

# Bassem Tamimi

Bassem Tamimi is a coordinator for the Popular Struggle Coordination Committee and leads violent protests in his local village in Samaria (the “West Bank”). The IDF has detained him 11 times and has imprisoned him twice as a result of his violence. **Tamimi uses rock-throwing in his “non-violent protests” (as he claims) and endorses putting children in harm’s way. Furthermore, he advocates for the separation of Jews and Arabs instead of peaceful coexistence.**

**Tamimi encourages and organizes violent protests that result in injuries on both sides.**

- He admits to supporting violent protests. In 2013, he said, “We see our stones as our message...We don’t accept you. Our sign is the stone.”<sup>ii</sup>
- Tamimi was arrested in March 2011 **on accounts of “incitement,” organizing “unauthorized processions,” and soliciting the village youth to throw stones.”**<sup>iii</sup>
  - Eran Levi, the IDF prosecutor for the trial, stated that Tamimi will “most definitely continue to use the status he received because of his arrest to influence young people to throw stones... **The danger here is concrete.** The crime here is ideological, and anything short of imprisonment will not prevent him from acting.”<sup>iii</sup>
- Tamimi was arrested again in October of 2012, after taking part in an unauthorized demonstration at the local Rami Levy supermarket in Sha’ar Binyamin, in which he was **protesting against the peaceful coexistence of Palestinian-Arabs and Israelis.**
  - Rami Levy symbolizes a place of peace between Israelis and Palestinian-Arabs, where **the workforce includes 60 Palestinian-Arabs workers (nearly half the total employees) who work alongside Israelis. Jews and Arabs shop together as well.**<sup>iv</sup>
    - By protesting the existence of this establishment, Tamimi perpetuates the rift between Palestinian-Arabs and Israelis and thus inhibits the prospects of peace.

**Tamimi incites children to violence by encouraging them to throw large and sharp rocks instead of acting in peace. These violent actions put the children and others on both sides in danger.<sup>v</sup> These actions also qualify as child abuse under U.S. Federal Law.<sup>vi</sup>**

- He even uses his own daughter, A’hd, to incite violence and attempt to provoke IDF soldiers. This has been caught on camera on numerous occasions.<sup>vii</sup>
  - Videos show her **shoving her brother into a soldier, yelling in the faces of various soldiers, and spitting at them.**

**While some argue that rock-throwing is harmless and a form of “resistance,” the violent act has killed and injured many civilians.** The following are just a few examples of deaths caused by rock throwing attacks in Israel.<sup>viii</sup>

- In October of 2000, perpetrators from an Arab village threw rocks at a civilian vehicle, shattering the windshield and killing the passenger.
- In June of 2001, a Palestinian-Arab threw a rock at an Israeli civilian’s car. This act of “resistance” murdered 5-month-old Yehuda Haim Shoham in the back seat.
- In September of 2011, two Palestinian-Arabs threw stones at an Israeli civilian’s car, forcing Asher Palmer (the driver) to veer off the road and crash into a tunnel. This act of terror killed Palmer and his 12-month-old baby Jonathan.
- Palestinian-Arabs committed **1,195** rock throwing attacks in 2013 alone.



These Israeli civilians were murdered as a result of rock throwing.

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- <sup>i</sup> New York Times. "Is This Where the Third Intifada Will Start?". Ben Ehrenreich. March 15, 2013.
  - <sup>ii</sup> New York Times. "Is This Where the Third Intifada Will Start?". Ben Ehrenreich. March 15, 2013.
  - <sup>iii</sup> Haaretz. "West Bank Protest leader Bassem Tamimi released from prison." Amira Hass. April 27, 2012.
  - <sup>iv</sup> BBC Watch. "Tag Archives: Bassem Tamimi."
  - <sup>v</sup> BBC Watch. "Tag Archives: Bassem Tamimi."
  - <sup>vi</sup> Child Welfare Information Gateway. "Definitions of Child Abuse and Neglect in Federal Law."
  - <sup>vii</sup> BBC Watch. "Tag Archives: Bassem Tamimi."
  - <sup>viii</sup> IDF Blog. "Rocks Can Kill." March 18, 2013.