

## Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

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

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#### Bethlehem

- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers started razing lands in Beit Jala city, near the tunnel bypass road to construct a new section of the Israeli Segregation Wall in the area. The bulldozers also uprooted tens of Old Olive trees owned by resident Laila Awad Ghneim. Al Quds (Marh 2, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation forces enforced a closed military zone in Beit Jala, to assist bulldozers in overturning land in the area to make way for further construction of the separation wall. The bulldozers began operating on lands near the Cremisan Monastery road, said Leila Awad, whose home is the only one in the area. The Israeli bulldozers, accompanied by police, entered the land of Awad and begin uprooting olive, walnut and lemon trees. Israeli forces previously confiscated one and half dunums of her land to build a tunnel connecting Jerusalem settlement blocs with the Kfar Etzion settlement in Bethlehem. The remainder of her land was confiscated to build the rest of the separation wall, only five meters from her home. Journalists and cameramen were prohibited from accessing the area, as Israeli forces enforced a closed military zone. Maannews (March 3, 2010).
- Dozens of Palestinians and foreign solidarity activists rallied near Bethlehem in protest of the bulldozing of olive trees near a section of Israel's wall, which weaves through the occupied West Bank. The Israeli Occupation forces used limited force against protesters who attempted to

prevent the bulldozers from approaching the trees, planted in Beit Jala. Several demonstrators were dragged on the ground as they refused to leave, but no serious injuries were reported. Maannews (March 4, 2010).

- Israel authorized the construction of 112 new housing units in Betar Illit settlement west of Bethlehem city in spite of a declared halt to settlement expansion in November. Haaretz (March 7, 2010).
- The Israeli Civil administration delivered six house demolition orders to Families of Wadi An Nis village south of Bethlehem city under the pretext of being built without licensing documents. Owners of the houses are: Na'im Othman Abu Hammad, Amer Yaser Mahmoud, Muhammad Musa Au Hammad, Muhammad Musa Abu Hammad, Adlah Musa Hammad, Sameer Muhammad Issa and Hani Muhammad Issa. Al Quds (March 12, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation forces distributed land confiscation notices to residents of Wadi Rahhal, south of Bethlehem, to amend the segregation route's wall. The notices included maps confiscating 70 dunums of Wadi Rahhel land. Maannews (March 15, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation Authorities delivered two demolition orders to 'Ala Abdel Ghani Siyam and Muhammad 'Abdel Ghani Siyam in Al Walajeh village northwest of Bethlehem city under the pretext of being built without proper building authorization. Al Quds (March 21, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities issued an extension to military order number 14/03/T which was issued on February 9, 2003 and stated the seizure of 26.2 dunums of land of Bethlehem city, at Rachel's Tomb area. The order was extended to the year 2010 to resume wall constructions in the area. Bethlehem Municipality (March 25, 2010).

## **Jerusalem**

- Israeli employees of the Jerusalem municipality invaded the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood of East Jerusalem and measured the land owned by Kamal Ebedat and took photos. One week ago, the municipality declared its intention to confiscate the land owned by Kamal Ebedat, who has certified documents proving his ownership. The city plans to build a car park for settlers. Paltelegraph (March 1, 2010).

