

Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

Report on the Israeli Colonization Activities in the West Bank & the Gaza Strip

Volume 27, October 2000 Issue

<http://www.arij.org>

October 1, 2000

- In Nablus District, Sarah Hasan, one and a half year-old was killed by the settlers ' bullets while she was in her father's car driving from Nablus to Talfit. *Quds*
- The Israeli soldiers announced that they would close a number of roads in the West Bank and Gaza Strip due to the continuation of confrontations with Palestinians. They added that this is the first time in which the Israeli forces carried out this decision since its occupation in June 1967. *Quds*

October 3, 2000

- A number of settlers attacked three Palestinian employees Ahmad Al Halabi, Ihab Sarhan and Ra'fat Odeh from Salfit villlage, Nablus, working in the Palestinian Telecommunication Company while they were rehabilitating the broken phone lines. *Quds*

October 4, 2000

- An article appeared in *Haaretz* daily, stating that the UN Security Council announced that the violent clashes between Israel and the Palestinians were a result of a provocative act carried out by Likud Chair Ariel Sharon. Many of the ambassadors mentioned that the riots were the outgrowth of a deliberate provocation attained by Mr. Ariel Sharon.
- Jewish settlers continue to cut off the water supply from Silat adh Dahr village in Jenin District for the third consecutive day due to the violent clashes that were broken out by the Palestinians. On the other hand,

Israeli bulldozers destroyed electricity grids, phone lines and infrastructure of the streets in Beit Dajan village, Nablus. The loss is estimated to be \$250,000. *Quds*

October 6, 2000

- The Israeli occupation forces closed Qalqilyah District and declared it a closed military area. They also erected roadblocks between the villages and closed all secondary roads that lead to the city. *Quds*
- According to *Al-Quds Daily*, Revava settlers cut down tens of olive trees from Harith village, near Nablus. Moreover, they burned a wood store in Biddya village, belonged to the inhabitants Fayez Morjan and Mohammad Abdel Rahman.
- In Tulkarm District, a group of settlers from Avnei Hefetz assaulted Mahmoud Ibrahim's car, injured him and his cousin Thae'r Sa'ed, while they were passing near Shoufa village. *Quds*

October 8, 2000

- In an attempt to assault more Palestinian civilians and their properties in Nablus District, the settlers of Elon Moreh uprooted dozens of fully-grown olive trees in Salem and Deir al Hatab villages and threw stones on Palestinian houses in Bit Dajan village. Also, they tried to storm Salem village in an attempt to destroy it. Moreover, the settlers closed the main entrance that leads to Bit Furik village, east of Nablus, and pelted it with stones.
- Furthermore, a group of settlers set fire on several numbers of commercial markets in the main road between Ramallah- Nablus. They also attacked Mas-ha and Biddya villages, assaulted the inhabitants and tried to break into Salem, 'Azmut and Deir al Hatab without being realized. *Quds*

October 9, 2000

- A wave of violence by the Jewish settlers against the Palestinians surged over the week, especially in the northern parts of the West Bank:
 - Mustafa Abu Bakar, 23-year-old Palestinian man, from Biddya village, in Nablus District, was killed by gunfire on the Trans-Samaria highway. According to Palestinian eyewitnesses, Abu Bakar could have been saved, as the ambulance came to collect him, but Jewish settlers impeded the ambulances' arrival.

- The body of Ali Ishak, 25, of the village of Azzoun, near Ramallah, was found with gunshot wounds in his head. Palestinians blamed Jewish settlers for the killing.
- A 70-year-old man, Abdel Rahman Nafa'a, from the village of Az Zawiya village, in Nablus, was reportedly beaten by Jewish settlers.
- Palestinian sources reported that Jewish settlers have recently attacked seven villages in the Nablus District, firing bullets, smashing windows and damaging house facades. *Ha'aretz*
- *Alhayat Al-Jadeeda* Daily stated in its report that the body of Isam Hamad, 36 years old, from Umm Safa village, Ramallah, was found in a field near Halamish settlement; His brother Basam stated that Isam was hit with a sharp tool in the head, his face was burned and his hands were broken. He had bruises on his back and his left leg had been burned with an iron. Evidence of electrocution was also found.
- Jewish settlers attacked a Palestinian farm in Al-Jib village, in Jerusalem District, owned by Abdel Salam Malek. Malek pointed out that the settlers damaged his farm by uprooting the trees and broke the entire nursery's pottery. *Quds*.
- Violent confrontations took place between Jewish settlers and the Palestinians, in Shu'fat village, Jerusalem. The settlers closed the Ramallah - Jerusalem main road and attacked Jerusalem Old City, Hizma, Ar Ram, Dahiyat al Bareed, Silwan, Sheikh Jarrah. In addition, about 200 Jewish settlers from Efrat, which is constructed at the expense of Al Khadr village, in Bethlehem District, opened fire at Palestinian houses, properties, in an attempt to storm the village. *Quds*

