



ARIJ Daily Report

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 20 December 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.

Israeli Arrests

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) entered the town of Nabi Saleh morning and detained Noor Tamimi, one of Ahed At Tamimi relatives, from her bed. Noor and Ahed are apparently being targeted for a video that went viral last week showing the two girls and Ahed's mother pushing two soldiers, then standing hand-in-hand and telling the soldiers to leave their home. The soldiers, armed with assault rifles, had invaded the town of Nabi Saleh and the Tamimi family home. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) invaded Deir Samit town, west of Hebron, searched homes and a local bakery, and abducted Eyad Farid al-Awawda, 22. The invaded bakery is owned by Saif-Eddin al-Hroub. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian at a military roadblock, in Hebron's Old City, and took him to an unknown destination. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- Israeli settlers attacked a Palestinian child, identified as Amin Ibrahim Ramadan, only 9 years of age, in the Shallala neighborhood, in the center of Hebron city, causing various cuts and bruises. The IOA also invaded the home of Qotada al-Qawasmi, violently searched it, and illegally confiscated cash. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) invaded and searched homes in Yatta town, south of Hebron, and interrogated many Palestinians. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- Several Israeli army jeeps invaded Jenin, in northern West Bank, and detained Moath Fayez Abu Hatab, 20, from his home in the Eastern Neighborhood, in addition to Yousef Tawfiq Abu ar-Rob, 55, also from his home in Jalboun village, east of Jenin. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) invaded Hindaza Mountain, east of Bethlehem, and detained a former political prisoner, identified as Sa'id Odah Jawareesh. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) invaded the Saff Street, in the center of Bethlehem city, and detained Mustafa Mousa Hijazi. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained two Palestinians, identified as Mohammad Mustafa 'Aqel, 15, and Majd Akram Abu Khdeir, from their homes in 'Aida refugee camp, north of the city. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) summoned Mohammad Kawazba for interrogation in Etzion military base and security center, south of Hebron. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Amjad Abu 'Assab, the head of the Detainees' Parents Committee in occupied Jerusalem, after invading his home in the Suwwana neighborhood, in Jerusalem, and

summoned several Palestinians for interrogation. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Mohammad Shalabi and Tareq al-'Ammouri, from their homes in the Old City of occupied Jerusalem, and summoned Tareq al-'Ammouri and Ahmad al-'Ammouri, for interrogation. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- In Jerusalem, the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Mohammad Mahmoud, 18, Yasser Darwish and Mansour Darwish, from al-'Sawiya town in Salfit Governorate. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Mohammad Ashraf Shweiki, 17, from al-Ein neighborhood, in Silwan town in occupied East Jerusalem. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained three Palestinians, from their homes, in Nablus city; one of them has been identified as Mahmoud at-Tabouq. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained invaded al-'Isawiya town, in occupied East Jerusalem, and resorted to the excessive use of force against Palestinian protesters. The IOA fired rubber-coated steel bullets, concussion grenades and gas bombs. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained a young man, identified as Mohammad Ibrahim Ghatasha, from the al-Fawwar refugee camp, south of Hebron, after stopping him at a military roadblock, which was installed by the army on one of Hebron's entrances, and moved him to an unknown destination. (IMEMC 20 December 2017)

Expansion of settlements

- The Israeli government wants to erect three new settlements in the Jordan Valley, housing about 10,000 people, and to expand existing settlements with 14 new neighborhoods. At this stage, neither permits for construction nor budgets have been arranged. On Tuesday the Housing Ministry and Jewish National Fund released the plan for the development of the Jordan Valley, including the establishment of new settlement that would increase the number of Israelis living subject to the West Bank regional council by about 10,000. There are 20 Israeli settlements in the Jordan Valley, with a total of 4,500 residents. The government wants to triple that figure. The new settlements are slated for Givat Sal'it, Bitronot, and Given Eden. Earlier this year a settlement

called Amihi was approved, to house people evicted from the illegal outpost of Amona. Amihai was the first new settlement to be approved in the Jordan Valley in years. In fact, despite Israeli statements about new building in the West Bank and East Jerusalem involving 3,000 housing units, only 50 construction tenders were closed in 2017. Not one of these was in East Jerusalem, according to the UN envoy to the Middle East, Nikolay Mladenov. ([Haaretz](#) 20 December 2017)

Other

- Immigration to Israel rebounded slightly in 2017, thanks to an increase in new arrivals from the former Soviet Union, particularly Ukraine. The number of immigrants arriving from France, however, continued to plunge, after peaking two years ago. According to estimates obtained by Haaretz, an expected 28,400 immigrants will have arrived in the country by the end of this year – 5 percent more than last year. These estimates are based on figures compiled by the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption. In 2016, immigration dropped by 13 percent because of a sharp downturn in the number of Jews arriving from France. That followed several record years, fueled by a combination of rising anti-Semitism and an economic downturn in France. The Israeli government had forecast that the exodus would continue, but French Jews have clearly preferred to stay put. A considerable number of French Jews who immigrated to Israel in recent years have moved back because of relocation difficulties. The estimates show that 3,400 immigrants from France are expected to arrive in Israel by the end of this year – about 28 percent fewer than in 2016. A record 7,500 immigrants from France arrived in 2015. By contrast, the number of immigrants coming from Ukraine is expected to reach 6,700 by the end of this year – up 14 percent from the previous year. The number of immigrants from Russia is expected to remain more or less steady at about 7,000 this year. If these numbers pan out, Russia would be the single largest source of immigrants to Israel for the second year running. Also notable this year was the continued increase in immigration from Brazil. Many Jews have been fleeing Latin America's largest country over the past two years for economic reasons as well as concerns for their personal safety in wake of growing crime. An estimated 670 Brazilian Jews will arrive in Israel by the end of this year, compared with 630 last year and 460 the previous year. Immigration from the United States is expected to remain steady, with about 2,900 American Jews making Israel their home this year. Speculation that Donald Trump's presidential victory might cause American Jews – the majority of whom vote Democrat – to relocate to Israel has proven

groundless. About 2,900 American Jews will have moved to Israel by the end of this year. Asked to comment, Minister of Immigrant Absorption Sofa Landver said: "As every year, we had ups and downs in 2017, but in terms of immigration, it was a successful year." "I am convinced," she continued, "that immigration is a strategic asset for the state of Israel, and therefore, I intend to do my best to increase the budget of my ministry. The more resources we can invest in encouraging and promoting immigration and absorption, the stronger Israel will be." ([Haaretz](#) 20 December 2017)

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