- Four Israeli right-wing Israelis were allowed access to the Al-Aqsa compound with a police escort. Dozens of Palestinian worshipers spent the night at site, fearing a takeover during the Jewish holiday of Purim. Four Palestinians were injured by rubber-coated bullets fired by Israeli soldiers near Herod's Gate and Bab Hutta. Additionally, 12 gathering near the Bab Al-Majlis were injured as Israeli forces deployed tear-gas canisters near the gate leading into the Al-Aqsa compound. Over 200 Israeli soldiers and police surrounded the mosque, using loudspeakers calling on worshipers to evacuate the site. Palestinians responded by using the loudspeakers in the mosque, used to call Muslims to prayer, to urge Palestinians to head to the city. Maannews (March 1, 2010).
- Jerusalem Mayor, Nir Barkat, will to formally divulged plans for the wholesale redevelopment of a section of Silwan neighbourhood, involving the demolition of almost "88 illegally built Palestinian homes" and the relocation of those residents in new buildings. The plan focuses on an area inside the south-eastern neighbourhood known as "Gan Hamelech" (the King's Garden). The area was labelled last month "the second most incendiary place after the Temple Mount" by a senior City Hall source. The mayor is to detail the plans in a press conference on Tuesday afternoon. The mayor's proposal for the area also includes the construction of a commercial centre, with businesses operating on the ground floor of the four-story residential building that will constitute the Palestinians' new homes. Additionally, the plan calls for hotels for an anticipated tourism influx, and health clinics and day-care centers for the local residents. [Paltelegraph \(March 2, 2010\)](#).
- A landslide occurred in Wad Helweh neighbourhood in Silwan city due to the excavation works which are being carried out under Silwan city, just a few meters away from the city's mosque, and on the Orthodox Church property. A huge crater formed in an area of more than ten square meters and was estimated at more than five meters. Predictions of further collapses any moment, which poses a real and imminent threat to residents and property. [Paltelegraph \(March 2, 2010\)](#).
- According to a plan slated to be presented by Mayor Nir Barkat, some 20 Palestinian houses on the western side of the Silwan neighborhood are to be demolished, to make way for the construction of an archaeological park. In return, the evacuated residents are to receive permits to rebuild their homes up to four storeys high on top of buildings on the eastern side of the neighborhood. According to the new plan, the neighborhood will become more crowded, as a complex including shops and restaurants will

be constructed in the al-Bustan area slated to be evacuated. [Ynet \(March 2, 2010\)](#).

- The Israeli mayor of Jerusalem delayed a plan that would demolish dozens of Palestinian homes to make way for a park and tourist attraction. Soon after Nir Barkat unveiled his sweeping plan for the Silwan neighborhood, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged him to "allow more time for efforts to reach an understanding with the residents of Silwan." Barkat is now offering to retroactively "legalize" some of the houses, while apparently moving to demolish others to make room for a park with tourist attractions centered on archaeological findings that some Israelis say date to Biblical times. [Mannews \(March 3, 2010\)](#).
- Israeli Occupation authorities aim to approve the construction of a 30,000 housing unit for religious Israelis in the industrial area of Atarot and Qalandiya, after excavating the site. Atarot, near the West Bank village of Ramallah, is an Israeli industrial site in occupied East Jerusalem. [Maannews \(March 3, 2010\)](#).
- The Israeli Ministry's District Committee for Planning and Construction approved the construction of [1600 new housing units](#) in Ramat Shlomo settlement north of Jerusalem city. The plan is to be submitted for public comment and includes the expansion of the Ramat Shlomo settlement southward and eastward, as well as the upgrading of the existing road leading into the neighborhood and the addition of a new access road from the west. The 1,600 housing units are to be constructed on an area of some 580 dunums (roughly 143 acres), with the average housing unit spanning 120 square meters (1,291 square feet). Once the plan has been submitted for public comment, the public has 60 days to file an objection to the plan, which will then be discussed by the committee. [Ynetnews \(March 9, 2010\)](#).
- Israeli Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem David Harari attempted to forcibly enter the Sheikh Jarrah home of Rifqa Al-Kurd on March 9, 2010 but was halted by a number of Jerusalemites. Harari was in the area on a solidarity visit with the settlers, and was exploring the possibility of taking over part of the Al-Kurd home for an office. Settlers took over one third of the Al-Kurd home last August, setting off a string of home invasions. As of February, nine homes in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood were occupied by Israeli settlers. Mr. Hadari promised that more houses in Ash Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood will be occupied by Jews soon. [Maannews \(March 10, 2010\)](#).

