

February, 4, 2010

By Xinhua News

Link: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-02/04/c_13163965.htm

Israel expels West Bank resident to Gaza

GAZA, Feb. 4 (Xinhua) -- Israel deported a Palestinian from the West Bank to the isolated, Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip on Thursday, a Palestinian prisoners rights association said.

The Palestinian Prisoner Club said in a statement that Baker al- Haffi has spent nearly one month in an Israeli detention center after he was arrested in Tulkarem city in the West Bank.

According to the statement, al-Haffi's ID card indicates that he was originally from Gaza and that's why Israel has expelled him. Al-Haffi is married to a woman from the West Bank and had lived there for 10 years. He also has two children, a house and a farm in Tulkarem.

Since Israel announced Gaza a hostile entity following Hamas' takeover of the coastal strip in 2007, it is increasingly deporting the West Bank-residents of Gazan origins if they are caught in raids the Israeli army conducts on daily basis.

In October last year, Israel deported a Palestinian student of Bethlehem University to Gaza two months before her graduation after soldiers on a checkpoint found out that she was born in Gaza. Later, in December, the Israeli High Court ruled that Berlanty Azzam, 22, can't return to the West Bank to continue her studies.