

ARIJ Daily Report

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 8 March 2018

I he daily report highlights the violations behind Israeli home demolitions and demolition threats occupied Palestinian territory, in the 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 Israeli intelligence Police summoned the director of Women for Life and Democracy society, the Jerusalem activist Zuhur Abu Mayala, to a detention and interrogation center in Salah al-Din Street on the pretext of organizing an activity to celebrate Women international day. (WAFA 8 March 2018)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided the town of Al Issawiya in occupied East Jerusalem, raided its neighborhoods and assaulted its residents. The IOA also erected military checkpoints at the town's main

entrance with the aim to detain Palestinian vehicles and check Palestinian ID cards. The IOA also stormed a number of facilities in the town under the pretext of looking for Palestinian workers with West Bank ID cards. (WAFA 8 March 2018)

• The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Al-Isawiya town in occupied East Jerusalem and occupied the rooftop Al-Arbaeen Mosque in the center of the town, removed the Palestinian flags and banners on top of the mosque, and arrested four of the town's residents. (WAFA 8 March 2018)

Israeli Arrests

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained three young Palestinian men from occupied East Jerusalem, including one who was taken prisoner minutes after his release following five years in prison. The IOA invaded the al-'Isawiya town, in the center of Jerusalem, and detained Mohammad Zakariya 'Oleyyan and Anas Dirbas, and took them to an interrogation facility. The IOA were also extensively deployed in front of the local mosque, stopped and searched many Palestinians, and interrogated them while inspecting their ID cards. It is worth mentioning that the town is subject to a strict military siege for the fortieth consecutive day. (IMEMC 8 March 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Ma'moun Farahat, just moments following he was released from the Negev detention camp, after spending five years in prison. Ma'moun was detained and transferred to the al-Maskobiyya interrogation center, in Jerusalem. The detainee was not allowed to see or talk to his parents after his release, and was instantly abducted and sent to the interrogation facility without any explanation or warrant. (IMEMC 8 March 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the house of Ahmad Salah in Al Khader village west of Bethlehem and detained his son Ghassan, 16, after searching it. (IMEMC 8 March 2018)
- The Israeli security service re-arrested Mamoun Farhat on the day he was going to be released after a completing a five-year prison sentence for throwing a Molotov cocktail as Israeli forces in Jerusalem. Farhat, an East Jerusalem resident, was re-arrested immediately after he was released from Naqab desert prison in the south of the country and

before he was able to walk out of the prison and taken to the Russian Compound, Maskobieh, police station in West Jerusalem where he was undergoing interrogation. (WAFA 8 March 2018)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Al Ma'ajeen, Rafidyia and Khallet Al 'Amoud neighborhoods in Nablus city, searched a number of homes and detained Jihad and Muhammad Afif Al Akka from Rafidiya and Mahdi Al Akka from Khallet Al 'Amoud. (WAFA 8 March 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Al Balawneh neighborhood in Tulkarem camp and arrested Hazem Srouji and Muyaad Balawneh after raiding their homes. (WAFA 8 March 2018)

Israeli Settler Violence

• Israeli Settlers from the settlement of "Rechalim" raided the lands of As Sawiya, south of Nablus, attacked Palestinian farmers and prevented them from plowing their land. The settlers also destroyed about 40 olive trees that belonged to Salman family. (WAFA 8 March 2018)

Israeli Military Orders

• The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) issued a military order to confiscate a land near Burin secondary school south of Nablus, under security pretexts. The targeted land was razed two months ago to erect a fence between the school and the targeted land. (ARN 8 March 2018)

