



ARIJ Daily Report

Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ)

P.O Box 860, Caritas Street – Bethlehem
Phone: (+972) 2 2741889, Fax: (+972) 2 2776966
pmaster@arij.org | <http://www.arij.org>

Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt

13 August 2015

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.

Brutality of the Israeli Occupation Army

- Israeli water company Mekorot cut off supplies to areas of the northern West Bank, the Palestinian Water Authority said. The PA-body said water supplies north of Nablus were disconnected, with PA crews working to reconnect residents. The PWA has contacted the Israeli company but is yet to receive a response. It is unclear how many people have been affected by the move. Israel's Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) said Monday that Mekorot had decided to adjust water supplies in the northern West

Bank due to increased consumption, Israeli media reported, leaving residents of the Salfit villages of Qarawat Bani Hassan, Bidhya, and Sarta without running water. Israelis, including settlers, have access to 300 liters of water per day, according to EWASH, while the West Bank average is around 70 liters, below the World Health Organization's recommended minimum of 100 liters per day for basic sanitation, hygiene and drinking. (Maannews 13 August 2015)

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) opened fire at Palestinian land, located near the border fence, east of Deir Al Balah town in the central of Gaza strip. (Shasha news 13 August 2015)
- Clashes erupted between Palestinians and the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in Ad-Doha town in Bethlehem governorate. The IOA fired teargas and stun grenades at Palestinians and houses. (Al-Quds 13 August 2015)

Israeli Arrests

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Mohammad Fawzi As-Sajdi (38 years) after storming his house in Ad-Duheisha refugee camp, southwest of Bethlehem city. As a result, clashes, erupted between Palestinians and the IOA, where the IOA fired live bullets and teargas grenades, causing dozens of suffocation and the injury of three people. (Al-Quds 13 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Ismail Yousif At-Tmizi (35 years) after raiding his house in Idhna town, west of Hebron city. (Wafa 13 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Abed Al Qadir Ash-Shahteen (29 years) after storming and searching his house in Kharas village, northwest of Hebron city. (Wafa 13 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Lafi Atta Abu Latifah after storming and searching his house in Qalandiya refugee camp, north of Jerusalem city. (Al-Quds 13 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested three Palestinians after storming and searching their houses in Beit Ummer town, north of Hebron city. The arrestees were identified as: Amar Sadem As-Salibi (19 years), Mutaz Mohammad Nimir Abu Mariya (19 years) and Mohammad Shahada As-Salibi (18 years). Clashes erupted between Palestinians and the IOA, where the IOA fired rubber bullets, teargas and stun grenades at Palestinians. (Al-Quds 13 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Hatheqa Sobhi Jabareen (20 years) from Jenin refugee camp, west of Jenin city, after stopping him at a sudden checkpoint erected by the IOA near Arraba village in Jenin governorate. (Raya 13 August 2015)

Israeli Settler Violence

- Israeli settlers escorted by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) carried out dig work in an archaeological area called “Khirbet Ash-Shajara”, north of Salfit city. (Pal Info 14 August 2015)
- The Rabb; Yesrail Arial, and a group of Israeli settlers escorted by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem city and toured in its courtyard. At the same time, the IOA prevented 20 Palestinian women from entering the mosque. (Wafa 13 August 2015)
- Israeli settlers gathered at the northern areas of Awarta village, south of Nablus city and assaulted a Palestinian. As a result, clashes erupted between Palestinians and the settlers. (Raya 13 August 2015)
- Israeli settlers torched a residential tent in Ein Samiya village, northeast of Ramallah city and wrote anti-Palestinian slogans on the walls. The targeted tent is owned by Yousif Ka’abnah. (Al-Quds 13 August 2015)
- Israeli settlers assaulted and injured Loay Samir Al-Bakri from Jerusalem city while he was fixing the streetlight near Pisgat Ze’ev settlement, north of Jerusalem city. (Al-Quds 13 August 2015)
- An Israeli settler assaulted and injured a Palestinian bus driver; identified as Ihab Mohammad Harbi As-Salimah (44 years), in Jerusalem city. (Al-Quds 13 August 2015)