- The Israeli committee for building and planning at the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem approved a colonial plan to build 33 new housing units and a number of offices for the Ateret Kohanim group in Ash Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood. The plan holds number 497 and includes the building of housing units, a Talmudic school and a synagogue on 3 dunums of land owned by three Palestinian families (Sa'adeh, Siyam and An Najjar). Al Quds (March 11, 2010).
- Some 50,000 new housing units in Jerusalem neighborhoods beyond the Green Line are in various stages of planning and approval. Planning officials said that Jerusalem's construction plans for the next few years, even decades, are expected to focus on East Jerusalem. Most of the housing units will be built in predominantly Jewish neighborhoods beyond the Green Line, while a smaller number of them will be built in Arab neighborhoods. The plans for some 20,000 of the apartments are already in advanced stages of approval and implementation, while plans for the remainder have yet to be submitted to the planning committees. The planned construction includes the 1,600 homes in the ultra-Orthodox East Jerusalem neighborhood of Ramat Shlomo that were approved earlier. Ir Amim data show that the construction plans in advanced stages of approval are for Gilo (3,000 housing units), Har Homa (1,500), Pisgat Ze'ev (1,500), Givat Hamatos (3,500), Ramot (1,200), Armon Hanetziv (600) and Neveh Yaakov (450). Haaretz (March 11, 2010).
- Israeli police imposed tight restrictions on the entry of worshipers (Palestinian citizens of Israel and Jerusalem) to the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Police began preventing worshipers under the age of 50 from entering the mosque for prayer on Thursday, while those who were allowed to access had to leave their IDs with Israeli police until they finished and left. [Maannews \(March 12, 2010\)](#).
- Hundreds of Jews took part in ceremony bringing new Torah scroll into the restored Hurva Synagogue in the Old City's Jewish Quarter. The synagogue's dedication took place amid harsh criticism leveled at Israel, mainly by the US, over its decision to approve the construction of 1,600 housing units in east Jerusalem prior to the launching of indirect talks with the Palestinians. [Ynetnews \(March 14, 2010\)](#).
- Despite the unprecedented crisis with the White House following Israel's plan to build 1,600 new housing units in the east Jerusalem neighborhood of Ramat Shlomo, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he plans to forge ahead with construction in Jerusalem "as we have since the Six Day

War". The prime minister added that "construction in Jerusalem – and anywhere else – will continue as has been the custom during the past 42 years. [Ynetnews \(March 15, 2010\)](#).

- Israeli High Court rules construction of Separation Wall between Sheikh Saad, Jabel Mukaber neighborhoods to proceed, but orders gate at entrance to Sheikh Saad remain open 24 hours day to allow residents to enter Jerusalem. Resident of the east Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Saad will have to go through a special gate in the separation wall in order to reach Jabel Mukaber and the rest of Jerusalem. The judges rejected a petition filed by residents of the village and partially accepted the defense establishment's stance, meaning the current situation will remain unchanged and the temporary fence in the area will become permanent. [Ynetnews \(March 15, 2010\)](#).
- Right-wing ultra-orthodox Jews handed out Arabic fliers calling on "non-Jews to leave the land of Israel," in the streets of Jerusalem. The fliers, quoting Torah and Qur'an, used scripture to urge Palestinians living in the city to leave. "The Old Testament says the land of Israel is small and belongs to Jews only. Others are not allowed to stay permanently," the flier read. Jewish exile from ancient Israel was due to a failure of compliance with divine orders, the paper explained, adding "now, after the Jewish people returned to Israel, the people of Israel have complied with divine orders." "Thus, we ask you to leave the land of Israel in order to guarantee peace in this land. There are verses in the Old Testament and in the Quran that prove this. The leaflet continued, "After you have seen divine explanations, and as Islam is a religion of manners, you have many countries in which you can live. You have to understand that we are complying with the orders in the Old Testament, so we suggest you negotiate with Israel to get reimbursement." [Ynetnews \(March 15, 2010\)](#).
- The Israeli Housing Ministry plans to build 1,300 new housing units across the Pisgat Ze'ev (874), Neve Yakoov (309) and Har Homa (117) settlements, which require Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's approval. The newspaper explained that the latest building proposal is in advanced stages, and has already received support from the regional construction committee - the execution only requires political backing, according to the daily. [Maannews \(March 15, 2010\)](#).
- Jewish extremists set fire to Palestinian vehicles in several neighborhoods of East Jerusalem. Cars were set ablaze in Ras Al-Amoud, Wadi Al-Joz, Salah Ad-Din Street, and Sultan Suleiman Street. Last week, ultra-

