

Israeli forces attack and injure nearly 80 Gazans



Gaza City, October 26 (RHC)-- Israeli forces have attacked protests taking place near the fence between the besieged Gaza Strip and the occupied territories, leaving about 80 Palestinians injured.

The Gazan Health Ministry said 77 people were injured by the Israeli troops during the 80th Friday of protests in the east of the enclave. Ashraf al-Qedra, a spokesman for the ministry, noted that 31 of the wounded people have suffered gunshot wounds.

Palestinians have been holding weekly rallies in the Gaza Strip since March 30 last year to protest against the more than decade-long siege imposed by the Israeli regime on the enclave and to stress the right to return of the Palestinians who have been driven out of their homeland by Israeli aggression since 1948.

At least 312 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli forces since the start of the anti-occupation protest rallies. Over 18,000 Palestinians have also sustained injuries.

In March, a United Nations fact-finding mission found that Israeli forces committed rights violations during their crackdown against the Palestinian protesters in Gaza that may amount to war crimes.

Gaza has been under Israeli siege since June 2007, which has caused a decline in living standards.

Israel has also launched three major wars against the enclave since 2008, killing thousands of Gazans each time and shattering the impoverished territory's already poor infrastructure.

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