October 10, 2000

- A group of settlers attacked "Bit Enoun" girl's school, which is located on the by-pass road of Qiryat Arba settlement. The Director of Education for Hebron stated that the settlers assaulted the educational staff and the students by a fire shooting which lasted for two hours. *Quds*
- *Al-Quds* newspaper published an article stating that Jewish settlers attacked the neighborhoods of Arab east Jerusalem. The most violent attack was in Beit Hanina neighborhood, which is close to Neve Yacoov settlement where extremist settlers attacked Palestinian citizens, houses, and cars and destroyed the Saint Yacoub and Saint John churches. Eyewitnesses said that the settlers were not only from

Neve Yacoov settlement but also from Maale Adumim and Pisagt Zeev settlements.

October 11, 2000

- Violent confrontations occurred between the settlers of Efrat and Neve Dannial in Bethlehem District. The citizen Salim Mousa said that 30 bullets penetrated his house. In addition, Ali Breigieh from Al-Ma'sara village, southeast of Bethlehem, was beaten by the settlers while his way to Nablus. *Quds*
- According to the Palestinian Red Crescent Committee in Ramallah, Jewish settlers assaulted the cars that transferred the physically handicapped children and prevented them from reaching their schools. *Quds*
- A report appeared in *Alhayat al-Jadeeda* Daily, stating that Jewish settlers continued their assaults against Palestinian civilians in a number of villages in Nablus, where they attacked more than 500 Palestinian houses in Huwwara, Beita, Salem, Bit Furik Burin and 'Awarta villages and shot fire and threw stones at them. The report also pointed out that the settlers stormed into a Palestinian house owned by Ibrahim al-Ajouri from 'Awarta village that led to the injury of his family. Meanwhile, the settlers kidnapped the citizen Khalil Al-Dardouk, 48, from Nablus while he was driving near Beita village.
- The citizen Mohammad Saleh Ahmad from Kafal Haris, Nablus, was killed due to an intended car accident by settlers from Ariel. They also expanded their aggressive activities against a number of villages in Nablus District. *Jadeeda*
- Mohammad Odeh, a 75 year-old Jordanian inhabitant, was attacked by the Jewish settlers of Shilo and pelted his car with stones. It is of important weight to mention that Odeh family was on a visit to the West Bank few days ago. *Jadeeda*

October 12, 2000

- A group of Jewish settlers set fire to the Mosque of Huwwara village, in Nablus District, where 60 square meters of the Mosque's carpet and hundreds of holy Books about were burnt. *Quds*

October 13, 2000

- Israeli Planning and Construction committee decided not to expand the Jewish Religious School "Beit Orat", which is located on the Mount of

Olive, east of Jerusalem, unless it endorsed to construct an Arabic female school in the playground close to the Jewish school as a preparation to expand the Jewish outpost. *Quds*

- According to an article issued by *Al-Quds* daily stating that a Jewish colonist endeavored to run over three Palestinian Jerusalemites while they were on their way to work. The youths said that the Israeli Border Police didn't arrest the settlers as they witnessed the event.

October 14, 2000

- In Hebron District, the settlers of Qiryat Arba assaulted a Palestinian house belonging to Nasri Al Bakri. They attacked him and his wife causing a break in their legs in addition to the damage of their furniture. *Jadeeda*

October 15, 2000

- Jewish settlers attacked two Palestinian women Ibtisam and Amal Abu Rmelah with their children in the old City of Jerusalem. The settlers assaulted them, threw stones and tear gas at them. *Quds*
- The Minister of Labor Rafeek Al Natsheh announced that hundreds of Palestinian workers were exposed to assaults by Jewish settlers while they were working inside the Green Line. Al-Natsheh urged the national and international organizations to interfere, in order to protect the workers from Jewish settlers in the Palestinian Territories. *Quds*
- Jewish settlers are planning to seize a Palestinian house owned by the heirs of Daou'd Abu Farha in the Old City of Jerusalem. *Quds*

October 16, 2000

- A colonist from Elon Moreh, east of Nablus District, opened fire at Palestinian citizens from Salem village, while they were picking olives in their lands. *Quds*

October 17, 2000

- While the Palestinian and Israeli negotiators hammered out a cease-fire agreement at the Sharm al-Sheikh summit, the violence in the territories claimed more victims. A Palestinian villager, Farid Nasara, 28, from Bit Furik village, was killed by settlers near the Itamar settlement, in Nablus District. The incident occurred when dozens of villagers came to the olive groves for the harvest, two armed settlers

stopped them, opened fire at them, killed Nasara and wounded at least five more villagers, *Ha'aretz & JPost*.

