



ARIJ Daily Report

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt

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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

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) attacked a non-violent protest against the construction of the segregation wall in Beir 'owna area in Beit Jala town, west of Bethlehem city. The IOA assaulted the participants and arrested two of them, were identified as: Munther Amara and Ahmed Odeha (PNN & Al-Quds 19 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed and searched dozens of Palestinian houses in Yabad town, west of Jenin city. The IOA occupied

the roof of a house and transformed it to a military tower. (Pal Info 19 August 2015)

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Zabda village, west of Jenin cut and erected a military checkpoint at the entrance of the village. The IOA stopped and searched Palestinian vehicles and checked ID cards. (Pal Info 19 August 2015)

Israeli Arrests

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested 6 Palestinians from Jerusalem city. The arrestees were identified as: Ash-Sheikh Talal Ar-Rajabi, Mohammad Adnan Mahmoud, Tareq At-Tamimi, Yousif Ash-Shawesh, Hatheqa Shreteh, Munir Mohammad Kayed Mahmoud and Mohammad Nasser Abed Al Latif. (Maannews 19 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Shahada Mohammad Salamah Awad (50 years) after storming his house in Al-'Auja village in Jericho governorate. (Wafa 19 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Mohammad Daoud Ishtiya after storming and searching his house in Salim village, east of Nablus city. (RB2000 19 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested two Palestinians after stopping them at a military checkpoint erected by the IOA near Beit Furik village in Nablus governorate. The arrestees were identified as: Fadi Farhan Malitat and Ahmed Hamdi Abu Hett. (RB2000 19 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Mahmoud Khalid Akhalil (21 from Beit Ummer town, north of Hebron city after stopping him at Al-Karama terminal. (Al-Quds 19 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained 5 Palestinians after stopping them at a sudden checkpoint erected by the IOA at the main entrance of Beit Ummer town, north of Hebron city. (Al-Quds 19 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested two Palestinians from Al-Ezairiya town, east of Jerusalem city. (Maannews 19 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Nedal Shahada Za'mout after raiding and searching his house in Al Fawar refugee camp, south of Hebron city. (Maannews 19 August 2015)

Israeli Settler Violence

- Israeli settlers escorted by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem city and toured in its courtyard. (Safa 19 August 2015)

Home Demolition & Demolition threats

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) demolished an under construction building consist of 3 floors (6 apartments), each floor area reach to 150 square meters, in Wadi Al Jouz neighborhood in Jerusalem city. The targeted building is owned by Toutah and At-Tawtanje families. (Maannews 19 August 2015)

Israeli Military Orders

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) handed out a military order to demolish a Palestinian house in Hebron city. The targeted house is owned by the Palestinian prisoner; Maher Al-Hashlamoun. (Maannews 19 August 2015)

Confiscation & Razing of lands

- Israeli Occupation bulldozers razed Palestinian land and demolished an agricultural barracks in an area located between Beit 'Ur Al Fouqa and Beituniya town in Ramallah governorate. The targeted structure is owned by Nabil Samara. (Al Watan Voice & RB2000 19 August 2015)

Other

- In Jerusalem, Even a Temporary Pool Is Cause for Controversy. The city's call for proposals to restore and develop Mamilla Pool draws protest. A call for proposals to restore and develop an ancient reservoir in downtown Jerusalem — earlier suggestions for which have included the installation of a giant Ferris wheel and a landing strip for hot air balloons — has drawn opposition from environmentalists, preservationists and people who fear a disruption of relations between Jews and Arabs in the city. Mamilla Pool is a precious archaeological site and also the city's only vernal pool, a temporary pond that is dry for most of the year and is filled by rain in the winter, providing an important habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals. In addition, the pool lies within Jerusalem's biggest Muslim cemetery. The municipality will award a prize of 25,000 shekels (\$6,550) for the winning proposal. Located between Agron and Ben Sira streets in downtown Jerusalem, Mamilla Pool was built during the Second Temple or late-Roman period, and for nearly 2,000 years it was an important component of Jerusalem's water supply system. It was operational until the British Mandate period, and historic photos show that at least until 1946 it filled up with water every winter. Aggressive development in the area blocked the flow of water into the pool, and in recent decades it has been no more than an ephemeral pool, tens of

centimeters in depth. Neglected, many Jerusalemites are unaware of its existence. But it is home to an exceptional array of flora and fauna. The latter include primitive crustaceans, amphibians such as toads and tree frogs, many species of birds and hedgehogs as well as other mammals. The Sicilian snapdragon (*Antirrhinum Siculum*) that grows along the walls of the pool is an endangered species. It was not until a number of years ago that it was determined that a tree frog of the Hylidae family living in the pool was a previously unrecognized species. Known officially as *Hyla heinzsteinitzi*, it is often called the Mamilla tree frog. In recent years it has disappeared from the pool, presumably as a result of massive spraying of pesticides by the city. Over the years, all sorts of ideas were proposed for the site, including building a landing strip for hot air balloons for tourists and installing a giant Ferris wheel. As part of a comprehensive plan to develop Independence Park, which the pool borders to the east, the architectural firm of Shlomo Aronson submitted a number of proposals, including flooding it with water. But the architects admitted to Eden the Jerusalem Center Development Company, the municipal company responsible for developing the downtown, that they weren't happy with any of them and urged the city to issue a call for proposals to develop the pool and to make it more accessible to the public. Soon after the call was issued, a group of residents organized to protest what they said was the anticipated harm to the pool. They said they were particularly worried by a short animated promotional video distributed by the city and depicting ideas such as a water park or a giant soap-bubble installation on the site. The opponents argue that even though the video was clearly meant to be humorous, it reveals the city's lack of awareness as to the importance of preserving the nature and history of the pool. A petition circulated by the group says the move, "could lead to irreversible destruction, disturb the ecological balance, ruin the important historic site and cause tension between Muslims and Jews." The Waqf, or Islamic religious trust, and the Islamic Movement are extremely sensitive about construction in the area, especially after losing a legal battle against the erection of the Museum of Tolerance on the other side of the cemetery. "This worries me a great deal," said Michal Shaw, one of the organizers of the protest. "We're talking about a valuable site that many elements want to take bites out of". Eden CEO Alon Speiser suggested that the protesters read the provision in the call for proposals stipulating that the site's archaeological and environmental importance as well as the presence of the Muslim cemetery must be taken into account, and that the jury includes a representative from the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. "People think we're going to build a water slide from the cemetery right onto the head of a toad

