



ARIJ Daily Report

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 19 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

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) opened fire at agricultural land in the Sanati area of eastern Khan Yunis in the southeastern Gaza Strip. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- Israeli navy gunboats opened fire at Palestinian fishermen sailing off the coast of Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- Several Palestinian protesters choked on teargas after the Israeli occupation Army (AIO) aggressively dispersed a march in Qalandiya,

north of Occupied Jerusalem, in solidarity with Palestinian hunger strikers in Israeli jails. The IOA violently quelled a peaceful Palestinian march that kicked off from the Qalandiya military checkpoint, in northern Occupied Jerusalem, to support the Palestinian hunger strikers Jamal Abu al-Leil and Raed Mteir, who have been on an open-ended hunger strike for the fourth consecutive day to protest administrative detention, with neither charge nor trial. The IOA attacked the Palestinian marchers with heavy spates of teargas canisters, sparking clashes. The Israeli troops closed off the Qalandiya checkpoint and intensified their presence in the area. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)

- A Palestinian boy was injured after being shot by the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) during the confrontations that broke out in Bizzariya village, northwest of Nablus city. Several Israeli patrols stormed the village in a provocative manner while students were leaving their schools, which led Palestinian boys to throw stones at the Israeli soldiers who responded by firing bullets and tear gas canisters. The IOF shooting resulted in injuring Osama Oudeh, 15, with a bullet in the abdomen. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) are carrying out massive maneuvers in al-Khalil since last Monday. These maneuvers, as claimed by Israeli sources, are in preparation to foil any Palestinian attack such as vehicular-ramming, throwing Molotov Cocktails, and shooting. Platoon 890, responsible for al-Khalil and Kiryat Arba, is participating in the military training. Two other platoons and a tracking and intelligence unit are also involved in the maneuvers. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)

Israeli Arrests

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the village of Beit Fajjar south of Bethlehem Governorate in the southern West Bank and detained Uday Muhammad Thawabta, Yousif Mahmoud Taqatqa, Iyad Mahmoud Moussa Taqatqa, and Rashad Samih Derayya. The four were detained over suspicions of throwing Molotov cocktails at the illegal Israeli settlement Migdal Oz. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained 20-year-old Tamer Awwad Nawfal at a military checkpoint at the entrance to the Hebron-area town of Idhna. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the village of Silwad and detained 42-year-old Faraj Shqeirat in the central Ramallah

- Governorate. Two additional Palestinians were also detained in Silwad. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- In the occupied West Bank's Jerusalem Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the town of Hizma, which has seen an increase in military presence in recent days, kidnapped the Palestinian youngster Ali Askar and handed several young men summonses to appear for interrogation with Israeli intelligence. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
 - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the Jabal al-Mukabbir town of occupied East Jerusalem and detained Ihab Abu Dheim from his home in a predawn police raid. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
 - Israeli court of Ofer is going to decide, next Wednesday, on the appeal filed against Palestinian prisoner Nael al-Barghouthi, 59, by Israeli Attorney General in protest at the court's previous ruling which sentenced him to 30 months of actual imprisonment. The Israeli prosecution asked the court to enforce the old sentence of life imprisonment and 18 years against captive Barghouthi who is from Kober village near Ramallah. The old sentence against Barghouthi ended on December, 17, 2016. Israeli authorities, however, kept him detained since he was arrested in 2014. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
 - Two Palestinian minors were kidnapped by the Israeli occupation army, in a joint operation with the Shin Bet intelligence officers, on suspicion of carrying out anti-occupation shootings near Ramallah. The Israeli army and police, in cooperation with Shin Bet, arrested two suspects who were allegedly responsible for two anti-occupation shooting attacks over the past couple of months, on December 14, 2016 and January 27, 2017. The youngsters are reportedly aged 17 and natives of Deir Abu Mishaal village, northwest of Ramallah Governorate. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
 - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested a woman after stopping her at a checkpoint in Ras Al-Amoud, Silwan. (SILWANIC 19 February 2017)
 - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided a house in the Middle Neighborhood for Abu Sbeih family and arrested a woman. (SILWANIC 19 February 2017)
 - The Israeli Court extended the arrest of Midhat Obeid until 21/2/2017, Ihab Abu Dheim until 26/2/2017, Naser Obeid until 22/2/2017, Ahmad Rabay'a until 23/3/2017, Mohammad Dirbas and Mohammad Fawzi Obeid until 23/3/2017. (SILWANIC 19 February 2017)