Orthodox Jewish groups distributed a flyer threatening to assault residents of Jerusalem if they continued to protest the rededication of the Hurva synagogue in the Old City of Jerusalem. They also plan to organize a "provocative rally" in the Silwan neighborhood on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March. Maannews (March 20, 2010)

- Israeli soldiers manning a military checkpoint at the entrance to Shu'fat refugee camp north of Jerusalem closed the crossing to vehicular traffic, allowing only pedestrians to cross in and out on foot. Maannews (March 20, 2010).
- The Israeli real estate company "Tsaahab" signed a deal to buy a piece of 58 dunums in the settlement of Giv'at Ze'ev northwest of Jerusalem city to build 400 new housing units in the settlement. Al Quds (March 20, 2010).
- The association for the Development and management of Atarot industrial zone re-installed the Iron Gate leading to Qalandyia airport, which had been set up by the association a year and a half ago and had to be later removed after Nir Barakat, Mayor of the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem visited the area and ordered the removal of the checkpoint. Al Quds (March 22, 2010).
- The Israeli Court of Local affairs postponed the issuing of an order to demolish the house of Fakhri Abu Diab in Al Bustan neighborhood, in Silwan city in Jerusalem till the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2010. Al Quds (March 23, 2010).
- An Israeli plan to evacuate tens of Bedouin families (Arab Al Jahhalin) in Ras Shihada area owned by Muhammad, Hasan, Leiman and Hatem Al Kreishan. Al Quds (March 23, 2010).
- The Israeli Jerusalem municipality has given final approval to a group of settlers to construct 20 housing units in the Shepherd Hotel, in Ash Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood on 45 dunums of land. The plan which is financed by the Jewish – American Millionaire Irwin Moskovitch includes the building of the 20 units and parking alot. Haaretz (March 25, 2010).
- The Israeli settlers attacked the house of Fathi Abu Sha'ban in Ras Al 'Aoud neighborhood which is inhabited by 9 people and broke the windows of the house. Al Quds (March 25, 2010).

- Israeli Occupation Authorities delivered 8 demolition orders to residents of Ras Khamis neighborhood in Shu'fat city east of Jerusalem city. Among owners, the following were known: Muhammad Kreishan, Hasan Kreishan and Hatem Kreishan. Paltoday (March 25, 2010)
- The Israeli Occupation police handed the Hanoun family from Sheikh Jarrah a notification they must pay 13,000 shekels in fees to foreign workers who expelled the family from their home last year. [Maannews \(March 25, 2010\)](#).
- The Israeli government has indicated that it will press ahead with a plan to enlarge the Jewish prayer plaza at the Western Wall in Jerusalem's Old City. The proposed area for an expanded compound is in the area of the Mughrabi Gate, and one of the entrances to the Haram Ash-Sharif, or noble sanctuary, which houses the Al-Asqa Mosque. The scheme is the brainchild of Shmuel Rabinowitz, the rabbi in charge of the Western Wall, who declared the damage to the ramp in 2004 a "miracle" that offered Israel the chance to take control of more land from Islamic authorities in the Old City. The rabbi's plan was approved in late 2007 by a special ministerial committee headed by Ehud Olmert, then the prime minister. The project also won the backing of Netanyahu although he froze construction work in July under orders from the Jerusalem court. [Maannews \(March 28, 2010\)](#).
- Israeli Occupation forces removed a banner at the entrance of the An-Nabi Samuel village in Jerusalem, which defined the area as a Palestinian village of Jerusalem. The banner was erected by the Palestinian Youth Union under a project seeking to place similar signposts around Palestinian villages in and around Jerusalem. [Maannews \(March 30, 2010\)](#).
- As the Jewish Passover holiday begins, Israel has enforced tightened military and security measures around Jerusalem, affecting Palestinians across the occupied Palestinian territories. Israeli authorities have imposed a closure on the West Bank, effective Sunday 28 March 2010, until the end of Passover next Tuesday, April 6, 2010, restricting Palestinian movement. [Maannews \(March 30, 2010\)](#).

