

# **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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# Brutality of the Israeli Occupation Army

- Israeli warplanes launched two raids on the northern Gaza Strip, early Thursday. Palestinian sources said, according to the PNN, that an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft fired two missiles at a site in the town of Beit Lahia, followed by an F16 raid on the same site a few minutes later. No injuries were reported during the raids. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, Wednesday evening, that Tel Aviv was on its way to destroy the rule of Hamas, as he put it. Netanyahu was asked, in a lengthy interview by Channel 7, "what had happened to his promise in 2009 that he would destroy Hamas's rule." The prime minister said: "We are working on this, unfortunately we cannot avoid the military operation, I run a group of areas, and we work in all those areas." It is noteworthy that Netanyahu already threatened, several times, that his army is preparing for a large-scale military operation in the Gaza Strip. (IMEMC 12 September 2019)
- Israeli soldiers invaded, on Thursday at dawn, the central West Bank city of Ramallah, before storming and searching of headquarters of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), and confiscated surveillance recordings and equipment. Media sources in Ramallah said the soldiers invaded Tannous Building, in the center of the city, before storming the DFLP office, and violently searching it. They added that the soldiers also confiscated surveillance recording and equipment, and other contents, from the invaded office. During the invasion, the soldiers fired many gas bombs and concussion grenades at Palestinian protesters. The soldiers also invaded Umm ash-Sharayet neighborhood in Ramallah, before storming a shop, and confiscated surveillance recordings. (IMEMC 12 September 2019)
- The Israeli Air Force fired several missiles into the Gaza Strip, on Wednesday at night, reportedly after shells were fired from the coastal

region into Hof Ashkelon and Kibbutz Zikim, causing minor damage. Media sources in the Gaza Strip said the Israeli army fired at least two missiles into a site, believed to be run by the al-Qassam Brigades the armed wing of Hamas in Beit Lahia, in northern Gaza, damaging it and causing fire. They added that, just minutes after the first strike, the army fired missile into the same site, and destroyed it. On Monday evening, the soldiers abducted two Palestinians, who reportedly breached the perimeter fence, in the southern part of the Gaza Strip, and claimed that the two carried knives and wire cutters. Israeli sources said the Air Force fired many targets in northern Gaza after rockets sirens were sounded in Kibbutz Zikim and Hof Ashkelon Regional Council, close to the fence with Gaza. They added that some of the sirens were later reported as false alarms, but said that, on Wednesday evening, a shell which was fired from Gaza, caused minor damage to a home in Hof Ashkelon. On Monday at night, the Israeli army targeted fifteen sites in area in the northern and central parts of the Gaza Strip, and said that the targeted structures included "a weapons' production structure," in addition to "a compound for Hamas's armed wing and a naval force center." (IMEMC 12 September 2019)

- Dozens of Palestinian citizens suffered from their exposure to tear gas fumes during violent clashes with the Israeli occupation forces (IOF) in al-Arroub refugee camp, north of al-Khalil in the West Bank. According to local sources, a large number of Israeli forces stormed al-Arroub camp and embarked on firing live and rubber bullet as well as tear gas and stun grenades at homes in the camp, which provoked clashes with local young men. The Palestinian citizens in the West Bank are exposed to daily violations and assaults by Israeli soldiers, who raid their areas and homes under different security pretexts. (PALINFO 12 September 2019)
- An Israeli warplane last night bombed a resistance site belonging to the Palestinian resistance in the north of the Gaza Strip. A reporter for the Palestinian Information Center (PIC) that a warplane fired at least three missiles at a resistance post in Beit Lahia in northern Gaza, with no reported casualties. A spokesman for the Israeli occupation army claimed

the air raid was in response to the launch of projectiles towards Israeli communities around the border with Gaza. In earlier incidents, the Israeli artillery bombed on Wednesday afternoon two resistance posts belonging to al-Qassam Brigades of Hamas in northern Gaza. The occupation army also carried out aerial attacks on the same day at dawn on different targets in central and northern Gaza. (PALINFO 12 September 2019)

