

Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

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

Volume 133, August 2009 Issue

<http://www.arij.org>



Bethlehem

- A group of Israeli settlers attacked Ras Salah area in Al Khader village west of Bethlehem city and razed lands owned by Riziq and Nasri Shihada and mowed 30 Roman Olive Trees. Palestine Info (August 4, 2009).
- Israeli settler activists converging on an abandoned Israeli military base they are seeking to transform into a settlement. Settler groups have been holding weekly events at the hilltop base, including religious services, lectures, and martial arts trainings, all under heavy military guard. Maannews (August 10, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Bulldozers demolished the third floor of a building owned by Khaled Muhammad Jibrin in Al Walajeh village northwest of Bethlehem city and confiscated the construction materials that were in the site. Wafa (August 12, 2009).
- Dozens of Israeli settlers marched at the abandoned military base of Ush Ghurab "Shdema" to protest what they call "vandalism by Arabs and

international anti-Israel activists" who as claimed had destroyed part of the Jewish activists' storage room. At the head of the march was Knesset Member Yaakov Katz (Ketzaleh) from the National Union, who promised to open an active office in Shdema. The activists marched from the top of the hill to the site of illegal Arab construction nearby, which is funded by US and European money. Among the participants was Helen Freedman, executive director of Americans for a Safe Israel (AFSI), who came with a delegation from AFSI. After the march, the participants returned to Shdema to clean and paint walls that had been vandalized. Al Quds (August 23, 2009).

- The Israeli Occupation Authorities rejected a plan to build a hospital in Beit Sahour town, near the evacuated Israeli Military base of Ush Ghurab, known as Shdema. The rejection was justified that the location where the hospital will be built will take part of the hill on which the Israeli camp is located and that it violates the plan prepared by the Israeli civil administration for the place. Paltoday (August 23, 2009).
- A number of Israeli settlers from Neve Daniel settlement established on lands of Al Khader village west of Bethlehem city uprooted 23 Olive Trees owned by Citizen Riziq Shihada Salah and planted in Ras Salah area. Al Quds (August 24, 2009).
- An Israeli force of five patrols stormed Radio Bethlehem 2000's headquarters in Beit Jala, and shut it down after seizing Radio's transmission equipments. Maannews (August 27, 2009).

Hebron

- Israeli settlers of Avigel settlement leveled lands and placed 3 mobile caravans on lands belonging to Palestinians from Al Hamamdeh and Al Jabarin clans in Khirbet Al Mufaggara in Yatta town. The caravans were placed far away from each other in an attempt to control the largest area possible. The settlers who moved into these new caravans started to chase off Palestinian herders and farmers as trucks began supplying the new caravans with gas and water. Israeli settlers also overtook 100 dunums to the east of the settlement and hindered citizens from accessing it. Al Quds (August 3, 2009).

- Israeli military jeeps and a bulldozer entered the village of At-Tuwani, south of the city of Hebron near the recently-erected electrical pylons at 5:30 am. Last Tuesday, the Israeli army delivered demolition orders for the electrical pylons. Construction on the project began last after Quartet Envoy Tony Blair visited the village in late March on a tour highlighting the plight of Palestinian villages in Area C of the West Bank, land under direct Israeli military rule. Maannews (August 5, 2009).
- Five Israeli soldiers and a bulldozer created three earth mounds permanently damaging the road and totally blocking it from car or truck traffic. The road runs between the villages of Um Fagarah and the smaller Jinba. The work means the entire village of Kallet Adbea is now closed between two of the earth mounds. The closures affects at least 700 Palestinian residents in the area, and close off traffic to the nearby cities of Yatta and At-Tuwani where locals go to shop and access government health services as well as high schools and social services. Maannews (August 8, 2009).
- Israeli settlers launched a series of actions in a bid to take over more West Bank land from Palestinians. In the city of Hebron settlers began planting Palestinian-owned land under military guard in an apparent takeover attempt. Settlers from the illegal Israeli colony of Kiryat Arba moved on to land belonging to Muhammad Mustafa Jaber, in the Al-Beqa'a area, outside of Hebron and blocked his family from reaching the land. Maannews (August 10, 2009).
- Israeli settlers rampaged through the southern West Bank city of Hebron smashing the windows of cars and setting fire to at least one vehicle in response to the Israeli army's dismantling of an unauthorized settler outpost elsewhere in the West Bank. Militant settler groups have declared their intention to exact a "price tag" for every outpost or structure that is removed by their government. Maannews (August 11, 2009)
- For the second Friday in a row, some 40-50 Israeli settlers arrived to Beqa'a Valley near Hebron along with about 20 soldiers in six or seven jeeps and planted trees in a land belonging to a Palestinian family. Settlers planted about 60 pine seedlings on the terrace directly above the family's home. The Israeli army protected the settlers and prevented the Palestinian family from talking to the settlers. Maannews (August 11, 2009).

