



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 14 February 2017

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 forces detained an employee of a Turkish development agency at a border crossing between the besieged Gaza Strip. The IOA detained Muhammad Murtaja, a coordinator for the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), and added that the Turkish embassy in Tel Aviv was making calls to release him. The Turkish embassy did not immediately respond to a request for comment. (Maannews 14 February 2017)

- Israeli naval forces opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of the northern Gaza Strip. The Israeli military ships fired at them off the coast of Beit Lahiya. No injuries were reported. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- Violent clashes burst out near the Ibrahimi Mosque, in al-Khalil, after the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) stormed the area and aggressively attacked Palestinian protesters. Violent confrontations burst out near an Israeli military checkpoint pitched in Abu Al-Rish Zone, adjacent to the southern entrance to the Ibrahimi Mosque, in al-Khalil, after the occupation soldiers aggressively beat a Palestinian youth. The Israeli forces further showered the area with spates of bullet fire. The IOA sealed off the checkpoint along with the main access road into the Ibrahimi Mosque, before they chased down Palestinian youths across residential neighborhoods. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)

Israeli Arrests

- An Israeli magistrate court in Jerusalem ruled to increase the sentence of Sheikh Omar Abu Sara from eight to 14 months in prison. Abu Sara was charged with “inciting violence against Jews” during a religious lecture he gave at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in November 2014. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- Israeli police detained two Al-Aqsa Mosque employees after dozens of Israelis toured the site. 13 Israeli settlers and 43 armed Israeli officers raided the compound after entering from the Moroccans' Gate. Israeli police later entered the holy site and detained two Palestinian employees of Islamic Endowment (Waqf) that manages Al-Aqsa, who were identified by locals as Mahmoud al-Anati and Muhammad al-Hadra. Israeli police ordered the two to immediately appear at an Israeli police station in occupied East Jerusalem’s Old City, where they were still being detained. The incident came after Israeli police attempted to construct a portable aluminum cabin inside the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, but were prevented by Palestinian guards despite the fact that police threatened to use force. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained at least 25 Palestinians, including at least five minors, during predawn detention raids Across the occupied territory. Nine Palestinians, most of them former prisoners, were detained from different areas in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Bethlehem and were identified as 20 year-old Mazen Muhammad Taqatqa, 21-year-old Amin Abu Ahour, 55-year-old Khader Ahmad Masalma, 18-year-old Fadi Taqatqa, 15-year-

old Adam Mahmoud Darwish, 29-year-old Eid Kamil al-Kamil, 16-year-old Jawad Ibrahim Taqatqa, 50-year-old Shafiq Ali Radayda, and Ayman Issa Hamdan. Eight of the detentions in the Bethlehem area were carried out in the village of al-Ubeidiya, one in Beit Fajjar, one in Aida refugee camp, one in Rafida -- also known as al-Asakira -- three in Bethlehem city, and one in al-Shawawra. (Maannews 14 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the southernmost Governorate of Hebron, and detained 25-year-old Imad Hamdi Abu Khalaf and 19-year-old Yousif Khairi Abu Sneineh. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- In the central occupied West Bank Governorate of Ramallah, The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained 16-year-old Yousif Muhammad al-Ghalith from Jalazun refugee camp. , according to PPS. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- In the northern Governorate of Qalqiliya, four Palestinians were detained, identified as 39-year-old Issam Salah Swelim, 24-year-old Khalid Swelim, 22-year-old Omar Ahmad Salim, and his 23-year-old brother Usama. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Palestinian areas in occupied East Jerusalem, detaining Amir Dirbas, a minor identified as Baraa Mahmoud, 16-year-old Majd Abu Sakran, Bashar Mahmoud, and Muhammad Fawzi Ubeid. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded at dawn 'Aida refugee camp, north of Bethlehem, searched homes and abducted two siblings, identified as Mohammad Salah al-Masa'eed, 13, and his brother Anas, 14. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded and searched homes in the southern West Bank Governorate of Hebron, and abducted two Palestinians, identified as Arafat Ahmad Eghneimat and Zaher Abdul-Rahim Halayqa. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- In occupied Jerusalem, The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) searched a few homes, and abducted a former political prisoner, identified as Midhat 'Obeid, and another Palestinian, identified as Ahmad 'Ateyya. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Ash Shoyoukh town, north of Hebron, and abducted Zaher Abdul-Rahim Halayqa, after searching his home, and his brother's home. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded at dawn, the 'Aida refugee camp, north of the West Bank city of Bethlehem, and abducted two child siblings. The IOA invaded the home of Salam al-Masa'eed and violently searched it, before abducting his two children. The children have been identified as Mohammad, 15, and his brother, Anas, 14, and added that the soldiers cuffed them and took them to an unknown destination. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded, at dawn, several communities in the southern West Bank district of Hebron, abducted one Palestinian, and installed many roadblocks. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) abducted at dawn, two Palestinians in the southern West Bank city of Hebron. The soldiers searched and ransacked homes, and abducted Emad Hamdi Abu Khalaf, 25, and Yousef Khairi Abu Sneina, 19. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)
- In Qalqilyia, in the northern part of the West Bank, The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) searched homes and abducted two Palestinians, identified as Khaled Ali Sweilem, 25, and Essam Salah Sweilem, 32. Owners of some of the invaded and searched homes have been identified as Adnan Sweilem, Rezeq Ali Sweilem and Ayman Adnan Sweilem. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)
- The Shin Bet, Israel's internal intelligence apparatus, detained chief of Beit Dajan town Naser Abu Jaish after summoning him for interrogation in Huwara military base, south of Nablus city in the West Bank. Abu Jaish, went yesterday to the army base in response to a summons from the Shin Bet before the latter decided to detain him for a while. Abu Jaish was detained for about two hours because of his involvement in anti-Israel political activities. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)

