

# 2016



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# On Hebron Rehabilitation Committee

## Vision:

Preserving the Old City of Hebron as an Arab Islamic city



## Mission:

The Hebron Rehabilitation Committee (HRC) seeks to rehabilitate and renovate the historic buildings in the Old City of Hebron in order to encircle the settlement outposts, limit their expansion, preserve these ancient historic buildings, ensure social and economic revival, and maintain continuity of the Old City with the other parts of the city. In addition, HRC seeks to improve the standards of living of marginalized groups by planning and implementing vital programs to allow for economic, social and cultural rebirth of the marginalized groups.

## Values:

Equal and equitable access to public services, authenticity, excellence, respect for human rights, transparency, professionalism, building local and international partnerships, and sincerity.

## Strategic Objectives of Hebron Rehabilitation Committee:

■ Reviving the Old City by renovating its buildings, reusing abandoned buildings, rehabilitating its infrastructure, preserving its cultural heritage and elements of the structural unity of the buildings, and preserving the urban fabric and historical and cultural identity of the buildings

■ Improving the living conditions of the population by renovating homes and connecting the Old City with the rest of the city, providing various social services that contribute to the development of housing and work conditions, and improving the surrounding environment to become attractive to the population

■ Revitalizing trade and economic activity, increasing local and international tourism, and providing vital projects to create job opportunities for the population to combat unemployment and poverty

This year marks the two consecutive decades after the establishment of the HRC, a long record of achievements. HRC continues with the same strength to meet its promise to deceased President Yasser Arafat, who issued a presidential decree establishing the committee in 1996. HRC was given the honor to preserve this historical city and protect it from Judaization. It was also able to repel Israel's ambitions to take full control of the Old City with its ancient buildings. For instance, the renovation works gave the people of the Old City the strength to stay and safeguard their homes. Efforts are continuing to achieve the HRC's full objectives of restoring the Old City to become a vital center as it was before.

Today, HRC is an important cultural landmark which protects the Old City and preserves its cultural and architectural heritage. It is one of the largest working to preserve the cultural heritage of Palestine. HRC has gained a unique experience in reviving historic cities, through which innovative and creative solutions were found. This has further deepened our experience and enabled us to overcome the obstacles and difficult conditions experienced by the residents of the Old City.

The HRC looks at the Old City with a holistic view. Its works are not limited to architectural and cultural aspects, but also include the social, economic, health, education and infrastructure aspects. HRC seeks to provide these services in an appropriate manner to improve the living conditions of the Old City's residents and to strengthen their steadfastness during these difficult situations.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to the staff of the HRC for their efforts to achieve our goals of bringing life back to the Old City and removing the brutal Israeli occupation of this historic, deep-rooted city.



We turn the page of this year as we enter the third decade of this institution, which since its establishment in 1996 has sought to preserve the cultural heritage of the Old City, bring life back to it and protect it from Judaization. Twenty years of hard work to preserve the architectural heritage of the Old City of Hebron has passed. During this period, HRC has achieved significant achievements under extremely difficult political and economic conditions. We still have a lot of work to do to achieve our full objectives in order to bring back the Old City to its former status as a vital center for the entire city.

The HRC starts its third decade with two publications, namely: the Master Plan to Preserve and Revitalize the Old City of Hebron, and the Guide for Restoration Works. These two publications are among this year's outstanding achievements. They are not only important because they document the work of HRC and its approach for rehabilitation and revival of the Old City, but because they have prospects for sustainability and continuity of the conservation and development works and draw an outline for completing the maintenance and reparation works in accordance with scientific principles.

Along these publications, HRC continued its works throughout the Old City, its dwellings, streets, alleys and markets. These works included restoration, maintenance, follow-up of the social aspects and the needs of the population and the provision of basic services to them.

We look forward to further progress towards achieving our goals of preserving and restoring the cultural heritage of the Old City and improving the living conditions of its inhabitants. I would like to thank the staff of the HRC for their effort to preserve this deep-rooted cultural heritage.

## World Habitat Award for 2013

World Habitat Award is an international periodic award granted by the London-based Building and Social Housing Foundation to support sustainable development and innovation in the housing sector. The HRC won the award, and its project for reconstruction and housing of the Old City of Hebron was awarded as the best housing project among the 238 projects submitted by the world countries to combat unemployment and poverty.



## Yasser Arafat Award for Innovation and Achievement

In 2008, the HRC won the Yasser Arafat Award for Innovation and Achievement, an award presented to individuals or institutions that have carried out innovative creative works that had positive effects on the development and advancement of society.




## Aga Khan Award for Architecture

In 1998, the HRC won the Aga Khan Award for Architecture (AKAA) in recognition of its achievements in the field of reconstruction of the Old City of Hebron. This award is considered one of the highest international awards awarded to the best architecture in the Islamic world every three years.









**Publications of  
Hebron Rehabilitation  
Committee for this year**



The publications highlight our achievements, summarize and document part of them in two books, each of which outlines a master plan for the completion of the development, restoration and preservation of the cultural heritage. Both of the two books have a comprehensive view of the Old City and ways of preserving it. The Master Plan book sets strategies and policies for the development of the Old City of Hebron within a comprehensive view of all aspects of life there. Meanwhile, the Rehabilitation Manual documents the method of restoration of the buildings, with an overall view that includes all its elements and involves a detailed explanation of the method of restoration and preservation.

### Master Plan book

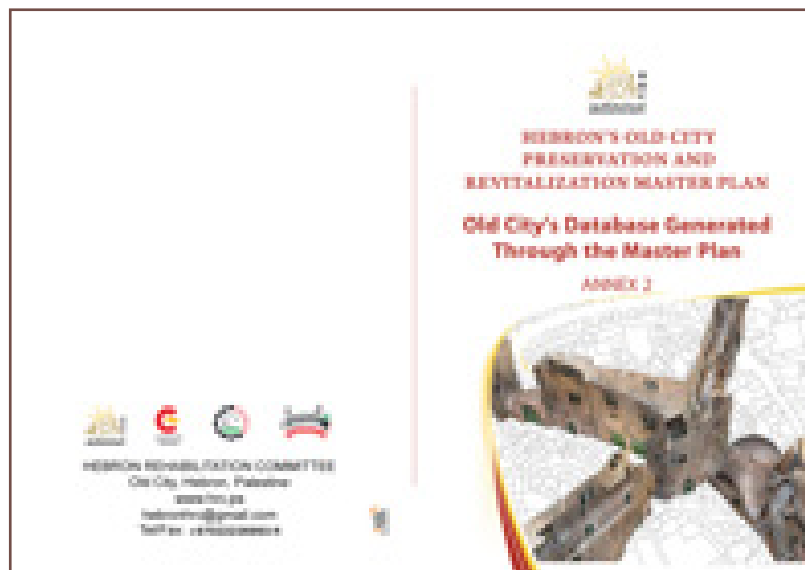
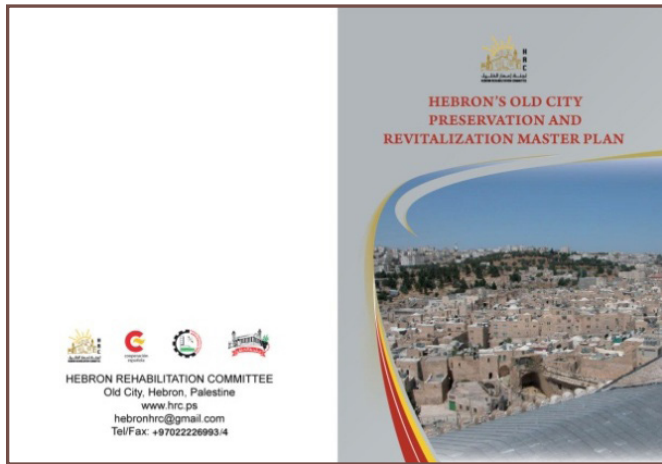
Work on this plan began in 2013, and was finalized in the first third of 2015. The year 2016 witnessed the issuance of the Comprehensive Plan book both in Arabic and English.

The book comes in the form of an integrated document consisting of several chapters. The first chapter is a presentation on the plan, the committees in charge of preparing for them and the staff. The second chapter discusses the rationale behind such a comprehensive plan with its main and sub- objectives. It also deals with the importance of the planning for historical neighborhoods in international treaties and conventions. This chapter focuses on the importance of joint planning and community participation in the preparation of the plan, reviews the previous planning efforts and refutes the previous plan as the first attempt at planning for the Old City.

The third chapter deals with the methodology used in preparing the plan, the stages of implementation, the plan implementation mechanism and an accurate description of the plan's database. This chapter also discusses the guidelines of the plan and the expected outputs, and analyzes the logical framework for the development of the Old City in terms of problems, objectives and indicators of the overall development the.

The fourth chapter deals with the urban heritage of the Old City and the current political situation there. It discusses the establishment of the HRC and evaluates the state of urban heritage and the obstacles to preserving it. Finally, this chapter defines the study area of the plan, explaining the heritage and planning criteria used in determining it.

The fifth chapter deals with the diagnosis of the current situation in the Old City in all its vital sectors through a detailed strategic analysis, aiming to reach development policies and strategies and translate them into different projects covering all sectors.



The book was followed with three valuable annexes. The first annex shares insight on the urban heritage of the Old City of Hebron with its very details: elements and components. It also deals with the types of buildings in the Old City and their classifications, and discusses the establishment of the Old City and its morphology in precise details. The second annex addresses everything related to the Comprehensive Plan database and the various actions that have taken place to document buildings. The second annex also discussed the various works that were followed to document the buildings, methods of preparation and the results of the various surveys. The third annex is a guide to the technical terms of urban heritage, which presents all the terms used in the field of urban heritage and urban planning with the definition of each.