- Israeli settlers constructed cement walls and basins in a land owned by Al Hirbawi family and added an electrical generator to the site and a water tank and cultivated the lands with Olive trees in preparation to seize it at a later time. In addition, the settlers broke into the house of Dweik family located to the east of AdhBoya settlement and demolished the wall separating the house from the settlement. The Israeli settlers have also seized the front yard of Shaheen family house and added a dangle to it and turned it to a playground for the children of the settlers in that area. In another incident, Israeli settlers bulldozed a land located opposite to (K-Gutnic) park located at the entrance of Al Sahla Street close to the Ibrahimi Mosque, in Al Ashab Waqf area which is owned by Hosni Al Ashab. The settlers also cut the trees so as to use the park for their recreational purposes. The settlers also staged into Al Hisba area and broke into Al Kayyal Waqf, vandalizing and taking off its doors. Wafa (August 11, 2009).
- Israeli settlers of Beit 'Ayn established on lands of Beit Ummer town north of Hebron city let go a number of hyenas and dogs in Al Lahbila area north-west of Dura town and adjacent to the aforementioned settlement aiming at sabotaging the field crops and terrorizing Palestinian farmers to make them leave their lands. Wafa (August 18, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation forces imposed a curfew on the southern West Bank village of Wadi Ash-Shajina south of Hebron and demolished two water wells and three water tanks in the village of Suba without providing an Explanation. Properties are owned by 'Amr Abreuish and Fawwaz Al Rjoub under the pretext of lacking valid building permits. The IOF also confiscated a number of containers and three more water tanks which were used for irrigation purposes. Al Zaitona (August 17, 2009).
- Israeli occupation authorities closed the main entrances leading to the Ibrahimi mosque in Hebron, and prevented Palestinian worshipers to perform prayers at the Mosque under the pretext of Jewish holidays; while Israeli settlers performed their religious rituals in Al Rajabi house that has been evicted from settlers by a decision of the International Court of Justice about half a year ago. Wafa (August 19, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers started demolishing three warehouses in Al Hisba building in Al Kayyal neighborhood in Hebron Old City. Wafa (August 23, 2009).

Jenin

- The Israeli Occupation Forces handed over resident Muhammad 'Uthman 'Abeid a military order to demolish his under-construction house alleged for being built without proper licensing documents and gave him 20 days to respond. The house is 100 meters square area. Al Quds (August 5, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Forces staged into Beit Dajan village and broke into the house of Ma'rouf Salem Hanani and took over his house and turned it into a military post. Wafa (August 11, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Forces set up a flying checkpoint between 'Arraba and Ya'bud villages south of Jenin city. The IO soldiers stopped Palestinian vehicles and checked ID cards. Wafa (August 14, 2009).
- Israel will confiscate 115 dunums from Ya'bad village west of Jenin city for military purposes. The land is located near the illegal Israeli settlement of Shaked. Approximately 10% of the settlement is built on privately owned Palestinian lands; the rest is built on communal village land belonging to Ya'bad, residents. The land is also planted with olive trees. Owners of the lands are Muhammad Zeid Al-Kilani, Ali Atatra, Hasan Atatra, Zahra Atatra, Aysha Al-Khatib, and Mustafa Al-Khatib. Maannews (August 19, 2009).

Jerusalem

- Israeli Occupation forces entered the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in occupied East Jerusalem at dawn and forcibly evicted 9 Palestinian families who have been living in the area since 1956. This latest round of evictions, which forms part of repeated attempts by Israeli authorities and the settler movement to evict the Palestinian population in the area, has effectively resulted in the displacement and dispossession of 70 people, including 20 children. A group of Israeli settlers, protected by the Israeli Security Forces, entered the buildings immediately after the eviction had taken place and the personal belongings of the Palestinian families loaded onto trucks and driven away. Having lost their homes and personal belongings, the families are currently sheltering with neighboring families, many of which are also threatened with forced evictions. At least 24 other

Palestinian homes in the area are also at risk of eviction, potentially affecting over 450 people. DWG & Maannews (August 2, 2009).

