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POV's '5 Broken Cameras' Is Dramatic Account of Palestinian Village's Defense of Land, Monday, Aug. 26, 2013 on PBS

Farmer Buys a Camera to Film His New Son's Childhood—and Focuses His Lens On a Bitter Struggle Over Land, Water and Dignity in the West Bank

"A visual essay in autobiography. . . . a modest, rigorous and moving work of art."

—A.O. Scott, *The New York Times* (Critics' Pick)

MEDIA ALERT – FACT SHEET

National Dates: **5 Broken Cameras** has its national broadcast premiere on Monday, Aug. 26, 2013 at 10 p.m. during the 26th season of **POV (Point of View)** on PBS. (Check local listings.) It will stream on POV's website, www.pbs.org/pov, from Aug. 27 – Sep. 26, 2013. American television's longest-running independent documentary series, POV is the winner of a 2013 MacArthur Foundation Award for Creative and Effective Institutions.

The Film: Nominated for an Oscar®, **5 Broken Cameras** is a deeply personal first-hand account of life and nonviolent resistance in Bil'in, a West Bank village where Israel is building a security fence. Palestinian Emad Burnat, who bought his first camera in 2005 to record the birth of his youngest son, shot the film and Israeli filmmaker Guy Davidi co-directed. The filmmakers follow one family's evolution over five years, witnessing a child's growth from a newborn baby into a young boy who observes the world unfolding around him. The film is a Palestinian-Israeli-French co-production.

A powerful work of front-line filmmaking, **5 Broken Cameras** is an intensely personal account of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as it plays out on the ground in the West Bank. It is a rare look at the conflict from the inside of a Palestinian village, whose resistance inspired the residents of other villages and attracted international attention.

Israel began construction of its security barrier in 2002 after three years of unabated suicide bombings and daily terrorist attacks against its civilians by Palestinians; prior to that, suicide bombers could simply walk into Israel from Palestinian communities. Israeli fatalities have decreased from 457 in 2002 to ten in 2012.¹

5 Broken Cameras is a production of Guy DVD Films, Alegria Productions and Burnat Films Palestine.

¹ Sources: Jewish Virtual Library; Israel Security Agency 2012 Annual Report: Data and Trends in Terrorism. <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Peace/fence.html>; <http://tinyurl.com/nmakwpc>; <http://tinyurl.com/oeceb9n>

Embed a trailer, download press materials and learn more at www.pbs.org/pressroom.

Online: www.pbs.org/pov/5brokencameras – POV’s Webby Award-winning website offers a broad range of exclusive online content to enhance the broadcast of **5 Broken Cameras**. Watch the full film online for free for a limited time following the broadcast (Aug. 27 – Sep. 26, 2013), view a video interview with the director, and download a discussion guide and other viewing resources.

Outreach: POV works with educators, public television stations and national and community groups across the country to foster dialogue around the issues presented in our films. For a list of upcoming screening events, go to www.pbs.org/pov/outreach. POV and nationally recognized media educator Dr. Faith Rogow develop discussion guides and lesson plans to facilitate conversations. The **5 Broken Cameras** discussion guide includes background information, prompts for dialogue and taking action steps, and a list of resources. The materials are available free of charge at www.pbs.org/pov/5brokencameras. Education consultant Michele Israel has also developed a lesson plan to accompany the film. Event organizers may email events@pov.org to request a free loaned DVD to screen.

Filmmakers’
Statements:

“It was a very hard decision for me to make a personal film,” says co-director Emad Burnat. “This is not something people here [in the West Bank] can understand easily. It also means exposure that can lead to arrest or worse.”

“I knew Emad had natural visual talent,” adds co-director Guy Davidi, “but when I first looked at the footage I wasn’t sure we could create a truly new story. Then, when Emad began explaining his personal connections to the people I was seeing in his footage, I realized we had the makings of a film that would tell the events in a new way, as Emad experienced them with his cameras.”

Filmmaker Bios: [Emad Burnat, Co-director, Cinematographer](#)

Emad Burnat is a Palestinian farmer and freelance cameraman and photographer. His credits include filming for TV channels such as Al-Jazeera, Israeli channels 1, 2 and 10, and Palestinian television. He has also worked with Reuters on several occasions, and he filmed footage for the documentaries *Bil’in*, *My Love*, *Palestine Kids*, *Open Close* and *Interrupted Streams*, among others.

