

# — **2017** — A Year in Review



# **Dear Partners,**

For the past 17 years since its establishment, Honenu has provided tens of thousands of soldiers, police and civilians who find themselves in legal entanglements as a result of the complex security situation in Israel, with legal advice and assistance. Due to Honenu's hard-earned reputation as an established and effective organization, some of our supporters may have been given the impression that the organization receives funding from an official source. The opposite is true: All of Honenu's work is funded entirely by private donations.

Victims of terror turn to our legal aid headquarters seeking answers to the many legal and practical questions that they have about their situation. All of the resources necessary to assist them in attaining their legal rights are provided solely by Honenu, and we could not do so without your generous contributions.

Honenu has fortunately been able to give an increasing number of people the help they require, and we regard it as a tremendous privilege to help those who have taken action, sometimes endangering themselves for the sake of the public, in the struggle to improve the security situation in Eretz Yisrael. Over time we have been witnessing a positive change regarding citizens' rights.

The extensive positive feedback we receive is very gratifying, but can detract attention from the fact that Honenu is a 100% donor-funded grass-roots organization, not a huge operation.

You are Honenu's only partners in defending those who defend Israel and bringing justice to those whose rights are not recognized.

We are asking each and every one of you to donate, each according to your ability, and to tell others about Honenu so they too can be part of our work to make Israel a more just place.

Please donate so that Honenu can continue to help others. We greatly appreciate your continued support of Honenu's assistance to individuals who put the safety and security of Israel first and foremost in their considerations.

Thank you for your continued support Hopenu

Shmuel (Zangi) Meidad, Director of Honenu.

# Foreword



# Honenu's activity over the past year, in numbers



Over the past year we handled

**19** 

cases of Yehuda and Shomron residents whose weapons which are critical for their own defense and that of their families on a daily basis, at home and on the roads, had been confiscated

In 12
cases the weapons
were returned

Cases are still being handled

Over the past year, throughout Israel, Honenu oversaw the work of :

Dedicated volunteers

Attorneys - to whom Honenu pays reduced rate 14

Legal proceedings



were opened against law enforcement authorities

for illegal use of force against detainees

9

Civil suits were accepted, 1 was rejected, and the remainder of the suits are on-going.

6

Complaints were filed with the Police Investigation Unit and the Disciplinary Court 24

Civil suits were opened.

20

Complaints were filed with Public Complaints Officers in the Israeli Police.







# Detainees & Defendants

# **Detainees, Defendants and Prisoners**

Many civilians who were suddenly detained by the police received immediate assistance from Honenu's attorneys. From the earliest stages of a detention, a Honenu Attorney is called to the detainee to provide legal assistance before the start of an interrogation and during its course. When a detainee is brought to court for a remand extension, a Honenu Attorney represents him in court at the expense of the organization. The continuous presence of professional attorneys, from the first stages of the detentions to representation in court, sends the authorities a clear message that someone is watching them and therefore they must respect and uphold citizens' rights.

The individual attention Honenu's attorneys provide, sometimes from before the moment of detention, in conjunction with the wide scope of Honenu's operations, prevents the authorities from manipulating and deceiving the detainees.

Throughout even prolonged legal cases, Honenu's attorneys stay informed. Honenu's staff constantly assists the defendants and their families, locating the best attorney for the case and accompanying them to court deliberations. For particularly complex cases Honenu subsidizes a second attorney and provides as much funding as possible for legal costs.

This past year Honenu has responded to an increased demand for legal counsel as the result of the operations of a department which the Military Advocate General formed under pressure from hostile organizations. The department's purpose is to investigate and indict soldiers suspected of using undue

force during security operations. In 2015 Honenu revealed the close ties between organizations such as B'Tselem and the Military Advocate General. This year we augmented legal assistance according to the increased need.

We also assist defendants who were convicted and are serving time in prison. The prisoners receive legal counsel to ensure that they do not receive improper treatment, including violation of their rights to furloughs, rehabilitation programs, reduced sentences for good behavior, and for released prisoners, assistance reentering society and locating employment.

## Cases

Unfortunately the blatantly discriminatory policies of the police and the authorities towards Jews has led us to handling particularly scandalous cases in which we have encountered a policy of stringent law enforcement concerning soldiers and Jewish citizens, whereas rioting Arabs involved with the same incident are given extremely conciliatory treatment by the authorities.