- The Israeli High court issued a restraining order which prohibits the Municipality of Jerusalem from evacuating 6 Palestinian families (55 members of Salah family) from their houses in Beit Safafa. Al Quds (August 5, 2009).
- The Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem handed 14 Palestinian Jerusalemites administrative demolition orders to their houses. Four of the owners of the threatened houses were also heavily fined for disregarding previous demolition orders to their houses issued by the Israeli Occupation Municipality of Jerusalem. The threatened Palestinian houses are located in the Jerusalemite towns of Silwan, Al 'Isawiyeh, Beit Hanina and Sur Baher, were served with the demolishing orders under the pretext of lacking building permits. Wafa (August 5, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation forces delivered seven demolition orders in the densely populated neighborhood Al-Bustan of East Jerusalem. Israeli police also seized the ID card of Musa Odeh, a member of the Al-Bustan Committee, a popular organization dedicated to peacefully opposing the demolitions. Israeli authorities contend the Palestinian houses were built without construction permits, which are rarely issued to Palestinians. Some of the structures, however, were built before Israel occupied and annexed East Jerusalem in 1967. Maannews (August 7, 2009).
- Citizen Mus'ab 'Eid Abu Khalaf was forced to demolish one room of his house in Wadi Al Jouz neighborhood in Jerusalem for being built without proper licensing documents issued by the Israeli Jerusalem Municipality. Al Quds (August 7, 2009).
- A group of Israeli settlers hit children and women attending a local summer camp with stones and empty glass bottles. A 59-year-old Palestinian man (Khamis Al-Ghawi) was also hurt in an attack by a mob of Israeli settlers in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood of East Jerusalem. He was also arrested by Israeli forces, although it was not immediately clear why. Maannews (August 9, 2009).
- A section of a main road collapsed in the Silwan area of East Jerusalem as a result of underground Israeli excavation. The Israeli Jerusalem Municipality is digging a tunnel in the Al-Ayn area heading north towards the iconic Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem's Old City. Israeli

archaeologists have been digging for years underneath Silwan, which they say is the site of the fortress of the biblical King David. The underground dig has also been made into a tourist attraction, where visitors can tour tunnels that run underneath present-day East Jerusalem. Maannews (August 11, 2009).

- 20 Jewish families are planning to take over eight Palestinian buildings in Samiramis neighborhood in east Jerusalem claiming that they bought 22 dunums of lands in 1972 and that the Palestinian buildings were built illegally on lands owned by Jews. Al Quds (August 11, 2009).
- The Israeli Peace Now organization states that construction works are being carried out to expand the settlement of Kochav Yaakov, located north of Jerusalem, eastward. A neighborhood with some 15 caravans has been established as part of the construction works. Some of the caravans have already been connected to the water and sewage infrastructures, and a children's playground has been set up in the area. PEACENOW (August 11, 2009).
- The Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem handed 3 Palestinian Jerusalemites in the Old City of Jerusalem administrative demolition orders to their houses notifying them that they have to demolish their houses by themselves, otherwise, the Municipality bulldozers will execute the orders, and the owners of the houses will pay the expenses of the “demolition operation” to the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem. Wafa (August 11, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Police installed surveillance cameras at the houses of Al Hanoun and Al Ghawi in Al Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood which were evacuated from their Palestinian residents two weeks ago and gave an Israeli Company the responsibility of guarding Israeli settlers residing in the houses. Al Quds (August 16, 2009).
- Israeli settlers took over a Palestinian house in the Silwan neighborhood of East Jerusalem, south of the Old City. The house is located near a school run by the UN’s agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA. It is also near the visitors' center of the Israeli-run tourist site called the City of David. By seizing the house, the settlers have also established a spatial link to other settlement outposts scattered throughout Silwan, which is located east of the Green Line, in the area occupied by Israel in 1967. Maannews (August 18, 2009).