Home Demolition & Demolition threats

- Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolish an under construction house in Harmalah village, southeast of Bethlehem city. The targeted house is owned by Mohammad Dabash. (Raya & Al Quds 13 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) confiscated a caravan, a number of stones and demolished a fence at the western entrance of Za’tara village, southeast of Bethlehem city. The targeted caravan owned by Khalaf Al Hamri. (Raya 13 August 2015)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) demolished an under construction Palestinian house in Tuqu village, southeast of Bethlehem city. (NBPRS 13 August 2015)

Expansion of settlements

- Settler Group Planning 3-story Building in Heart of Palestinian E. Jerusalem Neighborhood. Ateret Cohanin hands eviction orders to Palestinian families and files for permits to build housing and expand a road leading to a Jewish enclave in Silwan. Ateret Cohanin, an

organization that purchases properties in Arab neighborhoods of Jerusalem in order to settle Jews in them, has obtained an eviction order against a Palestinian family living in a building the organization now owns in the Batan al-Hawa neighborhood of Silwan in East Jerusalem. The order from the Bailiff's Office was issued just weeks after the organization filed two eviction requests against Palestinian families living in the area. More recently, Ateret Cohanim applied for permits to erect a new building and to expand a road leading to the Jewish settlement enclave there. The organization has worked for decades to settle Jews in the Old City's Muslim Quarter and in Silwan, and more recently has been trying to gain a foothold in Batan al-Hawa, a quarter that was home to Yemenite Jews about a century ago. Ateret Cohanim also maintains the unlawfully built apartment building known as Beit Yonatan, in which 10 Jewish families live. Another family lives in the nearby house known as Beit Hadvash. About two months ago Ateret Cohanim took over half of the so-called Abu Nab building, named for the extended family that lived in it, and which once housed a synagogue for the Yemenite community. The family members apparently moved out voluntarily, after reaching an agreement with Ateret Cohanim. About a week ago, members of the Abu Nab family living in the other half of the house received eviction orders, which could be implemented any day. They have refused to leave, despite being offered money to do so, according to them. A few days ago the family erected a "protest tent" with help from foreign activists. In recent months, eviction orders have been issued to two additional extended families, each with around half a dozen nuclear families. A few days ago Ateret Cohanim also applied to erect a three-story building on a plot in the former Yemenite neighborhood belonging to a hekdesch, a traditional Jewish land-holding organization, which purchased it from the state. It also applied for a permit to widen the road and built a small plaza in front of Beit Yonatan, in part so that armored vehicles purchased about two years ago by the Housing Ministry, which is responsible for the security of the Jewish enclave in Silwan, can turn around. There have been no Palestinian objections to the plans for the plaza. In a statement, Ir Amim, a left-wing advocacy organization, said: "Without the state, Ateret Cohanim could not have advanced its takeover. We call on the Jerusalem municipality to stop the continued construction of the settlements". Ateret Cohanim did not issue a response. ([Haaretz](#) 13 August 2015)

Israeli Closures

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed with cement blocks the eastern entrance of Al Issawiya town in Jerusalem city. (SilwanIC 13 August 2015)

Other

- A Decade Behind the Wall: Jerusalem's 100,000 Outcasts. Israeli civil rights NGO sends letter to Netanyahu saying state has violated basic rights of an entire population, and that government's policy 'constitutes criminal negligence' and 'abandonment' of residents beyond separation wall. Ten years after the separation wall was built in Jerusalem, it transpires that the state and municipality have broken almost all their promises to the tens of thousands of Israelis left on the eastern side of the fence. The decade that has passed since Ariel Sharon's cabinet decided to minimize the disruption in the lives of the residents east of the fence "was marked by systematically breaking all the government's commitments," the Association for Civil Rights in Israel wrote in a letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The association accuses the state of violating the basic rights of an entire population, and says the government's policy "constitutes criminal negligence" and the "abandonment" of the residents beyond the wall. "The government's policy has turned the neighborhoods into a no man's land, in which nobody is interested and for which nobody is responsible," wrote attorneys Nasrin Alian and Ronit Sela. In July 2005 Sharon's cabinet issued a detailed decision, intended to satisfy the Supreme Court that the wall would not disrupt the lives of the Palestinians residents, most of them Israeli citizens, on the eastern side of it. The cabinet tasked the government ministries and Jerusalem municipality to ensure continued health, education, infrastructure, municipal and government services to the people beyond the wall, in the neighborhoods of Ras Khamis, Ras Skhada, Hashalom, Kfar Akav, Semiramis and the Shoafat refugee camp. But practically none of this was carried out. For example, no new schools, clinics or hospital branches opened beyond the wall, no branches of the transportation, labor or interior ministries operate there, no roads or infrastructure were built, no access for emergency vehicles was provided into the neighborhoods, no hotline for municipal services was set up at the roadblocks as promised, the waiting time at the roadblocks wasn't shortened, and on and on. In addition, the garbage in the neighborhoods beyond the wall is only partially collected and there is no supervision on construction, which has led to rampant illegal building. These buildings were quickly inhabited by poor people who couldn't afford to live anywhere else and the population has

