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# **Palestinian Social Movements Documentation Form**



**We Want to Live Movement**

## 1. Section One: Identification Information

1. Name of the movement: We Want to Live Movement
2. Year of establishment: 2022
3. Geographic location/spread: Hebron Governorate and the town of Al-Obeidiya (Bethlehem Governorate) – Occupied West Bank
4. Nature of the movement (multiple options can be selected):
  - Social
5. Does the movement have an official name or logo?
  - We Want to Live Movement

## 7. Section Two: Background and Founding

Motivations and context that triggered the movement (event/crisis/issue/demand):

The “We Want to Live” movement emerged in the West Bank following a call by activists on social media to protest rising prices and the worsening living conditions in Palestinian territories. The movement became a popular expression of growing public anger over the increasing cost of basic goods, fuel, and daily living, amid the absence of fair economic policies.

The movement’s activities focused on organizing protests and demonstrations in major city centers, during which slogans were raised demanding an end to price hikes and the realization of social justice.

Despite the clear grassroots momentum, the movement was short-lived due to threats and arrests of participating activists by security forces, leading to its early dismantling.

This movement reflects the scale of challenges faced by popular grassroots action in the West Bank, especially in light of restrictions on public freedoms and the lack of legal protection for the right to peaceful protest.

6. Initiating parties or founding groups (independents, activists, unions, organizations...):

Activists and independents.

7. Organizational structure (if any):

None.

8. Decision-making mechanism within the movement:  
None.

9. Is the movement officially registered?

No, it is a spontaneous grassroots movement initiated by community activists and citizens in response to rising public anger over the increasing cost of living. It was formed through field initiatives and active popular participation, without any organizational or partisan affiliation. This granted the movement a mass-based and independent nature, positioning it as a public protest voice against current economic policies.

## Section Three: Goals and Vision

10. Short-term goals:

To influence political decisions related to economic and living policies through public pressure and demand for tangible changes that benefit affected groups.

To support citizens' resilience amid economic crises, express their interests and needs, through mobilization, awareness-raising, and advocacy for fair and comprehensive policies.

11. Long-term goals:

- To influence political decision-making regarding economic policies through public pressure, demanding actions that improve social justice and ease burdens on affected groups.
- To support people's resilience against price hikes and deteriorating living conditions, and adopt their daily needs and demands as a national and social priority.

12. Core message/vision of the movement:

To influence the core issues affecting Palestinian citizens' lives, especially the right to a dignified life and social justice. The movement believes real change starts from the community and therefore works to raise public awareness, enhance community presence in public discourse, and encourage active participation in defending basic rights through independent and peaceful societal tools.

13. Target groups (youth, women, workers, marginalized areas...):  
The general public.

## Section Four: Activities and Impact

14. Main types of activities:

Protest demonstrations, peaceful gatherings.

Digital media campaigns: The movement is active on social media, raising awareness about economic and social demands, disseminating information and demands through public groups on apps like WhatsApp and Telegram—especially in Hebron and Al-Obeidiya—for direct outreach and community mobilization.

15. Examples of major activities carried out:

Organizing peaceful protests and sit-ins to express opposition to economic policies that affect living standards, demand fair policies that guarantee dignity and social justice, and protest the high cost of essential goods under difficult economic conditions.

16. Impact of the movement (local, national, media, legal...):

It significantly contributed to raising public awareness of economic issues and the economic rights of Palestinian citizens. It broke the public silence and imposed a state of social discussion on price hikes and poor economic management. However, the movement faced severe marginalization and repression by official entities, especially during peak protests, through threats, arrests, and security harassment of activists. This ultimately led to its dismantling before it could achieve its goals.

17. Main achievements/changes accomplished:

The movement could not achieve lasting results due to the repression it faced at a critical time. However, it succeeded in breaking public silence and sparked societal discussion on price hikes and poor economic management. It marked an unprecedented wave of protests over rising costs and created a space to voice people's economic demands.

## Section Five: Challenges and Sustainability

18. Key obstacles faced by the movement:

- Security intervention: The movement faced intervention by Palestinian Authority security forces, including arrests and threats targeting members and founders, leading to its rapid suppression.
- Financial constraints: The movement had no financial apparatus.
- Legal harassment: Arrests and intimidation.
- Weak participation: While participation was initially high, it declined due to public fear of persecution, legal pressure, lack of confidence in the possibility of change, and economic hardships that discouraged public engagement—contributing to the movement's decline.
- Other:

19. Is the movement still active?

- No.

20. Are there attempts to revive it or transform it into ongoing initiatives?

No current activities or attempts to revive the movement, due to political conditions, people's preoccupation with daily struggles, and deteriorating security and political situations.

## Section Six: Relationships and Support

21. Does the movement have partnerships with local or international organizations?

No partnerships with local or international organizations.

22. Has the movement received any support (financial/moral/technical) from any party?

- No.

23. Has it faced rejection or attack from any parties?

- Yes, from its inception, the movement faced rejection, threats, and persecution from entities affiliated with official institutions, especially Palestinian Authority security forces.

## Section Seven: Additional Data

24. Name of the person filling out this form:

Hamza Abdul Salam Abdul Jawad Abu Ghazaleh

25. His/her role in the movement:

Member and activist in the movement

26. Contact information (optional):

Email: mixermanfm@gmail.com

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