- O IDF Nahal soldiers responded with reasonable force when assaulted by a suspect whom they were detaining. The suspect filed a complaint and the soldiers were detained.
- Jewish hikers who were assaulted near an Arab village narrowly escaped serious injury only to be **detained and interrogated** by the police. The Arabs assailants were not detained.
- An indictment was filed against the civilian head of security of the Jewish Community of Hevron following his intervention in a



legal struggle he was exonerated.

- → Five Jewish youths were assaulted by Arabs while "Circling the Gates" of the Old City of Jerusalem. The assaulted youths were detained, the assailants were not.
- 3 A Jewish agriculturalist was assaulted by dozens of Arabs while working in an agricultural area in the Shilo Bloc. He was detained by the police because he had drawn his weapon in self defense. The Arab assailants were not detained.
- → An Ofra resident was detained during the destruction of the houses in Ofra when he brought food to protesting youths who had barricaded themselves in one of houses.

# **Positive trends**

Honenu's thorough and consistent professional work has proved itself in a large number of successfully closed cases. Many times the courts, sometimes after an appeal, accepted the opinions of Honenu's attorneys. For example:

- against a border policeman charged with killing a masked Arab who threw rocks at him: The indictment was changed from homicide to manslaughter.
- We achieved the cancellation of the indictment of a Jewish youth charged with serious assault of Arabs. After a prolonged trial it became apparent that there was no evidence supporting the accusations against him. The Attorney General's office was forced to cancel the indictment.
- The court censured the police for detaining Jewish worshipers who were assaulted by rioting Arabs in the Joshua's Tomb complex near Ariel in the Shomron. The court leveled sharp criticism at the powerlessness of the police in handling the rioters and also at the false detention of the assaulted worshipers.



Over the past year Honenu handled 994 cases:

**805** Detainees & arrestees

**19** Prisoners

**45** Hearings

**125** Indictments.

The emergency hot-line handled requests for assistance from:

**54** IDF soldiers and other security forces

77 Separate incidents involving protesters in Amona during its destruction

**327** Minors. **275** males & **52** females.

# Legal assistance for victims of terror

# **Background**

Over the past year Honenu has significantly increased the amount of assistance given to victims of terror and their families. The assistance includes compiling legal evidence against terrorists and their abettors and following the legal procedures against them, starting from the investigative stage through the indictment and until conviction and monetary compensation.

Attorneys working on behalf of Honenu work shoulder to shoulder with the Attorney General's office, who are the government's representatives in handling the criminal proceedings against the terrorists. The presence of Honenu's attorneys at court deliberations in the framework of criminal proceedings is of great importance and contributes to terrorists being prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Honenu's staff assists the affected families with explanations about their status and practical guidance concerning their situation to

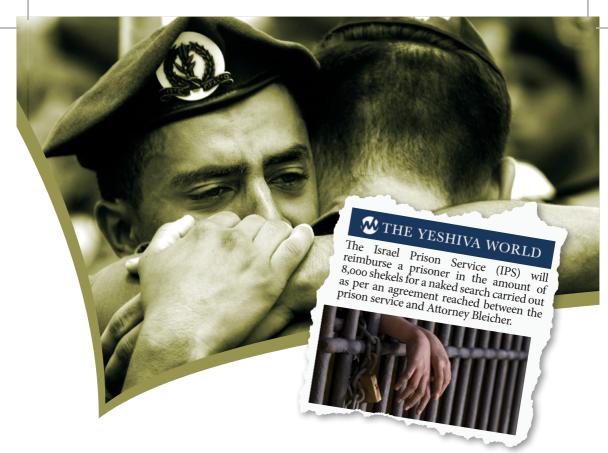
ensure that they receive all of their rights as victims of terror.

Honenu assists, guides and encourages victims of terror to avail themselves of the full range of rights to which they are entitled. In addition to the matter of filing civil suits against terrorists, victims of terror are faced with the procedures of gaining official recognition as such, determining their level of disability with the National Insurance Institute and pension funds. Honenu also refers victims of terror to organizations and funds which provide support to them and their families.

# Cases

Over the past year Honenu assisted victims of terror with cases and proceedings, legal briefings, preparation for legal cases, and meetings with official legal representatives. Among the cases:

Honenu is assisting a bereaved family of whom several members were murdered by a



terrorist. Members of Honenu's staff are meeting with high-ranking legal officials to ensure that the terrorist is given the most stringent penalties allowable by law. Simultaneously Honenu petitioned the High Court of Justice to order the complete destruction of the terrorist's house.

