

## 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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#### September 1, 2002

- The Israeli army intends to evacuate 20 illegal settlement outposts that were placed in the West Bank outskirts. The Israeli movement “ *Peace-Now* ” declared that 8 new settlement outposts were set during the month of August:
  1. 3500-m, southeast of Allon Moreh
  2. 1500-m, north Itamar settlement.
  3. 850-m to the south of Bracha settlement.
  4. 300-m, west of Beit Hagai settlement. (Caravan)
  5. Hakaron outpost near Ali settlement.
  6. Giv’at Shevut Rachel 1500-m, west of Shevut Rachel settlement (caravan)
  7. Habit Hadom 2500-m to the east of Shevut Rachel
  8. Bracha 778, near Bracha settlement.

Apart from these new settlements, there are signs on the ground of the illegal building of new more settlements and outposts. For example,

1. Megron outpost (east of Ramallah): the number of structures has risen and now stand at 35
2. Giv’at 792, south of Eli, 3 caravans were added.
3. Nofai Nehmaia, East of Ariel, it has 4 caravans.

In addition, a road resurfacing work took place on the hillsides as a first sign of the future infrastructure and the widening of the bypass roads leading to some existing settlements. *Quds*

### **September 2, 2002**

- In Hebron district, the Israeli forces demolished four houses in Zif area, south of Hebron city, which belong to 'Ali Jebril, Ibrahim Jebril, Raed Abu Rajab, and Hussein Shatat under the pretext of not having building permits. Meanwhile, the Israeli army delivered demolition orders to another three houses in the same area.
- Furthermore, a group of settlers in Tel Rumaida attacked some Palestinian houses owned by Hani, Hashem Al 'Aza, and Wael Al Sharabati in Hebron city. *Quds*
- Barqan's settlers continued the bulldozing process in the settlement outpost, which lies in the middle of the following Palestinian villages Bruqin, Kafr Ad Dik, Biddya, and Sarta. 2000 Dunums were expropriated in order to establish this settlement outpost. *Quds*

### **September 3, 2002**

- In Jerusalem district, the Israeli army bulldozed 20 Dunums from Beit Iksa's land, in addition to the uprooting of 75 olive trees from the land, which is located near Ramot settlement and belongs to the villager Hassan Ahmad Hababeh. According to eyewitnesses, the Israeli forces transmitted tens of uprooted trees to an unknown region, and hindered the owners from reaching their lands. Its important to point out that the Israeli forces started bulldozing and uprooting trees from this land two years ago. *Quds*
- In Qalqiliya district, the Israeli military administration officers delivered orders to the villagers of Jayyus, Falamyia, and Kafr Sur, to confiscate more than 15.000 Dunums of their lands. Jayyus local committee chief said: " the orders stated that 8.000 Dunums will be expropriated from Jayyus village, and more than one thousand dunum from Falamyia's land which annexes four underground wells and some greenhouses. At the same time, the villagers of Kafr Sur and Kafr Jammal in Tulkarem district received military orders to occupy thousands of Dunums of Land in order to erect the separation wall. Moreover, the Israeli forces destroyed and uprooted olive and almond trees for the establishing of the separation wall in Baqa ash Sharqiya village. *Quds*
- According to Israeli media, Jewish settlers in Har Bracha near Nablus district placed a basement stone to establish a new settlement, which will

consist of 25 houses, claiming that Palestinians attacked them from this site last week. The Israeli movement “Peace-now” announced the construction of eight-settlement outposts during the period of one month in the West Bank. *Quds*

- In Hebron district, some settlers started building permanent houses in Tell Rumaida settlement, where a building that contains 14 housing units will be established. *Quds*
- In Jenin district, the Israeli forces threatened the martyr ‘Izel Din el Masri’s family to demolish his second house after destroying the first one. *Quds*
- A group of settlers called “ Al’ad”, under the protection of Israeli soldiers, took over a Palestinian house in Jabal al Mukabbir town southeast Jerusalem city claiming ownership of the house. The villagers of Jabal al Mukabbir expressed their fears from capturing the house as a preparation stage to seize the surrounding lands to establish a huge settlement. *Quds*.

