



ARIJ Daily Report

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt

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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.



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Israeli Arrests

- In Bethlehem Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained eight Palestinians, identified as Fayez Mousa al-'Amour, 37, 'Aahed Mohammad al-'Amour, 20, Mouhammad Ahmad al-'Amour, 40, Mousa Mahmoud al-'Amour, 19, Zaki Mahmoud al-'Amour, 38, Yazan Majed al-'amour, 19, Amin Ali Khalaf Jibreen, and Khalil Daoud Abu Mfarreh, 27. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)
- In Hebron, in southern West Bank, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained three Palestinians, identified as Yousef Ahmad al-'Allami, 25, Raed Mohammad 'Aadi, 25, and Ahmad Karim Ekhlayyel, 17. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)
- In Jenin, in northern West Bank, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Bilal Taleb Abu Bakr, 22, from his home in Ya'bad town, after searching and ransacking his home, and the homes of many of his relatives while interrogating them. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Shadi 'Oweiss, from Jenin refugee camp, while he was at his parents' home in Kafr Qud village, west of Jenin. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)

Israeli Settler Violence

- A group of Israeli settlers infiltrated into Kafr Malek village, east of the central West Bank city of Ramallah, punctured the tires of four cars, and wrote racist graffiti on the walls of a mosque. The settlers punctured the tires, and wrote the racist graffiti against the Palestinians in particular, and the Arabs in general. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)
- A group of Israeli settlers attacked many Palestinian residents and construction workers in Tal Romeida neighborhood, in the center of Hebron city, in the southern part of the occupied West Bank. The settlers, from the "Ramat Yishai" and "Beit Hadassah" outposts, who were also accompanied by Israeli occupation Army (IOA) attacked the

Palestinians while building a wall around a home, owned by Palestinians from Abu Aisha family. The attack led to damage to the wall, and surrounding property, and the settlers also attempted to attack Palestinian families living in that areas. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)

- Israeli settlers set fire to 30 Olive trees in addition to figs' trees, vine trees and field crops in Beiten and Burqa village east of Ramallah. The targeted lands are located near Giv'at Assaf outpost and Palestinians are not granted access to the lands unless a special coordination with the Israeli Civil Administration is arranged. (Wafa 17 June 2019)

Home Demolition & Demolition threats

- Basel Abbasi and his brother Hatem self-demolished their building in the neighborhood of Ein Al-Lozeh in Silwan following an order by the occupation municipality. The occupation municipality issued a decision obliging the Abbasi family to demolish their building. The deadline ends the same day but at night. If the decision is not implemented, the bulldozers will carry out the demolition, and the family has to pay the fees and the demolition costs. Abbasi family explained that the building is still under construction. They began construction in early May and they were preparing it to move-in, but the occupation municipality issued a demolition order a week ago and did not allow the family any time to license the building. The family added that the building consists of two floors, each floor has an area of 170 square meters. (SILWANIC 17 June 2019)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) demolished four residential shacks made of brick and metal siding in the area of Khillet al-Dabe' in Masafer Yatta in the south of the occupied West Bank, under the pretext they were built in Area C, which is under full Israeli military control, without a permit. The IOA demolished the four shacks and a solar energy panel belonging to Mohammad Dababseh. He noted that 10 people lived in them. The IOA assaulted one member of the Dababseh family who apparently attempted to prevent the demolitions from taking place. (Wafa, IMEMC 17 June 2019)
- Dozens of Israeli police officers invaded Sur Baher Palestinian town, south of the Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied East Jerusalem, and demanded the Palestinians to remove a tent, which was installed to

protest a Supreme Court ruling to demolish 16 residential buildings of more than 100 flats. The Israeli decision came after the City Council in the occupied city claimed that the buildings are close to the illegal Annexation Wall, which was installed on Palestinian lands. The Wad al-Hummus, al-Mintar and Deir al-Amoud neighborhoods, in Sur Baher town are in Areas A, B and C, and the lands are owned by the Palestinians, including the Local Government of the Palestinian Authority. The targeted Palestinian buildings are 25 apartment buildings of around 250 flats. 16 of the apartment buildings, which contain altogether more than 100 flats, are under the immediate threat of demolition. A week ago, the Israeli Supreme Court denied the appeal, which was filed by the residents, and ordered the immediate demolition of the buildings, but without setting a date. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)

