



LRC Monthly Report

Israeli Violations of Palestinian Rights in the Occupied City of Jerusalem

January - 2013

By

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First month of the seventh year

Summary of the Israeli Violation in the Occupied City of Jerusalem in January, 2013:

Violation	Location	Occurrences
House demolitions	Al 'Isawiyya	1
	Beit Hanina	1
	Ras al Amoud	4
	Sur Baher	1
	Silwan	1
Structures demolition	Al 'Isawiyya	5
Demolition threats (residences)	Anata	10
	Jaba'	17
Demolition threats (structures)	Anata	13
	Jaba'	9
Attacks on Agricultural lands	Al 'Isawiyya	25 dunums
	Silwan	1 dunum
Colonial expansion		
Construction of a colonial outpost	Ras al Amoud	17 residential units
Opening of bypass '21'	Shu'fat	8.5 dunums
E1	Al Khan al Ahmar	257 families are threatened of eviction
Approving a plan for the construction of a "cultural" colony	Anata	218 dunums
Attacks on religious sites		
An Nabi Dawood Mosque	Al Dajani neighborhood	1 mosque
Attacks on individuals		
Impeded with stones	Silwan and Al Sheikh Jarrah	2
Hit with a car	Abu Dis	1

1. Demolition of a residence in Al 'Isawwiya:

On January 1, 2013, a large Israeli force set siege around Al 'Isawiyya town in the Occupied City of Jerusalem before demolishing the residence of Rafat al 'Isawwi, 39, brother of Samer al 'Isawwi, a Palestinian prisoner who has been on hunger strike for over 5 months.

The Israeli campaign targeted an under construction residence with an area of 145 m² and three sheds with a total area of 500 m²; the Israeli dozers also leveled a 10-dunum-plot which has been used for raising ruminants and horses.

Rafat said: *"I started construction in 2011 because I wanted to move with a larger house with my family; I built the house as a second floor of a house that I owned but is inhabited by my sister and her family."*

The house is built over a 12-dunum-plot which was confiscated by the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City. On the first day of the new year, the Police officers evacuated my sister's family before embarking on the demolition of the "unlicensed" second floor. The demolition caused cracks in the original structure rendering the house unsuitable for use.

The reason for demolition is taking revenge from my brother, Samer, who has been on hunger strike for over 5 months; they are trying to "persuade" him to stop his strike. The Israelis also cut the water supply on our homes as a punishment for Samer's resilience and dedication".



The remains of the house

- 2. Destroying a bower:** the dozers later moved to Al Zafarana area in Al 'Isawiyya where they knocked down a bower with a total area of 9 m².



Huge areas leveled by Israeli dozers

3. demolition a scrap metal shop:

On the same day, Israeli dozers destroyed a scrap metal shop and confiscated all its contents. The shop is property of Alaa, Nader, and Azzam al Rishq.

Alaa said: *"they demolished a shed with a total area of 25 m²; they also confiscated some tools and equipment in addition to a dozer, 7 cars, 2 trucks, a lot of scrap, and a caravan that was used as an office.*



The dozers destroyed a hennery and all the birds were buried under the rubble. Our losses are estimated to be around two million ILS and over hundred people lost their jobs as a result".

4. The Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City Demolish a Residence in Beit Hanina

On January 15, 2013 the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City demolished a Palestinian residence in Al Ashqariyya neighborhood. The 60 m² residence, property of Naser al Rajabi, 42, was demolished on the pretext of unlicensed construction. The residence sheltered an 8-member family which includes 5 children.

The owner said: *"the residence was built 6 months ago; I used to live with my family at my parents place. When I finished construction, officers of the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City handed me a demolition order. I called my lawyer in order to repel the order and try to acquire a construction permit. The Municipality ordered me to pay a penalty for unlicensed construction before I can apply for a license.*

A week ago, the heavy snow caused water to leak into my house so I moved with my family to my parents place till I fix the leakage. While at my parents, I received a call from one of my neighbors saying that Israeli dozers are demolishing my residence. I called my lawyer who said that it cannot be since the permit application is being processed. I rushed to the site to see the Israeli police officers and dozers leaving the area; the house was already turned into rubble except for some furniture that was moved out.

