



*The Monthly Report on the Israeli Violations of
Palestinian Rights in the Occupied City of
Jerusalem*

July- 2014

By:

Monitoring Israeli Violations Team

Land Research Center- Arab Studies Society



Seventh Month of the Eighth Year

Israeli violations of Palestinians' rights to land and housing – July, 2014:

Aggression	Location	Occurrence
Demolition of houses and structures		2
- Self-demolition of a second floor in a house	Sur Baher	1
- Self demolition of a parking lot and basement		2
Demolition threats		1
- Evacuation threat	Jerusalem's Old City	1
House break-ins		91
- Break-ins for the sake of detaining people, searching or vandalizing	The old city, Shu'fat, Beit Hanina, Sur Baher, Umm Tuba, 'Anata, Abu Dis, al-Eizariya, Silwan	91
Closures		24
- Set up of flying checkpoints	The old city, Shu'fat, Beit Hanina, Anata, Abu Dis, Silwan, ar-Ram, al-Eisawayya, at-Tur	24
Colonial plans- residential units		243
- Approval of building new residential units	Colony of Pisgat Zeev Har Homa colony	243
Colonists' attacks (in numbers)		12
- Setting fire to trees	Jabal al-Mukabbir	20
- Attacks on individuals (including beating, torching, abducting)	Beit Iksha, ar-Ram, Beit Hanina, Shu'fat, Jaffa St., Sheikh Jarrah	11
- Attacks on vehicles	Sheikh Jarrah	7
- Attacks on houses	The old city	1
Attacks on religious sites		20
- Break-ins and attacks on worshippers	The al-Aqsa Mosque	20

Violations of the Right to Housing (Residence)

Demolition of houses and structures:

Forcing two siblings to demolish parts of their homes by themselves:

At 9a.m., on Saturday, July 12, 2014, two brothers of Atwan family were forced by the state municipality to demolish large parts of their homes in the village of Sur Baher, south of the occupied city of Jerusalem. The municipality threatened to send its machines to do the demolition and



make the two pay the demolition costs if they fail to carry out the order.

Taher and Abullah Atwan along with other 16 members have been living in their family house that was built in 1998 with an area of 206 square meters.

The occupying municipality forced the brothers to level 120m² of the house distributed as follows: a parking lot, basement and a second floor made of bricks and composed of four rooms inhabited by Shaher Atwan. Taher stated that the reason of the demolition is unlicensed construction as the Israeli occupation claims that the house is located in an area where "vertical construction" is banned.

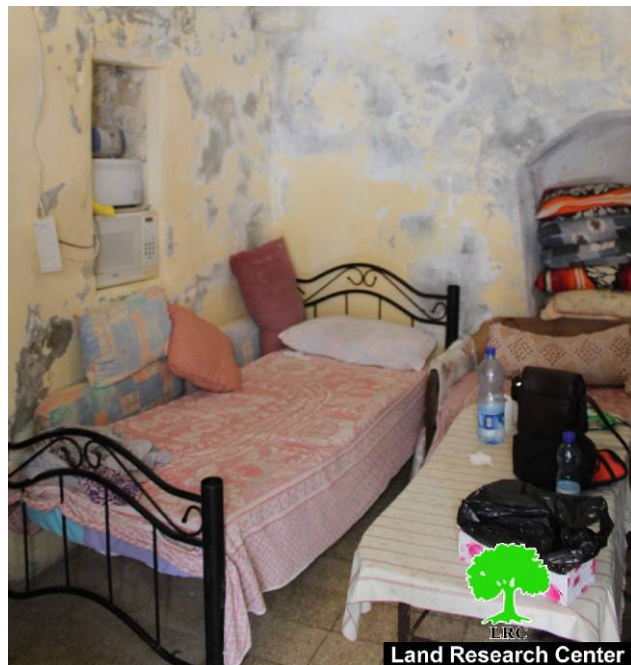
Taher affirmed that he and his brother paid 200 thousand shekels fines. Despite that, they were sentenced a 3-month imprisonment which their lawyer managed to change into social services. The Atwan brothers pointed out that they have been busy with the procedures of obtaining a building permit for long. The Israeli occupation authorities has formed a district committee to consider whether to grant them a permit or not and the committee's resolution was refusal.