- A report published by the Hydrologist group stating that more than 200 Palestinian villages are suffering from a water crisis due to the Israeli siege imposed on the Palestinian inhabitants since the Al-Aqsa uprising. The group reported several reasons for this crisis:
 - Closure of all main roads, to isolate the villages from each other.
 - Closure of all tracks, to prevent the transfer of water tanks.
 - Closure of all water holes originated from Jewish settlements.
 - Cut off the water coming from the settlements, as was happened in the villages of Salem, 'Azmut, Talfit and Umm at Tut.
 - Cutting off the water from the Israeli Makrot Company, which provides Palestinian villages with water.
 - Destroying water tanks on the roofs of the houses due to the fire shooting.
 - The current closure enables the Palestinian inhabitants from obtaining spare parts for water pumps.

Therefore, the committee implores the International Society to protect and defend the Palestinian's rights. *Quds*

- In Hebron District, extremist Jewish settlers attacked Palestinian student Arwa Abu Haikal 18 years old, from Tel Rumeida village, when she was coming back to her father's house causing several injuries to her. *Quds*

October 20, 2000

- Bracha settlers accompanied by the Israeli occupation authorities besieged more than 70 Palestinian farmers; most of them were of children and women for about five hours during the night in Kafr Qallil village, in Nablus District. They shot fire at them while they were picking olives from their lands. According to the villagers, the Israeli forces allowed them at the end, to return back to their homes after several attempts that were done by the Red Cross and the Palestinian Liaison office who tried to help them. *Jadeeda & Quds*
- *Al-Quds* newspaper stated that 'Anabta inhabitants, in Tulkarm District confronted a group of settlers who tried to break into the city from its eastern side.

- Israeli occupation forces closed the main road linking Nablus and Qalqiliya Districts near the crossroad of Kafr Qaddum village, in an attempt to prevent the villagers from moving inside the cities. *Quds*
- The Israeli occupation forces continued to impose a tightened siege around the city of Hebron, and posted roadblocks even in the nearby towns. At the same time, Israel has continued imposing a curfew on the old city of Hebron and all Palestinian areas under Israeli control. *Quds*
- The weekly newspaper “Index” issued a report in stating that the Israeli Housing Ministry supported the idea to construct a new settlement neighborhood on the hilltop of Neve Yacoov settlement, east of Jerusalem, in order to absorb more religious Jews. *Quds*
- *Al-Quds Daily* mentioned that a new settlement outpost has been established near Harrods Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem where four new Jewish families have moved.

October 21, 2000

- A report published in *Al-Quds Daily* stating that the curfew imposed on Hebron city by the Israeli occupation authorities caused numerous losses for 40,000 citizens and prevented about 12,000 students from reaching their schools. *Quds*
- In Nablus District, Israeli occupation bulldozers accompanied by Israeli Border Police chopped down 150 fully-grown olive trees owned by Nawaf Souf from Haris village, Nablus. *Quds*
- Israeli occupation forces continue to besiege Bit Sera village, in Ramallah District for the seven day consecutively. They also closed the entrances to and from the villages, and prevented the students and workers from reaching their schools, universities and works. *Quds*

October 22, 2000

- Ahlam Ramadan and her two-year-old child, Ar’if was shot by the Israeli occupation’s bullets while they were returning to their home in ‘Askar Camp, in Nablus District after a laborious day of picking olives with her family. Thus, Ahlam and her child Ar’if were both injured in their legs and they were transferred to the hospital by the driver. *Quds*
- A group of settlers attacked a Palestinian lorry that carried large amounts of food supply in its way to Nablus-Ramallah main road, near Sinjil crossroad. The settlers opened fire at the driver and his companion, and burned the lorry with all its contents. *Quds*

- Israeli occupation authorities continued to impose a curfew in the north parts of Jordan Valley, in Jericho, for the third day consecutively. They erected new cement roadblocks on all the roads. Moreover, the villagers complained that the agricultural crops were destroyed in fields due to the closure imposed on cars and Lorries to carry them to markets in Nablus and Jenin Districts. *Quds*

