



The Monthly Report on the

*Israeli Violations of Palestinian Rights in the Occupied City of
Jerusalem*

February - 2014

By

**Monitoring Israeli Violations Team
Land Research Center – Arab Studies Society**



Second Month of the Eighth Year

Israeli Violations of the Palestinian Housing and Land Rights – February, 2014:

Aggression	Location	Occurrence
House demolitions		7
-Demolition carried out by the owner	Beit Hanina	1
	Jabal al Mukabbir	2
	Sur Baher	1
-Demolition carried out by Jerusalem municipality	Jabal al Mukabbir	1
	Shu'fat	1
	At Tur	1
Structure demolition		1
- A warehouse	Shu'fat	1
Demolition threats		13
- For houses	Al Thawri	7
	Silwan	6
Colonial plans and units		2250
- Offering tenders for construction in Giv'at Zeev	Al Jib	102
- Offering tenders for construction in Arnona	Sur Baher	1200
- Approving construction in Gilo	Beit Jala, Beit Safafa	223
- Approving construction in Nabi Jacob	Beit Hanina	102
- Announcing constructing a new colonial neighborhood	Beit Hanina	22
- Ratifying construction in Ramat David	Shu'fat	159
- Ratifying construction in Pisgat Zeev and Har Homa	Shu'fat, Umm Tuba	442
Colonial plans for structures		3
- Master plan for a religious school	Sheikh Jarrah	1
- Plan for constructing a Jewish museum	Silwan	1
- Ratifying construction of a 15-storey tower	Silwan	1
The Israeli army's and/or colonists' attacks		4
- On individuals	Al Aqsa Mosque	20
- On vehicles	Silwan	14
Attacks on religious sites		19
- Break ins and onslaughts	Al Aqsa Mosque	19

Violations of the Right of Residence- House Demolition

1. The Israeli occupation demolishes a house in Beit Hanina:

The bulldozers of the occupation totally leveled a house located in Wad Ad Dum in Beit Hanina, north of Jerusalem on the grounds that it is an unlicensed structure.

The structure belongs to Muhammad Sandoqa who used to live in the house along with his 10-member family, including 6 children.



Sandoqa's house after being reduced into rubble

Muhammad Sandoqa stated to an LRC observer that:

The house was built in 1998 with an area of 65 m². It consisted of 3 bedrooms, a bathroom and kitchen. In 2012, I was served a summons to appear in the court where I was charged with using a structure without having a building permit. I was penalized a NIS 25,000 fine I paid in monthly installments of 500. The court ordered me to issue a permit. I went to Beit Hanina Society where I appointed architect Nasser Abu Al Leil as a defendant. We found out that getting a permit requires re-registering a piece of land no less than 45 dunums which is impossible to

me.

At 5:30 a.m. today, we were surprised to see large forces of police and Special Forces who besieged the residence in all directions. They ordered us to get out and take out only main objects. I took my children to my father's in Beit Hanina and returned to my house only to see it being demolished. The demolition operation lasted for an hour.

I now live with my family at my father's.

2. The Israeli bulldozers destroy a house in Jabal al Mukabbir

On February 10, 2014, bulldozers of the Israeli occupation leveled a 150 m² residence in Wad Qdom neighborhood in Jabal al Mukabbir under the pretext of unlicensed construction. The house was a shelter to Muhammad Sawahra (34) and his 7-member family, 4 of whom are children.

Muhammad Sawahra told an LRC observer that:

The house was built 20 years ago when municipality officers showed up and served us a demolition order for our unlicensed building. We went to the municipality and assigned Ibrahim Abeedat as our lawyer in order to get a building permit. But each time, we were faced by obstacles from the municipality that hindered our getting a permit. The demolition order kept getting renewed at every court session. In 2007, we received the last demolition order along with a NIS 150,000 fine. Since then, we have been trying to delay the demolition order in a bid to get a permit.



Sawahra's residence after being destroyed

Muhammad added,

At 5:30 a.m. on February 10, large forces of police officers accompanied by dogs raided the area. Officers of the Special Forces kicked down the door and let the dogs into the house. I tried to defy them and scream at them. I was so enraged by the terrorist way they entered the house and scared my children who woke up at the barks of the dogs in their bedrooms. I was attacked and beaten. My family and I were kicked out by force.

Officers of state municipality took furniture out in a destructive way where many items were broken. A Hyundai bulldozer embarked on demolishing my house for an hour and a half.

During demolition, the Israeli police attacked my nephew Sami Shawamra (15) whose house is near mine. He went out to take his little sister to school. When he got near an officer of the Special officers, the officer spit on him and about 10 others punched him in the face and body.

