



ARIJ Daily Report

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 8 January 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 Israel Prisons Service (IPS) confiscated more than 2000 books and research papers used by Palestinian prisoners in Hadarim prison under the pretext they include “security material,” in an attempt to obstruct prisoners from pursuing a university education while serving time in prison. (Wafa 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) provided protection to the bulldozers as they proceeded to level borderline agricultural land near Khan Younis. Israel has declared around 300 meters of borderline area

inside Gaza as buffer zone and would shoot at any Palestinian who enters that area. (WAFa 8 January 2018)

- Israeli gunboats stationed off al-Waha Resort shore, northwest of Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza strip, opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats sailing within 3 nautical miles. The Israeli gunboats then surrounded a fishing boat belonging to Mohamed Omar al-Najjar. The fishing boat was manned by Jihad Suhail Murad (25) and Mostafa Mohamed Murad (18), both of them are from al-Shati' refugee camp in Gaza City. The Israeli naval soldiers then forced them to take off their clothes, jumped into the water and swim towards the Israeli gunboat. The fishermen were then arrested while the boat was confiscated. (IMEMC, WAFa 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded al-Mazra'a al-Gharbiyya village, near Birzeit University, and fired many gas bombs and rubber-coated steel bullets, in addition to installing a military roadblock. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) carried out, a limited invasion into Palestinian lands, near the border fence, in Khan Younis, in the southern part of the Gaza Strip. Several armored vehicles, including bulldozers, carried out the limited invasion into the Palestinian lands. The vehicles invaded the lands through Sofa gate, near the military base, across the border fence, and fired several live rounds, in addition to smoke bombs. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli navy ships fired many live rounds at Palestinian fishing boats, in Gaza territorial waters, in the northern part of the coastal region. The fishermen had to sail back to the shore in fear of further escalation. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) severely attacked Ayman Lutfi Dari, in Al-Isawiya town in occupied east Jerusalem. (WAFa 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) invaded Shu'fat refugee camp in Jerusalem and started firing Molotov cocktails and tear gas canisters at Palestinians in the camp. (WAFa 8 January 2018)
- A number of Israeli soldiers assaulted Palestine TV crew, Hani Fannoun, and photographer Fares Janazra, and Hasan Breijieh,

Coordinator of the National Committee Against the Wall and Settlements while they were preparing a report on "Khallet Afana" community near the Gush Etzion settlement bloc after the Israeli occupation bulldozers razed the only road leading to the community. The crew was detained for several hours under the pretext that they entered an Israeli military zone and were preventing from approaching the area. (WAFA 8 January 2018)

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) erected several military checkpoints and launched a search operation in Marj Ebn Amer plains west of Jenin. The Israeli operation obstructed the work of the Palestinian farmers in the area and raised a state of fear and panic among them. (WAFA 8 January 2018)

Israeli Arrests

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded the al-Asakra village, east of Bethlhem city, violently searched homes and detained Abdul-Rahman Khaled Asakra, 20, and 'Atiya Daoud Asakra. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded homes in 'Aida refugee camp, north of Bethlehem, and detained Tareq Abu Srouer and Sami 'Oleyyan. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Al Saff Street, in the center of Bethlehem city, and detained Luay Salim al-Hreimi, 20, and Ramadan Janazra. In Tequ' village east of Bethlehem. The IOA also detained Mustafa Jamal Abdul-Khalil, 20, from his home. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian, identified as Amer Abu Sh'eera, from his home in the al-'Azza refugee camp, north of Bethlehem. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Qotna town, northwest of Jerusalem, searched homes and abducted a lawyer, identified as Emad al-Faqeeh, before taking him to an interrogation center. The lawyer is the brother of [Omar al-Faqeeh](#), who was killed by Israeli army fire on October 21, 2015. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained invaded Be'er Ayyoub neighborhood, in Silwan town, south of the Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem, and detained a child, identified as Mahdi Mofeed Khasour, 12, from his home. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)

- In addition, the soldiers abducted nine Palestinians from their homes, in several areas of the West Bank governorate of Bethlehem. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded homes in Sa'ir town, and detained Zeid Mousa al-Arameen, but released him several hours later, before withdrawing from the town, due to his bad health condition. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded many neighborhoods in Yatta, Bani Neim and Beit 'Awwa towns, and installed many roadblocks, in several areas, including Zeef, northeast of Yatta, and Farsh al-Hawa, northwest of Hebron city, before stopping and searching dozens of cars, and interrogated many Palestinians while inspecting their ID cards. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)

Israeli Settler Violence

- Israeli settlers invaded a Palestinian olive orchard, in Ras al-Ein area, in Deir al-Hatab village, east of the northern West Bank city of Nablus, and cut more than 50 Olive trees, owned by a Palestinian, identified as Mohammad Nayef Omran. (IMEMC 8 January 2018)

Israeli Closures

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed with earth mounds the entrance to the village of Usarin, to the south of Nablus. Closing the road prevented movement of cars in and out of the village forcing commuters to search for other longer roads to leave or enter the village. (Wafa 8 January 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation army (IOA) closed the metal gate set up at the main road leading to the Nablus-area village of Awarta, also preventing residents from using that road and forcing them to search for other routes to and out of the village. (Wafa 8 January 2018)

