

Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

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

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May 1, 2000

- The Israeli Ministry of Housing approved the construction of 1600 housing units at Mod'in settlement, in Ramallah District.

May 5, 2000

- Israel Land Department is planning to prepare a new tender for a large building on an area estimated at 11.7 dunums in the industrial zone of Mishor Adumim, close to Ma'ale Adumim settlement, Jerusalem. Jewish settlers attacked a Palestinian family named Abu Haikel in Hebron District. The aim of the attack was to confiscate Haikel's house and land in order to construct a Jewish settlement outpost.

May 7, 2000

- The Israeli occupation authorities uprooted 48 olive trees, confiscated 1956 dunums of land and demolished 18 Palestinian houses during April 2000.

May 8, 2000

- Four Palestinian Jerusalemites received notices from the Jerusalem Municipality to stop building in Shu'fat and Sheikh Jarrah neighborhoods, under the pretext of being built without permits.

May 10, 2000

- In Bethlehem District, a group of settlers from Elazar prevented the villagers of Al Khadr from cultivating their land, which is estimated at

5000 dunums, in an attempt to seize it. The villagers have documents proving their ownership of the land. For more information about previous harassments.

- Abdel Hadi Hantash of the Palestinian Land Defense Committee in Hebron said that the Israeli occupation authorities, accompanied by a large number of police officers, installed a new caravan in the settlement of Qiryat Arba, in Hebron District. Furthermore, the Israeli army established new electrical and water networks for the industrial zone, in Zanuta village, south of Adh Dhahiriya.

May 11, 2000

- The Israeli Defense Ministry approved a plan to construct a new by-pass road, which will result in the confiscation of large areas of Palestinian land in the village of Za'tara and the town of Beit Sahour.

May 12, 2000

- The Israeli Housing Ministry issued new tenders for the construction of 600 housing units out of 7000 in Abu Ghneim Mountain (Har Homa settlement) south of Jerusalem.

May 13, 2000

- According to Palestinian sources, the settlers of Tene commenced work on building five apartments and a large settlement building on an area of seized land. This land is owned by Palestinian citizens from Adh Dhahiriya village, Hebron District.

May 14, 2000

- A Palestinian inhabitant living in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, named Nasser Aqel, was issued a demolition order for his house by the Municipality of Jerusalem. The family was given 24 hours to demolish their home, under the pretext that the house was built without a permit.
- The Israeli Housing Ministry endorsed plans to construct four large hotels on 70 dunums of land, in the vicinity of the former British High Commissioner's residence, in Jabal al Mukabbir neighborhood, Jerusalem. The project includes the construction of a 400-bedroom hotel at the first stage.

May 15, 2000

- Violent clashes took place in the Occupied West Bank between the Palestinian demonstrators and the Israeli occupation authorities throughout the Palestinian areas to commemorate the 52 nd anniversary of the Palestinian Nakba and to express solidarity with striking Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails, where three Palestinians were killed and over 600 were wounded.
- In Qalqilyah District, a Jewish colonist from Alfei Menashe killed two Palestinian brothers aged 6 and 8 years, named Mahmoud and Mohamad Al-Aqra. The colonist was driving a bus and ran into the two brothers, killing them instantly.

May 17, 2000

- The Jerusalem Municipality dispatched an ultimatum to demolish the terrace of Nabil 'Obbed from Al 'Isawiya village, under the pretext of being built without a permit.
- Three Jewish surveyors accompanied by Israeli border police surveyed a piece of land near Tura Al Gharbiya village, east of Jenin. The land seizure is estimated at 150 dunums and owned by Palestinian citizens from the villages of Tura, Ya'bad and Al Nazleh.

May 19, 2000

- Israeli negotiators in Eilat handed their Palestinian counterparts an Israeli proposal for the final status map. The map that appeared in *Al-Quds* newspaper shows a Palestinian autonomous area consisting of several separate cantons and comprising 66% of the West Bank. Israel would annex 20% of the West Bank and the status of the remaining 14% would be negotiated over a period of several years while remaining under Israeli control.
- In Nablus District, a group of settlers from Itamar hindered the villagers of Beit Furik from working in their lands.

May 20, 2000

- The Israeli occupation authorities are preparing for the establishment of a new Jewish settlement on the land of 'Azzun and 'Isla villages, Qalqiliya. The settlement which is close to Alfei Menashe settlement, will expropriate 900 dunums from Palestinian cultivated lands, as a preparation to be annexed to the old settlement.

