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

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Jerusalem

- A new colonization project is to take place in Jerusalem city to create a sequence of colonization in the area since the Israeli government decided to add 3200 new housing units to Betar ‘Ilit settlement, 1512 to Giv’at Beniamen settlement, 4281 to Ma’ale Adumim settlement and 1055 to Bezgat Zeev settlement. Wafa (August 1, 2003).
- Israel is to build a new national park in Jerusalem city starting from Iskobous Mountain, Olive Mountain, and Silwan areas to reach Guy Bin Hatum to support the colonial sequence in east Jerusalem. Quds (August 2, 2003).
- The IOF is willing to isolate Dahiyat Al Barid area and Ar Ram from eastern Jerusalem by Cement blocks. Al Ayyam (August 2, 2003).
- Israel is planning to start a new colonial project in different territories. The project will include 31 settlements of which 10 settlements in north of Israel, 9 settlements along the Israeli borders to the south of the West Bank and 12 settlements in the Negev. Al Ayyam (August 5, 2003).
- The Diagonal Committee for Building and Construction published a master plan for the new road Israel is planning to erect in the south eastern side of Jerusalem city which will begin from Ha’ila valley reaching to Jada Bagin to the west of Jerusalem. The road is considered to be the third entrance to Jerusalem city at favor to expand Beit Shimash, Tzur Hadasa and Betar Illit settlements. The total length of the road is 27km. Quds (August 6, 2003).
• 20 Palestinian houses are threatened to be demolished in Al Lid city under the pretext of not having building permits. Wafa (August 8, 2003).
• Five new military orders were handed to residents of An Nu’man, Al Khas, Al ‘Azizariya, Abu Dis and Ash Sheikh Sa’ad villages to the east of Jerusalem city at favor to confiscate 490 dunums of agricultural lands for the Separation Wall path. Quds + Al Ayyam (August 10, 2003).
• The IOF demolished 13 houses in ‘Asheret Al Atrash area in Negev under the pretext of not having building permits. Wafa (August 11, 2003).
• The IOF handed resident Iman Al Razim in Khalit Sinad in Shu’fat camp a demolishing order under the pretext of not having building permits. Quds (August 11, 2003).
• 20 house demolitions alarms were handed to residents of Al Ashqaraya neighborhood in Beit Hanina under the pretext of not having building permits; In addition, the IOF demolished the carrage owned by Jawad Siyam. Al Ayyam+ Quds (August 12, 2003).
• Plan to demolish 34 Palestinian houses in the Occupied East Jerusalem in the neighborhoods of Al-Ashqaraya, Al Sawiya, Shu’fat, Ras Al-Amoud, As Sawahra Al-Sharqia, Jabal Al-Muqabir, Sur Bahir, Al-Thouri, Ras Khamis and Bab Al Sala. As a result 163 Palestinian inhabitants would be definitely displaced. IPC (August 13, 2003).
• The IOF demolished without pre-notification the houses of Omar Muhammad Sara and Muhammad ‘Ali ‘Atiya in Jabal Al Mukabir neighborhood in Jerusalem to continue erecting the Separation Wall path and to connect it with Abu Ghneim (Har Homa), in the south and Al Khan Al Ahmar in the east. Besides, the IOF handed 60 demolition warnings to other residents in the area for the same reason. Quds (August 13, 2003).
• The IOF handed residents of Sur Bahir, Jabbal Al Mukabir and As Sawahira Esh Sharqia southeast Jerusalem city orders to confiscate 173 dunums of their lands at favor to erect two new parts of the Separation Wall (2km length, 7km length consecutively). Tens of houses are threatened to be demolished by this violent process. Quds + Al Ayyam (August 14, 2003).
• The Israeli Supreme Court rejected the military order to demolish Faq Othman’s house northwest Jerusalem city under the pretext of not having building permits. Wafa (August 17, 2003).
• The IOF demolished three houses without a pre-notification conducted under the pretext of not having building permits in Al Ashqariya neighborhood in Beit Hanina and in Al Haraiq area east of Al ‘Isawiya

- Two houses were demolished in Al Lid village, a Palestinian village in 1948 and 1967, owned by Nasim Dawahida under the pretext of not having building permits. 2000 houses are threatened to be demolished for the same reason. Wafa (August 18, 2003).