- New regulations apply to all the markets and merchants' stands in the Old City in the area called Shuk David in Hebrew, David's market, which extends from Jaffa Gate toward the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Western Wall. The most bothersome regulation is that when they display their wares outside their stores, the items cannot be more than 30 centimeters from the store entrance. Inspectors with rulers have been handing out fines to offenders, and the fines can be as high as NIS 1,000. A prior regulation simply required merchandise to be displayed within a line that was drawn in front of the stores, and it provided a few dozen extra centimeters of display space. Another rule now being strictly enforced bars the display of knives outside stores, out of concern they could be used to commit terror outrages. And now porters are required to register their carts, obtain license plates for them and maintain a cart's paint in good condition. In addition, the porters are being required to wear a uniform. Another regulation limits the movement of the carts from 6 A.M. to 11 A.M., and from 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. [Haaretz \(August 20, 2009\)](#).
- One rumored version of Israel's limited agreement with the United States on that country's proposed settlement construction freeze, is a "no new tenders / building permits" formula that would see already planned construction go ahead with no additional plans to be okayed during an unspecified period. Only one day after officials leaked information around an agreed limited settlement freeze Haaretz' business supplement, [The Marker](#), said the Israeli department of government properties is expected to invite tenders for a bid to build 450 residential units in Pisgat Ze'ev, a neighborhood on the Palestinian side of the 1967 borders in internationally recognized East Jerusalem. Maanews (August 20, 2009).
- A plan for the building of a new settlement, Ma'aleh David, in the middle of an Arab neighborhood in East Jerusalem was filed for approval by the relevant municipal committee at the Jerusalem Municipality. The plan calls for the construction of 104 housing units on the land where the former headquarters of the Jerusalem police station was housed in the neighborhood of Ras al-Amud. The new settlement is planned to be connected to an existing Jewish neighborhood, Ma'aleh Zeitim, and together will be occupied by some 200 families, forming the largest Jewish settlement in East Jerusalem. The plan is being promoted by the right-wing group Elad. According to the plan, the former police structure will be razed and replaced by seven structures ranging between four and five stories in height, and incorporating 104 housing units. The plan involves high-end housing and the complex will include a swimming pool, mini

"country club," community library and parking spaces. A synagogue, kindergartens and a mikveh (Jewish ritual purification bath) are also planned for construction there. A foot bridge will connect the new settlement with existing ones on the other side of the road. The settlement of Ma'aleh Zeitim across the street currently houses 51 families and in its second phase of development, which is currently being completed, another 66 housing units are being built. When the two neighborhoods are completed and linked, a Jewish settlement of more than 1,000 people will be situated in the heart of Ras al-Amud, a neighborhood comprised of 14,000 Palestinians. [Haaretz \(August 23, 2009\)](#).

- Resident Ahmad Muhammad Masluhi Al Mughrabi from Abu Maddin area in Al Magharba neighborhood received a house demolition order by the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem which states the demolition of one room of the his house for being built without valid building permit. The order gave Mr. Al Maghrabi a period of 10 days to carry out the demolition or else he will be fined of 160 thousand Shekels (NIS). The room is 12 meters square and was added to the house in Year 2000. The house is inhabited by 9 family members. Al Quds (August 25, 2009).
- Two Palestinian families in Jerusalem's Old City have been forced to demolish their own house after Israeli authorities threatened him with heavy fines if he did not. One resident, Muhammad Faysal Jabir lived with his family of five in a 28 square meter house in the Aqbat Al-Khalidiyya neighborhood of the Old City and is inhabited by 7 family members. Another resident living in the As-Silsila neighborhood of the Old City, Muhammad Al-Mughrabi was also forced to demolish his house after the Jerusalem Municipality threatened he would pay a fine of 80,000 Israeli shekels (21,063 US dollars). Maannews (August 26, 2009).
- A Palestinian school made of Cars' Tires is threatened to be demolished by the Israeli Occupation Authorities due to its location in a prohibited area as classified by the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem. The school was built by Al Jahhalin Bedouins living within Ma'ale Adumim settlement bloc and has 200 students. Al Quds (August 28, 2009).
- The Jerusalem Development Authority revealed plans about building a new neighborhood (the Eastern Gate) which is slated to absorb 2000 new Israeli settlers.

Jericho

- The Israeli Occupation Forces staged into Fasayel village north of Jericho city and handed over citizen Muhammad Mahmoud An Nawawra a halt of construction order. Wafa (August 13, 2009).