Violations of the Right to Housing

Threats:

The Israeli occupation threatens a family with evacuation:

The defense lawyer of al-Bakri family has received an evacuation order from the Israeli court demanding the family to empty their home for colonists. The order gave the family a one month to evict the house which the court claims belongs to colonists. The estate



consists of three separate rooms, courtyard, water closet and a kitchen and is located in Bab Hatta neighborhood, within the Walls of Jerusalem's Old City. The house has been inhabited by the children of Saadia al- Bakri (60 years old) and her since 1989.

Riyad al-Bakri, son of Saadia, stated to an LRC observer that:

In 1989, my father rented the house from Emran Naaji, the property owner, for 1200 shekels monthly. We came to know by then that there was a dispute between the owner and a colonist of Turkish roots who claimed the property was his. The Naaji family lost the case as the Israeli jurisdiction claims the law does not protect the third

generation of Palestinian heirs. The court's ruling violated owners' right to protection and prohibited the inhabitants (i.e. us) from modifying anything in the structure nor rehabilitating any part of it before obtaining its consent.

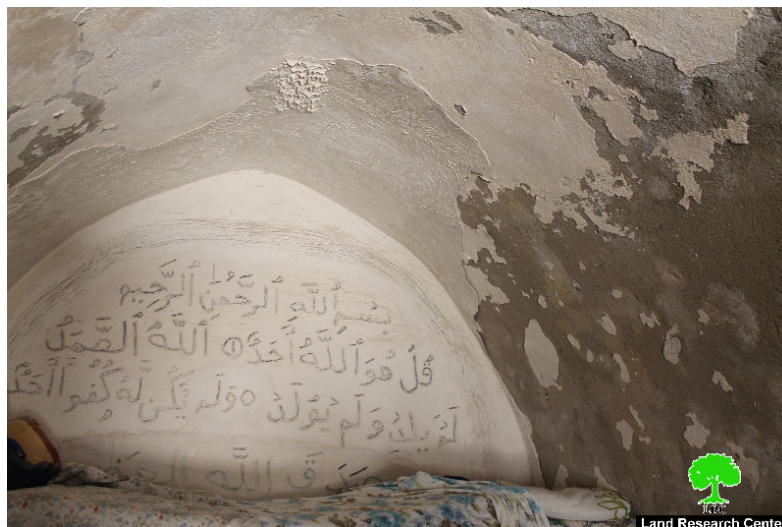
We assigned the lawyer Mohammad Dahla to follow up with the case who informed us it would not be an easy one since Naajis do not have enough papers to prove their ownership. The Israeli court issued an eviction order on one room out of the three a year ago but we did not comply with the order.

On July 31, the lawyer received an order to evacuate the whole home (the entire 3 rooms) and handed it to its 'legal owners' as claimed. In addition to a 10,000 fine that we should pay for not abiding by the court's previous ruling to evacuate one room in the past.

Now we do not know what to do! We only have one month and evacuation is not easy as they think. However, if we stay in the home, we might get kicked out by force. Not to mention the fine we will pay to the government of Israel for not complying with the orders and the money we will pay to the workers taking furniture out.

Truth must be told, we are so worried like never before.

Pictures of al-Bakri's threatened residence:





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Violations of the Right to Housing

House break-ins:

Special Forces, border guards, and Israeli police have been breaking and entering Palestinians' houses in the occupied city of Jerusalem under various pretexts and excuses, mostly for detention or assassination. Break-ins traumatize women and children, especially the latter who often become to suffer from involuntary urination and/or extreme fear. When invading houses, the Israeli police inspect and temper with contents, wreaking havoc on them and vandalizing in the process without paying any respect to the property owners.

Monitoring Israeli violations team in Land Research Center (LRC) managed to document 91 break-ins to residences in a number of Jerusalem's neighborhoods during July, 2014. They are as follow:

Location	No. of break-ins
The old city	36
Shu'fat	21
Beit Hanina	2
Sur Baher	10
Umm Tuba	12
'Anata	1
Abu Dis	2
Al-Eizariya	4
Silwan	3
Total	91

LRC considers the break-ins a violation of the international laws that ensure the respect of human beings and their rights.

Article 12 - Universal Declaration of Human Rights states:

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Closures

Israeli forces maintain their systematic procedures to Judaize Jerusalem including besieging the city by making it inaccessible to people from the West Bank, setting up flying checkpoints, and imposing severe movement restrictions on Palestinians by forcing them to go through the gates of the 8-meter Separation Wall. LRC has documented the installment of 24 flying checkpoints at the entrances of the neighborhoods of Jerusalem during July, 2014 in order to prevent worshippers from entering the Al-Aqsa Mosque, harass, humiliate and force people out.