- The IOF backed with bulldozers demolished 4 houses in Khalet ‘Abed Al Sal’a and Abu Mukhaira neighborhood in Jabal Al Mukabbir southeast Jerusalem city under the pretext of being unlicensed. Houses belong to:
  
  - Muhammad Amin Shqairat
  - Kawkab Mahmmod Shqairat
  - Amal ‘Atta Allah Hassan Shqairat
  - Tawfiq Al Sarkhi. In addition, the IOF demolished 3 Barracks owned by: Amin Al Salhout, Jaza Mattar Shqairat and Tawfiq Al Sarkhi. Wafa (August 19, 2003).

- The Israeli Ministry of Building and Construction assigned 1.5 milliard NIS to expand Ketzarem settlement in the Golan Heights encouraging the colonization activities in the area. Quds (August 22, 2003).

- An Israeli company is willing to rebuild the 24m high “Hahorbeh” synagogue in the old city of Jerusalem. The synagogue is to be built over one dunum of land. Quds (August 23, 2003).

- The IOF handed residents of Beit Iksa, Beit Surik and Qaluniya villages northwest Jerusalem city military orders to confiscate 1628 dunums of agricultural lands to construct 13.5km of the Separation Wall. In addition the Israeli troops handed residents of Abu Dis military orders to confiscate 45 dunums of agricultural lands cultivated with Olive trees for the same purpose. Quds (August 25, 2003).

- New military orders were handed to residents of Sur Bahir city southeast Jerusalem city perambulating to connect Abu Ghneim (Har Homa) Settlement in the south with Ma’ale Adumim in the east. The plan if executed will isolate 72 Palestinian families outside the Separation Wall borders. Wafa+ Al Ayyam (August 27, 2003).

- The Israeli bulldozers demolished 5 commercial stores along with a cement wall built on 2.5 dunums of land without pre-notification. The stores belong to Iyad Sa’ida and Jamal Khouys from Al Herdoub in Al Tur neighborhood and were demolished under the pretext of not having building permits. Quds (August 29, 2003).
• The IOF continued razing the agricultural lands in Abu Dis city at favor of the Separation Wall path; in addition, the IOF handed residents of Ash Shawayh district military orders to confiscate more lands for the same reason. Wafa (August 31, 2003)

Qalqiliyah

• The Israeli Bulldozers razed more than 800 dunums of agricultural land cultivated with Citrus and Fruits in Jayyus village northeast Qalqiliyah district resulting in uprooting of 1500 Olive trees at favor to continue erecting the Separation Wall path. Lands are owned by:
  o Hassan Khader
  o ‘Ali Muhammad Noufal
  o Soubhi Al Haj Mahmmoud,
  o Omar Hassan Kharesha
  o Hassan Musleh Shamarneh
  o Shreif Omar Khaled,
  o Jasser Salim ‘Amer
  o ‘Abed Allah Hammed Khaled
  o Helmi Muhhamd Noufal
  o Hashim Abu Khader
  o Muhammad ‘Alwan
  o ‘Abed Al Hafez ‘Alwan
  o Said Abu Khader
  o Said Samha
  o ‘Abed Al Jalil ‘abed Al Hafez
  o Fawzi Hamdan Shamasneh
  o Rezak Ahmad Khrasha
  o Faiz Hassan Salim
  o Massoud Al Khati
  o Sadki Al ‘Abooushi
  o Muhammad ‘Abed Al Qader Issa
  o Hashim Muhammad Abu Ja’far


• The IOF staged into Qalqiliya city and demolished a residential building composed of 5 apartments, owned by Burhan Hilal. Al Ayyam (August 15, 2003).
More than 20 Israeli bulldozers staged into Qalqiliya city and razed tens of dunums of agricultural lands along side the path of the Separation Wall. Al Ayyam (August 18, 2003).

Jenin

- The IOF burned agricultural lands cultivated with Olive trees in Kharouba area east of Jenin city and located near a military bypass road. The Lands belong to Loutfi and Fawzi Abu Hanana. Quds (August 15, 2003).
- The IOF staged into Kafr Ra’i village southwest of Jenin city under heavy barrage of gunfire and dynamited the house of Khairi Yahya after planting it with heavy explosive devices. IPC+ Wafa (August 21, 2003).
- The Israeli troops staged into Al Yamun village west of Jenin city and dynamited the two-storey house of ‘Ali Mmifleh ‘Abahira with heavy explosive devices, displacing 10 inhabitants. Wafa (August 21, 2003).
- The Israeli bulldozers partially destroyed the houses of Issa Khaled and Mahmoud Abu Es Sukar along with a number of commercial stores in the city. Quds (August 31, 2003).