3. The Israeli bulldozers levels a house in Sur Baher

On February 05, 2014, the Israeli occupation bulldozers turned a house into rubble in Sur Baher. The house had been built without a permit. It was property of Mujahed Abu Surhan (28) and 60 m² in area. It consisted of two bedrooms, a bathroom and kitchen and sheltered 4 people, including 2 children.

Mujahed Abu Sarhan reported to an LRC observer that:

The house was erected in 2008. After a year of its construction, a staff of the state municipality took pictures of the building and handed us a demolition order as well as a NIS 12,000 fine. And since I did not finish the procedure of getting a permit, I was fined another NIS 15,000 penalty. That is 27,000 in total. In 2012, we received another demolition order as a result of not issuing a permit. We could not afford one since it is costly. At 3:30 a.m. on 05/02/2014, large forces of the police and municipality officers raided the house and closed off all the entrances to it. They broke down my jeep that was parked in front of my house with no apparent reason. Some police officers broke the windows of the house and started screaming and cursing us. Municipality officers took some furniture out and threw it away causing it to break. Then, the bulldozers embarked on leveling the house before our own eyes. The demolition operation lasted for half an hour before the Israeli occupation forces retreated leaving wreckage behind.



Abu Sarhan's residence after being destroyed

4. House destroyed in Jabal al Mukabbir

On February 10, 2014, the municipality bulldozers took on demolishing the residence of Muhammad Bashir (25) that is located in Bashir neighborhood, Jabal al Mukabbir. The residence used to be a shelter to 2 families, Muhammad and his father (Khaled) along with another 8 members, including 4 children, one of whom is with disability.

Khaled Bashir asserted an LRC observer that:

The house was built in 2008 with an area of 85 m². During construction, members of Jerusalem municipality showed up and took pictures of the structure due to a lack of a building permit. We were penalized a NIS 500,000 fine. We paid 8000 so far.

At 10 a.m. today, large forces of the police and municipality officers riding 3 bulldozers broke into the area where they surrounded the house and closed all roads leading to it. They ordered us to go out without our belongings. Municipality officers took some furniture out and threw it away before the bulldozers embarked on reducing the structure into rubble. The demolition took them 2 hours.



Bashir's house that turned into wreckage

5. The state municipality forces a man to demolish his residence by himself

On February 06, 2014, Maher Mashahra (26) was forced to demolish his home in Al Sal'a neighborhood, Jabal al Mukabbir.

The municipality and police ordered him to do so.



Mashahra's residence that was destroyed under threat

Maher Mashahra told an LRC observer that:

The structure was erected in 2013, i.e. less than a year. It was 70 m² in area and consisted of two bedrooms, a kitchen and bathroom. During construction, officers of the Jerusalem municipality took photos and handed me a court order. I was fined NIS 8000 and received a demolition order. I could not have demolished the house back then. It was the only shelter for me, my wife and our little child

Mashahra added,

I contacted some friends who brought me a bulldozer and we demolished the residence under the supervision of the state municipality that remained during the whole thing. I was agonized to see all my efforts wasted. The idea that we have become homeless is tormenting.



Mashahra's residence destroyed

6. The Israeli occupation bulldozers raze a warehouse in Shu'fat

The bulldozers of the state municipality leveled a warehouse in Shu'fat on the pretext of being unlicensed. The warehouse's area is 45 m² and belongs to the sons of late Sharif Suwailim.

Hasan Suwailim stated to an LRC observer that

The warehouse was built 15 years ago where it was used as a hardware shop before it was used as a storehouse. 8 months ago (in July 2013), we found an administrative demolition order hanged at the doors of the warehouse. Today, big forces of the police and Special Forces driving a bulldozer demolished the warehouse in compliance with the demolition order.

It should be remarked that the state municipality demolished another storehouse to the same family in 2012 and for the same reason (no building permits).

7. The state municipality forces a family to demolish its residence

On February 26, 2014, the state municipality forced the family of Basil Al Sha'er to demolish their home by themselves. The house had been built without a permit rendering it illegal.

Al Sha'er comprises 10 people, including 4 children. The family moved from their old house to this 70 m² new one to solve the problem of capacity. They did not apply for a building permit for two reasons: First, they do not have the required amount of money a permit takes (around NIS 35,000). And on the other hand, getting a permit in Jerusalem is something like a miracle. But since the municipality's main job seems to scrutinize any Palestinian structure, it issued an administrative demolition order for Al Sha'er house on the grounds that is unlicensed. Al Sha'er were informed by the Jerusalem municipality that the municipality would demolish the house at the family's expense and fine them for every day they delay removing the wreckage. The family could not afford to pay the municipality so they opted to demolish their house by themselves.