- The High Court of Justice has given the green light to demolish 13 large buildings in East Jerusalem which are under the control of the Palestinian Authority, a ruling Palestinians say sets a precedent that will enable the demolition of thousands of buildings in the West Bank. The Wadi Hummus neighborhood is located on the edge of Sur Baher, in southeast Jerusalem. Unlike the rest of the village, this neighborhood lies beyond the city's municipal boundaries, in the West Bank. Most of the area it occupies is designated as part of Area A – i.e., under the control of the Palestinian Authority. But after local residents submitted a petition while the separation barrier was being built, beginning in 2003, the location of the fence was moved so that it would not pass through the heart of Sur Baher. Thus Wadi Hummus ended up on the Israeli side of the barrier, although legally it is considered to be part of the West Bank and under the PA's authority. Sur Baher residents say Wadi Hummus is the only area that remains for future expansion of the village, which is surrounded by the fence and Jewish neighborhoods. Many buildings were erected in the neighborhood over the last decade or so, most occupied by young couples and families from the village. The buildings set for demolition have some 100 apartments, 20 of which are tenanted and the rest are under construction. Building permits for the construction were issued by the PA's planning ministry. However, seven years ago, the Israel Defense

Forces Central Command issued an injunction banning construction of buildings within 250 meters of the separation barrier. Locals say the order was not publicized and they had no knowledge of it, and that in any case, it is the PA that has planning authorization in the area. Two years ago, the army issued demolition orders for 13 new buildings constructed in the area mentioned in the injunction. Residents appealed to the High Court, reiterating that the army does not have the authority to demolish buildings that received building permits from the PA, that the order was not publicized and that they built their homes without knowing that the IDF had prohibited it. Attorney Haitham Khatib, who is representing the residents in their petition against the Defense Ministry, says that an examination of an IDF map of construction boundaries shows that along the part of the barrier in the territories, far from Jerusalem's municipal boundaries, the army prohibits building within 250 meters of the fence. However, as the barrier approaches the city limits, construction is permitted right next to it. "If it's dangerous to build next to the fence, then why is it no problem in those areas?" Khatib asks. Khatib and PA officials who on Sunday visited the protest tent set up in Wadi Hummus, say the High Court ruling sets a precedent that seriously infringes on the PA's sovereignty and opens the door to mass demolitions of buildings near the separation barrier throughout the West Bank. "This is just the tip of the iceberg," Khatib says. "The army has been given a green light and will start to act in all the different areas." On behalf of the petitioners, Khatib submitted a professional opinion to the court regarding possible security problems, which said that any such problems could be resolved by raising the height of the barrier and adding surveillance cameras – but that argument was rejected. "What makes more sense," Khaib asks. "Demolishing the building or raising the height of the barbed-wire fence?" Ultimately, Justices Menny Mazuz, Uzi Fogelman and Yitzhak Amit did not grant the petition and accepted the Defense Ministry's position. They wrote in their ruling: "Continued construction without a permit in close proximity to the security barrier limits the operational freedom of movement near the fence and increases friction with the local population. Such construction may also serve as a hiding place for terrorists or persons residing illegally within a non-involved civilian population, and enable terrorists to smuggle

weapons or even enter into Israel from that area." The justices said they accept the defense officials' position that extensive construction alongside the fence "Substantially impacts the barrier's security effectiveness, while endangering the lives of civilians and members of the security forces, and that there is a military-security need to restrict construction next to the fence in order to prevent this risk." In the course of the legal proceedings, the government did agree to reduce the number of structures slated for demolition and, in the case of some of the buildings, to leave the lower floors intact and demolish only the upper floors. One of the buildings slated for demolition is home to Bilal Qiyaniya, his wife and their five children, ages 2 to 15. "I have worked hard since I was 17, putting a shekel aside every day, and after 20 years I put all my money, plus loans that I took, into this building," he says. "Now they're send me back 20 years. The children keep asking when they're coming to demolish the house. I don't know what I'll do. I'll have to live in the street." "Most of our lands were taken to build Har Homa," says Mohammed Abu Tir, contractor of a large building that is due to be demolished, referring to a nearby Jewish neighborhood. "What was left they took for the barrier and the 'American highway' [a road built in the eastern part of the city]. Now they're going to tear down our buildings here. What do they want people to do? Why tear down the buildings if you could just build a stronger fence?" ([Haaretz](#) 17 June 2019)

- Wadi Yasul is a Palestinian neighborhood in East Jerusalem. It is located between the neighborhoods of Abu Tur and Silwan and is adjacent to the Peace Forest. According to OCHA figures, close to 500 people live in the neighborhood. The Jerusalem Municipality issued demolition orders for all the neighborhood homes so all the families there are facing the threat of expulsion. In late April, the city already demolished two of the houses and displaced two of the families. The residents of Wadi Yasul built it adjacent to a forest, also located on privately owned land that was expropriated from its Palestinian owners in 1970. In 1977, the Jerusalem Municipality zoned the forest and the area where Wadi Yasul was later established as a green space, where construction is prohibited. In 2004, the neighborhood's residents submitted a detailed plan to the District Planning and Building

