

must obtain special permits and use the one of the Jayyus gates. Between August and December 2003, HaMoked's hotline dealt with 122 cases in which people were stranded on the wrong side of these gates.

An example is the sequence of events in just four days in December:

On December 7th, at 1:10 PM, a man called HaMoked's hotline asking to have the Jayyus gate opened for people who were waiting on either side for the military patrol, which was to arrive at 12:30 PM and open it. A few phone calls later, HaMoked found out that because of alerts, the gate would not be opened. Nevertheless, at 1:25 PM a military force came to the gate and let through those who were still waiting. At 5 PM that day a man called and informed HaMoked that the gate had not been opened at 4:30 PM

as it was supposed to, and that some 50 people are therefore unable to go home. The following day, one of the farmers got stuck on the east side of the wall, because he was a couple of minutes late. The gate was still open when he got there but the soldiers would not let him through. On December 9th, the gate was not opened at midday, and farmers waited there for more than three hours in hope that soldiers passing by would open it for them. At 4 PM the last of the farmers left the gate and returned to their homes, without farming their land. The next day, around 40 farmers were stuck on the west side of the wall on their way back to Jayyus. Only an hour and a half after the time when the gate was scheduled to be opened, did the military patrol arrive and let them pass. **(Cases E3382, E3388, E3390, E3396, E3408)**

Roadblocks

The large numbers of roadblocks, the endless friction between civilians and soldiers and the practically limitless power in the soldiers' hands, have turned abuse, beatings and humiliation to a routine. In many cases, intervention at the roadblocks is urgent – which is why HaMoked's Emergency Human Rights Hotline was created. In 2003, HaMoked's hotline handled around 2,000 calls from roadsides and roadblocks, and tried to resolve the various problems as fast as possible, by contacting the relevant people at the Civil Administration and the local military headquarters. While in most cases HaMoked's communications with

the Civil Administrations and the District Coordination Offices (DCOs) yielded results, the process generally took too long. HaMoked also followed up on cases at the callers' requests, even after the complainants were allowed through and saw that it was investigated and that those responsible were tried. HaMoked also followed up on cases where authorities failed to assist altogether.

⁴ HCJ Petition 11344/03, *Salim et al. v. IDF Commander in the West Bank*.

On the evening of October 26, 2003, A.A.'s contractions started. At 7:40 PM A.A. and her husband got in their car and drove toward the entrance to their village, in the Nablus area, to meet the ambulance that they called and which was to drive her the rest of the way from the roadblock at the entrance to the village to the hospital. However, soldiers who were standing at the village entrance stopped the car. When the ambulance got to the other side of the roadblock, the soldiers started fire and drove it away. A.A.'s husband called HaMoked, which immediately contacted the Civil Administration demanding that the ambulance be allowed in. Half an hour and many phone calls later, the Civil Administration informed HaMoked that the ambulance could approach the roadblock and pick up A.A. HaMoked was on line with both the ambulance and A.A.'s husband, who had driven away earlier because of the soldiers' shooting. At 8:35 PM, 55 minutes after they left the house, A.A. and her husband started crossing by foot the mound separating between them and the ambulance. The soldiers were gone and A.A. made it safely to the ambulance. She reached the hospital – which is a 15-minute drive from her home – at 8:50 PM. **(Case E3037)**

On February 2, 2003, at noon, soldiers stopped the traffic at a roadblock near Jerusalem and took the IDs and car keys of everyone there. A soldier told the passengers in one of the cars to step out, turned on the radio and demanded that they dance with him. A few minutes later one of the passengers called HaMoked, which contacted the DCO in Ramallah.

At 12:40 PM, around 40 minutes after the incident started, a military jeep arrived on site. The IDs and car keys were returned and the car was allowed to drive on. **(Case E972)**

On the morning of May 3, 2003, A.D. (38) reached the Hawara roadblock near Nablus. The soldier at the roadblock threw A.D.'s papers on the ground and instructed him to crawl and bray like a donkey, or else he would not get his papers back. When A.D. refused, the soldier confiscated the ID and told him that he was detained until further notice. HaMoked's hotline contacted the Civil Administration and asked that A.D. be released and that his papers be returned. Six hours later, an officer from the DCO arrived on site, gave A.D. his papers and allowed him to carry on. **(Case EI508)**

On May 31 at midday, Z.A. crossed the Qalandiya roadblock with his taxicab. At the roadblock he was stopped by a border policeman, who opened the door and without saying a word bashed Z.A.'s face with the butt of his rifle. Z.A. fell from the car and passed out on the road. The soldiers would not allow passersby to go near the wounded man and help him. One of the witnesses called HaMoked, which contacted the DCO and demanded that an ambulance be allowed across the roadblock to evacuate Z.A. Within 30 minutes a Red Crescent ambulance arrived on site and took Z.A. to the hospital, where he spent two days because of an eye injury. The case is being followed up by HaMoked vis-à-vis the internal affairs unit of the Israel Police. **(Case EI778).**