October 23, 2000

- According to the Israeli Defense Forces, the current round of violence in the Palestinian Territories is likely to continue for many months, and probably through next year, possibly with occasional breaks for negotiations. *Haaretz*

October 24, 2000

- According to *Al-Ayyam & Al-Quds* newspapers, Jewish settlers prevented Palestinian farmers from Qatanna village from picking their olive trees which are located in western Jerusalem, under Israeli control area. Moreover, the Israeli occupation authorities chopped down dozens of Banana and olive trees belonging to Palestinian inhabitants from the north of Jordan Valley.
- Jewish settlers accompanied by the Israeli occupation authorities hindered a number of Palestinian villagers from reaching their lands where their olive crops laid unharvested. The lands are around the Israeli settlements and are located between Ya'bad, 'Anin, Tura and Barta'a villages, in Jenin District. *Quds*
- According to *Al-Quds Daily*, Israeli occupation bulldozers demolished three agricultural nurseries in Qalqiliya District and owned by 'Ata 'Ata, Saleh Shreim, Kae'id 'Ata and Mohammad Al-Hourani. The Israeli forces destroyed irrigation lines, plastic houses, and agricultural nurseries, which are estimated at 155,000 NIS, under the pretext that they saw unknown boys throwing stones from the nearby nurseries.
- In Nablus District, Israeli heavy machinery bulldozed a 20-dunum plot, planted with olive and fig trees in Kafal Haris village and belonged to Al Haj Fatin Jabr and his brothers. The land is close to Ariel settlement, and is always threatened by Jewish settlers. *Quds*
- The Israeli government led by PM Ehud Barak gave the green light to extremist Jewish settlers to return to the settlements, which were constructed, on Palestinian lands, despite the declarations of freezing settlement expansion. *Jadeeda*

October 26, 2000

- Jewish settlers accompanied by the Israeli occupation forces closed the entrances of Yasuf and Kafl Haris villages with cement blocks in order to prevent the inhabitants from moving inside the villages and the farmers from picking the olives. *Quds*
- In Hebron District, Jewish settlers attacked a Palestinian house owned by Bader family in the old city. They moved their furniture to another house close to Abraham Avinu outpost. Meanwhile, Israeli occupation bulldozers destroyed wide areas of Palestinian land in Khirbet Efqaqees hamlet near Dura village. According to eyewitnesses, the Israeli bulldozers set up a number of mobile houses on the confiscated land of Khirbet Efqaqees hamlet, as a preparation to expand Negohot settlement, which was first used as a camp for Israeli soldiers. On the other hand, Palestinian sources informed that tens of Ultra-orthodox Jewish settlers returned to Maon outpost in Yatta village, where they erected new camps, uprooted the planted trees, demolished retaining walls and closed the agricultural roads, in an attempt to seize more Palestinian lands. *Quds*
- According to a report published by the “Peace Now “ movement stating that, in the second quarter of 2000, there were 740 new building starts in the settlements , that is 51% increase, compared to the same period in 1999, in which there were 490 building starts. The report also pointed out that there were no Jewish building settlements since Barak’s tenure, July 1999. *Ayyam*
- Itamar settlers renewed their assaults against Palestinian farmers who were picking olives from their lands in Beit Furik village, east of Nablus. Moreover, the villagers were threatened to be killed if they return to their lands. It is of important weight to mention that Itamar settlers expropriated more than 3,000 dunums of land from east Nablus, and erected four Jewish settlements there, *Ayyam*.

October 27, 2000

- The settlers of Ravava cut down 50 olive trees from Haris village, in Nablus District, and owned by the citizen Salim Suleiman, in an attempt to confiscate the land. *Jadeeda*

October 28, 2000

- An article appeared in *Al-Quds* Daily stating that The Palestinian Minister of Finance announced that the total amount of losses incurred

by the Palestinian economy since the beginning of the uprising reached US\$ 875 million including all sectors. *Quds*

- Israeli occupation authorities accompanied by Jewish settlers prevented the villagers of Al Khadr, west of Bethlehem from reaching their lands in order to cultivate their olive crops. They also destroyed retaining walls belonging to villagers from 'Ein Al Qasees hamlet, near Al Khadr village. *Jadeeda*
- A group of settlers attacked Augusta Victoria Hospital in city of Jerusalem and opened fire at one of its employees which caused the injury of Mahmoud Hezr-Allah, 36 years old, in his shoulder while he was on duty. *Quds*

