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.

**Israeli Arrests**

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained at last twenty-seven Palestinians, in several parts of the occupied West Bank. The IOA violently invaded and searched dozens of homes, and interrogated many Palestinians while inspecting their ID cards, before detaining twenty-seven, including a female photojournalist, identified as Ra’eda Sa’id, who was taken prisoner from the courtyards of Al-Aqsa Mosque, in occupied Jerusalem. The Palestinians in Israeli custody have been

**Israeli Settler Violence**

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) uprooted dozens of olive, almond and fig trees owned by a Palestinian villager from Deir Ballout, west of the northwestern West Bank city of Salfit, bringing the number of uprooted trees to approximately 350 in less than 72 hours. The uprooted trees were in a Palestinian agricultural land in Bab al-Marj area, east of Deir Ballout, and are all owned by one Palestinian, identified as Edrees Jabara Abdullah. The IOA also issued a demolition order targeting a shed in the area, and continued the bulldozing of Palestinian lands to build a water distillation plant for the Leshem Israeli Settlement, which was built on lands owned by villagers from Deir Ballout. The latest Israeli violation brings the number of uprooted trees in the same area to 350 in less than 72 hours. (IMEMC 18 July 2018)

- Dozens of Israeli settlers stormed Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, under armed security by the Israeli police, ahead of the Jewish holiday of Tisha B’Av. Tisha B’Av notably commemorates the destruction of the
First and Second Temple, which Jews believe were located where Al-Aqsa Mosque compound. Dozens of Israeli settlers escorted by Israeli police stormed the al-Aqsa Mosque through the Moroccan Gate, which Israeli occupation Army (IOA) have taken under their control since the beginning of occupation. The raids were in the form of consecutive large groups of Israeli settlers entering the compound. Meanwhile, Israeli police forces were deployed across the entire compound and at the entrance gates of Al-Aqsa Mosque, confiscating ID cards from Palestinian youths and women, in order to allow them entry into the compound. Israeli settlers were performing religious rites during the incursion. (IMEMC 18 July 2018)

**Home Demolition & Demolition threats**

- Israeli authorities demolished a Palestinian home, in the al-Tur neighborhood of occupied East Jerusalem. Israeli authorities, along with Israeli forces raided the al-Tur neighborhood and demolished a house, under the pretext of being built without the difficult-to-obtain Israeli permit. The demolished home belonged to the Abu Sbitan family. The IA demolished the house using manual demolition equipment. The house was newly built and furnished to live in; the apartment was located on the last floor of a residential apartment building, which consisted of a total of five floors. (IMEMC 18 July 2018)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) demolished two Palestinian homes in Ein Ad-Duyuk At-Tahta, a village to the west of Jericho. The IOA raided and deployed in the village before bulldozers demolished two homes, including one made of tin sheets, under the pretext of unlicensed building. One of the homes occupied an area of 120 square meters and belonged to Allam Abdullah, a Palestinian from Jerusalem. (IMEMC 18 July 2018)

- Israeli occupation military bulldozers destroyed, water pipes serving Palestinian citizens of Furush Beit Dajan, to the east of Nablus. The IOA bulldozers, accompanied by military vehicles, destroyed water lines serve Palestinian families and their agricultural lands, under the pretext they are illegal. (IMEMC 18 July 2018)
• Jamal Hadia **demolished** his house in Silwan to avoid paying demolition fees to the Israeli municipality. Though his home is 25 years old, five years ago the Israeli municipality claimed it lacks construction permits. Since then, he appealed to the Israeli high court to save his home, but recently received a court order stipulating that he demolish it before July 26 or else pay between 100 and 120 thousand shekels in fines. His family housed nine people. (IMEMC 18 July 2018)

**Other**

• The Jordan Valley Regional Council, whose jurisdiction covers most of the West Bank section of the valley, has confirmed that it has been involved in funding or establishing illegal West Bank outposts, but has refused to reveal information on these activities. The council’s explanation – that such revelations would disrupt its proper functioning – came in response to a Freedom of Information request. The council did not say it lacks the relevant information. Oshra Yihye, who is the council staff member in charge of freedom of information, based the written refusal to divulge information on the fact that one of those filing the request had criticized the conduct of residents in unauthorized Jewish settler outposts in the Jordan Valley. Israel’s Freedom of Information Law, which applies to all public authorities in the West Bank by virtue of a military order, does not permit refusal of a request due to the identity of the person filing it or because of that person’s political views. The request was filed with the regional council in February by attorney Eitay Mack, who asked for information, documentation, resolutions and agreements made by the council to fund nine outposts and unauthorized projects in the vicinity. The latter include a racetrack near the settlement of Petza’el, which the press has reported on extensively, including mention of the council’s involvement. Mack filed the request on behalf of three human rights activists – Guy Hirschfeld; Dafna Banai, of the anti-occupation group Machsom Watch; and Itamar Feigenbaum of the Combatants for Peace coexistence movement. The three are among a number of activists working to ensure access for Palestinian farmers and shepherds to their land in the region. Banai, who has been active in the Jordan Valley for some 15 years, told Haaretz that she noticed a common pattern behind the outposts, which indicates they were not an initiative by individuals: “Residents of the outposts are violent toward the Palestinian farmers and shepherds in the area, and I am in touch with families that have left their place of residence due to the violence,” she said. The Freedom of Information request was prompted in part by a
The reporter had obtained a recording of remarks by Jordan Valley council head David Elhayani, in which, among other comments, he told a group of vegans who planned to set up an outpost in the area: “Establishing a community requires government approval, but we also establish communities without the government. I ask myself whether I should be a Zionist and a criminal or to obey the law. We want to establish new communities and to capture territory. Isolated farms are an excellent solution for capturing territory, but it’s very unfortunate that at the moment, we are waging a battle with the Defense Ministry to approve additional ones like this.” Elhayani chose not to respond to Auerbach’s report, neither confirming nor denying that he made the remarks. In her refusal to provide the information sought by Mack, Yihye related specifically to the fact that Hirshfeld was one of those requesting it. She made reference to a Facebook post in which he called the regional council a terrorist organization headed by Elhayani. Yihye asserted that this was sufficient to justify a refusal to provide the information requested. The Facebook post in question, which was linked to Auerbach’s online article, was removed a day later, after the council submitted a letter of complaint about it. Hirshfeld wrote a clarification, explaining that he had not intended to offend employees of the Jordan Valley council, but had been referring to the threat that he said the outposts pose to Palestinians in the area. Yihye also claimed that Hirshfeld had threatened to turn local Bedouin over to the Palestinian Authority if they didn’t go to Jewish settlements in the West Bank to serve as “provocations organized by various people.” For his part, Hirshfeld told Haaretz that the accusation was baseless and absurd, and had been invented by right-wing individuals. (Haaretz 18 July 2018)

- US authorities’ refused to grant visas to six Palestinian experts who were to take part in a high-level political forum at the United Nations headquarters, in New York. The refusal of the delegates’ visas was due to lack of diplomatic character, since Palestine is an observer and not a full member of the United Nations. (IMEMC 18 July 2018)