students:**

One graduate student was killed in Ramallah. Thirty-one students were detained during the incursion and some students left the university to go to study abroad while a large number of the remainder of students are still unable to reach the university because of the military checkpoints around the cities, especially from the Southern and Northern areas.

## **4. Graduates:**

Graduation is to be postponed for twenty days.

## **5. Scientific Research Activities:**

As mentioned scientific research activities have been stopped during the incursion.

For more information please contact the following:

Dr. Abdelatif Abu Hijleh  
Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Tel: + 972 2 2982038  
Email: [latif@birzeit.edu](mailto:latif@birzeit.edu)

## **Al-Quds Open University Bethlehem, Tulkarem and Nablus Educational Regions.**

### **Physical damage**

1. External damage ( i.e. The external structure of the building)  
Bethlehem educational region: the main gate and two iron doors were damaged.  
Tulkarem educational region: two marble stones on the main entrance, columns, and the iron main gate were damaged.
2. Internal damage (i.e. The internal structure of the building)  
Bethlehem educational region: 25 internal doors were damaged  
Tulkarem educational region: 3 windows were damaged
3. Internal damage (i.e. Software, hardware, cabinets, desks, etc..)  
Bethlehem educational region 3 computers were damaged and some of media storage computers containing critical data were damaged
4. Confiscation:  
Bethlehem educational region: 3 hard disks, one CD ROM, 2VGA + 6Rom, 2network cards, 5 speakers, 7 head phones, 3 computer covers, one mother board, 2 CPU and 2 CPU coolers, computer, 4 computer mice were confiscated
5. Theft:  
Bethlehem educational region: one camera (Olympus 800s) was stolen, maintenance tools (screwdrivers, drill, switches, scissors and projector) were stolen.

# IMPLICATIONS

## **1. Infrastructure:**

Nablus Study Center: the sewage network and the solar heater were damaged.

## **2. Material/Financial losses:**

Nablus Study Center: floor carpets were torn and 4 chairs and 3 desks were damaged.

Bethlehem Educational Region: floor carpets were torn and administrative offices were damaged.

## **3. Scholastic year:**

In all the educational regions, and centers the semesters did not proceed normally. The semester had to be extended more than once and until now only few exams are being held in some centers. Some of the employees were not able to reach their offices and the educational process stopped entirely during the siege.

## **4. Students:**

Many of the students were not able to reach the educational center and the percentage of attendance was between 60% to 90% depending on the situation. 80 students were arrested, 60 students were injured and 40 students were killed, which had very negative psychological effects on the academic achievement of students.

## **5. Graduation:**

The graduation of the students was postponed since the semester was extended several times and some of the exams are postponed till now.

## **6. Scientific Research activities:**

Scientific research was negatively affected because of the siege which had prevented the researchers from continuing their research.

For more information please contact the following:

Dr. Younis Amro  
President of the University  
Tel: + 972 2 5817237  
E-Mail: [hq@hq.qudsopenu.edu](mailto:hq@hq.qudsopenu.edu)

## **An Najah University Nablus:**

Physical damage to the Khadouri Campus College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences

### **1) External damage: (*i.e. the external structure of the building*)**

#### **a) Buildings and other structures:**

- Dairy Processing Unit- an old traditional building of 850 square meters, which includes a milking parlor, cow stalls (barn), milking machine, and a cooling tank.
- Milk processing plant which includes a production line for dairy and pasteurization with a cooling unit 3 square meters, a freezer unit 3m x 2m, an incubator unit 2m x 2.5m and other equipment.
- A fully equipped mini dairy laboratory.
- Administrative desks for accountants and observers.
- The above mentioned parts have recently been refurbished, some of them had not even been used yet.
- Dairy cattle breeds research unit, including the artificial insemination laboratory and fertility labs. This has been constructed as a joint project in cooperation with the government of Italy.

- Dynamo room and the electric keyboard room which includes two motors: 150 kva, and 80 kva.
- A silage tank
- A feed factory which included a grinder, mixer and feed carts.
- Two feed storage rooms
- Security Guard's room
- Medical Health Unit.

b) The college gate:

- Comprehensive destruction of the gate and the information unit.
- Comprehensive destruction of the by roads and the college roads.
- The sign of the college was destroyed.

c) Water Well:

- 500 Meters of water pipes which link the well with the water storage unit were destroyed. A note that the water from the well is used to irrigate the college farm.

d) Water network and electricity for chickens and barns:

- 350 meter pipeline
- 8 water-storage containers.
- Electrical lines.
- 140 square meters of boards were destroyed.

e) Internal sewage outlets network and roads:

- Destruction of the asphalt road linking to the poultry and sheep farms which was 4 meters wide by 300 meters in length.
- Destruction of the road which leads to the cow farm 6 meters wide by 600 meters in length.
- Destruction of nine sewage water outlets which link between the college and the general distributor

f) Irrigation Network:

- The agricultural network has been completely destroyed.

