



جامعة فلسطين الأهلية
Palestine Ahliya University

PALESTINE AHLIYA UNIVERSITY

NEWSLETTER

A monthly newsletter published by the
Public Relations and International Affairs Department

FEBRUARY 2024



Continuation of Israeli violations against Palestine and higher education institutions

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Figures and Statistics

Approximate figures updated until
March 2, 2024, and they are continuously increasing

Israeli Violations

The total number of Palestinian martyrs is

30099
Martyrs

29692
in the
Gaza Strip

407
in the
West Bank



246

Academic staff
martyrs



74479

Injured
people



11225

Cases of
detention

The number of buildings that were completely or partially damaged is **355,000**

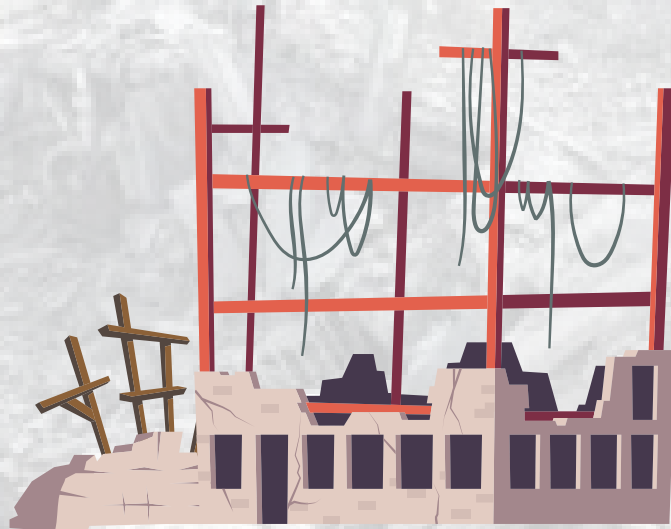


99

Fully educational institutions
(**Completely**)

334

Educational institutions
(**Partially**)



Face-to-face education has been suspended in all higher education institutions since October 7, 2023

**Depriving
88,000**
students of
receiving their
education in
19 higher
education
institutions in
Gaza Strip



**Depriving
138,800**
students of
receiving their
education in
34 higher
education
institutions in
the West Bank

Readings in the Palestinian Economy

Since the establishment of the Palestinian National Authority in the early 1990s, the Palestinian economy has been heavily dependent on the Israeli economy. This dependence is rooted in several aspects, most notably the Israeli entity's control over all natural resources and the inability of successive Palestinian governments to utilize them for the benefit of Palestinian society. Additionally, Israeli restrictions on trade and control over crossings allow Israel to fully control imports and exports, imposing numerous restrictions to increase reliance on Israeli goods and services. This limits Palestinians' ability to diversify their economy and makes them dependent on the Israeli economy, directly affecting their access to external markets. The lack of a national currency further exacerbates the situation, as the Israeli shekel remains the main currency in circulation in the Palestinian territories, tying the Palestinian economy closely to Israeli monetary policy and economic fluctuations. The Paris Economic Agreement also reinforced this economic dependency by regulating the economic relations between the two sides. In the current political context and without control over borders and resources, it seems nearly impossible to break this dependency, requiring regional and international efforts to change the situation. The ongoing war waged by Israel against the Palestinian people across all their locations in the Palestinian territories has further exacerbated the economic problems, with continuous price hikes, a decrease in the overall demand for goods and services, rising unemployment rates, and the Palestinian Authority's inability to fully and regularly pay salaries due to Israel withholding tax revenues (clearance) and the dwindling Western and Arab support



By Faeyz Abuamria, PhD

Associate Professor in
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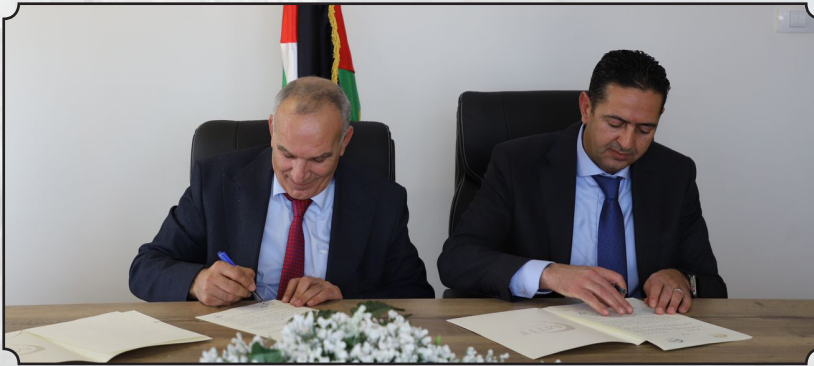
for the Authority's budget. Unemployment has reached record levels, explaining the decrease in overall demand, with job losses amounting to 182,000 in the Gaza Strip and 208,000 in the West Bank, pushing unemployment rates in the Palestinian territories to over 60% and poverty rates to approximately 39% according to a United Nations Development Programme report, with expectations of a GDP decline between 4% and 12%. The war's direct effects include a decrease in purchasing power and demand for goods and services in the Palestinian market due to the disruption of workers who were employed in the occupied interior, leading to a monthly loss of approximately \$400 million that was injected into the Palestinian markets, inevitably exacerbating the unemployment issue. Indications of the problem's depth in the current Palestinian economy include the negative impact on key economic sectors, including the Palestine Stock Exchange, which has seen declines in its main index, "Al-Quds Index," reaching its lowest levels since September 2021. The environment in the Palestinian territories is generally not conducive to investments due to high risks and Israeli policies that impose restrictions on movement, trade, imports, and exports, along with the absence of real policies to encourage investment in the Palestinian market. Projections indicate that the Palestinian economy will continue to face setbacks and a decline in economic activity until the end of the war and the fate of thousands of workers, who are a fundamental source of economic activity in the West Bank and Gaza, is determined. Even after the war ends, its effects on the Palestinian economy will be felt for a long time through infrastructure destruction, economic growth decline, and increased poverty and unemployment rates. Moreover, this war could negatively affect the global economy due to fears of its expansion to include regional countries or other wars, especially as energy prices are rising, leading to increased global inflation and decreased economic growth levels. Addressing these challenges requires sustained international support to rebuild infrastructure and enhance key economic sectors. Policies that encourage investment and trade and provide a safe and stable environment are essential for the Palestinian economy to recover and grow, which is only possible by establishing a sovereign Palestinian state with real sovereignty over land, borders, and the economy.

