

Arab Studies Society
Scientific – Cultural
Land Research Center
Jerusalem



جمعية الدراسات العربية
علمية - فكرية
مركز أبحاث الأراضي
القدس

The Monthly Report on
Israeli Violations in Occupied Jerusalem

During May 2015

Prepared by:
Team of Monitoring Israeli Violations
Land Research Center- Arab Studies Society



Fifth edition of the ninth year

The following table illustrates the number and type of Israeli violations according to the location of occurrence in Occupied Jerusalem during May 2015:

Type of violation	Location	No.
Structures and home demolition		8
- A building and three stores	Ein Al-Lozeh	4
- A residential building	Wad Qaddum-Ras Al-Amud	3
- A residence	Wad Qaddum-Ras Al-Amud	1
Demolition threats		26
- Stop-work and construction threat	Jabal Al-Baba- Al- Eizariya	3
- Self-demolition threat	Samiramees	23
Seizures of homes		11
- Taking over residential apts.	Batin El-Hawa-Silwan	3
- Evacuation notices on residences	Batin El-Hawa-Silwan	8
Land confiscation- dunums		9.5
- A takeover order on a land	Al-Isawiya	9.5
Colonial plans- residential units		1675

Constructing new units, of which 900 were ratified	Ramat Shlomo Har Homa Givat Ze'ev	1500 90 85
Closing organizations		1
- Closing a health organization	Shu'fat	1
Colonists' attack – numbers		6
- Colonists' rally and closing shops and roads	Old City	1
- Run over	Atarot, Ras Al-Amud, French Hill	3
- Assaults	Silwan and Jerusalem	2
Attacks on religious sites		22
- Isolation and detention from Al-Aqsa	Al-Aqsa mosque	9
- Break-ins		13

Violation of the right to Housing- Home demolition

Israeli Forces demolish three commercial stores and one apartment in Silwan

The occupation municipality's bulldozers demolished on November 19, 2015 three commercial stores in the neighborhood of Ein Al-Lozeh in Silwan under the pretext of building without a permit.

It was reported that a large Israeli force including Special Forces and borders police along with a bulldozer raided the village of Silwan around 4 a.m. and surrounded the neighborhood of Ein Al-Lozeh (Hosh Abu Tayeh) and closed the roads leading to it and prevented citizens from approaching the area. The demolition was then executed in which three commercial stores and one under-construction apartment all owned by Anis Karamah were demolished.

Karamah explained that he had just finished building the stores two months ago which are not being used yet; the stores area is 120 square meters.

Karamah said that the apartment was supposed to be home for his five member family but now they are forced to live in a leased house in Al-Tur neighborhood.

Karamah's losses reached 500,000 NIS, not mentioning the cost of demolition that will be billed to him by the occupation municipality.

The policy of home demolition dates back to the occupation of Jerusalem in 1967 and is still ongoing. Pretexts and claims are many but the aim is to evacuate the city from indigenous Jerusalemites. In the same context, hundreds of colonial units are being ratified for construction by the government inside of Jerusalem. This is to increase the number of colonists in the city, which is a violation of many international laws and conventions that stated that prohibition of settling down occupiers in occupied lands.

Israeli Forces demolish a building in the neighborhood of Ras Al-Amud in Silwan

The occupation municipality's bulldozers demolished on November 20, 2015 a residential building owned by Ahmad Fahmi Abu Sneineh in the neighborhood of Ras Al-Amud in Silwan.



The building consists of three floors with 8 apartments for a total area of 650 square meters; note that some of the apartments were still under construction and others were ready. The building also had commercial stores.

Abu Sneineh started building nearly a year ago and has been trying to obtain a building permit for months; note that he was able to postpone the demolition several times.

Abu Sneineh explained that his lawyer filed a request to the court to stop the demolition and the judge approved the request but the municipality appealed the decision and then carried out the demolition.

Abu Sneineh's losses are estimated of 1000,000 NIS.

In the same context, the occupation municipality's bulldozers demolished residence belonging to Nasir family in the same area. The house is of 80m² in area and is ready for moving in. Demolition was carried out on the claim of unlicensed construction.

Violation of the right to Housing- demolition threats

The Israeli occupation authorities deliver demolition orders for Bedouin families from Al-Eizariya

The Israeli occupation authorities- Civil Administration on May 07, 2015 served three demolition orders on three residences in the area of Jabal Al-Baba in Al-Eizariya. Noteworthy, the orders were served on the claim of “unlicensed construction”.