Basil Al Sha'er destroying his house after being forced to do so by the occupation municipality in Jerusalem

8. The Jerusalem municipality obliges Al Juba family to demolish their residence in At Tur

Under the pretext of unlicensed construction and fines, the family of Ali Al Juba had to demolish their house and remove the ruins of it. Al Juba are 10 people, including 8 children who have been living in a container (van-like) since 2007 after the Israeli occupation demolished their residence in Al Gharsat, As Sahl neighborhood in At Tur. Their house had been under construction.



Al Juba's shelter after being torn down

The family had to demolish another container in 2011 after being threatened that the municipality would carry out the demolition operation. The family had pay a NIS 10,000 fine on the pretext of using an illegal residence. They have become homeless now and found difficulty in renting a department due to their big number and costly prices of the rent. Children are threatened to lose their right of education now that they do not have a shelter.

Every single day, Israel asserts that it is against the human rights of residence, security and safety. It is against children's rights to lead a serene life with their families. Israel is against humanity and the natural right of babies, the likes of Mariyam who is only 30 days and has come homeless without the warmth of a home that shelters her and her family.

Demolition threats for houses and structures

The state municipality undertakes campaigns against Palestinian residence in Jerusalem:

Israel breaches international conventions, laws and human rights on a daily basis, including violations of the right to land & residence. The state municipality carries out inquisition, fines people, and distributes demolition orders. Land Research Center (LRC)- Arab Studies Society in Jerusalem recorded more than 12 ferocious campaigns at Palestinian houses. Five demolition orders were sent to civilian residents. Some of the orders were directed to identified landowners whereas others were sent to anonymous recipients. Most of the orders were distributed in Silwan, At Tur and Al Thawri according to a field research.

Here are some of the cases that are provided as examples:

1. Demolition orders for the residences of Abu Nijmeh families in Al Thawri in Jerusalem:

On February 01, 2014, a group of the Israeli police and Special Forces accompanied by a municipality officer broke into the residence of the heirs of Ruben Abu Nijmeh where they handed demolition and evacuation orders for:

- Amin Abu Nijmeh's (63 m² in area) 3rd floor. It shelters 12 people,

including 6 children

- Wael Abu Nijmeh's (50 m²) 2nd floor. It shelters 7 people, including 5 children
- Muhammad Abu Nijmeh's (73 m²) and shelters 6 people, including 4 children.

The residence was built 45 years ago but lacks a building permit. Amin paid a NIS 25,000 fine three times three years ago for that reason and Wael paid a NIS 25,000 penalty twice two years for the very same reason.

The municipality officer showed up under guard of the police of Special Forces where they took photos of the house and delivered a court order to the family on the grounds that they do not have a building permit.

2. Jerusalem municipality threatens to evacuate and demolish 4 houses for Al Bardwil family in Al Thawri

State municipality officers raided the residence of Al Bardwil family and pasted a summons on the grounds that it lacks a building permit though it has been there for 14 years.

The structure comprises three apartments:

- Rida Al Bardwil's (70 m²). Rida is 90 years old and is the mother of Muhammad, Salim and Khaled whose residences are also under threat.
- Muhammad Al Bardwil's (110 m²). It shelters Muhammad (61) along with his 6-member family, including one child.
- Salim Al Bardwil's (80 m²). Salim (33) is a father of 5, including 3 children.
- Khaled Al Bardwil's (90 m²) and shelters Khaled (53) and his 10-member family, including 3 children.

3. The state municipality serves an evacuation and demolition order to Abasi family in Silwan

Officers of the Jerusalem municipality raided a 2-storey building that is owned by Al Abasi family. They hanged an administrative demolition order at the door. The order demands demolition within 24 hours. Though the property owners were present at the time of serving the order, the municipality officers accompanied with soldiers did not talk to any of Al Abasi family and rushed out after accomplishing their task.

The house is inhabited by two families:

- Islam Al Abasi (43) and his 7-member family, including 5 children. The department area is 80 m².
- Eman Al Abasi (27) and her 5-member family, including 3 children. The department area is 80 m².

4. The Jerusalem municipality threatens two families with evacuation



Saim's threatened structure

The state municipality handed Waled Siam (44) an order to evacuate his 2-room residence on the grounds that there is no building permit. The latter shelters the 7-member family including 5 children.