International and Local Cooperation

Palestine Ahliya University, represented by the University President, Dr. Imad Al-Zeer, and Mr. Jiries Abu Ghannam, President Assistant for International and Public Relations Affairs, discuss ways to enhance mutual cooperation with the University of Sharjah. They also sign a cooperation agreement with Al Ain University in the United Arab Emirates.



The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and Palestine Ahliya University sign a cooperation agreement in the field of information technology. The agreement entails the exchange of expertise between the two parties in the field of information technology, utilizing the facilities of the ministry and the university, especially laboratories, for training purposes and conducting joint scientific studies or research projects. It also involves providing training opportunities for students at the ministry, executing joint projects, and organizing common conferences and workshops.



Palestine Ahliya University and the Palestinian Mediation and Arbitration Chamber sign a mutual cooperation agreement.



Activities and Events

A graduate of Business and Entrepreneurship Master's program, Rula Ta'amra, supervised by Dr. Mahmoud Salahat, won the University Student Research Award among Master's students. This was for her master's thesis related to the Sustainable Development Goals titled

“Social Entrepreneurship Orientation and its Impact on NGO Sustainability in Palestine”

Graduates of the Bachelor's program in Management Information Systems (MIS), Aseel Deiriya, Wa'ad Al-Lahham, and Ghazal Ali, supervised by Mr. Sameh Taqatqa also won the University Student Research Award among Bachelor's students. This was for their graduation project related to decent work and economic growth titled

“Human Resources Expert System for Selecting Appropriate Employees. Case study: Palestine Ahliya University”.

Mr. Wala'a Al-Salameen, a lecturer in the Department of Cybersecurity at Al Istiqlal University, presents a lecture to students of the 'Introduction to Global Culture' course on **“Cybersecurity and Information Security”**

Dr. Samir Hazboun, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Bethlehem Governorate, presents a lecture to students of 'Introduction to Global' Culture' course on **“The effects of war on the Palestinian economy”.**

Activities and Events

Palestine Ahliya University organizes the annual semester meeting and a workshop on academic preparation.



The Department of International and Public Relations at Palestine Ahliya University organizes guidance activities for high school students in the West Bank and Jerusalem provinces. These activities aim to introduce them to the university, its majors, and guiding them in choosing the appropriate specialization for their upcoming academic stage.



Scientific Research Corner



Dr. Fayez Abu Amria and Dr. Musa Ajouz participate in publishing a study titled **“Factors Influencing Mobile Payment Adoption and their Role in Enhancing Financial Inclusion: An Integrated Reflective Model with Planned Behavior Theory”**.



Mr. Mysara Rumman, Dr. Khaled Sabarna, and their students participate in publishing a study titled **“Assessment of Average Levels of Exposure Provided to Patients Undergoing Computed Tomography of the Neck and Cervical Spine”**.



Dr. Azzam Al-Arab, Dr. Rateb Abu Shama, and Dr. Muntaser Sayed Ahmed participate in publishing a study titled **“Muscle Contraction Exercise for Lower Back Pain”**.



Mrs. Hanan Abu Marriya participates in a study titled **“Detection of Moving Objects Based on Aggregation and Event-Based Camer”**.

Palestine Ahliya University is pleased to open its doors for productive research partnerships with academic institutions and distinguished researchers in various fields. You can contact us via email at: research.clinic@paluniv.edu.ps



مجلة جامعة فلسطين الأهلية للبحوث والدراسات
Journal of Palestine Ahliya University
for Research and Studies




Best Paper Award 2024

The award of the Palestine Ahliya University Journal for Research and Studies aims to enhance international scientific contributions in academic research and writing among researchers and students

Fields of the Award

- Engineering, Computer Science & Technology
- Arts and Humanities
- Business and Economics
- Social Sciences
- Medical and Healthcare
- Natural & Physical Sciences
- Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science

Prizes

-  First Prize: **\$1000**
-  Second Prize: **\$500**
-  Third Prize: **\$300**



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 facebook.com/JPAURS

Deadlines:

Submission of Papers : March 31, 2024.

Winners Announcement : Jun 30, 2024.



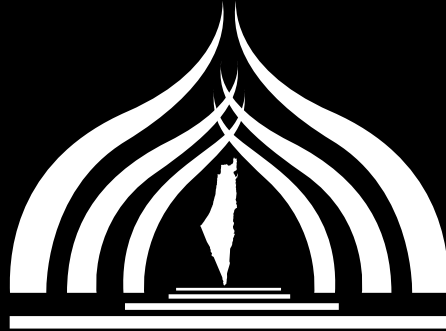
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