# **Rehabilitation Manual**



الدليل الإرشادي لأعمال ترميم المباني التاريخية



ترميم المباني التاريخية

2016



لجنة إعمار الخليل

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The Rehabilitation Manual was developed to achieve two main objectives:

- Documenting the accumulated experience of HRC over 19 years of hard work in preserving historic buildings to protect the urban fabric of the Old City, and documenting accumulated experience in the rehabilitation of infrastructure.

- Maintaining this unique experience and means of intervention to preserve the traditional buildings and infrastructure, and transferring this expertise to new engineers and those wishing to join the restoration and rehabilitation works, especially those who are working – or who will work – in HRC (i.e. architects and engineers). It was therefore necessary to prepare a written material supported by pictures and graphics to help them understand the facts about the traditional architecture of the Old City, its history and the method of documentation. The material also seeks to help HRC staff understand how to implement the architectural solutions and interventions for rehabilitation of historic buildings and infrastructure. The material will be supported with case studies and live examples from the work field and from previous experiences.

The Manual is presented in five main chapters. The first chapter presents a geographic and historical profile of the city of Hebron and its Old City. This chapter introduces the HRC, its creation, objectives, sections and services it provides, and explains the need to prepare a guide for restoration work and its general and specific objectives. The chapter also addresses key concepts for preserving the architectural heritage, degrees of intervention, methods of architectural heritage documentation and methods of restoration and rehabilitation followed by HRC. Furthermore, this chapter discusses the ethics that the restorer must have, in order to ensure preservation of the heritage and its transmission to future generations in its original form.

The second chapter deals with the traditional architecture in Hebron in terms of origin and composition. It deals with the classification of historical buildings and reviews in detail all the architectural elements that characterize this architecture, in addition to the construction materials and methods used. The third chapter deals with the techniques and methods of restoration by enumerating all the problems facing the historical buildings and their components. The chapter analyzes these problems in a scientific way based on the diagnosis of the problem and a study of the causes of damage. Appropriate solutions are then developed for treatment.

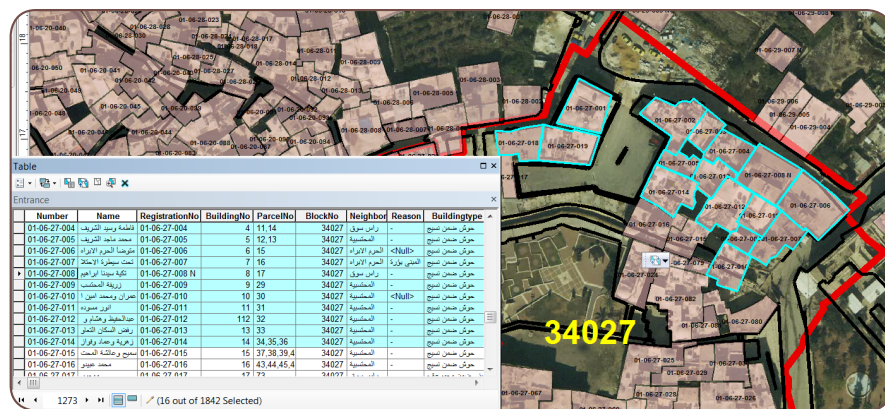
The fourth chapter discusses the rehabilitation of historic buildings in terms of the nature of rehabilitation interventions and how to work together to ensure minimal intervention in historical buildings, based on the principle of recoverability. Finally, the fifth chapter presents three case studies of buildings that have been restored and rehabilitated. Each case represents a specific method of restoration and architectural preservation used by the HRC.

These two publications add two valuable references to the library of HRC, and place in the hands of planners and restorers a reference for development and restoration of the Old City and its buildings, commensurate with its particularity and uniqueness.

# Old City Database

The HRC has a rich database with multiple layers of information, documenting the status of the buildings and monitoring the social and economic conditions of the Old City. This database was established during the first phase of the conservation plan for the Old City of Hebron in 1999. The base was then provided with data through a comprehensive field survey of the Old City's buildings and the households that live there. It should be noted that these data were updated twice, the first in 2008 and the second in 2014. During the last update, the database was developed further to include images of buildings obtained during the photographic survey of the buildings of the Old City.

The survey included all the architectural and social aspects, and its implementation was based on three main phases: numbering, recording and analysis. During the numbering phase, the buildings were given specific numbers according to a unified system derived serially from the city number, the Old City number, the basin number, the number of pieces on which the building is located, the apartment number and the floor number on which this apartment is located. The aim of this process is to facilitate the collection of information on the one hand, and to examine the possibility of linking it to its location on the other hand. Various forms of questionnaires have been used to collect information and register buildings. These questionnaires were designed by architectural and social specialists. A team of field researchers was trained on how to deal with the questionnaires and plans to facilitate the survey, in addition to how to deal with the site and the population.



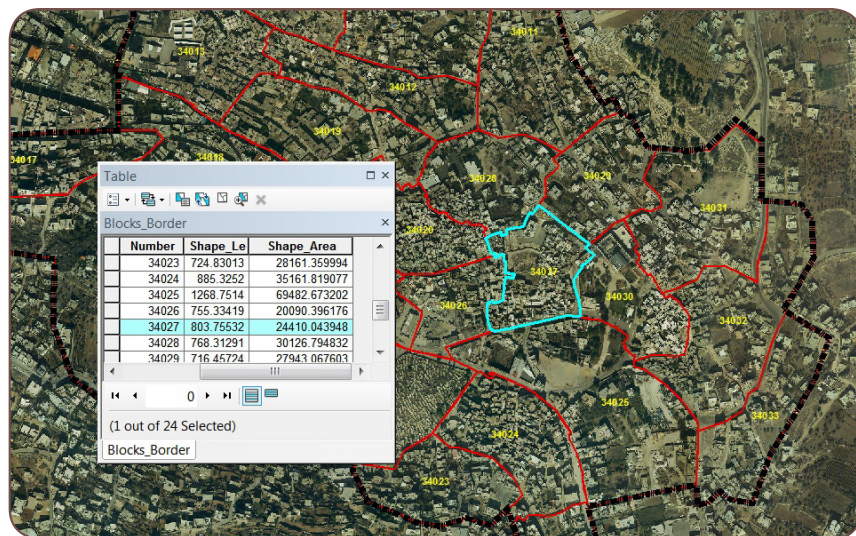
## Numbering of buildings in the Old City

The questionnaires included detailed and precise information. From the architectural and artistic point of view, data were collected on the number and occupancy rate of both old and modern buildings, types and trends of construction and modern additions to old buildings. Data were also collected on the materials used for construction of these buildings, current uses of old and modern buildings, types of building properties, the nature of building structures and their connection with each other, the construction status of old buildings and the number of floors for all buildings.

In addition, the questionnaire included general information about the building in terms of location, ownership, date of construction, type and proportion of use, in addition to recording elements of architectural value that characterize these buildings. Thus, the database was built with detailed information and an accurate description of the buildings linked to their location on the general structural plan of the Old City.

On the social side, a comprehensive survey of the households in the Old City was carried out by specialized social researchers. This questionnaire included information on the dwelling, its usage and contents, as well as personal information about individuals, their age, level of educational attainment and occupation.

To analyze this data, this database was linked to geographic information systems (GIS) to take advantage of the large potential of this program to extract data at a record speed and in the form of high-resolution charts.



An image showing a side of the database

In addition, the database contains data for HRC. In the past, HRC relied on the manual archiving system. And with the progress in the work of the institution and the increasing volume of data and files used, HRC ensured that all papers, documents, photographs and files were documented and saved based on computerized systems.

HRC also considers this database as a tool for organizing the work between the different departments in terms of archiving, facilitating the transfer of information between the relevant departments, facilitating access to information and saving time and effort. Finally, the Committee has started to archive all data belonging to its different departments so that they can be read and dealt with within the numbering system of the master database. By the end of this process, all the data of the HRC – for example data on tenders, residents and houses, in addition to the data on the legal unit, public relations and others – are integrated a single system.

The database is the basis for the HRC work, which is characterized by of a large volume of organized data in a way that enables the target to access it quickly and easily. It is a documentation database for historical buildings and their inhabitants. It is also a reference for researchers and scholars in various areas of the Old City.



# **Restoration and preservation of cultural heritage**







## Ibrahimi Mosque

Two decades has gone since maintenance works in the Ibrahimi Mosque first started. This historical and cultural heritage has undoubtedly been an important factor in keeping this place steadfast in the face of Israel's continuous attempts to seize and Judaize it. The HRC continues to maintain and restore the Mosque in defiance of all obstacles and conditions imposed by the occupation, aiming to preserve the Arabism of this edifice and to remain a high-rise beacon in the sky of Hebron and a landmark for its architecture.

In view of the unique exceptional value of the Ibrahimi Mosque, the restoration work is carried out in an exceptional manner, with a high degree of accuracy and meticulous attention to documenting the very details and avoiding any interference that may affect the building, in order to ensure that it is transmitted to future generations in its original form.

The following are the most important achievements in the field of maintenance and restoration of the Ibrahimi Mosque during 2016:

### **First: Follow-up and completing restoration of the eastern burial site**

HRC staff removed the modern plaster layers (coating of walls), washed and darkened the stones, and painted the doors.

#### 1. Maintenance works in Yusufiya and the restoration of its stones.

- The modern coating layers have been removed from the Solomon stones; the stones were washed with water; and corroded stones were repaired.
- Maintenance and repair of gypsum in Yusufia.
- Restoration and painting of windows and doors of Yusufia.
- Installing electricity network.