Location	No. of checkpoints
The old city	6
Shu'fat	2
Beit Hanina	1
'Anata	2
Abu Dis	2
Silwan	8
Ar-Ram	1
Al-Eisawaya	1
At-Tur	1
Total	24

International conventions and laws regarding freedom of movement which Israel unabatedly and vehemently violates:

Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person”.

Article 5: “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”.

Article 9: “No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile”.

Article 13: Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.

Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. In particular, no one shall be subjected without his free consent to medical or scientific experimentation.”

Article 9: “Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedure as are established by law.

Colonists' Attacks

1. People of Jabal al-Mukabbir catch a colonist who set fire to an olive grove:

On July 03, 2014, people of Jabal al-Mukabbir managed to catch a colonist who is responsible of setting fire to scores of olive trees and fruit trees in an area known as Be'r al-Mishmisha. The colonist was caught red-handed and when he tried to run away, people caught him. Forces of nearby Israeli police station rushed to the location and took him with them to the station. Soon afterwards, he was released despite the fact that he was the culprit.

It should be marked that the area of Be'r al-Mishmisha is a forest secluded from inhabited areas and consists of groves planted with olive and citrus that belong to the families of al-Mashahra, ash-Shuqirat, and al-Zahaika.

2. A Jewish extremist runs over a Jerusalemite child:

On July 03, 2014, a radical Jew from Remote colony, north of the occupied city of Jerusalem, deliberately ran over a child named Adel Joda. The 17-year boy now suffers from a broken right leg in addition to bruises all over his body as a result of the attack.

3. A racist opens fire at a young man:

On July 03, 2014, a colonist shot a bullet at a Palestinian civilian named Ali Abu Samra, 30 years old, near ar-Ram intersection, north of Jerusalem. The bullet rested in Abu Samra's leg.

4. An attempt at kidnapping a child in Beit Hanina:

On July, 03, four colonists broke into al-Samah neighborhood from the side of Pisgat Zeev, founded on the lands of Beit Hanina, and attempted to abduct a 7-year child named Muhammad al-Kaswani while he was playing with his mates in the mentioned neighborhood. Luckily, the child's screams brought the attention of the neighborhood people who rushed to get the children away from the colonists' grab.

5. Colonists set fire to a child in a most heinous crime of modern history:

At dawn of July 04, 014, the child Muhammad Abu Khdair, age 17, did not know that he would be the victim of one of the most heinous crimes ever committed by the Israeli occupation that is not different from the Nazis brutality:

Abu Khdair, went out of his house at dawn to wait for his cousin Tariq Abu Khdair to head to the local mosque of Shu'fat to perform the dawn prayers together. Surveillance cameras showed that at



3:45a.m., a white car pulled over near where Abu Khdair was and two men approached him. Muhammad was by himself when the two men started a

conversation. Minutes later, they attacked Muhammad and forced him to get in the car. Muhammad tried to escape but the barbarity of the two made them manage to have him in the car which fled rapidly towards the colony of Ramot.

Muhammad's family came to know their child is missing when Tariq arrived at the agreed place and did not find Muhammad in addition to eyewitnesses who testified that they saw a car driving fast and leaving the area. People called the Israeli police that showed up, played the video of the cameras that show the colonists abducting the child.

After four hours of being missed, the corpse of Muhammad was found burned in a forest on the edge of Jerusalem city, specifically in an area known as "Givat Shaul" built on confiscated land of Deir Yassin. The DNA test made people sure it was Muhammad's dead body that was found.

According to forensic medicine and autopsy, Muhammad was severely beaten all over his body and had a serious head injury before being "burnt alive"! Muhammad was forced to drink petrol before colonists set him on fire.

This atrocious crime against childhood and humanity is a clear manifestation of the hatred and racism Jewish colonists have for Palestinians especially while being constantly encouraged by right-wing Israelis and decision makers to harass and murder Palestinians.

6. Attacks on Jerusalemites and cars windows smashed in Sheik Jarrah:

On 05/07/2014, a group of right-wing colonists attacked a number of citizens and their properties in the area of Sheik Jarrah. Residents were pepper-sprayed and seven vehicles had their glass shattered.

7. An Israeli colonist throws a Molotov on al-Salfiti residence in the old city of Jerusalem:

Around 9:00pm of Thursday 10/07/2014, a colonist threw a Molotov on Mustafa al-Salfiti's house in al-Saraya neighborhood of the old city in Occupied Jerusalem.

