

Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

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

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December 1, 2001

- In Jenin District, the Israeli bulldozers razed and destroyed large areas of agricultural land, estimated at hundreds of dunums. In addition, the Israelis destroyed the secondary roads in the same region. *Quds*
- The Israeli forces attacked a number of houses in Baqa Ash Sharqia village in the northern Tulkarem District. Moreover, the Israeli bulldozers damaged all the unpaved roads that link Khirbit Jbara East of Tulkarem with the Green Line. *Quds*

December 2, 2001

- In Hebron District the Israeli Forces seized Al Raian Farm that belongs to the Islamic Charitable Association for Orphans, located in Dahiat al Rama and established a military post on it. The Israeli army also appropriated a house belonging to Al Ziada family in Wadi Al Hria. Moreover, the settlers in the old city attacked Palestinian villagers. *Quds*.
- In Nablus district Israeli bulldozers destroyed scores of land located on Shiekh, Hamed, and Usar Mountains, intending to build a new military post there. *Quds*
- The Israeli forces appropriated a number of Palestinian houses and buildings in Tulkarm district and transformed them into military barracks. For the second time a house for Abed Alkarim Musamah in Dahiat Shwaika was occupied by the Israeli forces. *Jadeeda* Other houses transformed into barracks during this incident include those belonging to brothers Abed Al Hakem and Derar al Silawe, located near the Far'un village junction road, and one with four residential apartments located at the center of Far'un village in which the fourth floor was taken over by the

military. Israeli forces also appropriated the two houses of Muhamed Al Rabi and Muhamed Abu Rabei' located in Dahiat Ertah. *Quds*

- In Bethlehem District Israeli authorities closed Wadi Al Nar road. *Quds*
- Israeli forces appropriated four houses located in Jenin district and turned them to military barracks, *Jadeeda*.

December 3, 2001

- Three Israeli tanks invaded Iktaba village, northeast Tulkarem and took over a home, turning it into military barracks. *Quds*

December 4, 2001

- In Nablus district, Israeli soldiers invaded a Palestinian residential building that belongs to the Nasief family. The 25 residents of the house were forced to abandon the house that was then transformed into military barracks. *Quds & Jadeeda*

December 5, 2001

- Israeli forces took control over the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics in Al-Beireh. Palestinian sources confirmed that Israeli troops evicted the Palestinian security guards in the building and occupied it. A serious damage to the computer network, files and properties occurred. *Quds*
- The Israeli civil administration in the occupied territories issued an announcement for the beginning of a new expansion in Barqan industrial zone. The expansion will be on the land of the Palestinian village of Haris. *Quds*

December 6, 2001

- In Hebron district, Israeli forces continued to occupy three schools in the old city that had been turned into a military barracks. Two thousands students were forced to leave the schools a year ago. *Quds*
In Qalqilya, medical teams were not allowed to pass the checkpoints that surround the city in order to reach their health centres. Doctors and nurses were on their way to give vaccinations for babies. In addition to public health, the Israeli closure has lead to extensive damage in the agricultural and educational sectors in the Qalqilia District. *Quds*
- In a press interview, Ben Eleizar, the Israeli Defence Minister said “we demolished 300 houses and damaged 175 greenhouse in Gaza Strip during

the first year of Al-Intifada. Another 5,500 agricultural dunums were destroyed and 4,500 dunums planted with vegetables were damaged by Israeli forces." *Quds*

- In Jenin, seven Israeli tanks and several bulldozers cut the main road between Jenin and Burqin. Ten-meter trenches had been dug in order to close the road. Damage occurred to the telephone and electrical networks and several citrus trees from a nearby orchard were uprooted. *Quds & Jadeeda.*
- In Hebron, Israeli forces closed all the main roads leading to the Ibrahimi mosque. Concrete blocks were placed in the entrance of the mosque to prevent any Palestinian from entering. *Quds*