in the winter pool. It's not like that at all," Speiser said. In a written response, the municipality said that the site's historic elements will be preserved as part of whatever development is carried out. "The goal is to turn it from a neglected place into a pearl that combines preservation with renewal of the area. Similarly, the jury includes representatives from SPNI and the Israel Antiquities Authority. The video was intended purely for the purposes of humorous illustration". ([Haaretz](#) 19 August 2015)

- Israel Demolishes Over 30 West Bank Structures in Two Days, Leaving Over 100 Palestinians Homeless. Move is largest-scale destruction of illegal dwellings in nearly three years. The IDF's Civil Administration in the West Bank left 127 Palestinians homeless in the last two days as a result of the largest-scale demolitions of homes in nearly three years. On Monday, the Civil Administration in the West Bank demolished 22 buildings, including huts used as dwellings and sheep pens, in four Bedouin communities near Ma'aleh Adumim. Seventy-nine people, including 49 children, were left without shelter, along with their flocks, in the harsh heat. Tuesday, the Civil Administration demolished 17 structures in the village of Fasa'il (pop. 1,700) in the Jordan Valley. Part of the village is in Area B and the rest in Area C. Forty-eight people lived in the dwellings that were demolished, including 31 minors. A Palestinian Bedouin man in front of his dwelling demolished by Israeli bulldozers in the village of Um Alkhier near Hebron, Oct. 27, 2014. Reuters. According to figures from the United Nations, Monday's demolitions caused the largest number of West Bank Palestinians to lose their homes on the West Bank in a single day since October 31, 2012. The four communities where the demolitions took place are al-Saidi, near the town of al-Zaim, west of Ma'aleh Adumim; and three others to the north of Ma'aleh Adumim: Bir el-Maskub, Wadi Sneysel and Abu Falah, all in the area of Khan al-Ahmar. A total of 400 people live in these communities. Attorney Shlomo Lecker, who is representing the families from Bir al-Maskub, said the demolitions were carried out even though objections to the demolition orders were submitted in May to Etti Sofer, coordinator of the Civil Administration's oversight subcommittee. Lecker said that in contrast to the usual procedures, he never received any response to these objections. In response to a request from Haaretz, it turns out that the Civil Administration's response to Lecker was sent to an incorrect phone number, and therefore never reached him. The attorney had written that the demolition orders were issued seven years ago but were never implemented because the Civil Administration apparently understood that it could not destroy structures when there was no reasonable alternative for relocating the residents. Lecker said he

cannot recall an instance in which the authorities carried out demolition orders without responding to the objections and to a request for a postponement to allow for legal action on the matter. Israel does not include the Bedouin communities in its master plans for Area C, the areas of the West Bank under full Israeli control, which is why Bedouin residents are forced to build huts and other temporary structures without permits from the Civil Administration. In recent years Israel has expedited its demolition activities, along with efforts to concentrate all Bedouin communities in permanent towns. A plan to build a Bedouin town called Nueimah, north of Jericho, generated numerous objections from residents, who complained that the authorities were not consulting with them. As a result, in March, the coordinator of government activities in the territories and the head of the Civil Administration appointed Brig. Gen. (res.) Dov Tzedaka as their liaison to the Jahalin Bedouin tribe, regarding their planned evacuations from where they have lived for decades and resettlement in a permanent town. Tzedaka is a former head of the Civil Administration and a member of the Council for Peace and Security. One of the persistent demands of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's subcommittee on settlement matters is to demolish all the Bedouin communities in Area C, in general, and near Ma'aleh Adumim in particular, to allow for expansion of Jewish settlements in that area. Some of the neighborhoods of Ma'aleh Adumim were built on sites where Bedouins from the Jahalin tribe lived for years, until they were evacuated in the 1990s. The office of the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories said: "These are illegal structures that were built without permits in violation of the law, some of which have been built in recent years. The structures were demolished after the enforcement process was completed and the appropriate orders were issued. In addition, no request for building permits was submitted and the owners of the structures did not appear before the subcommittee for oversight to which they were invited. Attorney Lecker filed on May 17, 2015 an objection on the announcement of the intention to demolish the structures, which was recently delivered to the owners of the structures. Attorney Lecker's letter was answered in a detailed letter sent to him on May 26, 2015. In this letter, the objections were rejected and he was given, above and beyond the letter of the law, an extension of 14 days to turn to the [courts]. ([Haaretz](#) 19 August 2015)