In the rubble, I could see the wheelchair of my daughter which we suffered to get; and despite what this chair means to her the Israelis paid no attention to how much this will hurt her emotionally".



The wreck of the daughter's wheel chair



The remains of Al Rajabi residence

5. The Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City Demolishes a 4-Storey-building in Ras al Amoud

In the early morning hours on January 8, 2013, Israeli dozers demolished a 4-storey under construction building in Ras al amoud to the south of Al Aqsa Mosque. The targeted building was property of Ahmad Mit'ib and was demolished on the lame pretext of unlicensed construction.

Ahmad said: *"I started the construction 6 months ago, I was planning to find a proper shelter for my 35-member family. We have been living in a rented house and we wanted a bigger house where we can live more comfortably. We loaned money from the bank and used all our saving in order to finish construction. The building was designed to have 8 apartments, each 132 m² in area. In this rainy and gloomy day, Israeli troops set siege around the building before knocking it down". We never received any warnings or stop-work orders".* He concluded.

The dozers did not only destroy the building but also uprooted a number of trees around it and plowed the plot. The family's estimated losses is said to be around 1,000,000 ILS.

6. The Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City Demolish a Residence in Sur Baher

On January 15, 2013, the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City demolished a 3-bedroom residence with a total area of 120 m² is located in Sur Baher, Jerusalem. The residence, property of Aref Amira was ready to use and was supposed to serve as the home of Aref's to-be-wed son Muath.

Aref commented: "I built this house 7 years ago because the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City prohibited the rehabilitation of the house I have been living in which has been standing for over 150 years. I built this house as a backup for the old one and for my son to move to it when he gets married. 2 days prior to demolition, Israeli officers showed up and took pictures of the residence. On January 15, a large Israeli force accompanied by a dozer broke into the village before turning the house into rubble. The soldiers prevented us from getting any close to the house". The family losses are estimated to be somewhere around 150,000 ILS.



The remains of the residence

7. Leveling lands and burying a residence in Silwan:

On January 28, 2013, Israeli dozers leveled and destroyed agricultural lands in silwan. The land is property of Abdul Min'im Shweiki with a total area of 40 m². The dozers also buried the residence of Ayman Shqeir on the pretext of unlicensed construction.



Ayman's father pointing at the remains of the house



Ayman's residence 7 feet under

Demolition Threats

Stop-work Orders for Structures in Anata

Violation: stop-work orders for Palestinian structures.

Location: Anata, Jerusalem.

Date: January 29, 2013.

Victims: 12 Palestinian families, a total of 51 people including 26 children.

Details:

On January 29, 2013, officers of the so-called Inspection Subcommittee broke into Al Fheidat dwellings to the north of Anata and served 12 families stop-work orders designated for various structures. The orders were issued on the pretext of unlicensed construction in area classified 'C' according to Oslo Accords. The Inspection Subcommittee set February 13, 2013 as date of a hearing session to be held in regard to the targeted structures.

Table: threatened structures:

No	Victim	Family members	Children	Structures			Remarks
				Residence	Shack	others	
1	The heirs of Maher Fheidat (a martyr)	4	3	Brick house, 120 m ²	Barn 80 m ²	--	Built in 1990
2	Saleh Fheidat	4	2	--	Barn 200 m ²	Junkyard 2.5 dunums in area	
3	Majdi Fheidat	1	-	Residence, 140 m ²	Barn 80 m ²	Caravan	Notified in 2004
4	Majed Fheidat	1	--	Residence 120 m ²	--	--	
5	Yonis Fheidat	6	2	Residence 80 m ²	Barn 80 m ²	--	
6	Awad Fheidat	1	--	residence 100 m ²	--	--	Under construction
7	Zyad Fheidat	7	5	Residence 100 m ²	--	--	
8	Yaser Fheidat	3	--	--	Barn 40 m ²	--	

