



## ARIJ DAILY REPORT

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## Israeli Violations' Activities in the occupied State of Palestine

13 February 2020

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

- Violent clashes broke out in Shu'fat refugee camp, east of Occupied Jerusalem, after the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) stormed a popular conference held in solidarity with Sheikh Ekrima Sabri and in protest at the US administration's peace deal. Israeli police and intelligence forces stormed the location of the conference, which was called for by noted Jerusalemite families, and forced the participants to leave the venue. The IOA also handed some participants summonses for interrogation over their organization of the event. Soon later, clashes erupted between the IOA and local youths upon the former's withdrawal from the place. (PALINFO 13 February 2020)
- Two Palestinian protesters, including a child, suffered from rubber bullet injuries and dozens from their exposure to teargas fumes during violent clashes with the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) in Qalqilya city. A 14-year-old child suffered a rubber bullet injury in his thigh and a young man was injured by a rubber bullet in his knee during the events. Dozens of young protesters also suffered from inhaling tear gas and received on-site medical assistance. (PALINFO 13 February 2020)
- The Israeli occupation navy attacked Palestinian fishermen and their boats off the coast of the besieged Gaza Strip. Israeli gunboats opened machinegun fire at fishing boats in Gaza northern waters, forcing them to return ashore. Luckily, no one was hurt in the shooting attack. About 351 violations against Gaza fishermen were reported by different human rights groups during 2019. (PALINFO 13 February 2020)

## Israeli Settler Violence

- Dozens of Israeli settlers desecrated the Aqsa Mosque in occupied East Jerusalem under tight police protection in groups. 122 settlers entered the Islamic holy site through al-Maghariba Gate and toured its courtyards. (PALINFO 13 February 2020)

## Home Demolition & Demolition threats

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) demolished a Palestinian housing unit in the southern occupied West Bank city of Hebron, under the pretext that it is allegedly on “state lands” and is owned by Bilal al-Rajbi. The IOA accompanied by a bulldozer invaded Jabal Johar neighborhood in Hebron at 9 am and evacuated the 55-square-meter caravan. Bilal’s family, consisting of seven members, has lived in the caravan since September 2019, when the army demolished their home the last time. (IMEMC 13 February 2020)
- The Israeli occupation army (IOA) notified Palestinian citizens of its intents to demolish their homes in at-Tuwani village, east of Yatta town in southern al-Khalil. The homes belong to Fadel Wamfadi, Rabhi Rab’iee and Khader Suleiman and are inhabited by their families. The IOA also confiscated a cargo truck carrying construction steel in at-Tuwani village. (PLAINFO 13 February 2020)

### **Confiscation & Razing of lands**

- A Palestinian-owned house in the Old City of occupied Jerusalem, partially collapsed as a result of ongoing underground excavations by Israeli authorities and illegal settler organizations, Mr. Thaher Sharabati said his house sustained minor landslides during the recent low pressure and the accompanying heavy rainfall, which he said were the result of the ongoing Israeli excavations. Sharabati lives in the house together with the rest of his 8-member family. The underground digs by Israeli settler organizations in Jerusalem without any consideration for the safety of the Palestinian families living there have posed serious threats to the Palestinian population. (IMEMC 13 February 2020)

### **Expansion of Israeli settlements**

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) began the groundwork for the construction of a road that would connect the settlements in the northern occupied West Bank with those in the Jordan Valley. The planned 8-kilometer-long road would connect the settlements of Eli and Shilo in Nablus Governorates with settlements in the Jordan Valley, describing the move as one of the most serious Israeli projects aimed to seize more Palestinian land and further restrict Palestinian movement. The fertile

agricultural lands which Israeli is exploiting belongs to the Palestinian villages of Duma, Talfit, Qaryout, and al-Mughayyir, south of Nablus, and to the villagers of Fasayel in the central Jordan Valley.(IMEMC 13 February 2020)

## Other

- The UN human rights office released a list of more than 100 companies it said are complicit in violating Palestinian human rights by operating in Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank. The UN step is considered the first-ever international attempt to name and shame businesses that have ties with Israel's illegal settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territories. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, released a statement along with the report, saying she was "conscious this issue has been and will continue to be highly contentious." "However, after an extensive and meticulous review process, we are satisfied this fact-based report reflects the serious consideration that has been given to this unprecedented and highly complex mandate, and that it responds appropriately to the Human Rights Council's request contained in resolution 31/36," she added. In 2016, the UN Human Rights Council adopted resolution 31/36, requesting the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to produce a report investigating the "implications of settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including east Jerusalem." Due to Israeli and US pressure, the publication of the report was delayed for years to the disdain of human rights groups around the world. The release of the report on Wednesday was swiftly criticized by Israel and its supporters. Israeli foreign minister Israel Katz called it a "stain" on the OHCHR, and threatened to take action against the council by Israel. The report names 112 business entities the office says it has reasonable grounds to conclude have been involved in different activities related to illegal settlements. They include Airbnb, Booking.com, Expedia Group and Motorola Solutions. However, the report does not call for sanctions or have any concrete impact on the companies. Human Rights Watch (HRW), a vocal critic of Israel's settlement activity, applauded the report. "The long-awaited release of the UN settlement business database should put all companies on notice: To do business with illegal

settlements is to aid in the commission of war crimes," Bruno Stagno, HRW's deputy executive director for advocacy, said. The list contains names of 94 Israeli and 18 international companies — that have ties to illegal settlements, and are involved in one or more of the following 10 activities as stated by the OHCHR. (IMEMC 13 February 2020)

- Israel has suspended its ties with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights several hours after the UN body published a list of 112 companies that do business in West Bank settlements. FM Israel Katz's office said that the Minister ordered the "exceptional and harsh measure" in retaliation for Michelle Bachelet's office "serving the BDS campaign," referring to the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement. Katz intends to protect the companies operating in Israel, his office stated. He claimed that by publishing the list, the Human Rights Council joined the anti-Israel boycott movement, but stressed that the database is not legally binding. [Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu](#) also slammed the council and similarly vowed to fight the database, Al Ray Palestinian Media Agency reports. "Not for nothing have I already ordered the severing of ties with it. It was also not for nothing that the American administration has taken this step together with us," he added, referring to the Trump administration's June 2018 decision to leave the council, citing its "chronic bias against Israel." The chairman and ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Wednesday slammed a report by a United Nations human rights body for blacklisting U.S. companies that operate in the Israeli-controlled parts of the West Bank. In separate statements, Sen. Jim Risch (R-Idaho), the panel's chairman, and Sen. Bob Menendez (N.J.), the committee's top Democrat, criticized the report as politically motivated and encouraging the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement against Israel. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Wednesday identified at least six American companies, including Airbnb, Expedia, Tripadvisor, Booking Holdings Inc., General Mills and Motorola, as operating in "illegal" Israeli settlements The United Nations views Israeli settlements as illegal under international law. "I am conscious this issue has been, and will continue to be, highly contentious," said UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Bachelet. "However, after an extensive and meticulous review process, we are satisfied this fact-based report reflects the serious consideration that has been given to this unprecedented and highly complex mandate, and that it responds appropriately to the Human

Rights Council's request contained in resolution 31/36," she said, referring to the council resolution that asked for the report.(IMEMC 13 February 2020)

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