## Israeli Arrests

- The Israeli occupation forces (IOF) on Wednesday evening kidnaped two Palestinian young men during their presence in a southern border area of the Gaza Strip. A spokesperson for the IOF claimed the young men infiltrated through the wire fence using cutters and were also found in possession of knives. Every once in a while, the IOF announces the arrest of Palestinian young men from Gaza at the pretext of infiltrating through the border fence.(PALINFO 12 September 2019)
- Israeli soldiers abducted, on Thursday at dawn, eight Palestinians, including a mother and her son, in Hebron and Bethlehem governorates, in the occupied West Bank, the Palestinian Prisoners' Society (PPS) has reported. The PPS office n Hebron, in southern West Bank, said the soldiers invaded and searched several homes in the ath-Thaheriyya town, south of the city, and abducted Khawla Bader Abu 'Allan, 50, along with her son, Ibrahim Adel Abu 'Allan, in addition to Odai Shaher Abu 'Allan. It added that the soldiers also searched homes in the al-'Arroub refugee camp, north of Hebron, and abducted a young man, identified as Moath Khaled Abu Sham'a. Furthermore, the soldiers abducted Mohammad Jamal al-'Azza, 25, Mohannad Khader Abu 'Ahour, 22, Mohammad Ahmad al-Hreimi, 21, and Ala' Mohammad al0-Hreimi, 21, from their homes in the Saff Street area and Wadi Maali area, in Bethlehem, south of occupied Jerusalem. (IMEMC 12 September 2019)
- Israeli soldiers abducted, on Wednesday evening, a Palestinian teenage boy, identified as Mohammad Nasser Mahmoud, in the al-'Isawiya town, in occupied East Jerusalem. The Wadi Hilweh Information Center in Silwan (Silwanic) said the undercover officers, wearing civilian clothes, infiltrated into the town, and abducted the teen, before taking him to an unknown destination. It added that the regular army units invaded the town when the undercover officers invaded Obeid family home, and fired

live rounds in the air, to prevent the Palestinians from approaching them, and withdrew from the town. Earlier Wednesday, the soldiers <u>abducted</u> two Palestinians, and <u>demolished several sheds and tents</u>, in Masafer Yatta area, south of the southern West Bank city of Hebron. (IMEMC 12 September 2019)

- The Israeli occupation forces (IOF) at dawn Thursday kidnaped at least 11 Palestinian citizens from their homes in the West Bank. The IOA three citizens from the family of Abu Allan, including a woman, during raids on homes in ad-Dhahiriya town, southwest of al-Khalil. The IOF also stormed al-Jalazoun refugee camp in northern Ramallah and Kafr Aqab neighborhood in northern Jerusalem and kidnaped two citizens from their homes. The citizens were identified as Tahrir al-Arayshi and Tahadi al-Tawkhali. (PALINFO 12 September 2019)
- The Israeli occupation police on Thursday morning kidnaped a Palestinian young girl from her home in Issawiya district, east of Jerusalem, claiming she carried out a car-ramming attack. According to 0404 website, a 20-year-old girl from Issawiya was arrested for carrying out a vehicular attack last night on a road near Atarot settlement in Jerusalem. The Israeli police said last night that one border police officer and a settler were injured when a speeding car hit them, adding that they launched an investigation into the incident. (PALINFO 12 September 2019)
- Israeli police forces on Wednesday evening stormed anew Issawiya district in the east of Occupied Jerusalem, assaulted Palestinian citizens and kidnaped two of them, including a kid. According to local sources, police forces kidnaped a young man called Ibrahim Muhaisen from al-Arba'ein Mosque in Issawiya. Later, plain-clothes police officers kidnaped a 14-year-old child called Mohamed Mahmoud from a street in the district and fired gunshots in the air to prevent local residents from intervening. For many weeks, Israel has been sending paramilitary police forces to raid the east Jerusalem neighborhood of Issawiya every day, ransacking homes and arresting and assaulting Palestinians. The Israeli campaign against Issawiya is aimed at oppressing and making life miserable for all who live there as part of its efforts to push the native residents out of the holy city. (PALINFO 12 September 2019)

