



# ARIJ Daily Report

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## Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 20 February 2018

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

- In Jenin, in northern West Bank, many Palestinians suffered, the severe effects of teargas inhalation in Barta'a town, west of Jenin, after Israeli occupation Army (IOA) invaded it. The IOA invaded the town from several directions, and drove around its streets and neighborhoods, and conducted provocative acts, pushing many youngsters to hurl stones at them. The IOA fired gas bombs and concussion grenades,

causing many Palestinians to suffer the effects of teargas inhalation. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)

- The Israeli navy opened fire, at Palestinian fishing boats in the Sudaneya Sea, northwest of Gaza City. Israeli gunboats opened heavy fire towards the fishermen. No injuries or damages were reported. However, the men were forced to get out of the sea, for fear of being shot. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)

## **Israeli Arrests**

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Hizma town, before the IOA broke into many homes, after smashing their doors, and conducted violent searches, causing many children to suffer anxiety attacks. The IOA then detained a teenage boy, identified as Khalil Ramzi Hallas, before taking him to an unknown destination. The IOA continued the strict military siege imposed on Hizma for the twenty-first day. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a university student, identified as Aseed al-Qaddoumi, in Birzeit north of the Ramallah. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained two Palestinians from Bethlehem, and one from Jenin, in the occupied West Bank. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained two Palestinians from the Deheishe refugee camp in Bethlehem city, searched many homes and detained Omran Hussein al-Atrash, 53. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a university student, identified as Wisam Sidqi Khamis, 19, after stopping him at the “Container” military roadblock, northeast of Bethlehem. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained abducted Mohammad Bassam Jarrar, 22, at a military roadblock between Jenin and Nablus, in northern West Bank. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Barta'a town, west of the northern West bank city of Jenin, and violently searched the home of Mohammad Sa'adi, while interrogating him and his family. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded and ransacked homes belonging to the father, grandfather and uncles of [Bassel Bassam Seder](#), 17, who was killed by the Israeli army on October 14, 2015 in Hebron. The soldiers also confiscated a car owned by Ragheb Seder, after invading and searching his home. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
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- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Halhoul nearby city, and violently searched many homes, including the home of Yousef Zama'ra, the father of [Hamza Zama'ra](#), 19, who was killed by the army on February 06, 2018. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a child, identified as Mohammad Khaled Da'dara, after invading his home and searching it, in addition to summoning two Palestinians for interrogation. The army also distributed leaflets warning further invasions and collective punishment should protests continue in the area. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Hazem Hussein Sharwana from his home in Doura town, and summoned for interrogation a journalist, identified as Mos'ab Shawar, in addition to Esmat al-Adra, from Yatta. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded many homes in Hebron city, in addition to Halhoul, Yatta and Doura towns, in the southern part of the occupied West Bank, abducted three Palestinians, and confiscated a car. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) have detained eight Palestinians from several parts of the occupied West Bank. They have been identified as: Hamza Qaraqra, Bethlehem, Wisam Sidqi, Bethlehem, Omran al-Atrash, Bethlehem, Fadel Najajra, Bethlehem, Hazem

Hussein Sharwana, Hebron, Mahmoud Khaled Da'dara, Hebron, Mohammad Bassam Jarrar, Jenin and Aseed Qaddoumi, Ramallah.

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Mohammed Ibrahim al-Fakhouri (24 years old) on the pretext that he was selling gifts and other traditional items. He was forced to NIS 500 for his release. At The same time, the IOA held Mohammed Alaa al-Rajabi, 13, at a military checkpoint in old city of Hebron. (IMEMC 20 February 2018)

### **Israeli Settler Violence**

- Israeli settlers erected a "caravan" in the center of Hebron city, in An Najareen market, near the old vegetable market, adjacent to the Awqaf department which has been closed by the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) for 24 years. (WAFA 20 February 2018)