9	Mohammad Fheidat	9	7	Residence 100 m ²	Barn 40 m ²	--	
10	Husam Fheidat	4	-	Residence 120 m ²	Barn 50 m ²	--	
11	Mousa Fheidat	4	2	Residence 50 m ²	Barn 40 m ²	--	Built in 1998
12	Ahmad Fheidat	7	5	Residence 80 m ²	Barn 60 m ²	--	Built in 1994
13	Bedouin guesthouse					100 m ²	Built in 1967
14	Cistern					60 m ³	Built before 1967
15	Cistern (Jerusalem Zaka Committee)					100 m ³	Built two months earlier

It is worthy to mention that the guest house was built before the Israeli Occupation of the West Bank but that did not spare it. This is considered a breach of the Geneva Fourth convention.



Targeted residences in Fheidat

15 Demolition Orders for Palestinian Structures in Jaba' Ramallah

A new Israeli step towards uprooting Palestinian citizens was taken on January 31, 2013 when the Israeli Occupation Authorities issued demolition orders for structures owned by 15 Palestinian family in the junction between Jaba' and Adam Benjamin colony near Ramallah. According to the orders, the owners have 3 days to respond or face demolitions.

Table 1: threatened structures:

No.	Victim	Location	Family members	Children	Structures	
					Residence	Shack
1	Ata al Arara	Al Kuwwara	9	7	1	1
2	Ibrahim al Arara	Al Kuwwara	6	4	1	1
3	Abdul Rahman Saray'a	Al Kuwwara	6	4	1	1
4	Mohammad al Arara	Al Kuwwara	4	2	1	0
5	Salah Barakat	Al Kuwwara	9	2	1	1
6	Raed Saray'a	Al Kuwwara	8	3	1	1
7	Najeh Saray'a	Al Kuwwara	6	1	1	1
8	Fahmi Saray'a	Al Kuwwara	5	2	1	0
9	Yonis Saray'a	Al Kuwwara	2	0	1	0
10	Mohammad al Arara	Al Kuwwara	6	2	1	1
11	Mohammad Ka'abna	Ka'abnah	10	3	2	1
12	Mousa Ka'abna	Ka'abnah	9	2	2	0
13	Ahmad Ka'abna	Ka'abnah	7	3	1	0
14	Abdul Karim Ka'abna	Ka'abnah	7	4	1	1
15	Fatma Ka'abna	Ka'abnah	1	0	1	0
total			95	39	17	9

The threatened families have been residing in the areas known as Al Kuwwara and Ka'abna for decades; the colony of Adam Benjamin was established in 1970 to become a source of misery for these people.

Ka'abna are Bedouins who were displaced after the Israeli occupation of Palestine in 1948 from Ber Shiva area. They settled in a number of areas around the West Bank and have been constantly targeted by the Israelis.

Attacks on Palestinian Lands

1. **Leveling lands in Al 'Isawiyya:**
- 2.

On January 1, 2013, Israeli dozers leveled a 15-dunum plot in Al Zafarana area in Al 'Isawiyya.

Ahmad Dari, one of the victims, said: *"the dozers leveled a 15-dunum plot which we had recently planted with 50 trees, 38 olives and the rest were apple and citrus."*

The dozers also dug a huge hole in the plot rendering it unusable in the future".



Huge areas destroyed in Al Zafarana

Colonial Expansion

Implementing Road '21' project:

In January, 2013, the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City embarked on the opening of road '21' which penetrates Shu'fat, to the north of the Occupied City. The Israeli Antique Authority commenced the routine search for antiques which is done prior to any infrastructure project.



The targeted area is 8.5 dunums located in between Ramat Shlomo and Rekhesh Shufat colony. The targeted lands are property of Abu Ni' Hamdan family which have deeds proving their ownership.

