

ARIJ Daily Report

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 22 April 2012

The daily report highlights the violations behind Israeli home demolitions and demolition threats in the occupied Palestinian territory, the confiscation and razing of lands, the uprooting and destruction of fruit trees, the expansion of settlements and erection of outposts, the brutality of the Israeli Occupation Army, the Israeli settlers violence against Palestinian civilians and properties, the erection of checkpoints, the construction of the Israeli segregation wall and the issuance of military orders for the various Israeli purposes.

The Violations are based on reports provided by field workers and \or news sources.

The text is not quoted directly from the sources but is edited for clarity.

The daily report does not necessarily reflect ARIJ's opinion.

Brutality of the Israeli Occupation Army

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Fahma village south of Jenin city and stormed a number of Palestinian houses. The IOA fired Gas Bombs inside the houses; as a result, many suffered Gas inhalation. The house of Burham Mara'ba was among the raided houses in Fahma village. Wafa (April 22, 2012).
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided 'Arraba and Kafr Ra'I villages in Jenin Governorate and toured its jeeps and patrols in the streets and alleys in a provocative way. Wafa (April 22, 2012).

• The Israeli Occupation Army closed Za'tara checkpoint (Taphuh Junction) for two hours and hindered Palestinians cars and pedestrians from accessing it on suspicion that two Palestinian teens possessed five pipe bombs, a gun and munitions.. Wafa (April 22, 2012).

Israeli Arrests

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Two Palestinian teens from An Nabi Saleh village in Ramallah Governorate, and took them to unknown destination after raiding their families' houses. The arrestees are: Ez Ad Din Abdel Hafeeth Al Tamimi (15 years) and Baha Muhammad Al Tamimi (16 years) Israeli Settlers' Violence
- The Palestinian citizen Hijazi Rateb Samamra (47 years) and his son Odai (21 years) were injured as 15 Israeli settlers of Shim'a settlement east of Ad Dahriya town attacked and beat them. Wafa (April 22, 2012)

Confiscation & Razing of lands

• The Israeli Occupation Bulldozers started razing agricultural owned lands in Qalandyia area northwest of Jerusalem city. The Israeli took over 400 dunums of land of Qalandyia village for the construction of the Segregation Wall to isolate the village from Jerusalem. The razed lands are owned by Shareef Awadallah and his brothers. Wafa (April 22, 2012).

Expansion of settlements

• The Israeli government decided to expand the illegal Nof Zion settlement outpost in Jabal Al-Mukabber, in occupied East Jerusalem, buy approving the construction of additional 217 new housing units. The project falls under a plan, known as Project 8815; 100 units were built in the first stage of the project (plan number 4558), while the second phase will lead to the construction of 217 new units. On March, 29, Israel published details of the plan for appeals purposes, and also announced bids for the construction of 645 units for Jewish settlers in Jabal Al-Mukabber (plan number 12825), both residential and commercial units, and another bid for the construction of a commercial area (plan number 7509). Israel also announced bids for the construction of 180 units in Gan Ayalon neighborhood, in Givat Zeev illegal settlement (plan number 10/220. Israel also announced that structural plan of a number of hotels that will be built on lands that belong to Beit Safa Palestinian town, in East Jerusalem, adding that

most of the lands in question belong to the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in the city. Israel also intends to build stone factories on lands that belong to the residents of Doura and Ath-Thahiriyya, near the southern West Bank city of Hebron, in addition to construction projects in resource-rich areas located on 12 square/meters near Rammoun, Anata, Ath-Thahiriyya and Doura. IMEMC (April 22, 2012).

Erection of Israeli checkpoints

• The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) set up a sudden checkpoint at Zahret Al Fenjan landfill south of Jenin city, stopped Palestinians cars and check citizens' ID cards. No arrests were reported. Wafa (April 22, 2012).

