



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 March 2018

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 Occupation Army (IOA) injured at least one Palestinians and caused excessive property damage, after the army fired missiles and shells at many targets in the Gaza Strip. The army claims the escalation started after an explosive targeted a military vehicle near the border fence. An Israeli drone fired three missiles at a site, east of Beit Hanoun, in the northern part of the Gaza Strip, causing excessive property damage, and moderately wounding one Palestinian. The IOA

fired dozens of live rounds at many homes and property, in the eastern part of Beit Hanoun, causing damage. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)

- israeli tanks stationed in Nahal Oz military base, across the border fence east of Gaza city, fired six shells and dozens of live rounds at homes and farmlands, in addition to two sites east of Gaza, and near Jabalia, in the northern part of the coastal region. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)
- Several Israeli Military army jeeps invaded Awarta village, south of Nablus, twice during late night hours, and a third invasion at dawn, before storming homes and violently searching them. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)

Israeli Arrests

- In Nablus in northern West Bank, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded and violently searched several homes, in many neighborhoods throughout the city, and detained five Palestinians, including two former political prisoners. The detained Palestinians have been identified as Baha' Hasan Taqtouq, from Dahia area, two former political prisoners, identified as Mohammad Waleed Abu Mashal from the Old City, and Ahmad Abdul-Fattah Naqeeb, in addition to Mohammad Najeh Samara and Shaker at-Tarteer, from the housing projects' area. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)
- In Hebron, in the southern part of the West Bank, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded many homes in several neighborhoods throughout the city, before detaining Miqdad Omar al-Qawasmi and Ghazi Saleh Erfa'eyya. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Hizma town, northeast of Jerusalem, searched a few homes and detained Amer Abed-Rabbo Khatib and Sufian Fathi Kanaan, the brother of [Mohammad Kanaan](#), 25, who died on July 27th 2017, from [serious wounds he suffered](#) after the soldiers shot and seriously injured him on July 24th, when the military invaded their town. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Safa' Sami Atatra, the wife of a political prisoner, identified as Majed Nizar, while trying to visit him at the Negev Detention Camp, after the military claimed she was "trying to smuggle a cellphone Sim Card. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) soldiers abducted a young man from Jerusalem, after stopping him at a military roadblock near Hizma. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a young man while leaving the Al-Aqsa Mosque, through Bab al-Qattanin (Cotton Merchants Gate) in Jerusalem and took him to the al-Maskobiyya detention and interrogation center. The abduction came while more than 86 Israeli settlers invaded the courtyards of the holy sites, and conducted provocative tours, under heavy police and military deployment. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded and ransacked homes in Nabi Saleh village, northwest of Ramallah, and detained three young men, identified as Waleed Morad Tamimi, Amjad Abdul-Hafith Tamimi and Lu'ay Abdul-Razeq Tamimi. Amjad Tamimi was taken prisoner after receiving many phone threats by the IOA and was held captive several times over the last few months, in an illegal measure meant at forcing his brother Ezzeddin to turn himself in to the army. The military has been frequently invading the town and the family's home, over the few months, looking for Ezzeddin. During the invasion, the IOA fired many live rounds, rubber-coated steel bullets and gas bombs, at Palestinian protesters, and many homes, causing several residents to suffer the effects of teargas inhalation, in addition to resulting in property damage. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)

Israeli Military Orders

- Israeli authorities issued notices, informing Palestinian residents of the southern occupied West Bank town of al-Khader, in the Bethlehem Governorate, of their intentions to uproot olive trees in order to pave a settler-only road in the area. The IOA handed the town residents notices to uproot olive trees and grape vines, in the area of Khallet

Thaher al-Ein. Israeli authorities plan on using the area to open a road designated only for Israeli settlers who live in the West Bank, in violation of international law. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)

Erection of Israeli checkpoints

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded homes in Abu al-'Asja village, south of Hebron, in addition to several communities, east of Doura, and installed many roadblocks at their main entrances, before stopping and searching dozens of cars, and interrogated many Palestinians while inspecting their ID cards. (IMEMC 15 March 2018)