- On behalf of the family of a child whose skull was broken by a terrorist, Honenu filed a civil suit against the terrorist. After the criminal conviction, Honenu assisted the family in filing the civil suit to create a deterrent and to attain some small amount of justice for the injured.
- A joint effort between Honenu and the Attorney General's office, and an expert legal opinion Honenu submitted, led to the State of Israel filing an appeal concerning the exoneration of a terrorist who murdered a Jewish worshiper in the Shomron.

→ Honenu's work with the widow of a senior police officer who was murdered in a shooting attack on the Tarkumiya Road led the Attorney General's office to file an appeal against the leniency of the penalty which the terrorist initially had received in court. The Attorney General's office was convinced by the widow's pleas and the appeal was filed.

# **Positive Trends**

In addition to the counsel Honenu provides to individuals, we are successfully working towards changing the conduct of law enforcement officials in general. Our understanding is that changes of this type have a wideranging influence on the policies of the authorities concerning terrorists, their families and their organizations.

Arab attackers who injured Jew freed just hours after arrest Police free Arabs who hurled stones at Jews on Temple just hours after attack occ

Contact Editor Arutz Sheva Staff, 19/06/17 11:19

Settler Suing Police over Sexual Harassment in Mikvah

# IDF court sentences PA officer to just six years for killing Livnat's nephew

• By YONAH JEREMY BOI

The Samaria Military Court The Samaria Military Court on Tuesday sentenced former Palestinan Authority policeman Nuaf Auda to a mere Six years in prison for the 2011 shooting of Ben Yoseph Livnat, the nephew of former culture and sports minister Limor Livnat, near Joseph's Tomb in Nablus.

culture and spoorph's

Immo Livnat, near Joseph's

Tomb in Nablus.

Auda was represented by

Merav Khoury, a top Jaw
per for Palestinian Authority security defendants, who

convinced the court to drop

the mutch lesser conviction of

"shooting toward a person,"

According to Rhoury, and

as ultimately accepted by the

court, Livnat, who was 25 at

the time, came to the tomb

on an unscheduled visit, and

he and his group ignored

warning shots br

"a and

other by

"a and



BEN YOSEPH LIVNAT

sped away from the PA police sped away from the PA police in their vehicles, Auda and other policemen opened fire, killing Livnat and injuring others.

The court found that it could not determine which policeman caused Livnat's

four years in prison since 2013, and cited the recent 18-month-sentence of soldier Elor Azaria for leniency. The

is-month-sentence of soldier Elor Azaria for leniency. The IDF prosecution asked for a 10-year sentence. Autorney Haime Beicher, of the right-wing NGO Honeau, who represented Livnat's family, said the acquirtal for murder was "shocking and not grounded in the evidence. The defendant confessed explicitly that he shot toward the car of the murdered person. and that he struck him Likewise, a builet matchin the shooting line of the defendant was found in the carthen murdered person. "The tourt on its own etained illogical scenario, another terrorist might caused the harm," By said, adding that the appeals.

said, adding that the appeal. The IDF West

# THE YESHIVA WORLD

Three members of the Returning to the Mountain movement were arrested on Monday for protesting the closure of the Temple Mount to Jews on Israel's Holocaust Memorial Day. The teens were about to hang up a poster protesting Police decision to close down the Temple Mount to Jewish visitors on Yom HaShoah, of all days, when a team of detectives from the David District Police ran at the boys and arrested them, using violence.





# **Progress**

Examples from this past year:

→ Honenu revealed a legal lacuna concerning the detention of terrorists who are minors. While working on legal proceedings against a terrorist who attempted to murder Jews at a bus stop, it turned out that the terrorist had been released partly due to guidelines in the law in Yehuda and Shomron which do not allow imprisoning minors for more than limited and short periods of time. We revealed the oversight to the leading news media and contacted the relevant individuals in the Ministries of Justice and Defense. We are following their actions to rectify the guidelines.

Honenu's actions led to wide-spread detentions of rioting Arabs who ambushed and attacked a group of dozens of bar mitzva boys hiking near Migdalim in the Shomron. Honenu thoroughly investigated the incident, including searching for documentation on social media. Thanks to the evidence Honenu obtained, some of the assailants were detained, some of whom were indicted.

