## Demonstration at Ma'asara, June 15, 2012

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Friday, June 15, 2012, locals from the village of Ma'asara gathered together along with a group of international individuals seeking to express solidarity with the Palestinians oppressed by the Israeli occupation.

Led by a strong-willed local man named Mahmoud, the demonstrators set out to protest against the Occupation and the actions and policies of Israel, such as the continued building of settlements around their village.

The protesters headed to the outlying settlement, but were stopped by Israeli soldiers at the outskirts of Ma'asara. There, the soldiers formed a wall, forbidding the demonstrators to pass.

Known for their commitment to non-violence, the demonstrators simply wished to use their right of free speech to protest against Israel and the occupation. Many demonstrators called for a renewed sense of the humanity of the individuals involved with the hope that both sides, Israelis and Palestinians, would begin to reconcile with each other.

Also a part of the demonstration, were young children from the village. They, however, were also refused the ability to pass by the soldiers.

Overall, the demonstration was peaceful and there were no acts of violence committed by either side.

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