## **Salfit**

- Dozens of armed Israeli settlers from the illegal Netafim settlement tried to take control of a spring used by shepherds and farmers in Qarawat Bani



Hassan village northwest of Salfit city. Settlers brought construction materials and bulldozers and started digging up land in the area. Maannews (March 8, 2010).

## Jericho

- Israeli Occupation forces were seen distributing demolition orders to a number of Jericho residents Fasayel and Al-Jiftlek villages, north of Jericho. Residents said they were told that they had two weeks to evacuate their homes, declaring certain areas military zones. In Fasayel, orders were handed to Ali Hussein Abayat, Taleb Musa Al-Ghazal, Sami Musa Al-Ghazal, Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ghazal, Khaled Abdullah Al-Ghazal, and Kayed Rashaydeh. Shahda De'is, Adnan De'is, and Salem Ka'abna were issued with demolition notices in Al-Jiftlek. Maannews (March 8, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation forces have maintained the closure of the northern entrance to Jericho (Jericho and Al 'Auja) with road blocks, forcing Palestinian passengers to drive an additional ten kilometers on the bypass road to reach the city center. The northern entrance to Jericho has been closed since 27 September 2000, one day before the outbreak of the Second Intifada. Israeli authorities use security pretexts to continue closing the route. Maannews (March 15, 2010).

## Nablus

- The Israeli Occupation Authorities stormed Qisra village south of Nablus city and delivered an order to resident Murad Odeh notifying him to demolish his 500 square meters industrial facility and to confiscate a piece of land (300 square meters area) surrounding the facility which he also owns. Wafa (March 4, 2010).
- Israeli settlers uprooted 40 olive trees in the Al-Batashiyah area of Qaryut village, south of Nablus. The apparent vandalism was discovered as residents of the village woke up on Friday morning. Trees were planted on land belonging to village residents Muhammad Jaber Abdullah, Ahmad Jaber Abdullah and Yasser Hassan. Maannews (March 12, 2010).
- The Israeli settlers of Yetzhar settlement destroyed 30 Olive trees and 12 Almond and Figs trees in Einabus village south of Nablus city owned by resident Maher 'Allan. Al Ayyam (March 13, 2010).

- Israeli Guards protecting settlers assaulted a Palestinian farmer in the Wadi Qana area of the Salfit governorate. The guards approached a group of farmers and threatened them with bodily harm, assaulting one man. They told farmers that settlers would be in the area between 7 am and 2 pm, and they could not harvest or tend crops during the visiting hours. The settlers arrived at the Wadi Qana spring, as dozens of farmers, who had not been notified of the visit, were irrigating orange groves. Maannews (March 13, 2010).
- Illegal Israeli settlement of Yitzhar destroyed the crops of Palestinian farmers in the Ash-Shamiyyat area in 'Urif village south of Nablus. Maannews (March 14, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities issued an order to demolish Salman Al Farisi Mosque in Burin village south of Nablus city for being in area C which falls under the full Israeli control. Al Ayyam (March 15, 2010).
- Israeli settlers of Alon Moreh settlement attacked Palestinian farmers in Deir Al Hatab while they were heading to their lands and hindered them from working in their fields. Al Ayyam (March 18, 2010).
- Israeli Settlers from Eli settlement uprooted 25 olive trees from the Al-Batshisha neighborhood of Qaryut village in the northern West Bank. Residents only discovered the destruction the next day when they arrived at the agricultural lands approximately 600 meters away from the settlement. The trees were on land belonging to Mohammad Jaber, Ahmad Jaber, Abed Al-Aziz Al-Mardawi and Yaser Hasen. Maannews (March 19, 2010).
- Israeli settlers of Eli settlement hindered Palestinian residents of Qaryut village southeast of Nablus city from working in their lands which are adjacent to the settlement. AlZaitona (March 23, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities issued two new military orders in Awarta and Yanun villages in Nablus Governorate to seize lands for military purposes. The first order holds number 5770-2010 and seizes 2.5 dunums of lands of 'Awarta village to establish a new military checkpoint and a road leading to it. The second order holds number 01/10/T and seizes 900 square meters of lands of Yanun village to establish a military base on lands of the village. Al Quds (March 30, 2010).

