



# ARIJ Daily Report

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## Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 26 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

- A peaceful march in front of Qalandiya refugee camp, staged in solidarity with some [1,500 Palestinian prisoners who have been on hunger strike](#) for more than a week, escalated into clashes with Israeli soldiers firing tear gas canisters and rubber-coated steel bullets at dozens of Palestinians. Four Palestinians were shot and injured with rubber-coated steel bullets while dozens suffered from tear-gas inhalation fired by Israeli soldiers stationed near the Qalandiya

military checkpoint north of Jerusalem in the central occupied West Bank. (Maanews 26 April 2017)

- Israeli navy boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip, forcing the fishermen to head back to shore "in fear for their lives,". No injuries were reported. (Maanews 26 April 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed Dar al-Israa library, owned by the Palestinian ex-prisoner Taher Dendis near al-Khalil University. The IOA wreaked havoc on the building and seized all the laptops. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed another branch of the library, near al-Khalil municipality, and ruled that it be closed for six months on claims of selling anti-occupation material. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed the home of 17-year-old Amjad Maher Saleh, and subjected his family members to exhaustive interrogation. The IOA cordoned off Saleh's family home in al-Quds Street, in Balata camp, east of Nablus, and cracked down on the inhabitants, sparking violent clashes in the area. Sounds of heavy bullet fire were detected all the way through the assault. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)
- Israeli occupation Army (IOA) shot and injured a Palestinian man near Huwwara checkpoint, south of Nablus in the West Bank. The IOA opened fire at the young man, who was not immediately identified, and injured him in the abdomen. The IOA denied access of Red Crescent medical teams to the site, adding that the soldiers took the injured man to an unknown destination. (Wafa 26 April 2017)

## **Israeli Arrests**

- The 21-year-old Yasser Hanun, from Jenin camp, was kidnapped by the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) after he turned himself in to questioning at Salem military site. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)
- The 17-year-old Kasem al-Haj was kidnapped by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) as he passed through a military checkpoint set up near Kadim settlement outpost, east of Jenin Governorate. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)
- Two Palestinians—Abdul Nasser Jaradat, 26, and Kamel Jaradat, 20—were kidnapped by the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) from their homes in Zabouba, west of Jenin. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)
- The 20-year-old Hudheifa Khouly, enrolled at An-Najah Engineering University, was kidnapped from his family home in Imateen, in Qalqilya Governorate. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)

- The Israeli District Court in Jerusalem sentenced 17-year-old Malak Salman, from Beit Safafa in occupied East Jerusalem, to 10 years in prison. (WAFSA 26 April 2017)

### **Israeli Settler Violence**

- Israeli settlers set ablaze some 100 olive trees belonging to Palestinians in the village of Beit Tamir in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Bethlehem. Israeli settlers set the olive trees on fire in a five dunam (1 acre) plot of land, which is located near an Israeli outpost and belongs to Mubarak and Muhammad Zawahreh. (Maannews 26 April 2017)
- Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided the Palestinian village of Kifl Haris north of Salfit in the occupied West Bank, to secure the entry of a group of Israeli settlers who performed religious rituals at tombs in the area. Several Israeli military vehicles raided the village and fired stun grenades in the streets, preventing access to locals, and forcing shops to close. The IOA were deployed at the entrance of the town and searching passing Palestinian vehicles. (Maannews 26 April 2017)
- Violent clashes broke out in Kafel Hares town north of Salfit in protest against Israeli settlers' provocative break-ins. The confrontations erupted when Israeli occupation Army (IOA) broke into the village in order to provide protection for the settlers who were storming a number of Islamic sites in the area. During the raids, a curfew was imposed on local residents while IOF soldiers fired teargas bombs at a local secondary school. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)
- Israeli settlers burned a Palestinian car in Hawara town, south of Nablus. A group of Israeli settlers set fire to the car of the Palestinian citizen Mustafa al-Dhmeidi, from Hawara, reducing the vehicle to ashes. Surveillance cameras kept record of the arson attack and of the settlers' infiltration into the area. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)