The house owner stated: "*fire reached out parts of the house after a colonist threw a Molotov on it but no injuries were documented*". He also mentioned that his house is located amidst number of residences confiscated by colonists who have been trying to harass the local residents to force them to leave the place. Not only the occupation police know about the ongoing harassments and assaults against the Jerusalemites by colonists but they also protect the latter in those activities.

8. colonists assault a Jerusalemite driver working for Egged Busses Company:

On 10/0/2014, around 10:00pm, a number of colonists attacked citizen Ali al-Dewani (41) who works as a driver for Egged Busses Company. Ali was verbally harassed and beaten up while working near the central station of Western Jerusalem. Taking the advantage that the bus was empty, colonists uttered hatred enticing curses and severely beat al-Dewani, knocking him down as a result. The driver was hospitalized in Hadassah Ein Kerem Hospital to receive proper medical care.

9. Attacking a Jerusalemite on his way home after work:

At around 4:00pm of Tuesday on July 23, Muhammad Idrees, age 24, was leaving work and hitting home when he noticed that four colonists were chasing him in Jaffa St., West Jerusalem. When Idrees arrived at the bus station, they assembled around him. Idrees tried to escape but did not manage. The colonists beat him, causing bruises and wounds on his face and legs.

10. Brutally beating two young men in Beit Hanina:

At around 9:00pm, of Friday, July 25, 2014, members of price-tag group attacked two young men named Amir Shweiki and Samer Mahfouz, both 20 in age, while they were wandering the streets of Beit Hanina, near the colony of Neve Yaakov. When the Israeli police showed up at the scene, they investigated the assault and moved the two into al-Makassid Hospital to receive medical treatment.

Mahdi Shweiki, brother of Amir, related to LRC field researcher that:

A colonist approached my brother, Amir, and his friend, Samer, and asked if they had a "lighter" and when they said no, he was made sure they were Arabs. He called on eight colonists who surrounded my brother and his friend and started beating them with batons, wires and metal bars over their heads. Israeli police showed up at the place after a while, investigated the attack, transported the two into al-Makassed and later transferred them into Hadassah Ein Kerem medical center.

Mahdi pointed out that his brother, Amir, now suffers from a skull and nose fracture, internal bleeding, bruises and swallowed eyes and face. His right hand has stopped functioning as well. Amir underwent a surgery on Saturday, July 26, to survive.

Mahfouz, Amir's friend, has serious injuries all over his face, neck, and shoulder.

Colonists attempt on abducting a Jerusalemite child of two years in Shu'fat:

On 29/07/2014, two colonists attempted snatching the child Taha Tuffaha from his mom's hands while wandering the main street leading to Shu'fat, east Occupied Jerusalem.



The kid's father asserted:

“My family and I were walking down the main street that leads to Shu’fat and is known as “Krlshyan” ; which is a circle that leads to the town and Ramot colony street. While walking, my kid was few meters ahead of us, to my surprise a gray Mazda pulled over and a colonist stepped down trying to kidnap him. My family and I hurried towards him with two guys in the nearby made the colonist run away in the car heading to Ramot.”

In the meanwhile, the police of the occupation arrived to the location but did not conduct any search about the perpetrators.

The terrorist violations lead by extreme colonists against Jerusalemites and kids are explicit crimes motivated by big rabbis and heads of Zionist extreme parties in addition to right-wing ministers in the government.

The crime of killing Muhammad Abu Khdair (16) was committed by extreme Zionists from a colony surrounding Jerusalem. The incident came after a number of religious parties and Knesset members made statements to kill Arabs in retaliation of the abduction and murder of three soldiers in Hebron on June/2014. Noteworthy, that was not the first attempt of its kind for Musa Rami Zallum (9) was a subject of an abduction attempt by the same group of colonists who kidnapped Abu Khdair and burned him alive two days ago. A colonist snatched Musa the kid while he was walking with his mother from his neck and tried to pull him into his car. The mother hit the colonist on his head with her phone and passersby gathered around and managed to rescue the kid whose destiny was believed to be as Abu Khdair; being murdered and burnt alive.

12. Colonists assault citizen al-Abbasi horridly and attempted to kidnap him:

On 31/07/2014 and around 7:00 am of Thursday, a group of right-wing colonists attempted kidnapping citizen Ali al-Abbasi (21) after he was pepper-sprayed and tied on his way to work in Angel bakery in Deir Yassin, west of Occupied Jerusalem.

