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 Settler Violence

- Several illegal Israeli settlers invaded the sacred al-Aqsa Mosque, under police guard, despite the closure due to the coronavirus outbreak. Dozens of settlers, escorted by police officers, forced their way into al-Aqsa Mosque and performed Talmudic rituals near the al-Buraq Wall. (IMEMC 26 March 2020)

- Israeli settlers damaged 50 olive trees and grapevines in al-Khader town, south of Bethlehem city, in the southern occupied West Bank owned by Hisham Mohammad Sbeih. Upon entering his grove, near the Gush Etzion settlement bloc, he was completely shocked to find out that illegal settlers had damaged 40 grapevines and 10 olive trees. Israeli settlers are exploiting the lockdown enforced on Bethlehem district over the spread of the coronavirus, to ensure the seizure of more Palestinian territory. Sbeih added that this was not the first time that settlers wreaked havoc on his land. (IMEMC 26 March 2020)

- Israeli settlers damaged 50 olive trees and grapevines in al-Khader town, south of Bethlehem city. Hisham Mohammad Sbeih, the landowner, entered his grove, located in proximity to the Gush Etzion colonial settlement bloc, today, but he was completely shocked to find out that settlers had damaged 40 grapevines and 10 olive trees. He pointed out that this was not the first time that settlers wreaked havoc in his land, and that settlers were exploiting the lockdown enforced on Bethlehem district over coronavirus spread to expedite the destruction of Palestinian groves. (WAFA 26 March 2020)

Home Demolition & Demolition threats

- Officials from Israel’s Civil Administration in the West Bank arrived with a military jeep escort, a bulldozer and two flatbed trucks with cranes at the Palestinian community of Khirbet Ibziq in the northern Jordan Valley. They confiscated poles and sheeting that were meant to form eight tents, two for a field clinic, and four for emergency housing for residents evacuated from their homes, and two as makeshift mosques. The army
also confiscated a tin shack in place for more than two years, as well as a power generator and sacks of sand and cement. Four pallets of cinder blocks intended for the tent floors were taken away and four others demolished. As the whole world battles an unprecedented and paralyzing healthcare crisis, Israel’s military is devoting time and resources to harassing the most vulnerable Palestinian communities in the West Bank that Israel has attempted to drive out of the area for decades. Shutting down a first-aid community initiative during a health crisis is an especially cruel example of the regular abuse inflicted on these communities, and it goes against basic human and humanitarian principles during an emergency. (BTSELEM 26 March 2020)

- The Israeli Civil Administration is continuing its demolition routine where it demolished three seasonal homes of farmers who are residents of Jerusalem, in the village of ‘Ein a-Duyuk a-Tahta west of Jericho. The IOA demolished three Palestinian-owned homes in the village of al-Diyouk, west of the occupied West Bank city of Jericho, under the pretext they were built without permits. The IOA and police accompanied bulldozers as they invaded the village in the early morning, and proceeded to demolish the three houses, each 120-square-meter in area, owned by Palestinian citizens from occupied Jerusalem and from the West Bank city of Hebron. (IMEMC, BTSELEM 26 March 2020)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) demolished a farming shed and a water well in Deir Ballut town, west of Salfit city. The IOA escorted a bulldozer into Wadi Sarida area, where the heavy machinery tore down a farming shed and a water well belonging to Aziz Yusef Abdullah, a villager. The IOA were exploiting the lockdown enforced on the occupied territories over coronavirus spread to expedite the implementation of their schemes to seize Palestinian land. (WAFA 26 March 2020)