multiplied. As a result, the water and sewage systems have collapsed, there is a severe shortage of public buildings, schools and classrooms and the traffic is clogged. ([Haaretz](#) 13 August 2015)

- Study: Education in settlements comes at expense of periphery. Ministry says data from Macro Center is incorrect. The state invests almost double the amount of money on pupils living on the east side of the security fence in Judea and Samaria than those in the periphery, according to research published by Macro – The Center for Political Economics on Monday. According to the research, conducted by Dr. Roby Nathanson, director general of the Jerusalem-based research center that focuses on economic and sociological analysis of current and evolving issues on Israel’s public agenda, and Itamar Gazala, its head of research, the state invested NIS 12,899 per pupil in what they called “isolated settlements beyond the separation fence” in 2013, as opposed to the national average of NIS 6,540 per pupil. Nathanson and Gazala said per-pupil investment in areas of national priority, the Negev and Galilee, was NIS 7,788 and NIS 6,761, respectively, in 2013, while the average that year in all of Judea and Samaria was NIS 7,253 per pupil and the national average (excluding Judea and Samaria) was NIS 6,540. The research also looked at class sizes in Judea and Samaria, saying they were seven percent below the national average, excluding Judea and Samaria, in 2013. The average class size in Judea and Samaria, according to the research, was 23.4 pupils per class that year compared to the average of 24.5 in the Negev and 24.7 in the Galilee. “The data found in the research shows exceptionally high amounts of resources allocated to Judea and Samaria, and in particular to the isolated settlements east of the fence,” said Nathanson. “The conclusion is that this is a conscious and deliberate policy of granting extra positions and additional budget to these settlements, at the expense of those periphery towns in the North and the South that have been defined as national priority areas.” The Education Ministry responded to the data, saying the facts presented were wrong, and claiming that “[t]he average cost for the 2013/14 school year per pupil was NIS 16,300 for all stages of education versus NIS 15,500 in the region of Judea and Samaria. It is, therefore, unclear where the data published by the Macro institute was taken from and what it is based on.” In addition, the ministry said the average number of pupils in a class in regular institutions and regular classes stands at 28 students on the national level and the average in the towns of Judea and Samaria is 27.2 per class. In terms of eligibility for a bagrut certificate in the settlements to the east of the security fence, the rate stands at 68.7%, more than 11% above the national average excluding Judea and Samaria, the research found, compared with eligibility rates of 55% in

the Negev and 61.2% in the Galilee. The rate of eligibility in all of Judea and Samaria was just under 45%, it found. Nathanson and Gazala explained the low rates by the high concentration of ultra-Orthodox Jews living in the region, most of whom do not take the exams. ([IPOST](#) 13 August 2015)