December 8, 2001

- Israeli forces established a new military post north of Qalqiliya. From this position, soldiers can see all around the Qalqiliya District. *Quds*

December 9, 2001

- In Jerusalem District, Israeli authorities appropriated one house in 'Anata village and it turned it into military barracks. Moreover, Israeli authorities ruined one house that belongs to Mu'tasem Mahlof, and burned another one belonging to Wajeh Abu Al Aon. *Quds*
- In Nablus District, Israeli forces appropriated three houses in 'Iraq Burin village. The house belonged to Faris Qadus, 'Azat Deib, and Ayman Abed Al Qader. Moreover, Israeli forces damaged about 20 olive trees that belonged to As'ad Salim in 'Azon village. *Quds*

December 10, 2001

- In Hebron, settlers continued their aptitude for savagery when they attacked two students, Samah and Mufida Al-Sharabati. The incident occurred while the two students were in their way to school at the centre of Hebron city. In addition, settlers threw stones and fired guns at Palestinians. *Quds*
- In Tulkarem, the Israeli forces invaded the house of Mr. Frej. Israeli soldiers turned the house into military barracks after they drove out his family. *Quds*
- In Bethlehem, Israeli soldiers at the western checkpoints used tear gas and a helicopter in order to scare away Palestinian workers who were using alternative roads in order to bypass the Israeli checkpoint. Eyewitness said

that Israeli soldiers used police dogs in their aggression against the Palestinian workers. *Quds*

December 11, 2001

- Israeli forces bulldozed areas of Sinjil village in Ramallah District and uprooted about 200 olive trees, in order to expropriate these areas to the nearby Ma'ali Livonah settlement. *Jadeda*

December 12, 2001

- In Bethlehem District, the municipality protested about the opening of a road by Israeli forces. This road started from Gron Al Hums, alongside Israeli military base # 30, north of Bethlehem. The road connects Har Homa with Gilo settlement and with the Tunnel road. This road was erected in areas that belong to an Orthodox convent and the adjacent Alwata area. The action was also protested because the road further segregates Jerusalem from the Bethlehem district and the southern West Bank. *Quds*
- In Tulkarem District, Israeli forces destroyed the house of Mu'tasem Makhlob after they drove out its residents. Eyewitnesses said that the soldiers blew up the house with dynamite. Moreover, Israeli forces drove out the residents of the Wajih Abu Al 'Aun household and then burned their home. *Quds*
- Israeli tanks bulldozed 200 dunums of olive trees in Salem village, located in Nablus District. *Jadeeda*

December 13, 2001

- The Israeli forces are constructing a permanent military checkpoint south of Qalandiya refugee camp in the Ramallah District. Eyewitness said that they brought all the equipment needed for the constructions and they built military posts on the surrounding mountains. The Qalandiya temporary and permanent military checkpoints are near the Qalandiya airport. The military checkpoint was constructed in order to prevent Palestinian people from travelling to Jerusalem. *Quds*

December 18, 2001

- In Nablus District, eyewitnesses said that Israeli bulldozers destroyed a spring in Yanun Village. In addition, the Israeli forces razed wide areas

that belong to the villagers in Al Kasarat area of Kafr Qallil village. Israeli bulldozers also bulldozed Tubas Tayasir road and piled dirt mounds on it.
Quds

December 19, 2001

- In Nablus District, a group of armed settlers from a settlement outpost east of Kafr Qallil village ploughed land belonging to the villagers of Kafr Qallil and Burin. Ali Mahmoud Hamed said that the settlers cultivated other lands west of Ain Machna with different kinds of plants. These areas belong to Ali Hamed, Wartha Gafana, Aabed al Rahman Mansour, and So'od Abed al Rahman. *Quds*
- Israeli tanks bulldozed thousands of dunums of olive trees in northeast Wad Abed Al Rahman. Eyewitnesses said that three tanks with Israeli soldiers bulldozed wide areas and uprooted thousands of olive trees to construct a new seven-kilometre settlement road. The area lost is estimated at 840 thousand dunums, mainly planted with olives, almonds and grape vineyards. *Jadeda*
- The Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics recorded that the population of the settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip increased by 4.4% during the previous nine months of the year. During the previous five years the population increased 8%. Moreover, the above source published information about the percentage of increase in the population of the settlements for the years 2000 and 2001. The table below shows the percentage of increase in Israeli settlers in selected settlements. *Quds*