Committee for retroactive authorization of their homes. The committee rejected the plan in 2008, citing incompatibility with the Jerusalem 2000 Outline Plan, which states that the area where the neighborhood was built must remain a green space. At the same time, the municipality and the JNF (Jewish National Fund) – the body in charge of managing the forest – gave their approval to settler organization El-Ad to move forward with plans for group campgrounds, including building the longest recreational zipline in Israel. Some of the facilities have already been built in the forest, without building permits. While the city did issue demolition orders against them, it has refrained from following through. In contrast, over the last decade, the city has filed indictments with the Court of Local Affairs against all Wadi Yasul homeowners. The court then issued demolition orders for all of the homes and imposed heavy fines, fining each family tens of thousands of shekels. Three of the families appealed these decisions with the District Court. The appeals were dismissed in April on the grounds that “there are no clear and near planning prospects” for the approval of a plan that would see the appellants’ homes, or other homes in the neighborhood, approved. An appeal the families filed with the Supreme Court was also rejected. In late April, 47 other families filed a motion with the District Court seeking an interim injunction staying execution of the demolition orders. The court’s decision is still pending. Consequently, all of the homes in the neighborhood are still under immediate threat of demolition. Ever since 1967, planning policy in Jerusalem has been geared toward establishing and maintaining a Jewish demographic majority in the city. Under this policy, it is nearly impossible to obtain a building permit in Palestinian neighborhoods. The outline plans the city has prepared for these neighborhoods are largely aimed at restricting and limiting building opportunities in Palestinian neighborhoods. One way the plans do so is by designating vast areas as open green spaces, thereby barring Palestinians from building there. The resulting housing shortage forces Palestinian residents to build without permits. At the turn of the millennium, the city estimated that about 20,000 housing units had been built without a permit in East Jerusalem. This estimate was made before the Separation Barrier cut off Kafr Aqab and Shu’fat Refugee Camp from the city. Since that time, many high-rises have been built in those areas. The justices who heard

the appeals that residents filed against the demolition orders issued for their homes chose to follow in the footsteps of all previous Israeli courts. They chose to ignore this policy which has been applied openly for more than fifty years. Instead, they focused solely on the question of whether or not the residents had building permits. District Court Judge Chana Miriam Lomp held that, “the residents have no one to blame but themselves,” as they had chosen to build without a permit and did not wait for planning conditions to change. Supreme Court Justice Yosef Elron refused to consider the residents’ arguments regarding planning discrimination and the fact that the Jerusalem Municipality deliberately avoids promoting a plan that would regulate construction in the area, saying they were not pertinent “to a criminal proceeding hearing.” On 30 April 2019, the city demolished two homes and two storehouses in Wadi Yasul, leaving 11 people, 7 of them minors, homeless. ([Btselem](#) 17 June 2019)

Israeli Military Orders

- The plot to destroy 2000 fully mature olive trees near the city of Bethlehem, in southern West Bank, was rubber-stamped by the Israeli occupation authorities. The 2000 trees, extend over a 1600 meter long road connecting two Palestinian villages, Taqou’ town and al-Minya, and take up 80 dunums of land, belonging to Palestinians. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)

Confiscation & Razing of lands

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) uprooted dozens of Palestinian olive trees in the western area of the al-’Isawiya town, south of the Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied East Jerusalem, reportedly “obscuring the view of surveillance cameras in the area.” The IOA invaded the town since morning hours, and were extensively deployed in various roads and neighborhoods. Israeli police officers also ticketed several Palestinian cars, and searched them, in addition to examining the ID cards of many Palestinians. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)
- For the third consecutive day, Israeli bulldozers continued the uprooting of Palestinian lands, north of Khirbat Yanoun village, which

belongs to Aqraba town council, south of the northern West Bank city of Nablus. The uprooting of the Palestinians lands is carried out close to the outpost, which was given the name (777), near The Gideonim (Ha'Gid'onim) settlement. The army resumed the bulldozing of the Palestinian lands, after denying the Palestinians entry to them, and declaring them "closed zones." (IMEMC 17 June 2019)

Expansion of settlements

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Palestinian lands, west of Ya'bad town, near the northern West Bank city of Jenin, and started the expansion of an illegal outpost, which was installed on private lands several months ago. Several months ago, Israeli settlers and IOA started the installation of a new outpost on private Palestinian lands in Khirbat Masoud area, west of Ya'bad town. The outpost started with one settlers, who came for the IOA claiming to be a shepherd, before the army installed mobile homes, brought more settlers, and started preparing for roads, in addition linking the lands with water and electricity. (IMEMC 17 June 2019)
- Israel's Jerusalem Municipality staff late Sunday handed notifications to demolish a number of Palestinians' houses and evacuate Palestinians from their own lands in Issawiya town in occupied Jerusalem in order to establish a Jewish Talmudic park. The municipality insists on implementing its plan despite Israeli courts' decisions to freeze the project. The municipality and the Israel Nature and Park Authority have tried to implement the project for many years in this area, which is targeted by Israel for settlement purposes, it added. ([INA](#) 17 June 2019)