# **Cases in Numbers**

Over the past year Honenu handled the cases of 16 families of victims of terror



Honenu's staff worked with the Attorney General's office on criminal cases against the terrorists



Honenu petitioned the High Court of Justice to forbid the renovation of the house of a terrorist who carried out a murderous attack.



Honenu handled **11** cases with the National Insurance Institute and pension funds.



Honenu filed **4** civil suits against terrorists

# **Administrative Orders**

# **Background**

In effect, the Jewish communities in Yehuda and Shomron are under military control via martial law and military ordinances. The army and the GSS (Shabak) take advantage of this problematic legal status and implement extreme measures against Jewish citizens. Instead of allowing the law enforcement authorities to examine and investigate, they prefer to avoid court trials by issuing administrative orders to citizens, among them minors. Administrative detention and distancing orders disrupt family life, put great strain on a family's income and interfere with every aspect of daily life.

Honenu researched and discovered that the dozens of administrative orders issued over the past year were issued to right-wing activists only. We did not find even one example of an administrative order issued to a left-wing activist, such as the anarchists who participate in violent disturbances and injure IDF soldiers in conflict zones in Yehuda and Shomron, even though the security forces are well acquainted with the persons involved.

Administrative orders are signed by army officers. There is no trial or other legal proceeding. The recipients do not have the right to defend themselves against the accusations and the evidence is confidential. Such a mode of operation is unacceptable concerning citizens under democratic rule. However, here the process is carried out with the authorization of the highest ranking officials and with the consent of the courts. It is impossible to describe the significance and the scope of the injury caused to the individuals administratively detained and distanced. Not infrequently administrative orders serve as a means to quash legitimate

The orders include distancing from an individual's home or from the community of residence, complete house arrest, house arrest at night, prohibitions against entering certain regions, prohibitions against making contact with certain individuals, and/or obligations to report to a police station at regular times. All orders are according to the decision of an officer and are not subject to any inspection.

Recently the use of administrative orders has increased greatly. Instead of minimizing the violation of human rights, the Justice Ministry is promoting a law which intensifies the phenomenon. Honenu is doing everything within the staff's abilities to prevent activists in Yehuda and Shomron from receiving restrictive orders before being tried in court. We are campaigning against issuing administrative orders by advocating judicial review and raising public awareness of the matter in order to convince decision-makers that they should oppose the orders.

## Cases

A small sampling of the past year's cases: Honenu is waging a legal battle in the military court to cancel a six-month administrative order issued to a resident of a community in the Binyamin region.





including seven children, from their home. The family, with the assistance of Honenu, is also publicly campaigning against the order.

Honenu obtained permits for individuals under house arrest to leave their homes to facilitate the medical treatment of members of their families, and also to attend important events.

# **Positive Trends**

We set as a goal, changing the perception of the authorities, Knesset members and other elected officials concerning administrative orders. To that end we worked against the initiative of the Justice Department and the GSS (Shabak) to limit the ability of the recipients of administrative orders to defend themselves in the legal arena. We submitted 3 position papers on the matter to relevant individuals and filed 2 petitions with the High Court of Justice against administrative orders issued to right-wing activists.

In cases which were brought to court we succeeded in canceling administrative detention and distancing orders. Among the cases:

After Honenu filed an appeal, the military court ordered the cancellation of a particularly stringent order which prohibited a right-wing activist from speaking to 173 specific individuals. Since this ruling no similar administrative orders have been issued.

Following an appeal filed by Honenu, the military court reduced by 50% the duration of an administrative distancing order issued to a Shomron resident and father of seven children.

# Cases in Numbers

Honenu handled **60** legal proceedings and requests to cancel administrative orders issued to right-wing activists.

Recipients of administrative orders are not given the opportunity to defend themselves in a trial before the orders are issued.

Honenu filed **16** appeals with the military court against administrative orders.

3 appeals were completely accepted and the orders canceled, 1 order was partially canceled,

The durations of 4 orders issued to minors were shortened, and the remainder of the appeals were rejected.

# Protection of Human Rights

# **Background**

Honenu is working to eliminate brutal and violent detentions and is also monitoring operations which unnecessarily restrict freedom of movement and freedom of expression. We have found that many times the only cause for the detention of youth by police is their external appearance. We are working to eliminate the abuse of authority which results in the violation of the rights of detainees and prisoners.