## **Tulkarem**

- Israeli Occupation soldiers demanded 20 Palestinian farmers strip naked for a security check as they returned from their fields west of the separation wall. Separated from their lands by the separation wall, the farmers from Deir Al-Ghusun must obtain permits to pass agricultural gate 609, west of Attil village in the northern sector of the Tulkarem governorate. It was at the gate that they were ordered to strip, and scuffles broke out when the men refused. Maannews (March 13, 2010).

## Ramallah

- Israeli Right-wing settlers have erected the illegal outpost [Kibbutz Givat Menachem](#) for the third time in the past few months. Settlers residing in the outpost, located near the settlement of Nahliel in Ramallah. The outpost was first erected in early November 2009. The new outpost set up a wooden structure and a 'hangout spot' for teens. Ynetnews (March 1, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities delivered a new military order to seize 10 dunums of lands of Beit Leqyia village, its southern part, in Kherbit Shibli and Dar 'Asi areas for the construction of the Israeli wall path. Al Quds (March 10, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation Authorities issued two new military orders to seize Palestinian lands near the Israeli bypass road No. 443. The first order holds number (14/10/t) and states the seizure of 49.2 dunums of lands of Betunia town for the construction of Ofer Crossing. While the second military order states the seizure of 124.02 dunums of lands of Betunia town and At Tira villages for the construction of a security wall along bypass road number 443. Betunia Municipality (March 15, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation Army announced Bil'in and Ni'lin villages as closed military areas every Friday. This announcement came as to prevent the protests that are held every Friday in the aforementioned villages to object the construction of the Israeli Segregation Wall in the areas. Al Quds (March 16, 2010).
- Roy Sharon from the Israeli Channel 10 New Station revealed that while on the surface the Israeli Defense Ministry portrays itself in a struggle with the Yesha Council over construction in the West Bank, it has been secretly forming an agreement with the same settlers to build a new neighborhood

near the settlement of Adam, as a replacement to the Migron illegal outpost. This plan is supposed to solve the issue of where to house the illegal settlers, once evacuated settlers from Migron, and the evacuation of the outpost has only been discussed following a petition filed by Peace Now. March 21, 2010).

- Israeli settlers of Mitzpe Rahel settlement attacked Palestinian residents in Al Juneineh and Al Batniya areas in Sinjel village north of Ramallah city and tried to hinder residents from ploughing their lands and hurled them with stones. AlZaitona (March 23, 2010).
- The Modi'in Illit settlement located west of Ramallah city started a marketing campaign to build more than 100 new housing units in Matitiahou settlement located with Modi'in Illit settlement bloc. Al Ayyam (March 24, 2010).
- At least 40 armed Israeli settlers accosted Palestinian farmers working near Sinjil village, prompting the arrival of Israeli forces, who declared the area a closed military zone. Palestinian farmers had obtained a permit to enter the 50 dunum-area following five years of closure, and refused to leave their lands when confronted by the group of settlers. The group of villagers in the field included farmers with eight tractors and several members of the local popular committee. Maannews (March 24, 2010).
- Some 60 Israeli settlers from the "Youth for the Land of Israel" movement arrived at deserted buildings near Birzeit ton in the Ramallah area and announced their intention to establish a Jewish community named "Beer Zayit" in the area in response to a Palestinian plan to [build a new city](#) called Rawabi, which the settlers said would weaken the Jewish holding in Ramallah area. Al Quds (March 31, 2010).