Other

- The Prime Minister's Office has transferred some 2.5 million shekels (over \$725,000) to regional councils in the West Bank over the past year and a half for "perpetuating the legacy of Rehavam Ze'evi," the extreme right-wing cabinet minister who was assassinated by Palestinian gunmen in Jerusalem in October 2001. An investigative report by the "Uvda" ("Fact") television program in April 2016 – before

all these funds were transferred – alleged that Ze’evi had close ties with underworld figures and had sexually assaulted women. According to the list of funding transfers made since the middle of 2016, all the agencies receiving money for memorializing Ze’evi have been regional councils in the West Bank. In early December, 730,000 shekels were allocated to the Jordan Valley Regional Council for “an activity to perpetuate the memory of Rehavam Ze’evi – the torch race of 2017.” The request said, “Rehavam Ze’evi was the Central Command chief and commanded hundreds of operations against terrorists in the Jordan Valley who had crossed the Jordan River. Rehavam Ze’evi did a lot for the development of the Jordan Valley and the Jordan Valley road [Route 90] bears his name.” A similar request for 750,000 shekels was approved in December 2016 for the race held that year. Also last month, the Prime Minister’s Office transferred 400,000 shekels to the Kiryat Arba local council for “tours for the public to perpetuate the legacy of Rehavam Ze’evi.” The town sought the money for an event scheduled for March, to be attended by 1,650 people – pupils, soldiers, youth groups and families. The objective is for “participants to become familiar with the landscapes to which Ze’evi, of blessed memory, was so connected, and the biblical values, heritage and history to which he was connected.” Other transfers approved during 2016 and 2017 included 175,000 shekels to the Samaria Regional Council for “holding a youth hike in Samaria in memory of Rehavam Ze’evi” (approved on November 30, 2017); 120,000 shekels for the Ma’aleh Hever Midrasha in the south Hebron Hills for “activities to memorialize Rehavam Ze’evi” (October 2016); and 400,000 shekels for a “Samaria march in memory of Rehavam Ze’evi” (September 2016). The funds to perpetuate Ze’evi’s memory are allocated by a special unit in the Prime Minister’s Office that manages several million shekels a year. On the eve of Memorial Day last year, an allocation of 43.5 million shekels was made to build a “memorial center” for Ze’evi in the settlement of Barkan. According to the Prime Minister’s Office, “The commemoration program is implemented in accordance with the Mandatory Tenders Law and every procedure and regulation. In 2015 the commemoration council published a public appeal in three national newspapers that was open to all public agencies and local authorities to submit proposals for commemorating Rehavam Ze’evi. These commemorative events and others come from a dedicated budget to commemorate Rehavam Ze’evi in accordance with the work plan determined by the public committee to commemorate him.” ([Haaretz](#) 8 January 2018)

- Some 19 years after an Israeli-Dutch team published a feasibility paper on constructing artificial islands off the coast for a variety of purposes

– from housing airports to large infrastructure facilities – the cabinet on Sunday established a committee to revisit the issue yet again. Numerous ministerial committees have kicked the issue around since 1999, including in 2000, 2007, and 2012. Yet the state is not closer to actually building one of these artificial islands – Dubai-style – in 2018, than it was in 1999. It is all still very much in the committee stage. Netanyahu, at Sunday’s meeting, submitted the proposal to establish yet another committee to look into the matter. This committee has nothing to do with a proposal by Transportation Minister Yisrael Katz to build an artificial island off the coast of the Gaza Strip for the Palestinians that would include a port, cargo terminal and airport, but which has run into opposition from Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman. “Israel is one of the most crowded countries in the world, and it is predicted that by mid-century it might well be the most crowded in the world,” Netanyahu said. “We have a coast on which we have built infrastructure such as desalination plants, power stations and other infrastructure facilities. This proposal is designed to build, off Israel’s coast, artificial islands that will absorb all these infrastructures, clear the coasts and – of course – give us more land area.” Netanyahu said that he has been thinking about this idea since his first term in 1996, but that then it was halted because of opposition from environmental groups. “What has happened since then, over the past 20 years, is that the technology of artificial islands has greatly changed and developed and it has also evolved in the sense of being more environment-friendly,” he said. “We can answer all of the financial and ecological feasibility issues. This is certainly within our grasp.” Netanyahu said that other countries have made great strides in this area. “We are learning from them and therefore, this visionary project is important for the State of Israel,” he said. The first Dutch-Israeli team that looked into the matter in 1999 presented recommendations to construct artificial islands to the cabinet in 2000. The cabinet then established a professional team to do a feasibility study. That team recommended in 2007 that the artificial islands be used to house a cluster of infrastructure projects, and in 2012 the cabinet set up yet another steering committee to discuss details for implementing that plan. In addition to much talk at a national level, there has also been endless talk at local levels, both by the Herzliya and Tel Aviv municipalities, regarding the feasibility of constructing artificial islands off their coasts. The ideas for these islands ranged from constructing an airport on one island to building 40,000 housing units, hotels and a stadium on another. Sunday’s cabinet decision mandated a committee, headed by Prof. Avi Simhon, the head of the National Economic Council, to present recommendations within 180

days about which already existing infrastructure facilities could be moved within 15 years to an artificial island, or which necessary new infrastructure facilities could be built on one of the islands. The committee will also look at various technological possibilities for building the islands, where they should be located, and recommendations to change regulatory procedures to cut red tape to expedite moving the proposals forward. ([IPOST](#) 8 January 2018)

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