The municipality also served Fatihiyya Siam an evacuation and demolition order for her 2- room dwelling that shelters her and her daughter under the same pretext (unlicensed construction).

Jewish Plans

The Jerusalem municipality authorities continue with its policy in threatening to demolish Palestinian dwellings. No month passes without the municipality serving demolition orders for houses in Palestinian neighborhood under the pretext of unlicensed construction or illegal usage. The aim behind that is to strangle the Jerusalemites and push them to leave their city. Meanwhile, the municipality carries out plans and projects that serve the colonial interests and perpetuates colonization.

Here are some of the expansive colonial plans recorded by LRC in the occupied city of Jerusalem during February, 2014:

- On Feb 01, new tenders for the construction of 102 colonial units in Giv'at Zeev at the expense of Al Jib lands were offered.
- On the same day, there were tenders for the building of 1200 colonial units to be part of Arnona colonial neighborhood on account of Sur Baher lands.
- On Feb 05, the local Planning and Construction Committee approved the construction of 349 new colonial units, 223 of which will be in Gilo colony (that is founded on Beit Jala

and Beit Safafa) and 102 of which will be in Al Nabi Jacob (built on Beit Hanina).

- On Feb 08, the Israeli occupation reveals its intentions to construct 22 colonial units in Beit Hanina on a piece of land confiscated from 3 families of Al Natsheh on April 18, 2012 after the Israeli magistrate's court ruled in favor of Israel Land Fund (ILF) and ordered Al Natsheh to move out.



Piece of Al Natsheh's targeted land- Beit Hanina



Jewish colonists while talking over Al Natshe's dwellings on April 18,2012

- On Feb 10, the Israeli occupation authorities gave the go-ahead for the construction of 159 colonial units in Ramat David colony built on Shu'fat.
- On Feb 15, the local Planning and Construction Committee ratified the construction of 442 colonial units in Pisgat Zeev (built on Shu'fat) and Har Homa (partly built on Umm Tuba).
- On Feb 18, the master plan No. 68858 to build a religious school in Sheikh Jarrah on a 4-dunum piece of land was prepared.
- On Feb 19, right-wing Alad society declared its intention to build a Jewish museum on a 1200 m² area in Silwan.
- On Feb 20, the Planning and Construction Committee agreed on the construction of a 15-floor tower on a 3-dunum piece of land in Silwan in favor of Jewish National Fund.

Attacks on individuals

The Israeli occupation forces attack worshippers at Al Aqsa mosque compound on Friday

On Feb 17, 2014, hundreds of the Special Forces in the Israeli army along with border guards, police and intelligence officers leashed their attacks on the worshippers once the Imam finished the Friday prayers. The attacks were carried out all over Al Aqsa mosque compound in general and in the square of the silver-doomed mosque in particular. The onslaught seemed to be prepared beforehand in order to take over Al Aqsa Mosque. The Israeli occupation used tear gas, sound bombs, rubber-coated steel bullets, and physical violence against the gathering.

Most of the injured were taken care of in the field and Al Aqsa Mosque clinic, whereas some were transferred to hospitals. Some of those are:

- Ibrahim Al Julani (70) who has motor impairment and is the caretaker for 8-member family. He was wounded with a rubber bullet in the head. He also had a rupture in his fingers as a result of explosion of a sound bomb. He had concussion as he fell down from his wheelchair on his way out the mosque.



Old Ibrahim Al Julani injured

- Hatem Jawdeh (55), a father of 5 children, was wounded in his right leg by a sound bomb. Jawdeh was going home after attending the Friday prayers .

- Basim Al Halawani (52) from Silwan was beaten with batons by the Israeli soldiers. That led to ruptures in his right arm.



A group carrying out "price-tag" attacks on vehicles

A price tag group slashed the tires on 14 vehicles in Wadi Yasol neighborhood in Silwan and sprayed them with "price-tag" graffiti enticing discrimination.



One of the attacked vehicles

Some of the affected citizens informed an LRC observer that:

We work up today morning to find racial writings and offensive slogans sprayed and tires slashed on 14 vehicles. We called on the Israeli police that showed up and took pictures and fingerprints but did not assign any importance or concern over the incident though they have surveillance cameras in the area and can be made sure about the perpetrators.

Members of the price-tag group destroy Palestinian property and carry out attacks on vehicles, trees and houses without facing any legal deterrent.

Attacks on religious sites

The Israeli occupation carries on with its policy against Al Aqsa Mosque as the Mosque was not spared from the Israeli attacks during February. In the contrary, attacks increased as Israel is trying to create facts on the ground. The Israeli government is planning to split Al-Aqsa between the Jews and Muslims without paying any respect to the sensitive religious status the mosque has. The Israeli occupation violates international conventions and the Geneva Protocol that states that all attacks against religious sites are prohibited since they constitute the cultural and spiritual heritage of people.