Others

- The Israeli Jerusalem District Court ordered the eviction of six settler families from a Palestinian house they invaded in Hebron by May 15, after ruling that the purchase documents presented by the settlers were in fact forged. The house in question belongs to Zechariah Bakri, a Palestinian man, and is adjacent to a Jewish settlement in the Hebron neighborhood Tel Rumeida. It was deserted in 2001, when the Israeli defense Forces (IDF) restricted the movement of Palestinians in the area. The settlers took possession of the house in 2005, claiming that the construction company Tal Lebniya, owned by Moshe Zar, had lawfully purchased the property. Haaretz (April 22, 2012).
- Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu asked his cabinet to lower the media profile of a debate on the future of the West Bank outpost of Ulpana, just as a chief minister pledged to find a solution that would leave its residents in place. Aides to Defense Minister Ehud Barak released a statement accusing two Israeli cabinet members, Israel's Transportation Minister Yisrael Katz and Vice Prime Minister Moshe Ya'alon of adopting the rhetoric of the extreme right in their objection to a possible move to evacuate Ulpana. Speaking during the weekly meeting of Likud ministers in Jerusalem, Netanyahu, ostensibly referring to the heated media debate, instructed cabinet ministers to lower their media profile, saying that a solution to the issue will be reached. However, immediately following the meeting, chief minister and Vice Prime Minister Silvan Shalom released a statement on his Facebook page, saying that "the settlement flag is the central flag of the Likud movement, and the evacuation of settlements is simply out of the question." "Solutions should be found like compensating land owners, if that is required, or legislation. We will continue to act in a

- manner which leaves the neighborhood in place and the settlers in their homes," the statement added. <u>Haaretz (April 22, 2012)</u>
- Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his cabinet that he would submit the issue of sanctioning three West Bank outposts to a specially formed panel, despite the fact that he was expected to bring their recognition to the approval of the cabinet (Bruchin, Sansana and Rechalim.) Netanyahu added that he intended to regulate the status of Bruchin, Sansana and Rechalim through a panel that would work to recognize settlements built on state land or through aid of any kind from the state. The panel will be comprised of Netanyahu himself, Barak, Vice Prime Minister Moshe Ya'alon, and Minister Benny Begin, and will be authorized to reach a decision on the matter. Haaretz (April 22, 2012).
- Evacuating the Ulpana neighborhood in the West Bank settlement of Beit El could lead to the dissolution of the coalition, Vice Prime Minister Moshe Ya'alon said at a meeting in Be'er Sheva. "We have said that we must not remove the neighborhood," said Ya'alon, who is also Israel's strategic affairs minister. "This is a neighborhood of 15 buildings with six apartments in each building, of completely normative people, and all of a sudden they are being told off because a Palestinian claimed the land belongs to him." "We have said we would not remove this neighborhood. If that happens, the government will fall apart," continued Ya'alon. Haaretz (April 22, 2012)
- Residents of Givat Ha'Ulpana slammed Defense Minister Barak for suggesting they move into 'alternative housing'. Speaking at cabinet's meeting, Israel's Defense Minister Ehud Barak said that there was enough land in Beit El to allow residents of Givat Ha'ulpana to move into homes that had no legal questions surrounding them, as opposed to attempting to remain in homes that the High Court has declared do not belong to them. Barak said that the High Court's ruling was not a technical matter, but an important principle of the rule of law, which the state must uphold if it is to call itself a modern democracy. With that, Barak said that "the question of ownership of the land is still being adjudicated. If it turns out that the land is indeed private, there will be no choice but to evict the residents or to buy the land." Several ministers and MKs, including Science Minister Daniel Hershkowitz, have said that any attempt by the government to remove residents of the neighborhood forcefully would mean the end of the Netanyahu government. "We found 22 dunams of land in the town which could, under certain circumstances and after plans are approved, be used to build alternative homes for residents of the neighborhood," Barak said. "If it turns out that the land is owned by Palestinians, we would have no choice other than to abandon it or purchase it," he added. The

Defense Ministry and Civil Administration are working on the issue, along with the Attorney General and Justice Ministry." Givat Ha'Ulpana residents slammed Barak for suggesting that they move to "alternate homes" in Beit El. "Residents of the neighborhood recognized Ehud Barak for the good that he did as Prime Minister, when he provided benefits for residents of Beit El, paved roads in the town, and connected residents to infrastructure." With that, they said, "We are not chess pieces for Ehud Barak to play with, where he builds a house in one location and demolishes one in another. Nowhere in Israel, or in the world, do they tear down thriving neighborhoods, even if it turns out an error was made," had the residents said. Barak should do likewise and acknowledge the residents' rights to remain in their homes. INN (April 22, 2012).

