

# Israeli Violations' Activities in the occupied State of Palestine 20 February 2020

The daily report highlights the violations behind Israeli home demolitions and demolition threats occupied Palestinian territory, in the 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 against Palestinian civilians violence 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) confiscated a prefabricated classroom belonging to Susiya School in the east of Yatta town in al-Khalil. Israeli troops stormed Khirbet Susiya in the east of Yatta, raided the school and appropriated a prefabricated structure used as a classroom. The IOA also assaulted a number of local residents and rounded up one of them after beating him. (PALINFO 20 February 2020)

### Home Demolition & Demolition threats

- The Israeli army issued demolition orders against four Palestinian residential structures in Masafer Yatta in the south of the occupied West Bank. The IOA raided Masafer Yatta and delivered the demolition notices to the four residents under the pretext that they were built without an Israeli permission. (WAFA 20 February 2020)
- The Israeli Supreme Court gave the go-ahead to demolish the Ramallaharea family homes of five Palestinian detainees. The Israeli court unanimously approved the demolition despite multiple petitions filed by the prisoners' families against the demolition. The court explained its approval by the need to "establish credible deterrence against attacks." (WAFA 20 February 2020)

## **Expansion of Israeli settlements**

• Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced the construction of thousands of housing units in Israeli settlements in Jerusalem. Netanyahu said there are plans for at least 4,000 houses to be build, with 3,000 of the units set to be constructed in the settlement of Givat HaMatos in south Jerusalem and another 1,000 in Beit Safafa, a Palestinian town in East Jerusalem, and is meant to benefit the local residents. The announcement comes less than two weeks before the March 2 election and eight years since the <u>plans for construction in the area</u> had been put forward but halted due to international pressure. Netanyahu said the plan is meant to connect all parts of the "united" Jerusalem and establish a new Jewish

neighborhood. "Today, I announce the establishment of Har Homa Heh, a neighborhood in which we will build 2,200 residential units. This is another approximately 12,000 residents. Har Homa will be a neighborhood with around 50,000 residents. This is like an average-sized city in Israel, just in this neighborhood alone." (Ynetnews , JPOST, PEACENOW, Haaretz 20 February 2020)

#### Israeli Closures

• Israel reinforced closure of two access roads to the village of Deir Nidham, northwest of the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah, already closed with a metal gate and a concrete barrier, with dirt mounds. The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) added dirt mounds to the two northern entrances to the village despite the fact that they have been shut for a while with a metal gate and a concrete barrier to make it harder for even people to walk through them on foot, let alone drive their cars. Only one access road remains for the village, on the eastern side, but that one also has an iron gate installed and a permanent military checkpoint where people are usually stopped and inspected, often delayed for hours. (WAFA 20 February 2020)

#### Other

The Palestinian Authority's Energy Authority has condemned an Israeli master plan for the development of an electricity grid in the West Bank, saying that it is designed "to establish Israeli sovereignty in the West Bank and to support the brutal presence of the settlements on our land." The plan, which was not coordinated with the PA and is in the process of being approved by Israel's National Infrastructure, Energy and Water Ministry, seeks for the first time to provide a blueprint for the electricity market in the West Bank through 2040 and to develop infrastructure for Israeli settlements as well as for the Palestinians residing there. The Israeli portion of the plan, which is devoted to the settlements, is to be funded, planned and executed by Israel. However, it calls for the Palestinian Authority to carry out the Palestinian portion of the plan. Therefore, if the PA refuses to agree to it, that portion won't be implemented. The IEC supplies 99 percent of the electricity market in the West Bank, according to a 2017 World Bank report. The IEC's own financial report for 2018 states

that during that year, the consumption of electricity from the Palestinian Authority constituted 7 percent of the Israeli power utility's customers. According to the new plan, the existence of which was first reported last week by the Israel Hayom daily, the IEC will build a network of high-tension transmission lines, which is the most expensive component of the plan and will serve both the settlements and the Palestinians in the West Bank. However, the Palestinian substations, where the high-tension electricity supplied is lowered to middle-level voltage and distributed to individual households, is to be planned and built by the PA. The substations for the settlements will be built by Israel. (Haaretz)

• The Israeli authorities proceeded with a process to build a new road to be used only by Jewish settlers in the north of the occupied West Bank. The planned road will start from the village of Zaatara, south of Nablus, and will pass through land owned by the towns of Huwwara, Beita and Odala. The Israeli government issued a decision to open this 7-kilometer-long road in April 2019, whose establishment will lead to the seizure of about 406 dunums of land from seven villages to the south of Nablus. Opening this road will cause losses in agricultural lands and will contribute to Israel's apartheid system of separate roads to settlers and the original Palestinian inhabitants of the area. To be noted, Israel last week started the construction of an 8-kilometer-long road that would connect the colonial settlements of Eli and Shilo in Nablus district with other colonial settlements in the Jordan Valley.(WAFA)