



**ARIJ
DAILY
REPORT**

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the occupied State of Palestine

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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.



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Violations of the Israeli occupation Army

- Israeli police summoned Sheikh Omar Kiswani, director of Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, for questioning at the Russian Compound interrogation center in West Jerusalem. The police summoned Kiswani to immediately appear before it without giving any reason for the summons. (Wafa 18 March 2020)

Expansion of Israeli settlements

- *The yearly construction average since Trump's administration is 25% higher than during the Obama years. A. Highlights – Settlement Construction In The West Bank, 2019: (East Jerusalem excluded). 11 New settlement outposts (illegal agriculture farms) were established in 2019, all of them in areas that Israel will need to evict under a two state solution (east of the Geneva Initiative proposed border). 1,917 new housing units began construction in 2019. Yearly average of construction since Trump's administration (2,267 units) is 25% higher than the yearly average under Obama's administration (1,807 units). In the last 3 years there were 6,800 new units (yearly average of 2,267 units) according to Peace Now's count. 2,783 units in 2017; 2,100 units in 2018; and 1,917 units in 2019; compared to an average of 1,807 units per year in the years 2009 – 2016: 1,174 units in 2009; 1,545 units in 2010; 1,792 units in 2011; 1,554 units in 2012; 1,684 in 2013; 3,100 in 2014; 1,800 in 2015; and 1,814 in 2016. Nearly 63% (1,200 housing units) of the new construction was in settlements east of the proposed Geneva Initiative border, i.e. settlements likely to be evacuated in a two-state agreement. At least 10% (195 housing units) of the construction was illegal, in illegal outposts. The vast majority of new construction, 91% (1,764 housing units), was for permanent structures, while that the remainder was mobile homes both in outposts and in settlements. 61 new public buildings (such as schools, synagogues etc.) started to be built, alongside 87 structures for industry or agriculture (53%! of them in illegal outposts). 56% of the construction was in national-religious settlements (1,065 units); 39% of the construction was in Ultra-Orthodox settlements (741 units) and only 5% of the construction was in secular settlements. Advancement of Plans and Tenders in 2019 (January-December): 8,457 Housing units were advanced through plans in*

58 settlements. Almost 68% (5,783 housing units) of the planned units were east of the purposed Geneva Initiative border. Tenders were published for 1,761 housing units, 956 of them in settlements and 805 units in East Jerusalem Israeli neighborhoods. It should be noted that since January 2020 and before the election on March 2nd, the Israeli government managed to advance plans for 7,582 units (including 3,401 units in E1) and to publish tenders for 3,332 units (1,785 of them in settlements and 1,547 in East Jerusalem, including in Givat Hamatos). ([PEACENOW](#) 18 March 2020)

- Construction in Settlements in the Jordan Valley in 2019: the following is an appendix to the 2019 yearly settlement construction report of Peace Now. Background: The Jordan Valley – Small settlements, huge amounts of land: Since 1967, Israeli governments have tried to encourage settlement in the Jordan Valley through various incentives. Recently, the prime minister announced plans to annex the valley. In September 2019, he presented an annexation blueprint map for 22.3% of the West Bank in the Jordan Valley, with 30 settlements and 18 illegal outposts. The so-called Trump Plan, crafted with ample input from Netanyahu, supports an annexation of the Jordan Valley although with a slightly different map than Netanyahu's. For the sake of the following report, the Jordan Valley boundaries were defined according to Netanyahu's proposed annexation map. Despite the efforts of various governments, all failed to bring a massive amount of settlers to the Jordan Valley. Currently, only 12,788 settlers live in the Valley—about 3% of the settlers (interestingly, in the East Bank, Jordan, the Jordanian government managed to bring hundreds of thousands of residents to the area with the same climate and distances from Jordanian populated centers). At the same time, the takeover of the Jordan Valley lands is almost complete. Since 1967, Israel has implemented a policy of dispossession of the Palestinians – an absolute majority of the land was seized for firing zones and training purposes, and hundreds of thousands of dunams were allocated to settlers for agricultural use. The Palestinians have limited areas where Israel allows them to build and live in small enclaves of about 5% of the Valley—in the Jericho area that is Area A, and in some small villages considered Area B. 95% of the Valley is considered to be Area C, under full Israeli control, and Israeli policy is not to permit any construction and development for the Palestinians. Thus, the reality in the Jordan Valley is one whereby a small minority of residents (12,788 settlers) control 95% of the land, while the Palestinian majority (52,950 – 81% of the Valley's population) are

confined to small enclaves in the remaining 5% of the area. ([PEACENOW](#)
18 March 2020)

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