

Bayt Rema Massacre

In one of the worst Israeli massacres, large numbers of Israeli occupation forces and the special "Duvdevan" unit invaded the village of Bayt Rima, near Ramallah, along with its residents, lands, and homes since the early hours of Wednesday, October 24, 2001. Sixteen citizens were martyred, and dozens were injured as a result.

The massacre began under the cover of darkness when the village was subjected to a fierce invasion, with tank shells and heavy weapons being fired, trees crushed, and houses destroyed. Apache helicopters shelled the only site of the Palestinian police at the entrance of the village. Subsequently, a force of five thousand soldiers, reinforced by 15 tanks and armored vehicles, and about 20 military jeeps, stormed the village.

The occupation forces imposed a curfew, and they did not allow even an ambulance or the Red Cross to enter and provide medical assistance to the wounded, who were bleeding in the olive fields. They also refused to permit the three Palestinian doctors residing in the village to offer medical aid or even approach the wounded.

Local residents reported that Israeli soldiers placed three of the martyrs' bodies on bulldozers and paraded them through the village streets to instill fear in their hearts. They arbitrarily arrested 50 citizens, leaving them bound at the village entrance after detaining them for hours in the "Halmish" settlement detention center near the village, without conducting any investigations.