



➤ **Al-Reef's productive 2024-2025 olive oil export season, despite the challenges.**

Al-Reef has been able to carry on with its export activities during the olive oil season while overcoming the various obstacles all Palestinians have to endure in the West Bank.

By the beginning of 2025, the Israeli occupation increased the number of **military checkpoints around the West Bank to become 898**, therefore separating cities, villages and refugee camps and aggravating the process of moving from one place to another. Not to mention the ongoing military operation carried out by the occupation forces in the Northern West Bank areas in Jenin, Tulkarem and Tubas, where Al-Reef's staff and partner farmers are facing difficulties and risks in the freedom of movement around their areas and in delivering the products to external markets.

Considering the nature of Al-Reef's work, which involves daily field tasks with the farmers, gathering samples, issuing necessary export documentation and being on the roads between different areas, the staff was affected by the worsening situation. However, they managed to overcome these challenges and the 2024-2025 olive oil season has been going well, and the export of Al-Reef's products (mainly Organic Extra Virgin Olive Oil, alongside organic medjoul dates, za'tar, and freekeh) reached Japan, USA, Switzerland, Italy, Kuwait, and Belgium and will soon reach France, Denmark, Sweden, and Australia.



## ➤ 2024 Olive harvest challenges in the West Bank.

the Israeli occupation's siege on all governorates of the West Bank, and most Palestinian villages and towns restricted the freedom of movement of Palestinian citizens, **especially farmers during the olive harvest season**. Olive farmers in the West Bank also struggled with the Israeli occupation preventing some of them from harvesting their olive orchards and the recurring assaults by Israeli settlers and their military.

In October 2024, a 60-year-old woman was killed while picking olives in her farm in Faqou'a Village, Jenin Governorate in the Northern West Bank. Additionally, there were many cases of Palestinians being targeted by the Israeli military's live bullets during the olive harvest, including 3 children in Nablus Governorate last October 2024.

Additionally, around 80,000 dunums of agricultural land (mostly planted with olive trees) owned by Palestinian farmers are either close to the apartheid wall, behind it or near the Israeli settlements. Therefore, farmers were not able to harvest their orchards and take care of the land behind the wall, and were only permitted to access it in limited specific times because of the Israeli Occupation Authorities.

\*Farmers waiting to enter their olive farms behind the apartheid wall in **Dayr Al-Ghusun Village, Tulkarem**, in the Northern West Bank.



\*An example of Israeli military checkpoints; **Atara checkpoint** in the North of Ramallah that connects central West Bank to the Northern areas.



## ➤ Confiscation of Palestinian land by the Israeli Authorities for the sake of illegal settlements and outposts.

According to **Wafa Palestine News & Info Agency**, the Israeli settlers establish an average of about 6 settlement outposts per year, while within the past year, they established an outpost almost every week. These outposts are linked, according to estimates by Israeli organizations opposed to settlements, to the violence of the settlers, and the expulsion of Palestinian shepherds and farmers from their lands.

Recently, the Israeli authorities announced the annexation and confiscation of 24,000 dunams in the West Bank in a move described as one of the largest in decades. This makes the total Palestinian areas confiscated by the Israeli authorities in 2024 close to 46,000 dunums.

<https://pmo.pna.ps/ar/Article/5518>

➤ **Escalation of Israeli military and settler violence against Palestinians in 2025.**

Since the beginning of 2025, the Israeli occupation has been carrying out its military aggression against areas in the northern West Bank, which resulted in the death of more than 81 Palestinians, the injury of dozens, arresting hundreds, in addition to the destruction of dozens of homes and property in the West Bank in the past 2 months. The intensity of the attacks is escalating in the cities of Jenin and Tulkarm and their refugee camps, as the areas are under intense military operations aimed at changing their geographical and demographic reality, expanding the Israeli control over Palestine and constantly deteriorating all aspects of Palestinian life.



Images from Jenin and Tulkarem refugee camps during the current invasion.

➤ **The Israeli occupation's targeting of the Palestinian agricultural and olive sector.**

According to the **Colonization & Wall Resistance Commission**, "Israeli occupation forces and colonizers carried out 2,161 assaults during the past month of January". These attacks led to the uprooting of 969 trees, including 960 olive trees in the West Bank.

Besides that, the Israeli occupation issued 100 military orders to agricultural lands in areas close to colonies, which limited citizens' access to these lands and seized a total of 262 dunums of Palestinian land.

Source: <https://www.cwrc.ps/page-2654-en.html>



\*Example of The Israeli Occupation uprooting 15 ancient olive trees in Madma village, South Nablus Governorate, documented by Land Research Center.

<https://www.lrcj.org/en/article/4891/the-israeli-occupation-uproots-ancient-olive-trees-in-madma-south-nablus>