## **Internal damage (*i.e. the internal structure of the building*)**

### **Farms and labs:**

#### **Cow Farm:**

- Death of one cow.
- Damage of 9 tons of concentrated feed.
- Loss of 25 tons of alfalfa hay.
- Damage to veterinary drugs.
- The loss of the ability of the cows to produce milk, since they had not been fed for an extended period of time. These cows had not been milked for 3 weeks but have been previously capable of giving a total of 250 Kg. Of milk daily.

#### **Sheep Farm:**

- 8 sheep were killed.
- 9 tons of the feed was lost.
- Loss of veterinary drugs.
- Destruction of tools and equipment, 3 feed carts, watering troughs, a gas stove and a hoof trimmer
- The sheep were unable to give milk for 3 weeks following the experience. They had heretofore been able to produce a total of 50 Kg./day. They were also affected by disease, particularly Mastitis.

#### **Chicken Farm:**

##### **One) Egg-laying hens:**

- 1000 of the hens died.
- 6 tons of the feed was damaged
- 7500 eggs were broken.

##### **Two) Broiler Hens:**

- 150 Broiler hens were killed
- 3 warmers were damaged.

### **Plant Production:**

- An orchard of 26 fruit trees was destroyed while the Israeli tanks were maneuvering inside the campus.

### **Grocery Farms:**

- One dunum of tomatoes was damaged inside the green houses.
- Half a dunum of climbing beans was damaged.
- 260 large trees, planted in 1929 and used as a fence were uprooted.

### **Laboratories:**

- A horse skeleton, for instructional purposes, was destroyed.
- Due to the lack of electricity, some protected areas used for planting in addition to plant tissue were damaged.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### **1) Scholastic year:**

- Some of the student's masters proposals have been damaged and have to be redone from scratch.

### **2) Students:**

- At present, 64 of the university students have been arrested.
- 27 students were killed
- Most students coming from other cities and villages suffer daily humiliation and abuse at the hands of the Israeli military soldiers on checkpoints.

### **3) Graduation:**

- Student graduation had to be postponed at least one month.

### **4) Material/ Financial losses:**

- The total losses amount to US\$ 802,187.00



#### 5) Other:

- Rental of temporary shelter: It has been necessary to rent an alternative shelter for cows, sheep, and goats for one year.

For more information contact the following:

Dr. Rami Al Hamdallah

Tel: + 970 9 2381113

E-Mail: info@najah.edu

## **Hebron University (Research Center Building) Hebron:**

### **External Damage**

Although the main campus of Hebron University had not been attacked directly during the latest Israeli incursion to the Palestinian territories, external damage has been reported in the Research Center building in the center of Hebron City. This includes breaking glass windows and their aluminum frames as a result of continuous Israeli attack to the city center. In addition to that, major damage has been inflicted on the greenhouses used in the farms of Hebron University in Al-Arroub neighborhood.

### **Internal Damage (*i.e. the internal structure of the building*)**

Damage has been reported to the flooring system of the research center.

### **Internal Damage (*i.e. Software, hardware, cabinets, desks etc...*)**

Internal damage in the research center had occurred in the utility networks including electricity, water, and telecommunication systems. In addition to that, various components of the furniture found in the center was destroyed including electrical devices, desks, file cabinets, as well as office equipment including computers, a printer, a fax machine and a photocopying machine.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### **1. Material / Financial Losses**

Loss of bird production had been reported in the animal farms of Hebron University in Zeef area. Products of the farms could not be marketed due the continuous closure. Also, deaths of many animals were reported since farm services were not functioning normally. In addition to that, many losses have occurred in the Plant Research Station in Arroub farm since it was too difficult to reach the farm to do the necessary culturally practiced for the fruit trees. The growing of all vegetable and field crops was completely stopped.

### **2. Scholastic Year**

The Academic year was extended about one month to compensate for the closure of the university due to the Israeli incursion.

### **3. Students**

Students from outside Hebron city faced daily difficulties in trying to reach the campus of the university due to closure of Hebron city and the presence of many checkpoints that most of the time forced the student to walk through the mountains or return back to their homes. In many cases, the students were unable to go back to their homes, mainly for those who lived outside Hebron city, and thus the University had to find accommodation for them and to provide them with food, mainly the female students. Students from the old city of Hebron suffered from the long curfew

that was imposed. Instruction and classes were postponed for about four weeks. Student from the northern parts of the West Bank were unable to visit their families and unable to get the needed money.

