

Israeli forces launch deadly raids in occupied West Bank

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Ramallah, March 13 (RHC)-- Israeli forces have killed at least four people, including two minors, in raids on multiple locations in the occupied West Bank, Palestinian officials reported on Wednesday.

Soldiers shot dead a 13-year-old boy, identified as Rami al-Halhuli, in the Shu'fat refugee camp in occupied East Jerusalem on Tuesday evening. The Israeli Border Police said he had tossed fireworks at them.

Israel's far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir expressed support for Israeli soldiers amid outrage over the killing. "I salute the fighter who killed the terrorist," Ben-Gvir posted on X.

However, witnesses say the slain Palestinian teen had shot the fireworks upwards into the air, not at the Israeli forces, Al Jazeera's Laura Khan reported from occupied East Jerusalem. "Witness accounts have corroborated two videos that we've seen. One is of the boy shooting the fireworks up in the air, not in the vicinity of the Israeli soldiers. And the other is of him shot, lying on the ground, and his mother is seen devastated," Khan said.

"The mosque there has said they are going to declare a day of mourning tomorrow and a strike where all businesses will be closed in order for people to mourn his death."

The Palestine Red Crescent Society said it treated five others wounded by Israeli fire.

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