



# ARIJ Daily Report

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## Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 12 February 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

- Several Israeli Military Army vehicles invaded al-Marah and ad-Dabbous neighborhoods, in Jenin city, and searched many homes. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) searched many homes in Silwan, Abu Dis, Shu'fat, and many other communities in occupied Jerusalem,

in addition to breaking into a Restaurant in al-Misrara neighborhood. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) injured at least twelve Palestinians in Beita village, south of Nablus, in the northern part of the occupied West Bank. More than ten army jeeps invaded the village from several directions, after surrounding and isolating it. The IOA fired dozens of gas bombs, and rubber-coated steel bullets, at local youngsters who hurled stones at the invading army jeeps. At least twelve Palestinians were injured and received the needed treatment. The IOA closed Beita Junction with sand hills, after alleging that local youngsters hurled a Molotov cocktail at a car driven by An Israeli settler, living in a nearby illegal colony, built on Palestinian lands. "Israel is now restricting the movement of 15000 Palestinians in the village,". (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained four Palestinians, including 16-year-old and 17-year-old minors after storming their homes in Toqu town, east of Bethlehem. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Hebron city's neighborhood of Wadi al-Qadi, where they detained a Palestinian. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a 17-year-old Palestinian from the southern West Bank Governorate of Hebron. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) conducted a raid into Deir Istiya town, northwest of Salfit city, detaining two Palestinians. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian in a subsequent overnight raid into Beit Lid town, southwest of Tulkarm. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)

### **Israeli Arrests**

- The Israeli authorities have forced a hunger striking detainee into solitary confinement, in an attempt to break his strike. Ashraf Radi, 40, from Ramallah in central West Bank, started his strike six days ago, protesting a six-month arbitrary Administrative Detention order,

holding him captive without charges or trial. The detainee is held at the Negev detention camp, and is demanding his unconditional release. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)

- The condition of Palestinian hunger-striking detainee, [Rezeq al-Rajoub](#), 52, has deteriorated as he continues his strike for the eighth consecutive days. The detainee is now suffering from stomach ulcer and severe pain in the intestines. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- An Israeli court in occupied Jerusalem ordered, the release of a Palestinian child, after issuing a ruling forcing him under house arrest for five days, and a 500 Israeli shekels bail. The child, identified as Sa'adi Syouri, 13 years of age, was taken prisoner by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA), and was interrogated for several hours, after they accused him of throwing stones at them. Hours after interrogating the child, a court issued an order, releasing him under a 500 Shekels bail, and forcing him under house arrest for five days. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- In Tulkarem, in northern West Bank, dozens of Israeli soldiers invaded Beit Lid town, east of the city, and detained Khaled Jaber Kawwa'. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Burqin west of the northern West Bank city of Jenin, and detained Ziad Ahmad 'Obeidi, from Burqin. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Kafr Dan village west of Jenin and detained former political prisoner Waseem 'Aabed, from his home. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Deir Istiya town, northwest of Salfit, in northwestern West Bank, and detained Ashoush Daoud 'Obeid, 26, and Ahmad Sobhi Abdullah, 19. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- In Bethlehem, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded homes in Teqoua' town, east of the city, and detained Mousa Mohammad al-'Amor, 17, Abdul-Rahman 'Adel al-'Amour, 24, Mahmoud Samir al-

'Amour, 16, Ibrahim Shakarna, and Ibrahim Yousef Abu Mfarreh, 22. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) searched many homes in Hebron city, in southern West Bank, and detained Wajdi Rajabi, and Amir Nidal Fakhouri, 17. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded homes in Yatta town, south of Hebron, and searched them. The homes were identified belonging to Khaleel Muhammad Khaleel and Hamada Zayn. (Wafa 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained four Palestinians, including a child and a young woman, from several parts of occupied Jerusalem, after invading and violently searching their homes. The IOA invaded Batn al-Hawa neighborhood, in Silwan town, south of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and detained Sufian Nidal Natsha, 16, and Ayyoub Abu Wahdan, the father of a political prisoner, identified as Ziad Abu Wahdan. Ayyoub works as a guard at the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and was abducted after the searching violently searched his home. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Siraj Kashour, 23, from Abu Dis town, southeast of Jerusalem, after violently searching his home. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a young woman, who remained unidentified, from Shu'fat refugee camp, in the center of Jerusalem. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided vandalized and force stoppage of work at Palestine's main air-conditioning factory. The IOA raided the plant located on the outskirts of the city at around 4:30 am on Sunday morning and searched it thoroughly and when they got the computers room, which was closed, they blew up the door, broke into it and seized all the computers and equipment, which are considered the brain for the factory and the assembly line. (Wafa 12 February 2018)