#### 2. Maintenance works in Ishaqia and the restoration of its entire stones

#### 3. Maintenance works at the roofs of the Ibrahimi Mosque

- Restoration and painting of wooden minarets, restoration of lead on the roof, and installing water pumping machines

#### 4. Works in the eastern well

During this work, the eastern well was plastered (wall-coated) and new water buoys were installed.

5. Dotting of the internal fence adjacent to the courtyard of the Ibrahimi Mosque

6. Maintenance of gypsum boards in El-Hadra El-Ibrahimia

### Constraints facing the project

- Israel's control of all business matters of the work: the Israeli occupation prevents, stops and disrupts the work whenever it wants.
- The process of entering the material is only done after a careful security examination, which sometimes takes days.
- Arrest of technicians while working, under various security pretexts.

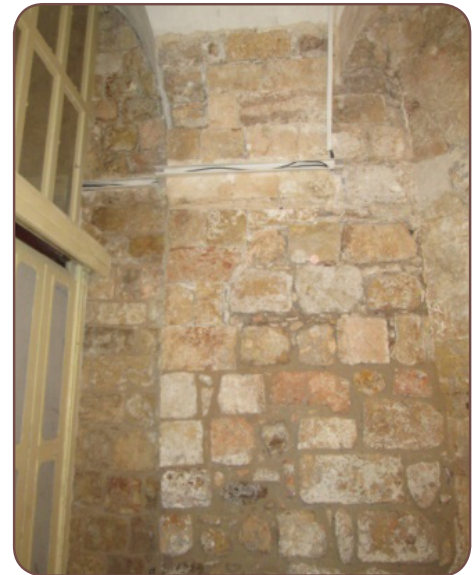


Maintenance of gypsum boards in El-Hadra El-Ibrahimia





Carving the modern plaster (wall coating) and showing the original stone – Yusufia



Processing of electrical wiring lines – Yousufia







Maintenance works at al-Malikia Mosque







Maintenance works at al-Malikia Mosque



Maintenance works at the occupied part of the Mosque

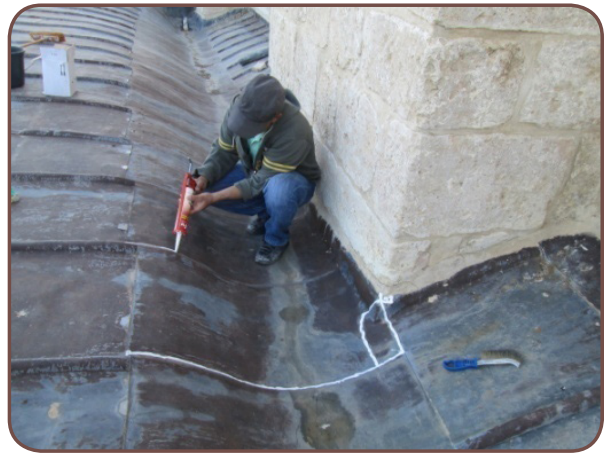


Maintenance works for marble and gypsum in the open courtyard area



Maintenance works for plaster (wall coating) lines and power lines in the entrance to Yusufiya





Maintenance of lead panels on roofs to prevent water leakage







Cleaning the red stone in Yusufia



Maintenance of gypsum in Yusufia



# **Rehabilitation of infrastructure**







## Rehabilitation of infrastructure

Rehabilitation and improvement of the infrastructure is the basis for the restoration work of the buildings. Therefore, the HRC is keen to rehabilitate and improve the infrastructure of the Old City in conjunction with restoring residential and public buildings. Rehabilitation of infrastructure includes the provision of water, electricity and sewage networks for these buildings. Infrastructure rehabilitation projects also include beautification of facades of buildings, street furnishing, planting of trees and plants, installation of lights and umbrellas.

### Rehabilitation of the infrastructure in al-Kasbah area and Al-Qazazin market

Every year, al-Qazazin market and al-Qasbah area in the Old City of Hebron suffer from sewage and rain flooding, which affect so many shops and entrances of homes located in the area of Bab Al-Baladiya Square all the way through Khozak Al-Far area and Abu a-Rish Mosque area, which is blocked by the Israeli occupation. The area needs to be fully rehabilitated throughout the winter due to the inadequacy of the sewage networks there. These networks are divided into two parts: part of the existing sewage network is an old Turkish stream that is damaged and inoperative in some areas, and has not been repaired or rehabilitated for a long time. The other part consists of plastic pipes with various diameters, and does not absorb the amounts of rainwater and sewage flooding in this area. This area is considered a water complex due to its low geographic location within the Hebron Valley.

A solution to this problem requires work in two areas: an area where we, as Palestinians, can work despite the many obstacles there, which stretches from the Bab al-Baladiya Square to Qantarat Khuzak al-Far. The other area stretches from Qantarat Khuzak al-Far to Abu a-Rish Mosque, passing through the street closed by an Israeli military decision. This area is closed by the Israeli army, and everyone wishing to enter the area for implementing any project must obtain an approval from the Israeli army.

The HRC and the Hebron Municipality have agreed to work to resolve this problem. HRC undertook planning and implementation of the infrastructure rehabilitation project from the Bab al-Baladiya Square to Qantarat Khozak Al-Far, in partnership with Hebron Municipality. The Hebron Municipality, meanwhile, undertook planning and implementation of the rehabilitation project in the closed area. During the planning by the Hebron Municipality it was found that two sewage lines can be implemented in the closed area to increase the absorptive capacity of sewage and rainwater, as following:

- Rehabilitation of infrastructure from the Qantarat Khuzak al-Far area, passing through Al-Sahla Street to Abu al-Rish checkpoint
- Rehabilitation of infrastructure from the Khan Shaheen checkpoint through Al-Baraka Street, Al-Sahla Street and Abu Al-Rish Mosque area

HRC was able to obtain funding for implementation of the first phase, which is a proposed project to rehabilitate the infrastructure in al-Qazazin market area and al-Kasabah neighborhood. The procedure for submitting the tender has progressed according to the methods followed.

The Hebron Municipality has addressed the Israeli Civil Administration and the Israeli army to obtain an initial approval for implementing the proposed projects through frequent meetings, correspondence, and a statement of the extent of damage caused by not implementing these projects. To prevent recurrence of the same problem each year in the winter, HRC was able to obtain an initial approval for implementing one of the two projects, from Khan Shaheen area through Shuhada Street and al-Baraka Street down to Abu al-Rish checkpoint in Sahla area. However, HRC was not able to get an approval for the second project, under the pretext that it runs through the arches and passes through a closed area and in front of the Palestinian historic homes seized and occupied by Israeli settlers.

Hebron Municipality was then able to obtain the necessary funding to implement the infrastructure rehabilitation project from Khan Shaheen checkpoint through al-Baraka Street, al-Sahla Street and Abu al-Reish checkpoint.

Following referral of the infrastructure rehabilitation project in Qazazin market area and Qasabah quarter by HRC, and through daily follow-up with Hebron Municipality on the projects, the Joint Technical Committee, composed of HRC and Hebron Municipality, finally met. The Joint Technical Committee proposed to transfer part of HRC's project (the infrastructure rehabilitation project in the Qazazin market area and al-Qasabah neighborhood) to rehabilitate Khan Shaheen area. This line will be connected to the sewerage system that will be implemented by Hebron Municipality, starting from the Khan Shahin checkpoint to Abu al-Rish checkpoint, Shuhada Street and al-Baraka Street, after receiving the sponsor's approval on this change.

The Joint Technical Committee, and after examination and assessment, considered that it would be better to work according to the previous proposal. It was found that when this proposal is fully operational, it would facilitate the transfer and absorption of a large part of sewage from the existing line in Qazazin market area and Kasbah quarter to Khan Shaheen area. The proposal also allows for installing pumps to convert sewage to other areas.

### Obstacles to implementing the project

■ The project is located in a sensitive area (the market center) and requires coordination from the Israeli side. The entrance from Al-Shuhada Street is closed by a concrete wall, while the other entrance at Al-Sahla Street is also closed by a concrete wall. The area is covered with a metal awning next to the Sunni Mosque, which impedes movement of the vehicles and workers of the project.

■ Hebron Municipality and the Palestinian Civil Liaison are not able to coordinate the opening of one of these entrances to allow the contractor to enter the machinery and equipment for drilling, in addition to the necessary building materials. The contractor,

in this case, is also unable to extract the rubble resulting from the drilling process, therefore he/she is forced to use the narrow entrance from al-Baladiya Square.

■ There are no yards in the project site to absorb the quantity of rubble resulting from the drilling, and it is impossible to load the rubble directly. Loading rubble requires the existence of assembly points before it can be loaded in vehicles outside the project.

■ Drilling depth: Due to the depth of drilling and the inability to enter heavy machinery, small drilling machines were used, and the width of the drilling was expanded to more than 240 cm to enable the machine to enter the tunnel. This increased the volume and size of the resulting rubble.

■ Machines for extracting rubble: Because of the narrow spaces, small cars with a capacity of seven cubic meters were used to move rubble as an alternative to large vehicles with a capacity of 24 cubic meters, which increased the number of transfers and led to increased cost and time.

■ Damage and wreckage at the entrance to the market: this happened as a result of the use of the entrance for entry and exit of trucks, causing collapses of the tunnel and the inability to use the street. This also required the construction of a metal bridge for vehicles, which led to increased cost and time.

■ The owners of shops and stalls rejected to allow the contractor to work during the day since this will make them unable to open the shops and stalls, which required the implementation of the work at night and in the early hours of dawn.

■ The electricity wires and telecommunication network are installed in a random manner and in an inappropriate size.

■ The existence of metal stalls leased by the Hebron Municipality long ago to people who opposed the removal of these stalls, which has for a long time hindered the work process due to the long procedures required by Hebron Municipality to remove these violations through legal means.

■ During the work and excavations to extend the main sewage line a water well was detected below the shops. The well runs below the middle of the street and impedes the passage of the main sewage line.