### **September 4, 2002**

- The Israeli forces uprooted scores of olive trees in ‘Anin village south of Jenin district after preventing the landlords from entering their lands, in order to erect the separation wall. *Quds*
- A Jewish colonizing organization along with Trade Company intends to execute the biggest colonization project in Jerusalem city during the next three months on Jabal al Mukabbir town. Moreover, the colonizing organization decided to raise the housing units from 450 to 600 units in addition to a hotel. The project aims to bind settlements in East Jerusalem. *Quds* The Israeli bulldozers continued working on the bypass road that passes near Beit El settlement through Ramallah-Birzeit road and digging trenches alongside the road. *Quds*
- A tender was published in *Al Quds* newspaper stating the addition of more construction lines in Neve Yaacov settlement to the east of Jerusalem. Moreover, a colonist demanded the addition of new housing unit in Ramot settlement.

### **September 5, 2002**

- The Israeli bulldozers cut down a number of olive trees in Qaffin village in Tulkarem district proposing the erection of the separation wall. *Quds*
- In Ramallah district, the Israeli bulldozers dug a trench of two kilometres long and three meter wide, which extends from Al Jalazun refugee camp to Surda main road. According to eyewitnesses, the trench will reach ‘Ein Qiniya village. The plan will also comprise a fence in order to cut off the

roads, which lead the villagers from north and northwest Ramallah city into Ramallah. *Quds*

- The Israeli bulldozers destroyed agricultural lands and shelled about 25 of groundwater wells. According to the agricultural office in Qalqiliya district, the 25 wells are supplying 2630 dunums of land. *Quds*
- The Israeli authorities planed for seizing more than 34000 dunums of land from Tulkarem city and the surrounding villages, in an attempt to annex it within the Israeli side of the separation wall. The mayors of Qaffin, Tayasir and Harsheh villages, mentioned that the Israeli forces started cutting down the orchard fields with 100 meters width to extend this orchard, where the number of the chopped down olive trees reached 300. *Quds*
- The Israeli forces dispatched house demolition and closure orders to four houses owned by Ala' 'Abassi, Mahmmoud Odeh, Wael Qassam, and Wessam 'Abassi consecutively in Silwan town, to the east of Jerusalem city. *Quds*
- Eyewitnesses confirmed that the Israeli forces started fortification the settlements outposts in area {H2} in Hebron district, where four settlements are located. It's important to mention that the Israeli forces commenced lately building 24 housing units in Tal Rumaida settlement. *Quds*

## September 9, 2002

- The Israeli inspectors, accompanied by Israeli forces, surveyed ten thousands of Dunums for expropriation purpose from Sanniriya, Beit Amin, 'Azzun 'Atma, Salman's land in Qalqiliya district in order to establish the separation wall. The landlord Mufid Eshiekh said that his 15 dunums land has been surveyed as well. *Quds*
- The Israeli soldiers evacuated several military points and residential buildings that were used to watch the movement of people in Nablus city. *Quds*
- According to *ARIJ* fieldworkers, a resident from Nahhalin confirmed that a southern mountain to Betar settlement called "Sider Ei'n Fares" is threatened to be confiscated by the Israeli government in an attempt to connect the settlement with the 1948 border. In addition, another mountain called "Abu El kroon" is under the threat of confiscation. The Israeli occupying forces have uprooted the Olive trees on the top of the mountain. Recently, a road was bulldozed to connect the Geva'ot military base with Betar settlement from the south, where a water pipes network is running under the road. Approximately 20 dunums are confiscated to establish this road.

## September 10, 2002

- In Qalqiliya district, the Israeli forces announced of expropriation of more than 200 dunums of land within ten thousands of dunums from Jayyus village in Qalqiliya district, in order to erect the separation wall. The land belongs to Sharif Abu Azam. *Quds*
- The Israeli defence Minister Binyamin Ben Eli'azer informed the colonist's leader his intent to evacuate more than 30 settlement outposts, however the settlers committee demanded an endorsement of some settlements in the West Bank. The Israeli ministry of housing published tenders for establishing 290 housing units in Immanuel settlement, which is set up at the northern part of the West Bank. *Quds*
- Tekoa's settlers closed the main road that lead to Taqu' village and attacked the Palestinian cars in Bethlehem district. *Quds*
- The Israeli court issued a new military order stating the confiscation of more than 7.000 dunums of agricultural land from five Palestinian villages, which are adjacent to the green line for military purpose. Those lands are considered as an extent sector of 587 dunums area and a total length of 7555 meters and 7-87 meters wide of Ya'bad , Al 'Araqa, Barta'a, Zabda and Qaffin villages in Jenin district. *Quds*

