## West Bank escalating violence

In 2023, before October 7, 205 Palestinians in the West Bank had been killed by Israeli forces and a further 9 by armed settlers. Since then, the violence has escalated dramatically. By May 3, 492 Palestinians had been killed by the army and settlers.

The Israeli Military have focused attacks on refugee camps. On April 18 during a 54-hour operation in Nur Shams refugee camp, at least 14 Palestinians including three children were killed by Israeli forces. The invasion damaged and destroyed homes, commercial stores, roads and other infrastructure, and left at least 25 Palestinians injured.

The military is working in tandem with the settlers, whose goal is the depopulation of the Palestinian villages bordering the Jordan Valley prior to further annexation.

According to the UN, Israeli settlers expelled about 1,200 Palestinians from some 25 rural communities across the West Bank.

## **Liverpool Universities**

Arms firms supplying Israel directly and/or via the US are active at the University of Liverpool. BAE Systems helps design coursework. Raytheon, Collins and Leonardo supervise PhDs on topics with military impact. Liverpool John Moores UCU branch and students drove BAE and Hewlett Packard Enterprises out of a Jobs Fair in February.

## Break all links with Israeli apartheid!

## History didn't start on October 7

The occupation started on May 14 1948. The creation of the Israeli state was based on the ethnic cleansing of half the Palestinian population. Following this the 1967 six-day war led to the occupation of the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

The Oslo agreement of 1993 created the Palestinian Authority (PA). However, Palestinian dreams of an independent state disappeared when Israel flooded the occupied territories with illegal Jewish settlements. There are now over 600,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank.

In 2006 the PA elections, described as free and fair by the EU, were won unexpectedly by Hamas. Israel and Western governments refused to accept the result and in 2007 began a blockade of Gaza. Israel controls the borders and everything that enters and leaves. The result was that the 2022 GDP was 46% below the 1994 figure.

In addition constant military assaults on Gaza including four major attacks between 2008 and 2022 have killed 6122 Palestinians.



We abhor all attacks on civilians. The slaughter of Israeli civilians on 7 October by Hamas, and some by Israeli forces, does not justify the massive ongoing Israeli slaughter of Palestinian civilians.



*Email: liverpoolfriendsofpalestine.20@gmail.com, web: lfop.co.uk FB: facebook.com/liverpoolpalestine, twitter: @LiverpoolF78028*