## Qalqilyah

- The Israeli Occupation Soldiers closed Sufeen Gate, gate number 1037 in Qalqilyah Governorate. Al Quds (March 4, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation forces raided the Yasser Arafat School in Azzun, east of Qalqilya. Israeli forces entered the school during morning roll call under the pretext that Students hurled rocks at Israeli soldiers. Maannews (March 8, 2010).

- The Elkana settlement Local Council issued a tender for the building of new residential neighborhoods in the West Bank settlement. According to the council-issued tenders, proposals are sought by entrepreneurs interested in erecting new residential neighborhoods. The local council will leave arranging all the necessary political and planning permits up to whoever makes the winning bid. Ynetnews (March 11, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation forces prevented teachers from accessing the Ad-Dab'a village school, south of Qalqilyah behind the segregation wall. Teachers arrived at the crossing, they were told to enter a special room, which contains x-ray body scanners. Teachers refused to submit to a search, out of concerns for the health of pregnant women in the group. Teachers returned to the checkpoint the next day and were again told they must submit to a search before entering the area. The educators staged a protest at the checkpoint from 7am to 10am, while students from the school rallied on the north side of the wall demanding their teachers be allowed into the area. It is worth mentioning that new machinery was installed at the Ras Atiya checkpoint, where teachers enter the walled-off area, and soldiers demanded the men and women submit to a search, as well as pass through body scanners. The school in Ad-Daba has 250 students and serves three villages, all located south of the Alfe Menashe settlement, and north of a swath of the segregation wall cutting east into the West Bank south of Qalqilyah. Maannews (March 12, 2010).

## Hebron

- Israeli occupation forces set up two main checkpoints this morning, one at the northern entrances of Hebron city where they stopped cars and citizens and checked their ID cards; and the second was set up on Al-Fawwar crossroad, the main road to Dura town, where they stopped and humiliated the citizens. Paltelegraph (March 1, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities delivered eight demolition orders in Beit Ar Rosh village south of Hebron city alleging for being built without proper licensing documents. The houses are owned by Ibrahim Taha Fayyad Al Harbiyat, Tawfeeq Muhammad Harbiyat, Fayyad Harbiyat, Amjad Muhammad Abed, Sami Muhammad Abed, Hussein Harbiyat, Munir Hasan Isma'il, Zayed Omar Hreibi Kashor, 'Asef Omar Hreibi Kashor, Naser Hreibi Kashor, and Ra'fat Naser Kashour. Wafa (March 4, 2010).

- Israeli settlers of Beit 'Ayn set fire into 25 dunums of Palestinians' lands in Kherbit Safa northwest of Beit Ummer town planted with Olive and Forestry trees. Al Quds (March 12, 2010).
- Israeli Settlers from the illegal settlement of Ma'on, east of Yatta in the Hebron district, destroyed a metal fence surrounding 15 dunums of lands that was installed by Palestinian residents to protect their land. Maannews (March 23, 2010).
- Israeli soldiers threatened schoolchildren and launched at least one tear-gas canister when they entered the Ar-Rihiya School for Boys in the village south of Hebron. Maannews (March 25, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation forces closed 3 alleys in the Jaber quarter, in the southeastern part of the old city of Hebron, with cement blocks, allegedly to secure the movement of Israeli settlers on the road linking between the Ibrahimi Mosque and "Kiryat Arba" settlement during the Passover celebrations (Jewish Easter). PCHRGZA (March 25, 2010).