■ Al-Qazazin pool: During work and excavations to extend the main sewage line, it was found that the end of the pool of Qazazin pool lies outside the boundaries of the mosque (the outer wall is located in the middle of the street), which also hinders the installation of the sewer line.

■ Several buildings are in a dangerous construction condition and require strengthening of their facades and foundations through the use of reinforced concrete. Flooding of rainwater and sewage in the market during the work.-

■ Flooding of Al-Qazzazin Mosque pool during the work caused several damages in the project and hindered the entry of vehicles and cars.

■ Hebron Municipality has not completed the project it is implementing from Abu



al-Rish checkpoint and up to the closed concrete wall in al-Sahla Street (next to the Sunni Mosque).

■ The old Turkish sewage line: this line's inability to absorb the amounts of rainfall and sewage, in addition to the existence of landslides in this line, has obstructed the entry of cars and the led for the market being used as an entrance to the project.

### Beautification of facades

This project is a continuation of the rehabilitation of the infrastructure in Al-Kasaba Street and al-Qazazin market. The facades are designed on both sides of the street, and the project aims to beautify and improve their appearance. The beautification includes the following works:

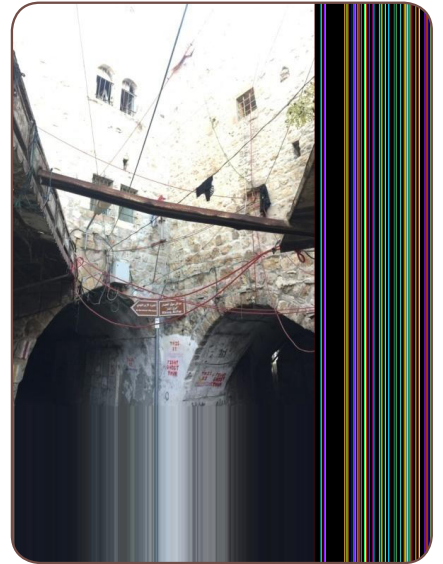
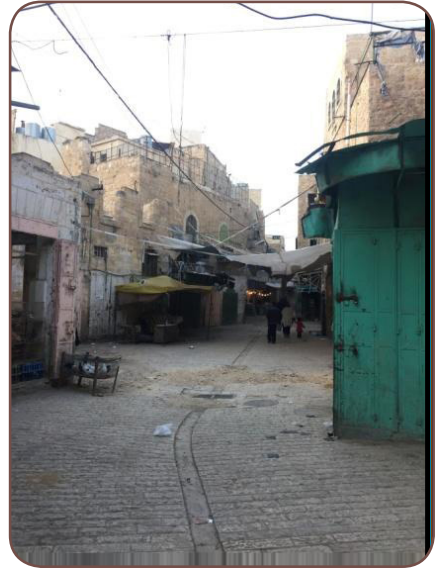
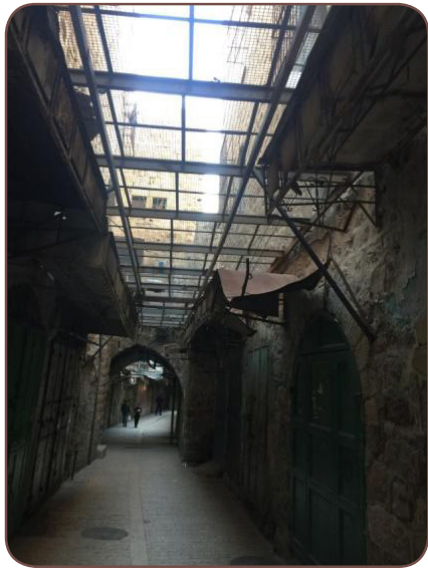
- Enhancing the exterior appearance of the facades by removing additions and deformed elements
- Darkening (Takhil) of the facades and maintenance of the architectural elements
- Installation of umbrellas for shops
- Installation of street lighting
- Furnishing the street
- Tile works for the street

The design phase and the preparation of the project executive plans have started. It is worth mentioning that the project is funded by the Ooredoo Group.



Part of the target area of the project







**Maintenance  
and restoration  
of homes**





## Maintenance and restoration of homes

The process of restoration and preservation is not merely engineering work or a task that can be performed at a given time. It is a long-term process that requires continuity, follow-up and participation in order to achieve sustainability of what has been restored and preserved. The old buildings are highly sensitive in nature, making them prone to natural damage factors that affect them significantly, such as moisture and leakage, which leads to the fall of the layers of plaster (wall coating) and paint, or the occurrence of cracks in these buildings. In view of this, the HRC focused its efforts on the maintenance of homes that have been restored since the establishment of the HRC. This is part of an extensive and multi-stage project within certain areas, including buildings located in the area of the Ibrahim Mosque, Sahla and Tel Rumeida quarters, in addition to buildings located in the old market area.

### Stages of the project work

Phase I: Tender for restoration and maintenance of homes in al-Sahla Street, Wadi al-Husain, al-Shuhada Street and Tel Rumeida (This phase was implemented in 2015).

Phase II: Tender for restoration and maintenance of houses in al-Sahla Street, Wadi Al-Husain, al-Shuhada Street and Tel Rumeida.

Phase III: Tender for restoration and maintenance of houses in al-Sahla Street, Wadi al-Husain, al-Shuhada Street and Tel Rumeida

Phase 4: Tender for restoration and maintenance of houses in al-Sahla Street, Wadi Al-Husain, al-Shuhada Street and Tel Rumeida.

Phase 5: Tender for restoration and maintenance of houses in al-Sahla Street, Wadi Al-Husain, al-Shuhada Street and Tel Rumeida.

The project is of great importance not only in terms of physical restoration and achieving sustainability and durability of these buildings, but because it also aims to enhance the steadfastness and improve the living conditions of the area's residents. The objectives of the project can be summarized as follows:

■ Providing habitable homes by conducting some repair and maintenance and through improving the living conditions of the area's residents.

■ Protecting the population of the area and those who pass in the project area from the risk of collapse of parts of these homes as a result of damage.

■ Improving the living conditions of the existing population, strengthening their steadfastness in their homes and returning indigenous people to their abandoned homes

■ Providing employment opportunities for the residents of the Old City by recruiting them for the renovation projects

■ Preventing Israeli settlement contiguity as the targeted buildings in this project are close to and surrounded by settlement outposts.

<b>Risks / impediments to project implementation</b>	
<b>Risks / impediments</b>	<b>Procedures to overcome them</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Problems related to the suspension of work as a result of the area being under the Israeli military control</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conducting restoration of homes in partial stages so that the Israeli occupation does not notice the restoration work</li> <li>● The legal unit should follow up the stages of restoration and provide all the official documents to ensure the progress of work</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Problems related to the difficulty of delivery and entry of restoration materials to the area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Finding alternative ways to allow entry of restoration materials</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Closure of main entrances to residential buildings in the project area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Creating sub-entrances to the houses to be repaired</li> </ul>





Part of the obstacles facing the project implementation

The maintenance projects include the implementation of some emergency works, such as the installation of protection nets to protect buildings from the Israeli army attacks. This involves installation of protection nets to protect doors and windows (480 square meters).





## Repair through participation

As we have mentioned before, maintenance is a participatory, long-term and continuous process. As a result, the participation of the population in the maintenance work is of great benefit to the restoration work. For instance, it ensures sustainability of the restoration work. Participation of the residents in the maintenance work also increases their attention and care for the building, which ensures the preservation and protection of the building.

In recent years, HRC has adopted the principle of participation in the maintenance work, where HRC and the residents share maintenance and restoration works. While HRC provides materials and engineering supervision, the residents carry out the maintenance work on their own. This method proved to be efficient in enhancing participation of the residents and the local community as a step forward to enabling the residents to restore their own homes, upholding their participation in preserving the heritage of parents and grandparents.



## Impact of maintenance works on the population

“Thanks to the maintenance works, our house has become more organized and comfortable, and we have had a beautiful and comfortable place where we gather and spend most of our time. The renovation and maintenance works carried out by the HRC transformed the roof from a tight, neglected place to a spacious place which has become an outlet for our family. I spend most of my time in this place, where I also receive my guests and hold concerts for our happy occasions. I feel that this place is a garden in the middle of our house.”

Amal Olama



Photos of the house of Mazen Alma before and after the maintenance work





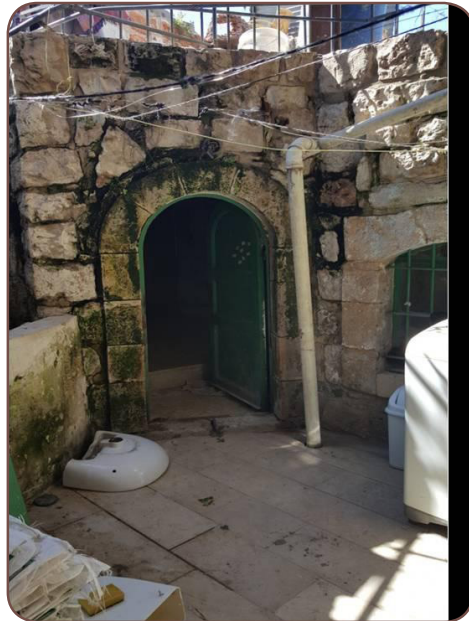
يلاحظ اضافة حوض ماء كبير على اسطح المباني  
قبل الصيانة

الصورة بعد تنفيذ اعمال الصيانة وازالة الاضافة  
بعد الصيانة



يلاحظ اضافة حوض ماء كبير على اسطح المباني  
قبل الصيانة

إلى الاضافة



Photos of the house of Mazen Alma before and after the maintenance work

## Renovation of Al-Zaatari Building

“Our house has changed significantly and for the better. The spaces have been rearranged comfortably and practically, and I have had a sunny kitchen with an open balcony. The old kitchen room has been turned into a reception room for guests. I always wished to have a room in my house to greet my guests. I am happy for this change and I will do my best to ensure that my house always has this bright picture.”

