

Minister of Defence
Moshe Ya'alon
Ministry of Defence
37 Kaplan Street
Hakiryia Tel Aviv 61909
Israel

Dear Minister,

Allow me to turn to you to express my deep concern over the situation of the inhabitants of the Palestinian village of Nabi Saleh, who since 2009 have been holding peaceful demonstrations, demanding that the Israeli occupation be discontinued as well as the construction of Israeli settlements on Palestinian territories. The Israeli security forces have repeatedly used excessive force to suppress these demonstrations.

Amnesty International considers such conduct of the Israeli security forces to be a clear breach of the right to peaceful assembly and association. Since 2009, these actions have cost the lives of two people in Nabi Saleh and caused hundreds of injured. In addition, the people of Nabi Saleh have been subject to arbitrary home searches, detentions, and arrests.

In the light of the above described, I respectfully urge you, Minister, to ensure that:

- the use of excessive force by the Israeli security officials against peaceful protesters be immediately halted
- a thorough investigation is conducted into the deaths of Rushdi Tamini and Mustafa Tamini, resulting with the perpetrators of the respective violations of human rights brought before justice and facing a fair trial.

In the spirit of respect for the basic values of human dignity, freedom, equality and solidarity, I call on you, Minister, to immediately halt actions of violence directed at peaceful protesters not only in the case of Nabi Saleh, but other villages and towns in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories .

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Yours sincerely,