Israeli Settler Violence

- Israeli settlers raided a Bedouin community in the Khallat Hamad area of the northern Jordan Valley in the occupied West Bank and threatened local Palestinians, a day after a herd of sheep belonging to one of the community's residents was attacked. A group of 12 settlers came to the community's tents and demanded that residents leave the area. The settlers had threatened to "harm them" on Saturday evening if they attempted to take their sheep to pasture in the area. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- Israeli Settlers killed one sheep and injured two others after they attacked a herd belonging to Mahmoud Awwad. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- A group of Israeli settlers attacked Palestinian shepherds near Khirbat al-Hamma in the northern Jordan Valley, and prevented them from herding their sheep in their own lands. Israeli settlers threaten the Palestinians in the region and tell them they must leave, claiming that these lands are "Israeli lands". (PALINFO 19 February 2017)

Home Demolition & Demolition threats

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the Bedouin community of Khan al-Ahmar in the occupied West Bank northeast of Jerusalem to deliver demolition orders to classrooms for the village's primary school. 40 homes in the community were also reportedly delivered demolition orders. The IOA surrounded the school -- which has been threatened with demolition by the Israeli government for years -- as faculty and students were prevented from accessing the building. Israeli soldiers imposed a military closure on Khan al-Ahmar before they stormed the village's school to deliver the demolition warrants. The IOA also issued demolition order against 40 Palestinian-owned houses in Khan al-Ahmar on Sunday morning. Residents were notified that they had until Feb. 23 to leave their homes. The "construction termination warrants" were issued against an unspecified number of buildings in Khan al-Ahmar, adding that enforcement of the orders "will take place in coordination with state directives and required legal certifications," without providing further details. ([Haaretz](#), Maannews 19 February 2017)
- A Palestinian family of 13 was displaced after they were forced to demolish their own home in the Bir Ayoub area of the Silwan neighborhood in occupied East Jerusalem, in compliance with orders from Israel's Jerusalem municipality. Hajj Salih Shweiki stated that his family chose to carry out the demolition themselves to avoid the huge fees imposed when municipality crews perform demolitions. The

municipality would have charged 80,000 shekels (approximately \$21,600) for the demolition. Members of the family started to manually demolish the interior of the house using sledge hammers and other small tools. The house was built of bricks and corrugated metal sheets. The demolition had been postponed several times over the past few years, and that a final demolition order was issued recently. (Maannews 19 February 2017)

Expansion of settlements

- The Israeli-controlled Jerusalem Municipality confiscated the lands owned by [Sheikh Abdel Muti al-Ansari's](#) heirs near the foothills of Mount of Olives to be included in the so-called biblical gardens. The Israeli project includes the establishment of commercial buildings, parking lots, and biblical gardens. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) have leveled Palestinian lands in Mesha village, to the west of Salfit Governorate in favor of illegal settlement expansion. Palestinian lands have been increasingly seized and leveled by the Israeli occupation forces and authorities as part of underway endeavors to expand the Elkana and She'ari Tekva settlements. Palestinian lands in the area have been confiscated to establish an Israeli university at the expense of Palestinian lands, referring to the establishment of an Israeli university in Ariel settlement. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)

