



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 12 April 2017

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

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained two Palestinians allegedly after attempting to cross the Gazan border into Israel's Eshkol Regional Council bordering the besieged enclave. The detainees were subsequently transferred to the Shin Bet, Israel's internal security agency, for interrogations. (Maannews 12 April 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) showered eastern al-Qarara in southern Gaza Strip with gunfire shortly before they kidnapped two Palestinian young men near the border fence. Israeli soldiers deployed

at the Kissufim military base opened fire at eastern al-Qarara town, in eastern Khan Younis, at the same time as Israeli military patrols raked through Palestinian lands near the border fence, separating the blockaded Gaza Strip from 1948 Occupied Palestine (Green Line). (PALINFO 12 April 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) entered the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in occupied East Jerusalem to inspect the premises after detaining a Palestinian man following evening prayers. The IOA detained a young Palestinian man as he left the compound following evening prayers. Israeli forces raided the compound several hours later. The IOA claimed that they were searching for a bag belonging to the Palestinian man who was detained earlier, which they said was hidden in the compound. The IOA inspected storehouses and surrounding gardens but did not find anything. (Maannews 12 April 2017)
- A number of Palestinian protesters choked on teargas in clashes with the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) in Hebron's northern town of Beit Ummar. Clashes broke out in al-Dhuhr area, opposite to the illegal Israeli settlement of Karmi Tsur. The occupation soldiers attacked the Palestinian anti-occupation protesters with randomly-discharged spates of teargas canisters. A number of Palestinians choked on teargas in the clashes. The occupation soldiers further blocked off the main access road to Sh'ab al-Seir area before Palestinian civilians. (PALINFO 12 April 2017)

Israeli Arrests

- During a raid into the central occupied West Bank city of al-Bireh in northeastern Ramallah, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained exiled Jerusalem lawmaker Ahmad Attun, as well as Hamas spokesperson Fayiz Abu Wardeh, after breaking into and searching their homes. Attun, is a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, and was exiled from occupied East Jerusalem to the West Bank after the Israeli Interior Ministry had been threatening to deport Hamas-affiliated lawmakers -- under the pretext of disloyalty to the Israeli state. (Maannews 12 April 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained 24-year-old Hazem Khalid Khallaf, after raiding his house in the town of Dura in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Hebron. (Maannews 12 April 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian at the al-Jaba military checkpoint in the southern occupied West Bank

Governorate of Bethlehem. The detainee was identified as 20-year-old Mutasem Samer Issa Brighith. Brighith was on his way home to Beit Ummar in the Hebron district from Ramallah, where he attends university. He was detained at the checkpoint and transferred to an unknown location in an Israeli military jeep. (Maannews 12 April 2017)

- Israeli border police detained a Palestinian youth from the Sur Bahir village in southeastern occupied East Jerusalem after allegedly finding a weapon in his vehicle. The detainee was transferred to Israeli intelligence to undergo interrogations. (Maannews 12 April 2017)
- Israeli occupation authorities banned Citizen Amjad Abu Asab from occupied East Jerusalem for 30 days. Abu Asab was released from the Israeli prison in March after serving three and a half years. (Maannews 12 April 2017)
- Israeli military patrols stationed at a military checkpoint in Beit Jala summoned 25-year-old Khalil Abu Mariya, from Beit Ummar, to questioning in Etzion camp. (PALINFO 12 April 2017)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested the 16-year-old Palestinian boy Ahmad Abu Ayyash, from Beit Ummar town, north of Hebron in the southern West Bank. The IOA soldiers arrested the young man in Beit Zateh area, east of the town, while he was going back home. The soldiers beat up the minor after he allegedly threw stones at them, he pointed out. (PALINFO 12 April 2017)
- Israeli soldiers invaded Ad Deheishe refugee camp, south of the city of Bethlehem, violently searched homes and abducted Mohammad Monjed Lahham, 18. (IMEMC 12 April 2017)
- Israeli soldiers also invaded and ransacked homes in Husan village, west of Bethlehem, and abducted Mohammad Za'ouli, 17, and Bashar Sabateen, 15. (IMEMC 12 April 2017)
- Israeli soldiers detained four Palestinians, from their homes, in various parts of the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem. The detainees were identified as Sbeih Abu Sbeih, Mohammad Zghayyar, Jihad Qous and Rawhi Kolghassi. The Palestinians were taken prisoner after the soldiers invaded and ransacked their homes, and interrogated them and some of their family members. They were all cuffed and blindfolded, before the soldiers moved them to detention and interrogation centers in the city. (IMEMC 12 April 2017)

Israeli Settler Violence

- Israeli settlers, guided by two leaders, stormed the plazas of holy al-Aqsa Mosque. 162 Israeli settlers led by former MK Moshe Feiglin and

the founder of the secret Jewish movement Hai Vekayam, broke into the site via the Maghareba Gate. At around 7:30 a.m. Israeli policemen intensified presence at and around al-Aqsa Mosque, paving the way for the break-in. The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) have cracked down on the Muslim worshipers and youth at al-Aqsa for the third consecutive day, denying them access to the site to perform their prayers. The break-ins were carried out following calls launched by Israel's Temple Mount organizations to desecrate al-Aqsa on the occasion of the seven-day Jewish Passover holiday. (PALINFO 12 April 2017)