### **Home Demolition & Demolition threats**

- Israeli occupation authorities bulldozed structures and land at the entrance to village of Arraba in the northern West Bank Governorate of Jenin, after four Palestinian families were ordered to leave the area. Muhammad Abu Hantash, owner of a local ceramics store said that Israeli soldiers raided the area and ordered the residents, who also raise livestock there, to leave for alleged security reasons. After razing the area, Israeli occupation Army (IOA) blocked it off with cement

blocks to prevent locals from accessing the site. (Maannews 26 April 2017)

- Palestinians in the village of Jubbet al-Dhib were notified that an elementary school under construction in the town was slated for demolition by Israel's Civil Administration, which enforces Israeli policies in the occupied Palestinian territory. (Maannews 26 April 2017)
- Israeli occupation Authorities and Army (IOA) seized 60 tons of woods and demolished a structure in the village of Yabad, southwest of the city of Jenin in the occupied West Bank. The IOA raided an area in Yabad where coal is produced and manufactured, seized 60 tons of wood owned by Rafiq Zaid and Mahmoud Abu Baker and demolished a coal production shop that belongs to Abu Baker. The IOA brought trucks to load the wood, which was taken to an unknown destination, and a bulldozer to demolish the shop. (Wafa 26 April 2017)

### **Expansion of settlements**

- Jerusalem City Hall has published plans to expropriate land in the Palestinian neighborhood of Ras al-Amud for a new visitor and information center to serve the adjacent Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives. Even though construction plans have yet to be published, work has apparently already begun on the project. At this point, it is unclear who owns the land to be expropriated, which is near a neighborhood mosque and not far from the Temple Mount in the Old City. The plans for the visitor center were developed by the Jerusalem Development Authority in conjunction with the municipality. Groups and individual visitors would be able to congregate at the facility and be advised on the location of graves of family members and famous religious figures. The plans provide for an assembly hall, shop and information office, as well as a path that would lead from the center through the cemetery itself. There is already a similar information facility in the area, run by the right-wing Ir David Foundation (also known as Elad). Establishing a tourist site in the heart of the historic basin of Jerusalem, adjacent to a mosque, opposite the Temple Mount, means building a kind of settlement. City hall said the land is adjacent to a mosque and currently serves as a parking lot. In practice, however, work on the visitor center appears to have begun, even before the plan was published for objections. ([Haaretz](#) 26 April 2017)
- Israel's Housing Ministry is bringing back plans for a new neighborhood in Jerusalem that falls outside of the 1967 borders and inside the West Bank. The neighborhood is planned for the site of the now defunct Atarot Airport, north of Jerusalem, and is supposed to

provide housing for ultra-Orthodox Israelis. The 10,000-home plan was drawn years ago by the Jerusalem municipality, but had been frozen due to the strong opposition of the previous U.S. administration to Israeli construction in East Jerusalem. But after Donald Trump's inauguration, Israel started advancing the plan again, and is set to make it public on Jerusalem Day in May, according to a Channel 10 report. Atarot Airport, the planned site of the new neighborhood, was abandoned at the beginning of the second intifada some 15 years ago for fear that the Palestinians would shoot at planes taking off there. The airport is located next to the separation barrier, not far from the Qalandiyah checkpoint. The plan also spans areas west of the airport, outside the municipal area of Jerusalem in the West Bank, in lands that are nevertheless under Jewish ownership. Though the neighborhood is earmarked for the ultra-Orthodox public, but heads of the haredi community have recently expressed their opposition to the neighborhood's location, citing its distance from the city center and proximity to Palestinian neighborhoods and the separation barrier. ([Haaretz](#) 26 April 2017)

- Israeli bulldozers affiliated to Ariel industrial zone are razing lands and crushing stones in Batan al-Hamam area in Bruqin village, west of Salfit city. The Ariel industrial zone is expanding at the expense of agricultural land and fertile pastures around the clock. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)

