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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Violations of the Israeli occupation Army

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) killed, a young Palestinian man near the entrance of Ni’lin village, west of the central West Bank city of Ramallah. The IOA shot Sofian Nawnaf al-Khawaja, 29, causing a very serious injury that resulted in his death shortly afterward. The IOA stopped and held a Palestinian ambulance while rushing to render aid to the Palestinian. Instead of allowing the Palestinian medics to render the urgently needed aid to the critically wounded young man, the IOA called for an Israeli ambulance while al-Khawaja continued to bleed. The Israeli army claimed that the IOA opened fire at several Palestinians who reportedly hurled stones at their jeeps. However, The slain Palestinian was not among the protesters but happened to be passing through the area along with his cousin. (IMEMC 23 March 2020)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) held four Palestinian youths at an Israeli military roadblock, near Dutan colonial settlement, near Jenin city, in the northern occupied West Bank. The IOA stationed at the checkpoint, held four Palestinian youths after having inspected them, along with many other local Palestinian vehicles. (IMEMC 23 March 2020)

Israeli Settler Violence

- An Israeli settler exploited the full lockdown imposed in the occupied territories to raze Palestinian land between Rafat and Qalandia towns, northwest of Jerusalem. The settler razed a tract of Palestinian-owned land between the aforementioned towns, planted it with saplings and erected a fence around it. (WAFA 23 March 2020)

- Settlers constructed and paved a settler-only road and set up several mobile homes on Palestinian-owned land in Khallet An-Nahleh, south of Bethlehem. settlers exploited the lockdown enforced on Bethlehem district over coronavirus spread to expedite the construction of this road.(WAFA 23 March 2020)
• Israeli settlers attacked with stones Palestinian motorist in the north of the West Bank, causing damage but no injuries. A resident of Silat al-Dahr village, south of the northern West Bank city of Jenin was hit by settlers who threw stones at his car near his village breaking its windows and hijacking the car after he and his family were able to get out of it and run away. (WAFA 23 March 2020)

• Several Israeli settlers attacked, a Palestinian shepherd in Ein al-Hilwa area, in the West Bank’s Northern Plains, while herding his cows. The young man, identified as Moheeb Fathi Daraghma, suffered several minor cuts and bruises. (IMEMC 23 March 2020)

• A group of Israeli settlers attacked homes in the southern area of Madama village, south of Nablus. The settlers came from Yitzhar settlement, which was built on Palestinian lands south of Nablus. (IMEMC 23 March 2020)

• Dozens of Israeli settlers, belonging to the Temple Mount group, stormed the vicinity of the Islamic holy shrine of Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied East Jerusalem. The group of settlers performed provocative rituals before leaving through the Bab Alselsela gate used by Palestinian-Muslim residents. The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) escorted the settlers, while also restricting entry of Muslim Palestinian worshippers into the sacred Islamic compound. (IMEMC 23 March 2020)

• Nearly 1,600 trees have been vandalized by Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank since the start of 2020, according to United Nations OCHA. According to the agency’s latest report, during the period 3-16 March, Israeli settlers vandalized at least 385 Palestinian-owned trees and vehicles in the West Bank. Three such attacks involved settlers cutting down or uprooting some 200 olive trees and 150 grapevines “belonging to farmers from Al Khader and Khallet Sakariya villages that are planted next to the Gush Etzion settlement area (Bethlehem), and 35 olive trees next to Bruchin settlement (Salfit)”. Meanwhile, five additional attacks in the Nablus governorate, in northern West Bank, “involved slashing the tires of 11 vehicles in Huwwara town, hurling stones and damaging two houses and four vehicles in ‘Einabus village, and vandalizing an uninhabited house in Burin village.” In addition, UN OCHA stated, Palestinian residents of the ‘Ein ar Rashash herding community near Ramallah, in central West Bank, reported 25 lambs “stolen by a settler residing in an adjacent settlement outpost”. On top of the numerous
incidents of attacks on Palestinian-owned property and livestock, Israeli settlers “physically assaulted and injured three Palestinians”, including a woman, in three separate incidents in Al Auja town and the Israeli-controlled area of Hebron city (H2), in southern West Bank. “Additional settler attacks not resulting in injuries or damage were reported in the H2 area on 10 and 11 March, during celebrations of a Jewish holiday (Purim),” the UN OCHA report added. The UN OCHA report is issued once a fortnight, and documents human rights violations by Israeli forces and settlers, and the impact of occupation for Palestinians. Over the reporting period, UN OCHA documented the punitive demolition of two homes, as well as the demolition or seizing of an additional 14 Palestinian-owned structures on the grounds of a lack of building permits, displacing 29 people and affecting around 60 others. Israeli forces also “bulldozed a section of a dirt road connecting five herding communities in southern Hebron to their main service center”, meaning that “residents must use a long detour to access their main service center and market in Yatta town”. (OCHA, IMEMC 23 March 2020)