Amer abu Ni' said: *"this land belonged to my grandfather and now it is my and my cousins property. Its total area is 8.5 dunums split among three plots, all planted with olives. 35 olive trees older than 300 years old will be uprooted for the sake of the needless road. However, in 2006, the harassments began; they demolished my uncle's residence which was inhabited by 9 people and any other construction would be faced with demolition. 3 years ago, the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City posted a new master plan for Shufat which included 45 dunums; the locals rejected the plan but their pleas were overlooked."*

On January 13, 2013, the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City posted the plan of road 21, 6 days later; Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City staff showed up with dozers and began the preparations for implementation. We will stand against this project and we will place a tent on the lands to show the occupiers that we are determined on protecting what is ours".



Outlining the road path

E1 colonial plan – displacement of Bedouin communities in al Khan al Ahmar:

The residents of the Bedouin communities in al Khan al Ahmar area are facing displacement as a result of the implementation of the E1 colonial plan which targets areas classified 'C' according to Oslo Accords. The plan targets 257 families residing in area of 2 km² since the 1950s. These families were displaced from their original homes in Arad in Beer Shiva after the Israeli occupation of Palestine in 1948. Chieftain of one of the communities of the area, Suleiman Ara'ra said: *"we moved to live here after we were displaced from our homes in Arad in the 1950s. Despite the deprivation of all the basic services we are determined to remain here.*

For the last 4 years, the Israeli Occupation Authorities limited our expansion and prohibited us from building even the simplest of structures; in addition, colonial expansion in the area narrowed our growth as we stand only 2 km away from the colony. We have never been like this, we had huge areas for expansion and grazing but the movement restrictions imposed by the Israelis forced us to use fodder and forced many of us to leave. We have known about the Israeli plan to deport us and provide us with alternative residences in Steih area; but I am a Bedouin and my family lived this way for generations, we can never cope with the urban life style because that will erase our heritage. In addition, the Israeli alternative will mean losses to Palestinians living in the suggested area".

leveling lands in Silwan:

On January 28, 2013, the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City and EPA dozers leveled lands in Wadi al Rababa. The lands were the property of Abdul Min'im al Shweiki who had his house buried by the dozers.

1- A new colonial outpost in Ras al Amoud:

On January 1, 2013, the Israeli Municipality in the Occupied City announced the establishment of a new colonial outpost with 17 residential units in Ras al Amoud.

2- A "cultural" outpost in Anata:

The Israeli daily Ha'aretz revealed on January 31, 2013 a plan to establish a cultural village to the north of Anata in Jerusalem. It said that the Israeli Occupation Civil Administration approved a plan to build the village. The plan includes the destruction of a small school in the area.

The plan was approved after pressure was imposed by the colonial groups on the Municipality to remove the Bedouins tents and school from the area and transfer the population.

Attacks on religious sites

3- Attack on Al Nabi Dawood Mosque:

On January 7, 2013, a group of colonists attacked the historical mosque of Al Nabi Dawood where they broke the mosque's windows and removed some of the tiling and decorations. It is worthy to mention that the Israeli Occupation Authorities captured the mosque earlier and turned the first storey into a synagogue.

Attacks on individuals

4- Attacking children while playing in the snow – Silwan and al Sheikh Jarrah:

On January 10, 2013, a group of colonists attacked Palestinian children who went out to enjoy the snow that covered the Occupied City; the children were impeded with rocks and were subjected to all kinds of verbal and racist abuse.

The Israeli Police interfered and arrested two Palestinians.

5- A Palestinian child hit with a car:

On January 13, 2013, a 7-year-old Palestinian child was hit by a colonist car; the school principal said that a colonist car hit the boy nearby Kedar colony. He said that the kid was taken to Al Maqased hospital in a private car because an Israeli ambulance refused carrying a Palestinian. The principal pointed that several attacks are carried out against Palestinian children.