## September 11, 2002

- The settlers of Tal Rumaida in Hebron city opened fire towards some Palestinian houses. *Quds*
- The Israeli security cabinet endorsed the Jerusalem ring road plan to annex Rachel's Tomb, located in Bethlehem district, to Jerusalem boundaries. The cabinet decided to pave a new road in order to allow free access to the tomb which will cause the transfer of the Israeli check point at the northern part of Bethlehem to 300 meters towards the south, where a number of Palestinian houses in the area will be under the Israeli control. *Quds & Ha'aretz*
- Prime Minister Ariel Sharon also declared the reopening of Qalandiya airport north of Jerusalem.
- The Israeli soldiers stormed a Palestinian house belongs to Adel Mohammad 'Asakria from Al 'Asakira village, southeast Bethlehem city, as well as seizing and transforming it into a military barrack. *Quds*
- The Israeli soldiers backed with military forces evacuated a settlement outpost called 'Ein Horon , which is closed to Bracha settlement, and located south-west Nablus city. *Ha'aretz*

- A bid in Al *Quds* revealing the additional buildings and the detrimental areas for new constructions in Pisgat Zeev settlement, which is set up in the south eastern side of Jerusalem city. *Quds*

### **September 12, 2002**

- In Tulkarem district, a group of Israeli surveyors, under the protection of Israeli army, surveyed a land in 'Akkaba village, to the north of Tulkarem district, in preparation to erect the Separation wall. The local committee leader said that the separation wall would expropriate more than 3000 dunums of an agricultural land cultivated with olive and citrus trees in the 'Akkaba village. *Quds*
- The Israeli forces prevented the villagers from passing by a pile of mud blockade, which was installed on the northern entrance of Al Khadr village, in Bethlehem district. *Quds*
- The Israeli bulldozers destroyed more than 200 dunums of land in Rafat village in Jerusalem district, which caused the uprooting of scores of olive trees. The new bypass road, which was constructed south of Rafat village, swallowed a vast area of its land. However the Israeli authorities fenced the village and dug a deep trench, which extends from Qalandiya airport to reach Ofar settlement in order to establish a new military base. *Quds*
- The Israeli forces commenced a new operation around Qalandiya airport, which lies to the south of Ramallah district, after the Israeli decision to annex the airport into the Jerusalem borders. *Quds*

### **September 13, 2002**

- In Tulkarem district, the heavy Israeli vehicles bulldozed a plot of land that lies to the south of Far'un village and to the east of Al Kufeirit junction in order to establish the "Separation Wall". The bulldozing process includes the uprooting of tens of olive trees in the area. *Quds*

### **September 14, 2002**

- The manager of the Islamic Waqf, Salah al Natsha declared that a group of settlers started a construction process over Palestinian closed commercial stores taking advantage of the imposed curfew on Hebron district. *Quds*

### **September 16, 2002**

- The lawyers of the Jerusalem Center for social and economics rights obtained a court decision of suspending a house demolition process to the next year to allow the owner of the house to issue a building permit. The house lies in Ras el Amud neighbourhood and belongs to the villager Suad Abedel Naser. *Quds*
- The Israeli soldiers occupied a 6-storey building in Umm Al-Sharayt neighbourhood in Ramallah district and fenced it. *Quds*

### **September 17, 2002**

- The Israeli bulldozers demolished 34 Palestinian housing units, which belong to the public housing for Palestinian worker union project in 'Ein Siniya village located to the north of Ramallah district. Each housing unit is 170 m<sup>2</sup>, pointing out that the demolition process was executed under the pretext of illegal building process in area C, which means that the housing project is located under the full Israeli control and opposes the work of the bypass road that links Beit El settlement (in the north) with Hallamish settlement (in the south) and passes near 'Ein Siniya village. *Quds*