## **Israeli Settler Violence**

- A group of Israeli settlers installed a new outpost on Palestinian lands, south of Beita village, southeast of the northern West Bank city of Nablus. The settlers installed four mobile homes on four dunams of Palestinian lands, owned by a local Palestinian, identified as Mousa Abdul-Mo'ti, and even hooked them with electricity and placed floodlights around them. The settlers also brought bulldozers, and initiated infrastructure work to hook their new illegal outpost with running water. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- Israeli settlers slashed tires of several Palestinian-owned cars and spray-painted them with racist anti-Arab graffiti in the occupied East Jerusalem neighborhood of Silwan. The settlers slashed the tires of several cars parked near Magharbe Gate, one of the gates to the Old City of Jerusalem, and sprayed them with racist graffiti. (WAFA 12 February 2018)
- Classes were disrupted at Tqou High School, east of Bethlehem, after Israeli occupation Army (IOA) fired gunshots, tear gas and stun grenades in the vicinity of the school. The IOA and settlers gathered at the entrance to school before shooting in the air and firing tear gas and stun grenades causing panic among the students who were in their classrooms. The IOA and settlers attempted to break into the school, but decided against it and left the area. (WAFA 12 February 2018)

## **Home Demolition & Demolition threats**

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) demolished an old structure and seized solar cells belonging to Palestinian farmers in Wadi Qana area near Deir Istiya, north of Salfit, under the pretext that the area is a "nature reserve." The IOA stormed the area, declared it a closed military zone, and prevented farmers access to their lands before proceeding to demolish a 100-year-old shed. Forces further seized solar cells belonging to the local farmers. (WAFA 12 February 2018)

## **Confiscation & Razing of lands**

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed metal gates leading to agricultural lands owned by Palestinians in al-Khader, to the south of Bethlehem. The IOA Closed the metal gate erected 10 days ago, blocking farmers' access to large area of agricultural lands in KHALLET Ein Al Thaher, Ath Thaghra, Al Haboun, Kilo 17 and Ein Al Asafeer

areas. This step was taken following attempts by the Israeli army few days earlier to remove 17 settler homes built on privately-owned Palestinian land in the same area. (Wafa 12 February 2018)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided a gas station located east of Tulkarm city in the north of the West Bank and confiscated surveillance cameras owned by Hasan al-Qaisi. The IOA raided the station and ordered him to open it before confiscating the surveillance cameras without providing a clear reason for their action. Military searches and raids against shops in the area have been carried out by the Israeli army during the past two days, during which surveillance cameras were confiscated. (Wafa 12 February 2018)

### Expansion of settlements

- The Settlement Subcommittee of the Higher Planning Committee of the Civil Administration convened to discuss a series of new plans in the settlements. Among other things, the committee approved the establishment of a new, “temporary” settlement for the evacuees of Nativ Ha’Avot. The committee also approved 68 new housing units in the settlement of Elazar, the construction of a hotel in the Jordan Valley with 120 rooms next to a motor park and Tourist Area, and the construction of a cemetery near an industrial zone planned for the construction south of Qalqiliya. A further plan for an educational campus in the illegal outpost of Mitzpe Danny was discussed but the subcommittee has postponed its decision to a later date. Some of the programs that appear on the committee’s agenda are plans for small changes in old plans without the addition of housing units; however, there are other politically significant plans that will create new settlement areas, as enumerated below. These additional plans blatantly contradict the declared policy of the Netanyahu government itself, which committed to limiting construction to the “[built-up area](#)” within settlements, and to holding hearings on plans for new housing units only four times per year (the [previous hearing](#) was just last month, on 10 January 2018): **Plan No. 404/1/6/5 (approved for validation)** – a plan for the construction of 68 new housing units in the Elazar settlement near Bethlehem. The plan was approved for deposit on 17 January and was today approved for validation. It should be noted that the land concerning this plan was once privately owned by Palestinians but was seized for military use in the 1970s and now is being used for civilian settlement. **Plan No. 405/11 (Part 91) (approved for validation)** – the establishment of a new, “temporary” settlement for the families whose homes are slated to be demolished in the Nativ

