

# **ARIJ Daily Report**

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# Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 23 June 2019

**I** he daily report highlights the violations behind Israeli home demolitions and demolition threats occupied Palestinian territory, the the in 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

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained many Palestinians in the al-'Isawiya town, and summoned many others for interrogation, in occupied East Jerusalem, during extensive invasions and violent searches of homes, leading to protests. The invasions were carried out by dozens of IOA who stormed and ransacked many homes, leading to serious property damage. The IOA deliberately smashed front doors of many homes, in addition to causing damage to furniture and belongings during the violent searches of properties. The IOA summoned many Palestinians, including children, for interrogation in several police stations and security centers, in occupied Jerusalem. Seven of the detained Palestinians have been identified as Husam Oleyyan, Ayyoub Abu al-Hummus, Mohammad Rafat Dari, Akram Mustafa, Noureddin Mheisin, Majd Bashir Ahmad and Abdul-Qader Dar. Many Palestinians protested the invasions, violent searches and detentions, , while the IOA fired live rounds, rubber-coated steel bullets, gas bombs and concussion grenades. Al-'Isawiya has been subject to ongoing invasions, which started more than two weeks ago, and included detentions, causing damage to homes and property, in addition to delivering demolition orders targeting many homes and structures. Dozens of Palestinians have been injured during these invasions, some after being repeatedly assaulted by the soldiers, and added that the army is constantly deployed on main areas of the town, and in front of many homes and residential buildings. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained four Palestinians children, after the army invaded and ransacked many homes, in Bethlehem, south of occupied East Jerusalem in the West Bank. The IOA detained Tamer Nasser Awwad, 17, Mustafa Mousa Hijazi, 17, and Yazan Ara al-Hreimi, 17, from their homes in Jabal al-Mawaleh and the Saff Street, in Bethlehem city. The IOA also searched homes in Teqoua' town, southeast of Bethlehem, and detained Riyadh Talal a-'Amour, 15. The IOA also detained Riyadh's Father, Talal al-'Amour,

after stopping him at the Container military roadblock, north of Bethlehem, while he was returning home from work. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed and ransacked dozens of homes in the al-'Isawiya town, in Jerusalem, and detained Husam 'Oleyyan, Abdul-Qader Dari, Mohammad Rafat Dari, Akram Mustafa, Majd Bashir Ahmad, Noureddin Mheisin, Ibrahim Abu Sneina, and Ayyoub Abu al-Hummus. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded and searched homes in the al-Wad Street, in the Old City of Jerusalem, before detaining Abada Najeeb, Mahmoud Najeeb and Ibrahim Abu Sneina. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)
- In Hebron, in southern West Bank, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Firas Fares Moghannam, 40, after searching his home, along with the home of a former political prisoner, identified as Salim Mohammad Moghannam, and Mohammad Khalil Abu Shaker. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)
- In Jenin, in northern West Bank, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a former political prisoner, identified as Raed Salah Abu al-Hasan, from his home in the al-Yamoun town, west of the city. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)

# Israeli Settler Violence

- A group of Israeli settlers attacked, overnight until morning hours, many cars on the Jenin-Nablus road, in northern West Bank, in addition to hurling insults at the Palestinians and attempting to assault them. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)
- Several Israeli settlers invaded 300 Dunams of Palestinian farmlands in Khallet an-Nahla area, near Wad Rahhal village, south of the West Bank city of Bethlehem, and started uprooting them. The settlers brought bulldozers to uproot the Palestinian agricultural lands, privately owned by Mohammad Yahia Ayesh, and are more than 300 Dunams (74.1316 Acres). The settlers are trying to install a new

colonialist outpost on the Palestinian lands, and prepared mobile homes in addition to other equipment. The settlers also trying to link new outpost with the illegal Efrat and Teqoua' settlements, which would lead to isolating Bethlehem from its southern rural areas. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)

#### Home Demolition & Demolition threats

The District Court of Jerusalem has ruled to evict the heirs of the late Mariam Abu Zweir from their property in the neighborhood of Wadi Hilweh in Silwan, in occupied Jerusalem. The judges refused the appeal filed by the heirs of Abu Zweir family against the decision to evict them from their property issued by the Israeli Magistrate Court at the end of 2018. The settlers gave the family from 8-28 July to completely vacate the property, with the possibility of eviction during that period. The property consists of a house in which Mrs. Elham Siam and her four children live, in addition to a land of about half a Dunum, and a warehouse. Elad settlement association also demands that the family pay "rent" for the property for the past years with a value of NIS 400 thousand, in addition to lawyers' fees of NIS 80 thousand. The heirs of Abu Zweir family have been engaged in a struggle in the Israeli courts for 24 years to protect the property and to prove ownership of it and to refute the claims of Elad settlement association. During the past years, Elad association has worked hard to seize the property in several ways. The first is through collusion between brokers and clients in getting the fingerprints of the late Abu Zweir on a document where she would give three of her sons the right to the property while she was dying. However, in 1999 the Israeli courts rejected Elad's claims, stating that the property belongs to her eight children, according to the heirs of the late Abu Zweir. In another attempt to file a case against the family in 2001, Elad claimed that it had purchased three plots in the property (the brothers in the United States, headed by Mahmoud Daoud Khalil), and called for other shares to be classified as the Custodian of Absentee Property. Nihad Siam, one of the heirs, said that after several hearings in the courts, it was revealed that Elad had purchased the shares of four heirs, in addition to two shares under "Custodian of Absentee Property". Two shares