Other

- The [2019 state budget](#) passed its second and third readings in the Knesset Plenum overnight Wednesday, enabling Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon (Kulanu) to breathe a sigh of relief after it was almost sabotaged by political A crisis that gripped the coalition over the last few weeks. The budget, which was at the heart of the coalition crisis, passed with 62 MKs backing it and 54 voting against it. As part of a [deal struck](#) on Tuesday evening to avert early elections, the United Torah Judaism (UTJ) party consented to backing the budget on condition that its IDF conscription bill designed to exempt Haredim from military service passed its preliminary reading in the Knesset. The controversial draft bill passed with a 59 MK majority, with 38 MKs voting against it, with no abstentions. Speaking at the Knesset Plenum ahead of the second and third readings, Kahlon said that he had lived up to his promise by bringing it to a vote. "A week ago, I said that the people of Israel would sit at the Seder night either with a budget or without a finance minister. Tonight we can say that the people of Israel will sit for the holiday meal with a budget and with a finance minister," he said, referring to the feast of Passover. "I promised that the budget would pass at a predetermined time without threats and extortion—and I delivered," he added, boasting it would be "the most socially-driven (budget) the people of Israel have ever had." "This budget is for all citizens of the State of Israel, not for the coalition and not for the opposition," the finance minister proudly proclaimed. "It isn't for people who were born into money, and it isn't for a new or old resident. The budget reflects social values and national priorities. That has been my policy and that of the Finance Ministry since the first state budget at the end of 2015 to the present 2019 state budget. "I stood for the state budget passing because whoever harms it harms the citizens

of the State of Israel.” The largest sums of the budget are earmarked for defense (NIS 73 billion), education (NIS 64 billion), health (NIS 42 billion) and national insurance (NIS 46 billion). Another NIS 20 billion will be pumped into public transport and NIS 19 billion into the Ministry of Public Security. Both higher education and the Ministry of Welfare will receive a financial injection of NIS 11 billion each, while local authorities will receive NIS 6 billion and the Ministry of Housing will get a NIS 5.3 billion boost. As the recently resolved crisis deepened over the last few weeks and threatened to dismantle the coalition, Kahlon was unequivocal in his position, [stating](#) that if the budget—a hallmark of his economic policy—did not pass, he would not be able to remain in office. ([YNETNEWS](#) 15 March 2018)

- The Transportation Ministry plans to build its first light rail in the West Bank, linking the central Israeli cities of Petah Tikva and Rosh Ha'ayin with the Ariel settlement. “This is good news for the continued development of the city of Ariel. It has over 20,000 residents, an industrial park and a university with 15,000 students,” said the city’s mayor, Eli Shaviro. And there are thousands of people in communities around Ariel that consider it their central city, he said. Ariel is considered a settlement bloc – but its location deep in Samaria, some 16 kilometers over the Green Line, has given it a tenuous status on the international stage. Under prime ministers Ariel Sharon and Ehud Olmert, the city received very few construction authorizations. Since 2011, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has significantly increased those permits, with more construction approvals occurring there than in some of the other three larger cities of Modi’in Illit, Beitar Illit and Ma’aleh Adumim. Shaviro said that a train would help cement Ariel’s place as the capital of Samaria. Transportation Minister Israel Katz has long envisioned a train in Judea and Samaria. On Thursday he gave his approval to the overall idea of the project. But planning is still in its infancy, with three alternatives on the table for the route of between 29 and 35 kilometers. One of them also includes stops in the Barkan Industrial Park and the Elkana settlements as well as in the Israeli-Arab town of Kafr Kassem. No budget has been set for the project. The move is part of a series of steps by right-wing politicians to normalize life for the 400,000 Israeli residents of Judea and Samaria, by erasing the Green Line and improving the link between the settlements and the rest of the country. “I want to thank Minister Israel Katz and his team for working together to establish and promote the city as the capital of Samaria,” Shaviro said. ([YNETNEWS](#) 15 March 2018)

- During the 1967 Six Day War, then-prime minister Levi Eshkol and Golda Meir, secretary-general of the ruling Mapai party, wanted to move Palestinians from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank, according to recently released government documents from the time. The documents were presented by Hagai Huberman and Dr. Miriam Billig at a seminar on Thursday sponsored by the Institute for National Security Studies and the Katif Center. The seminar focused on a study by the two journalists on the perception of the Gaza Strip by the Israeli government since the establishment of the state. Huberman also presented proof that internal meetings took place toward the end of the war – attended by then-prime minister Levi Eshkol, Maj.-Gen. (and future president) Chaim Herzog, Eshkol’s adviser in charge of communications with the Arab residents of the territories (and future ambassador to Egypt) Moshe Sasson, and Foreign Ministry employees Shaul Bar-Haim and David Kimhi – in which it was suggested to Eshkol, “The Arabs of the Gaza Strip be transferred to the Jordanian Kingdom.” ([YNETNEWS](#) 15 March 2018)