| Settlement Name | % increase in 2000 | % increase in 2001 |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Ma'ale Adummim | 47.0 | 2.8 |
| Gip'at Za'af | 2.6 | 1.9 |
| Arial | 3.5 | 2.1 |
| Oranit | 6.0 | 1.5 |
| Efrat | 3.2 | 1.9 |
| Allon Shevut | 20.0 | 7.0 |
| Bet El | 8.3 | 5.6 |
| Karni Shomron | 5.5 | 2.2 |

December 20, 2001

- Israeli military forces occupied the house of Doctor Shwqi Sobha in 'Attil village, north of Tulkarm, but they left the house after four hours. *Quds & Jadeda*
- In Jerusalem District, Israeli forces destroyed a large section of the electricity network northwest of Jerusalem. This network supplied 15 villages with electricity. The same electric company suffered damage before when electricity poles were downed by Israeli attacks. *Quds*

December 21, 2001

- Al *Quds* Newspaper said that according to the Israeli newspaper, Kol H'air, the Jerusalem municipality asked the Ministry of Finance for funds to renovate about 500 houses in Gilo settlement and an additional 1,100 houses there after one month. *Quds*
- In Nablus District, Israeli tanks bulldozed a number of ditches and put dirt mounds on the main and by pass roads in different parts of Nablus. *Jadeda*

December 22, 2001

- An old man was seriously injured due to a car accident. Later on it was found that an Israeli settler deliberately hit the old man while he was passing the main road near Habla village in Qalqiliya district. *Jadeda*

December 23, 2001

- In Jerusalem District, the Israeli Minister of Tourism decided to continue construction within Al Sahera gate in the Old City of Jerusalem. This construction is part of an older project of Ariel Sharon's in 1990, which included building 200 units of housing for settlers in the Muslim Quarter. *Quds*
- Israeli tanks bulldozed about five kilometres of a new settlement road in the lands of Qaryut villagers in Nablus district. The villagers said that this settlement road will link 'Alit and Shilo settlements. *Jadeda*

December 24, 2001

- In Nablus District, a group of settlers burned a truck carrying vegetables and fruits beside Al Lubban Ash Sharqiya village. The truck's owner, Hasan Balota, said that colonist attacked the truck while it was parked at a

gas station. The settlers also burned a second car that was parked at the same gas station. *Quds*

December 25, 2001

- In Qalqilyah District, the villagers of Jayyus village were forbidden from going to their agricultural land by Israeli soldiers. The crops on this land are threatened with ruin because it is time for their harvesting. *Quds & Jadedda*

December 26, 2001

- An old man named 'Abdat from Nablus was attacked by young armed settlers and threatened with guns while he was tending his sheep in Alwadi Ash Sharqi, on the old road between 'Orta and Aqraba. He fled for his life, leaving his 65 sheep, upon which he is economically dependant, behind. He complained to the Palestinian police who reported the incident to the Israeli forces. But the Israelis claimed that the old man fabricated his story. *Quds*
- In Jenin District, Israeli forces stormed one house and turned it to military outpost. *Quds*
- In Nablus District, Israeli Tanks uprooted tens of fruit trees in the lands of Beita and 'Asira Ash Shamaliya villages. The villagers of Deir Sharaf reported that Israeli tanks uprooted more fruit trees in a different location. The Israeli authorities justified the action by saying the trees were close to the by pass roads that run near Nablus city. *Jadedda*

December 27, 2001

- In Salfit District, a group of settlers attacked and hit Mahmoud Suliman while he was returning from work to his home in Deir Istiya. He was seriously injured and lost his memory. *Quds*

December 28, 2001

- In Nablus District, eyewitnesses reported that five settlers blocked the by-pass road north of Huwwara village, throwing stones at Palestinian cars and forbidding them from passing.