Nablus

- The Israeli Occupation Forces handed over Yetma village residents' new halt of construction orders alleged for being built with proper licensing documents. The orders targeted 12 Palestinian houses which are owned by Muhammad Mahmoud 'Odeh Snouber, Wa'el Abdel Al Najjar, 'Abdel Hakim Muhammad Daoud Snouber, Yaser Ahmad 'Odeh Snouber, 'Abdel Rahim Fawzi Snouber, Muhammad Hilal Abdel Karim Najjar, Musa Wajeih Mussa Najjar, Nabhan Tawfeeq 'Ali 'Eid Najjar, Ahmad Ibrahim Hazeim Snouber, Muhammad Saqer Daoud Snouber and Nara Fathi Najjar. The orders gave residents 30 days to evacuate the areas where the homes are being built. Al Quds (August 2, 2009).
- Tens of Israeli settlers set up a new outpost in an area close to Kedumim settlement and named it "Mitzpe 'Ami". Wafa (August 1, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation bulldozers razed agricultural lands southwest of Nablus city, in Burin and 'Iraq Burin villages. The razing activities are taking place near Bracha and Yetzhar settlements. Al Quds (August 4, 2009).
- According to a report issued by Yesh Din Organization stated that Israeli settlers from 'Eli settlement continue to construct a 3 kilometers bypass road to link the Israeli Illegal settlement of Shilo and the Illegal outposts of Hayoval and a second known locally as the "Qaryut" outpost with each other. [Al Quds \(August 11, 2009\)](#)
- Israeli Occupation authorities issued orders to confiscate more than one thousand dunums of Palestinian lands of the village of Qaryut south of Nablus. On the land, a road will be constructed linking the three illegal settlements Shilo, Hayovel outpost and "Qaryut" outpost. The Israeli bulldozers had been surveying the area for days, and there seemed to be a coordinated effort between soldiers and settlers, who constructed a road barrier near the village of Der Sharaf, while military crews expanded the Yitzhar road after confiscating Palestinian lands adjacent to it. Israeli

settlers along with the soldiers blocked the southern entrance of the village and began to confiscate the land. A day before, settlers distributed written orders saying the land would be confiscated. Maannews (August 16, 2009).

- The Israeli Occupation army demolished nine settler-built structures in an outpost called Mo'az Esther, which settlers rebuilt after it was destroyed several times during the last few months. Maannews (August 11, 2009).
- A group of Israeli settlers paved a road that link the settlement of Eli' and an outpost nearby south of Nablus with each other opposing the Israeli Supreme Court decision to stop construction at that road. Wafa (August 9, 2009).
- The Israeli settlers of Ariel and Taphuh settlements threw explosives at Palestinian vehicles passing the road reaching the two settlements and caused damages to the vehicles. Wafa (August 14, 2009).
- Dozens of Israeli settlers from the nearby parent settlement of Itamar arrived on the hilltop in SUVs and trucks, and erected at least six tents on Palestinian land near the village of Yanun, south of Nablus city. They arrived at noon time and have been camping out on the area since. Last Friday at least 30 settlers set up a new outpost they called "Mitzpe Ami" near the West Bank settlement of Kedumim, southwest of Tulkarem. Maannews (August 14, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation forces delivered halt of construction orders to 17 Palestinian houses in Al Thahra and Ruwesia Al Janubiya area in Salim Village south of Nablus city. Among owners, the following were known: Ramez Sabri Ahmad Ishtaya, Rami 'Abed Ibrahim Ishtaya, Wadee' Ghaleb Muhammad, Raed Fathi Salim Haidar, Murad Fathi Salim Haidar, Muhtaseb Hilmi Mukarker, Zaher Hussein Jabbour, Muhammad Nabeel Ishtaya and Mus'ab 'Abdel Khaleq Jabbour. Maannews (August 16, 2009).
- The Israeli Settlers attacked the house of Majdi Badran in Madama village and destroyed its properties. Al Quds (August 29, 2009).

Ramallah

- Israeli Forces evacuated the illegal West Bank outpost of Reches Sela' outside Nablus and arrested 8 settlers who were gathered at the site.

Soldiers razed a temporary building set up at the site, but shortly after they left the structure was rebuilt. Haaretz (August 3, 2009).

- About 200 Israeli troops raided the central West Bank village of Bil'in and stormed the home of Shawkat Al-Khatib, detaining three of his sons. The IOF also ransacked the house of Ahmad Yasin and seized his son Abdullah. Maanews (August 4, 2009).
- Twenty Israeli settler families will “go to the field” after the failure of a legal campaign to evict Palestinian families from 22 dunums of land in the Semiramis neighborhood of Ramallah. The settlers claim to have deeds to the land on which several Palestinian homes are built. They have claimed they purchased the lands in 1972 and have produced documents allegedly proving their ownership. Maanews (August 11, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Forces staged into Turmus'ayya village north of Ramallah city and broke into many houses including the house of 'Azzam Abu 'Awwad. No arrests were reported. Wafa (August 17, 2009).
- Citizens of Biddu and Beit Surik villages protested at Har Adar gate against the IOF decision to not allow them access their agricultural lands isolated behind the Israeli Segregation Wall. Wafa (August 23, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation forces set up a military checkpoint at the northern entrance of Ramallah city, near Surda village and obstructed the access of Palestinian citizens to their destinations for two hours. Al Quds (August 27, 2009).

