

Jenin – only the ruins are beyond dispute

For Israelis, Jenin refugee camp is the “suiciders capital” – half of the 110 suicide bombers since the Palestinian uprising began in September 2000 have lived or been trained there. For Palestinians, Jenin has become a new rallying cry in their struggle for an independent state



Feb 28 – Mar 3: Israeli army fights its way into Jenin refugee camp. During 72-hour occupation military intelligence plant bugs in Palestinian houses, cars, computers and communications. Captured documents link Jenin camp to militants – **Islamic Jihad, Hamas, and Fatah's Al Aqsa Brigades and Tanzim**



Mar 2-Apr 1: Suicide bombers kill 67 people in 12 attacks, including 22 Israelis celebrating Passover

Apr 2: Israeli army launch **Operation Defensive Wall**, encircling Jenin camp with tanks. Army intelligence identifies militants and estimates all but 2,000 of some 13,000 refugees have fled to nearby villages before offensive begins

4 am, Apr 3: Israeli soldiers – who enter camp on foot from south – encounter heavy resistance as they drive militants toward ring of tanks



Apr 6: Armoured bulldozers destroy targets identified on maps and aerial photographs

Apr 9: After seven days of fierce hand-to-hand fighting Israeli troops approach Central Plaza where Palestinian fighters make final stand. During two-hour battle with Israeli 5th Brigade Palestinians kill 13 and wound six



Apr 10: In change of tactics tanks and bulldozers, backed by helicopter gunships, begin to flatten Central Plaza area

Apr 11: Resistance collapses – total of 500 Palestinians are captured. Ten days of brutal fighting claim the lives of 23 Israeli soldiers and an unknown number of Palestinians

