

ARIJ Daily Report

Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ)

P.O Box 860, Caritas Street – Bethlehem Phone: (+972) 2 2741889, Fax: (+972) 2 2776966 pmaster@arij.org | http://www.arij.org

Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 17 August 2016

he daily report highlights the violations behind Israeli home demolitions and demolition threats the occupied Palestinian territory, in 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 Army (IOA) invaded the headquarter of the Red Cross in Ash Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, north of Jerusalem city, and forced the Palestinians to evacuate it. (SilwanIC 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) opened fire at Palestinian land located near the border fence, east of Al Faraheen neighborhood, east of Abbsan town, east of Khan Younis city, south of Gaza strip. (Safa 17 August 2016)

- Israeli Occupation jeeps and bulldozers staged few meters into Palestinian land, near the border fence, at the eastern art of Al Khaza'a town, east of Khan Younis city, at the southern part of Gaza strip. (Maannews & Safa 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided and searched a Palestinian house in Jenin city. The targeted house owned by the family of the Palestinian prisoner in the Israeli Jail; Mohammad Nasser Abed Al Hafid 'Alaqmah. (Wafa 17 August 2016)
- Clashes erupted between Palestinians and the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in Yabad tow, west of Jenin city. The IOA fired teargas grenades and rubber bullets at Palestinians. (Raya 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded and searched a Palestinian house in Jenin refugee camp, west of Jenin city, and seized a vehicle. The targeted house and vehicle is owned by Jamal Abu Al Hayja'. (RB2000 17 August 2016)
- Mohammad Yousif Saber Abu Hashhash (17 years) was killed during clashes the erupted between Palestinians and the IOA in Al Fawar refugee camp, south of Hebron city. (Maannews 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed several neighborhood in Ramallah city and Al 'Am'ari and Qadura refugee camps. Clashes erupted between Palestinians and the IOA, where the IOA fired live bullets and teargas grenades, causing tens of suffocation cases and the injury of two Palestinians. During the operation, the IOA arrested 6 Palestinians; identified as: Hussen Abu Kwik, Nael Abu Kwik, Hussam Al Wawi, Muhannad Samarah, Yousif Abu Saif and Jehad Al 'azza. (Wafa & Maannews 17 August 2016)

Israeli Arrests

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Mohammad Nasser Khadir 'Alaqma (27 years) after stopping him at Barta'a military checkpoint, west of Jenin city. (Safa 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Majd Ahmed 'Arqawi (24 years) after storming his house in Jenin city. (Wafa 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested three Palestinians after raiding and searching their houses in Hebron city. The arrestees were identified as: Ahmed Yousi Hassuna, Ahmed Zakariya Miswada and Ala Miswada. (Wafa 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Abed Al Wahab Al Khateb after raiding his house in Halhul town, north of Hebron city. (Wafa 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Shaer Ghatash from Al Fawar refugee camp, south of Hebron city. (Wafa 17 August 2016)

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested two Palestinians and summoned Omar Mohammad Khalil Awad (16 years) to interview the Israeli Intelligence Police, after raiding their houses in Beit Ummer town, north of Hebron city. The arrestees were identified as: Baha Mohammad Khalil Awad (21 years) and Nour Ibrahim Mohammad Mutlaq Za'aqiq (19 years). (Maannews & Wafa 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested two Palestinians from Deir Samit village in Hebron governorate. (Safa 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested two Palestinians after raiding their houses in Anata town, northeast of Jerusalem city. (Safa 17 August 2016)

Israeli Settler Violence

• Israeli settlers escorted by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem city and toured in its courtyard. (Orient FM 17 August 2016)

Home Demolition & Demolition threats

- Israeli bulldozers escorted by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Khirbet Al Marajem, south of Duma village, in Nablus governorate, and demolished a Palestinian houses and retaining wall. The targeted structures are owned by: Tareq Sirawi. (Wafa & Shasha News & RB2000 17 August 2016)
- Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished an agricultural and razed 3 kilometers agricultural road in Qusra village, south of Nablus city. (Wafa 17 August 2016)

Confiscation & Razing of lands

• Israeli Occupation bulldozers escorted by the Israeli Army invaded Wadi An Najar area, west of Beit Ula town, northwest of Hebron city, razed 15 dunums of Palestinian land and uprooted 300 olive trees. The targeted land is owned by Mohammad Khalil Abed Al Aziz Al 'Amlah. (Safa 17 August 2016)

Erection of Israeli checkpoints

• Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) erected a military checkpoint at the entrance of Al Fawar refugee camp, south of Hebron city. The IOA stopped and searched Palestinian vehicles and checked ID cards. (Wafa 17 August 2016)