Salfit

- Dozens of Israeli military vehicles closed the village of Kfil Haris, north of the West Bank town of Salfit as they escorted a group of settlers through the area. Palestinian Shop owners were ordered to close, families out for evening strolls were told to return to their homes and all car traffic in the village was ground to a halt and drivers stranded at the village entrance as troops spread across the area. Israeli Occupation troops also erected checkpoints throughout the village to ensure locals stayed indoors as a herd of settlers entered the area on busses to visit an area that villagers recognize as a holy shrine to the Prophet Zel Kefl, an ancient local religious figure. The area is surrounded by a village graveyard. Maanews (August 8, 2009).

Tulkarem

- At least 30 Israeli settlers set up a new outpost they are calling “Mitzpe Ami” near the West Bank settlement of Qedumin southwest of Tulkarem shortly before sundown Friday Evening. Maannews (August 1, 2009).

Qalqilyah

- Israeli Occupation forces demolished five car garages south of Qalqiliya without prior notice and without giving reasons to any of the garage owners. The buildings are owned by Muhammad Al-Sarawy, Bassam Zeid, Muhammad Zeid, Muhammad Ania, and David Bakr, all in the Azzun Atma area. During the demolitions soldiers closed off the entrance to the village and prevented all access to the area. Maannews (August 20, 2009)

Gaza

- The Israeli Occupation Forces set fire into agricultural lands planted with field crops such as Barley and Wheat in areas to the east of Beit Hanoun. Al Quds (August 2, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers staged 300 meters into northeastern part of Beit Lahyia town and fired live bullets at Palestinian houses in the town. The bulldozers also razed vast areas of agricultural lands planted with fruitful trees. Al Quds (August 4, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Forces staged into Al Maghazi Refugee camp and razed agricultural lands owned by Abu Mandeel Family. Wafa (August 9, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Forces staged 150 meters into Beit Hanoun town and razed agricultural lands in Bayyaret Al Shobaki area east of the town. Wafa (August 10, 2009).
- An IOF warplane bombarded a building of the Palestinian Energy Authority in al-Shoja'eya neighborhood in the east of Gaza City and completely destroyed it. PCHRGAZA (August 30, 2009).

- The IOF gunboats stationed opposite to Beit Lahia beach in the northern Gaza Strip and opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats which sailed beyond the limit specified by IOF. As a result, fire broke out in a fishing boat belonging to the al-Habeel famil, from al-Shati refugee camp in the west of Gaza City. Additionally, a fishing boat belonging to 'Abdul Mo'ti al-Habeel was damaged. PCHRGAZA (August 31, 2009).

Others

- The Israeli parliament has passed a major land reform bill allowing for the privatization of state land, including Palestinian land abandoned or confiscated during the 1948 war. The Knesset passed the bill with 61 votes in favor and 45 against. It will immediately affect almost 100,000 acres (400 square kilometers), followed by an additional 100,000 acres after five years. [Allheadlinesnews \(August 5, 2009\)](#).
- Israelis residing in Hebron city have filed a lawsuit with Israel's government for alleged damages caused by an evacuation of structures taken over by settlers in the city's market area. The suit will rely on a 2006 agreement reached with Israel's military, which states that Israelis living in the Palestinian city would vacate the structures voluntarily. Maannews (August 11, 2009).
- Israel has recently been putting up more obstacles for foreign nationals who enter the country if they have family, work, business or academic ties in the West Bank. It now restricts their movements to "the Palestinian Authority only." The people concerned are citizens of countries that have diplomatic ties with Israel, mainly Western countries. Officials warned tourists who want to visit the West Bank that the next time, they should enter via the Allenby Bridge. Visitors also must apply to the Civil Administration for a permit to leave the West Bank and enter Israel. The people on whom travel restrictions have been imposed include businesspeople and foreign investors, people with relatives in the West Bank, university faculty, and international development and welfare workers. All are citizens of Western countries. [Haaretz \(August 13, 2009\)](#).
- American Friends of Ateret Cohanim, a nonprofit organization that sends millions of shekels worth of donations to Israel every year for clearly political purposes, such as buying Arab properties in East Jerusalem, is registered in the United States as an organization that funds educational institutes in Israel. The U.S. tax code enables nonprofits to receive tax-