Israeli Closures

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed the gate to the main entrance of the village of Nabi Salih in the central occupied West Bank Governorate of Ramallah that leads to several Palestinian villages and towns, forcing commuters to use take lengthy detours. Palestinian vehicles and pedestrian were prohibited from passing through the gate, which leads to the villages of Nabi Salih, Beit Rima, Deir Ghassana, and Kafr Ein. Israeli troops deployed heavily near the gate. Most commuters used a long route near the village of Abud to travel to the city of Ramallah for work or study. The IOA deployed at the gate did not give an explanation to locals regarding the motive for the closure. (Maannews 19 February 2017)

Other

- Tunnel excavations for the light rail in the Greater Tel Aviv area began with a special ceremony during which the tunnel boring machine

(TBM) was officially named "Golda" after Israel's fourth prime minister. Minister of Transportation Yisrael Katz, attended the ceremony alongside Tel Aviv Mayor Ron Huldai. Excavations begin four months ahead of schedule. Tight TBMs will excavate 12 kilometers at a depth of 30 meters under Bnei Brak, Ramat Gan and Tel Aviv. The boring will begin under Ayalon Highway and in its first phase, will provide the infrastructure for underground rail stations in Tel Aviv at Arlozorov, King Saul, Yehudit and Carlebach. Every one of the eight TBMs is roughly 115 meters long and 7.5 meters wide, weighing 900 tons. 20 workers and engineers from China Railway Tunnel Group (CRTG) are with the machine at any given time. The TBM is expected to bore at least 10 meters per day. ([Ynetnews](#) 19 February 2017)

- A house in the West Bank illegal settlement of Beit El donated by the US ambassador-designate to Israel, David Friedman, was constructed illegally on privately owned Palestinian land. The Friedman faculty house at the Raaya girl high school is situated in the Ulpana neighborhood of Beit El. Part of this neighborhood was demolished following an order by the Israeli high court of justice five years ago because the land had been taken illegally. The Friedman Faculty House is one of nine buildings left in the neighborhood that were spared demolition at the time. The construction of the Friedman Faculty House started in 1999. In 2002, a demolition order was issued against it by the Israeli army's civil administration, which supervises construction in the settlements. Although the demolition of this house has been ignored, demolition order no. 224/02, according to the civil administration's records, is still on the books. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- Responding to reports that Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu had reneged on his promise to build a new town to replace Amona, Amona residents held a protest on Sunday morning outside the Israeli government's offices in Jerusalem. Agriculture Minister Uri Ariel (Jewish Home) spoke with the residents before the government meeting and promised to speak on their behalf to Netanyahu. "We are obligated to keep our promise provide Amona's residents with a new town in Judea and Samaria," Ariel said. "I don't see how this coalition can properly continue if we do not keep our promises to Amona's residents and to the rest of Israel." Education Minister Naftali Bennett (Jewish Home) told the residents, "The Prime Minister signed a contract with you, and we will keep our word." Culture Minister Miri Regev (Likud) said, "I am going to tell the Prime Minister that he is obligated to keep his promises." A report by [Channel 2](#) Thursday night claimed the Prime Minister was reassessing the viability of his

obligations under the agreement - despite the fact that the evacuation of Amona residents has already taken place. (INN 19 February 2017)

- Last week at a conference in moshav Masu'ot Yitzhak near Ashkelon, Kibbutz Movement Secretary General Nir Meir promised Gush Etzion will "grow and prosper." "Gush Etzion will remain in our hands, grow, and prosper no matter what agreement the government makes," Meir said, promising to work with relevant parties in the Milk Council to advance the opening of a dairy in Kfar Etzion. The Masu'ot Yitzhak meeting was held at the initiative of Gush Etzion founders Benny Bashan, Yehuda Neuman, and Amitai Porat. Porat, who is Secretary General of the Religious Kibbutz Movement, said, "We, the members of the Religious Kibbutz Movement, Gush Etzion, and Kfar Etzion, appreciate the Harel Brigade and the Palmach fighters. We thank the members of Kibbutz Revadim, who have made with us a treaty of brotherhood. Since the War of Independence, we have promised to support each others' fights. ([INN](#) 19 February 2017)

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