#### Israeli Settler Violence

- Dozens of Jewish settlers on Thursday morning desecrated the Aqsa Mosque's courtyards under tight police protection. According to the Islamic Awqaf Authority in Occupied Jerusalem, 155 settlers, including university and religious students received guided tours at the Mosque. Some settlers tried to perform rituals during their presence at the holy site. The Awqaf Authority also said that 17 Israeli government employees entered and toured al-Marwani prayer building of the Aqsa Mosque. The Agsa Mosque is exposed to daily desecration by Jewish settlers in the morning and the afternoon except on Fridays and Saturdays. The Israeli police close al-Maghariba Gate, which is used by Jews to enter the Mosque, at 10:30 am after the settlers complete their morning tours at the holy site. Later in the afternoon, the same gate is reopened for evening tours by settlers. During the presence of settlers inside the Mosque compound, entry restrictions are imposed on Muslim worshipers at the entrances leading to the Mosque and their IDs are seized until they leave the holy place. (PALINFO 12 September 2019)
- A horde of Jewish settlers on Wednesday attacked Palestinian vehicles traveling on the Jenin-Nablus road between the West Bank towns of Burqa and Silat ad-Dhahr. Local sources told a reporter for the Palestinian Information Center (PIC) that settlers swarmed the hill where the settlement of Homesh was once located before its demolition, and embarked on stoning Palestinian cars on the road. They added that several cars sustained material damage and two Palestinian passengers were injured in the attack. Incidents of sabotage and violence by extremist Jewish settlers against Palestinians and their property are a daily occurrence throughout the West Bank. (PALINFO 12 September 2019)

### Home Demolition & Demolition threats

• Dozens of Israeli soldiers, accompanied by bulldozers, invaded large areas of Palestinian agricultural lands, on Thursday morning, and started uprooting them, in addition to destroying water wells. Abdullah Bisharat, the head of Atouf Village Council, said the soldiers invaded lands in Um Kbeish area, in the western part of the village, and started bulldozing and uprooting hundreds of dunams of Palestinian farmlands. He added that the bulldozers are cutting and uprooting dozens of trees and other plants in the farmlands, without a prior notice or any justification. Bisharat also stated that the soldiers also demolished four wells, used by the farmers for

irrigation for their lands. The targeted Palestinian agricultural lands are thousands of Dunams, planted with various sorts of trees and plants, and are owned by Palestinians living in that area. Bisharat also stated that the Israeli government, headed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, seems to have already started the annexation of the Jordan Valley and the Northern Plains, following statements in this regard as part of his election campaign to win the votes of illegal colonialist settlers, living in the occupied West Bank. (IMEMC 12 September 2019)

# Confiscation & Razing of lands

• The Israeli occupation forces (IOF) on Thursday morning uprooted dozens of olive trees and demolished water wells in Umm al-Kobaish area, east of Tammun town, south of Tubas. Local official Mutaaz Bisharat said that Israeli troops uprooted 300 olive trees and destroyed five wells used to gather water. Bisharat added that the olive trees and wells belonged to Palestinian farmers living in the area. The area has been exposed recently to frequent demolitions by the IOF. On June 11, dozens of olive trees and two wells were destroyed by Israeli army bulldozers. (PALINFO 12 September 2019)

## Other

• Jerusalem Municipal Data Reveals Stark Israeli-Palestinian Discrepancy in Construction Permits in Jerusalem: Only 16.5% of Jerusalem's building permits are for Palestinians, whom constitute 38% of the city's residents. Nearly half of the construction for Israelis is in neighborhoods beyond the Green Line. According to data the Jerusalem Municipality sent to the Movement for the Freedom of Information after two years of delays on building permits approved by the Local Planning and Construction Committee from 1991 to 2018, while 38% of the city's residents are Palestinians, only 16.5% of the building permits were given for construction in Palestinian neighborhoods. The figures also indicate that 45% of all Israeli building permits in Jerusalem were in Israeli neighborhoods beyond the Green Line in areas unilaterally annexed by Israel in 1967. Of 57,737 housing units approved in construction permits in Jerusalem from 1991 – 2018: Permits for 9,536 housing units (16.5%) were approved for construction in Palestinian neighborhoods. Permits for