Om Abed al-Zaatari



Photos showing maintenance work at al-Zaatari house in the old market area



## Restoration of Howsh Abu Durran Complex



Photos showing the entrances to Howsh Abu Durran Complex

Preparations are underway to submit the tender documents for the project to carry out the restoration work in a comprehensive manner. Howsh Abu Durran Complex is the only place that has not been restored in this area. The complex includes a large number of rooms and squares with damaged parts, which will be reinforced before the restoration works start.



## Restoration of public buildings

### The project of furnishing and lighting of the Hebron Bath

As an attraction for visitors coming to the Old City of Hebron, the Hebron Bath has been renovated in order to enhance the tourist activity in the city. After completion of the renovation works another project has begun to furnish the bath, and new furniture and equipment were provided. This included a reception desk (counter), seats, shelves, safes and other equipment to run the canteen. In addition, audio-visual equipment, including monitors and speakers, and lighting units were installed according to the plans. A simulation system of the Turkish bath function has also been provided.

The project aims at activating the tourist activity in the Old City of Hebron and investing in heritage sites for tourist purposes. The Hebron Bath is one of the most important historical landmarks of the Old City, and restoring this place as a visitor center reflects the historical and cultural heritage of the Old City. The bath is a unique place that presents the history of ancient Hebron. In addition, the project is an opportunity to train and qualify local workers by Italian experts.

Work on the project started on 20/4/2016 and was completed on 30/6/2016. It is worth mentioning that the project was implemented with funding from the Italian Development Cooperation.



Photo showing furniture and lighting

## Project for establishment and restoration of the Ibrahimi Tekiyah



The Tekiyeh of Prophet Ibrahim, peace be upon him, is one of the historical landmarks that characterize the city of Hebron, which bears reflections of the social life of ancient times, where the Ibrahim soup is catered. The soap has itself become a human civilization heritage that dates back to the time of prophet Ibrahim, which gives the city and its people the quality of generosity and bounty. The Tekiyeh of Ibrahim is still a destination for the poor and the needy. Despite the attempts of the Israeli occupation to remove the Tekiyeh to expand the military outposts in the vicinity of the Ibrahimi Mosque this charity remains steadfast, and has not ceased its work even one day since it was founded by leader and conqueror Saladin to feed the armies and those coming to the city.

The work of the Tekiyeh is a continuation of one of the elements of life that has existed since ancient times. The Tekiyeh provides a living for many of the residents of the Old City and the city's needy in general, in addition to being a guesthouse for visitors and expatriates who come to Hebron. Hence, the project was carried out in cooperation with the Directorate of Islamic Awqaf in Hebron.

In order to preserve this historical and humanitarian heritage, the Directorate of Islamic Awqaf in Hebron worked on this project under the supervision of the technical staff of the HRC. The project includes restoration of the Tekiyeh and its facilities in order to remain the main source of support for the poor and the needy in the Old City, aiming to uphold their steadfastness in the face of the Israeli occupation which targets to empty the city of its indigenous Palestinian population. The project of rehabilitation

of the Ibrahim Tekiyeh was implemented, and the necessary maintenance and improvements were provided to all its facilities so as to be more efficient and effective in providing services to the public. This will also organize the distribution of food and enhance the required health conditions.

The work on the project started on 24/7/2016 and the work is still ongoing, where the completion rate in the project was 70%.

### Providing basic services

Based on its comprehensive plan to preserve and revitalize the Old City, the HRC is pursuing services in all sectors and all aspects of life. This year, HRC is also paying great attention to basic services such as health and education.

### Restoration of a health clinic

Within one of the historic buildings in the Al-Masharqa neighborhood, a health clinic was provided to serve this neighborhood, which lacks sufficient health centers. The residents also suffer from difficulty moving to health centers in the neighboring areas due to the permanent checkpoints and barriers at the entrances to this neighborhood.



Photos of the clinic in al-Masharqa neighborhood



## Maintenance works in Al-Saraya Kindergarten

Due to its location, which is adjacent to the wall of the Ibrahimi Mosque, al-Saraya Kindergarten differs from the rest of the kindergartens in the Old City. The children and their teachers have great difficulty in reaching it because of the surrounding barriers. In order to support the steadfastness of the kindergarten as an educational center for the children of the area, the project was implemented in cooperation with the Palestine Red Crescent Society. Comprehensive maintenance works were carried out in the kindergarten and its yards, under the technical supervision of the HRC.

## Project for maintenance of the Friendship Park

The Friendship Park is the largest open area within the densely populated urban fabric of the Old City. The HRC has given special attention to this place as the only outlet for the residents of the area, establishing a park in this site after it was a neglected place. The site was also equipped with children's toys and major facilities and services such as a cafeteria and water tanks.

The continuous maintenance of this park contributes to its sustainability and the development of its facilities and services, enabling it to remain an outlet for the inhabitants of the Old City and a place where arrivals and visitors of the Old City can meet. Visitors, meanwhile, can also enjoy the surrounding buildings and historical and architectural elements. Maintenance works carried out during this year include the following:

- Supply and installation of a metal umbrella with rainproof cloth cover
- Supply and installation of electric headlights on columns
- Replacing toys in the children's playground with new ones
- Installation of wooden seats and tables
- Supply and installation of sound systems for use in children's activities and festivals.



Photos of the park before and after restoration







The Housing Department is an important and essential part of the work of the HRC through its functions and services to the residents of the Old City. Its main role is to follow up on all matters related to the population in order to uphold their steadfastness and to achieve the social development of the Old City and its inhabitants.