Al-Abbasi asserted the following:

“When I took the train to my job location, I stepped down in the second stop where a group of 5-6 colonists attacked me from the back, pepper-sprayed my eyes and tied my hands behind my back. They knocked me down to the floor, kicking and bounding me horridly”.

He also added: “one of them burned my hand with a cigarette butt, pepper-sprayed my eyes and ears and tried to put me in the trunk of a Toyota Camry that arrived to the place. Meanwhile a co-worker of mine passed by which made colonist fled immediately” .

Al- Abbasi asserted that he was hospitalized in Shaare Zedek to have the proper cure for the eye burns and excruciating pain. The Israeli police came to hospital and opened an investigation and conducted a crime reconstruction after the victim was discharged. The attackers were in civilian clothes with Kippahs(religious Jewish hats) aging between 25-30 years. Abbasi stated that this was the second time he was assaulted for the first time was on July/2014 where a group of colonists hit him with metal bars and pepper-sprayed his eyes after he finished his job in the bakery. He submitted a complaint but with no result to be rendered.

Colonial Plans

34 residential units in Pisgat Ze'ev and Har Homa colonies:

Israeli source on 04/07/2014 said that the authorities of Israel decided on building 243 residential units in the colonies of Pisgat Zeev, Har Homa and Jabal Abu Ghnaim in Occupied Jerusalem and promoting them in the couple next of months. The weekly newspaper of Kol Halr said that the company of Tzervti Shem'on was awarded the tender of Israel Lands Authority to establish 92 residential units in Pisgat Zeev. The company vice president Verd Tzervti Zoblun said that : “ there has been an interest in new colony projects including a new street linking colonies with Tel Aviv that would save around 30 minutes in time. This would be an attraction for young couples and this is why we applied for the tender. The project is part of a bigger plan in Har Homa to establish 142 residential units to be promoted for in the next couple of months.

The occupation army raids and assaults

1.The occupation troops cause a fire in construction materials shop in al-Ram:

On 05/07/2014, the occupation forces fired tens of gas bombs on the northern entrance of al-Ram town which caused a fire in a construction material shop owned by Zaki Idris. Total losses were estimated of 50,000 INS.

2.The occupation uses suppressive means to disperse the crowds standing in solidarity with Gaza

Dispersion of demonstrations forcefully:

The occupation police banned Jerusalemites from holding peace solidarity demonstrations against the massacres in Gaza. The police beat those who protested and arrested them using large numbers of police officers and rangers in addition to pumping sewage water tanks.

Pumping sewage water on citizens and their properties

The occupation police intentionally pumped sewage water on shops and vendors in Damascus gate, al-Sultan St. and Salah ed-Dien St. which caused damage to the exhibited items on the sides of the roads. One more reason behind pumping sewage water in the areas of (Wadi al-Jooz, al-Eisawaya, at-Tur, al-Suwanee, Ras el-Amood, and Silwan) was to harm residents' houses and cars, taking into consideration that the stinky odor of sewage water lasts for long and cannot be easily removed. Cars windows were broken in at-Tur by the occupation and sewage water was pumped into them as the soldiers could not disperse crowds and demonstrations.

Shooting fire bombs on residences:

In the towns of al-Eisawaya and Suwanee, the troops of the occupation intensively fired a large a number of tear-gas bombs on peoples' residences. Suffocation cases were documented especially among kids, women and elderly, not mentioning shooting live ammunitions, rubber-coated-bullets, and sound bombs randomly on residences.

Mustaribin known as (Arab Platoons) spreading among citizens:

Special units of Arab Platoons known as Mustaribin sneaked amidst people who are denied access to al-Aqsa mosque and sat them up to be arrested after being beaten horridly. This strategy has been used in the areas of clashes with the occupation.

Break-ins and raids campaign:

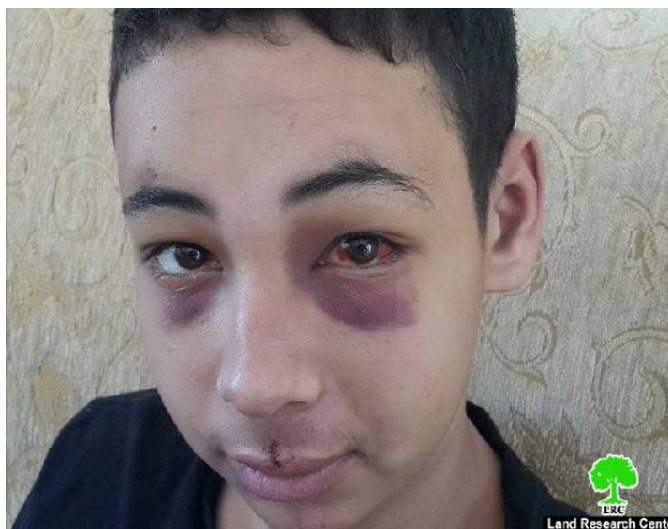
Massive troops of the occupation police broke into Jerusalemite villages and neighborhoods to start an arrest campaign that reached out tens of youngsters and kids in an attempt to stop demonstrations, which arose after the torch of the kid Mohammad Abu Khdair and the war on Gaza. The campaign included the following areas (Sour Bahir, Jabal el-Mukabbir, al-Eisawaya, Wad el-Jooz, the old city, Ras el-