[Guy Davidi, Co-director, Co-editor](#)

Born in Jaffa, Israel, Guy Davidi is a documentary filmmaker and teacher. He has been directing, editing and shooting films since the age of 16. As a cameraman, he shot the films *Hamza* and *Journal d’Une Orange*, *Aller Simple* for France 3. Davidi has also directed many short documentaries including *In Working Progress*, *Keywords*, and *Women Defying Barriers*, which were presented at film festivals and theatrical venues worldwide. In 2010, Davidi’s first feature, *Interrupted Streams*, premiered to acclaim at the Jerusalem Film Festival.

Related Stories: “John Kerry Keeps on Keeping on for Israel-Arab Peace negotiations,” *New York Daily News*, July 8, 2013. <http://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/palestine-trap-article-1.1391509>

“Netanyahu: Egypt border fence essential to prevention of terror attacks,” by Gavriel Fiske, *The Times of Israel*, July 7, 2013. <http://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-egypt-border-fence-halted-flow-of-migrants/>

“Rocket Fire From Gaza Shakes Cease-Fire With Israel,” by Isabel Kershner, *The New York Times*, June 27, 2013. <http://tinyurl.com/qcoatsf>

“‘5 Broken Cameras’ and blaming the victim on the West Bank,” *NPR Ombudsman*, March 8, 2013. <http://www.npr.org/blogs/ombudsman/2013/03/04/173457628/5-broken-cameras-and-blaming-the-victim-on-the-west-bank>

“A West Bank story, told through Palestinian eyes,” by Larry Abramson. *NPR, All Things Considered*, February 20, 2013. <http://m.npr.org/news/front/172505481?start=5>

“Seven years, ‘5 Broken Cameras’: documenting the occupation,” by Thomas White, *Documentary.org*, Feb. 2013. <http://www.documentary.org/magazine/seven-years-5-broken-cameras-documenting-occupation>

“Palestine sets up tents where Israel plans homes” by Isabel Kershner, *The New York Times*, Jan. 11, 2013. http://www.nytimes.com/2013/01/12/world/middleeast/palestinians-set-up-camp-in-israeli-occupied-west-bank-territory.html?_r=0

“Israel Security Fence Architect: Why the Barrier Had to Be Built,” by Col. (Res.) Dr. Danny Tirza, *Al Monitor*, July 1, 2012. <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2012/al-monitor/israeli-security-fence-architect.html>

Credits: Directors: Emad Burnat, Guy Davidi
Writer: Guy Davidi
Producers: Christine Camdessus, Serge Gordey, Emad Burnat, Guy Davidi
Cinematographer: Emad Burnat
Editors: Véronique Lagoarde-Ségot, Guy Davidi
Original Music: Samir Joubran, Wissam Joubran, Adnan Joubran
Additional Cinematography: Yisrael Puterman, Guy Davidi, Jonathan Massey, Alexandre Goetschmann, Shay Carmeli Pollak, Heitham Abu-Rahme, David Reeb, Islam Amira, Bassam Hamad
Running Time: 86:46

POV Series Credits:

Executive Producer: Simon Kilmurry
Co-Executive Producer: Cynthia López
VP, Programming and Production: Chris White
Coordinating Producer: Andrew Catauro

Awards & Festivals:

Nominee, Academy Award[®], Best Documentary Feature, 2013
Winner, Feature Length Special Jury Award and Audience Award, International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam, 2011
Winner, World Cinema Directing Award: Documentary, Sundance Film Festival, 2012
Winner, Best Israeli Documentary, Jerusalem Film Festival, 2012
Winner, Audience Award, Sheffield Doc/Fest, 2012
Winner, Busan Cinephile Award, Busan International Film Festival, 2012

Nominated, Best Documentary Feature, Asia Pacific Screen Awards, 2012

Pressroom: Visit POV's pressroom, www.pbs.org/pov/pressroom, for press releases, downloadable art, filmmaker biographies, transcripts and special features.

POV: Produced by American Documentary, Inc. and celebrating its 26th season on PBS in 2013, the award-winning POV is the longest-running showcase on American television to feature the work of today's best independent documentary filmmakers. POV has brought more than 325 acclaimed documentaries to millions nationwide and has a Webby Award-winning online series, *POV's Borders*. Since 1988, POV has pioneered the art of presentation and outreach using independent nonfiction media to build new communities in conversation about today's most pressing social issues. Visit www.pbs.org/pov.

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