remain for the late Munira and her sister Fatima. The District Court's decision means that the property will be divided between the heirs and settlers. Siam added that his late mother Munira Siam and his brothers faced the Israeli courts and the bias of the settlers and settlement associations and the prosecutions and fines imposed on them, and over the past years they were prevented from carrying out any renovations in the house or their land. Now, they will lose their home and land completely to the Elad Israeli settlement organization. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)

Israeli bulldozers demolished an agricultural shed and a room under construction belonging to a Palestinian resident in Qafin village, north of Tulkarem, the occupied West Bank. Nezar Ajoli, the owner, said that a number of Israeli military jeeps, accompanied by a bulldozer, surrounded his land, located to the west of the village of Qafin, and proceeded to demolish an agricultural shed and a room under construction. The Bulldozers further vandalized a big water tank used for agricultural purposes. The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) informed Ajoli last April, of their intention to demolish the room that was under construction and gave him until May 30<sup>th</sup>. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)

# **Erection of Israeli checkpoints**

• The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Abu Sneina neighborhood, in Hebron city, and installed roadblocks on the city's northern entrance, in addition to Kharsa Junction, before stopping and searching cars, and examined the ID cards of many Palestinians. (IMEMC 23 June 2019)

### Other

• Economic Side of 'Deal of the Century' Holds Some Surprises, but It's More Vision Than Blueprint: Just days before the opening of the U.S.-sponsored Middle East conference in Bahrain, and without much fanfare, the Trump administration revealed on Saturday the economic component of its plan to achieve peace between Israel and the Palestinians on the White House website. It's that same plan that President Donald Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, and Middle East envoy Jason Greenblatt have been working on for more than two years.

The bottom line is that beyond a flow of money, <u>\$50 billion to be exact</u>, the U.S. economic plan to be presented this week at the Peace to Prosperity meeting in Bahrain contains some surprises involving policy, and contrary to expectations, some of which will not be terribly welcomed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government. A considerable number of officials in Israel were surprised to see the Trump administration's plans to provide a geographic link between the West Bank and Gaza Strip through Israeli territory after years of a clear and deliberate policy of "divide and conquer." Israeli officials also see other proposals, in the fields of technology and education, for instance, as unrealistic considering the fact that currently the United States is not funding even simpler and more pressing humanitarian projects, such as a desalination plant for Gaza, which for the most part is now being funded by European taxpayers. The so-called "deal of the century' is jumping a hundred steps ahead," some have said over the initial reaction to the Americans' colorful printed proposal, but actually, that was precisely the intention. There is no point analyzing it from too pragmatic a perspective. The entire concept, as Greenblatt himself said several times in the past, is to present a "vision" to the Palestinians. The intent, he said, was to convey a message to the Palestinian people and their leadership that if political agreement is reached, here's what could happen, here are the many great things that the Palestinians could benefit from. And if no agreement is achieved, he said, the intention is for them to better understand the conflict, to enable people to dream, as he put it, of what could be accomplished to replace the current situation. In other words, the plan should be analyzed as a proposed narrative for a better future rather than a description of the near future. U.S. officials have been careful to note that the economic section is just one of plan's two parts, and that its political part will be presented after Israel's September 17 election. The intent is that the infusion of money would only be relevant if the two sides also accept the second part, which apparently requires more difficult compromises. If that is the case, then the economic portion of the plan is the carrot that is being offered to the recalcitrant side before the stick. Nevertheless, U.S. administration officials insist - in the face of the primary criticism against them - that they are not trying to bribe the Palestinians. Against the backdrop of the criticism that there is too great a focus on the economic aspects at the expense of the Palestinians' national aspirations, the plan opens with the follow, among other statements: "Yet the Palestinian story will not end here. The Palestinian people continue their historic endeavor to realize their aspirations and build a better future for their children." From a general standpoint, the printed plan and the information on the White House