Ha'Avot outpost according to the High Court of Justice's 2016 ruling. The plan was approved for deposit on 17 October 2017 and was deposited for objections one month later. Last week, the subcommittee for objections within the Higher Planning Committee discussed the objections that had been submitted by Palestinian landowners from Al-Khader and Peace Now. Following these objections, the subcommittee decided to reduce the number of housing units from 17 to 15, but chose to reject the objections and to recommend approval of the plan. In the hearing today, the committee approved the establishment of the settlement, even though the subcommittee for objections admits that the plan is not appropriate, as it explains: "Although the professional authorities do not dispute that from a planning point of view, this is an unusual plan." **Program No. 315/3 – Hotel, Motor Park and Tourist Area in the Jordan Valley (approved for deposit)** – A plan to create a tourist attraction with 120 hotel rooms and various activities in a new compound north of the Palestinian village of Fasayil and the settlement of Petza'el. Although these are not residential buildings, the new compound will in effect constitute a new settlement, which will spread over hundreds of dunams, attract thousands of visitors, and become a new Israeli tourism destination in the West Bank. It should be noted that about a year ago, a motorized park was opened, including a track for cars and motorcycles, with the encouragement of the Jordan Valley Regional Council. The plan is to regulate the park and to add additional facilities. **Plan No. 225/3/1 – Education Campus and Gas Station at the Mitzpe Danny outpost, east of Ramallah (approved for deposit)** – Although this is not a residential program, this also signifies the construction of a new settlement complex in the Occupied Territories. The plan is to cover 140 dunams and will constitute a permanent presence of hundreds of Israeli students and teachers. The plan is adjacent to the illegal outpost of Mitzpe Danny, and it could be part of an effort to legalize it and thereby turn it into an official settlement. During the discussion, the head of the Mateh Binyamin Regional Council said that he is devising a plan to legalize all housing units in Mitzpe Danny. **Plan No. 192/1 – Nahal Raba Regional Cemetery, south of Qalqiliya (postponed for later discussion for deposit)** – In the area of Nahal Raba, there existed a firing zone for years that prevented the use of the land. The land's designation as a firing zone was lifted a few years ago, and the government's Blue Line team set new boundaries for the state lands that comprised this area, all in preparation for a plan to build a new industrial zone. Industrial zones are a type of settlement in of themselves, and the planned cemetery is likely to be the first component toward establishing the new industrial zone. ([PEACENOW](#) 12 February 2018)

## Israeli Closures

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed all roads leading to Hizma town, northeast of Jerusalem, and the al-'Isawiya town, in the center of the city, and prevented the Palestinians from entering or leaving them. The soldiers installed a large iron gate at the main entrance of Hizma, just a few days after they closed all its entrances with sand hills. The two towns have been witnessing daily invasions by the soldiers, and constant confrontations with the locals over the past several months. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) installed roadblocks at Hebron's northern and southern entrances, in addition to the main entrances of Sa'ir and Halhoul towns, before stopping and searching dozens of cars, and interrogated many Palestinians while inspecting their ID cards. (IMEMC 12 February 2018)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) prevented hundreds of Palestinian farmers from 'izbet Salman, south of Qalqiliya, from reaching their agricultural land located behind the Israeli segregation wall. The IOA prevented farmers from crossing the iron gate erected on the wall that surrounds the village, without giving reasons, even though the farmers carry permits which entitle them to access their lands. (Wafa 12 February 2018) (IMEMC 12 February 2018)

## Other

- The Knesset approved on Monday night the final version of the law applying Israeli law to academic institutions in the [West Bank](#), with the bill passing its second and third readings. The legislation, which was expedited with the support of Education Ministry [Naftali Bennett](#), is one of a series of laws designed to enact creeping annexation of the territories in the West Bank and apply Israeli law in the settlements. In addition to the coalition, the Yesh Atid party also voted for the law. It was passed with 56 in favor of the law and 36 against. The new law seeks to abolish the Council for Higher Education in Judea and Samaria and bring the academic institutions in the territories under the aegis of the Council for Higher Education in Israel. MK Shuli Moalem-Refaeli (Habayit Hayehudi), who initiated the legislation said last month: "Alongside the academic importance of the law, there is a clear