October 29, 2000

- Israeli occupation authorities started recently to open new by-pass roads in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They opened 10 new by-pass roads in different districts of the West Bank especially in areas "A" which are under Palestinian full control, in order to connect the Jewish settlements and the military bases with each other in the West Bank. In addition, the Israeli authorities decided to establish a very high fence on the sideways of the new Trans-Samaria, as a preparation to let Ariel settlers and its nearby settlements to pass by Bidya, Az Zawiya and Mas-ha villages, southwest of Nablus. *Jadeeda*
- In Jenin District, Eyewitnesses from 'Anin and Umm ar Raihan villages signified that Israeli occupation authorities bulldozed pieces of Palestinian lands close to Shaked and Hinnanit settlements and set up a number of mobile houses. Furthermore, according to 'Anin inhabitants, Israeli forces prevented the villagers from reaching their lands to cultivate the olive crops. *Quds*
- According to *Al-Quds* newspaper, the citizens of Haris, in Nablus District, confronted Jewish settlers who tried to storm the village. The confrontation caused the injury of three inhabitants.
- The Palestinian Minister of Agriculture announced that the total volume of losses in the agricultural sector due to the Israeli closure and curfew imposed on all Districts of Palestine exceeded US\$ 97 million over the last four weeks. *Quds*

October 30, 2000

- Israeli occupation forces bulldozed wide areas of agricultural lands and orchards planted with citrus trees in Jericho District. Moreover,

they demolished a Palestinian cottage, in Al 'Auja village, and bulldozed the main sluice for 'Ein al 'Auja spring. *Quds*

- According to *Al-Quds Daily*, Israeli government is planning to establish three more Jewish settlements in Arab east Jerusalem. The plan is divided **as follows**:
 - The Jerusalem Municipality intends to discuss a project for the construction of 4,000 new settlement -housing units in Abu Ghneim Mountain, (Har Homa settlement). The area will lie along the southeastern border of the city and is adjacent to the Palestinian town of Beit Sahour. The plan, which is, titled Har Homa-B, will be accomplished on a Palestinian confiscated land;
 - The Local Planning and Construction Committee of the Municipality will also discuss the construction of a new settlement neighborhood near Saint Elias church on Jerusalem–Bethlehem main road and between Gilo and Har Homa settlements; It will involve 400 housing units to be built by private entrepreneurs.
 - Moreover, the Local Planning and Construction Committee will deliberate the construction of a new neighborhood in Abu Dis village, on 64-dunum plot. The proposed site falls under Area “B”, where Israel has its security control, and will be funded by the Jewish Millionaire Irving Moskowitz. *Haaretz & Quds*

October 31, 2000

- As part of the Israeli occupation policy to confiscate more Palestinian land to bring in more settlers and to limit the Palestinian freedom to build houses, Israeli occupation bulldozers forced the Palestinian inhabitant Yousef Oube'd from Al 'Isawiya village, in east Jerusalem, to demolish his compartment and a store by himself, under the pretext of being built without permits. *Quds*
- In Nablus District, the settlers of Mehola chased a group of Palestinian workers from Tayyasir village, under the pretext of coming close to their settlement. Thus, the settlers arrested one of the Palestinian workers (Ahmad Abdel Razeq, 19) and gave him to the Israeli authorities. *Quds*
- Israeli occupation bulldozers destroyed wide areas of agricultural land and uprooted 200 fully-grown olive trees owned by Palestinian inhabitants from Deir Ballut village in Nablus District. The land to be

seized aimed at opening a new by-pass road linking Alei Zahav settlement, which is constructed at the expense of Deir Ballut and Kafr ad Dik villages, with the common road. *Jadeeda*

District	Land Confiscated	Land Threatened	Uprooted/confiscated/ burnt/razed Trees	House Demolished	Threatened Houses
Nablus	20	0	800	0	0
Total	20	0	800	0	0

The Monthly overview report gives a list of the Israeli Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory which are based on reports provided by field workers and/or by one or more of the following news sources: Al-Ayyam daily newspaper, Al-Quds daily newspaper, Palestinian National Information Center, Haaretz Daily Newspaper, The Jerusalem Post - English-language daily newspaper, International Press Center, Palestine News Agency-Wafa, Ma'an News Agency, and Yediot Achronot.

The text is not quoted directly from the sources but is edited for size and clarity.

The Monthly report does not necessarily reflect ARIJ's opinion.