In the struggle for human rights we use all the legal means within our abilities, including filing civil suits, filing complaints with the Police Investigation Unit and appealing their decisions on complaints, filing complaints with the Disciplinary Court of the Israeli Police, filing complaints with the Public Complaints Officers of the Israeli Police, and wide-spread publication of incidents in the news media.

A serious and life-threatening situation with which Honenu's attorneys must cope is the confiscation of personal weapons of defense from residents of Yehuda and Shomron. There have been many instances of the Israeli Police confiscating weapons from individuals who have defended themselves, their families and others from rioting Arabs. Over the past year Honenu has handled 19 cases of confiscated weapons, four of which are on-going. In 12 cases Honenu's attorneys succeeded in achieving the return of personal weapons crucial for the protection of their owners and communities.

In an arduous and exhausting struggle for human rights we have succeeded in many

cases despite callous authorities and an overly rigid system.

## Cases

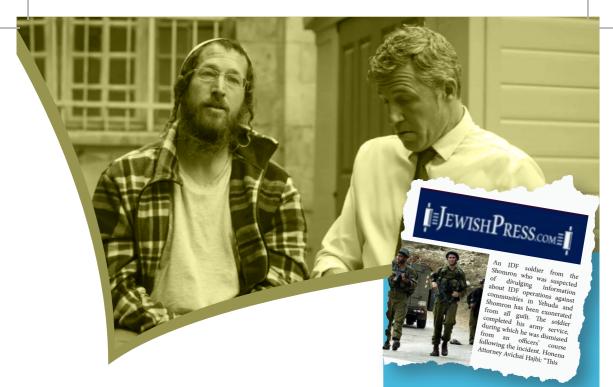
The following are a sampling of human rights cases Honenu handled over the past vear:

- (9) On behalf of a youth beaten during detention. Honenu filed a civil suit against a member of the GSS (Shabak). The youth's eye was injured and he was evacuated to the hospital.
- Honenu filed a civil suit against the Israeli Police on behalf of a man who suffered an assault to his genitals by a policeman during the evacuation of Amona.
- (A) Following the brutal evacuation of residents and the illegal destruction of a structure in an outpost, Honenu filed a civil suit against the Civil Administration.

# **Positive trends**

The courts accepted our claims in a series of civil cases and imposed significant monetary penalties on the defendants. In addition to the monetary compensation which the injured parties receive, the penalties send a clear message to the senior officers and the lower ranks as well, that undue violence will result in sanctions and legal suits. Among the cases which Honenu won over the past year:

Using a "cookie cutter" system for phrasing the demands and the grounds for detention, a Jerusalem Magistrate Court judge signed on many detention warrants for youths whose cases Honenu is handling. We filed



a complaint with the Ombudsman for Complaints against Judges, who found our complaint justified. He forwarded his ruling on the matter to the Justice Minister and the President of the Supreme Court.

- → The Ariel Police and the Prison Service were obligated to pay 40,000 NIS in compensation to a youth for illegal strip searches. During the trial firmly-established inappropriate modes of operation practiced by the police were revealed. We expect the situation to be rectified.
- → The Israeli Police were obligated to pay 12,000 NIS in compensation to an individual for an unjustified detention and strip search. The Yehuda and Shomron Police rejected our complaint. However in a suit filed by Honenu, the court ruled in favor of the compensation.
- For 24 hours the Prison Service and the Central Unit of the Yehuda and Shomron Police held a detainee whom the courts had ordered released. Subsequent to a civil suit filed on his behalf by Honenu the court awarded him 5,000 NIS in compensation.
- → The court obligated policemen from the Tzfat Police Department to pay 4,500 NIS in compensation to an illegally detained and searched couple.
- Policemen from the Jerusalem District Police led youths handcuffed and barefoot to a court deliberation. The court awarded the youths 3,750 NIS in compensation in a civil suit filed by Honenu on their behalf.



# **Cases in Numbers**

Over the past year Honenu:

- Filed **24** civil suits against the Israeli Police, the GSS (Shabak) and the Prison Service.
- Referred 6 complaints to the Police Investigation Unit and the Disciplinary Court of the Israeli Police
- Submitted **20** additional complaints to Public Complaints Officers in the Israeli Police





