

Video shows Israeli soldier kneeling on protester's neck

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Palestinian protester held during rally in the occupied West Bank in chokehold similar to one that killed George Floyd. (Photo: Press TV)

Ramallah, September 2 (RHC)-- A video circulating on social media appears to show an Israeli soldier kneeling on an elderly Palestinian protester's neck while arresting him during a demonstration in the occupied West Bank.

Footage circulating on Tuesday shows an Israeli soldier pushing Khairi Hannoun, a 65-year-old Palestinian protester, to the ground as other troops raise their rifles and shout at a group of news photographers to back away. One projectile was fired, although it is not clear if it was a stun grenade or tear gas.

The soldier then wrestled Hannoun to the ground and knelt on his neck and back while putting him in handcuffs. Hannoun said he was with dozens of demonstrators in Shufa village near the occupied West Bank town of Tulkarem who were protesting Israeli plans to confiscate some 800 dunums (800,000 square kilometres) of the land to build an industrial park.

The video showing the Israeli soldier pushing the old man to the ground and kneeling on his neck was a grim reminder of the U.S. police violence and racial injustice that led to the murder of unarmed African American George Floyd in May.

The 46-year-old died after a white officer knelt on his neck and pinned him to the ground for nine minutes in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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