Amood, at-Tur, Shu'fat, and Beit Hanina. Arrests usually took place after midnight and resulted in total damage of properties and traumatizing people.



The occupation police beat the kid Tariq Abu Khdair up while handcuffed:

After murdering the martyr kid Mohammad Abu Khdair who was burned alive by right-wing extremists, clashes broke out in the town of Shu'fat to reach out most of the Palestinian villages and cities in the occupied territories. The outrage was a



kind of response to the horrible crime of burning the boy alive.

The occupation then, could not reach al-Eisawaya town because of the current clashes at the town entrance which made soldiers use rubber-coated bullets and sound bombs intensively. Snipers spread over the roofs of houses which resulted in a large number of injuries including correspondents and paramedics who were present at time.

The occupation troops spread over “Arab Platoons” known as "Mustarabin" amidst the crowd for the sake of arresting Palestinians. The kid Tariq Abu Khdair was present there and could not flee and was caught and beaten up horribly.

Tariq Abu Khdair to the LRC researcher asserted:

“ I arrived from the states with my mom couple of days before my cousin Mohammad was murdered to spend the vacation with him. I did not know that I would only be seeing him for days before he got kidnapped and burned alive by colonists. After he was killed, clashes broke out in the area and I was watching from a distance but suddenly all guys started running away. I did the same with them but someone snatched me from the back and pulled me down to the ground. They turned out to be a special force of the occupation, which handcuffed me and beat me up barbarically on

my face, head and different parts of my body. Only then, I felt a difficulty in breathing and I fainted. Afterwards, I was detained and transferred to the Police center without any medical care and then, I was submitted to a court that decided to extend my detention for couple of days before I was released. I was also under house arrest for 15 days under the condition of being outside Shu'fat”.

Assaults on religious locations

Break-ins on al-Aqsa mosque during the month of Ramadan:

Right-wing colonists continued breaking into the courtyards of al-Aqsa mosque during Ramadan on daily basis except for Friday and Saturday. It is worth mentioning that this is the first time the occupation allows colonists in al-Aqsa mosque in large numbers.

Since the first day of Ramadan, the occupation police set up checkpoints on the entrances of al-Aqsa mosque, spread its troops over the entrances of the old city, and installed inspection points in the alleys. This is to hinder people to get in the mosque from 7:00 to 11:00 during July, which comes with the beginning of Ramadan. The occupation seems to conduct the strategy of time division on the real ground.

The occupation police allowed large numbers of right-wing colonists in al-Aqsa mosque through the Dung Gate and the Chain Gate. They wandered through the Compound with a tour guide and amidst police protection.

During the aforementioned raids and break-ins, a number of youngsters were detained and arrested in the attempt to stand against the occupation policy in allowing colonists in the mosque as opposed to Palestinians. Noteworthy, the occupation used rubber-coated bullets, gas bombs, and batons to evict worshipers forcefully.

The ban included worshipers under 50 years of age even on Fridays during Ramadan.

This was the first time the occupation bans Jerusalemites from all ages to get in al-

Aqsa mosque, which forced worshipers to pray in the streets of the old city. The moment the prayer finishes, soldiers repressively disperse the crowds using different brutal techniques such like (tear gas, sounds bombs, rubber-coated bullets, sewage water, arrests, detention, and rifles butts hits)

Land Research Center sees in the occupation policy an explicit attempt to create facts on the ground, which in this regard aims at forcing the so-called “Jewish right” to al-Aqsa mosque at the expense of the Palestinian religious and historical right to it. Furthermore, LRC sees that the suppressing and exiling policies conducted by the occupation are mainly for the sake of forcing Jerusalemites to submit to Israeli occupation policies.



Israeli female soldiers while raiding al-Aqsa mosque