### **September 18, 2002**

- In Jenin district, the Israeli forces burned more than 80 dunums of agricultural lands cultivated with olive trees, and owned by some villagers from 'Aba Ash Sharqia, in addition to 250 dunums of forest trees. Sufyan Azmuti, the rural committee leader said that the Israeli forces prevented fire-extinguishing cars from reaching the land and caused the burning of 500 olive trees and 150 almond trees that belong to Sadik Yassin and Rida Azmuti sons. The land lies adjacent to Ha'im and Kadim settlements to the west of Jenin city. *Quds*
- The heavy Israeli vehicles continued bulldozing and uprooting hundreds of olive trees in Far'un lands, in allegation of erecting the separation wall. They also uprooted citrus, almond trees and vegetables nurseries from lands located to the south of Irtah and towards Al Tyba checkpoint. The lands belong to Atir, Omar and al Farkh families. According to eyewitnesses, the Israeli bulldozers started constructing a road to the south of a bypass road that is close to Kufeirit junction, after cutting down many olive trees in order to erect the "Separation Wall". *Quds*

### **September 19, 2002**

- The Israeli forces razed two Palestinian houses in Abu Dies town in Jerusalem district. The first house consists of 4 storeys and belongs to the martyr Nabil Halabia, and the second one consists of 2 storeys and belongs to the martyr Usama Bahar. Twenty-five people have been rendered homeless from this demolition process. *Quds*
- A group of Jewish settlers from Mevo Dotan stormed some villagers in Yabad village of Jenin district. Moreover, the Israeli forces demolished a house in Jenin camp, which belongs to Amjad and Muhammad el Fayd's family. *Quds*
- An article in *Al Quds* newspaper revealed a tender of constructing a new construction for 13 existence apartments in Har Nof settlement.
- The Israeli heavy bulldozers are digging a road that extends on 150 dunums of area towards Khirbet Jubara and Arras villages located in the southern part of Far'un land and adjacent to Kufeirit crossroads, south of Tulkarem. *Quds*

### **September 20, 2002**

- In Tulkarem district, the Israeli bulldozers destroyed a vast area of land and uprooted hundred of olive trees in Fa'un village near al Sandya area and Rashid Hatab hamlet under the pretext of erecting the "Separation Wall". *Quds*

### **September 21, 2002**

- In Qalqiliya district, a huge Israeli bulldozer demolished two houses belong to Naser Nazal and Anas Ablah consequently, as well as a big carpentry shop. In Jenin district, the Israeli authorities also razed the house of Hamza Abu Alrub in Qabatiya city. *Quds & Jadeeda*
- A group of Israeli surveyors, protected by armed forces, surveyed pieces of land belong to villagers from Zeita north of Tulkarem, and Kafr Jammal south of Tulkarem, in an attempt to establish the "Separation Wall". The mayor of Zeita mentioned that the surveying work started from the northern part towards the eastern and the southern parts to swallow most of the irrigated agricultural land that form 90% of the land. The "Separation wall" will cause the confiscation of thousands of dunums from an agricultural land, which is cultivated with Olive and citrus trees. *Quds*

### **September 22, 2002**



- The Israeli forces blew up and evacuated a house and a commercial store in Jenin district. The house belongs to Ribhi Abu Muise. *Quds*
- Tens of settlers from Ale settlement took over a building in Al Lubban ash Sharqiya village located in Nablus district and demanded the demolition of the house. *Quds& Jadeeda*

### **September 23, 2002**

- The Israeli forces dug a two meters wide and three meters deep trench towards the south reaching Al Tayba checkpoint, which caused the uprooting and destroying of more trees, in addition to the construction of one-meter wide road inside the land that led to a huge destruction of hundreds of trees in Far'un village in Tulkarem district in order to erect the "Separation Wall". In the meantime, a team of Israeli surveyors, backed by Israeli forces, carried out a survey process in Kafr Sur village, in front of Salit settlement to prepare for the establishment of the "Separation wall". *Quds*
- The Israeli Supreme Court issued an order preventing the demolition of one house and the closure of other three houses in Silwan town in Jerusalem district. *Quds*