The targeted residences belong to the following:

#	Name	Family	Minors	Area\m ²
1	Ahmad Tarabin	5	3	60
2	Mahmoud Al-Jahalin	6	4	55
3	Salim Al-Jahalin	5	3	50
Total		16	10	165

Source: Field observation- Department of Monitoring Israeli Violations- Land Research Center-2015

It is reported that such measures are undertaken within the project of evicting and displacing Bedouins from the area for the favor of building thousands of colonial units. The project was officially given the name of E1.

Citizen Dawoud Al-Jahalin explained:

“We received the demolition orders from the officer of the Civil Administration on the claim of unlicensed construction. Not only that, we were displaced from the area. This is not the first time we get threatened of demolition; all our residences, barracks, sheds were demolished one year ago on the same claim. We have been here even before the establishment of Male Adummim colony. Israel displaced us from the area of Tal Irad in 1952; it is a series of displacements”.



Israeli court orders eight residential buildings demolished in Samiramees neighborhood

Israel Supreme Court on November 11, 2015 made a decision to demolish eight residential buildings in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Samiramees. Noteworthy, the order is to be carried out by the owners of the structures or as also known as self-demolition.

It should be marked that the decision was made on the claim that the land on which the structures are founded belongs to Jews since 1971. Also, the order imposed a fine of 50,000 NIS to be paid before the deadline of the demolition on August 30, 2015.

The targeted buildings accommodate more than 100 people and are owned by the following:

#	Owner	Number of apartments
1	Akram Abu Shalbak	1
2	Kamil Abu Shalbak	2
3	Hamdi Al-Rajabi	2
4	Jabir Khadir	2
5	Ismael Khadir	2
6	Jamal Abu Lail	3
7	Omar Ma'louf	4
8	Najih Al-Rakabi	5
9	Mohammad Abu Shalbak	1
10	Saed Abu Shalbak	1
Total		23 apartments

Akram Abu Shalbak said:

“A number of Palestinian families in 2002 bought a 19 dunum plot in Samiramees neighborhood. The purchase act was done legally. Later, the occupation government decided to build a segment of the apartheid wall, which will expropriate 10 out of the 19 dunums of the land”

He also added:

“We objected to the decision in Israel Supreme Court but our plea was rejected and the ten dunums were declared confiscated.”

After six years from constructing 8 buildings on the plot, colonists filed a sue case against the owners of the buildings on the claim that the structures are founded on a plot owned by Jews since 1971. Noteworthy, colonists' claim is not true because this was not claimed during the court sessions of 2002 and 2004, during which the wall was approved for construction.

Violation of the right to Housing- seizures of properties

Colonists take over three residential apartments in Silwan

The colony organization of “Ateerat Cohen” took-over on May 06, 2015 three residential apartments owned by Abu Nab family in the “Middle Neighborhood” in Silwan under the pretext of being owned by the Jews before 1948.

It was reported that nearly 20 colonists supported and protected by Special Forces personnel raided the “Middle Neighborhood” and reached the building of Abu Nab family through the outpost adjacent to the building known as “House of Honey”. The settlers opened the main gate of the building and then broke the doors of the apartments using special tools and taking advantage of the absence of the owners as they have left one day before (Tuesday afternoon) to visit one of their brothers who lives in the 1948 lands.

During the break-in and takeover, a member of from Abu Nab family and some neighbors confronted the colonists resulting in the breakout of clashes between the colonists and residents after the settlers tried to close the apartments’ windows through the roof of Rajabi family building but were prevented by the locals; colonists responded with spraying peppers gas towards the locals.

The owners of the apartments Ahmad and his brothers Mohammad and Naser were informed of the takeover after neighbors called them on phone.

Abu Nab family has been living in the confiscated apartments since 1968 and nearly 15 individuals where half of them are children lived in the apartments. The family is renting the apartments from Abdelrazeq family but the colony organizations claim that the building was a Jewish synagogue before 1948 and the family had changed the old building’s nature by adding another building to it.

“Ateret Cohanim” seeks to control five Dunums of lands in the neighborhood of Batin Al-Hawa in Silwan

The colony organization Ateret Cohanim on May 20, 2015 filed a sue case to Israel Supreme Court against Al-Rajabi family, whose members reside in the neighborhood of Batin Al-Hawa in Silwan. The sue case was processed by the court on the claim that the land being owned by Jews.