Israeli Settler Violence

- Israel's attorney general Avichai Mandelblit has agreed to give the pro-settler Elad group a foothold at the archaeological park next to the Western Wall of the Aqsa Mosque in the Old City of Occupied Jerusalem. Mandelblit took this decision during a meeting he held last week with government officials. Mandelblit affirmed he would offer Elad a foothold at the site, but that it would not manage the park exclusively. The government-affiliated Jewish Quarter Development

Company received control over the park two years ago. This company then signed a deal with Elad, the settler group that runs the so-called City of David park and promotes Jewish settlement in the Palestinian neighborhood of Silwan, to be responsible for the archaeological park. ([PALINFO](#) 14 February 2017)

Home Demolition & Demolition threats

- Israeli soldiers invaded the town of Al Isawiya, in occupied East Jerusalem, before forcing a family of eleven out of their home, and demolishing it. Dozens of soldiers and police officers, including undercover soldiers, invaded the town, before breaking into the home of Saleh Abu Turk, and forced him and his family out of their property. The soldiers prevented the family from removing their furniture and belongings from the property, before demolishing it. A demolition order was issued against the property several months ago, but he went to court and managed to achieve a ruling delaying the demolition until February 08, 2017, in addition to being ordered to pay a 25.000 NIS fine, which he is still paying. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- Israeli bulldozers , soldiers, police officers and personnel of the Jerusalem City Council invaded, the town of Al Isawiya, north of occupied East Jerusalem, and demolished an under-construction two-storey house. The demolished house is owned by Hasan Yassin Mustafa, and his family. Dozens of soldiers and officers surrounded the entire area, before invading it, and demolished the property. The army claimed the home was being built without a permit. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- Members of Qara'in family in Silwan were forced to demolish their own shed in Silwan, to avoid high fines and fees, after the Jerusalem City Council decided to demolish it. Umm Ammar Qara'in, the owner of the property, said the family had to demolish its own property, especially since the City Council orders families to pay very high fines, if the municipality demolishes their properties. The demolished 16 square/meter property was built nearly two years ago, and was constructed with bricks and fortified iron plates. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified a number of Palestinian facilities and houses with demolition in Qusra village south of Nablus. under the pretext of being built in Area C. The notified facilities include 2 houses (two storey each), three agricultural rooms and two water wells funded by Canadian institutions with the aim of protecting