Tulkarm

- A group of Jewish settlers fenced 100 dunums of agricultural land in Shuffa village in order to expand the borders of Deirban outpost, to the south of Avnei Hefetz settlement located southeast of Tulkarm city. The Lands belong to Al Barqawi family. Wafa (August 5, 2003).
- The IOF demolished four houses without pre-notification at favor of the Separation Wall in Nazlet Issa village. The houses Houses belong to: Ibrahim Mahmmod As’ad, ‘Abed Al Latif Mahmoud As’ad, Muhammad Taher and Faris Ibrahim. Wafa (August 21, 2003).
- Three houses were demolished by the IOF in the area between Baqa El Gharbiya and Nazlet Issa village which belong to Fayz Sa’id Abu
Mukh. Tens of houses are also threatened to be demolished at favor of the Separation Wall process. Wafa (August 21, 2003).

- The IOF dynamited the house of Zeid Ibrahim Ibsis in Ramin village east of Tulkarm city without pre-notification after planting it with heavy explosive devices, turning it to a heap of rubble. Al Ayyam (August 23, 2003).
- The IDF handed the farmers of Nazlet Issa village military alarms to confiscate 16 dunums of the agricultural lands for the Separation Wall process. Al Ayyam (August 27, 2003).
- The IOF started constructing a new part of the Separation Wall in Nazlet Issa, Baqa Esh Sharqiya, Zeita and Qafin villages. As a result, 420 dunums of land are threatened to be confiscated and another 500 dunums will be completely isolated. Quds (August 28, 2003).
- The IDF dynamited uninhabited house in the northwestern neighborhood of Tulkarm city conducted under the pretext of having explosive devices inside. Al Ayyam (August 28, 2003).
- The house of Jalal Fared and other two commercial stores with 50 dunums of lands are threatened to be razed in Nazlet Issa village under the pretext of their location near the Separation Wall path. Al Ayyam (August 29, 2003).
- The IOF razed the house of Muhammad Ahmad Hassan composed of two floors and the house of ‘Abed El Halem Muhammad Hassan in Nazlet Issa north of Tulkarm district at favor of the Separation Wall path. Wafa (August 31, 2003).

**Nablus**

- The IOF staged into ‘Aqruba, Beit Furik and Beit Dajan villages east of Nablus city and burned thousands of dunums of agricultural land after forcing the landlords and the farmers to evacuate the area under the threat of weapons. Quds (August 9, 2003).
- The IOF dynamited a four-storey building in ‘Askar camp east of Nablus city after forcing the inhabitants to evacuate it under the threat of weapons, causing severe damages to the nearby houses. Al Ayyam (August 9, 2003).
- The Israeli Troops bombed the house of Khamis Fasil Jarwan in ‘Askar refugee camp after planting it with heavy explosive devices, displacing 11 inhabitants. IPC+ Wafa (August 13, 2003).
• The Israeli troops broke into the Islamic Solidarity Clinic in Rafidia city causing sever damages to the properties. Quds (August 15, 2003).
• The IOF demolished the House of Martyr Islam Qteshat after planting it with heavy explosive devices in ‘Askar refugee camp, causing sever damages to the nearby houses. Al Ayyam (August 15, 2003).
• The IOF dynamited a two-storey house of Suliman Hussein Hassan Abu Salim in Balata camp after forcing its residents to evacuate the house under the threat of weapons causing severe damages to the nearby houses. Wafa (August 17, 2003).
• The IOF demolished the house of Martyr Samir Al Nouri in Nablus city. Quds (August 23, 2003).
• The IDF broke into Nablus Medical complex in the old city causing sever damages to the properties. Quds (August 24, 2003).
• The IOF demolished the house of Abu Sbeih Hamada in the old city of Nablus; in addition, the IOF demolished the gold factory which belongs to Ahmad Shahata. Quds (August 25, 2003).
• The IOF bombed a two-storey house of Jamalat Abu Zeid in the old city of Nablus causing damages to the nearby houses; in addition, the IOF broke into Al Aqsa and the French TV stations causing sever damages to the properties. Quds (August 26, 2003).
• Settlers of Ariel settlement and under the protection of the IOF burned thousands of Olive trees that surround the previously mentioned settlement. Quds (August 27, 2003).
• The IOF dynamited a two-storey house in Al Qaryoun area in the old city of Nablus conducted under the pretext of having explosive devices inside. The House belongs to Fayz Al Sanig. Quds + Al Ayyam (August 28, 2003).