The court gave the affected a period of 30 days to object to the case.

The responsible of Batin Al-Hawa Committee, Zuhair Al-Rajabi, told Land Research Center the following:

“We received a notice from the court about the sue case filed against my seven brothers and I; it says that the ownership of the land, on which we reside is for Ateret Cohanim organization, taking into account that my father legally bought the land in 1966, which is even before the occupation of Jerusalem.

My father built two rooms on the plot at time but later annexed other rooms to accommodate the 40 members we got to be including many children”

The plan threatens around 80 families and nearly 300 individuals. All the residents have been living in the neighborhood since the 1960’s after they bought the lands and properties from the previous owners using official documents.

The colony organization Ateret Cohanim claimed that the 5200 square meters plot area belongs to three Jews who reside on it in 1881.

Attacks on lands- Lands confiscation

Decisions to seize 9.5 Dunums of lands in the village of Isawiya for “military purposes”

The Civil Administration issued on May 28, 2015 military orders to seize lands in the village of Isawiya.

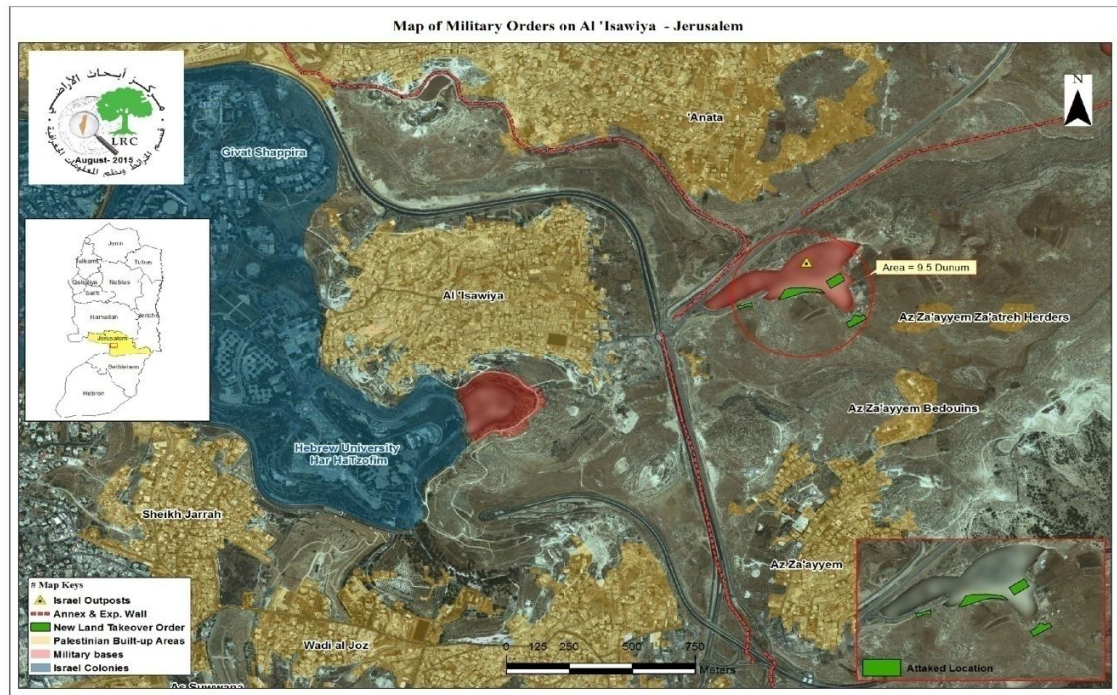
According to the papers hung on the lands, the occupation authorities intend to seize 8200 meters of land in the eastern part of Isawiya as ordered by the Commander of Israeli occupation forces “Netsan Alon” but the actual area reached 9500 meters according to the GIS department at Land Research Center.

Mohammad Abu Hummos, member of follow-up committee in the village of Isawiya, explained that the occupation authorities hung an order to seize lands in the eastern part of the village of Isawiya.

Papers were hung in both Arabic and Hebrew explained that the decision is effective immediately and will stay until 31/7/2017.

The Civil Administration staff will carry out a tour in the lands to select what they need to select those to be seized.

It should be marked that the occupation is conducting a policy that aims at seizing lands under different pretexts such like Military Purposes, National Parks, and Jewish Ownership.