Other

'Gush Etzion settlement bloc to grow to half-a-million people'. Efrat, which is the second largest settlement in the Gush Etzion bloc, could quickly grow to the size of a city in the next decade. A half-a-million people will live in the Gush Etzion settlement bloc within the next decade, Construction and Housing Minister Yoav Galant estimated as he visited the region on Tuesday. He made the statement during a conversation he had with Efrat Local Council head Oded Revivi, whose settlement of over 8,000 people is in the midst of building 1,100 new homes. Revivi's spokesman described the meeting and explained that Efrat itself was likely to grow by 60 percent in the coming years. "We have an obligation to build in Gush Etzion," Galant said as he paused to talk with reporters in the Tekoa settlement, where a new neighborhood is under construction. "This place is important historically and strategically," he added. Gush Etzion Regional Council head Davidi Perl, who earlier this week inaugurated the first mall in his region, said he was pleased to work with Galant to build up the larger Jerusalem region. To date, there are only some 75,000 Israelis living in the Gush Etzion bloc, which is located just outside Jerusalem's southern border, according to 2014 population data from the Central Bureau of Statistics. The majority of them, 46,874 people, live in the ultra-Orthodox city of Beitar Ilit. The remainder are spread out among 14 other settlements. Israel has plans to build a new city in Gush Etzion, called Gevaot, but approvals are still pending for its construction. But Efrat, which is the second largest settlement in the Gush Etzion bloc, could quickly grow to the size of a city in the next decade, particularly if approvals are given for a new 2,500 unit project called Givat HaEitam. As a first step to approving that project, the state is looking to reclassify as state land a small section of the settlement, so that an access road can be built to the Givat HaEitam site. The first 800 units slated for construction on that side, will be built on land purchased by Jews prior to the creation of the State of Israel in 1948. The rest of the land is deemed to be state land, except for the plots of property where an access road is needed. Peace Now, a nongovernmental group that monitors settler building activity in the West Bank, reported Sunday on the state's efforts to build that road. The Palestinians have opposed the Givat Eitam project, which they refer to as the creation of a new settlement, that would be located right next to Bethlehem in a way that would hamper that city's growth in the future. Peace Now has warned that Israel was sealing off the city of Bethlehem from the surrounding Palestinian areas, by encircling it with Israeli housing projects, such as the east Jerusalem Jewish neighborhoods of Har Homa and Gilo. "Israel's move to build a new illegal settlement and bypass road next to Bethlehem is another step into cutting the West Bank in two, and annexing Area C," Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah said on Monday. "Israeli authorities are doing their best to destroy the historic character of Bethlehem," he added. Jamal Dajani, who heads Hamdallah's media office added: "The international community has an obligation to stop Israel's illegal and ongoing land theft, before there is nothing left of Palestine." In Washington, US State Department deputy spokesperson Mark Toner spoke out against the project in response to a reporter's question. We're concerned because these plans, if carried out, would have the effect of isolating Bethlehem from the southern West Bank, and that's fundamentally – in our view, fundamentally incompatible with the pursuit of a two-state solution," Toner said. Israel, however, holds that the Gush Etzion bloc will be part of its final borders in any final status agreement with the Palestinians and that building there has no bearing on the creation of a two-state solution to end the conflict with the Palestinians. (JPOST 17 August 2016)

Israeli Media: Preparations for Construction of 3rd Temple to Begin. Israeli institutions and organizations are preparing to build the socalled "Third Temple" in place of Al-Aqsa Mosque, and are waiting for a political decision to start, Israeli channels reported. Israeli TV reported, on the alleged anniversary of the temple's destruction, that Israeli institutions which seek to build the temple were met with wide political and popular support. It was noted that these institutions were previously marginalized but, nowadays, enjoy a political presence. These organizations explained, according to Al Ray Palestinian Media Agency, that they are ready to bring the equipment and tools to start building the temple in the place of both the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque. They further stated that the total time needed to accomplish the building is three years, according to their plans. Israeli Channel 2 broadcast a report, on Saturday, in which they focused on the activities of Women for the Temple organization which is preparing the needed materials for the temple's construction. Al-Aqsa Mosque is the third holiest site in Islam and is also venerated as Judaism's most holy place. Disputes surrounding visitation to the site have historically flared tensions in the occupied Palestinian territory. In 2003, the Israeli government unilaterally decided – despite the objections of the Islamic Endowments Department – to allow non-Muslim visitors into the complex. Since then, under increasingly rightwing Israeli governments, extremist Jewish settlers have been allowed into the site in ever greater numbers - usually protected by Israeli

security forces — while Palestinian access to the site has become increasingly restricted. (<u>IMEMC</u> 17 August 2016)