Expansion of settlements

• The Mateh Binyamin Regional Council spent millions of shekels to build infrastructure in wildcat outposts in the West Bank from 2013 to 2015. Documents from the regional council are part of the correspondence with contractors building the infrastructure, roads and buildings at the outposts. Among the outposts that received the funding, hundreds of thousands of shekels for each project, are Esh Kodesh, Givat Harel, Kerem Re'im and even Amona, which was later evacuated by court order because it was built on privately owned Palestinian land. The Mateh Binyamin Regional Council confirmed it had provided funding for these communities. Council head Avi Roeh told Haaretz that the council is obligated to pay for anything related to educational institutions, including preschools, playgrounds for children and safety. "We did it. We also notified the Education Ministry," said Roeh. The government has said in principle that "every" community located on state land, and this is true for these places such as Kida, Adi Ad, Esh Kodesh, etc., we intend on legalizing them. It is taking its time and in the meantime there are children and families there," said Roeh. The State Comptroller's Office asked the regional council about the matter recently and the council provided the same response, he added. The data was received as part of a Freedom of Information request filed with the regional council by Peace Now. According to the data, over the three-year period, 6.46 million shekels (\$1.9 million) were spent by the regional council on the projects for the unauthorized outposts under the council's responsibility. Most of the outposts are located on state land, though they usually do not have building permits or other government approval. Some of the money was spent on illegal construction in relatively large settlements such as Eli, but out of the 24 projects, about 10 were located in isolated outposts that are completely unapproved. For example, 264,000 shekels was spent temporary structures at Esh Kodesh, 142,000 shekels on a youth club at Givat Harel, 217,000 shekels on an access road to Kerem Re'im, 499,000 shekels on an access road to Givat Harel, 149,000 sheekls on paving an intersection for Yishuv Hada'at and 165,000 shekels for paving a road to Amona. In addition, 303,000 shekels went for a preschool at Esh Kodesh, 217,000 shekels for a preschool at Ahiya, 141,000 shekels for a project that is not clear what it was for at Adei Ad and 140,000 for "infrastructure development" at Givat Harel. The funds involved from the regional council do not only come from the taxpayers living within the territory of the council. Regional councils, including those in the West Bank, receive hundreds of millions of shekels in funding directly from the government. For example, the Mateh Binyamin council received a 50 million shekel grant from the Interior Ministry, as part of the most recent annual allocation of government funding to municipalities. Councils in the West Bank receive other government funding too, for example for security. In late December, 40 million shekels of such grants was distributed to West Bank councils. "The Mateh Binyamin Regional Council is supposed to be the one to enforce the law and act according to it," said Shabtay Bendet, the head of Peace Now's Settlement Watch project. "Not only does it not enforce [the law], it funds and promotes illegal projects with our public funds. No police investigation has been opened on the matter. We call on the legal authorities to open an investigation," he added. (Haaretz 8 March 2018)

Other

The personal details of West Bank Palestinian men that the army recently began collecting is intended for an anti-terror database. Career and reserve officers said the hope is that the information, from randomly selected individuals, can be used to foil terror attacks and to help the security forces to operate after such attacks. As Haaretz reported Wednesday, the army recently began to collect personal details of West Bank Palestinian men. Soldiers set up temporary checkpoints, requiring young men who pass through to fill out forms listing their name, age, telephone number, identification number, type of vehicle and license number. They also must submit a photocopy of their ID and giving both the origin and destination of the trip that brought them to the checkpoint. The details are <u>collected randomly</u>, from young men – women, children and old people are exempt – who aren't suspected of a crime or who have a police record. Soldiers who took part in the activity say the aim is to obtain as many details about the people they detain as possible. The checkpoints operate in the early morning, when large numbers of Palestinians are on the way to work, further exacerbating the usual rush-hour traffic jams. The soldiers at each checkpoint must submit at least 100 completed forms for each shift, while the quota for the foot patrols is 30. Soldiers in compulsory service, not to mention soldiers doing reserve duty, have bridled at the new policy, questioning the invasion of privacy that it entails as well as the disturbance to daily life. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has hinted on several occasions about Israel's use of "big data" to foil terror attacks. But until now the information was scraped from social media and signals intelligence by the army's Unit 8200 and the Shin Bet security service. The outgoing chief of Central Command, Maj. Gen. Roni Numa, spoke about the Israel Defense Forces dealing with "lone-wolf assailants." "In the past three years we have dealt with changes in the Palestinian arena," Numa said. "In addition to organized terror and spontaneous terrorism we've learned to deal with for dozens of years, we've had to find a solution to 'inspired terror.' During this period intelligence and operative tools were developed. Since the outbreak of the recent terror wave hundreds of intentions to carry out attacks were detected and thwarted." Ron Zaidel of Breaking the Silence said this was "ratcheting up the surveillance of the general Palestinan population." "It seems this is a project to set up an extensive databank. Another example that ruling millions of Palestinians requires us to improve the soldiers' methods in order to deepen the occupation and protect the settlements," he said. Meretz party Secretary General Mossi Raz said "the IDF is again using practices of intimidation and threats over civilian population, creating an illegal reserve of personal details. Instead of our children serving the IDF they are carrying out policing jobs that would put dark regimes to shame." The IDF said its forces were carrying out inspections in the West Bank as part of "an operative perception and to prevent error, while attempting to disrupt the residents' routine in a minimal way. The detained drivers are asked a few questions, used for security needs. In contrast to the report, there is no quota the soldiers have to fill." (Haaretz 8 March 2018)