The lands to be confiscated in Al-Isawiya village

Colonial plans

Israel Approves Construction of 900 Settlement Units in East Jerusalem

The website of Chanel Ten of Israel television on May 03, 2015 said that the plan to construct 1500 residential units in Ramat Shlomo was given the green light to be approved by the Regional Committee for Planning and Construction - Israel Civil Administration.

The plan was reported postponed due to some technical issues such like opening new roads in the area. After working out all issues, the plan is believed to be approved on May 04, 2015.

The plan was finally approved and the units will be built in Ramat Shlomo, said the spokesman of Peace Now movement, Haget Ofran.

Ratifying the construction of 90 residential units in Har Homa colony

Planning and Construction Committee- Israel Municipality in Jerusalem on May 20, 2015 approved the construction of 90 residential units in the colony of Har Homa, south Occupied Jerusalem.



A member in the Mirtz political party, Babi Alalo, told media that Jerusalem municipality along with the Israeli government decided to continue construction in Israeli neighborhoods.

Alalo pointed out that such decision was taken for the favor of creating more tension and conflict not for peace.

In the same context, the occupation municipality of Jerusalem continued demolishing houses in East Jerusalem on the claim on “unlicensed construction”. It demolished a house and three commercial stores in Silwan town and a building of three floors in Wad Qaddum neighborhood.

Re-depositing a tender for building 85 residential units in Givat Ze’ev colony:

The Israeli government on May 14, 2015 re-deposited a tender for constructing 85 residential units in the colony of Givat Ze’ev, north Occupied Jerusalem.

PeaceNow movement said, in a press conference, that new units will be established to the south of Ramallah city and to the north of Jerusalem.

It should be marked that the tender was deposited a year ago but contractors did not apply for it. It is why the tender was re-deposited again.

Closures on organizations

Israeli Forces Ordered the Closure of Health Work Committees' Shu'fat Office for a year

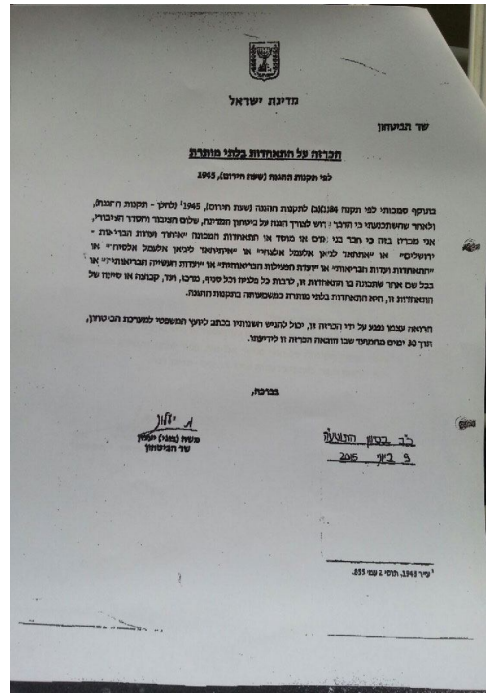
Israeli occupation intelligence on May 07, 2015 raided Health Work Committees' office in Shu'fat, Jerusalem, and handed an order to close the center for a year.

The decision states that: "Under the Prevention of Terrorism Act of 1948 and after the conviction that this place is used in terrorist activities, we decided to close it for one year from the date. The police officers who stormed the office, confiscated all computers and handed the director of the school health program and the administrative assistant summon to appear in one of the Israeli intelligence centers.

Health Work Committees has taken upon itself to do this patriotic and humanitarian role, and still is.

Health Work Committees (HWC) calls upon all national and international legal, human rights and health organizations to take a serious and fast move to force the occupation to re-open the center.

The occupation policy in Jerusalem aims at harassing Palestinians not only by demolishing their houses and confiscating their lands but by shutting down active associations and centers at the social, legal and health levels. This is to isolate the city from the villages and towns of the West Bank.



Colonists' attacks

In the anniversary of occupying Jerusalem: Tens of thousands of colonists provocatively march through the old city of Jerusalem amidst police protection

The streets of Jerusalem turned into a hit-and-run field between hundreds of occupation forces and dozens of young men who confronted the march of “Dance of Israeli flags” on the anniversary of occupying Jerusalem.