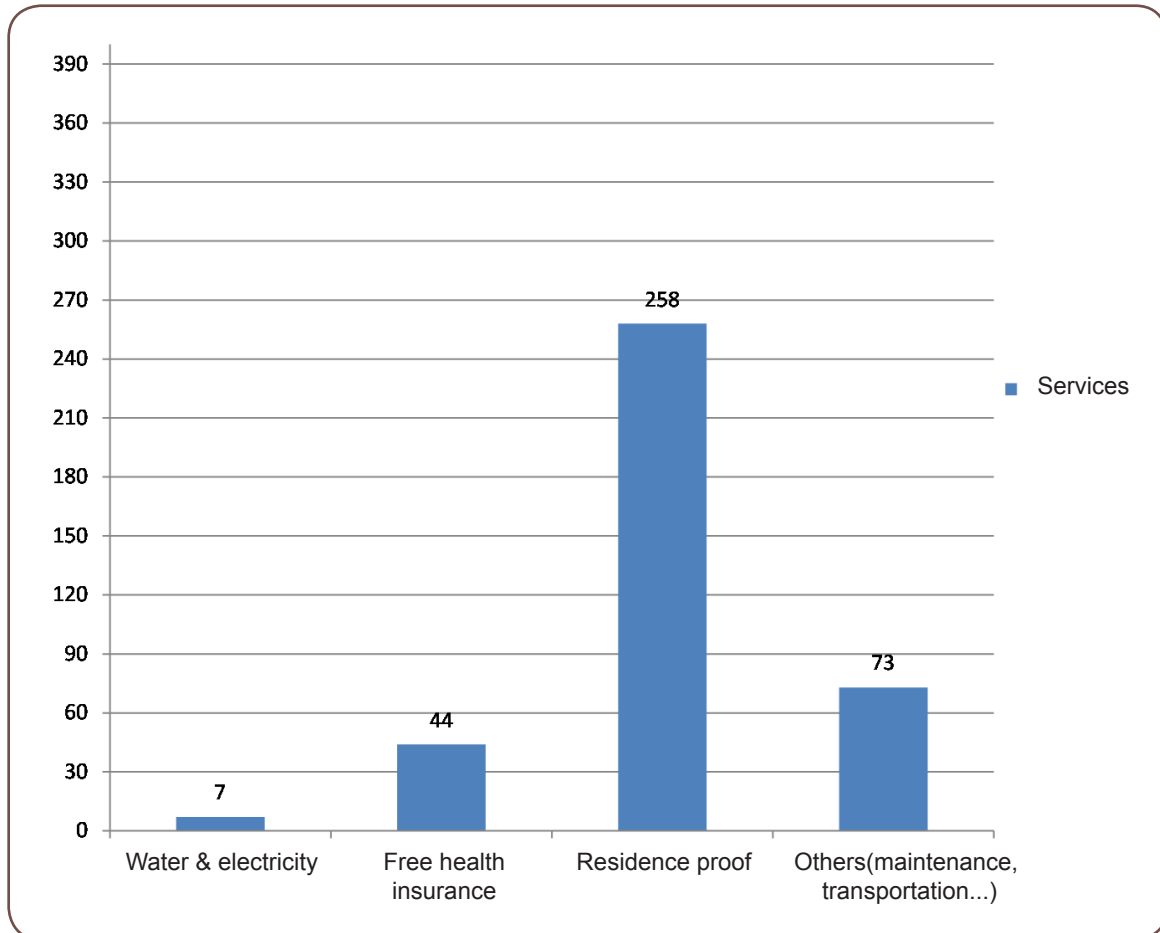


## We are here to discuss the most important achievements of this department during 2016:

- The team followed up three tenders for the maintenance and rehabilitation of buildings in the Old City this year. The team also recommended the maintenance of some homes that are in need and providing services to their inhabitants.
- The Housing Department is following up two new tenders: the renovation of houses from Khuzak al-Far area and all the way through the Market Square, Howsh Abu Dharaan area, Jamjoom and al-Sakafi neighborhoods, in addition to a number of buildings in Tel Rumeida area (Eqneibi, Sidr and Abu Heikal areas).
- In 2016, the department submitted 34 requests for housing in the Old City.
- In 2016, 48 health insurance applications were submitted by residents of the Old City.
- In 2016, 28 families were settled in the Old City.
- 44 health insurances were granted to residents of the Old City.
- Efforts were made for integration and networking of Social Research Department data with GIS program.
- Housing has been facilitated for citizens through the provision of electricity and water services. For example, seven new electricity and water subscriptions were supplied. In addition, a collection of contributions have been transferred and activated for those who resided the apartments.
- 258 proofs of residence were granted to residents to improve their treatment and assistance by institutions such as health, the Red Cross, the governorate, the tax department, the municipality, the Social Affairs Department, the Directorate of Education. Similar proofs of residence were also granted to university students in the Old City, including Quds Open University, the University of Hebron and the Palestine Polytechnic University, etc.
- The department follows up and performs regular visits to buildings and residents in order to identify problems and solve them in cooperation with other departments.
- The department follows up apartments that are evacuated, renovated and re-inhabited.
- The department follows up many cases of violation of buildings by some citizens who breach the conditions and laws of housing in the area. These laws stipulate the preservation of the property of the building owners in cooperation with the city's police.
- The HRC, represented by the Social Research Department, was a partner in a program to build a social protection network with the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- The Social Research team has participated in a workshop organized by the Department of Health on communicable diseases.
- The Social Research team has supervised the project of first aid kits for the residents of the Old City. The team, in cooperation with the Relief Society and the Red Crescent, trained the residents on how to use the kit.

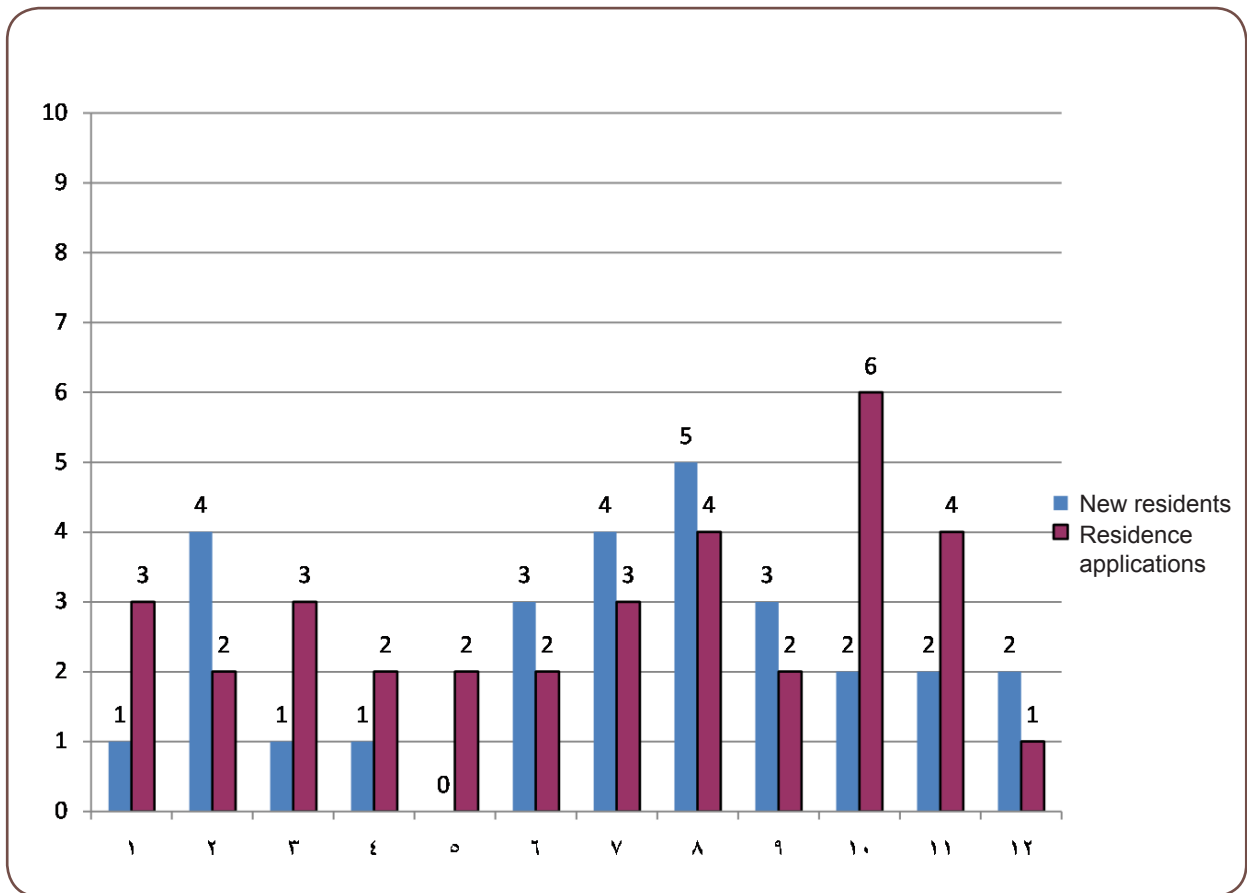
- The Social Research Department provides a proof of residence for all job applicants who come from the Old City. The proof is then submitted to the district office in order for the applicants to be considered for employment.
- The Social Research Department provides all General Secondary Education (Tawjihi) students from the Old City, and whose average is 65% or below, with a proof of residence to be able to complete their university studies.
- The department, in cooperation with the Health Work Committees, coordinates for awareness meetings on breast cancer for the women of the Old City areas of Tel Rumeida, al-Haram, the market area, and the neighborhood of Jaber and surrounding areas.

Graphical representation of housing and housing services for 2016





Graphical representation showing new population and housing applications for 2016





New residents move their furniture to live in the Old City



Field visits to follow up residents' affairs





The staff follows up health insurance affairs



The team conducts field visits to monitor building ownerships





Difficulties and obstacles encountered by the team, and inspection at military checkpoints









The team cooperates with health work committees of the Breast Cancer Awareness Program in several areas of the Old City

## First aid kit project

In light of the Israeli aggression against the Old City of Hebron, which threatens the lives of the Palestinian citizens especially in the areas of friction (Tel Rumeida, Shuhada Street, Al Sahla and areas adjacent to the settlements), the HRC decided to provide the residents of these areas with first aid kits for the purpose of:

- Protecting the population and ensuring their survival and steadfastness in the area.
- Providing primary means of protection if the residents of these areas are harmed.

All the kits have been distributed to the residents of the targeted area. The Israeli checkpoints were an obstacle to delivering the first aid kits to the targeted areas. The residents who received the first aid kit were trained on how to use it, in coordination with the Medical Relief Society and the Palestinian Red Crescent Society. This was to inform them about the contents of these kits and to educate them about the first aid methods.

It should be noted that this project was supported by the Austrian government. The preparations for the project began on 1/7/2016 until 30/11/2016. The project benefited 220 families in Tel Rumeida, al-Shuhada Street and al-Sahla area, as well as the schools of the Old City.



HRC distribute first aid kits to schools in the Old City







Distribution of first aid kits to the residents





Distribution of first aid kits to the targeted areas and the difficulties that were encountered



Part of a training day for residents around the first aid mechanisms





# **Events and activities**

## Events and activities

The various activities and events organized by the HRC have made it the focus of all segments of society. In recent years, HRC has carried out a series of various activities and events targeting all segments of the local society and the residents of the Old City in particular, in line with its general objectives. Through these activities, HRC aimed at creating as much a stable atmosphere and a normal life as possible, despite all the barriers surrounding the Old City.

Throughout its various events and activities, HRC targets all segments of society: men, women, youth and children. These activities also range from religious, cultural, recreational, health-related and social activities and events, etc. This creates a complete cycle of activities for the public and helps them live in normal conditions.

HRC has organized events and activities in order to attract a large number of visitors from the city of Hebron and all the other Palestinian cities and villages representing the various sectors of the local community. Residents of Hebron and its Old City also participate in these multi-purpose and multiform events to enhance their sense of security and calmness by visiting the Old City.

### Activities report for 2016:

- The HRC encouraged applicants for the theoretical driving test to obtain a driving license in the Old City in an attempt to revive it. This step was coordinated jointly by the Transportation Directorate, the Association of Driving School Owners and the HRC.
- HRC received a delegation of women's and housing organizations and UNICEF in order to study the possibility of implementing economic empowerment projects for women.
- HRC received Minister of Agriculture Dr. Sufian Sultan, in order to acquaint him with the political and humanitarian situation in the Old City of Hebron, and to draw his attention to the latest developments related to violations of the Israeli occupation forces and settlers against the residents of the Old City and their properties.
- HRC employees met at Shajarat al-Dar Al-Dur oil-press to evaluate the achievements of 2016 and prepare future plans for 2017.
- delegation from the Ministry of Transportation, headed by the ministry's Undersecretary, visited the HRC.
- The HRC participated in the opening ceremony of the theoretical driving examination hall in the Old City.