## **Tubas**

- The Israeli Occupation army carried out a number of military drills in the Jordan Valley, deploying warplanes, tanks and ground troops in the exercise. Israeli forces raided the lands planted with wheat and vegetables, declaring a military zone and preventing Palestinian farmers from accessing their lands. Israeli helicopters were also seen hovering at low levels over the area. Maannews (March 14, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation forces shut down all entrances to the West Bank village of Bardala. Agricultural roads between the northern Jordan Valley village and its lands were sealed off, and farmers were denied access to their lands. IO forces issued a "closed military zone" order and collected ID cards of residents attempting to enter or leave the village. Maannews (March 20, 2010).

## **Gaza**

- The Israeli government approved the construction of a 240 km fence along the Egyptian border at a cost of NIS 1.35 billion (\$360 million). The project will be funded by the defense and finance ministries and is set to conclude in 2013. The Finance Ministry will be reimbursed upon the completion of the works to cut down the number of infiltrators into Israel by 90%. [Ynetnews \(March 14, 2010\)](#).

- An IOF infantry unit moved approximately 500 meters into 'Abassan village, east of Khan Younis city, in the southern Gaza Strip, demolished a house and razed 31 dunums of agricultural land:
  1. IOF demolished a 330-square-meter, two-storey uninhabited house belonging to Hashem Ibrahim al-Daghma;
  2. They demolished an eggling facility belonging to Majed Abu Samra;
  3. They razed a 13-donum area of agricultural land planted with vegetables and wheat belonging to Salem 'Atiya Abu Daqqa;
  4. They razed a one-dunum area of agricultural land planted with parsleys belonging to Ibrahim Salman Qudaih;
  5. They razed a 15-donum area of agricultural land planted with vegetables and wheat belonging to Nidal Isma'il Abu Daqqa; and
  6. They demolished a two-dunum area of agricultural land planted with vegetables belonging to 'Obaida Mohammed Qaudaih. PCHRGAZA (March 26, 2010)

## Others

- The Israeli High Court issued several months ago an intermediary order to halt all construction in the West Bank settlement of Kiryat Netafim, however the construction work has continued. Supreme Court judges criticized the State of Israel for not doing enough in order to stop the construction in the settlement – west of Ariel. According to a [petition](#) filed in August by the Peace Now organization, the construction in Kiryat Netafim consists of 15 permanent structures that are being completed "at the speed of light," on land defined as public or as private land under Palestinian ownership. [Ynetnews \(March 1, 2010\)](#).
- Israeli Occupation forces imposed a general closure on the West Bank beginning on MARCH 12, 2010. The decision means those Palestinians with permits will generally not be permitted to access Jerusalem over the weekend. The move comes in accordance with directives of the Israeli minister of defense, Ehud Barak, following situation assessments, the army said in a statement explaining the closure. [Maannews \(March 12, 2010\)](#).
- Israeli Occupation authorities extended a closure of the West Bank as restrictions on Palestinian entry into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound remain in place. The closure, expected to end on Saturday night, was

extended until Tuesday "In accordance with the directives of the Minister of Defense, Mr. Ehud Barak, and following additional situation assessments adopted by the defense establishment," an Israeli military statement read. The military said people who will need to pass for humanitarian reasons, including medical patients en route for treatment, 1,500 medical workers, 1,100 religious workers, 550 teachers and other professional groups "will be permitted to cross subject to the authorization of the Civil Administration. The transfer of merchandise will operate regularly." Maannews (March 14, 2010).

### Monthly Violations Statistics – March 2010

Governorate	Land Confiscated (Dunums)	Lands Threatened of Confiscation (Dunums)	Uprooted Trees/ Burnt trees	Demolished Houses	Houses threatened of Demolition
Bethlehem	70	0	0	0	8
Jerusalem	0	0	0	0	8
Jenin	0	0	0	0	0
Tulkarm	0	0	0	0	0
Ramallah	183.4	0	0	0	0
Nablus	3.4	0	107	0	2
Salfit	0	0	0	0	0
Jericho	0	0	0	0	9
Gaza	31	0	0	3	0
Qalqilyah	0	0	0	0	0
Hebron	0	15	500	0	8
Tubas	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>287.8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>35</b>



*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, Israel National News, and Yediot Ahronot – 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.*

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