There were 19 break ins to Al Aqsa during February, the most infamous of which:

- On Feb 03, the Israeli occupation forces allowed groups of colonists to enter Al Aqsa mosque compound and roam around under the armed guard of police and intelligence officers.
- On Feb 04, the Israeli police admitted a number of rabbis accompanied by police and intelligence officers to Al Aqsa compound.
- On Feb 05, the Israeli occupation police stalled barriers at the entrances of Al Aqsa and prevented Palestinians to reach it while it granted colonists access. The police detained Umm Tariq Al Hashlamoun on the grounds of defying the colonists who desecrated Al Aqsa squares.
- On Feb 06, the Israeli forces allowed radicals entry to Al Aqsa compound. That led to clashes between police officers and worshippers. The latter stood for the break in and one of them (Hazem Siam) was detained as a result.
- On Feb 07, forces of Special Forces broke into Al Aqsa compound

where they shelled sound bombs and tear gas at worshippers. The latter were also beaten after the Friday prayers. Some were injured and transferred into Al Makassed Hospital and some were detained.

- On Feb 09, the Israeli forces allowed the right-wing rabbi "Yehuda Glick" to enter Al Aqsa mosque compound along with other extremists. The forces posed strict security procedures inside and around the mosque.
- On Feb 11, an Israeli minister broke into the mosque accompanied by large numbers of police and intelligence officers. They wandered about with a Jewish tourist guide.
- On Feb 12, the worshippers stood against a group of colonists who broke into the mosque. Clashes took place and both of Samira and Diya' Idris were detained as a result.
- On Feb 18, tenths of radical colonists entered the mosque under extreme protection from the police. Barriers were stalled and IDs held
- On Feb 19, the Israeli occupation police granted access to the right-wing Knesset member "Moshe Feiglin" under tight watch guard.
- On Feb 20, the Israeli police arrested Reconstruction Department Director in Al Aqsa Mosque , eng. Bassam Al Hallaq, after he allowed workers in the reconstruction dept. to fix a leaking water pipeline at the Dome of the Rock surface. That action was not acceptable by the police whose consent were not asked, as they claimed. The workers were also detained.
- On Feb 25, the Israeli occupation forces raided Al Aqsa and showered the worshippers with tear gas and sound bombs. They also hit and arrested a number of the worshippers. That came after the worshippers successfully aborted a radical Zionist plan that called for invading Al Aqsa and raising the Israeli flags there.

הליבה

מסגרת ישראל, 9.11.13

בהר הבית אסורה הנפת דגלים לאומיים ודתיים מכל סוג.

בואו להניף את דגל ישראל בהר הבית

יום ה' הקרוב, ו' אדר א', 6.2.14
(עם דגלי ישראל) (בפגישות ב 7:30 בכניסה להר הבית)

לפרטים: 050-960-5585 • 054-572-0066
ניתן לנקל בטלפונים אלה גם הנחיות לעליה להר הבית ליום ה' הקרוב

להניף את הדגל

לפני 46 שנה, שלוש שעות אחרי שחרור הר הבית הורה שר הבטחון משה דיין להסיר את דגל המדינה מהר הבית

מאז הונפו דגלים רבים על הר הבית, דגלי אש"פ, דגלי חמס, דגל טורקיה, דגלי חזבאללה...

בשבוע אחרון יהודים שניסו להכנס להר הבית עם דגל ישראל, נעצרו בשער המוגרבים ושוכנו לחקירה, מאז כל יהודי שנעלה להר הבית נבדק, בטרה פולשנית ומשפילה אם הוא מנסה להכריח דגל כחול לבן מתחת לבגדיו.

דווקא בימים אלו בהם ארץ ישראל וירושלים נמצאים על שולחן המשא ומתן חובה עלינו להניף את הדגל בהר הבית.

נתכנס כולנו ביום חמישי ו' אדר א' (6.2) בשעה 07:30, בשער המוגרבים בצטייד בדגלי ישראל ונעלה איתם בגאון להר הבית

מניפים דגל ישראל בהר הבית

ביום שלישי, כ"ה באדר א', 14.2.14 בשעה 07:30 עולים המונים עם דגלי ישראל. כי לא רק דגלי המאמס מותרים בהר הבית!

The ad distributed by radical Zionist groups calling on raiding Al Aqsa and lifting Israeli flags in its compound