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

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified citizen Naim Ihmeidan Abu Maria to halt the construction of his animal barn in Khamat Al Jundi area north of Beit Ummer town. The IOA also confiscated an onsite machinery for working to build the unlicensed animal barn. (WAFA 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified citizen Ghassan Muhammad Breigheith to halt the construction of a water-collection pool in his land in Beit Za'ta area east of Beit Ummer town, under the pretext of lacking building permits. (WAFA 20 February 2018)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) stormed Birouq area near the village of al-Buwib, northeast of Yatta town, south of Hebron, and notified to demolish two under-construction water wells belonging to Mohammed Faiz Faheid al-Jaabari and Mohammed Haider al-Jabari. (WAFA 20 February 2018)

### **Other**

- The number of Jewish settlers in the West Bank grew at nearly twice the rate of Israel's overall population last year, a settler leader said Monday, predicting that settlement growth would surge even more in the coming years thanks in part to the Trump presidency. Yaakov Katz said that President Donald Trump, backed by a Mideast team dominated by settler supporters, has created a friendly new atmosphere conducive to settlement growth after eight contentious years with the Obama White House. "This is the first time, after years,

that we are surrounded by people who really like us, love us, and they are not trying to be objective," Katz said. "We have to thank God he sent Trump to be president of the United States." Katz is founder of "West Bank Jewish Population Stats," a report sponsored by "Bet El Institutions," a prominent settler organization that has ties to Trump's closest Mideast advisers. He said the figures are based on official data from the Israeli Interior Ministry not yet available to the public. According to his figures, the West Bank settler population reached 435,159 as of Jan. 1, up 3.4 percent from 420,899 a year earlier. The settler population has grown 21.4 percent in the last five years. In comparison, Israel's total population grew 1.8 percent to 8.743 million last year, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics. Katz said the rapid growth of the settlements should put to rest the idea of a two-state solution favored by the Palestinians and most of the international community. Based on recent growth patterns, he said the West Bank settler population could approach 500,000 by the time Trump leaves office. His study did not include the more than 200,000 Israelis now living in east Jerusalem, the Palestinians' hoped-for capital. "We are changing the map," he said. "The idea of the two-state solution is over. It is irreversible." The Palestinians seek the West Bank, along with east Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip, for a future independent state. Israel captured the territories in the 1967 Mideast war, though it withdrew from Gaza in 2005. A string of US presidents, both Republican and Democrat, have endorsed the idea of a two-state solution and have joined the international community in opposing settlements as obstacles to peace. But after years of failed US-led peace efforts, Trump has taken a different line. He says he would support a two-state solution only if both sides agree to it. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's nationalist coalition is dominated by settler allies who oppose Palestinian independence. Trump also has taken a softer stance toward the settlements, urging restraint at times but avoiding the strong condemnations of his predecessors. His ambassador to Israel, David Friedman, is a former president of Bet El Institutions. His chief Mideast adviser, son-in-law Jared Kushner, has donated to the group, and even Trump once sent a donation. These deep ties to the settlements have helped fuel Palestinian suspicions of the White House. Those suspicions deepened after Trump recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital in December, prompting the Palestinians to say the US can no longer be an honest Mideast broker. Trump's team has been working on a peace proposal, though it is not clear when it will be released. Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erekat said the figures reflect an Israeli policy of building settlements to destroy the two-state solution. He said Trump's muted response encourages more settlement

building. "What is required of the world, including the American administration, is to condemn the settlements as illegitimate and illegal and to recognize the principle of two states on the 1967 borders," he said. "If they want to keep hope in any future peace process, they must stop these plans." Brian Reeves, spokesman for Peace Now, an anti-settlement monitoring group, said it could not corroborate Katz's figures but that they are in the "ballpark" of its own estimates. Katz said the settlement growth has been fueled both by natural growth of the population, which is heavily religious and tends to have larger families, as well as the attraction of cheaper housing in the West Bank. He predicted even faster growth in the coming years, claiming that the Trump White House has given Netanyahu a "green light" to advance construction. "Netanyahu is less afraid of what the president will say about him," he said. "We are very, very, very happy with the Trump administration." ([YNETNEWS](#) 20 February 2018)