- HRC participated with international organizations and local institutions in launching a campaign titled “Let’s achieve justice in Tel Rumeida and Shuhada Street.” The participants of the campaign, organized at the entrance to Shuhada Street, raised the Palestinian flag and banners in Arabic and English condemning the actions of the occupation authorities. The campaign called for opening Shuhada and Tel Rumeida streets, freedom of movement without military barriers and evacuating the Israeli settlers from the heart of Hebron.
- HRC accompanied the Minister of State of India in a tour of the Old City, in order to get a close look at the checkpoints and barriers placed by the Israeli occupation for residents and visitors to the Old City.
- HRC distributed first aid kits in the areas surrounding the Ibrahimi Mosque and al-Sahla and Tel Rumeida areas. The kits were distributed through three stages, and each stage included an awareness lecture about how to use the kit. The kits were then distributed to residents who are constantly exposed to Israeli assaults.
- HRC met with international journalists to highlight Israeli violations.
- HRC and the Palestinian heritage conservation experts exchanged practical experiences in the field of preserving the architectural heritage. This came during a one-day training within a week-long specialized course in the field of reviving the historical city centers, organized by the Belgian project in cooperation with local government councils and heritage conservation centers in Palestine.
- HRC and the Palestinian Civil Defense Directorate discussed the project of launching a series of activities and training courses in the Old City.
- The HRC and the Health Work Committees completed a health awareness program in the Old City as part of a series of meetings on health awareness. The second meeting was held at the Ibrahimi Mosque, while the third was held at Hebron Society of Tel Rumeida. The second meeting targeted women who came from all the Old City and the surrounding areas of the Ibrahimi Mosque to benefit from the method of self-examination of breast cancer and to be assured about their health.
- HRC accompanied a delegation from the British Consulate in a tour to the Old City.
- The HRC hosted a meeting organized by the Local Government Directorate. Political activists from Spain visited the HRC in order to get a closer look at the political situation in the Old City and discuss the rights of the Palestinian citizen people in their land, including the freedom to live in dignity.
- A student delegation from the Friends School visited the HRC. HRC presented a video to the delegation on the situation of the Old City.
- The Jerusalem Foundation, accompanied by a Chilean delegation, visited the HRC.
- The HRC and Wataniya Mobile signed a strategic support and partnership agreement to renovate and revive the infrastructure of the Old City of Hebron.

- A UNICEF delegation visited the HRC to discuss the organization of activities and events targeting the children of the Old City.
- HRC organized several meetings on alternative tourism to follow up tourist activities in the southern West Bank.
- HRC met with the Association for the Organization and Protection of the Family regarding the provision of medical services at the Salameh neighborhood clinic.
- The HRC, in cooperation with the Palestinian Prisoner Society, the Committee of Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs, Defense for Children International and Torture Victims Center, organized a workshop on the Israeli violations against children in the Old City and how to defend and protect them.
- HRC received a delegation from Action Aid. HRC Director General presented to the delegation a video on the political situation in the Old City. The HRC participated in the National Exhibition organized by the Martyrs' Families Association, where a variety of photographs of the Old City were exhibited.
- The HRC received a delegation from the Palestinian Red Crescent Society and the Dutch Red Cross. HRC presented a video to the delegation on the political situation in the Old City.
- HRC participated in a ceremony to honor the institutions and people who contributed to the success of the series "Ala Ray al-Mathal", a large part of which was filmed in the Old City.
- HRC received an Austrian delegation and gave them a photographic presentation on its achievements with regard to protecting the Old City.
- HRC received the Minister of Culture and presented to him a video, which was captured in Shajarat al-Dur oil-press, on the situation in the Old City.
- The HRC participated in the activities of the Palestine Polytechnic University Days.
- HRC honored Mr. Imad Abu Shamsia, a resident of Tel Rumeida, for his efforts to document Israeli violations in the area.
- HRC met with ISM organization to discuss integration of international volunteers with families living near the settlements in order to protect them from settlers' attacks.
- HRC organized the opening ceremony of E'mar Hotel in the presence of Tourism Minister Rola Maayaa, Minister of Local Government Dr. Hussein Al-Araj and a large number of representatives of official and civil institutions, legal persons and representatives of the local community.
- HRC met with CPT organization to follow up on Israeli violations and military closures.
- HRC met with the 4CHOS Foundation to discuss a strategy for the preservation of cultural heritage.



- HRC visited Mr. Osama Jarrar to congratulate him on assuming the position of Director General of the Directorate of Agriculture of Hebron.
- The Martyrs' Families Association and the Fatah organization in central Hebron honored the Director General of the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee for HRC's contribution to the success of the National Exhibition.
- Female employees of HRC were honored on the occasion of International Women's Day.
- HRC distributed fire extinguishers in several areas in the Old City in order to ensure the safety of the citizens.
- HRC, in cooperation with the Office of the Chief Religious Justice, organized the opening ceremony of the Shari'a Court in the presence of Chief Religious Justice Mahmoud al-Habash, the Governor of Hebron, a large number of representatives of government and civil institutions and residents of the Old City.
- The Legal Unit visited the family of Mr. Majed al-Fakhouri, a person with special needs, who was attacked by the Israeli occupation forces.
- HRC participated with the Public Relations Forum in Hebron Governorate to visited Najah National University in Nablus and gave a presentation on the achievements of the Committee in the Old City.
- HRC participated in the Summer Camp for the Pioneers at Al-Arroub Agricultural School organized by the Palestinian Vision Foundation in cooperation with the Cooperation Foundation. HRC presented a lecture on the architecture of the Palestinian cultural heritage.
- The variety of activities and events in the Old City has contributed to creating a good recreational environment that reinforces the steadfastness of the Palestinian people there, thanks to the increasing continuous communication between the residents of the Old City and the surrounding areas. Citizens also started to participate in the various events held in the Old City. These activities have increased the demand of the residents of the Old City for more activities that target them, aiming to create an atmosphere and environment suitable for all members of the family.











# Legal Unit

## Introduction to the Legal Unit

The HRC established its Legal Unit in 1998 to monitor and document the violations committed by the Israeli government against the Palestinian citizens of the Old City of Hebron and their private and public properties. The Legal Unit defends the rights of the residents of the Old City and addresses all types of Israeli military orders through legal procedures, and through representing Palestinian victims before the Israeli courts. The unit also raises the awareness of the Palestinian residents about their rights, and exposes the practices of the Israeli occupation government and settlers against the Palestinians in the various media and through human rights and United Nations organizations.

## Most important achievements of the Legal Unit in 2016:

### 1- Removal of tents set up by Israeli settlers at the yard of the Ibrahimi School

On 21 November 2016 Israeli settlers set up large tents at an area of 600 square meters at the yard of the Palestinian-run Ibrahimi School. The Legal Unit responded to this act through legal means by filing a complaint to Israeli police, and the tents were consequently removed. The site where the tents were set up is located south of the Ibrahimi Mosque, and overlooks two basic schools (Ibrahimi Boys School and Fayhaa Girls School) and many other Palestinian homes, which means the tents were a source of threat to the security of the Palestinian residents of the area and students in particular.



Picture 1: tents set up by Israeli settlers at the yard of the Ibrahimi School





Picture 2: the yard of the Ibrahim School after removal of the tents set up by Israeli settlers, after a complaint was filed in this regard with the help of the Legal Unit

## 2- Removal of a tent set up by settlers in front of al-Fakhouri stores

The Legal Unit, through the preliminary legal procedures and through its help to the affected persons by filing a complaint to Israeli police, was on 27 January 2016 able to remove a tent set up by extremist settlers in front of the home and stores of Palestinian citizen Khader Fakhouri. The home and stores are located at a main street near the Israeli checkpoint in Salaymeh neighborhood.

The tent was set up in 5 December 2015 to destabilize the security of the Palestinian citizens of the area. Furthermore, settlers who resided the tent or others who used to visit it – led by extremist Jewish settler Yaroch Marzal – used to frequently assault Palestinian passers-by while afforded protection by the Israeli military. Several cases of physical assault and intimidation of children and other Palestinians were also reported. The tent, therefore, created as a source of terror to the local population, especially when the settlers started to assault Kakhouri's stores, closing it by force and prohibiting him from working there or practicing his profession normally. The stores are the only source of livelihood for Fakhouri and his seven-member family.



Picture 3: tent set up by Israeli settlers in front of the house and stores of Khader Fakhouri, under Israeli military protection.

### 3- Removal of a caravan and tents set up by settlers in Jabal Hales area.

The Legal Unit has foiled an attempt by Israeli settlers to confiscate Palestinian-owned lands in Jabal Hales area. The unit, through legal means, was able to remove a caravan and tents set up by Israeli settlers as a prelude to establishing a new settlement outpost in the area. The settlers were carrying out works inside the caravan in preparation for establishing the outpost.



Picture 4: caravan set up by settlers at Palestinian-owned lands in Jabal Hales area.



#### 4- Apartment of Abed al-Shakour al-Atrash.

The Legal Unit was on 11 February 2016 able to evacuate the Israeli army from the third-floor apartment of Palestinian citizen Abed al-Shakour al-Atrash, through legal means and follow up with the competent authorities in the Israeli judiciary. On 5 January 2016 the Israeli army broke into the building and confiscated the third floor and some of its furniture. The army also transformed the apartment into a military outpost, harassing the inhabitants of the building and inflicting significant financial damages there.

#### 5- Obstructing a project to establish a national park for Israeli settlers at a Palestinian-owned land in Ein al-Jadida area

Land owner, Mohammad Sadeq Eqnaibi, with help and guidance from the Legal Unit at Hebron Construction Committee and after we have provided him with the required photos, went immediately to the to the Israeli police office in Kiryat Arbaa settlement, where he complained about the settlers, particularly someone called Haim who personally embarked on the park construction works. This came after a group of settlers embarked on constructing a theatre in Ein al-Jadida area in Hebron prior to establishing a national park. The park was ought to be close to the water spring to start the “Ein” settlement enterprise in Tel Remeda area, which aims to confiscate and Judaize the entire area.



Picture 5: violations against Palestinian lands in Tel Remeda

## 6- Abu Rajab stores

The Legal Unit was able to cancel a military order of confiscating stores belonging to Palestinian citizen Salah Abu Rajab, near Ibrahimi School in Hebron's Old City area. The stores were occupied by the Israeli army on 21 April 2016 and transformed into a military outpost.