21,834 housing units (37.8%) were approved for construction in Israeli neighborhoods in areas annexed to Jerusalem in 1967 across the Green Line. Permits for 26,367 housing units (45.7%) were approved for construction in West Jerusalem. What is a construction permit? After the planning process and approval of the construction plans (and in the case of government-initiated construction, after the tender process), when there are developers who wish to implement the planned construction, they must obtain a building permit from the local authority. The Local Planning and Construction Committee reviews the permit applications and their compliance with the applicable plans, as well as safety and environmental standards, etc. After the committee approve the permit, there is some bureaucratic procedures, the municipality issues a building permit and the developers can begin construction. Typically, between the permit approval and the start of construction, it takes several weeks to months. Most of the approved construction permits are also actually built, thus they are a good indicator of the number of units actually built. A. Lack of planning and construction for the Palestinians: The data reveals the known truth about the plight of construction in East Jerusalem. Since 1967, Israeli authorities have refrained from actively encouraging construction for Palestinians in Jerusalem. While the government has initiated planning, appropriation of land for construction, tenders for the construction of more than 55,000 housing units for Israelis in East Jerusalem since 1967, the Palestinians have seen government-initiated construction of only 600 housing units (in the 1970s). This means that almost all Palestinian construction in East Jerusalem is the result of a private initiative by families who have to bear planning costs and encounter many difficulties in obtaining a building permit. Another notable figure is the average number of units approved in each permit. While in Israeli neighborhoods both in East and West Jerusalem the average is 10.5 units per permit, the average in Palestinian neighborhoods is 3.5 units per permit. This means that the construction in Israeli Jerusalem is for much larger projects, including bigger buildings and compounds, while construction in Palestinian Jerusalem consists of much smaller projects, less organized and in a more sporadic manner. For more on construction planning neglect in the Palestinian neighborhoods of Jerusalem, see – <u>Deliberately Planned</u> – a report of Bimkom and Ir Amim. In the absence of planning and with virtually no chance of obtaining building permits, East Jerusalem Palestinian residents are forced to build without permits and live under the constant threat of demolition. Over the

past three years, nearly 200 structures have been demolished in East <u>Jerusalem per year</u> (a sharp increase since the Obama administration years). B. Construction in Israeli neighborhoods beyond the Green Line: Since 1967, Israel has built 12 settlement neighborhoods beyond the Green Line on land expropriated for public purposes in East Jerusalem. The number of housing units in these neighborhoods is estimated at over 55,000. Most of the construction was done relatively soon after 1967, in the 1970s and 1980s. Municipal data shows that since 1991, 21,834 housing units have been approved in Israeli neighborhoods across the Green Line. An increase of about 33% since Netanyahu's 2009 election – From 2000 to 2008, the average number of housing units approved in neighborhoods beyond the Green Line was about 500 housing units per year. Since Netanyahu was elected prime minister in 2009, the average has risen by about 33% and stands at 665 housing units approved per year. A dramatic increase after Trump's election – Between 2017-2018, 1,861 housing units were approved in those neighborhoods, up from 1,162 in the previous two years (rise of 58%). The graph of construction permits in Israeli neighborhoods in East Jerusalem tells the story of the settlements there. For instance, in 1991, 2,096 housing units were approved, almost all of them were in the Pisgat Ze'ev neighborhood, which was then in the advanced stages of construction. 2000 was the year in which the Har Homa settlement began to be built (1,707 housing units), after the approval by Prime Minister Netanyahu in 1997 to establish Har Homa as the first new settlement since the Oslo Accords. C. Data quality and accuracy: 1. Difficulty in obtaining data – The information requested and received from the municipality of Jerusalem is a list of all construction permits approved over the years since the system was computerized. On 13 November 2017, the Movement for Freedom of Information applied to the Jerusalem Municipality to request the information. This is after a request that the Peace Now motion in December 2014 was only partially complied with, without the data being complete. About four months later, on 7 March 2018, the Jerusalem Municipality's response was finally received, with the list of building permits without detailing the number of units approved in each of the permit. The municipality reported that the information does not exist in the computerized system. But since Peace Now had an old file from the computerized system from a few years ago with information on the number of units, a new round of correspondence and conversations began and the Jerusalem Municipality moved to acquire the full information. The Movement for Freedom of Information

file a new application on 15 January 2019. It was only on 30 May 2019 that the municipality sent a reply, but the requested information was given in a PDF file and the attempts to convert it to Excel to be analyzed and examined amounted to nothing. Only after the threat of filing a petition in court was the information in Excel format finally received, on 9 July 2019. 2. Quality of data – The list received from the Jerusalem Municipality included information on tens of thousands of permits, including the permit number, date of approval, number of housing units added, address, neighborhood, and the plan number according to which the permit was granted. Peace Now still had to screen the data: erasing duplicates, correcting some typos (in some cases the wrong number of housing units was typed, or an incorrect neighborhood name was entered). It is important to emphasize that despite efforts to improve and correct the data, there are still data inaccuracies. But since these are large numbers of thousands of housing units, the order of magnitude is likely to be negligible. The information was also checked against CBS data on construction starts, and similar trends were discovered. (PEACENOW 12 September 2019)