- Israel to European governments: Stop funding illegal Palestinian building. IDF West Bank chief Yoav Mordechai: There is a war over Area C • EU says it's offering humanitarian aid. The Foreign Ministry has warned European governments against flouting Israeli law by funding illegal Palestinian building in Area C of the West Bank and has already razed such structures. "We bring this issue up in almost every conversation we have with the Europeans," said Aviv Shir-On, Deputy Director General for European Affairs in the Foreign Ministry. He spoke on the issue before a Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee sub-group on Judea and Samaria on Tuesday. "We won't accept illegal building," Shir-On said. The Europeans have been informed about Israel's stance on this issue, he added. "We've told them they have to take into account, that such construction can be destroyed," Shir-On said. But he has assured the European officials, Shir-On said, that they will be notified before any demolition occurs. Starting in September the EU, the Foreign Ministry and the IDF will meet regularly to tackle the issue, Shir-On added. He explained that both individual European governments and the EU were funding illegal Palestinian projects. The European Union responded to matter in writing on Wednesday through its Embassy in Tel Aviv. It hinted that Israel violated international law, by failing to allow Palestinians adequate recourse to legal housing in Area C of the West Bank. It's activity, the EU said, fits the definition of humanitarian assistance which it planned to continue to provide. "All EU activity in the West Bank is fully in line with international humanitarian law," it wrote. "While Israel has overall security and administrative responsibility in Area C, under international law Israel also has the obligation to protect and facilitate development for the local population, and to grant unimpeded access for humanitarian assistance," it said. "The EU Is providing humanitarian aid to allow the residents to meet their most basic needs of shelter and sanitation," it said. The EU called on Israel to approve master plans for Palestinian development in Area C of the West Bank that have been submitted by Palestinian communities in that area, it said. "To date only a handful of the proposed plans have been approved. At their last meeting in July the EU foreign ministers unanimously voiced their strong opposition to Israeli demolitions and confiscations, including of EU-funded projects, and called for a fundamental change of Israeli policy to enable accelerated Palestinian

construction, as well as social and economic development in Area C," the EU said. The issue of EU funded illegal Palestinian building, was first raised in the last few years by the non-governmental group Regavim, which monitors such activity and gave a power point presentation at Tuesday's meeting. It has estimated that there are close to 1,000 such EU funded structures in the West Bank, which are mostly modular construction with cement floors. The EU's involvement in illegal Palestinian building is obvious to the naked eye, because it often places a large round blue EU logo on the projects its sponsors. Regavim's concern was picked up by right wing politicians, including the head of the FADC subgroup on Judea and Samaria, MK Motti Yogev (Bayit Yehudi). They are particularly concerned that the IDF has refrained from demolishing such structures out of fear of angering the international community. "This isn't spontaneous construction that address a local need. It's an integral part of the Palestinian strategy to establish facts on the ground to stop the expansion of Jewish settlements such as Maale Adumim," Yogev said. The Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories Maj.-Gen. Yoav Mordechai told the sub-group, he was not sure, if an overall strategy existed when it came to illegal Palestinian construction in Area C. Both men spoke of an area of the West Bank that is under Israeli military and civil control, but which the Palestinians believe will one day be part of their future state. As a result, all Israeli and Palestinians construction there has geopolitical significance. "There is a war over Area C," Mordechai said. He acknowledged that the international community's involvement economic and humanitarian involvement in the area was very helpful and that includes the Europeans. What concerned him was the international involvement, particularly in authorized construction and infrastructure projects that are not coordinated with the IDF, Modechai said. The European are one of the central supporters of such projects, he said. Since April he has held 30 meetings with international officials on this issue, including with the EU's Ambassador to Israel. From January 2014 the Civil Administration has identified 140 such projects and demolished 40 illegal structures funded by the international community, he said. He clarified however, that much of the Palestinian construction is not funded by the international community. Since January 2014, he said, the Civil Administration has uncovered, 1,619 instances of illegal Palestinian construction, the bulk of which, 1,140 structures, was on private Palestinian property. The IDF's prefers to resolve the issue of illegal construction though joint dialogue with the Palestinians, to find an alternative to forced demolitions. This is particularly true with the Palestinian Beduins in the area of the Ma'aleh Adumim settlement and in the Palestinian village of Sussiya in

the South Hebron Hills. MK Bezalel Smotrich (Bayit Yehudi) told Mordechai he had to more than just talk. "So what are you going to do about it, just wag your finger? My fear is that such conversations will led to the authorizations of such projects." Mordechai assured him the IDF took the matter seriously. In the last year-and-half, the IDF has moved immediately against illegal Palestinian building with demolitions orders, Mordechai said. These are handed to European governments as well, if they are involved in the projects, he said. The highest priority areas for cracking down on illegal Palestinian construction is in the E1 area of Ma'aleh Adumim and in the IDF's firing ranges, he said. The Civil Administration is advancing a master plan to provide housing for the Palestinian Beduin near the city of Jericho, he said. ([IPOST](#) 13 August 2015)