Picture 6: Israeli military vehicles break into the stores of Salah Abu Rajab

## 7- Help to release detainees from the Old City

The Legal Unit provided legal and logistic support to help release some detainees from the Old City of Hebron, when it documented 28 incidents of arrests in which 34 people were detained. The unit was able to provide legal support to 28 detainees and follow up with the Israeli police until the detainees were released. The other cases were referred to the competent civil and official bodies.





Picture 7: Israeli soldiers arrest two boys at Jalbar checkpoint in Tel Remeda area on 19 April 2016

#### 8- Revealing further violations in the Ibrahimi Mosque and its facilities-

Through constant and diligent follow up, the Legal Unit was able to detect further violations in the Ibrahimi Mosque, including setting up of rooms and umbrellas and changing of features. But the worst of these was the establishment of two stone-made structures at the entrance of the Mosque, aside from the excavations and change of features of the cave located inside the Mosque which houses graves of prophets and their wives.

#### 9- Filing complaints to the special rapporteurs of the United Nations-

The Legal Unit of HRC filed multiple urgent complaints to the rapporteurs of the United Nations and Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967. These complaints tackled violations of human rights in the Old City of Hebron, the most important of which was the Israeli authorities' change of the features of the yard of the Ibrahimi Mosque, distortion of the Mosque's historical and archeological monuments, and the the Israeli occupation's plan to build a new settlement on Palestinian-owned lands at Shuhadaa Street.

## Results of monitoring and documenting of human rights violations by the Legal Unit:

In 2016, the Israeli occupation forces and settlers committed a total of 761 human rights violations against the Palestinian citizens and their properties in the Old City. The most affected properties were those located near the settlement outposts.

The graphs below show statistics of the violations documented by the Legal Unit. The statistics show that the number of attacks on the population (individuals or groups) exceeds the number of attacks on public and private properties.

Attacks by Israeli settlers and forces on the target population categories (women, men and children) in 2016 can be explained as following:

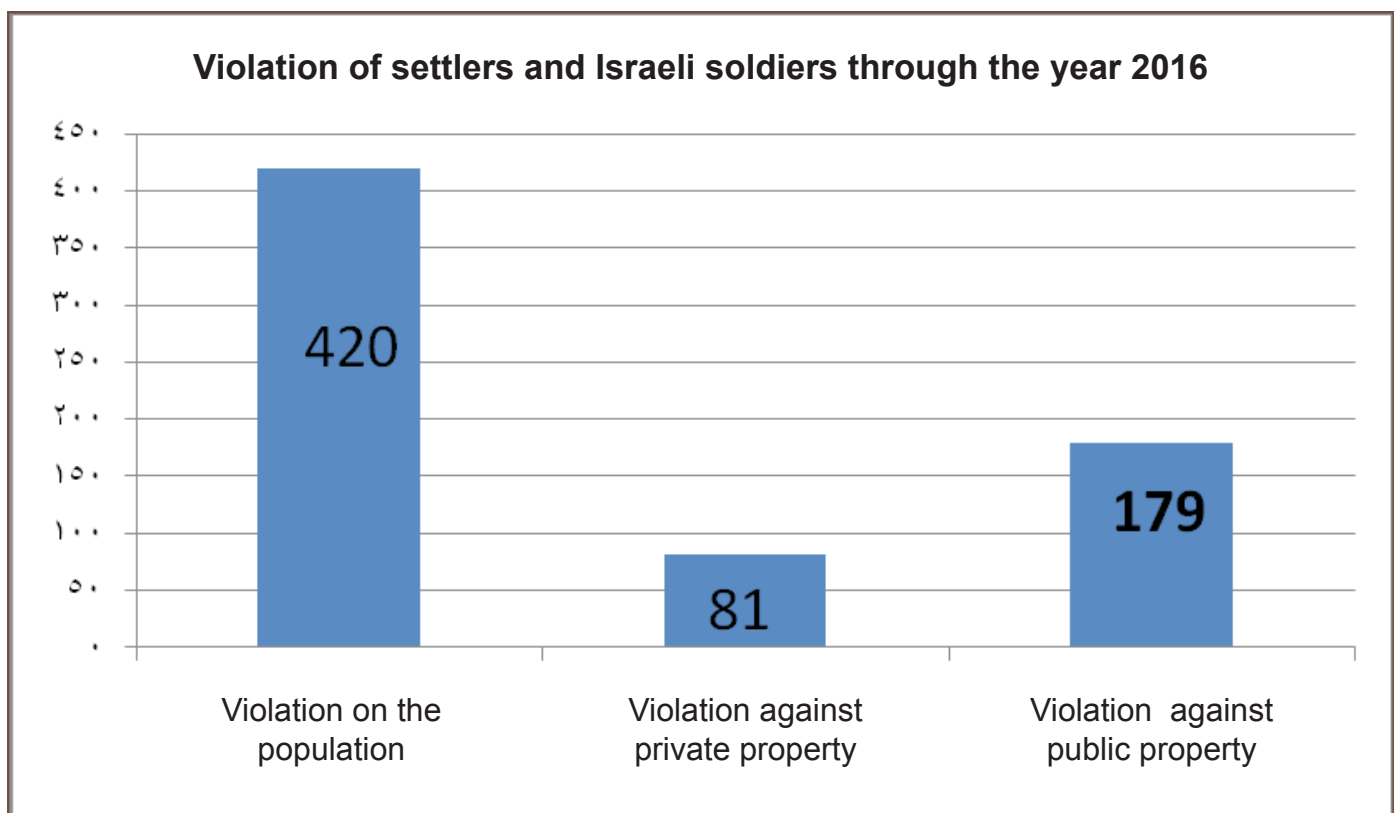


Table 2A: A graph showing the attacks of the Israeli occupation army and settlers against citizens and their properties during 2016



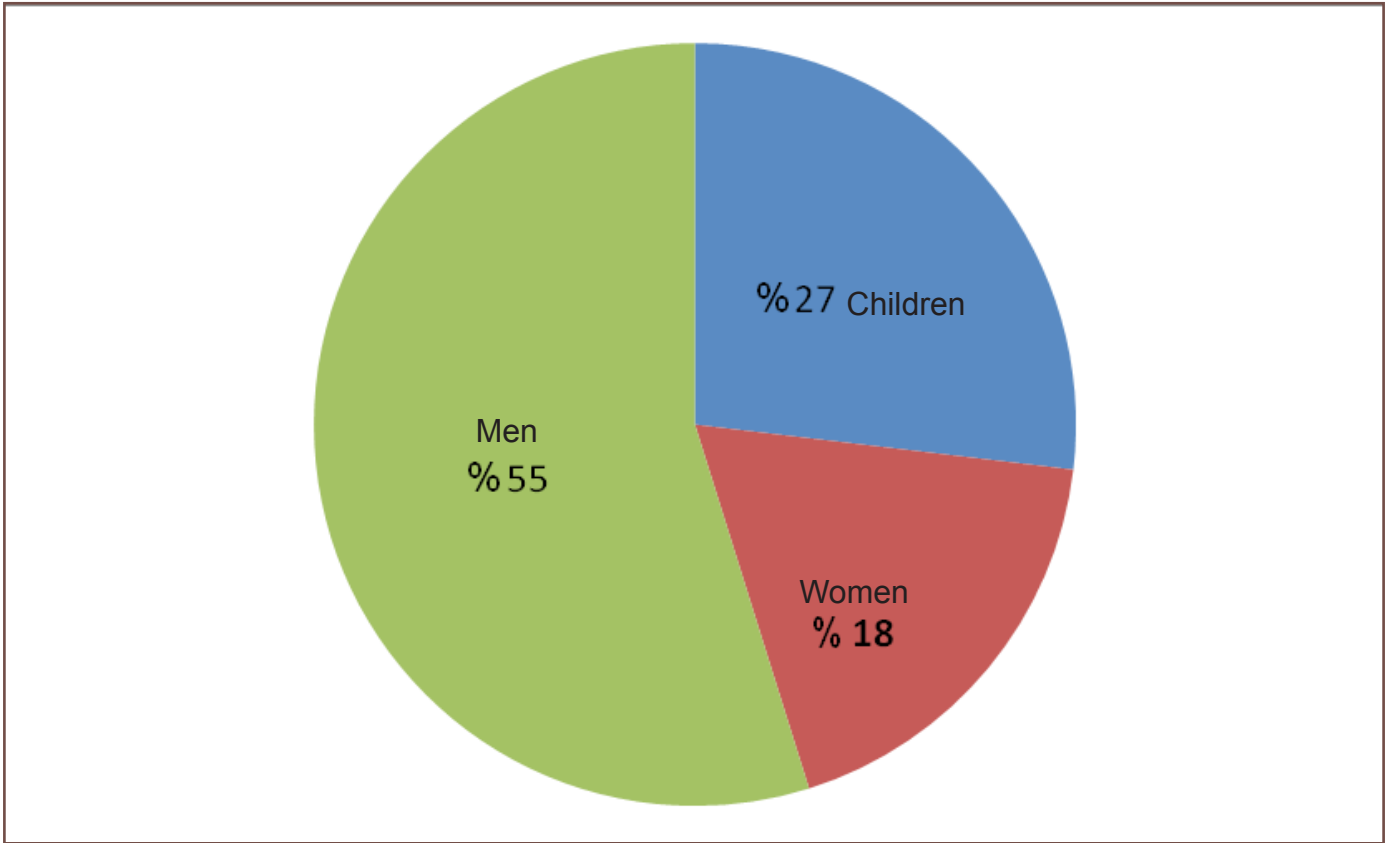


Diagram 3A: it shows the percentage of attacks against the Palestinian citizens in terms of target group during 2016

**Thanks to all financiers  
and supporters!**