Jerusalemites were able to be present in the streets of Jerusalem from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m. in the area of Damascus Gate to challenge the Israeli flags' march and to confirm the Arab and Islamic identity of Jerusalem. The first Jerusalemites' sit-in where Palestinian flags were held was at 3 p.m. in the area of Damascus Gate and the forces suppressed them with sound grenades, beating and arrests. Jerusalemites then formed other separate sit-ins in “Sultan Suleiman Street”, across from “Suleiman's Cave” and in the Cave's Courtyard” due to Israeli restrictions; note that they were all suppressed and harassed by the Israeli forces.

Palestinians (young men, children and women) raised Palestinian flags during the sit-ins and chanted “God is Great” along with chants against the Israeli occupation and in support of Al-Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem. Those were the people harassed and suppressed by the occupation forces (Special Forces, Calvary units, borders police, police and the Musta'ribeen) but still managed to be present in the streets of Jerusalem and near checkpoints and iron barriers.

On the other hand, thousands of colonists participated in the colonists' march which initiated from West Jerusalem heading into East Jerusalem and passing through New Gate, Jaffa Gate, Damascus Gate and some went through Lions Gate and Herod's Gate.



The colonists raised Israeli flags and verbally insulted Muslims and Jerusalemites. They also formed disturbing dance and singing groups and assaulted journalists and the medical staff; note that the Israeli forces provided the colonists with full protection and allocated special roads for them.



In the memory of the catastrophe of occupying Jerusalem, catastrophe is a day-to-day occurring pain.

A colonist runs over a kid in Atarot area:

A fanatic colonist on May 05, 2015 ran over the kid Shadi Ghrab (17) in the area of Atarot, east Jerusalem. Ghrab was moved to a nearby hospital to receive medical care as a result. Eyewitnesses explained that the attacker fled the scene immediately after the attack.

The guards of the light train assault a female Jerusalemite:

A group of the light train guards and some policemen assaulted Natali Abd Rubbo (18) when she was on her way to work on May 08, 2015. Natali is still suffering from pain and bruises in different parts of her body as a result.

Natali explained:

“I bought a train ticket but one of guards stopped me claiming that I was taking the train illegally “without a passing ticket” and asked me to show my ID.

She also added:

“I showed him the ticket and asked him to re-visit the station surveillance cameras to make sure I bought a ticket but he ignored me. I went to look for a supervisor to file a complaint when around 8 guards attacked me in a corner trying to suffocate me. At time, female police member tried to snatch my purse but I stooped her.

I was able to call my family who arrived immediately in synchronization with a Special Forces staff. My mother and brother were hardly beaten and I was detained, hand and feet cuffed and later moved to Al-Maskobiya detention center.

During detention, I was beaten and threatened with a gun pointed in my face. My accusation was taking the train without a ticket which is what I denied asking to check the station cameras. After hours of investigation, I was released with a 3000 NIS bail and was asked to be present anytime they summon me. In addition, I paid a 300 NIS fine for a hoax claim.”

A colonist runs over a Jerusalemite nearby the French Hill colony:

A fanatic colonist on May 11, 2015 ran over the Jerusalemite young man Ahmad Abu Jibnih nearby the French Hill colony. Ahmad was moved to a hospital where reports showed he sustained a fracture in his arm. The attacker was reported to flee the scene right after the attack.



A colonist runs over a Jerusalemite kid in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Ras Al-Amud:

The Jerusalemite kid Hani Iskafi (15) sustained bruises all over his body after being hit by a colonist car in the neighborhood of Ras All-Amud on May 26, 2015. It was reported that the driver was a female colonist and that the run over incident took place nearby the colony of Male Hasidim. The kid was moved to Hadasa Al-Isawiya hospital to receive medical care.

Home detention for a Jerusalemite boy attacked by a colonist from Beit Yonatan outpost:

The Israeli occupation authorities on May 18, 2015 imposed a five day home detention on the Jerusalemite kid Mu'taz Abu Diab (14) from the Jerusalem town of Silwan and to be escorted to school as a condition for releasing him.

Wadi Hilwih Information Center of explained that Abu Diab was detained in the morning when he was heading to school. That is after being attacked by a colonist from Beit Yonatan colony on the claim of throwing stones.