exempt status if they engage in educational, charitable, religious or scientific activity. The Friends organization's most recent return, filed in 2008 for fiscal 2007, shows that it raised \$2.1 million in donations that year. Of this, \$1.6 million was transferred to Ateret Cohanim in Israel. The organization also raised substantial sums in previous years: \$1.3 million in 2006, \$900,000 in 2005 and about \$2 million in 2004. By comparison, American Friends of Yeshivat Ateret Yerushalayim raised only \$189,000 in 2007. [Haaretz \(August 16, 2009\)](#).

- In a report issued by the PEACENOW movement showed that construction of 600 new buildings in West Bank settlements was begun in the first half of 2009 alone, with 96 new buildings constructed in the illegal outposts. A significant portion of the construction has been carried out according to old plans. There are currently 40,000 new buildings authorized for construction according to the plans, the vast majority in settlement blocs like Gush Etzion and Ma'aleh Adumim. Thirty-five percent of the buildings are constructed on the eastern side of the separation fence. Construction of permanent homes has risen by 8 percent since last year, while placement of trailer homes dropped by 43 percent. Of the 96 buildings constructed in illegal outposts, 73 were prefab structures, 19 were permanent structures and four were agricultural structures, nearly all to the east of the separation fence. Construction was underway in 10 out of 23 outposts which Defense Minister Ehud Barak had committed to evicting, with three new trailer homes added to Avigail, five new trailer homes added to Bnei Adam, six to Havat Gilad, and two new buildings and two trailer homes in Mitzpeh Lachish, among others. [PEACENOW \(August 23, 2009\)](#).
- A possible compromise will allow the completion of some 2,500 housing units which are currently being built while freezing construction in the settlement. However, the Americans are still insisting on a complete freeze of new construction and building starts, including in the settlement blocs and communities in the Jerusalem vicinity, which Israel believes will remain under its sovereignty after a permanent agreement with the Palestinians is signed. [Ynetnews \(August 23, 2009\)](#).
- The Israel Defense Forces is setting up a separate military court for West Bank youths. The change was ordered by GOC Central Command Maj. Gen. Gadi Shamni on July 29. The order calls for a "first-instance military court for youth, presided over by a single juvenile-court judge or by a panel led by a juvenile-court judge." The president of the military appeals court will "appoint military judges trained to serve as juvenile-court

judges," and will set them limited terms. The order requests the juvenile court sessions are "as separate as possible" from regular court sessions, and allows the youth court to demand a Civil. Haaretz (August 24, 2009).

- The Religious Services Minister of Israel Yaccov Yurghi stated that Settlement building should continue in communities in Jerusalem city and other settlements in the major settlement blocks in the West Bank. Al Quds (August 26, 2009).
- In a report published by Ir Amim organization stated that at the start of 2009 approximately 2000 Israeli settlers were living in Palestinian neighborhoods of East Jerusalem – primarily in the historic area. In the first half of 2009, plans are being advanced for the building of an additional 150 housing units that could settle another 750 people in strategic areas of disputed East Jerusalem. In addition, plans were advanced for Jewish community facilities (e.g., synagogues, community centers, ritual baths, etc.) in these areas. BELOW IS SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENTS BY AREA:-

Existing settlements		
No.	Name	No. of Families
1	A-Tur	Beit Orot: 14 families and 80 Yeshiva students (approximately 150 people).
		Hoshen: 3 housing units (approximately 20 people)
2	Ras al-Amud	Maale Zeitim Phase 1 (inhabited): 50 families (some 250 people)
		Maale Zeitim Phase 2: 60 housing units currently being built
3	Abu Dis	Kidmat Zion: two buildings with 6 families (approximately 25 people)
4	Mount of Olives Cemetery	2 buildings (some 15 people)
Developments in process		
1	Abu Dis – Kidmat Zion	(TPS 7659) for about 220 housing units was submitted by Jerusalem Municipality and approved by the local planning committee on 22 May 2000.
New developments		
1	Ras al-Amud --	Town Planning Scheme (TPS) 13098: This