Hebron

• Settlers of Qiryat Arba’ settlement took over 9 dunums of agricultural land owned by Mahmmod ‘Abed Al Halim, southwest of the mentioned settlement, at favor to rebuilt Higbourim outpost after relinquishing it several times. Moreover, the settlers burned
agricultural lands cultivated with Almond trees owned by Ahmad As’ad Jaber. Al Ayyam+ Quds (August 4, 2003).

- The Separation Wall path which is going to be built in Hebron governorate will devour more than 49 %of its lands in addition to 533 thousand dunums of agricultural land are threatened to be confiscated by this violent process. Al Ayyam (August 9, 2003).

- The IOF started erecting 300m length and 8m width bypass road on Junid Mountain for military and security reasons. The land is owned by Junid family. Wafa (August 11, 2003).

- Settlers of Hagai settlement south of Hebron city razed more than one dunum of land at favor of expanding the settlement borders. Al Ayyam (August 17, 2003).

- The IOF confiscated more than 40 dunums of lands in Talet Al Jounaide which belong to Al Jounaide family and another 10 dunums of land in Talet Abu Seninah to construct two military bases in the area. Not forgetting to mention that the lands are under the control of the Palestinian National Authority, Area (A). Quds (August 18, 2003).


- The IOF put 8 caravans on Junid Mountain in the old city of Hebron to construct a new outpost in the area. Quds (August 22, 2003).

- The Jewish settlers expanded the borders of Otniel settlement southwest of Hebron city thus seizing lands belong to Abu Shehata family. In addition, settlers tried to take over 4 dunums of agricultural land owned by Mahmoud Al Bouti Jaber in Wad Al Nasara district. Al Ayyam (August 26, 2003).

- The IOF took over a three-storey house of Hamouda Al Rajabi in the southern area of Hebron city turning it to a military barrack. Quds + Al Ayyam (August 28, 2003).

**Bethlehem**

- A group of Jewish settlers and under the protection of the Israeli troops constructed a new outpost southeast of Efrat settlement. The IOF also confiscated 600 dunums of lands in Nahla and Abu Nujeim villages south of Bethlehem district. Wafa (August 1, 2003).

- The Jewish settlers erected a 2km bypass road on the lands of Artas village south of Bethlehem city to connect the settlements of Efrat and Abu Ghneim (Har Homa) together. Al Ayyam (August 2, 2003).
• The IOF demolished five Palestinian houses in ‘Ein Jwaiza neighborhood in Al Walaja village, northwest of Bethlehem city, under the pretext of not having building permits, the houses are owned by:

1. Salim Muhammad Abu El Teen
2. Mahmmoud Muhammad Al A’raj, composed of two floors
3. Maher Muhammad Radwan
4. Musa ‘Eid El Sheikh, composed of three floors
5. Walid ‘Ata Rabah.

Not forgetting to mention that 19 houses are threatened to be demolished in the same neighborhood for the same reason. IPC+ Quds (August 13, 2003).

• The Israeli bulldozers razed more than 700 dunums of agricultural land cultivated with Olive Almond, and Vine trees in Nahhalin village west of Bethlehem to build a watch towers in the area and to expand the borders of Gush Etzon Block. Quds (August 13, 2003).
• Israel is planning to add 78 new housing units to Abu Ghneim (Har Homa), settlement south of Jerusalem city. Quds (August 15, 2003).
• The Israeli bulldozers razed vast areas of agricultural lands cultivated with Olive trees, Almond, Fig, and Grape in Habla town near Bethlehem city at favor of expansion the illegitimate Jewish settlement built on the lands of Nahalin city; in addition, the IOF handed the landlords of Al Walaja village orders to confiscate 10,000 dunums (40%) of the agricultural lands at favor to erect a military bypass road near the Separation Wall path. IPC+ Quds (August 19, 2003).
• The IOF issued a military order to confiscate 36 dunums of land around Bilal Bin Rabah Mosque in Bethlehem city which will isolate hundreds of dunums of land to the north of the city. Al Ayyam (August 20, 2003).
• The Israeli bulldozers continued razing the agricultural lands in Al Mestaya area in Husan village west of Bethlehem city. The land is 1.7km length and 24-35m width. Wafa (August 25, 2003).
• The Israeli bulldozers commenced the construction of the secondary military road that enclaves the Orthodox Housing project in Beit Sahour composed of 7 apartments in 8 Housing units and inhabited by 20 families, with another 20 houses in the area. In addition 50 dunums
of lands will be confiscated and other 300 will be isolated by this violent operation. Al Ayyam+ Arij (August 29, 2003).