website seem to reflect a desire to appeal directly to the hearts of the Palestinians themselves while bypassing the leadership and presenting a vision for a brighter future that depends mainly on their readiness to cooperate. It's in the best of America's capitalist tradition, which conditions individuals' prosperity first of all upon their own actions. Further on in the document are details on the range of the proposals themselves. Beyond linking the West Bank and Gaza, it describes major investment in infrastructure including water and electricity facilities, of the kind that the United States is not currently funding and there is concern that existing facilities will collapse. The plan also provides details about investment in higher education, the establishment of industrial zones and incentives for the private business sector. The Americans are also proposing upgrades to border crossings with Egypt and Jordan. On the other hand, there is no mention of building an airport in Gaza, even though such a proposal appears in the existing plans for long-term quiet between Israel and Hamas led by Egyptian mediation. In their initial reactions to the U.S. proposal, Israeli and Palestinian leadership responded as expected. Netanyahu had no reason to respond, having taken the position that the Palestinians have already scuttled efforts in the past, while praising and supporting for his good friend in Washington, the president, whom Netanyahu would assure that Israel is ready to listen. From the Palestinian point of view, there is nothing to talk about when it comes to economic issues until the Israeli occupation ends and the Palestinians are given a sovereign independent state. Under such circumstances, it's reasonable to assume that the vision will remain just that and that the printed plan will join others before it in a drawer. It might have helped if someone at the White House had bothered to issue a version in Arabic, in addition to the publication in English. That will happen soon, they promise, but in the meantime Washington is preparing to discuss the details of the plan in Bahrain next week. And those invited to the conference, one can now understand, mostly have deep pockets. (Haaretz 23 June 2019)

• The Billion-dollar Question in Trump's Peace Plan: After the White House released the economic chapter of its Middle East peace plan on Saturday, analysts in Israel, Washington and the Arab world all asked the same question: Where will the money come from? The Trump administration wants to create an international fund that will invest \$50 billion in the Palestinian and regional economy. Just over half of that sum would go to the Palestinian territories, and the rest to neighboring countries such as Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon. The "Peace to Prosperity" plan includes a long list of programs and projects that could be carried out with that sum, but doesn't contain a detailed

explanation of how that money will become available in the first place. Jared Kushner, President Donald Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, is leading the White House team working on the project. He told Reuters that "the whole notion here is that we want people to agree on the plan and then we'll have a discussion with people to see who is interested in potentially doing what." In other words, the Trump team first wants the plan to receive support from as many regional players as possible – and only then will the debate shift to practical funding mechanisms. An administration official told Haaretz that this approach is based on a pragmatic reading of the situation: Countries will not want to commit large sums of money to a plan before they see it has at least a decent chance of succeeding. Thus, the implementation of the economic chapter will rely on regional players' reactions to the peace plan's political chapter, which will not be released before Israel's do-over election on September 17 - and could possibly be delayed until a new Israeli government is formed, something not expected to happen before November. The official who spoke with Haaretz said the administration could seek financial commitments from the Gulf states, as well as from countries in Europe and Asia that have a history of investments and donations in the Palestinian arena. However, the official added that it is very likely those commitments will only become actual investments after the entire peace plan is available – and depending on how it is received. Still, the administration views this week's economic workshop in Bahrain - which will convene Tuesday and include representatives from several Arab countries, but not Israeli or Palestinian Authority <u>officials</u> – as an important step in securing the support of those Arab countries. The administration believes the discussions in Bahrain will clarify the level of involvement that various countries would like to have in the projects outlined in the plan. Dan Shapiro, the previous U.S. ambassador to Israel, wrote Saturday that "the Trump Administration has shut down aid programs that support every one of the goals in this Palestinian economic plan." Shapiro was referring to the White House's decision to cut all civilian U.S. assistance to the Palestinians, including support for economic projects, hospitals and coexistence groups. "It is now pushing others to invest where we have divested," Shapiro continued. "What do you think the response is going to be?" The Trump Administration has shut down aid programs that support every one of the goals in this Palestinian economic plan. It is now pushing others to invest where we have divested. A similar criticism was voiced by Joel Braunold, executive director of the Alliance for Middle East Peace - an umbrella organization of groups aiming to build relations between Israelis and Palestinians. He noted that the administration's promotional materials used images of Israeli and Palestinian peace activists from the very same organizations that had lost their funding under Trump. 2. As some have already remarked the glossy brochure is full of curious pictures. They all come from USAID videos you can find here that were made around two years ago to promote the very programs this Admin has cut off. One example he noted was The Parents Circle, an organization that brings together Israelis and Palestinians who have lost loved ones as a result of the conflict. Activists from the organization appear at least twice in promotional materials for the economic plan - yet it had lost its grant for U.S. support last year because of the administration's policies. Robi Damelin, who lost her son during the second Intifada, told Haaretz of the photographs: "Mr. Kushner is using them [the photographed individuals] as a pawn by displaying their pictures to illustrate and unveil his "Economy First" plan for Mideast peace. He did not ask their permission which would not have been granted." The Israeli director of The Parents Circle Rami Elhanan also wrote on Facebook: "First, they deny USAID assistance to bring the Palestinians to their knees and then are not ashamed to use the picture of this aid itself in order to promote a false and deceptive "peace" plan." Our ambitious but achievable economic vision focuses on 3 areas: Unleashing Palestinian econ potential, empowering Palestinians & enhancing Palestinian governance. This innovative economic approach coupled with a political agreement (if achievable), can transform the region. (Haaretz June 23, 2019)