



ARIJ Daily Report

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 07 May 2014

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 gunboats attacked two Palestinian fishing boats while they were sailing at Gaza shore, causing the injury of two Palestinians. (Al-Quds 7 May 2014)

Israeli Arrests

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested three Palestinians after storming their houses in Halhul town, north of Hebron city. The

arrestees were identified as: Muhannad Yousif Zama'rah, Anan Yousif Zama'rah and Ahmed Murshid Mansour. (Maannews 7 May 2014)

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested 6 Palestinians after raiding and searching their houses in Idhna town, west of Hebron city. The arrestees were identified as: Murshid Abdalla At-Timizi (36 years), Zeiyad Hassan Awad, Az Ad-Din Zeiyad Awad, Khalil Mohammad Awad, Mohammad Ahmed Salah Awad and Mahmoud Ahmed Awad. The IOA transferred the arrestees to unknown location. (Maannews 7 May 2014)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested two Palestinians after storming their houses in Bethlehem city. The arrestees were identified as: Mohammad Bassam Ash-Sheikh (21 years) and Khader Waleed Al-Hrimi (26 years). (RB2000 7 May 2014)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Abd Al-Karem Mohammad Shakarnih (19 years) after raiding his house in Nahhalin village, west of Bethlehem city. (RB2000 7 May 2014)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Mahmoud Kamel Sabah (21 years) after storming his family house in Tequ village, southeast of Bethlehem city. (RB2000 7 May 2014)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Bashar and Yousif Ni'irat after storming their house in Meithalun village, south of Jenin city. (Al-Quds 7 May 2014)

Erection of Israeli checkpoints

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) erected military checkpoint at the entrance of Sa'ir and Halhul towns and Al-Fawar refugee camp in Hebron governorate. The IOA stopped and searched Palestinian vehicles and checked ID cards. (Wafa 7 May 2014)

Other

- Israel drops investigation of Beit El developer. State cites 'lack of public interest' in dropping investigation against activist who, after losing his wife and son in terror attack, began developing illegal settlements. State Prosecutor Shai Nitzan has decided to drop the investigation of Yoel Tzur, CEO of a development company that built the Ulpana neighborhood in the settlement of Beit El, due to "lack of public interest." Tzur is a veteran activist from Beit El and has headed the company for the last 20 years. His wife and son were murdered in 1996 in a terrorist shooting attack. Following the attack, Tzur began to develop settlement neighborhoods in their memory. In 2000, he started construction in the Jebel Artis area north of Beit El, outside its

jurisdiction, in a sector in which all lands are registered under the names of Palestinians living in adjacent villages. In 2008, just before the new buildings were occupied, landowners and the Yesh Din human rights group, represented by attorneys Michael Sfard and Shlomi Zecharia, petitioned the High Court of Justice, requesting the demolition of 30 apartments in five of these buildings. Twenty-eight of the homes belonged to Tzur's company, which had rented them out. At first the state decided to demolish the apartments, but retracted the decision under intense political pressure. Ultimately a compromise was reached in which settlers were to voluntarily evacuate the apartments, and the state would construct temporary housing for them and 30 new, permanent units. Also, a Border Police installation would be replaced with 300 additional new units. Yesh Din also filed a complaint for trespassing against Tzur. Tzur admitted that he knew one plot was on private land, but that he had built there anyway, without any permits. In June 2010 the Judea and Samaria police division decided to close the case. After the decision was appealed, the investigation was resumed by former State Prosecutor Moshe Lador. Nevertheless, current state prosecutor Nitzan has again decided to close the file due to "lack of public interest," stating that the "complaint was lodged after a long delay, which makes it difficult to efficiently investigate the matter. The delay reduced public interest in the investigation. Furthermore, the relevant structures have been removed, making it even less important to pursue a criminal investigation." It was not explained why Tzur's admission is not sufficient evidence for filing charges. Nitzan's decision is surprising, given Attorney General Yehuda Weinstein's policy of viewing building infractions in the West Bank as criminal offenses, as is customary in Israel. For two years, he has been sending letters to Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon, asking him to set up a mechanism within the Civil Administration to enable prosecution in such cases. So far, no lawbreaker has been brought to trial in cases under investigation, and now the case against Tzur has been closed as well. According to Sfard, the legal counsel of Yesh Din, Nitzan's claim that "the long time that has elapsed since the infraction prevents further investigation is no more than an evasion, since the suspect confessed to the transgression. The state prosecutor dragged his feet for three years in his previous post and caused these delays, leading the landowners to petition the High Court. He now uses this delay and the sloppy police investigation as an excuse for closing the file. The state prosecutor and all the law enforcement agencies in Israel have demonstrated yet again that transgressors against Palestinian property are completely immune from prosecution." Yoel Tzur did not respond to requests for comment. ([Haaretz](#) 7 May 2014)