### **Israeli Closures**

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) sealed off Jenin-Haifa thoroughfare with a makeshift checkpoint, where Palestinian vehicles and civilians have been subjected to intensive inspection. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) sealed off the northern entrance to Hebron Governorate with a military checkpoint and cracked down on Palestinian civilians. The IOA set up a military checkpoint in Halhul Bridge area, where Palestinian drivers and civilians had been subjected to intensive inspection. The occupation soldiers have tightened grip on al-Khalil and closed off the city with makeshift checkpoints over the past few days. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)
- A military checkpoint had been pitched near the main entrance to al-Hawawer area between Halhul and the Israeli bypass road. Palestinian vehicles and citizens had also been made to endure exhaustive searches. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)

### **The Israeli Segregation Wall**

- The Israeli occupation authorities have completed the closure of Al Walaja village, southwest of Jerusalem, with an electronic fence. This has led to the isolation of the villagers from their lands. The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) are completing the closure Ein Jouizeh neighborhood with an electronic fence. This wall will completely close the village from all sides, affecting the lives of the village residents. The only way to enter and exit the village will be from the settlement of Har Gilo. (PALINFO 26 April 2017)

## Other

- Evacuees of the illegal West Bank outpost of Amona have accused authorities of thwarting the construction of a new settlement for them. They claim they were promised a hilltop that was excluded from a recent military order expanding the jurisdiction of the Mateh Binyamin regional council, which includes the Jewish settlements and outposts in the southern part of the West Bank. The evacuees say they had expected Giva Heh, a hilltop next to the Geulat Tzion outpost, where they planned to settle, to be included in the council's jurisdiction, paving the way to their move there. Instead, the order signed last week by Major General Roni Noma of the IDF Central Command includes another area that was initially proposed to the Amona settlers, who turned it down. That area, known as Giva Bet, was earmarked as a new neighborhood of the Shvut Rachel settlement. Currently a few settler families who don't abide by the decisions of the settler establishment live off and on in temporary dwellings at Geulat Tzion. Periodically, they are evacuated from there by the IDF's Civil Administration. Law enforcement sources confirmed the military order expanding the council does not include the hilltop where the Amona settlers wish to build their homes, and that it incorporates other hilltops in the Shiloh area. The location the Amona evacuees desire is east of there. The sources also say the areas placed under the Mateh Binyamin jurisdiction include agricultural lands, the hilltop where the Shvut Rachel neighborhood is planned, as well as an area for a school and wastewater treatment plant. To read full report, click here ([Haaretz](#) 26 April 2017)
- The head of the Civil Administration, Brig. Gen. Ahvat Ben Hur, issued a warning to the Arab residents of the village of Bardala that the Civil Administration and the Water Authority has launched an extensive enforcement operation to locate water thefts and to cut off illegal water connections to the village. The operation began following the theft of water by residents of the village, which affects all residents of the Jordan Valley. Water meant for Jewish farmers is siphoned off in the

village, but Arab farmers suffer as well. "The villages of Bardala, Kardala and Ein Elbica receive 12,000 cubic meters of water from the Israeli side every day, of which 11,200 cubic meters a day are illegally stolen by Bardala residents," wrote Brig. Gen. Ben Hur. ""The meaning of this is that the villagers' water is stolen by no one other than the Palestinian residents themselves! The Civil Administration has begun a large-scale operation to combat this grave phenomenon. The Civil Administration, in the year since Brig. Gen. Ben Hur assumed command, has formulated a long term plan, in cooperation with the Water Authority, which will provide a solution for all the residents of the area and will include the expansion of water infrastructure and the operation of new wells. Within the framework of the plan, the Civil Administration approved the immediate operation of the Ariel, Jericho 5 and Booster water wells, which constitute an additional 19,000 cubic meters of water per day for the residents of Judea and Samaria. In addition, the Civil Administration is promoting additional solutions in the field, which are expected to be implemented before the summer. Sources in the Civil Administration say that the phenomenon of water thefts by residents of Bardala village significantly harms Israeli and Arab residents, and enforcement is expected to prevent thefts, which currently sit at 2.6 million cubic meters of water annually. Yehuda Reines, an Israeli farmer in the Jordan Valley, told *Arutz Sheva* that as a result of the illegal water siphoning, many Jewish farms in the northern valley area were without water last week, leaving thousands of acres completely dry. ([INN](#) 26 April 2017)