December 29, 2001

- Israeli forces seized a garbage truck, which belongs to the village association of Beit Surik, which located northwest of Jerusalem. Khaled Al 'Aza, Administrator of Local Government in Jerusalem said that this was a continuation the policy of forbidding the garbage truck from reaching the garbage dump. *Quds*
- In Nablus District, Israeli forces with eight military vehicles and several of tanks bulldozed the main road that leads to 'Araq Borin village, thus blocking all the roads to the village with dirt mounds. *Quds & Jadeda*

December 30, 2001

- The settlers of Yitshar settlement bulldozed wide areas of the land that belongs to 'Asira Al Qibliya village in Nablus district and uprooted about 200 of olive trees. The land belongs to the brothers Mohamed and Yosef 'Asaira. *Quds*
- The Governate Committee for Planning and Construction agreed on the arrangement for building a new 630-unit residential settlement in the Armone H'ntsif region on Jabal al Mukabbir. *Quds*
- Israeli Bulldozers destroyed the only paved road in 'Araq Borin village in Nablus District. Yosef Qados said that the villagers had to walk about seven kilometres on foot to reach Nablus city. He also reported that bulldozers uprooted olive trees belonging to As'ad Q'adan. *Quds*
- In Tulkarm District, Israeli bulldozers closed all the main roads and tracks with dirt mounds in Dahiat Showaikah, destroying phone lines and poles in the process. The action is for the isolation of this village. *Quds*
- The colonist of Hagai settlement attacked the farmers of al Rihaia village and fired guns at them. The farmers were about to cultivate their lands with olive trees and vineyards. Moreover, the colonist uprooted hundreds of olive trees that had been cultivated before. Earlier, Israeli authorities had declared plans to erect a new settlement close to Hagai. This will result in more lands seized from the villagers. *Jadeeda*

December 31, 2001

- A group of settlers in Biddu village, northwest Jerusalem, uprooted hundreds of olive trees that belonged to Samir Mansour. Mansour said that group from Hadash settlement had attacked his land before. The settlers hope that they can force him to leave his land. *Quds*
- In Nablus District, Israeli tanks continued bulldozing and uprooted hundreds of olive and fruit trees in Qusin village. *Quds & Jadeda*

- In Qalqiliya District, Israeli tanks continued bulldozing and uprooted hundreds of olive and fruit trees in Kafr Qadum village. The bulldozing of this land is part of an attempt to annex to it Qadumim settlement. The land is about 1,500 dunums in area. *Quds & Jadedda*
- The Centre for Land Research that belongs to the Arab Studies Society and the Orient House released a report about violations of Palestinian human rights in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the year 2001. The report states the following:
 - 600 martyrs, 10,000 houses were demolished or damaged, more than 16,000 dunums of agricultural lands were destroyed, and the Palestinian infrastructure damaged.
 - It also issued a report of Jerusalem district:
 - 145 houses and housing units, hundreds of square meters of land, agricultural areas, wells, and walls were demolished or damaged. *Quds*
 - The monthly report is an overview of events that have been reported by field workers and/or by one or more of the following sources: Al-Ayyam, Al-Quds, Alhayat Al Jadeeda, Ha'aretz, Jerusalem Post, Ministry of Information (MoI) and Palestinian Information Center (PIC). The text is not quoted directly from the sources but is edited for size and clarity.

| District | Confiscated Lands | Land Threatened | Uprooted/confiscated/ burnt/razed trees | Demolished Houses | Threatened Houses |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Nablus | 200 | 0 | 4220 | 0 | 0 |
| Ramallah | 0 | 0 | 200 | 0 | 0 |
| Tulkarem | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 200 | 0 | 4420 | 1 | 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