Other

- The Jerusalem Municipality approved the naming of streets in the Palestinian Silwan neighborhood in East Jerusalem after Jewish Rabbis, going against the recommendation of a professional panel who said "It is inappropriate to give Jewish street names in neighborhoods overwhelmingly populated by Arabs." The naming committee in the municipality, headed by Mayor Moshe Leon, named five alleyways and narrow streets in the Baten Al-Hawa neighborhood of Silwan. The

neighborhood is the focus of efforts by Ateret Cohanim settler organization, and is currently the home of 12 Jewish families and hundreds of Palestinian families. Settlers argue that there was a small Jewish-Yemenite community in the neighborhood 80 years ago. The newly-approved street names are “Ezrat Nidhim,” after the charitable organization founded by Yisroel Dov Frumkin in the late 19th century which established the Yemenite community. The other streets are named after Yemenite rabbis: Harabbi Medamuni, Rabbi Avraham Al-Naddaf, Rabbi Yihya Yitzhak Halevi and Rabbi Shalom Alsheikh Halevi. The decision was taken by a majority of eight to two. The committee made the decision despite the opinion of a professional panel, who warned that the move will “create unnecessary tension. The names will not be used by residents and will therefore be futile.” The committee recommended neutral street names which will benefit all residents. The two committee members opposing the decision are city coalition members Laura Wharton and Yossi Havilio. Havilio said he firmly opposes as the move, adding that it provokes Arab residents and will inflame the atmosphere in the neighborhood. ([Haaretz](#) 17 June 2019)

- **Welcome to Trump Heights, the Israeli Town That Doesn't Exist:** In huge gilded letters (what else?), on a piece of synthetic lawn (of course), a large sign was erected in the Golan Heights, as if taken directly from the best of comedy sketches. Ramat Trump, or Trump Heights, will be built here. Even the strong gusts, which made it difficult to put up the scenery, gave this ridiculous event the atmosphere of an Israeli satire – a moment before a variety of government ministers began their comically dramatic march toward the ceremony. We'll begin at the end. No new community named for U.S. President Donald Trump was actually established on Sunday in the Golan Heights. As even the founder of the Knesset caucus for the Golan, Kahol Lavan MK Zvi Hauser, observed: “Anyone who reads the fine print of the ‘historic’ decision understands that this is a conceptual decision. There is no funding. There is no planning. There is no location and there is really no committed decision. That’s what the ‘Israbluff’” – to borrow a term from Israeli comedy, avoiding a problem with a fictional solution – “of establishing of a new community in the Golan Heights looks like. Salah Shabati at his best,” he added, referring to the 1964 Israeli satire film. Indeed, the proposal put before the cabinet to found the new community includes no real steps toward its establishment. It's mainly “administrative work,” which in Israeli speak means barely a single meeting around a plate of carbs. Numerous other expressions from the very creative “Israbluff” lexicon appear there in full force: “Formulating recommendations,”

"examining a variety of aspects," "submitting opinions," "the government notes," and so on and so forth. There's just one sentence at the end that reveals the deceit: "When the final government decision is made on the establishment of the community, and insofar as the location of the new town will be in the area of the community of Kela..." There it is. Indeed, no such final decision was made, and it's unclear if after the sign's installation such a community will ever be established, or will remain a celestial "Trump Heights" – a mythological town that exists only in the imagination. In the explanatory notes on the government decision, the ruse at our expense continues: "There is importance in advancing the decision as noted at this time to strengthen the diplomatic ties between Israel and the United States." On the other hand, the joke's not really at our expense, in real financial terms, because the next clause is the most charming: "Economic data and impact on the country's economy: not relevant." Finally, a glimmer of truth. And why isn't it relevant? Because of the clause entitled "legal difficulties, if any, and means of resolving them." These difficulties certainly exist. A temporary government, like the one that gathered on Sunday in the Golan Heights and is no government at all, can't make such a decision until elections are held again and a real government is established. The solution? The legal opinion states that the next government will be the one to decide, and is under no obligation to do so at all. And in the meantime, the blathering about "administrative work" will continue and a pretty sign will go up on artificial grass. If a Netanyahu government is elected again, they'll figure out whether and how to resolve it. The truth is that the Netanyahu government should be commended for a brilliant move. After all, what does Trump love more than seeing his name in golden letters on a big sign? The main thing is the picture, and who's going to check afterward whether a community is built there or not. The honor has already been bestowed; the facts are marginal. After all, we live in the age of fake news, as President Trump likes to say. ([Haaretz](#) 17 June 2019)