Gaza

- The IOF will add 22 new housing units to Navah Dekalem settlement built on the lands of Khan Yunis. Al Ayyam (August 3, 2003).
- Three Israeli bulldozers and two military vehicles, under the cover of heavy gunship, staged into Al Barahma area in Rafah City to the south of Gaza Strip razing vast areas of agricultural lands and causing damages to the house of Ibrahim Barhoum located in block (J). south of Rafah city. IPC + WAFA (August 5, 2003).
- The Israeli bulldozers staged 150m into the southeast of Beit Hanun to the north of Gaza Strip and razed 5 dunums of agricultural land cultivated with Olive trees which belong to Nabil Khalil ‘Aysh. Wafa (August 10, 2003).
- The IOF staged into Rafah governorate and partially demolished a two-storey house alongside the Palestinian-Egyptian borders which belongs to Suliman Barhum. Al Ayyam (August 15, 2003).
- The Israeli troops constructed a military watch point near Al Matahhen Junction north of Al Qarara city in Khan Yunis. Al Ayyam (August 15, 2003).
- The Israeli bulldozers started erecting a 7km length and 8m height military fence in the dielectric area between the Palestinian and Egyptian borders in Rafah south of Gaza Strip. Quds (August 18, 2003).
- The IOF started erecting a new military bypass road to the south and west of Muraj settlement built on the lands of Qizan Al Najjar district southeast of Khan Yunis city. Quds (August 26, 2003).
- The Israeli bulldozers razed agricultural lands and uprooted a considerable number of trees in Saifa district north of Beit Lahiya city which belong to Haboush, Al Ghuwl, Al Nahal and ‘Qilan families. Al Ayyam (August 27, 2003).
- The Israeli bulldozers staged into the southern areas of Beit Hanun razing and uprooting hundreds of trees owned by Hamad family. Al Ayyam (August 29, 2003).
- The Israeli bulldozers razed 5 dunums of agricultural land cultivated with Lemon, Palm and Guava trees southwest of Rafah governorate.
alongside the Palestinian- Egyptian borders. Al Ayyam (August 29, 2003).

- A report issued by Al Mezan center for Human rights shows that 938 houses were completely demolished and 2778 houses were partially damaged in Rafah governorate since the beginning of the second Intifada. Al Ayyam (August 29, 2003).

- The Israeli bulldozers razed 40 dunums of lands cultivated with Citrus trees which belong to ‘Adnan Hassan Suilam northeast of Beit Hanun city; in addition to other 60 dunums of lands which belong to Abu Ramadan, Abu Rahmeh and Na’im families. Al Ayyam (August 30, 2003).

- The IOF razed 200m agricultural land to the east of Makbola district east of Al Bureij refugee camp. Al Ayyam (August 30, 2003).

- The IDF demolished two Palestinian houses owned by Read Ramadan and Al Majdalawi family in Beit Hanun city. Al Ayyam (August 30, 2003).

**Ramallah**

- 28 houses are threatened to be demolished in Al Medya village to the west of Ramallah after receiving demolishing orders conducted under the pretext of being built on Israeli state lands. As a result, 280 people will be displaced. Quds (August 7, 2003).

**Salfit**

- The Israeli troops isolated the house of Hani ‘Abed Allah ‘Amer in Mes-ha village due to its location close to the borders of the Separation Wall. Quds (August 5, 2003).

- The IOF took over Othman Abu Al Raed house east of Salfit city turning it to a military barrack. Al Ayyam (August 15, 2003).

**Tubas**


**Jericho**

- Settlers of Mizpe Yeriho to the south of Jericho city are willing to build a similar Jewish temple on 10 dunums of land in the industrial zone of the settlement. Quds (August 7, 2003).
• 500 dunums of agricultural lands in Ad Duyuk at Tahta are threatened to be confiscated. Landlords already got evacuation orders in May 2003. Al Ayyam (August 11, 2003).


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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.