- Israeli settlers wrote racist graffiti, including the largely-used "Death To Arabs," on a wall of a Palestinian neighborhood, in occupied East Jerusalem. The racist graffiti was written in the Baq'a Palestinian neighborhood, and were uncovered by locals who called the Police. Besides "Death To Arabs," among the racist graffiti was "Arabs Go Home," "Revenge," "Kahane Was Right," and "We Will Not Be Silent." (IMEMC 12 April 2017)
- Hundreds of Israeli settlers under the cover of the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Sebastya village archeological site north of Nablus to celebrate Passover. (WAFa 12 April 2017)
- Tens of Israeli settlers raided Yatta's Municipality Public park in Al Karmel area south of Hebron city, checked Palestinian cars and obstructed movement. (WAFa 12 April 2017)

Erection of Israeli checkpoints

- The Israeli soldiers installed many roadblocks at Hebron's southern entrance, in al-Fahs area, in addition to Beit Einoun area, east of the city, Farsh al-Hawa, west of Hebron, and Wad al-Ghrous, in its eastern part, before stopping and searching dozens of cars, and interrogated many Palestinians while inspecting their ID cards. Dozens of soldiers and military vehicles were also deployed on roads leading to many villages and towns, especially on bypass roads, in several parts of the Hebron district. (IMEMC 12 April 2017)

Israeli Closures

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) erected a military checkpoint at the entrance to Kifl Hares village, north of Salfit to the north of West Bank. The IOA stopped and searched dozens of Palestinian vehicles, restricting the people's movement. Many locals were forced to take alternative roads to reach their work. (PALINFO 12 April 2017)

Other

- Five volunteer jeep owners from settlements near Ma'aleh Adumim, east of Jerusalem, are watching the Bedouin encampments in the area to thwart any construction while Civil Administration inspectors are on Passover vacation. They answered the call of a group known as the Jerusalem Periphery Forum. According to a forum activist who asked to remain anonymous, the five are working in shifts of a few hours each. On weekends, when the Civil Administration inspectors are also off duty, Yariv Aharoni of Kfar Adumim, and the forum's coordinator of issues involving land, is the inspector. However, during Passover week, Aharoni is on partial vacation and so the forum called for volunteer backup. The Jerusalem Periphery Forum includes representatives of the settlements of Alon, Kfar Adumim, Nofei Prat and Mitzpeh Yeriho, and a representative of the Binyamin Regional Council. According to the activist, the forum works "against the illegal Palestinian-European construction in this area and along Route 1 between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea." Aharoni is the only member of the forum who is on salary. He also operates a multicopter drone that the forum purchased a few years ago, and uses it to take aerial photos of the Bedouin encampments. According to the forum activist, during Purim vacation two years ago, the Bedouin put up 22 prefabricated dwellings in various encampments, which the official called "outposts." Those structures were donated by European organizations. After that, the forum decided to fund special manpower from the settlements to oversee what was happening in the encampments. The oversight, according to the forum activist, serves as a deterrent, even if not every structure built without a permit is discovered in real time. The volunteers in their jeeps immediately report any deviation to the Civil Administration and the police, so that even if someone built, it will be destroyed immediately without the need to be dragged to High Court of Justice petitions," he said. "The European Union also understands that this is a wasted investment for it and [its representatives] go build elsewhere," he added. According to the activist, the forum counts 2016 as a signal success because it was the first year ending with a net minus in the number of Bedouin structures erected – "20 fewer than in 2015." The activist said the forum was working "to increase enforcement of the Civil Administration and mainly to move the Bedouin to the permanent towns the state is planning for them. We work mainly through parliamentary and extra-parliamentary activities and public pressure. But in the end, it is the decision of the prime minister and the defense minister." About 20 Bedouin communities have been living for decades in the area east of

Jerusalem, even before the settlements were founded. When the settlements were established, the Bedouin's herding space was restricted and some of the communities were expelled to allow the settlement of Ma'aleh Adumim to expand. Israel developed master plans for the settlements, but did not permit even one encampment to connect to water and electricity lines or build clinics and schools. Lacking a master plan, any structure, even a toilet or solar panels, is considered illegal. For the past decade, the Civil Administration has said it will be concentrating the Bedouin in permanent towns near the Palestinian Authority's jurisdiction, such as the town established near the Abu Dis garbage dump. The Bedouin oppose the move to permanent towns and the European Union has defined this plan, including demolitions and construction bans, as forced uprooting, which is prohibited by international law. ([Haaretz](#) 12 April 2017)

- Israel's top court ordered an immediate halt to any construction in the illegal outpost of Kerem Re'im in the central West Bank. This includes any marketing or promotion of this illegal construction. Several dozen families live in the outpost, which lies near the settlement of Talmon, within the jurisdiction of the Binyamin Regional Council.
- According to the petition, filed by Peace Now, 20 additional illegal buildings are under construction at this outpost. In response to the petition Justice Yoram Danziger issued a stop-work order forbidding any further work in the buildings mentioned in the petition or any transactions related to these structures and their population.
- According to the petition, the state had previously promoted an urban building plan for the area but this was never completed. Peace Now says there are currently 38 structures on the site, in addition to the 20 under construction, and that the regional council is supporting and encouraging this outpost.
- For example, the petition notes the Facebook page of Binyamin Regional Council chairman Avi Roeh, who is also the head of the Yesha (Judea and Samaria) settlers council. There he describes a visit he conducted to the outpost with Knesset Speaker Yuli Edelstein.
- State attorneys asked that the petition be dismissed, stressing that the area on which the outpost stood was state-owned land, and that there was an earlier plan to retroactively legitimize the outpost. The state noted that all the illegal structures in the outpost were on state-owned land, and that many previous orders had been given to stop construction there, but none were heeded. ([Haaretz](#) 12 April 2017)