### **September 24, 2002**

- The Israeli forces demolished a house belongs to the martyr Safuat Abu Isha from Beit Wazan village in Nablus district. *Quds*
- In Qalqiliya district, the Israeli forces bulldozed hundreds of Dunums of land cultivated with olive and citrus trees that lie to the south of Qalqiliya district and near Izbat Salman where the Separation Wall will pass through. *Quds*

### **September 25, 2002**

- Some Palestinian sources mentioned that the Jewish settlers intend to establish a new settlement outpost to the south of Nablus city. The so-called Rachelim outpost will contain 14 houses sheltering 24 families. The mother settlement was established in 1991 where two Israelis have been killed at the site. *Quds*
- The Israeli forces demolished three Palestinian houses in Dura village in Hebron district. The houses belong to Mahmoud el Namura, Diab Shwiki, and Abed el Natsheh. *Quds& Jadeeda*

- In Jenin district, the Israeli bulldozers destroyed 400 olive trees in a continuous process to establish the Separation wall in 'Anin village. Moreover, in Tayba village, the Israeli vehicles spoiled more than 200 dunums from the villagers' lands. Its worthy to mention that a week ago the Israeli bulldozers destroyed 1000 dunums cultivated with 4000 olive trees in Anin's land as well as 1000 of olive trees in At Tayba village. *Quds*
- The Israeli newspaper "Maariv" stated that the settlers in Hebron city have decided to take over the abandoned Palestinian houses in Al Qasaba neighbourhood claiming the ownership of those houses. *Quds*
- In Tulkarem district, the Israeli bulldozers destroyed a number of olive and citrus trees in Kafr Jammal village; the Israeli forces also bulldozed a vast area of land in Za'atra near Bethlehem city. *Jadeeda*

### **September 26, 2002**

- The Israeli bulldozers blocked the main entrance, which leads to Ash Sheikh Saed neighbourhood with a pile of mud and isolated it from Jabal Al Mukabbir town. *Quds*
- In Bethlehem district the Israeli bulldozers accompanied by soldiers, started working on constructing a new bypass road that will connect the settlements bloc, east of Bethlehem region and Abu Ghneim Mountain (Har Homa settlement) passing through Fureidis, Beit Ta'mir, Zatar, and Ras al Wad villages and Beit Sahur town. The by pass road is 9 kilometres long and 150 meters wide. *Quds*
- The Israeli army destroyed a house that belongs to Nashat Abu Jubara martyr in Kafr Lubad village located Tulkarem district. *Quds*
- Eyewitnesses said that the Israeli bulldozers started uprooting tens of olive trees in 'Anin village in Jenin district. *Quds*

### **September 28, 2002**

- The Israeli soldiers uprooted 50 dunums of land cultivated with olive trees and belong to villagers from 'Anin in Jenin district. *Quds*

### **September 29, 2002**

- The Israeli forces set fire towards some forest trees at the southern entrance of Jenin district. *Quds*
- The Israeli forces warned the villagers of Isla, Azzun, Habla, Kafr Thulth, An Nabi Elyas, Ras Atiya, Azbat Ja'ud, Ad Dab'a, and Ras at Tira in Qalqiliya district, where thousands of dunums will be confiscated to

establish the “Separation Wall” as well as constricting Ad Dab’a and Ras at Tira villages. More than 5000 dunums will be confiscated from Kafr Thulth and the nearby villages to erect the separation wall and another 400 dunums will be destroyed if the wall passes through, according to Kafr Thulth rural council leader. *Quds*

### Statistics on Israeli Violations

District	Lands Confiscated	Threatened Lands	Uprooted/ confiscated / razed/burnt trees	Demolished Houses	Threatened Houses
Hebron	0	0	0	7	3
Jerusalem	220	0	75	6	4
Qalqilyia	15200	0	0	2	0
Jenin	7050	0	2050	0	1
Tulkarem	150	34000	300	1	0
Ramallah	0	0	0	34	0
Nablus	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>22620</b>	<b>34000</b>	<b>2425</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>8</b>

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.

The monthly report does not necessarily reflect ARIJ’s opinion