	Maale David:	<p>new settlement extends the existing Maale Zeitim onto the 11-dunam lot vacated by the West Bank police headquarters (which moved to E-1).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing units: 104 • Additional structures: Synagogue, Mikveh, kindergarten; Country Club, including clubhouse, library, swimming pool and large parking lot (total area of 6.3 dunam); in later stage bridge connecting new development to Maale Zeitim settlement. • Status: submitted by the Bukharian Trust to municipal planning department; not yet reviewed formally by local planning committee
SILWAN - Existing settlements		
1	Wadi Hilweh /City of David: 60 families (approximately 250 people).	
2	Silwan – Beit Yonatan & Beit HaDvash: 10 families (some 30 persons).	
Silwan – New Developments		
1	Wadi Hilweh /City of David Compound – TPS 13638, 13632, 13542 and 12953 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned construction: about 20 housing units, school, community buildings, and synagogue and tourist facilities. • Status: submitted in 2009 by Elad to municipal planning department. 	
SHIEKH JARRAH - Existing settlement		
1	Shimon Hatzadik Compound: 8 families and 20 Yeshiva students (approximately 50 people)	
SHIEKH JARRAH - Developments in process		
	TPS 2591 -- Shepherd Hotel Compound <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing units: 31 • Status: Building permit approved to Irving Moskowitz in July 2009 	

	<p>TPS 11536 -- Shepherd Hotel Compound</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing units: 90 • Public structures: Kindergarten and synagogue • Status: submitted by C & M Co. (involving Irving Moskowitz) to municipal planning department in 2005
	<p>TPS 12705 -- Shimon Hatzadik Compound</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing units: 200 • Status: submitted by Nahalat Shimon Ltd. Archived by municipal planning department in May 2009
Related evictions:	
1	August 2, 2009: Hanoun and Rawi extended families (approximately 53 people)
2	November, 2009: al Kurd family
3	Judicial eviction in process for another four extended families.
SOUTHERN EAST JERUSALEM – EXISTING SETTLEMENTS	
1	Jabel Mukaber : Nof Zion: 90 housing units completed, and being populated; 280 units to be planned in future. Development by private developer, Yehuda Levy.
2	Jabel Mukaber: Be'emuna: 66 housing units under construction (TPS 6120) by private contractor.
3	Palestinian Abu Tor: Hamfaked Street: some 20 settlers in various buildings
4	Palestinian Abu Tor : Elad Visitor Center in Peace Forest
OLD CITY - Existing settlements	
1	Christian and Muslim quarters: 80 families and 500 Yeshiva students in (total of some 1,000 persons).
OLD CITY - Development in process	
1	Herod's Gate (TPS 9870) – 30 housing units – submitted by Ministry of Housing and Construction for discussion in the District Planning Committee 13 Dec. 2005. The plan does not meet planning pre-requisites, since it is too close to Old City walls.
CONSTRUCTION IN ISRAELI NEIGHBORHOODS IN EAST JERUSALEM	
1	Gilo: 2 plans for construction were submitted to the municipal planning department:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TPS 13261 – by the Authority for the Development of Jerusalem for 780 housing units in the first phase and 600 housing units in a later phase – on the southern slopes of Gilo. • TPS 13534 – by a private developer (Ganei Romema) for 95 housing units – in south-east Gilo
2	<p>One plan was submitted for to the district planning committee for public review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TPS 11382 by the Israel Lands Authority for 57 housing units .

Monthly Violations Statistics

District	Land Confiscated (Dunums)	Land Threatened (Dunums)	Uprooted Trees	Houses Demolished	Houses threatened to be demolished
Bethlehem	0	0	53	1	0
Jerusalem	0	22		3	33
Jenin	115	0	0	0	1
Tulkarm	0	0	0	0	0
Ramallah	0	0	0	0	0
Nablus	0	0	0	0	29
Salfit	0	0	0	0	0
Jericho	0	0	0	0	1
Gaza	0	0	0	1	0
Qalqilyah	0	0	0	0	0
Hebron	0	0	0	0	0
Tubas	0	0	0	0	0
Total	115	22	53	5	64

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>

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, Haaretz Daily Newspaper, Israel National News, The Jerusalem Post - English-language daily newspaper, Paltoday news-website, Palpress news website, Palestine News Agency-Wafa, Palestine News Network, Ma'an News Agency, Al Jazeera News Channel, and Yediot Achronon – English website.

*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.*