Palestinian agricultural crops from Israeli settlers' attacks. The targeted facilities and homes are owned by Mahmoud Za'al Ahmad Odeh and Hasan Ali Zein Ad Din. ([PALINFO](#) 14 February 2017)

Erection of Israeli checkpoints

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) installed roadblocks at the entrances of Sa'ir and Halhoul towns, in addition to Hebron's northern road, before stopping and searching dozens of cars, while inspecting the ID cards of the passengers. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) erected a makeshift barrier at the entrance of Ad Dhahriya town in southern al-Khalil. The IOA searched Palestinians along with their cars at the barrier. The IOA forced Palestinians, including university students, to get out of their cars and wait in the extreme cold. They checked their IDs and blocked traffic. ([PALINFO](#) 14 February 2017)
- The IOA soldiers interrogated Palestinians at the entrance of Kafr Dan town to the west of Jenin. Israeli military vehicles, stationed at Haifa Street at the junction of Kafr Dan town in Jenin, stopped Palestinians' cars and questioned them after checking their IDs. Israeli soldiers were deployed on the road and questioned shop owners in the area. ([PALINFO](#) 14 February 2017)

Israeli Closures

- Israel security minister Gilad Ardenne renewed his earlier order to close the Orient House in occupied Jerusalem for another six months. Extending the closure order came after intelligence information affirmed the PA's intention to strengthen its sovereignty in the occupied city of Jerusalem. The Orient House is a building located in occupied Jerusalem that served as the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in the 1980s and 1990s. Built in 1897 by Musa al-Husayni, it has been owned by the Al-Husayni family since. It was closed by Israeli authorities in 2001 after the eruption of the Palestinian Intifada (uprising). The closure order has been extended every six months since 2001. ([PALINFO](#) 14 February 2017)

Other

- A dozen Likud ministers and MKs and dozens of activists called upon Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu Monday to use his meeting with US President Donald Trump to achieve support for construction and

annexation in Judea and Samaria. Held under the banner “Netanyahu, the Likud is backing you on the Right,” the ministers and MKs signed a petition calling upon him to maintain the values of Likud. Knesset Speaker Yuli Edelstein attended, as did ministers Gilad Erdan, Yariv Levin, Ze’ev Elkin, Ophir Akunis, Ayoub Kara, and Gila Gamliel, Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely, and MKs Yoav Kisch, Yehudah Glick, Nurit Koren, and Amir Ohana. While each speaker stressed that the event was intended to strengthen Netanyahu, they each issued demands and expectations as to the outcome of the meeting. “This is a historic time, and if our Likud government does not handle it correctly, we will be crying for generations,” Shomron Regional Council head Yossi Dagan said. “We expect new settlements to be built for the first time in 26 years. We proved we are loyal to the prime minister but we demand that he be loyal to what he has been saying for years. We don’t need American permission to build anywhere, especially in Jerusalem. We expect you to return with good results for Israel and all the settlements.” Dagan accused Netanyahu of displaying weakness by being silent as Trump backtracked on his support for moving the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. His fellow settler leader Avi Roeh displayed statistics indicating that construction in Judea and Samaria has fallen significantly over the past eight years. Culture and Sports Minister Miri Regev told the crowd that in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Six Day War, this was the year to apply sovereignty to the settlements that make up what she called Greater Jerusalem and to enable a massive amount of people to move to Judea and Samaria. “Trump understands his mission is to make America great again, and we understand that our mission is to restore our security and that comes from strengthening Judea and Samaria,” she said. “There should be news in the next year of reaching 1 million Jews in Judea and Samaria.” Edelstein warned that what he called “the Gaza disengagement disaster” happened when the US had a pro-Israel president in George W. Bush. Minister-without-Portfolio Ayoub Kara advised Netanyahu not to bring up the Palestinian issue when he meets with Trump, “because it is irrelevant.” “The two-state solution has failed due to Palestinian rejection,” Hotovely said. “We can’t be the Palestinians’ hostage. We have to do what is right for us.” Sources close to Netanyahu expressed frustration with the event and its timing. “It undermines the prime minister and strengthens Bayit Yehudi,” complained coalition chairman David Bitan, who boycotted the event. Pressuring the prime minister doesn’t help anything.” ([IPOST](#) 14 February 2017)