- According to Abdel Hadi Hantash of the Palestinian Land Defense Committee, the settlers of Kfar Etzion erected a fence around 4 dunums of land owned by the Palestinian inhabitant Mohammad Abu from Hebron District.

May 21, 2000

- Violent confrontations continued between scores of Palestinian youth and Israeli soldiers at almost all Palestinian cities and villages in the West Bank including Jerusalem and Gaza Strip. In less than a week of anger and protests, six Palestinians have been killed and one thousand wounded by the Israeli forces.
- Jewish settlers of Kedumim installed several caravans on a piece of land belonging to Hassan family from Kafr Kaddum, in Qalqiliya District.

May 22, 2000

- The Israeli Housing Ministry endorsed a major plan for the construction of a new Jewish neighborhood in Abu Dis by a majority of 7 to 1. The new settlement, consisting of 200 housing units, is to be called Kidmat Zion and will be built on 64 dunums of Jewish-owned land.
- Israeli heavy machinery bulldozed hundreds of dunums of land in Abu Dis village, in an attempt to open a by-pass road linking the settlements of Kedar and Ma'ale Adumim.

May 25, 2000

- Abdel Hadi Hantash of the Land Defense Committee reported that a new and fixed army roadblock has been erected near Karmel settlement, east of Yatta village. This roadblock was first installed at the entrance of Susiya settlement, three months ago. The report also stated that a new Jewish settlement has been established, west of Surif village.

May 26, 2000

- The Israeli Interior Ministry approved a plan to set up a National Park of area 176 dunums on the slopes of the Mount of Olives. It will be located between the Hebrew University's Mount Scopus campus, the Brigham Young University-Jerusalem Center, and the Old City. This will therefore significantly advance right-wing efforts to cut off the capital's Old City from the rest of Arab east Jerusalem.

- The Israeli government ratified a plan to build a new settlement neighborhood that comprises 500 housing units on confiscated Palestinian land near the village of Surif, northwest of Hebron.
- According to Palestinian sources, an Israeli plan was revealed to construct two housing units on land on which ownership is claimed by the Jewish Association named "Attarat Cohanim" in Jerusalem's old city.

May 27, 2000

- In Bethlehem District, the settlers of Ma'ale Amos seized 200 dunums from Kisan village. They erected a fence around the confiscated land, as a preparation to be annexed to the settlement.

May 28, 2000

- Israeli army bulldozers destroyed 100 dunums of agricultural land from Ar Ramadin village, southwest of Hebron, endeavoring to expand Sinsanah settlement. The seized land belonged to a number of Dura families.
- Israeli occupation authorities prevented the Waqf Department from carrying maintenance works at the Omari Mosque, in the old town of Jerusalem. The settlers claimed that the Waqf Department was carrying out illegal activities since the Mosque is located in a Jewish area.

May 29, 2000

- According to *Al-Quds Daily*, the Israeli occupation authorities bulldozed 1000 dunums of land cultivated with fruitful olive trees in Bidyya village, northeast of Salfit, in order to open a new settlement by-pass road known as "Trans-Samaria B", which will be corresponded to the existing one "Trans-Samaria A".

May 30, 2000

- The right-wing associations behind the plan to build a Jewish neighborhood in East Jerusalem's Abu Dis are now organizing setting up greenhouses or an agricultural farm. They are also planning to fence off the area on which the Jerusalem municipality has initially approved the new Jewish neighborhood.
- According to an article that appeared in *Al-Hayat Al Jadeeda* newspaper, Jewish contractors commenced building 70 housing units in Hagai settlement, south of Hebron, in order to bring more Jewish settlers.

- Ultra Orthodox Jewish groups attacked a 70 year old Palestinian woman named Ruhaifa Al-Salameh and her two daughters when they tried to prevent the settlers from seizing their apartment in Jerusalem.

District	Land Confiscated	Land Threatened	Uprooted/ Confiscated Trees	Houses Demolished	Threatened Houses
Jerusalem	0	321.7	0	0	6
Hebron	104	0	0	0	1
Jenin	0	150	0	0	0
Bethlehem	200	0	0	0	0
Salfit	1000	0	0	0	0
Total	1304	471.7	0	0	7

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 Yedioth 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