#### **4. Graduation:**

Postponing the classes during the academic year resulted in major delays; consequently, students will not be able to graduate on time this year. The dates were shifted in accordance with the required class make-up plans.

#### **5. Scientific Research Activities:**

Most of research activities in Hebron University had been hindered due to the closure. The university planned to host a scientific conference, but the plan could not be executed.

#### **7. Other:**

Hebron University had started its activities for a new development and fundraising plan for this year; however, various tasks of the plan had been delayed due to the continuous closure and difficulties in traveling outside Palestine.

For more information please contact the following:

Mr. Tarek Al Jaabari  
Tel: + 972 2 2220995  
E-Mail: [hebronu@hebronet.com](mailto:hebronu@hebronet.com)

## **Damage inflicted on the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education**

### **Ministry of Education and Schools**

Around 50% of the Palestinian students have been prevented from accessing their schools for nearly three weeks, 1289 schools were closed, 45,000 Tawjeehi (12th grade students) expected to attend the general exam next June were banned to access to their schools, and 35,000 employees in the educational sector were prevented from reaching their work locations.

As result of the assessment, the total cost of the physical damage to the Ministry of Education and schools has been estimated by 2.5 million USD categorized into four domains:

- 1) Damage inflicted on Buildings: this includes the damage of the Ministry of Education building; three district offices, and 102 schools, from which 8 schools are in need of major repairs. The total cost of the damage is estimated by 1,620,000 USD, which has resulted from the shelling and bombing of buildings and turning several schools into military posts.
- 2) Damage in lab equipment and appliances: this includes the damage inflicted on computers, phones and electric nets, photocopiers, printers, in the Ministry of Education Building, district offices, and schools in addition to the equipment of the industrial schools (equipment of all workshops of Tulkarem industrial school has been totally damaged). The damage has been estimated by 674,500 USD.
- 3) Damage inflicted on furniture and educational tools: This includes vandalism of desks, tables, cupboards, and educational tools. The estimated cost in this domain is 135,000 USD of which 98% is the cost of the damage in school furniture.
- 4) Damage inflicted on cars and vehicles: this includes 12 cars in the Ministry and district offices, the estimated cost is 47, 700 USD.

From More information, please call the following:

Minister Naim Abu Hommos

Tel: + 972 2 2983256

Fax: + 972 2 298 3222

## **Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research**

In the duration of 65 minutes only, total devastation to the building and its contents took place. In each of the six floors, equipment including computers, photocopiers, printers, and audiovisual equipment were piled up in one or two places (each floor has two wings) and then exploded, causing total damage to the equipment in the order of 244,000 USD. In this process, doors were broken, windows and glass were shattered and gypsum board partitions collapsed. The explosion caused craters in the floor, burning the carpeting. The damage to the furniture was minimal compared to the equipment and was estimated at 17,500 USD. Carpeting is another matter, as all floors were damaged as a result of the explosions and the damage was estimated at 21,000 USD. The estimated cost of the damaged doors and windows including whole frames in some cases was 21,000 USD. The walls that were damaged cost about 24,500 USD. The damage to the paint and white- washing that resulted from the blasts was estimated at 24,000 USD. The total loss including the whole networking within the ministry was estimated at 355,000 USD.

For more information please contact the following:

Eng. Hisham Kuheil

Tel: + 972 2 2954490

Fax: + 972 2

Email: [hkuheil@gov.ps](mailto:hkuheil@gov.ps)

**A  
N  
N  
E  
X  
A**

**Damage inflicted on Palestinian Universities and its implications**

This questionnaire is designed to assess the damage that was inflicted on the Palestinian universities due to the Israeli incursion in addition to assessing its implications. You are therefore required to outline the needed information according to the categories given. However, should there be a need for you to add any relevant information, please do so on the sixth item (Other) or on a separate sheet of paper.

**Physical Damage:**

1) External damage (i.e. The external structure of the building)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

2) Internal damage (i.e. the internal structure of the building)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

3) Internal damage (i.e. Software, hardware, cabinets, desks etc..)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

4) Confiscation:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

5) Theft:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

6) Other:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## **IMPLICATIONAS**

1) Infrastructure:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

2) Material/ Financial losses:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

3) Scholastic Year:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

4) Students:

---

---

---

---

5) Graduation:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

6) Scientific Research Activities:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

7) Other:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---