element here of applying sovereignty and I'm proud of both of these things." Figures in the academic world have warned that the law could hurt the status of Israeli academic institutions and expand the boycott against it by opponents of the settlements. The law might break [agreements Israel has made with the European Union](#) to maintain a separation between academic institutions over the pre-1967 border and those in Israel proper. Such violations could mean Israel would be removed from the [scientific cooperation project Horizon 2020](#). These implications have not so far been discussed in the Knesset Education Committee. The Council for Higher Education in Israel has come out in favor of the law, although the subject was not discussed by the members. A representative of the council, attorney Nadav Shamir, told the Knesset Education Committee last month that the council's support of the law stemmed from its regulatory advantages. "The situation today in which there is an Israel council and a Judea and Samaria council impairs our national planning. What interests the council is the academic level, and from a regulatory, professional point of view we are in favor of the law." One of the reasons the law was passed is the increased legal difficulties in establishing a medical faculty at Ariel University in the West Bank. The problem is in clinical training for the students, which the faculty would like to see carried out in a hospital in pre-1967 Israel. "Clinical training earns academic credits and these credits must be given by an Israeli academic institution or an institution abroad, and Ariel is neither," the representative of the Council for Higher Education in Israel told the Knesset committee. Bringing Ariel University under the auspices of the council in Israel would remove this obstacle. The current law relating to the Council for Higher Education in Israel does not cover academic institution in the West Bank. It was therefore decided in the early 1990s to establish a separate council for the West Bank so that degree programs at what was then Ariel College, could be approved. Bennett stressed that the reasoning behind the extension was to allow establish a medical school in Ariel to counter Israel's severe lack of doctors. MK Yousef Jabreen (Joint List) said that the "policy of annexation has shifted from creeping to running." He said that the extension of law is a violation in that it undermines the status of Israeli academia by linking it to occupation and the politicization of higher education while undermining the two-state solution based on the 1967 border. "By nature, academia promotes values of peace, democracy and tolerance. These values can't exist in the shadow of a military occupation," he said. On Sunday, Netanyahu blocked the advance of a bill to apply Israeli sovereignty to the settlements. The bill did not mention annexation of the West Bank, instead only referring to the settlements.

The forum of coalition party leaders, which convened to decide whether to support the bill, unanimously agreed to postpone the debate because of the recent flare-up in the north. According to Netanyahu, Israel has to avoid steps liable to embarrass the United States so as to reach understandings with the international community. In [an interview](#) with the pro-Netanyahu Israel Hayom newspaper published on Sunday, Trump expressed his doubts that Israel and the Palestinians are committed to reaching peace. "Right now, I would say the Palestinians are not looking to make peace, they are not looking to make peace. And I am not necessarily sure that Israel is looking to make peace," Trump said. He added that the settlements "always have complicated making peace," and warned that "Israel has to be very careful with the settlements." Netanyahu has used these arguments several times over the past few months in order to postpone various bills relating to annexing territories, among them the bill to annex Ma'aleh Adumim and a bill that would bring the settlements surrounding Jerusalem under the city's jurisdiction. ([Haaretz](#) 2 February 2018)

- The Knesset passed legislation Monday night placing Israeli colleges in Judea and Samaria under the direct authority of Israel's higher education establishment, ending a long-standing distinction between schools in and outside of pre-1967 Israel. [The bill](#), known as the Ariel University Law, had been proposed by Jewish Home MK Shuli Mualem Refaeli and Chairman of the Knesset Education Committee MK Yaakov Margi (Shas). While most Israeli institutes of higher learning are regulated and accredited by the Council for Higher Education of Israel, colleges beyond the Green Line – including Ariel University, Orot College in Elkana, and Herzog College in Gush Etzion – do not receive accreditation from the CHE, but are instead under the authority of a separate council established for Judea and Samaria. Under the new law, the separate higher education council for Judea and Samaria will be abolished, and all Israeli colleges operating in Judea and Samaria will be placed under the supervision of the CHE. [Left-wing academics opposed the bill](#), with some 200 signing a petition calling on the government to reject the proposal. Nevertheless, the Ariel University Law passed with a comfortable majority Monday night, 56 to 35. While the vote was largely on a partisan line, with coalition members backing the proposal and opposition parties voting against, Yesh Atid MKs crossed the aisle to vote in favor of the bill. Education Minister Naftali Bennett (Jewish Home), who was instrumental in the bill's passage, said the new law would place those colleges located beyond the Green Line on the same level as other Israeli schools. "This means that Ariel [University] will no longer be a

second class college,” said Bennett. “It’s a big step that will also enable us to open a medical school in Ariel [University].” ([INN](#) 12 February 2018)

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