Attacks on religious sites

Detention and isolation from Al-Aqsa mosque:

Isolating Jerusalemites from Al-Aqsa mosque became a pinned down policy for the Israeli occupation. The following table shows information about the affected people from this policy during May 2015:

Name	Date	Isolation	Detention	Remarks
Dawood Al-Ghool (34)	2015/05/02	1		Isolated from Jerusalem for 4 months
Fatina Hussein and Sana' Al-Rajabi	2015/05/11	2		Detained after existing Al-Aqsa mosque and released under the condition of being isolated from it for 15 days
Elderly Abu Bakir Al-Shimi	2015/05/14	1		He was served a 475 NIS fine at Al-Silsilih gate
Mohammad Ibrahim	2015/05/19	1		He was isolated from Al-Aqsa mosque
Raed Zughayer and kid Mostafa Al-Balbisi	2015/05/19		2	
Sheikh Kamil Al-Khatib	2015/05/24	1		Was primarily isolated from Al-Aqsa for six month until May 25, 2015 and renewed the isolation for another six months in the same day.
Mohammad Subeih (45)	2015/05/31	1		Isolated by a month
Total		7	2	

Break-ins on Al-Aqsa mosque during May 2015:

The Israeli occupation authorities continued its policy that targets Al-Aqsa mosque through break-ins and allowing colonists to wander the compound of the mosque as to impose a control on the place.

Also, the Israeli occupation authorities are not stepping back from its plan to divide Al-Aqsa mosque in terms of time and place.

Since the beginning of May 2015, Al-Aqsa mosque was repeatedly broken into by fanatic colonial groups; especially after heads of religious and political parties called upon breaking into the mosque in an attempt to assure their right to pray inside of it.

Break-ins on Al-Aqsa mosque during May 2015 were reported as follows:

- May 03, 2015: the occupation allows tens of colonists inside of Al-Aqsa compound and denies Muslims entry to it
- May 04, 2015: the occupation forces set up checkpoint on the roads leading to Al-Aqsa mosque and detain the worshipers' IDs at the gates
- May 06, 2015: Israeli Forces and Intelligences services broke into Al-Aqsa mosque amidst chants of Allahu Akbar "God is the greatest"
- May 08, 2015: the occupation allows tens of colonists inside of Al-Aqsa compound and denies Muslims entry to it
- May 11, 2015: the occupation allowed colonists inside Al-Aqsa compound amidst intensive protection from Israel Police and isolated two women for three months from the mosque
- May 12, 2015: the occupation forces assaulted worshipers stationing at Al-Aqsa mosque and allowed colonists to wander the compound
- May 14, 2015: isolating elderly Abu Bakir Al-Shimi from Al-Aqsa mosque after arresting him
- May 17, 2015: colonists broke into Al-Aqsa amidst intensive protection from Israel Police and Intelligences services
- May 18, 2015: colonists broke into Al-Aqsa compound from Dung Gate and wandered the place
- May 19, 2015: isolating Jerusalemites from Al-Aqsa for three months after arresting them
- May 20, 2015: Isolating Mohammad Ibrahim from Al-Aqsa for seven days in the same time colonists broke into Al-Aqsa and toured the compound

- May 23, 2015: colonists broke into Al-Aqsa and toured the compound
- May 27, 2015: Israel Police denied entry to Al-Aqsa mosque to Muslims and allowed colonists inside of the compound

Statistics: 1200 broke into Al-Aqsa mosque during May 2015:

Statistics showed that 1128 colonists and 208 members of Israel Intelligences Services broke into Al-Aqsa during May 2015.

The statistics made by QPress center mentioned that the occupation forces arrested 20 Palestinians, isolated 15 female Jerusalemites from Al-Aqsa mosque, issued 32 isolation orders and physically assaulted worshipers and guards of the mosque.

Isolation periods were reported to range between one week and three months. Also, the number of Intelligences summons has notably increased.

The occupation forces carry out detentions and isolation orders on the claims of “Security Purposes” and “Threats on Pubic Crowds”. The aforementioned are claims in reference to colonists who break into Al-Aqsa.

According to the statistics, one of the most distinct violations was the colonists’ attack on Al-Aqsa guards on May 19, 2015, which ended up in a fight where Israeli forces protected colonists.

In the presence of the occupation officer, two police stations were opened on April 19 in the location of a place known as “Al-Khulweh Al-Junblatyih” in Al-Aqsa northern compound.

Two other police stations were reported open in the areas of Al-Buraq and Al-Dajani endowment area in the Old City of Jerusalem.